



OPEN SPACE EVENTS

Background

Glasgow Women's Voluntary Sector Network, (GWVSN), was set up in 1994 to ensure that projects working with women in Glasgow had a forum for responding to, influencing and shaping Glasgow City Council's Equality Agenda.

Currently hosted by Wise Women, GWVSN brings together individual women whether paid or unpaid and Third Sector Services who have a sole or part remit of working with women. The Network provides a forum for sharing information, mutual support, networking and who are working towards alleviating the exclusion and discrimination faced by women in Glasgow.

This collection of event summaries details women's voices from 2010 when GWVSN began to hold Open Space events for women. These events were designed to ensure women had maximum control of the agenda, we therefore set only a theme for the day and used the Open Space method to support women to maximise their discussion, (see folder inset).

Who this resource is for

This resource has been designed to be as accessible as possible. Each event is summarised by theme to allow readers to target the information they require easily.

Details of all results from the working groups on the day are included at the end to support organisations and policy makers to recognise the issues identified as relevant to women in their everyday lives. Each woman is given 10 votes to allocate to her chosen priorities. Women can choose to allocate these in any way they wish, i.e. all 10 on one priority or shared across a number of priorities.

Format of this resource

The Event Summaries are designed to be accessible and offer an overview of the main outcomes of the events.

Where more than one session was held on a theme these have been combined into the one Event Summary. It is hoped this will reflect any changes that have happened over time, for example benefits changes.

The Event Summaries contain;

- Introduction to relevance of theme to women.
- Definition of the theme.
- Number of participants and description of sessions.
- Top priorities identified by the women.
- General overview of the results from the working groups.
- Detailed results from the working groups.

GWVSN values the input of women to the discussion of women's oppression. For this reason we have included all of the results of each Open Space, with voting results at the end.

Acknowledgements

GWVSN would like to thank Wise Women for their support in coordinating these events. More importantly we thank the women who have shown consistent support to the Open Space events. We hope this resource adequately reflects your input.