

Network UPDATE



FOR THE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN THE NORTH-WEST

"Promoting equal citizenship, justice and equality of opportunity"

Autumn
2009

Tender-ising the C&V Sector

For a few years, it has become abundantly clear that a grant-aid approach to funding community activity is steadily making way for a more overtly economic model. Language and concepts such as tendering, contracts and procurement have necessarily become part of community parlance. Effort has been expended in developing the understanding and therefore the capacity of community groups and activists to function effectively within this supplier model, evidencing a recognition of the incoming reality.

It is fair to say perhaps that not only has this shift (away from subsidy) been well signposted, but that it was indeed inevitable given a range of factors. Creeping normalisation meaning reduced interest and therefore assistance from Europe, devolution with a limited tax revenue, costly restructuring of public administration, and now of course the recession and new cuts being layered on top of those already planned.

"Hard times, hard decisions guys – let's see, how do we cushion ourselves against the worst of this? Where's the easiest place to trim our costs...hmmm, community groups..." Let's be honest, this isn't really that fanciful.

There is a risk of the recession however becoming an inadvertent smokescreen for the economic model that government has been pushing through for some time even before any global downturn. Community groups are well used to competing for their resources (often more than actually comfortable with) and there has developed that strange phenomenon of becoming best at describing the worst. In very simple terms, having to carry this "our needs are greatest" approach into a tendering process might not seem that big a transition – the skillset is somewhat different of course but if the meeting of needs remains central, then the core objective should remain the same.

Note the "if". Many respected opinions, including from the heart of (UK) government and at European level, have described the tendering model as actually being able to promote creativity and innovation in the delivery of public services, to deliver real efficiencies when best practice initiated at grassroots level becomes mainstreamed, to bolster the role of the Third Sector as an essential partner in society. Social procurement is increasingly recognised in different

parts of the world as a viable indeed desirable model to deliver outcomes that tackle identified social needs and, importantly, support sustainability. In other words, the old-school VFM (Value For Money) style of looking first and often only at the bottom line has in many cases been refined, become more sophisticated and ultimately more useful in creating more equal, inclusive and cohesive societies...that's the theory of it anyway.

So, if procurement comprising social outcomes is gaining a foothold (based on analysis of evidence and sound forecasting), why do we continue to see a) decisions rooted solely in traditional-VFM thinking, or b) tendering processes that militate against the achievement of social outcomes (e.g. prohibitive bidding terms)?

There are plenty of examples of both these scenarios here in NI, leading some to wonder if the Department for Finance & Personnel is the real power-broker for the Executive, and not necessarily under the complete control of the Minister with portfolio. In one recent example, we have a significant proposal with endorsement by the relevant department, backed by the most comprehensive depiction of need (and social benefit). The process then becomes infected by narrowmindedness and intransigence when it comes to properly understanding the best use of public money and not just the lowest bid.

More and more public services across these islands will be commissioned via procurement methods but is the experience really there to apply the latest thinking on this? A contract was recently awarded in NI to a multinational company, with no track record in the region, a company that has benefited elsewhere from tendering conditions that made it impossible for an honest-to-goodness community organisation to have any chance of success.

If social outcomes make sense, they should be applied – more in the current climate than at any other time. If the mouth is saying one thing yet the hands are doing another, it's another rocky road ahead for community activity. What might really be going on here? Does government really value the C&V sector as a partner in delivering public services or would it prefer to work with the private sector instead?

Derry~Londonderry - Regeneration Update

Work has been steadily progressing within the "One Plan" Regeneration process, led by the city's Strategy Board.

One key recent development, in the context of RPA, is that the Strabane area is now in the midst of planning its own version of the Futuresearch event. The corresponding planning exercise took place for the city of Derry~Londonderry in February of 2009 and, amongst other things, led to the devising of the twelve sectoral working groups who have been meeting on a regular basis since July of this year.

Not to pre-empt the outcome of Strabane's efforts, with that particular event scheduled for January 2010, it is still to be hoped that all possible synergies might be discovered, leading to a cogent, clear-sighted regeneration mission for what will soon be one local government area.

This also has the potential to expedite treatment of the urban/rural dimension which will be a key element in how the NW, with Derry~Londonderry as its regional hub, redesigns public services.

It is worth summarising what involvement the Community & Voluntary sector has in the regeneration process, at various levels of the governing framework.

The Strategy Board has a membership of circa 40 individuals from a variety of sectors, chaired by the Mayor (Cllr. Paul Fleming) and Co-chaired by Sir Roy McNulty (Ilex Chairperson).

Membership from the C&V sector comprises:

- *Colin Devine, NW Community Network*
- *Catherine Cooke, Foyle Women's Information Network*
- *Cathal McCauley, Outer North Neighbourhood Renewal Partnership Board Chairperson*
- *Jim McColgan, Outer West NRPB Chairperson*
- *Gerry Quinn, Triax NRPB Chairperson*
- *Damien McLroy, Waterside NRPB Co-Chairperson*
- *A.N. O'Her, Waterside NRPB Co-Chairperson.*

Working underneath the Strategy Board, there is also a Planning & Co-ordination Team (PCT) which in essence fulfils a supporting and task-oriented role in ensuring the regeneration process moves forward. Alongside Derry City Council, Ilex and North-West Development Office (DSD), Strategy Board member Damien McLroy represents the C&V sector, supported by North-West Community Network. NWCN has also developed an informal Community Reference Group, which has met on an ad hoc basis to provide space for the wider sector to assess its role in the overall process, and will continue this as Community Planning comes closer to being realised.

Twelve Sectoral Working Groups are now convening approximately every fortnight, busily establishing thematic baselines on where we are (as a city) right now and they are scheduled to progress in the near future to devising

actions and priorities that respond to the needs highlighted. Each SWG has a Chair and Vice-Chairperson, and of the 24 people that this entails, around 9 are from a clearly community sector background (with due respect to other postholders).

Across all twelve SWGs, the number of citizens involved is in excess of 400 – from all sectors and all walks of life.

A key part of the SWG process will be the series of integration meetings bringing together the Chairs/Vice-Chairs, PCT members and others. Through this, gaps and overlaps can be dealt with, though just as crucially, the twelve themes can begin to mesh together rather than exist as discrete pillars.

Two other elements of the regeneration process have also been characterised by very strong community influence notably the recently completed Citiscope exercise. Commissioned by Ilex, this piece of work was undertaken by Greater Shantallow Area Partnership and involved over 500 in-depth and wide-ranging interviews with citizens from every part of the city.

Analysis of the data secured from this is continuing but the first set of findings, relating to feedback from citizens in the 10% most disadvantaged areas of the city (as per Super Output Area) is now available at the Ilex website (www.illex-urc.com). Also soon to be available is narrative on focus group discussions held with "Section 75 groups" as part of the research.

In conducting the citizen surveys, over 80 local people were trained and briefed to carry out what were quite penetrating interviews. As well as the findings referred to above, what this has yielded is another resource in the shape of the interviewers themselves who extracted some of the most fundamentally useful information to guide the SWGs, and the majority of whom now wish to continue their participation in the process.

Collectively, this information is the most up-to-date available on what the people of this city hold as issues, regard as needs or have as wants and aspirations. It is for the SWGs to build this current data into their analysis so that the actions and priorities identified in the ultimate draft Regeneration Plan link directly to what people need, especially in the most disadvantaged areas.

From the start of this process, communicating and engaging with the everyday people of this city has been central. At this point, a number of C&V groups (including NWCN) participate in the Communications & Engagement Sub-Group which reports to the Strategy Board and conducts actions geared at not only keeping people informed but also encouraging citizens to engage with the regeneration process. A revamped website (www.yourcityyoursay.com) and a new electronic bulletin are two of the outputs thus far though a whole new stream of work will commence in terms of wider engagement when the Draft Regeneration Plan is ready for public consultation (spring 2010).

► Opportunities for young people at the NI Youth Forum

Over the next 8 months the NI youth Forum has developed a range of programmes and opportunities open to all young people throughout N. Ireland.

Translink Youth Forum

NIYF have teamed up with Translink to establish a Translink Youth Forum. The idea has been a two way process which followed the will of Translink to engage directly with young people and a piece of work carried out by NIYF which highlighted the importance of transport to young people and impact it has on their lives.

The Forum will provide young people with the opportunity to influence the shape and delivery of Bus and Rail services in NI. The Translink Youth Forum will meet six times over the space of a year. By taking part in the Forum you will be given an i-link card, which will be topped up with credit which will enable you to travel for free, to and from meetings, as well as with bonus journeys which you can use in your own time. There are 30 places up for grabs; so if you are interested please get in touch by phoning 028 9033 1990 or e-mailing info@niyf.org

► The Big Deal Children and Young People's Forum (CYPF)

The Big Deal Programme is a Northern Ireland youth sector initiative funded through The Big Lottery Fund. Its aim is to increase the participation of children and young people as decision-makers about things that matter to them.

The CYPF is set up to ensure that children and young people are fully involved in the running of The Big Deal programme and also give them the opportunity to get involved in local projects. To make it easier to get involved in The Big Deal CYPF we are setting up 5 local groups based in each of the 5 Education and Library Board areas: Belfast, North Eastern, South Eastern, Southern and Western.

If you are interested in getting involved contact Kathleen Burns, kathleen.burns@niyf.org or phoning 028 9033 1990 or check out our website www.niyf.org

Future Leaders

This is a programme for up and coming leaders aspiring to flourish in their chosen field, whether it is sport, business, political, community or social change, the Future Leaders Programme will be a springboard for your own development.

We welcome applicants who:

- Have the desire to become an effective leader
- Aged 16-25
- Have some experience of leadership to date
- Are passionate about leading change, leading communities, leading people or leading in business
- Are keen to learn
- Can commit to all aspects of the programme.

In return the NIYF offers:

- A cutting edge leadership programme
- Skills development
- Mentoring and ongoing support
- Opportunity to practice learning
- Inspirational leadership seminars
- Residentials
- Opportunity for attendance at a leadership camp in Muskoka Woods, Canada

Applications for the programme will be available soon online at www.niyf.org or by contacting the NIYF on 0289033 1990 or emailing neil@niyf.org and requesting an application. The closing date for applications is 30th October. Interviews will be held on Saturday 7th November 2009.

The programme will run from November 2009 to March 2010 with opportunity for International Leadership Camp in August 2010.

Sign up and keep up to date with what we're up to Go to www.niyf.org and sign up to our newsletter

Or add us as a friend on Facebook - find us at www.facebook.com/niyouthforum

► Young People, Policing And Human Rights

In spite of the many changes to policing in Northern Ireland, for some it still remains a controversial issue. Thanks to funding support from the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs (Reconciliation Unit), Public Achievement is working with Achieve Enterprises to gather the views and experiences of young people from across Northern Ireland about policing and the rights of young people.

Already, Public Achievement has made a short film - <http://www.publicachievement.com/Media-Centre/Vedio-Audio/Medias/Policing-Enquiry.aspx> - and is currently working on a longer production, outlining the views and experiences of young people. Work is also being done with the Institute for Conflict Research (ICR) on a report which will be presented to the Northern Ireland Policing Board, the PSNI, Police Ombudsman's office and to MLAs.

As part of the research, young people are being asked to complete a survey updating research carried out in 2003, which will give a stronger sense of how young people feel on the key issues.

You even have the chance to win one of the new iPod Nanos. To do so, you need to give your name and either an email address or mobile telephone number – or both.

Details are for Public Achievement use only and will not be shared with any other party.

All information submitted in the survey is confidential.

Read the rules at:

<http://www.publicachievement.com/Surveys/Competiti on-Rules.aspx>

You may also wish to comment on the discussion forum, or on the WIMPS (Where Is My Public Servant?) website forum at:

<http://www.wimps.org.uk/Page/forum.html>.

▶ **Capacity building manual for Northern Ireland**

The Department for Social Development has launched a Community Capacity Building Manual for Northern Ireland. The manual is a collection of best practice case studies showcasing the work of voluntary and community groups across Northern Ireland.

The Capacity Building Manual is for use by anyone involved in community development - from those just starting out - through to the more experienced organisation. It highlights the diverse achievements of 20 local community groups in the fields of community capacity building, community leadership and organisational development.

The manual was funded by the Department's Voluntary and Community Unit and was produced by a steering group of voluntary and community sector organisations.

The Capacity Building Manual is available on the Department for Social Development website at: www.dsdni.gov.uk/vcni-community-capacity-building.pdf

Hard copies can be obtained from:
Business Support Unit
Voluntary and Community Unit
3rd Floor, Lighthouse Building
Gasworks Business Park
Ormeau Road
Belfast, BT7 2JB
Or call 028 9082 9430

▶ **Domestic Abuse Attitudes Questionnaire**

The Men's Advisory Project (MAP) is conducting research on male victims of domestic abuse. Part of this research is a short attitudes questionnaire, which is now available to complete online at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=gvvq26qoJ_2b3PI4I2krtD

The Men's Advisory Project (MAP) is conducting research on male victims of domestic abuse. Part of this research is a short attitudes questionnaire. We want to involve men and women from as many different backgrounds as possible across Northern Ireland, and would like you to help us. Copies are also available for distribution within any group networks who prefer this method; to request these please contact Daryl Sweet on 02890 241929 or daryl@mapni.co.uk; we can post you questionnaires with return envelopes.

We thank you very much for your cooperation in this study, and look forward to sending you a copy of the results when the research is published.

This questionnaire is completely anonymous and there is no way in which the data can identify you as an individual. The data will be stored securely only to be used for the purposes of the research as described here, and only viewed by the researcher.

The questionnaire will be available online and on paper copies until the end of October 2009. Results of the questionnaire will be ready by January 2010;

participants interested in seeing the results can ring MAP or visit the website www.mapni.co.uk

▶ **NI Company offers solution to accounting for public funds**

NI Company Acksen Ltd is offering their Timesheet Xpress software free to charities. The software is designed to help organisations record productivity, time and costs automatically.

Voluntary and community organisations are all too familiar with the problems of providing reports to statutory and European funders. Acksen Ltd are offering 'a new solution to an old problem'. "Charities can now with Timesheet Xpress offer a new level of transparency, giving all those who have vested interests in the running a charity access to timely and accurate information on where money is being spent and what percentage of time is dedicated to 'value' vs. 'non-value' activities."

"For those who have received European funding and are required to keep timesheets, then Acksen's Timesheet Xpress will give you the compliance required to ensure you meet the regulations." Charlene added.

Acksen Ltd., established in 1994 is a spin-off company from Queens University Belfast, has been successfully marketing and selling both hardware and software globally to over 40 countries since its inception.

Information on Acksen is available from www.communitybuyer.org/organisation/timesheet-xpress or you can download a trial copy today at www.TimesheetXpress.com/download.asp.

▶ **The Complete Special Events Handbook**

The Complete Special Events Handbook takes special events organisers through the stages required to plan and implement a major or special event, using proven project planning methods to ensure a successful outcome.

It gives the basic 'nuts and bolts' techniques for the conception, planning and management of events.

The handbook includes a selection of case studies from organisations, which offer sound and practical advice on the reality of special event management.

The book is available from Directory of Social Change priced £22.95

See www.dsc.org.uk for details.

▶ **gr8consultancy Community Action Planning**

gr8consultancy specialise in supporting disadvantaged communities.

Community Action Planning is an inexpensive and highly effective way of bringing about significant and sustainable social change.

See leaflet below for more information or email: info@gr8consultancy.co.uk or telephone: 07803942679 - [gr8consultancy](http://gr8consultancy.com) - Community Action Planning

Funding Opportunities

▶ International Nonviolence Training Fund

AJ Muste Memorial Institute

The A.J. Muste Memorial Institute funds projects which promote the principles and practice of nonviolent social change through grantmaking programs including the International Nonviolence Training Fund (INTF).

The A.J. Muste Memorial Institute funds projects which promote the principles and practice of nonviolent social change through grantmaking programs including the International Nonviolence Training Fund (INTF). The INTF was created in 1994 by a group of concerned donors with the aim of specifically supporting nonviolence trainings.

Nonviolence trainings seek to help people develop and improve the skills they need to confront systemic injustice through organized, principled, nonviolent action. Trainings promote the exchange of ideas, information, and strategies, through which activists can become more effective at using nonviolent action in their struggles.

INTF Grantmaking Priorities: The INTF supports nonviolence training outside the United States, and within Native nations in the US.

The maximum grant amount is US\$3,000.

Projects eligible for support include:

- those which build capacity and leadership among people engaged in nonviolent struggles;
- those which prepare participants for specific nonviolent actions or campaigns;
- those geared to "training the trainers," in order to expand and multiply nonviolence training throughout a targeted community.

Preference is given to:

- projects which involve trainers from the local area or region, where such trainers are available.
- groups which are small, community-based and have less access to funding from other sources.
- We also look seriously at gender balance within the training team and for the projected participants.

How to apply

Please read these guidelines carefully and review the rosters of past grants on the website before applying to the Muste Institute for funding. If you are still uncertain about whether your project fits within the grantmaking priorities, you may contact the office well before the deadline to inquire. If you choose to do this, please start by sending a brief plain text description of your project via email. If you don't hear back within two weeks, you are welcome to follow up with another email.

To submit a proposal, please visit the website.

The review and decision process takes approximately three months. Groups which receive INTF grants must generally wait two years before applying again to the INTF.

Exclusions

The INTF does not fund:

- trainings which are geared primarily toward resolving conflicts between individuals, building life skills or job skills, or achieving personal empowerment or economic independence.

- conflict resolution or violence reduction programs which do not directly promote activism for social justice.
- scholarships or other funding for people to travel abroad to attend courses or training sessions.
- trainings with budgets over US\$50,000, or organizations with annual budgets over US\$500,000.

International Nonviolence Training Fund - winter deadline - 4 December 2009

Contact: Jane Guskin, Program Associate
AJ Muste Memorial Institute, 339 Lafayette Street
New York, United States of America NY 10012
t: 212-533-4335 / f: 212-228-6193 / e:
info@ajmuste.org / w: www.ajmuste.org/guidintf.htm

▶ Church of Ireland Priorities Fund

Church Of Ireland Board For Social Responsibility

The objective of the Priorities Fund is to raise and distribute money, on behalf of the Church of Ireland, to various worthy projects within the island of Ireland.

The Priorities Fund Committee is committed to the encouragement of growth and makes the following choices in the assessment of applications:

- people not buildings
- new projects rather than recurrent expenditure
- mission and outreach rather than maintenance
- projects and programmes rather than structures

At the present time the following categories under which applications are considered are being used but it is possible that these will change in the future. This year, there is a new category, 'Innovative Ministry in a Rural Context', to encourage the Church of Ireland in the sparsely populated areas of the country, in rural or village settings.

How to Apply:

Contact the Church of Ireland Priorities Fund for a grant application form (only for projects within Ireland).

Each year, applications are invited from parishes and organisations within the 32 counties of Ireland and the closing date for receipt of applications is **31 October** each year.

Contact: Mrs Sylvia Simpson,
Republic of Ireland 00 353 1 4978422
e: priorities@ireland.anglican.org
w: www.priorities.ireland.anglican.org

▶ Building Equality and Inclusion Grants 2009/10

Adapt Northern Ireland is offering grants of up to £2,000 to provide cultural, arts, heritage, community and leisure venues with practical support to improve physical access and to assist venues to facilitate participation by disabled people in social activities. For further details please visit Adapt NI's website www.adaptni.org

Funding Opportunities

► Community Relations Council Core Funding

The Community Relations Council's Core Funding grant scheme contributes towards the salary and running costs of a number of organisations which are considered of strategic importance in promoting community relations or cultural diversity work in Northern Ireland.

The organisations and the nature of work which may be supported by the Core Funding programme are publicised in the Council's annual report.

Examples of these include:

- Peace and reconciliation centres;
- Those involved in mediation and conflict transformation training; community arts;
- work with victims;
- Church-based work on reconciliation themes;
- Cultural organisations and interface projects.

In common with all programmes of the Community Relations Council, the Core Funding Programme is dedicated to the promotion and development of community relations in Northern Ireland based on the principles of equity, respect for diversity, and interdependence.

In pursuit of these principles, the Council core-funds the work in a wide variety of organisations who can demonstrate their capacity to generate, sustain and develop high quality programmes of work in a wide variety of sectors and locations. By making the most effective use of core-funding, the Council seeks to enhance its own capacity to meet its score objective of mainstreaming community relations principles and practice throughout Northern Ireland.

Applications concerned with working in a single identity context will be considered provided that there is a clear programme addressing community relations objectives.

Applications from residential centres may be considered which would cover staff and support costs relevant to community relations objectives. Funds are only available for projects whose work and activities are targeted at adults.

Grant-aid may be given to cover core items of recurrent expenditure. These can include salary costs, staff travel, rent, telephone, postage, head, light etc. These costs are interpreted as being items essential to the running of groups or projects to which other funders, including charitable trusts, are reluctant to contribute.

Grant-aid will not normally be set at 100% of project costs. Projects may include in their application initial setting up costs including items such as job advertisements, office furniture and equipment.

Groups may apply for funding for local, district or regional work.

In certain circumstances they may be prepared to fund the community relations aspect of organisation's work where the promotion of community relations is not the central activity.

Applications must be made in writing to the Community Relations Council.

Applications will be considered on an annual basis (subject to review). Grants awarded normally commence on 1st April.

Early application is recommended to allow for discussion as appropriate. Advice for prospective applications may be obtained from the Core Funding Officer at the Community Relations Council.

Exclusions

Building or plant costs for example major items of equipment or refurbishment.

Core Funding grants apply to work carried out within Northern Ireland, and do not apply to exchange or contact programmes involving the Republic of Ireland, the rest of the United Kingdom or further afield.

Important Dates

[CRC Core Renewal Applications - 30 October 2009](#)

[CRC Core New Applications - 27 November 2009](#)

Contact: Alison Keenan,
Core Funding Project Officer
t: 028 9022 7500
f: 028 9022 7552
e: akeenan@nicrc.org.uk
w: www.community-relations.org.uk

► Funding available for smaller charities supporting survivors of domestic abuse and older people

The Nationwide Foundation wants funding applications from smaller charities in Northern Ireland supporting older people and domestic abuse survivors. The Foundation makes grants of up to £5,000 to registered charities with incomes of under £500,000. The Foundation makes grants to registered UK charities (including those in Northern Ireland) which offer financial and / or housing related support to: survivors of domestic abuse, older people who are one of the following: aged 70 or over, aged 50 and over and also living with dementia, member of a BME group, who care for people who are 50 and over, have experienced financial abuse or are rurally isolated. If you think your charity may fit the criteria, please look on the websites www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk or email: enquiries@nationwidefoundation.org.uk

► Arts and Disability Awards Ireland 2009

A bursary programme for individual disabled artists living in N. Ireland and ROI working in ALL art forms.

How much? £5000 sterling or euro equivalent
Application deadlines? May and November each year,
Upcoming deadline: 02 November 2009.

For more information tel: (ROI 048) (UK 028) 9023 9450 or email: gillian@adf.ie
Arts and Disability Forum, Ground Floor, 109-113 Royal Avenue, Belfast, BT1 1FF
Application packs available by email, in standard print, Braille, large print and CD format.

▶ Bursaries to help organisations achieve Investing in Volunteers

The Volunteer Development Agency, the lead organisation for the promotion and development of volunteering in Northern Ireland, has responsibility for the management and rollout of Investing in Volunteers (IiV). Investing in Volunteers is the UK quality standard for all organisations that involve volunteers in their work. It is designed to help organisations review and improve their volunteer management and procedures.

It is a nationally recognised award that allows them to publicly demonstrate and promote their commitment to volunteering.

The Building Change Trust has provided funding to support development of an Investing in Volunteers Bursary Scheme in order to widen accessibility of the award. This Bursary Scheme will provide funding towards the total package costs with successful groups only having to pay £200 (a saving of £795 on standard package costs).

Information about the Investing in Volunteers standard can be found at www.volunteering-ni.org and is also available on the Investing in Volunteers website - www.investinginvolunteers.org.uk.

Information sessions about Investing in Volunteers are taking place in various areas – please visit www.volunteering-ni.org/what_we_do/calendar.

Or contact Lizanne ASAP at the Volunteer Development Agency - lizanne@volunteering-ni.org.

▶ ProHelp

ProHelp is a programme facilitated by Business in the Community which brings professional and business skills to assist the social and economic regeneration of communities throughout Northern Ireland. It offers pro bono professional advice or business support to members of the voluntary/community sector as well as Social Economy projects.

With the reduction in European funding groups are having to become more professional in their approaches, more efficient and competitive and therefore more business-like. ProHelp offers this support and advice to groups to help them ultimately become more sustainable.

Who is eligible?

Organisations participating are legally constituted community-based, not-for-profit organisations working towards the social and economic regeneration of their local area. ProHelp assistance is provided free of charge, therefore organisations must have no funding or paid staff to undertake the professional work. The expected outcomes resulting from the programme are clearly identified. For more information contact: 028 9046 0606 or email info@bitcni.org.uk

▶ Designated Officer Training

Category: Child Protection - 12 November 2009

This is a 1 day certificated training course for Designated and Deputy Designated Child Protection Officers. All participants **must** have completed a Child Protection training course prior to attending this training.

The objectives of this training are to provide:

- Knowledge of the legal context within which they work
- An understanding of the role and responsibilities of a Designated Officer
- Knowledge of Social Services structure
- Exploration of attitudes towards abuse and neglect
- Exploration of issues and concerns around referrals and sharing information.

To book a place on this training please contact North West Volunteer Centre on 028 7127 1017 or email seanna@volunteeringnorthwest.co.uk

Cost: £30.00 / Times: 10.00am - 4.30pm

Venue: North West Volunteer Centre, 22 Bishop Street,

▶ Bill of Rights Training

Advice from the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission a Bill of Rights for Northern Ireland currently lies with the Northern Ireland Office (NIO). The NIO will be running a public consultation on their response to this advice in late Autumn 09. CAJ will deliver training on the process so far and how to get involved in the consultation.

When? Wednesday 4th & Friday 27th November

Where? Belfast – venue to be confirmed

For more information or to register, contact Fiona Murphy, Human Rights Programme Officer on 028 9096 1122 or email fiona@caj.org.uk

▶ Health and Well Being Indicators Training

In partnership with NISRA, WIFH are continuing to offer training on the use of the Health and Well Being indicators. The indicators are useful in help to develop local community profiles, analysing trends in health and well being, assisting in developing evidence for bids or projects etc. The courses are free and open to anyone who is interested, contact Tracy Ward on 028 71860086 or email ifh.secretary@hscni.net

▶ Community Evaluation Northern Ireland – Training Calendar 2010

Community Evaluation Northern Ireland is delighted to announce the first dates of its new 2010 training programme. These open courses are aimed at staff, managers and volunteers in voluntary and community organisations, as well as statutory service providers and funders. To view the calendar click www.ceni.org/training/trainingcalendar.asp.

Pandemic influenza guidance for voluntary and community sector organisations

Dr Michael McBride, the Chief Medical Officer, has issued guidance regarding Pandemic Influenza for Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations. This guidance aims to enable those at various levels in voluntary and community sector organisations to consider the direct impacts that a pandemic will have on their organisation and ways in which they can protect themselves and others, whilst helping to facilitate the wider response to minimise its impacts on the most vulnerable groups of society.

Throughout a pandemic, especially at times when illness peaks in the population, voluntary and community sector organisations may receive additional requests for help, particularly from health and social care partners, who need to be freed up to provide critical care. Voluntary and community sector organisations may wish to consider how their services or activities may be utilised, enhanced or expanded to help and what support volunteers and staff may need to take on new, enhanced or expanded roles.

For more information and to view the full guide please visit: www.dhsspsni.gov.uk/index/phealth/php/infectious_diseases/pandemicflu.htm.

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North-West Community Network

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Derry~Londonderry
BT48 6PR

Tel: (028) 7127 9090

Fax: (028) 7127 9357

Email: info@nwcn.org

Web: www.nwcn.org

Co-ordinator:
Colin Devine

Administrator:
Neola Nelis

NWCN Membership Form 2009-10

To become a member of North-West Community Network for the year 2008/09, please complete the form below and return to the Network with your £10/€14 membership fee.

****Membership is only open to community/voluntary organisations****

Your Organisation:

Name Of Organisation: _____

Named Contact(s) & Designation: _____

Address: _____

Postcode: _____

Telephone: _____

Fax: _____

Email(s): _____

Website: _____

Brief Description Of Organisation's Role & Activities: _____

Please make your cheque payable to North-West Community Network, or contact the Network if you wish to make payment in another way.

Network Update is sent electronically to those groups for whom the Network has a reliable email address.

This supports the Network's sustainability efforts, both fiscal and environmental.

Please feel free to circulate the document and/or to encourage groups not currently in receipt of Network Update to contact us and therefore ensure future inclusion.

Network Update
Autumn 2009