



Grapevine

ISSUE 48

Winter 2011

THE NEWS-SHEET OF THE ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES



From the Staff and Executive Committee of ECVYS, we hope you have a peaceful and happy Christmas and New Year.

As another year comes to a close it is interesting to look back and reflect on all that has happened..... however with our ever changing sector we need to look forward and embrace all the changes that will quickly come into being in the New Year.

The next few weeks will bring confirmation on the new structure that is forming within Essex; the complete 0 – 19 commissioning of services will look very different from 1st April 2012 to what it does now. There will be changes within most of the areas of our work and new partners/organisations to support and network with – it promises to be a very interesting and busy time for us all.

Essex County Council is changing from BravoSolution to Ariba - Hopefully you

will all be aware of this information regarding Bravo; but just in case you aren't please see message below from ECC:

On 1st January 2012 Essex County Council (ECC) will change the eSourcing platform, it uses to tender for goods and services, from BravoSolution to Ariba.

Please note that essex.bravosolution.co.uk will be turned off to suppliers on 31st December 2011. Suppliers and Voluntary Sector Organisations should ensure that they have a record, or take steps to download any historic information and tenders that they have uploaded onto the Bravo site, which will be and are required for future reference, as only profile and contract information will be transferred to Ariba.

Seasons Greetings – Brenda

CRB/Vetting and Barring

Criminal records regime scaled back

The government response to the Home Office's review of the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) has been published. It includes confirmation that there will be a review of the definition of a criminal record and which offences are included in national records, which could help employers decide on a person's suitability to work with children

Criminal records regime review

The Home Office has published the second and final phase of the review of the criminal records regime by Sunita Mason, the Independent Advisor for Criminality Information. It includes 10 recommendations for reform. The Government has published its response to the review which accepts the majority of the review's proposals. This includes the suggestions that there needs to be clearer definitions around what constitutes a criminal record and a thorough review of which offences are included in national records. This could lead to cautions and reprimands being included in CRB checks.

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/agencies-public-bodies/crb/crb-press-releases/crr-review-phase-two>

Criminal records Third Sector magazine has reported that the government is considering charging volunteers to use the 'portable' criminal records checking system that is due to come into force in 2013. It says that "under the system, laid out in the Protection of Freedoms Bill currently before parliament, there would be two types of criminal records check: a one-off check and a portable one based on a continuously updated criminal records database, which would allow an individual to work or volunteer for a number of organisations. A Home Office spokesman said the one-off check would remain free for volunteers. He said, however, that the government was looking closely at whether

volunteers would have to pay a yearly subscription fee to have the portable check."

http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/Policy_and_Politics/article/1108028/government-ponders-charging-volunteers-portable-criminal-records-check/



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**ECVYS AGM
Tuesday 22nd May 2012**

ECVYS and the Children & Families Network (0 – 19 Clusters) dates for 2012

Cluster Meetings Listed below are the dates for next years ECVYS and the Children & Families Network Cluster meetings in your area. For those of you who have not yet attended a Cluster Meeting, these groups aim to connect those working with Children, Young People and Families and to be a place of support, information sharing and dissemination of news from a local and county level. They also provide the opportunity to meet colleagues from different organisations.

Cluster	West
Chair	Arthur Steward
Spring Term	21.2.12
Cluster	North
Chair	James McQuiggan
Spring Term	tbc
Cluster	Mid
Chair	Jane Youdale
Spring Term	16.02.12
Cluster	South
Chair	Jane Youdale
Spring Term	06.02.12
To confirm venues please contact ECVYS at officeadmin@ecvys.org.uk	



Funding

What are Outcomes?

The BIG lottery and many other funders use an outcomes approach to their funding. They are more interested in the difference a project will make rather than the activities undertaken.

Outcomes are changes that will come about as a direct result of your work.

Source: BIG Lottery Fund

Warburton's Their main focus is on grass roots activities that have a positive effect on the aspirations, education, skills and employability of young people, as well as projects that are centred on family life, promoting healthier lifestyles and contributing to improvements in the local community. They are particularly interested in projects and activities which improve life chances and provide opportunities for those who face more challenges than most. For example, projects which:

- . Have a positive effect on the aspirations, education and employability of young people.
- .Have a strong family focus.
- .Encourage healthier lifestyles in the community
- . Improve the local environment of the community

Tel 01204 556600

www.warburtons.co.uk/page.php?p=136

The Act Foundation. Provides grants to individuals and other charities, principally in the UK, with the aim of enhancing the quality of life for people in need, (specifically the mentally and physically disabled). Grants generally fall into the following areas:

- . Building – funding modifications to homes, schools, hospices etc.
- . Equipment –provision of specialised wheelchairs, other mobility aids and equipment including medical equipment to assist independent living.
- . Financial assistance – towards the cost of short- term respite breaks at registered respite centre.

Tel 01753 753900 E-mail

info@theactfoundation.co.uk

www.theactfoundation.co.uk

BBC Children in Need Provides grants for up to three years to properly constituted not for profit organisations working with disadvantaged young people aged 18 or under. Organisations can apply for **Small Grants** Of £10,000 or less per year for up to three years and for Main Grants of over £10,000 per year for up to three years.

Funding is available to organisations (including schools) that work with young people who are suffering from illness, distress, abuse or psychological difficulties and /or are living in poverty or situations of deprivation.

www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey.grants

Britannia Part of the Co-operative bank. The Foundation offers grants and donations between £1,000 and £25,000 to registered charities and schools working within education, particularly numeracy and /or financial literacy.

www.brittannia.co.uk/_community/foundation.html





Kelly Family Charitable Trust. Open to applications from registered charities whose activities involve all or most **family members** in initiatives that support and encourage the family to work as a cohesive unit in tackling problems that face one or more of its members. The fund also welcomes applications from **sports and health- related** charities whose activities comply with the above criteria. The fund offers revenue and capital grants. Grants are of between £1,000 and £5,000. **Deadline 1st March 2012.** www.kfct.org
s.armstrong@kfct.org.uk

Lloyds TSB Foundation This year Lloyds TSN Foundation celebrates its 25th Anniversary. The aim is to fund and support charities that help disadvantaged people play a fuller role in the community through delivering lasting changes and benefits for their users/beneficiaries. Funding is needs-driven, primarily supports core costs and is designed to fund issues that affect individuals as well as multiple communities.
www.lloydsfoundation.org.uk/funding/Programmes/Pages/Fundingprogrammes.aspx

Co-operative Community Fund Grants, between £100 and £2,000 are awarded to community, voluntary, or self-help groups to run projects that meet the following criteria. To be successful, a group must carry out positive work in the community and:

- . address a community issue
- . provide a good long-term benefit to the community
- . support co-operative values and principles
- . be innovative in its approach

Tel 0844 262 4001 www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/Community.fund@co-operative.coop



The Henry smith Charity

Main Grants Programme. Grants of £10,000 per annum or over. There are two types: Capital Grants – One grants for purchase of refurbishment of a building or purchase of specialist equipment. Revenue Grants – Grants of up to three years for things like core costs (including salaries and overheads), or the running costs of a specific project (including staffing costs).

Small Grants Programme. Grants of under £10,000 per year. Grants of £500 - £20,000 for small UK registered charities working in any UK county not listed above. To be eligible to apply for a small grant, your annual income must be below £150,000.

Holiday Grants for Children. One of grants of up to £3,000 for organisations, schools, youth groups etc specifically for holidays or outings for children under the age of 13 who are disabled or who live in high areas of deprivation.

Tel 020 7264 4970

www.henrysmithcharity.org.uk



Health lottery The Peoples Health Trust, the charity in charge of distributing the estimated £50m a year of good cause money from the Health Lottery, has announced how its first small grants programme will work. Money from Health Lottery ticket sales will be given to projects in different parts of the local lottery areas each week.

The Health Communities programme will be available for health-related projects and organisations with annual turnovers of less than £75,000 can apply for up to £10,000.

Organisations can register their interest on the trust's site and will be notified when their areas open for applications. www.peopleshealthtrust.org.uk



Information

Drug and alcohol use The National Treatment Agency has published a **report** which shows that the number of young people receiving treatment for drug and alcohol misuse has fallen. It found that under 18s accessing specialist services for substance misuse in England fell to 21,955 this year, down from 24,053 in 2008/09, suggesting that this was likely to be a reflection of falling drug use among young people. The majority of those receiving treatment (78 per cent) were aged 15 to 18 and 64 per cent were male. More young people are also completing their therapy successfully. The report said that the majority of young people who need help with substance misuse have other emotional or social problems such as self-harming, offending, not being in education, employment or training, being pregnant or being a parent.

Children's Rights

The Children's Rights Alliance for England has published *State of Children's Rights in England 2011*. The review looks at the 118 recommendations made by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child when it last examined the UK's

compliance with international children's rights law. It concludes that the Government has only made progress in 18 of 118 recommendations in the past 12 months, and has presided over a deterioration in 15 recommendations. <http://www.crae.org.uk/assets/files/CRAE%20State%20of%20childrens%20rights%20Dec%202011.pdf>

Volunteers help prevent children going into care

Research has been published from Anglia Ruskin University into the Community Service Volunteers in Child Protection scheme. Findings include: training volunteers to support families in the child protection system could reduce the number of children going into care; improve mother's and children's wellbeing; and save councils money.



Opportunities for young people

Work placement The British Youth Council (BYC) is offering 6 places on the 24/24 work placement programme. This is a structured programme specifically designed for NEET young people aged 16-19 years that are disadvantaged. It's a unique opportunity to work in a young volunteer team with the UK's leading youth-led participation and campaigning organisation. This is an ideal opportunity for young people that are interested in politics, campaigning and social justice. They will be supported to gain a Level 2 qualification, comprehensive training and induction and a dedicated Volunteer Officer to guide them through the programme. Keith.morgam@byc.org.uk

Film competition -Cut Films is challenging young people to make a short creative film about “why smoking isn’t cool”. To enter, young people have to research, write and produce a short film about the dangers of smoking, using a camcorder or phone, and then upload it to social media sites. The best film wins a workshop with a leading UK film director, equipment for their school or youth club, and national publicity.
www.cutfilms.org



Resources

Winter Weather The TUC advises employers to put a **bad weather policy** in place so that people know what is expected of them when snow and ice close the workplace or make travel difficult. A sample policy can be found at
<http://www.tuc.org.uk/workplace/tuc-17391-f0.cfm>
 Acas can give advice on employment rights during bad weather.travel disruption.
 08457 474747 www.acas.gov.uk

Help for Charitable Companies If your organisation is struggling with cashflow or funding it’s vital to access timely, expert advice. NCVO have worked in partnership with the Charity Finance Directors Group and insolvency experts MacIntyre Hudson and PricewaterhouseCoopers to open up a **free insolvency Helpline**.
 Find out more at: <http://ncvo-vol.org.uk.free-insolvency-help-line>

Mini Code A new version of the Code of Good Governance has been published **specifically for smaller** voluntary and community groups **without staff**. It is particularly true of small organisations

that Board members may often carry out three roles – doing the work, managing the work and governing the work. Boards need to be aware of the differences between doing, managing and leading, and understand how their role may change as the organisation grows.



Homophobic bullying Researchers at Sheffield Hallam University have published **Tackling Homophobia and Transphobia In Settings Supporting Young People**. The report examines how LGBT issues are tackled in school and youth work settings in South Yorkshire. A questionnaire and interviews with young people revealed that many felt professionals did not properly understand the issue, with staff in some settings using homophobic language themselves. Some students also reported school policies that isolated LGBT young people, such as asking them to get changed separately from their peers for PE lessons.

Bullying The National Federation for Educational Research (NFER) has published **Sticks and stones may break my bones, but being left on my own is worse**. The report about bullying at school is based on analysis of an attitude survey of children aged 11-18. It finds that being left out is more closely associated with poor emotional wellbeing than any other type of bullying, including physical or verbal abuse and that the most common form of bullying is verbal abuse.



Everybody Here Will Be Bullied

'Everybody Here Will Be Bullied' is a new book on the prevalence of bullying directed at children and young people with special educational needs and/or disability (SEN/D). The book will be published in Mar 2012

Toolkit for staff skills needs LSIS has developed a **new toolkit**, designed to support voluntary and community organisations to respond to the literacy, language, communication and numeracy skills needs of their service users, staff and volunteers. The toolkit is directed mainly to those voluntary and community organisations which are not currently mainstream providers of education and training, and whose specialism's are outside the formal education sector.

Jargonbuster for charity performance and evaluation The **Charities Evaluation Services** has launched the 'jargonbusters' website to provide simple and clear definitions for unclear or technical language surrounding charity performance and evaluation.

Community Enterprise Toolkit Co-operatives UK has published the final part of its **Community Enterprise Toolkit**, 'Simply Start-Up: A guide to the process of starting a Co-operative or Community Enterprise'.

Useful websites

<http://cybermentors.org.uk> young people supporting each other online to beat bullying.



<http://www.essexlegacy.org/be-part-of-it/> to keep up-to-date with London 2012 Olympic events in Essex.

<https://housingandhelp.ehodirect.org.uk> housing, health,

benefits and work support online advice service.



<http://www.civilexchange.org.uk/> a new think tank considering how civil society and the state can work better together.

<http://www.friendlyinformation.org.uk/lets-get-it-right/> Lets Get it Right A toolkit and handouts to help people to decide whether personalisation is for them



<http://essex.gov.uk/winter> for information on Essex County Council services to keep roads clear in harsh conditions.

<http://www.makinglocalfoodwork.co.uk> information and support for community food enterprises, such as farmers markets, community-owned shops and food cooperatives.



<http://www.greenpreferenceservice.com> allows consumers to specify that they prefer to receive emails rather than post. Each piece of post you switch stops at least 19g of CO2 being generated.

<http://www.eedaorg.uk/competefor> register and view contract opportunities available from the London 2012 Olympic Paralympic Games.



<http://www.essexinfo.net/> **Essex Info Upgrade** offers a free website for parish and town councils, community and voluntary groups. Various new features have been added, and telephone support lines are now 01245 437891 or 07983455211



Your representatives on the Children's Partnership Boards (Local Commissioning and Delivery Boards)

County Children's Partnership Board	Martin Solder Brenda Towle
County Children's Partnership Executive (Joint Commissioning Board)	Brenda Towle
Local Children's Partnership Boards	
North East	James McQuiggan
Mid Essex	Kerry Horner
South East	Jane Youdale
South West	Eileen French
West	Brenda Towle
County Group(s)	
ESCB	Brenda Towle
Infrastructure	Brenda Towle
Workforce Dev	Brenda Towle
ECVYS Children & Families network	Jane Youdale



Training

Online training for the voluntary sector

KnowHow NonProfit has launched **StudyPass**, a new subscription service to all the online training courses in KnowHow NonProfit's training library, StudyZone. All the video courses in StudyZone are designed specifically for the voluntary sector. They're 20 to 40 minutes long and really practical in focus, and cover all the key training topics including strategic planning, effective governance and fundraising from your database. For a small regular fee you, your team, volunteers, trustees or your entire organisation have 24/7 access to video courses, practical downloadable tools and bespoke discussion forums. You can do the courses as many times as you like, from wherever you are - all you need is an internet connection. It's one of the most cost-effective and accessible training solutions available to the voluntary sector.



Editor: Brenda Towle
 Copy to:
 ECVYS,
 45 Stortford Road
 Great Dunmow
 Essex
 CM6 1DQ
 Email: officeadmin@ecvys.org.uk
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