

Network UPDATE



FOR THE COMMUNITY & VOLUNTARY SECTOR IN THE NORTH-WEST

"Promoting equal citizenship, justice and equality of opportunity"

April
2009

From Future Search to Future Action

The "Changing Patterns - Changing Outcomes" conference took place almost two months ago and many will have wondered where things have moved to since.

The weeks since have indeed been very active with the full conference record/report now available at www.yourcityyoursay.com, where you can also post your comments on the ongoing regeneration of the city/region. Ilex Chairperson, Sir Roy McNulty, has also been developing his proposals to reflect the tone and message coming from the event, these now having been presented to the Civic Regeneration Forum for discussion and agreement.

By the end of the Conference, participants had worked towards agreeing various themes of common ground which will now translate into Sectoral Working Groups whose role will be to contribute towards drafting the Regeneration/Master Plan in the weeks and months ahead.

These themes were:

- *Education & Skills*
- *Enterprise & Employment*
- *Tourism, Arts, Culture & Leisure*
- *Transport & Infrastructure*
- *Environment, Conservation & River Asset*
- *Citizenship & Civic Pride*
- *Health & Wellbeing*

Conference attendees have since been invited to reaffirm their willingness to participate in these Working Groups over the next period. Added to these are others who have registered interest in the various themed Working Groups though not in attendance at the conference. It is expected that

anyone not currently engaged in the process who feels that he/she has a contribution to make, and the commitment to support this, will still be afforded the opportunity to participate. NWCN will push for this to be communicated widely.

Alongside these groups will be Sector Teams to ensure that the cross-cutting themes of Equality & Good Relations are reflected in the drafting of the Masterplan - it is proposed that a Social & Community Sub-Committee will also be formed.

This will require significant resource and effort has been ongoing in not only appointing relevant secondees to support the various groups but in securing external consultants to facilitate the devising of the proposed Masterplan due for consultation later in the year. The successful tender should be confirmed this week.

From previous issues, you will have seen the diagram that maps these proposals, with the current Civic Regeneration Forum to evolve into a Strategy Board. During the next "developmental" phase, the membership of the CRF will be enhanced by the addition of the five Neighbourhood Renewal Chairs, this dimension to be further broadened by representation from the rural community.

Also planned in the very near future is a workshop to discuss how the strong signal on meaningful and genuine community engagement around the Masterplan is to be turned into reality.

Should you wish to discuss any of the above, please contact Colin at NWCN.

Please see contents of this edition for details of three forthcoming events, organised by NWCN in partnership with NICVA & CFNI

8 Apr - Developing a strategic approach to meeting funding needs

17 Apr - Government's relationship with C&V sector - would a White Paper help?

Training/Workshop Events

Mediation Workshop

9.00 am – 5.00 pm Thursday 23rd April 2009
Radisson, Letterkenny, County Donegal

This workshop is designed to help build an initial understanding of the role of mediation in conflict resolution. It will provide clear working definitions of mediation, the processes involved and the skills needed in mediation. The workshop will give the participants clear strategies into how and why mediation should be used in various situations such as the workplace, in the Community and in legal disputes. It will explain the legal framework for mediation and how it can be used effectively. It will introduce participants to the different models of mediation and give participants practice in using basic mediation skills for use in conflict resolution in disputes as well as in the Workplace and Community environments.

Facilitators are Michael Doherty: Peace and Reconciliation Group (PRG) Derry and Tony Kearney the Director of Team Solutions

Programme Content:

9.00am: Arrival
9.30am: Introduction / Workshop Overview
9.45am: Understanding different methods of conflict resolution
10.15am: Models of Mediation Explained:
11.15am: Break
11.30am: Facilitative Model
12.00pm: Evaluative model - case study
1.00pm: Lunch
2.00pm: Skills needed for mediation & discussions on models for workplace and community
3.30pm: Break
3.45pm: Legal framework for mediation in Ireland
4.15pm: Future training
4.45pm: Course evaluation
5.00pm: close

Cost: €125/£100 per participant (inc. course materials, lunch and refreshments). Concessions of €75/£60 are available for voluntary & community organisations.

Should you wish to find out more please contact: email tony.kearney6@gmail.com, telephone 074 93 70692 or website: www.tsolutions.eu

Catch 22 - ADAPT NI project to improve arts venue access seeks volunteers

Catch22 is a new ADAPT project which aims to bridge the gap between arts organisations that struggle to increase the number of disabled people attending arts venues, and the real issues for many disabled people who miss out on the wonderful opportunity to participate in arts.

We are looking for enthusiastic volunteers with disabilities to take part in this initiative, and help arts venues target accessibility improvements

where they are most necessary. The aim is to facilitate more effective participation and dialogue, stimulating impetus to disabled people wishing to participate in the Arts. Events will take place in Belfast and Derry from April to June 2009.

To find out more and register please contact ADAPT on 028 9023 1211, email info@adaptni.org

Community Food and Nutrition Team Annual Networking Day

The Community and Food Nutrition Team invite you to take part in the Annual Networking Day on Tuesday 28 April 2009, Station Centre, Omagh, 9.30 - 3.30.

This year's theme is: **Eating a healthy diet in an economic downturn.**

This day is aimed at community, voluntary and statutory organisations that have an interest in making healthy food a reality for local people. It is particularly important for Cook it! tutors and participants; organisations delivering food programmes in the community; staff from statutory sector involved in food related projects. Visit stands, look at resources available, network with others.

Book places at the Networking Day by contacting Ann at the Western Health Action Zone: tel 028 7188 0221 or e-mail: ann.gallen@westerntrust.hscni.net

Creative Extremists - Fighting for the common good

Major conference, 23 April 2009, Stormont Hotel.

As we move into a new era never has it been more important to understand and recognise the contribution that voluntary action has and will make to ensure a better society for all. At a time for change and opportunity this Conference will engage people with an interest in and passion for volunteering, people from central and local government, policy makers, council and Assembly politician and community and voluntary sector leaders and academics. With a plethora of reviews and consultations in progress this conference seeks to Inform, Highlight and Inspire all those of influence. We issue the challenge - are we to be Creative Extremists and if so to what end?

Key Speakers are: RT Hon David Blunkett - MP for Sheffield, Brightside since 1997 has served as Secretary of State for Education and Employment, Home Secretary and Secretary of State for Work and Pensions. Author of Mutual Action, Common Purpose: Empowering the Third Sector.

Michael Edwards - Independent writer and activist affiliated with the New York based think tank Demos, Director of Governance and Civil Society Unit at the Ford Foundation, 1999-2008, Author of Civil Society, 2003, Just Another Emperor? The Myths and Realities of Philanthrocapitalism 2008.

For more information please contact: Voluntary Service Bureau on 028 9020 0850

Or email: ingo@vsb.org.uk
www.vsb.org.uk

Funding Opportunities

Volant Charitable Trust

The Volant Charitable Trust was established by author J K Rowling. The Trustees' principal objective is to support charitable organisations whose purpose is to alleviate poverty and social deprivation with particular emphasis on children's and women's issues. All charities should be registered with the relevant national charity commission or equivalent body.

The Trustees are prepared to support a charity by way of regular annual payments but only in exceptional circumstances would grants exceed three years. In addition, even if the activities of a charity appear to fall within the guidelines this does not automatically mean that it will receive a grant. All grants are at the discretion of the Trustees.

The Trustees will as and when appropriate, support disaster appeals but will not support application for a specific project or charitable work which that individual may be carrying out, or to relieve a need due to illness or similar circumstances.

The Trustees meet twice a year, in March and September, to consider applications and allocate funds. If your application is successful, you will be notified immediately after the meeting has taken place.

For further information, please contact:
Volant Charitable Trust, Box 8, 196 Rose Street,
Edinburgh, EH2 4AT or visit www.volanttrust.com

Read the Small Print on Funding Guidelines

'Read the Small Print - Applying for grants is easier when you know what you're getting in to' is a straight talking article directed at fundraisers and funders by Ben Wittenburg (Professional Fundraising website - <http://www.professionalfundraising.co.uk/home/content.php?id=1638>).

It urges all those applying for funding read the guidelines carefully to establish if they are eligible to apply, but also asks funders to monitor ineligible applications with a few to improving their funding guidelines.

New funding Arrangements

Please check new funding arrangements that aim to make small grants more accessible by visiting the websites below:

www.awardsforall.org.uk, or ring 028 9055 1455
www.hlf.org.uk, or ring 028 9031 0120
www.artscouncil-ni.org or ring 028 9038 5200
www.sportni.net

Foundation for Sport and the Arts

The Foundation for Sport and the Arts was established in 1991 to channel money originally donated by Littlewoods and other football pools companies to a wide range of sporting and artistic causes. Since 1991 they have

awarded grants worth over £350 million.

Many communities, organisations and individuals throughout Great Britain and Northern Ireland have benefited, from major capital projects through to modest but critical training bursaries. Their goal is to increase active participation in sport and the arts, especially amongst young people and those with more ability than resources.

How to Apply

Send your application to the Secretary to the Trustees at contact address. They ask that you provide all the details listed in "Submission of Applications" which is attached with the questionnaire.

Following a review of the current level of reserves and in light of the fact that their only source of income is now the interest generated by those reserves, the Trustees have decided to cease the activities of the Foundation at the end of March 2012. This will enable them to continue to make awards at the current annual levels. To assist a smooth closure program, no new applications for funding will be considered after the end of March 2009.

Richard Boardley, Secretary to the Trustees
[Foundation for Sport and the Arts](http://www.foundationforsportandthearts.org)
Walton House, 55 Charnock Road, Walton
Liverpool, England L67 1AA
t: 0151 259 5505, e: contact@thefsa.net

Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards

The funding they give goes towards providing practical benefits, such as equipment and resources for projects that directly benefit children, the elderly. The Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards Scheme provides one-off donations of between £1,000 and £4,000.

How to apply

Applications can be made via the website at:
www.tescocharitytrustcommunityawards-applications.co.uk/init.pl

There are two categories of Community Awards:
Grants to support children's welfare and/or children's educations (including special needs schools)
Grants to support elderly people and/or adults and children with disabilities.

There are two rounds of funding every year for each category. Please ensure you apply within the correct category and timescale as your application will be rejected if it is submitted in the wrong category.

There is a lot of competition for the Community Awards and unfortunately this means that many good applications that meet our criteria will have to be refused.

Tesco Charity Trust
[Tesco plc](http://www.tesco.plc), PO Box 980
Canterbury
England CT1 9DX
t: 084 5612 3575
e: tescocommunityawards@ccworks.co.uk

MINISTERS ANNOUNCE HIGHER EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OVER 250 STUDENTS

Employment and Learning Minister, Sir Reg Empey, and Education Minister, Caitríona Ruane, has welcomed details of a new higher education scholarship scheme for students from disadvantaged backgrounds here. The scholarships, which will benefit over 250 students, are funded by businessman JP McManus who is well known for his generous support for good causes, particularly in the field of education. The fund of approximately €6million will be used to provide financial assistance to the top performing A Level (A2) students from disadvantaged backgrounds.

The first scholarships will be awarded to students starting university in September 2009 and it is anticipated that the value of each scholarship would be £5,500 per annum. The Ministers thanked J P McManus for his generosity, not only in making this very substantial endowment, but also for his foresight in making sure that those students from less well-off backgrounds, who show real ability, can be financially supported by this scheme. Minister Ruane provided some information on the scheme saying: **“The new scholarship will support up to 25 students a year for studies at undergraduate level and will be awarded to the top performing students who attend any recognised grant-aided post-primary school. 19 of the scholarships will be available through the schools sector and six through the Further Education Colleges. Eligibility for the scholarship is restricted to those who are in receipt of the Educational Maintenance Allowance, who expect to do well at A level and who intend to take up a higher education place from next autumn. A minimum of two scholarships will be offered in each county, with additional awards allocated on the basis of the**

top A levels achieved here.”

Further details of the scholarships can be found at www.delni.gov.uk/allirelandsscholarships

MINISTER ANNOUNCES PREFERRED ROUTE FOR A2 BUNCRANA ROAD IMPROVEMENTS

Roads Minister Conor Murphy announced the preferred route for the proposed improvements to Buncrana Road in Derry.

The minister said: “Roads Service has completed the important route assessment stage of the proposed improvements to Buncrana Road in Derry. I am pleased to confirm, the result of extensive consideration is that the improvements will be carried out on-line along the entire route between Pennyburn Roundabout and the border.” The existing carriageway will be widened on-line to provide two lanes of traffic in each direction and will include work to improve the efficiency of major junctions along the route. It is also intended to introduce measures to provide benefits for public transport as well as providing improved facilities for pedestrians and cyclists. Minister Murphy said: “This project will provide significant benefits in terms of improving traffic flows, reducing delays and improving safety for all road users along the whole length of this busy route.”

This project is part of an overall strategy to improve the network of Key Transport Corridors across the north. “Completion of this preferred route selection leads onto detailed design considerations and the **preparation of Statutory Procedures,**” added the minister. All land and property owners along the Buncrana Road will receive direct notification of the preferred route. The Roads Service website www.roadsni.gov.uk will contain details of preferred route and other information.

DERRY – LONDONDERRY FAIRTRADE CITY STATUS CAMPAIGN

Since the very successful December launch of Fairtrade Derry/Londonderry by Mayor Gerard Diver, the steering group has been extremely busy as Fair Trade fortnight has just ended and the city was very lucky indeed to receive a special guest, Mr Cornelius Lynch. Cornelius is a Banana Farmer and manager of St Lucia National Fairtrade Organisation in the Windward Islands.

He was in the city on the first day of Fairtrade fortnight accompanied by a representative from Fairtrade UK - Sabrina. Cornelius appeared on the Paul McFadden Show on the morning of 23/02/09, following this Cornelius and Sabrina met the Mayor and various faith leaders for a luncheon event at the Guildhall. He then attended an educational event in the city by Children in Crossfire at the Calgach Centre called Education for Liberation which involved local schools.

Cornelius explained the difference Fairtrade has made to his life and that of his community, “Fairtrade has had a huge impact on me and our communities in many ways. Beginning with improving the standard of living, changing

the mind-set of little or no regard for the environment, bringing people of common objectives together, empowering producers and communities, and the list goes on. In short, Fairtrade has proven to be our window of hope in this global environment”.

The steering group are also constantly working towards the five criteria which must be met in order for Derry to secure Fairtrade status. The five criteria are:

1. The local council must pass a resolution supporting Fairtrade, and serve Fairtrade coffee and tea at its meetings and in offices and canteens.
2. A range of Fairtrade products must be readily available in the area’s shops and served in local cafes and catering establishments.
3. Fairtrade products must be used by a number of local work places, educational establishments, faith communities and other community organisations.
4. Attract media coverage and organise events to gain popular support for the campaign.
5. A local Fairtrade steering group must meet regularly to ensure continued commitment to Fairtrade Town status.

If interested in this work, please contact the Network for further information.



North West Seminar

Developing a strategic approach to meeting funding needs

St Columbs Park House, Derry - Wednesday 8th April 2009

Agenda

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 09.30 | Arrival Tea/Coffee |
| 10.00 | Introduction – Reflections on Funding Criteria
Avila Kilmurray, Community Foundation Northern
Ireland |
| 10.15 | Community Groups in the North-West - A Strategic
Context
Colin Devine, North West Community Network |
| 10.20 | “Developing a strategic approach to your group’s
work”
Seamas Heaney, Healthy Living & Learning Centre |
| 10.40 | Workshops |
| 11.40 | Workshop Feedback |
| 12.00 | “What Funders look for”
Mark Conway -Venture International |
| 12.20 | Sinead Tierney - Lloyds TSB |
| 12.40 | Roisin Magee - Big Lottery Fund |
| 1.00 | Questions & Close |
| 1.15 | Lunch |

For further information or to register, contact:

NWCN - Neola Nelis, tel: 028 7127 9090 or neola@nwcn.org
OR
CFNI - Patricia Stewart / Betty McNally, tel: 028 9024 5927.



North West Seminar

Government's relationship with the voluntary and community sector – would a White Paper help?

St Columb's Park House, Derry - 10.30 – 1.00, Friday 17 April 2009

Agenda

- 10.30 Introduction
Colin Devine, Coordinator, North West Community Network
- 10.45 A White Paper for the Voluntary and Community Sector
Frances McCandless, Director of Policy, NICVA
- 11.15 Questions
- 12.00 Discussion Groups
- 1.00 Feedback and close
Lunch

For further information or to register, contact:

NWCN - Neola Nelis, tel: 028 7127 9090 or neola@nwcn.org

OR

NICVA - Cathy Breslin at tel: 028 9087 7777 or cathy.breslin@nicva.org



North West Seminar

Coping with the Recession

St Columb's Park House, Derry - 10.30 – 1.30, Thursday 30th April 2009

- | | |
|-------|--|
| 10.30 | Introduction

Colin Devine, Coordinator, North West Community Network |
| 10.45 | The impact of the recession on voluntary and community organisations

Seamus McAleavey, Chief Executive, NICVA |
| 11.15 | NI Executives response to the recession

Damian Prince, Economic Policy Unit, OFMdfM |
| 11.45 | The practicalities of coping with the recession – a toolkit for voluntary and community organisations,

Neil Irwin, Member Services Manager, NICVA |
| 12.15 | Questions and discussion |
| 12.30 | Discussion Group |
| 1.30 | Closing remarks.

Lunch |

For further information or to register, contact:

NWCN - Neola Nelis, tel: 028 7127 9090 or neola@nwcn.org

OR

NICVA - Cathy Breslin at tel: 028 9087 7777 or cathy.breslin@nicva.org

Keep Safe!

Quick Check

The Police Service of Northern Ireland in conjunction with ntl: Telewest and Fold TeleCare have launched a 24-hour telephone scheme called 'Quick Check' to tackle the issue of bogus callers. Householders can make a freephone call to verify the individual identity of anyone calling at their door. 'Quick Check' is a free telephone service, available 24 hours a day all year round to residents throughout Northern Ireland.

Freephone 0800 013 2290

If someone knocks at your door, and you don't know them...

- Before you answer the door, make sure the back door is locked.
- If you have a door chain, use it before you open the door.
- Ask the caller for their identification and check it carefully.
- Ask them to wait outside and close the door - genuine callers will not mind.
- Ring Freephone 0800 013 2290. the Quick Check operator will check with the company on your behalf that the person at the door is genuine.

If you are in any doubt, check you caller out with QUICK CHECK on 0800 013 2290

Free Home Fire Safety Check

Get a free home fire safety check. The check will be provided free, on request, by professional firefighters who will assess the fire risk in your house and suggest ways to improve fire safety in your home.

For further information, please ring Northern Ireland Fire and Rescue Service on 028 92 600 4777 or visit the website at www.nifrs.org

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.*

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Co-ordinator:
Colin Devine

Adminstrator:
Neola Nelis

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
April 2009