

# Equality & Diversity Update October 08



## Welcome

Welcome to the Equality and Diversity Update, the newsletter of the Regional Strategic Partnership for Equality and Diversity, which provides a brief update on current developments and details of forthcoming events.

## Partnership Activity Update

The Regional Equality and Diversity Partnership will next meet on Thursday 4 December. The agenda and papers will be available from [www.wmra.gov.uk](http://www.wmra.gov.uk) a week in advance. Further information on the work of the Partnership can also be found at this address.

## EHRC Celebrates its 1<sup>st</sup> Anniversary

The Equality and Human Rights Commission celebrated its first anniversary on 1 October 2008. The EHRC's first year has witnessed the launch of its human rights inquiry, its promotion of flexible working, 'Working Better', to the continuing work on issues like equal pay and social care.

The EHRC is to host a reception for Parliamentarians at the House of Commons on 22 October to celebrate its first anniversary. Harriet Harman QC MP will be attending to look back on what the EHRC has achieved in its first year and towards the introduction of the new Equality Bill and the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

## EHRC Human Rights Guide

The Equality and Human Rights Commission has developed a guide that looks at what human rights mean in the context of everyday life, how they have affected real people and why they are therefore so important.

'Ours to Own: Understanding Human Rights' provides examples of human rights in practice that might not be expected and analyses some of the general criticisms that are made about human rights to assess their accuracy.

To access the guide visit:  
[www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publicationsandresources](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/publicationsandresources)

## West Midlands launch of Partnership Initiative

The West Midlands Faiths Forum in Partnership with Government Office West Midlands are to hold a free event on Tuesday 28 October from 9.30-12.30 entitled 'Face to Face and Side by Side: A Framework for partnership in our multi faith society.'

The event will be a celebration of good practice and collaborative social action and will look at practical and inspiring suggestions for new initiatives, and will also look to develop a shared future and vision for faith organisations, communities and local authorities.

For event flyer, booking form and framework summary visit:  
[www.wmfaithsforum.org.uk/home](http://www.wmfaithsforum.org.uk/home)

## Grants for the Arts Roadshow

The Grants for arts roadshow to be held on Wednesday 26 November, 11am-1pm, The Courtyard, Hereford, will provide information about funding opportunities for a range of arts-related activities, including projects and events, commissions and productions, research and professional development. The event will include a presentation by Arts Council England officers and a question and answer session.

Booking is essential for this event. To reserve a place, contact Louisa Griffiths on 0121 631 5737 or email [Louisa.griffiths@artscouncil.org.uk](mailto:Louisa.griffiths@artscouncil.org.uk).

Additional roadshows will be held at other locations in the West Midlands in early 2009.

## Children's Play Update

The latest issue of Children's Play Update has been published and can be downloaded from: [www.ncb.org.uk](http://www.ncb.org.uk)

## Contact

If you would like further information about the issues raised or to disseminate information through this newsletter, please contact [c.kerr@wmra.gov.uk](mailto:c.kerr@wmra.gov.uk)