



West Windsor Hub Report

AGM October 2020

For anyone unaware of the West Windsor Hub, we are a response hub to covid 19 and beyond. We started with offering essential bags of shopping for £10. We did this with the support of Tesco when it was difficult to get some essentials at the start of lock down. The service we offer continues to develop, currently we offer, food parcels free of charge and foodshare referrals for clients in financial difficulties. We also do shopping at Tesco, a service that sees the hub purchase and deliver the goods, then take payment via card or BACs. We currently collect and deliver prescriptions from Tesco and Hepole.

Currently we are running the hub 3 days a week 10-2pm, my preference is to keep it to 3 days, but we may look at changing the days and timing. I am not happy to have volunteers journeying home in the dark but would consider finishing at 3pm.

I have a meeting planned for the 20th Oct with Kerith to look at working together on future projects including CAP.

We have had an amazing donation of food from Coworth Flexlands School as they donated the produce from their harvest festival. Some of the items were a bit special and we have put them aside for Christmas boxes so we can treat clients in a couple of months time.

We have two new volunteers Adele and Fez. Adele was a service user and is now helping us, Fez is new to the UK, he is married to a Windsor girl. He is going to work with us to get some experience in England and gain a good reference.

The kind of work we are doing is unchanged with approx. 9 shopping list, 9 food parcels, 5 foodshare referrals 5 prescriptions a week. Two volunteers are willing to help clients with filling out benefit forms if they have no one else to help them.

We celebrated 1000 tasks since we started to use the Volo system which was developed for us. This gave us an opportunity to value our volunteers and all the hard work they do. We had community wardens join us as well as Danielle from Radian community services and Jesal from the community embedment project.

The future and covid 19 recovery.

I attended the Health & Wellbeing board this week, the number of CV19 cases are increasing fast in the borough. Currently we are just below the high tier. I expect we will be in this tier by the end of October. This will have an impact on us all and the workload in the hub. The timing is likely to coincide with the end of furlough and expected increase in job losses. We are ready for this but more help is always appreciated.

The way forward must be decided by the trustees, I would like to see a program that looks to enabling our clients to become self-sustaining. "If you give a man a fish, he eats one meal, if you teach a man to fish, he can feed himself."

I am continuing to work with other community group and the community embedment project, with the aim of providing the kind of support that will help sustain our community.

If anyone wishes to volunteer, please let us know.

Carole Da Costa