

Responding to the economic downturn - the role and potential of partnerships

The role of the Third Sector in MK

– David Livermore, MKCVO



Early identification of issues

- **MKCLIP**

Milton Keynes Community Local Infrastructure Partnership

- Established in 2005
- Snapshot review of early sector issues – Dec 2008
- Role on the ETG – Economic Task Group

Kitchen Report

- Jan-Feb 2009 - 'The Effect of the Current Economic Situation on the Voluntary & Community Sector in Milton Keynes'
 - Immediate support individuals in crisis
 - Voluntary sector capacity
 - Opportunity to think differently
- Used nationally
- Engaged over 100 groups in period Jan-April 09

Actions

- Action Plan – Individuals and Communities theme
 - Increase capacity of organisations offering support to individuals
 - Maintain levels of community activity
 - Raise awareness of activity and support available
 - Volunteering – opportunities and support
 - Collaboration – ‘working differently’

Impact

- Early resources – CAB and Survive and Thrive
- Re-focus of existing programmes – Capacity Builders
- New focus areas
- Use of individual organisational reserves
- Agreeing a regular data set across the 3rd sector to monitor issues

Partnerships – Sector and Cross Sector

- MK 3rd sector
 - 1400 independent organisations!
 - Capacity issues
 - Communication
 - Evidence
- Cross Sector
 - Timeframes
 - Agendas
 - Understanding
 - Common agenda

A good start...

- Over £325k
- How we get the best out of each other
- Gateways
- Making the most of opportunities