

Equality & Diversity Update

December 2007



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 Equality and Diversity Partnership will next meet on 24th January 08. An agenda and papers for the meeting will be available from www.wmra.gov.uk/equalities. More information on the work of the partnership is also available at www.wmra.gov.uk/equalities

West Midlands Regional Assembly 2008 Conference 28 January 08, Villa Park, Bham

Keynote Speaker – Liam Byrne MP for Hodge Hill, Minister for the West Midlands Region.

The conference will explore how the West Midlands can work together to speak up about the Region's successes. It will explore the implications to the governance of the Region from the Sub National Review and the opportunity we now have to put something in place which meets the needs of the West Midlands. To book your place, please complete the booking form at www.wmra.gov.uk

TRANS-Connect Event, 23 February, Wolverhampton

Trans-Connect are holding a major event at the Lighthouse, Wolverhampton on Saturday 23rd February 08 - 12 noon - 5pm focusing on "Health & Wellbeing"

This event is organised by the L.G.B. and Trans group and is open to all.

If your Group, Service or Organisation would like a stall for FREE at this Event, please do contact Gender Matters on 0844 870 0178. The only criteria is that the service you provide must be LGBT Friendly. For further information see <http://www.gender-matters.org.uk/transconnect>

PeaceMaker Community Cohesion Masterclasses: 18 January 08

PeaceMaker is recognised and accredited by the government as a leading source of community research data, diversity expertise and educational guidance for integration and cohesion in multicultural Britain. They are holding free masterclasses in Birmingham on 18th January. They are aimed at officers, managers and directors, from the public, private, statutory and voluntary sector. To book your place or to find out more see <http://www.peace-maker.co.uk/conferences/>

2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue

While 2007 was the European Year of Equal Opportunity for All (see http://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/eyeq/index.cfm?page_id=345&language=EN for more details), 2008 has been designated the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue in recognition that Europe is becoming more culturally diverse. The enlargement of the European Union, deregulation of employment laws and globalisation have increased the multicultural character of many countries, adding to the number of languages, religions, ethnic and cultural backgrounds found on the continent. Intercultural dialogue has an increasingly important role to play in fostering European identity and citizenship. EUCLID are the National Coordinating Body for the UK's activities and more information about plans – including an Intercultural Cities conference planned for May 08 in Liverpool – can be found at <http://inter.culture.info/>

Contact

If you would like further information about the issues raised or to disseminate information through this newsletter, please contact Cassie Manly at c.manly@wmra.gov.uk or on 0121 678 1077.

