



WHSSB Public Engagement Session Out of Hours Services & Developing Better Services

The new GMS (General Medical Services) contract sets out how Health and Social Services Boards will contract with General Practitioners (GPs) and others for the provision of services provided by GPs and other primary care staff.

One of the services covered in the GMS Contract is the out-of-hours service, i.e. services provided at nights and weekends.

The WHSSB has issued a discussion paper on its proposals for providing out-of-hours services from 1 January 2005. Copies can be obtained by phoning the Family Practitioner Services Unit on 028 71 860086 or accessing the Board's website at www.whssb.org

The Board has also been taking forward the implementation of Developing Better Services including issues such as access to emergency care. The Board will use this engagement session to update people on the implementation of Developing Better Services and to seek views

on the needs of people across the Western area for accessible, integrated and responsive services.

The North-West Community Network will facilitate this engagement session which is open for all to attend. The Network

realises that these are vital issues that people will be keen to share their views on.

The Network will present a report of the engagement session to the WHSSB to ensure that the views of those at the meeting are listened to.

This session will take place on:

Date: Tuesday 17th August 2004

Time: 7.00pm

Venue: The Junction, 8 Bishop Street

If you have any special requirements that need to be met in order for you to attend this meeting please contact the Network on 7127 9090 or email info@nwcn.org.



AUGUST 2004

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Joint/Government Community Sector Forum North-West Ignored by NICVA

LHSCG (Local Health and Social Care Group) Commissioning Workshops - Advance Notice...more details to follow

LHSCG want to hear your views
LHSCG want you to get involved
LHSCG want you to help shape the future of primary care

As a local commissioner of health and social services, LHSCG are holding a workshop on each of their commissioning themes to plan and redesign current services to meet local needs. They are seeking service users and front line staff to attend these workshops to help inform decision making.

Diabetes - 7 October
Cardiac - 28 October
Alcohol & Drugs - 18 November
Urology - 2 December
Palliative Care - 20 January
Respiratory - 3 February

Venues to be confirmed, buffet lunch provided. Sign language provided on request.

To find out more contact:
Northern LHSCG Office
23a Bishop Street
Londonderry
Tel: 7136 9500
Fax: 7127 3679
Email:
northernlhscg@whssb.n-i.nhs.uk

As you may know NICVA (Northern Ireland Council for Voluntary Action) recently facilitated the nomination process of community and voluntary sector representatives to sit on the Joint Government/Community Sector Forum for the next two years. This process has recently been completed and yet again the sector in the North-West has been overlooked. Through the nomination process 15 sectoral representatives and 14 alternates have been selected. The North-West which has been to the forefront of community activity has again been overlooked in favour of mainly Belfast based organisations. The North-West Community Network feels that this situation is unacceptable as it reflects NICVA's centralist approach.

The full list of Joint Forum members is:

Name	Group	Alternate	Group	Name	Group	Alternate	Group
Chris Ball	Community Arts Forum	Heather Floyd	Community Arts Forum	Maurice Leeson	Barnardos	Elaine McElduff	Children in NI
Lynn Carvill	Org. of the Unemployed NI	Kenny McAdams	Disability Action	Olwen Lyner	NIACRO	Pat Conway	NIACRO
Patricia Cooke	Community Network Portadown	Aidan McCullough	TADA Rural Network	Marcas Mac Ruairia	POBAL	Sean O Muireagain	Comhairle na Gaelscolaiochta
Liz Cuddy	Rethink	Anne Doherty	Rethink	Seamus McAleavey	NICVA	Jane Gribben	Ballymena Community Forum
Jim Deery	Greater New Lodge Community Forum	Una Gillespie	West Belfast Economic Forum	May McCann	Women's Support Network		
Niall Fitzduff	Rural Community Network	Roy Hanna	Rural Community Network	Carol O'Bryan (Vice-chair)	Simon Community NI	Ricky Rowledge	Council for the Hoeless NI
Prof. Jimmy Kearney (Chair)	Volunteer Development Agency	Wendy Osborner	Volunteer Development Agency	Anne O'Reilly	NICVA/WRDA	Marilyn Trimble	WRDA
				Denis Palmer	Youthnet	June Trimble	YouthAction NI

Employers for Childcare Managing Children & Finances

Bringing up children is a rewarding experience, but not always on family finances! High costs of childcare can deter parents from returning to work – some parents can feel like they are only working to pay for childcare.

Employers For Childcare is a registered charity set up to assist working parents by encouraging employers to invest in childcare and to adopt family friendly policies.

Employers For Childcare can help parents – both mums and dads with:

- Information on local childcare availability
- Professional advice on childcare options
- Practical help and signposting with issues such as tax credits, parental leave entitlements, child trust funds and flexible working options
- Childcare Vouchers – saving on childcare costs

To find out more about call our freephone Childcare Advice and Information Helpline on: 0800 028 3008. The Helpline is available from 10 am – 1pm Monday to Friday with a messaging service available outside these hours.

Employers For Childcare has also recently launched an outreach service. Caroline McClure, Outreach Officer, liaises directly with women's groups, men's groups, community advice centres and Jobs and Benefits Offices all over Northern Ireland. If you work with parents with dependent children and would like more information on the services of Employers For Childcare please contact Caroline on 028 92610661 or email: caroline.mcclure@employersforchildcare.org

Peace & Reconciliation Group (PRG)

Courses 2004

The Peace and Reconciliation Group (PRG) was set up over 25 years ago to address practical ways to work towards understanding and reconciliation in the context of the conflict in Northern Ireland. Throughout its history, PRG has used a variety of diverse programmes to allow people to build bridges between communities polarised by the historical and political events that have occurred in Northern Ireland.

The PRG offers a range of quality training programmes to all segments of the community, public and private. All training is tailored to meet the needs of individual client groups, and training packages are offered both on and off-site. Please contact the office for specific dates or if you are interested in PRG staff bringing training to your group or organisation. For further information on any of the courses listed below, that will be delivered during 2004, feel free to contact the PRG on (028) 7136 9206 or visit the PRG website, www.peaceprg.co.uk.

Title: Introduction to Conflict Resolution and Mediation Skills

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 2 Credits: 1

Dates: Friday 3rd September, Friday 10th September and Friday 17th September

Time: 10am – 4pm

Costs: Waged £175 Unwaged £105

Title: Citizenship – Social, Civic and Political Education

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 2 Credits: 2

Dates: Friday 5th November and every Friday thereafter until 10th December

Time: 10am – 4pm

Costs: Waged £315 Unwaged £175

Title: Exploring Diversity – Facilitating Community Relations Work

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 3 Credits: 4

Dates: Wednesday 8th September 2004 and every Wednesday thereafter until 10th

November 2004

Time: 10am – 4pm

Costs: Waged £435 Unwaged £235

Title: Citizenship - Social, Civic & Political Educational

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 2 Credits: 2

Course Aim: This course reviews personal, social, civic and political education in Northern Ireland.

Course Content: Participants will be encouraged to discuss the meaning of Democracy, Government, Constitutions, Human Rights, Citizenship and Civil society in relation to developing programmes for different age ranges in the formal and informal education processes.

Dates: Friday 5th November & every Friday thereafter until 10th December

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Title: Introduction Conflict Resolution & Mediation Skills Course

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 2 Credits: 1

Course Aim: This course is designed to help individuals build an initial understanding of how mediation works.

Dates: Friday 3rd September, 10th September and 17th September

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Title: Exploring Diversity - Facilitating Community Relations Work

Accreditation: OCN Accredited Level: 3 Credits: 4

Course Aim: The aim of this course is to provide participants with the skill, knowledge and confidence to facilitate cross community work with diverse groups.

Dates: Wednesday 8th September & every Wednesday thereafter until 10th November

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm

Volunteer Development Agency

Volunteering Photo Competition

To celebrate the diversity of volunteering in Northern Ireland, the Volunteer Development Agency and their corporate partner Northern Bank, have teamed up with Morton Newspapers to capture the spirit of volunteering through a Northern Ireland wide photographic competition.

There are 3 categories for which you can enter photographs:

- A. Young people volunteering
- B. Employer supported volunteering
- C. Volunteering in the community (any volunteering activity)

Winners from each category will each receive a £100 photography gift voucher, and an overall winner will receive an additional voucher for £200 plus the opportunity to spend the day with a top professional press photographer from Kelvin Boyes Photography.

The competition is open to all amateur photographers and the closing date for entries is Friday 19th November 2004.

For further information contact the Volunteer Development Agency on (028) 9023 6100 or visit their website: www.volunteering-ni.org.

Community Development Learning initiative (CDLi) Learning Programmes Autumn 2004 - Spring 2005

Northern Ireland Deaf Youth Association

Seminar/Training Room for Hire

Northern Ireland Deaf Youth Association have a seminar/training room for hire at their premises in Foyle Street.

The room is fully equipped with all necessary audio/visual & meeting room equipment:

- TV/DVD/Video
- Overhead Projector
- Data Projector
- Flip Charts
- Tea & Coffee Facilities

The meeting room is situated in a central location, opposite bus depot, and can facilitate up to 20 people.

For further information on price and availability contact Vanessa on (028) 7127 1978 or email vanessanidya@hotmail.com.

Locally managed, CDLi provides both customised and accredited community development learning programmes as well as information, support and advice to community groups in the Derry City Council and Strabane District Council areas. The following is a selection of the programmes that will be offered during Autumn 2004 & Spring 2005. To book a place or for further information on any of these programmes contact Eamon or Mary on (028) 7137 7940 or email info@cdli.org.

Title: 'Keeping Safe' Awareness of Child Protection Issues

Partner Organisation: Volunteer Development Agency

Facilitator: Veronica Gray

Cost: £15/person

No. of Places: 30 (first come, first served)

Venue/s:

Derry/L'Derry - The Junction (Wednesdays)

Strabane - Strabane Library (Thursday/Tuesday)

Time: 10.00am - 4.00pm (Lunch not provided)

Title: Supervision Skills (for management committees and managerial staff within a community development setting)

Accreditation: Institute of Leadership & Management

Facilitator: Noreen Sweeney (Foyle Newpin)

Cost: £75 (including accreditation fees)

No. of Places: 12

Venue/s: CDLi Office, 10 Bishop Street

Title: Cert. H.E. Community Development (BSc Hons Community Development)

Course Details: The course is intended for those students whose primary focus centres on employment, voluntary activity or activism in community organisations or on community issues.

Partner Organisation: NWIFHE, Peace & Reconciliation Group, University of Ulster

Course Delivery: The Cert. H.E. will be delivered on a part time basis in the North West Institute over a two year period. Each year will consist of 2x12 week semesters. On successful completion of the Cert. H.E. it is expected that students will progress to the B.Sc. In Community Development (Year 2) of the University of Ulster.

Who can Apply: Applicants must satisfy the University of Ulster's general entrance requirements. Preference may be given to those with community based experience. Applicants

over 21 (or in exceptional circumstances under 21) may be admitted even if they have not satisfied the requirements provided they can demonstrate their ability to undertake the course. All applicants will be interviewed.

Further Details: For more details about the programme or to receive an application form please write to: Kenny Martin, City Factory Campus, NWIFHE, Patrick Street, L'Derry BT48 7AL Or phone 028-71276531 Email: kenny.martin@nwifhe.ac.uk

Title: Introduction to Community Development

Facilitator: Eamon Baker

Attendance: One morning, afternoon or evening for 17 weeks

Assessment: Participants will be assessed through a Personal Learning Record, which can be presented in oral or written format.

Employment/Further Study: You may progress to the NVQ in Community Work Level 2, or depending on additional qualifications and experience progress to the Certificate in Higher Education – Community Development and Education

Cost: TBC

Venue/s: TBC

Title: 'Child Protection is Everyone's Business'

Partner Organisation: Foyle Trust

Facilitator: Mark McChrystal

Cost: Free

No. of Places: 30

Venue/s: TBC

Date: TBC

Title: Disability Awareness - A practical workshop on the Disability Discrimination Act

Guest Speakers: Estella Dorrian (Equality Commission) Barney Tracey (Disability Action) Paul McStay (Community Technical Aid) Christine Ferrin

Partner Organisations: Community Change & Strabane & District Community Network

Venue/s & Dates:

<i>Derry Area</i>	<i>Strabane Area</i>
27th September	27th September
The Junction	Strabane Library
10.00 am - 12.00pm	2.00pm - 4.00pm

Title: Learn Sign Language

Facilitator: Michaela McFadden

Duration: 30 week accredited course

No. of Places: Limited (first come, first served)

Venue: The Junction

Old Library Trust

Community Healing Programme

The Old Library Trust, Healthy Living and Learning Centre (HLLC) is calling on the residents of Creggan to work with them on a new project which is taking place over the coming months. The project is being carried out as part of the Community Healing Programme within the HLLC.

The Community Healing Programme aims to bring closure to the legacy of the past that 'the Troubles' has created, by working at the neighbourhood level and engaging those affected by violence. This approach is based on the belief that individual and community trauma must be addressed so that those living in the community can learn to come to terms with and make sense of the legacy of the conflict, and restore the compassionate integrity of the individual and the community. The programme wishes to promote better understanding of the impact of 'the Troubles' on people's lives, as well as providing services to help address the needs that arise as a result of this.

The programme builds on the work of the HLLC, focusing on improving the health and well being of local people by tackling the underlying social and economic determinants of health and well being. However, until recently the HLLC had not made any provision for dealing with the impact of 'the Troubles', or for dealing with the debilitating effects of trauma. No attempt has been made to explore or understand the negative experiences, perceptions, attitudes and beliefs that continue to be reinforced in areas that are most affected by 'the Troubles.'

It is for this reason, therefore, that a new project is underway, which will determine

the extent of the impact of the conflict on the lives of people in the Creggan community, so that the Community Healing Programme's work can continue to be effective. The project will involve the distribution of a short questionnaire to a random selection of households in Creggan, asking participants to describe briefly some of their experiences as a result of 'the Troubles.' All participants at this stage will remain anonymous. The households will receive a letter, from Seamas Heaney, Director of the HLLC, explaining in more detail what their participation will entail.

As the project aims to remain community based throughout, it is crucial to its success that as many people as possible contribute to it. There is an immediate need for volunteers, who will receive training, to conduct the survey in the area.

Following the survey, there will be a number of focus groups formed, which will provide an opportunity for a wide range of people, with varying experiences, to tell their stories, as well as listen to the stories of others.

Finally, individual interviews will take place, so that a more in-depth understanding of particular effects of 'the Troubles' can be gained. At all stages of this study, strict confidentiality is assured.

Anyone interested in taking part in any of the ways mentioned, or who would like more information on the project, please contact Orla on 71373870, or call into The Old Library Trust, Healthy Living and Learning Centre, Central Drive, Creggan.

North-West Community Network - Network Forum Event

The North-West Community Network will hold a Forum event for member organisations on:

Date: 12th August 2004
Time: 2.00 - 4.00
Venue: The Junction, 8 Bishop Street

This event will be an opportunity for people to come together to share information on their projects and to hear updates on the work of various statutory organisations, government policies etc.

Please contact the Network to confirm your attendance at this event. If you have any special requirements which have to be met for you to participate in this event please let us know.

You can contact the Network on:

Tel. (0280 7127 9090
Fax (028) 7127 9357
Email info@nwcen.org

The Playhouse Restoration

The Playhouse on Artillery Street, Derry, will feature as one of three buildings to represent N.Ireland in the national television competition "BBC Restoration" this summer. This year's programme is being aired in July and August and we are asking you to get behind and vote for one of Ireland's busiest community art centres.

The Playhouse occupies two historic "B1 Listed" buildings in the city centre located beside the historic walls. The buildings are well used and loved but little funding has been available for maintenance and the listed buildings need urgent attention. Future plans including the restoration of the buildings, creating much-needed space and facilities for the Playhouse's multitude of cross-community, cross-border, national and international arts activities and resident cultural and art based groups and companies.

This undoubtedly will be the national television event of the year for Derry, and we are urging the whole community across the UK to join in the competition, and get The Playhouse to the final and hopefully win.

For more information, contact Niall at The Playhouse on Tel: (028) 71268027 or Email: info@derryplayhouse.co.uk or why not visit The Playhouses website at www.derryplayhouse.co.uk or the BBC at www.bbc.co.uk/restoration

BBC RESTORATION - VOTE PLAYHOUSE

**Vote Early - Vote Often! 1st -
3rd August**

Phone 09011 33 22 22

North-West Community Network Membership Application

Complete and return the form below, with your £30 membership fee, to the Network office to join the North-West Community Network. Membership is only open to organisations.

ORGANISATION	
CONTACT PERSON	
ADDRESS	
POSTCODE	
PHONE	
FAX	
EMAIL	
WEBSITE	

Meeting for Active Ageing Programme Organisers

A meeting has been arranged for any interested 50+ group organisers in the Derry City Council District to explore ways of resourcing the delivery of Active Ageing programmes in the future.

The meeting will be held in the Alexander Suite of the City Hotel, L'derry on Wednesday 18th August 2004 starting at 2 p.m. Theresa McVeigh, who has been responsible for much of the success of the Sperrin Lakeland Senior Citizens' Consortium, formed 6 years ago and currently representing 76 groups, will be in attendance as will Kathy McArdle, Network Coordinator for the Community Development & Health Network based in Newry.

If any 50+ group organisers are interested in attending, just come along or phone Don Patterson (from 6th Aug onwards) at 7186 0123 for further details.

Government Contravenes UN Convention on the Rights of the Child

Last week the British Government decided once again to ignore the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child by refusing to give children equal rights when it comes to protection from assault. On Monday 5 July 2004, the House of Lords voted against a new clause that would give children equal protection from assault. Instead the Lords voted on a compromise which removes the defence of reasonable chastisement but still allows parents to hit their children as long as it does not leave a mark or cause lasting damage.

In response to this new legislation which affects England and Wales, Maria Herron of the Derry Children's Commission said that this law contravenes Article 19 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and sends a confusing message to parents and carers. Ms. Herron stated 'here we have a ridiculous situation of the law being used to define how hard we can hit children, instead of clearly stating that children need to be protected from assault in the same way that adults are currently protected from assault.'

She added: 'The government's stance on smacking is even more confusing for children who are told on one hand that it is wrong to hit or bully someone, but on the other hand, that it's still ok for adults to hit children.'

In Britain, it is estimated that over 75% of parents hit their children and that over 50% of children are beaten at least once a week. A high percentage of babies under one are also smacked. It is interesting that in Sweden, one of the twelve European countries which has banned the smacking of children, there are no longer any child deaths due to parental abuse. In Britain at least one child dies every week due to physical abuse by a parent.

'Save the Children' recently produced a booklet about what children think about being hit or smacked by adults. The very first thing that children say is that it's not a smack – it's a HIT. The booklet explains that this is because what adults call a smack, children feel as a hit or a hard hit: 'It's sore, very sore' (4 year old girl) 'I feel scared and cry' (6 year old boy) This research which involved almost 200 children aged 4-11 years old, presents children's views on smacking and highlights that children feel hurt emotionally as well as physically when they are hit: 'it just feels like your parents don't like

you that much when they hit you' (8 year old girl) and 'you feel that your parents don't love you if it's your parents smacking you because why would they smack you? (10 year old boy) 'It is very sore, it makes you very sad.' (7 year old boy)

Children had a range of views about how adults feel when they smack children. Younger children often felt that adults were cross or angry after giving a 'smack' while older children felt that adults felt sad, bad or guilty when they hit their child. When children were asked if they would hit their own children when they become adults, most children said that they wouldn't: 'she'll be learning off me and I don't want her learning that it's ok to hit someone.' (8 year old girl) 'I wouldn't hit them because you wouldn't set a good example taking out your anger.' (9 year old girl) 'No, cos your children will be crying.' (8 year old boy)

The children were asked what adults could do instead of hitting children and here are some of their suggestions: 'the mummy has to talk to their child' (10 year old boy), 'no sweets no video' (8 year old girl), 'by grounding them or stopping them from doing something they enjoy' (10 year old girl). Most of the children thought it was wrong for an adult to hit a child: 'They are big, the child is small, it is not fair.' (6 year old boy), 'some parents hit far too hard' (7 year old girl) and 'the child might grow up being afraid of their parents and then they will have nobody to talk to' (11 year old girl).

Fortunately, there is a lot of practical help available to parents in Derry who are looking for alternatives to smacking children. Any of the following organisations would be happy to help: Parents Advice Centre 02871266663, Barnardos Parenting Matters 02871341780, Surestart Ballymagroarty 02871267524, Surestart Shantallow 02871352522.

For a copy of 'It's a HIT, not a smack' contact Save the Children on 02890431123 or check out their website on www.savethechildren.org.uk

Big Lottery Fund Consultation

Big Lottery Fund was created by merging the New Opportunities Fund and the Community Fund. It will hand out half the money for good causes from the National Lottery.

The Big Lottery Fund are keen to hear your views on what they should fund and how they should distribute their resources.

For more information on this important consultation which is due to end on 30th September 2004 visit the Big Lottery Fund website, www.biglotteryfund.org.uk.

The Network receives financial support from:



Network Update is produced by:

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Derry, Londonderry
BT48 6JG

Tel. (028) 7127 9090
Fax (028) 7127 9357

Email info@nwcni.org
Website www.nwcni.org

Community Planning Study Visit to Scotland

A study visit to learn about Community Planning in Scotland is being organised and funded by Concordia. The visit was suggested by Community Technical Aid and is open to all interested community and voluntary groups and people from other sectors. It will take place from 29 September 2004 to 1 October 2004 (dates subject to final confirmation) and will include visits to neighbourhoods and local authorities in Dundee and Fife and a good practice workshop with Community Planning researchers at Dundee University.

Community Planning is now on a statutory basis in Scotland. All local councils are required to produce a Community Plan and, to ensure it is integrated and 'joined-up', all government agencies must co-operate. There is also provision for community plans at a local neighbourhood level and a lot of good practice has been developed in recent

years. The visit is thus particularly relevant to community representatives interested in or involved in LSP integrated strategies and community plans, neighbourhood renewal or wider planning issues. It will also be useful to those who are interested in whether local councils here should have similar community planning responsibilities in the future.

Application forms for places on the study visit are available from Concordia:

- Telephone - 8778 8242
- Email - info@concordiapartnership.org

and should be returned by 27 August 2004 to Concordia. If you want more information about the visit, contact Yvonne Breen at Concordia.

Western Area Statutory Outreach Programme (WASOP) Last Call for Host Communities

The closing date for the receipt of completed application forms from potential host community organisations under this programme is fast approaching. In the Derry City Council area all completed application forms must be received by the North-West Community Network by 3.00pm 13th August.

WASOP involves the recruitment and placement of 10 statutory employees from middle management or above, on a part – time, temporary secondment basis, to a community or voluntary sector organisation, for 2 days per week for one year. It is envisaged that the programme will be run for two years, with 2 such secondees being placed in each of the 5 Council areas in the

WHSSB area each year. This will result in 20 "Champions for Community Development" being created.

This programme aims to support, encourage and facilitate the mainstreaming of a community development approach, with a view to helping the statutory sector to deliver services that people need and want, in a manner that they need, when they need it.

Interested organisations should contact the North-West Community Network on 7127 9090 or email info@nwcni.org for an application form.

