



The Women's Centre Sutton

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Hi Adam

I am so sorry to hear that of your current situation. You have all worked so hard to create a vibrant dance community in the High Street and I know that so many people have benefitted from your services.

You and your team give Sutton Women's Centre so much support and make such a difference to the local community. To lose you as an ally and as a valuable resource, would have a big impact on us and the services we, and our partners, are able to offer. Thank you for offering ALL of our ladies unlimited free classes, whenever they wish.

Our service users who come to the weekly Zumba class have really appreciated being able to exercise for free in a safe environment. These are women who have lost all sense of identity and their self-esteem, and, in many cases, any relationship with their bodies. To be able to come and dance, have fun, meet other women and learn to love themselves again, has been transformative. For the Muslim women in particular, they have enjoyed the additional benefit of being able to exercise without their hijab as they know they are in a safe space and can't be seen by any men.

Our drama group really enjoy coming to you and, if you hadn't offered us your studio to hold the group, we would have had to disband it as we could no longer afford to pay for a venue for this group.

I had a meeting today with some of our local female GPs as we are looking to run some more events. The Women's Health and Wellbeing Event that you hosted for us in November was a great success and the GPs are keen to run more of this type of event if you would be happy to welcome us to SCD again. It's the perfect venue for events like this as it gives us lots of scope for different areas. Plus your team are always so welcoming and friendly.

The GPs would like to widen the scope of the events to run workshops around sexual health and maternity, both areas of huge concern in the borough at the moment. There is no funding for this so we were hoping that you would again provide a venue for free to support the important work that we are doing. SCD no longer being there would have a massive impact on the work that we do.

Thank you also for agreeing to host some children's art classes for our service users over the school holidays. With the current cost of living crisis increasing the struggles of our clients, free and accessible activities during the school holidays are invaluable.

Thanks again for all your support,

Best wishes

Heather