



Walsall Council

Your Ref:
Our Ref: AS
Date: 26 November 2009
Please Ask For: Anna Sansom
Direct Line: (01922) 653520

Dear Colleague,

Budget Consultation 2010/11

I write to invite you, to attend a focus group meeting at Walsall Voluntary Action's (WVA) Office, 16 -16a Bridge Street, Walsall WS1 1HP on **Wednesday 16 December 2009** starting at **10.00am to around 11.30am**, to discuss the council's spending priorities for 2010/11.

In order to develop our future plans, in your role as a representative of the voluntary and community sector, we need your views to find out what issues are important to, what most needs improving and what you think we need to concentrate our resources on. This information is particularly important as it will help us make decisions about our budget for the coming financial year 2009/10.

As part of budget consultation for the coming financial year, council officers have already gathered feedback from a range of voluntary organisations who attended the Annual Walsall Voluntary Sector Showcase Event at Banks' Stadium on November 2nd. Feedback from this event will be included in a report to Cabinet on December 16 and this report will be made available direct to WVA on December 9.

The Council is committed to listening and responding to the views of local voluntary and community sector and we want to provide you with the opportunity to be involved in decision-making in an informal and informative format. This is a further opportunity for you to give us your views.

We are therefore organising a focus group discussion which we hope you will be able to attend. Council officers will be present at the focus group which will consist of a short presentation, a chance for questions and answers and informal group discussion.

Please contact Anna Sansom by telephone on 01922 653520 or email: sansomanna@walsall.gov.uk to confirm your attendance. Likewise if you would like any further information about this meeting please do contact Anna. We look forward to meeting with you.

Yours sincerely,

James Walsh
Assistant Director – Finance