

VCAT News

February 2012

VCAT and Partners Celebrate Lottery Success

VCAT are delighted to announce that the Trafford bid for the Government's Transforming Local Infrastructure Fund administered by the Big Fund has been successful.

The £383,000 bid was put together by a number of voluntary and community organisations; led by VCAT including BlueSCI, Trafford Housing Trust, Trafford Community Leisure Trust, Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation and Trafford CVS & Volunteer Centre, working alongside Trafford Council and Trafford College.

The bid proposals focussed around the theme of 'Releasing the Potential', it includes plans to:

- Establish a 'Chamber' for the sector
- Developing a local kite mark to support funding bids and consortium applications
- Developing new approaches to commissioning
- Linking up with businesses to support local groups
- Supporting small groups
- Improving volunteering

Ralph Rudden, Chair of VCAT said "This is great news for voluntary and community groups and social enterprises across Trafford. The partners involved are committed to working to improve the way we work together to support local groups "

Councillor Matthew Colledge, Chair of the Trafford Partnership and Leader of the Council said; "The Third Sector in Trafford has massive potential, and with this additional investment we can release it. We want voluntary, community and faith organisations to play a key role in the Borough's future as an independent and innovative force, delivering services and identifying original solutions to the design of future services. By working together, we can make a difference."

Anyone wanting more information about the bid and the plans for putting it into action should contact VCAT Chief Executive, Colin Barson on 0161 905 2414.

Polly Williams

All at VCAT were saddened to hear of the passing of Polly Williams in January. Polly was an inspiring lady who gave her time selflessly to help others, not only in the Old Trafford community but across the whole borough. As well as running the Trafford African Caribbean Over 50's Club she was an active member of Senior Community Action and a regular panel member on the Trafford Fund.

Polly will be remembered for her hard work and fantastic sense of humour and our thoughts go to her family at this difficult time.



Forums and Networks

Upcoming meetings for VCAT's voluntary sector networks and forums

FASNET (Family Support Network)

Wednesday 29th February
Park House, 73 Northenden Road

Guest Speaker: John Pearce, Director of Commissioning, Trafford Children & Young People's Service

Details and bookings: <http://goo.gl/tjpia>

Health & Well-being Forum

The forum met on January 24th at the Trafford Centre for Independent Living. A presentation on proposed cuts to the Adult Social Care budget in Trafford was delivered by Linda Harper and Jo Bryan.

Consultation on the budget review is open until February 27th. As well as opinions voiced at the meeting voluntary sector groups can feed into the process by the following means

- Write direct to the Adult Social Care Consultation at Quay West, Trafford Wharf Road, Trafford Park M17 1HH
- E-mail Adult Social Care Consultation at access.trafford@trafford.gov.uk
- Via the Have Your Say section of Trafford Council's website:

<http://www.trafford.gov.uk/consultations/do.asp?ID=362>

A date for the next meeting was not set, it is hoped to meet with Council staff again after the consultation has closed.

Impact of Spending Cuts on Communities

A GMCVO Survey

GMCVO need your help to find out how local people and communities in Greater Manchester are faring in a climate of economic difficulty. They think local voluntary groups and the people linked with them have important knowledge of what is really happening on the ground. They want to capture some of that knowledge and use it to make decision-makers aware of the impact of economic downturn on real people.

If you are from an organisation working in a local community or with service users, they would appreciate if you could give your appraisal of the situation by responding to our survey at the link below. It should take 15 minutes or less to complete, depending on your responses. The deadline for submitting responses is close of business, Wednesday 29th February.

<http://goo.gl/T8V66>

No information about individual responses or organisations will be used by or passed onto any third parties. You will have the opportunity to receive a copy of the findings if you wish. If you have questions about this survey or if you require a hard copy, please contact susanne.martikke@gmcvo.org.uk.



Walk 100km? In Less Than 30 Hours? ... Piece of cake?

On Saturday 26th May through to Sunday 27th May, VCAT Support Worker Craig Almond will attempt Oxfam's Trailtrekker Challenge. A 100km (62 and a bit miles) walk through the Yorkshire Dales.

Craig and his team of family and friends (The Wild Rovers) are trying to raise £1200 to support Oxfam's work around the world.

Efforts to raise the money include the sale of home made cakes here at Park House, so if you're visiting VCAT over the next few weeks and feeling peckish free to pop into the kitchen to see what's on offer.

Other fundraising plans include a band night to be held in May. Details of this and other fundraising plans, as well as a record of training efforts will be held and updated at:

the team website

www.wildrovers2012.co.uk

their facebook page

www.facebook.com/wildrovers2012

and on Twitter

<https://twitter.com/wildrovers2012>



Craig on an earlier walking trip. He's hoping for dryer conditions in May

Craig said "I've supported Oxfam for a long time (and even ran one of their bookshops for a brief period), and I'm also a fair-weather hillwalker, so when I found out about this challenge I jumped at the opportunity to take part."

"60 miles is what I could normally walk in about three days, so completing the course as close to 24 hours as possible is going to be a real challenge."

If you'd like to order a cake (or two) for one of your meetings contact Craig (craig@vcattrafford.org or 0161 973 5741) and put in an order. All proceeds go to a good cause



Join the Conversation

Trafford's New Health Deal

Health chiefs in Trafford are calling on residents to join the conversation and share their views about the redesign of health and social care services in the borough. The 'new health deal' aims to secure safe and sustainable hospital services in Trafford. Now residents' views on how this should be done are being sought.

An online survey that allows people to share their experiences of services and outline their priorities for the redesign is now live and follows a number of public listening events that were held in December. The survey can be found at www.surveymonkey.com/s/newhealthdeal. Alternatively, you can request that a paper copy is sent to you by calling NHS Trafford on 0161 873 6008. The deadline for completing the survey is **February 17**.

The following events have been set up to gather people's views and involve them in the ongoing work to redesign local health services (All the events take place between 6pm and 8pm, unless otherwise stated):

- Monday 20 February, Flixton House, Flixton
- Wednesday 22 February, Mercure Bowdon Hotel, Bowdon
- Monday 27 February, St Matthew's Church Hall, Stretford
- Wednesday 29 February, Partington Primary School, Partington
- Monday 5 March, Seymour Park Primary School, Old Trafford (6.30pm till 8.30pm)
- Wednesday 7 March, Broomwood Centre, Timperley

These are RSVP events, so for more information and to book visit the new health deal website www.healthdeal.trafford.nhs.uk/

Trafford LINK: Getting Ready for Change

A half day information and consultation event from Trafford LINK

9.30am to 12.30pm-St Matthews Church Hall, Stretford

Under the Health & Social Care Bill currently going through parliament Local Involvement Networks (LINKs) will be replaced by Healthwatch bodies from April 2013. This half-day event is for anyone with an interest in the provision of Health and Social Care in Trafford: LINK members, members of the public and representatives of voluntary sector organisations working in the Health and Social Care field locally.

The first part of the meeting will be a consultation on what a Trafford Healthwatch will look like and how Trafford LINK can make the transition. The second part of the morning will see presentations from NHS Trafford. Trafford Provider Services will give an update on the move to further integration of Health and Social Care services in Trafford. Mike Barker, Director of NHS Trafford will update the meeting on the current New Health Deal consultation process on the redesign of Health Services in the borough.

Light refreshments of tea and coffee will be served. There is no charge for attending this event. To book contact Trafford LINK:0161 962 7266 link@vcatrafford.org
Or book a place online via the VCAT website: www.vcatrafford.org/civicrm/event/info?id=142



Training News

To advertise your training courses and events through VCAT's newsletters, bulletins and website call 0161 973 5741 or email training@vcattrafford.org.

Urban Edible Gardening Workshop

18th February- Manchester
This free workshop will give you an introduction to permaculture principles and 'urban edible gardening'. Come along and make a design for your own edible space – be it window box, back yard, garden or guerilla gardening plot.

MERCi 0161 273 1736,
www.merci.eventbrite.com

Community Microgeneration Workshop

21st February- Manchester
Learn all the basics about renewable energy generation technologies suitable for your community. From wind and solar to biomass and hydro, get the lowdown on the technology and how it might be harnessed for your benefit. This is a free afternoon workshop for community groups or individuals looking to set up a group.

MERCi 0161 273 1736,
www.merci.eventbrite.com

Building Awareness Using Social Media

22nd February- Manchester
This workshop will demonstrate how you can use social media to promote your organisation or campaign. You'll get an overview of all the basic social media tools and the 'golden rules' of how to use them.

MERCi 0161 273 1736,
www.merci.eventbrite.com

Save Energy, Save Money

23rd February- Manchester
This afternoon workshop will look at how you save money on your bills by reducing the amount of energy you use. We will look at simple and cheap ways to insulate your home and keep it draft free, and top tips on saving money from using your electrical equipment. You will also get information on where you can get further advice, support, and grants.

MERCi 0161 273 1736,
www.merci.eventbrite.com

Demystifying Social Investment

23rd February Manchester
This ACEVO workshop provides an introduction to social investment for organisations, and a space to think through what they mean for your organisation. The session is designed to help you review your choices and explore the business essentials that underlie investment decisions. It will help you think through what you need to do in order to succeed even if social investment isn't the answer.

ACEVO 020 7280 4960 events@acevo.org.uk
www.acevo.org.uk/page.aspx?pid=2658

Technology for Life

23rd February- Manchester
A free event that will focus on the latest technology designed to support people with sight loss. The aim of the day is to showcase how technology can make a difference to blind and partially-sighted people and how it can improve everyday living, work and education.

Action for Blind People 01772 320550,
ActionNorthWest@actionforblindpeople.org.uk



Open Public Services – Passage of a Bill

28th February- Manchester

The Open Public Services white paper was launched last summer to look at the reform of public services, particularly in terms of increasing the role of charities, social enterprises and the voluntary sector in public service delivery. This workshop will explore the stages that the bill would go through, their relative importance and ways to engage and influence. Organised by Voluntary Sector North West and the Parliamentary Outreach Service.

VSNW 0161 276 9300

helen.walker@vsnw.org.uk

www.vsnw.org.uk/events/view/394

Level 3 Award in Risk Assessment Principles and Practice

28th and 29th February- Manchester

This two-day course, on 28th and 29th Feb, will cover the principles of risk management, prioritising risk, controls, and risk assessment in practice.

Groundwork 0161 220 1020

Jayne.Mann@groundwork.org.uk

<http://goo.gl/clB2f>

Volunteering in Prison

29th February- Manchester

Aimed at those responsible for training staff or volunteers in prison, this training course includes an introduction to volunteering, how prisons work, attitudes to crime and justice, handling difficult situations and some resources for supporting offenders.

Recommended for prison resettlement staff and volunteer managers.

Clinks info@clinks.org

www.clinks.org/training

CIWM Waste Awareness Certificate

1st March- Manchester

A one-day accredited course providing employees with the knowledge to help your organisation minimise waste and stay within the law. Subjects covered include: types of waste and how to reduce, reuse and recycle; how to conduct a waste audit to help you identify cost savings; handling waste safely; and sources of help.

Groundwork 0161 220 1020,

Jayne.Mann@groundwork.org.uk

Paediatric First Aid

Saturdays 3rd & 10th March- Trafford

This course is a paediatric first aid course and meets the requirements of the Early Years foundation stage statutory framework. The course focuses on emergency scenarios that are faced by professionals, including teachers, nursery nurses, childminders and playgroup leaders, looking after young children.

It meets Ofsted requirements for registered childminders and the requirements for nannies under the DfES Approved Carers Scheme. It can also be used as evidence for employees working towards an NVQ in Childcare and Education.

Cost £55.

BDS Group 0161 747 6310

enquiry@bdsgroup.org.uk www.bdsgroup.org.uk

Charity Chair/CEO Workshop

6th March- Manchester

This workshop will explore key areas of the inter-relationship between the chair and chief executive. It will also provide a written summary of the main issues and points of discussion. The morning event is free of charge to attend but is only open to chairs and chief executives attending together.

Hempsons www.hempsons.co.uk/events/



Marrying Scale and Responsiveness

8th March- Birmingham

This seminar will explore service delivery by third sector organisations and developments in policy and practice resulting from the Localism Act, Commissioning Green Paper and the Public Services Reform White Paper. The seminar will critically examine the effect of these developments on third sector organisations and the services they deliver. :

TSRC 0121 414 3086 info@tsrc.ac.uk

Community Rights Made Real: getting to grips with the Localism Act

14th March- Dukinfield

This one-day workshop aims to support local groups to prepare for the practicalities, opportunities and challenges of the rights within the Localism Act, and to support inclusion and equality in how the new rights are taken up, focusing in particular on the needs of communities which currently lack power.

T3SC 0161 339 4985 www.t3sc.org/events

VCS Organisations and Police and Crime Commissioners

21st March- Manchester

Voluntary sector organisations involved in community safety will be affected by major changes from November 2012 when elected Police and Crime Commissioners (PCCs) replace police authorities in England and Wales. The PCCs' responsibilities will include setting local community safety priorities and funding community safety activity to meet those priorities. There will also be changes to funding and commissioning structures. This event will explore the opportunities and challenges presented by this new landscape and provide further information about the support available through the Safer Future Communities project.

Clinks jessica.mullen@clinks.org
<http://clinks.eventbrite.com>

Volunteering with Offenders in the Community

26th and 27th March- Manchester

This two-day course provides a comprehensive introduction to working with offenders in the community. It explores key issues faced by volunteers, and the organisations that manage them. The course has been designed to support the training of staff and volunteers in the voluntary and community Sector who are working with offenders in the community.

Clinks info@clinks.org
www.clinks.org/training

GMCVO Training

Information about all GMCVO courses can be seen at www.gmcvo.org.uk/gmcvotraining2

ILM Level 4 Award in Management

15th, 22nd and 29th Feb, 7th, 13th and 19th Mar

Introduction to Counselling Skills

21st and 28th Feb

Effectively Managing

21st Feb

Monitoring and Evaluation

22nd Feb

Groups and Teambuilding

6th and 13th Mar



Conferences

Safeguarding Conference for the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector

2nd March- Manchester

This conference draws together some of the most pressing issues within safeguarding and will provide valuable information about the current safeguarding landscape. The event is aimed at practitioners and managers in organisations that work with children, young people, families, adults, including older people. The aim of this is to draw together expertise in safeguarding work across all ages.

MACC pauline@macc.org.uk

www.manchestercommunitycentral.org

Manchester: A Certain Future

16th March- Manchester

A Certain Future is a climate change action plan for the entire city. It lists a detailed set of actions designed to make Manchester a greener, cleaner, healthier, wealthier, and greater city. At this second annual conference, delegates will have the opportunity to sign up to workshops which focus on how behaviour change can take place, and good and bad examples of engaging people in addressing climate change within their own lives.

Groundwork 0161 220 1000,

kate.morley@groundwork.org.uk

www.eventbrite.co.uk/event/2866079521

A New Approach to Mental Health

22nd March- Manchester

Following last year's Government white paper No Health without Mental Health, this conference will address the issues facing mental healthcare. Speakers will focus on how to improve quality and standards of care, support and safety, and how to decrease the experiences of discrimination and stigma towards people with mental health problems.

Public Service Events 01782 613924

ktweats@publicservice.co.uk

The Big Society: The Good, The Bad & The Unequal?

A national conference addressing key questions on the big society.

Bradford- 29th February

The event will critique the Big Society and attempt to posit solutions in the context of the challenges currently facing British society. This will also include a debate on the impact on Northern BME communities, which One North West and JUST have been working together to highlight

The event will also launch JUST's publication 'he Big Society: The Big Divide? which draws on views from leading practitioners and commentators in the field. For more details see the flyer: <http://goo.gl/la34k>

All delegates will receive a free copy of the book. Places are limited and will be offered on a first come first served basis. Lunch and refreshments will be served. To book: 01274 542222

admin@justwestyorkshire.co.uk

Promoting Quality Through the Workforce:

23rd February 2012 Manchester,

A free one day conference organised by the National Care Forum (NCF) and Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG) in Partnership with Skills for Care (SFC).

The aims of this event are to provide managers with an understanding of the wider social care policy context and tools to assist them in supporting frontline staff improve the quality of service delivery. And to promote an understanding of the new regulatory and monitoring framework and its implications for staff development

For more information and to book your place contact Ann Barber ann.barber@live.com



Hidden Sentence- Training for Trainers

A training course for professionals with an interest in supporting prisoners' families. Delegates must be qualified or suitably experienced trainers. The course supports trainers to deliver the Hidden Sentence training.

GMCVO- St Thomas Centre, Manchester Monday 19th March 09.30h 16.00h

Free training (including lunch)

Action for Prisoners' Families (AFP) have been commissioned by the Department of Education to deliver the Hidden Sentence Training for Trainers course to key individuals with a training/ development brief from a range of organisations. This includes trainers from voluntary sector organisations, prison and probation services, health departments, Social Services and Education teams. Learning Outcomes

- Be familiar with the approach taken by the Hidden Sentence training
- Be familiar with the content of the training
- Be able to explain the course assessment process
- Feel confident about how to communicate the aims and objectives of the course
- Feel better placed to deliver the course
- Have had the opportunity to practise aspects of delivery
- Have had the opportunity to ask questions and explore issues

To book on the course contact Nasir Hussain (Nasir.Hussain@gmcvo.org.uk) at GMCVO by February 17th.

For details of Hidden Sentence training and other courses supported by Action for Prisoner's Families contact Toby Stewart toby.stewart@prisonersfamilies.org.uk 07772 902494

Confidence and Motivation Training for Young People in Old Trafford

Training company Dynamic Heights have recently been awarded funding by Trafford Housing Trust to deliver "Discover Your True Value" Confidence and Personal Development Skills training to young people (aged 18-25) living in old Trafford. It aims to:

- Clarify goals and motivation towards making positive life changes
- Be better prepared to balance the demands of peer pressure with personal needs
- Consider how to effectively and confidently deal with setbacks and challenges
- develop motivational techniques that build and sustain confidence towards future employment

The course will be delivered by a qualified Trainer and starts on Thursday 16th February at the Old Trafford Community Centre on Shrewsbury Street, it will run in weekly sessions for the subsequent six weeks. For further details download the course flyer.

<http://goo.gl/Vhzpx>

If you would like to refer young people to this training or work with Dynamic Heights in your own community you can contact them via the details below.

info@dynamicheights.org.uk

0161 713 2556



Training Courses from the Counselling and Family Centre

Diversity Training - 2nd March- £45

See poster for details: www.vcatrafford.org/sites/vcatrafford.org/files/cfcDiversity.doc

Couples Counselling- 15th February to 7th March- £125

Advanced Couples Counselling- 21st to 28th April- £125

See poster for details: www.vcatrafford.org/sites/vcatrafford.org/files/

Belly Dancing at St John's Centre

Want to: Have Fun and a Laugh? Sculpt your Waist? Tone up your Wobbly Bits? Learn Graceful Movements? Improve your Physical and Mental Health?

Women only Belly Dancing classes now on at St John's Centre, Old Trafford

Thursdays 1.30-2.30pm £3 per session

Suitable for ANY age, body size or shape

For details contact Esther on 07775 946 089 or just come to a session

Confidence Building

Sale West Community Centre

COURSE DATE & TIME:

Wednesdays, 29 February-28 March, 10am-12noon (5 weeks).

Call in to Sale West Community Centre to register on Wednesday 22 February, 10-11am.

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

This short course is aimed at adults who want to build up their self esteem and confidence:

- Learn what triggers your emotions
- Look at positive thinking styles
- Learn how to overcome fear and deal with stressful situations
- Identify your own values and what limits your self-belief

COST: Free

For further information on community courses, please contact us on

0161 886 7443

www.trafford.ac.uk



Voluntary Sector Cuts Website

If your funding is being reduced this financial year, please take the time to report it via the Voluntary Sector Cuts website.

The website is a collaborative project between leading voluntary sector infrastructure bodies (including Volunteering England, NAVCA and Voluntary Sector North West) which maps intelligence about voluntary groups experiencing reductions in public funding. Logging details of cuts to your service helps them understand what impact cuts are having on the voluntary sector and the people it works with and supports.

To map a cut on the site, visit: <http://voluntarysectorcuts.org.uk> and fill in the simple form. Your contribution will be crucial to building a wider picture of the scale of the challenge ahead in your community, your region, or nationally.

You can follow them on twitter @vscuts

St Georges Day in Davyhulme

Friends of Davyhulme Park are looking for volunteers to help them celebrate St George's Day. They plan to hold an event in the Park on the weekend before St George's Day (21st or 22nd April).

Potential activity ideas include wood sculpture art, dog show, skate tricks/training, plant seeds/pot rolling stall, short cricket and/or rounders and story time sessions, but the more helping hands they have, the more they'll be able to do.

To suggest an activity or to find out about taking part in the celebration contact Friends of Davyhulme Park via fodp@hotmail.co.uk.

Save Money on IT

Technology donations from Microsoft, Cisco and Symantec

Did you know that some of the world's leading technology companies will donate their products to eligible UK charities?

To see the full range of donors, available products and how to apply for a donation, visit the CTXchange website www.ctxchange.org/

GMPA: Police Priorities Consultation

Greater Manchester Police Authority (GMPA) is an independent organization, which is separate from and different to Greater Manchester Police (GMP). The role of the Police Authority is to ensure the police service in Greater Manchester is efficient and effective.

It is important the work of GMP is prioritized and the Authority needs to know which issues members of the public think should be at the top of GMP's priority list when the policing plan is set. The Police Authority are currently looking to consult with disabled people to gather feedback on; policing priorities, issues that effect their lives and how better the police can work with them and for them.

The Police Authority would like to meet and consult with a number of groups across Greater Manchester. If your group is interested in engaging with the authority please contact Gaynor Edwards Engagement Officer, Greater Manchester Police Authority
0161 793 2022
gaynor.edwards@gmpa.gov.uk
www.gmpa.gov.uk



Working with User Led Organisations

According to the Government Report Putting People First: working together with user-led organisations (<http://goo.gl/yxYmj>) User Led Organisations (ULOs) are organisations led and controlled by the very people who they help – disabled people, carers and other people who use services. They provide a range of services, including information and advice, advocacy and peer support, support in using direct payments and individual budgets, and disability equality training.

Angie Farrell is the ULO Development Co-ordinator with Breakthrough UK her role (as part of the current Right to Control pilot in Manchester, Trafford, Stockport, Oldham and Bury- <http://goo.gl/g7GNf>) is to work with User-Led Organisations to support and develop their services and policies. To encourage them to set up Centres for Independent Living, in line with the Rights to Control Agenda.

Angie will be working as an Outreach Worker in the five areas involved in the Rights to Control Pilots. Although mainly based at Breakthrough's Office in Ardwick she will be out and about meeting and supporting User-Led Organisations throughout Manchester, Trafford, Stockport, Oldham and Bury. One of her first tasks is to produce a database of all the ULO's currently up and running in these areas and to make contact with them to offer support to develop their organisations.

Angie is based at Trafford Centre for Independent Living on Thursdays. If you would like her to come to your organisation to give an outline on the kinds of support she could provide, contact her on:

07538 245703

a.farrell@breakthrough-uk.co.uk

**SENIOR ADVENTURERS of SALE
OVER 60's CLUB**

WE WISH TO RECRUIT NEW MEMBERS.

**WE MEET ON THURSDAY AFTERNOONS
FROM 1pm to 3PM**

INTERESTED??
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT

**SALE WEST COMMUNITY CENTRE
NEWBURY AVENUE SALE.**
Tel 0161-973-8612



New Worker in Sale West

Dan Shelston has recently been appointed by the Sale West and Ashton Partnership to a new position of Development Lead for Sale West. As a former resident of the area (Dan attended Cherry Manor Primary School many years ago), Dan will focus on working with the community to help raise the quality of life for people in Sale West and Ashton.

He is very keen that ideas for initiatives, projects and activities come from the local community and residents get involved and have a major influence in the decisions that affect how the area develops in the future. He also wants to make sure local residents are aware of key agencies who are trying to engage with the community and provide a range of support services to which people are entitled.

A focus of his role is to make best use of the Sale West Youth and Community Centre and ensure it becomes a hub of the local community for all age groups for years to come. You can contact Dan either by e-mail or by phone:

dan.shelston@traffordhousingtrust.co.uk

07791 169937

Young Persons Group for Old Trafford

The Old Trafford Partnership wants to develop a Young Persons Group to feed into the work of the area partnership. Initially the group will be made up of partners working with young people, with a hope to ultimately include the young people themselves.

If you would be interested in sitting on the Old Trafford Youth Sub Group or want to find out more about the work of the Old Trafford Partnership contact::

oanne Ellor-Foden

0161 912 4145

Joanne.Ellor@trafford.gov.uk

New Market Opens Up in Greater Manchester

A phased programme of work that will take Greater Manchester's voluntary sector into a new market was launched by GMCVO on 24th January. The initiative was outlined at a trade fair event, Get Connected – Go to Market which came in response to the exciting news that Greater Manchester is to be one of four pilot sites for the Whole Place Community Budget initiative.

Voluntary sector groups from across greater Manchester came together in a friendly and welcoming environment with the aim of forging links between their services and exploring the opportunities for collaborative partnership. Within themed service headings, derived from the Whole Place priority areas of work, organisations were asked to consider what the supply chains might look like in the delivery of these services. As the event progressed it became apparent just how enormous the contribution from the sector could be to improving the wellbeing of local people simply by joint delivery and co-operation.

Event organiser, Neil Walbran, said: "This is just the beginning of our sector gearing up for some real contracting opportunities. We'll be running more events such as this within specialised themes over the coming months."

Further details from:

Neil Walbran

Senior Policy and Partnerships Officer,
GMCVO

0161 277 1036

neil.walbran@gmcvo.org.uk



Beat the Blues!

- Life getting you down?
- Problems at every turn?

The Counselling and Family Centre has a special Blues Busting solution.

The Counselling and Family Centre are offering counselling sessions for as little as £5.00 an hour for daytime appointments for you if you are on a Means Tested benefit.

Manager Jo Wood says "As a local charity we work really hard to make sure we can help as many people as possible. It's quick and easy to get an appointment, we offer counselling in a number of languages including British Sign language, and you can have an appointment at a time to suit you right up to nine o'clock at night.

"Over the years we've noticed that in January and February there are higher than usual numbers of people finding the going tough and coming to us to help them feel ok again. This year we thought about how we can do even more to help. Like most charities we're feeling

the pinch, but our mission is and always will be to serve our local community. We're based in Altrincham, and all you have to do is stroll down our once thriving high street to see how the country's economic problems are affecting us all.

"Put shortage of money on top of bereavement, family breakdown, bullying, anxiety....in fact any of the life problems we all experience in different ways, and you have a really grim picture. So we came up with 'Blues Buster' - our contribution to supporting our community."

Not on a means Tested benefit but still on a low income? Give them a ring - you may be eligible for the next rate which is £10.00 a session for individual children or adults, £20 for couples. Even at full price (£25.00 for individuals and £35.00 for couples) this is really affordable help.

For more information or an appointment:
0161 941 7782
www.counsellingandfamilycentre.co.uk

Timperley Food Bank- Open Meeting

Thursday Feb 16th- 7pm

Timperley Methodist Church, Stockport Road, Timperley, WA15 7UG

An open meeting to explore the possibility of developing a food bank in Timperley with a presentation from the Trussell Trust. The Trussell Trust equips churches to launch foodbanks in their local area, with over 170 foodbanks launched nationwide.

The meeting should last no more than 2 hours and refreshments will be provided. Anyone interested in being involved is welcome to attend

For more information contact Andrew Bradley

minister@timperleymethodist.org.uk

0161 980 5955



Funding News

Sport Relief

Sport Relief is offering Community Cash. The funding is administered locally by community foundations in partnership with local newspapers. Grants ranging from £500 to £1,000 are available to groups working in a disadvantaged or deprived area within the specified area, with an income of less than £100,000. Interested groups should contact their local community foundation for further information, an application form and the deadline. <http://goo.gl/YRnqr>

Community First Panel

Community First panels are up and running from Plymouth to Sunderland and already getting local people involved in agreeing priorities and accessing funds for projects. But is your area missing out? Eligible areas in Trafford are in the Bucklow St Martin's Gorse Hill, Stretford and Longford wards. Find out if your area is eligible for Community First funding by checking on the postcode checker. <http://goo.gl/rPSZi>

Eaga Charitable Trust

Eaga Charitable Trust supports projects that promote a better understanding of fuel poverty and more effective means of tackling it. This includes understanding the causes of fuel poverty, how to prevent it and which groups are most likely to suffer fuel poverty. www.eagacharitabletrust.org/grants-offered

Starbucks Youth Action

The Starbucks Youth Action programme inspires and empowers young people to make a difference in their communities. The programme offers £2,000 and training to advise the project manager. Deadline 5 March. <http://goo.gl/5LFmZ>

Framework For Supported Living & Residential Care Services

For Adults With A Learning Disability

The current Learning Disability Framework will expire on 1st March 2012. Trafford Council, in partnership with Trafford PCT, intends to establish a new Framework which will focus solely on residential and supported living services for adults with a learning disability covering a wide range of support needs. All commissioned services will be issued through the Framework, therefore all providers interested in providing residential and supported living services for Trafford will need to apply for a position on the Framework.

Tender documents were issued on the 7th February and can be accessed via the Chest <https://www.thechest.nwce.gov.uk/>, you will need to register with the site to be able to access the documents and enter the process

Current contracts awarded under the Framework will continue for their initial term and may be extended where appropriate.

The tender deadline is **12 noon on Monday 19th March**. All queries should be submitted via the Chest.

Online Funding Search:

www.gmfunding.net



Online Fundraising From The Charity Service

www.mygift.org.uk/

Create and manage your own fundraising page to raise money for your sponsored event or donate direct to the charity or community organisation of your choice. It only takes a few minutes to create your page and then just share the link out to your friends and family and colleagues. A charity sector alternative to services such as Justgiving.

If you are a charity looking to set up a general appeal why not create your own charity page with details of forthcoming fundraising events. You can also advertise for FREE using a banner on our website. Any questions contact Ashlie Tottle
0303 999 1212 Option3,
07730 217 954
ashlie.tottle@charityservice.org.uk

Donate now

This is a FREE service to charities and community organisations to equip them with a “Donate Now” button on their own website. It only takes a few minutes to set up and your charitable cause can reap the benefits of a fundraising mechanism that is available 24/7 and that does not need to be administered by you.

The Charity Service can send you a hyperlink to enable you to add a “Donate Now” button on your homepage so that any visitors to your website can donate money quickly and easily. They will process all donations securely and will remit funds to you within 10 working days of the month in which they were donated. More details of service and help offered in this poster: <http://goo.gl/roQWC>

Going Loopy for the Olympics

Let's Go Global and partners will be staging Looping the Loop, an arts-based celebration of the coming of the Olympics as part of the Cultural Olympiad. The event will take place around Old Trafford Football Ground (the home of the Olympic Football Tournament) and Salford Quays, on Saturday May 19th. Looping the Loop is the Northwest's opening event for London 2012, celebrating the start of Games time in the UK. May 19th is also the day when the Olympic torch relay begins its 60 day journey around the UK.

Let's Go global want to engage and involve people living in the four communities surrounding the Old Trafford Ground (Old Trafford, Gorse Hill, Ordsall and Langworthy) in the event and have 6 commissions of £5,000 available to organisations working in any of these areas. Each commission should work towards the following aims:

- To inspire local people to get involved with and engage with the spirit of the

Games through creative activity

- To positively impact on local people's confidence, self-esteem, technical and creative thinking skills by actively supporting them to take part in one of the biggest celebrations in their lifetime.
- To work with the themes of the 'looping the loop' event and the values of the games in a series of creative workshops and programmes in each of the four areas
- To develop a creative output with each of the four local communities which is showcased as part of 'Looping the Loop'
- To celebrate diversity within these local communities

A document containing further details of the commissioning process and contact details for Let's Go Global can be downloaded from: <http://goo.gl/rJFLH>

The deadline for submitting a proposal is noon on **Friday 17th February.**



The Social Enterprise Growth Challenge

22nd February - Challenge 4 Change Centre,
373 Trafford Park Rd M17 1AL

This is a focussed training and coaching day for leaders and managers of social enterprises who are looking to grow their organisation.

Organised by Singulier, the Business Support Organisation for Social Enterprises, this is an action packed day in the company of like-minded social entrepreneurs, so you can share ideas. Through a variety of activities Singulier will help you:

- assess your current business situation
- identify what actions you should be taking to move forward
- come away with your top goals for the next quarter, a comprehensive action plan that is time-bound, specific and measurable in order to achieve these goals, and renewed confidence that you can make it happen!

Standard price is £95 or half price if you bring along 2 guests (£46 each)

Registration closes on 14th February so don't delay.

<http://socialenterprisegrowth.eventbrite.co.uk/>

VCS Business Planning Package

Hope Manchester has formed a partnership with Elite Business Developers who are offering to write business plans for voluntary and community organisations for a one off charge of £120.

To take advantage of this offer or to find out more about the service being offered contact Hope Manchester
0161 868 0239

adhopemanchester@hotmail.com

Free Management Support in the North West

Free management consultancy services are available to third sector organisations in the North West from The Cranfield Trust. Around 60 managers from the commercial sector in the region can provide mentoring, impartial advice and support in areas such as business and strategic planning, financial management, marketing and communications, and feasibility studies for new activities.

Each project is individually tailored to meet the client's particular needs and deliver clearly specified project outcomes. The Trust's remit is to work with registered charities and not-for-profit organisations addressing issues of poverty, disability and social exclusion. Details and case studies may be found on the website at www.cranfieldtrust.org. For information Contact Vanessa Longman at the trust on 0844 800 3390
vanessa.longman@cranfieldtrust.org.

Data Protection Advisory Visits

Charities are being encouraged to invite an 'advisory visit' from the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) to provide advice on issues relating to data protection. This is an alternative to a full-blown audit, and involves a one-day visit from a member of ICO's good practice team. The benefits include:

- identifying good practice
- raise awareness of data protection
- an opportunity to use t ICO resources for free
- helping identify your data protection risks

There is no charge, and a short report is produced at the end summarising action to take. If you would like to register your interest in having an ICO advisory visit, e-mail advisory@ico.gsi.gov.uk.



International Women's Day Events at the Imperial War Museum

A Closer Look: International Women's Day (Ideal for ages 14+)*

Sunday 4th (film screening only) and 11th plus Monday 5th, Tuesday 6th, Wednesday 7th, Thursday 8th and Friday 9th March, 2.15pm.

*Session on 4th March will be an additional film screening in place of the tour due to the BBC Philharmonic event.

*Session on 11th March will also include the chance to see recorded interviews with local Second World War Women's Royal Naval Service members.

What A Performance: International Women's Day* (Ideal for all ages)

Saturday 3rd and 10th March,
11.15pm, 12.15pm, 1.15pm, 2.15pm

Main Exhibition Space

See one of IWM North's special, family friendly performances dramatising stories of wartime adventure including the story of a daring female spy serving with the Special Operations Executive during the Second World War.

*The session on 3rd March is also part of Manchester Histories Festival (24th February – 4th March)

What Nancy Did Next (Ideal for all ages)

Saturday 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th March, 1-4pm

Learning Studio

Marking the month of International Women's Day, meet our fictional character Nancy and hear her tales of life in the Land Army in the Second World War. Learn about her wartime experiences away from home and making new friends.

Changes to Music, Event and Alcohol Licensing

The following is a list of updates currently being made (or about to be made) around licensing for music performance (live and recorded), events and sales of alcohol. Some of these changes end existing exemptions for charities and voluntary sector groups, Full details are available on the ever useful website hosted by Sandy Adirondack.

Licensing changes for playing or performing copyright music:

- From 1 January charities and other voluntary organisations are no longer exempt from needing a PPL licence .
- New joint PPL/PRS arrangement for tariff CB for community buildings.
- Consultation until 6 March on PPL arrangements for community sport clubs.

www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#ppl-prs

PPL consultation on 'specially featured entertainment' tariff for events with DJs or dancing.

www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#ppl-sfe

Forthcoming changes to alcohol and regulated entertainment licensing, including significant changes to temporary event notices, and removal the vicinity test so anyone, not just local residents and businesses, can make representations about licensed premises.

<http://goo.gl/sTrqd>

Deregulation of regulated entertainment:

- Live Music Bill,
- DCMS consultation on further deregulation of regulated entertainment.

<http://goo.gl/iPGa7>

Extended licensing hours for Queen's jubilee weekend <http://goo.gl/yASGN>



Volunteering News

Action for Sustainable Living- Project Managers Wanted

Do you want to meet new people learn new skills, and make a positive impact in your community?

ASFL need you! Volunteer now as a Local Project Manager for March 2012 in Trafford!

Receive: Fun Interactive Training, Support, Skills for your CV, help to Build Community Networks!

For more details contact Jo Wilkes or Kate Wels:

0161 237 3357

opportunities@afsl.org.uk

www.afsl.org.uk

Volunteer Drivers Wanted

The Voluntary Transport Group is an independent organisation run from a home in Bowdon. They provide drivers to take people with mobility and sight problems to attend hospital and clinic appointments. The organisation has been operating for over thirteen years and has over 400 clients. They are currently recruiting for new volunteer drivers, especially in the Sale area

Drivers are issued with identity badges, parking permits and are reimbursed for petrol expenses at the rate of 45p per mile. This does not have to be a huge commitment but would be a help in the community.

For more details or to volunteer, please contact Kaye Gardner 0161 962 6994

Warm and Healthy Trafford: Volunteer Training

For full details of the Warm and Healthy Trafford scheme see the flyer enclosed with this newsletter or download a copy from: <http://goo.gl/ZahkM>

Warm and Healthy Trafford training is your chance to find out more about the ways in which poor housing can contribute to poor health, particularly amongst older people. The aims of the session are to:

- Understand how cold homes affect health
- How to prevent falls in the home
- Learn useful energy efficiency tips
- Identify the organisations in Trafford who can support older people to stay warm, safe and healthy

Wednesday 22 February 2012
10.00am – 11.30pm

Venue:
Trafford Carers Centre
13 Warwick Road
Old Trafford
Manchester
M16 0QX

To book a place please ring Karen Kennedy
0161 874 1658
kkennedy@careandrepair-manchester.org.uk



Voluntary & Community Action Trafford

Colin Barson: Chief Executive
Rose Thompson: Office Manager
Bernie Connor: Support Worker
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Email: vcat@vcattrafford.org
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Heather Smith: FASNET Co-ordinator
Bernie Connor: Sale West Development Worker
Craig Almond: Project Support Worker
Tel: 0161 973 5741
Email: development@vcattrafford.org

Trafford Local Involvement Network (LINK)

Ruth Walkden: LINK Manager
Marilyn Murray: LINK Development Worker
Craig Almond: Project Support Worker
Tel: 0161 962 7266
Email: link@vcattrafford.org
Web: www.traffordlink.org

Community Engagement Project

Lynsey Cottle: Community Engagement Worker
Tel: 0161 962 7266

Trafford Mental Health Advocacy Service (TMHAS)

Aly Gel: Advocacy Worker
Jackie Stott: Advocacy Worker
Tel: 0161 969 8686



VCAT | Voluntary & Community Action Trafford



Voluntary & Community Action Trafford

Park House, 73 Northenden Road
Sale M33 2DG

Registered Charity No: 1098222
Company Limited by Guarantee No: 4399868

Contributions to VCAT News are always welcome:

Articles, Diary dates, Training events or general ideas and feedback.

Please forward any articles to:

mailings@vcattrafford.org

Views expressed in VCAT Newsletter and any enclosures are not necessarily the views of VCAT.

Next VCAT News issue th
6th April 2012

Submit articles by:

Friday 30th March 2012

