

Update from Women and Girls Network meeting- July 2022

We are Stockport Women and Girl's Network!

Thank you to all those that attended our 2nd Stockport Women and Girl's Network (SWAGN) meeting and contributing to some great discussions and networking opportunities. We really hope you enjoyed the session. Please do tell other people within your networks to get involved.

We provided a platform to share and ask about what we want from a women and girls network for Stockport, what you can bring and what the network's priorities should be in the first year.

Please read the information in this update, including the priorities you want to action collaboratively as part of a network in Stockport.

We aim to create an action plan which will help us achieve our goals and aspirations of a fair and inclusive Women and Girl's Network in Stockport.

Photo credit – Chloe Knight – Stockport Women & Girls Network Volunteer



Agenda item 1: Message from Nadia Ali – Stockport Women and Girls Network Lead.



About me

I am part of an organisation called Make A Difference and Heaton Norris Community Centre. Women and Girls is a subject very close to my heart. To find out more about my work , please follow the links :

www.makeadifferencegm.co.uk

<https://www.facebook.com/heatonnorris.pavilion>

Agenda item 2: Presentation from Claire Osment MBE – Chair OWLS Group

Thank you to Claire for coming along to the network meeting and sharing the amazing work that OWLS do in Stockport and how others can refer or self-refer:

OWLS is a peer support group offering help and support to women that have or are going through domestic abuse.

- Facebook www.facebook.com/owlsgroupstockport
- Twitter @OWLSgroup
- Website <http://owlsgroup.myfreesites.net>
- Email owlsgroup@outlook.com
- Telephone 0161 425 6300

Information about OWLS Support

- Tuesdays 10.30-12 Mother & Toddler group (term time only)
- Wednesdays 10.30-12.30 Adult only Coffee Morning
- The VOICE programme will be starting in September DTBC
- Daily Drop in sessions 10am-2pm.
- Baby massage appointment online
- 121 Support. There is a waiting list but we encourage the ladies to attend coffee morning so they can get help and support there.
- Brinnington Drop in Tuesdays 10am-2pm

Agenda item 3: Presentation from Nikki Guy and Margherita Agrusa – Stockport Women’s Centre

Thank you to Nikki Guy and Margherita Agrusa for attending the network meeting and raise awareness of the women’s centre work in Stockport. Please follow the link to find out more about the women centre services, aims, and values.

- <https://www.stockportwomenscentre.co.uk/>
- <https://twitter.com/womenscentreSPT>

The Women's Centre will support, empower and educate to improve the wellbeing and physical and mental health of women, enabling them to have improved life chances for themselves and their families.

Both OWLS and The Women's Centre can take referrals.

Agenda item 4: Updates and news from Greater Manchester Women and Girls Panel

- Greater Manchester has established a Women and Girls' Equality Panel to accelerate gender equality, enabling women and girls to live their best life in Greater Manchester. If you want to know more, please see the following link:

<https://www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/what-we-do/communities/women-and-girls-equality-panel/>

- Nadia Ali is a representative for Stockport, Nadia attends the meetings, contributes to discussions, and shares relevant information to the wider Stockport community, through the new Stockport women and girl's network. Here are the latest updates that you can find out more about through clicking on the links.

Information from GM Network

The GM Big Disability Survey 2022 has launched!

The Greater Manchester Disabled People's Panel survey is open throughout July. The survey, which was launched on Tuesday 28 June, is targeted at any disabled people who live or work across Greater Manchester and specifically aims to find out their attitudes and feelings towards the current cost of living crisis.

The survey builds on the 2020 survey from the Panel, which saw nearly 1,000 disabled people in Greater Manchester respond about their views on the Covid-19 pandemic. The findings of the last survey where 90% of respondents said that the pandemic had a negative impact on their mental health, has helped the panel to apply pressure to decision makers about the services available to them. The 2020 survey also raised big issues with digital exclusion, as much of the emergency response was relying on digital platforms. This insight has helped to develop Greater Manchester's response to digital inclusion.

The new 2022 survey focuses on the challenges people might face relating to the current cost of living. Whilst it is an online survey, the Panel are encouraging people to complete the survey in whichever way suits them, with postal, BSL and in-person support available if people need it.

<http://gmbigdisabilitysurvey.com/>

Dates for your diary- Events and Information

Save the date for the next Stockport Women and Girls Network Meeting

Thursday 8th September 2022- Time to be confirmed.

Menopause event

Make a Difference is hosting a menopause workshop on Wednesday the 21st of September at Heaton Norris Community Centre at 10am-2pm. This will include a break for lunch.

Please email us back to secure a place or lookout for the event at Eventbrite.

Stockport Homes Meet the Funders

Stockport Homes is holding a free event where local charities and community groups can meet potential funders.

Please email Mark.Rogers@stockporthomes.org if you would like to attend

Sector 3 funding for community groups and charitable organisations and social enterprises

If you would like advice or support with a funding application please get in touch with Sector 3 [Funding available — Sector 3 - Stockport in Synergy \(sector3sk.org\)](#)

Stockport Council funding

The council shares a range of funding opportunities that you may be able to receive.

Find out more: [Stockport Council funding - Stockport Council](#)

Feedback from the network meeting

Thank you for taking the time to give us some feedback on the SWAGN meeting. Please see the feedback below:

What did you like

- great networking space -
- the various groups of people to communicate and share ideas with
- really enjoyed hearing about the services in Stockport
- good diversity in the room
- meeting more people and finding out what they do
- like the immense diversity

What did you learn

- the range of support we can give to women and girls in Stockport
- how to access domestic violence services
- OWLS doing an amazing job. We need more like this
- how to refer women to the Women's Centre in Stockport
- Interpreting workshops and weekly facilities available at Heaton Norris Community Centre on offer

General Feedback

- meeting could have been longer - more time to network
- an evening meeting perhaps - to accommodate those working in the day
- more younger women should be represented
- amazing food
- we need more women's support/social groups
- more networking events for professionals and residents to meet
- excellent collaboration opportunities