

Community Drop In Events

Recently we applied to the Department of Work and Pensions for funding for a 'Welfare Rights Officer and publicity events, we were successful in getting through the first round, but unfortunately didn't get through the second round.

Two venues were donated by South Lakeland District Council for our use, so we decided to go ahead and organise two events. Invitations were sent out to local banks and other agencies through the Local Strategic Partnership. The aim was to bring together organisations that would benefit our communities. We also received support for the events in the local press and radio.

The following organisations agreed to attend and give advice, provide leaflets and even arrange for follow-up appointments after the events. Our thanks go to them for making the events a success: -



Others who also attended were Kendal Family Drop In Centre, Housing & Regeneration SLDC and Housing Benefit SLDC.

Items were donated from Scottish Power and Powergen to give away such as energy saving light bulbs, power down units for computers and thermometer cards.

Roughly 200 people attended our Kendal and Ulverston events, we must however mention the Lifeboat Appeal people who were holding a coffee morning elsewhere in

the Coronation Hall at Ulverston who kindly redirected all their customers to us as well, a great team effort.

As part of attending the event we gave out a questionnaire and return envelope to gauge if people would attend this type of event again, where people had come from to attend and how they had heard about the event, any completed forms were then entered into a draw for 2 x £50. People voted that energy advice/giveaways, Fire Service/Smoke Alarms, Age Concern and the Police/security information were the most popular.

We also asked who if we ran the events again who would people like to see there, again the most popular suggestions was Recycling, travel concessions/bus pass information, SLDC' Handyman scheme, Home Help, Community Development and more housing organisations. 26% of the people that attended the event were either private tenants or tenants of SLH's.

The lucky winners of the questionnaire draw were a Mrs Appleby from Ulverston and a Mrs Slater from Ulverston, thanks to all who completed the forms.



