

Equality & Diversity Update

July 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 Equality and Diversity Partnership met on 23rd June 08. Notes from the meeting will be available shortly on our new website at www.wmra.gov.uk

Family and Friends Group at the Gender Identity Centre

Gender Matters have started a group meeting aimed at family and friends of trans people run by family & friends of trans people.

An initial meeting to discuss needs and requirements for the group will be held on 31st July at 7.30 pm at the GIC. Refreshments will be available. Please contact Charlie or Alan at the GIC on 01902 744424 or see www.gender-matters.org.uk for details of further meetings.

Gay Birmingham Remembered Exhibition at the Equality and Human Rights Commission Offices

Following its successful month at Symphony Hall, the West Midlands Equalities and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) Office is now hosting this exhibition which illustrates the political, social and cultural heritage of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community and the experiences of local people contributing to and living through times of great change. It can be visited by the public on weekdays between 9.30am and 5.00pm from the 1st August 2008 to 5th September 2008 at 67 Newhall Street, 3rd floor Lancaster house, Birmingham, B3 1NA. Anyone wishing to visit the exhibition is requested to book in advance by ringing Sarah Slavin on 0121 234 7310, or emailing at sarahlouse.slavin@equalityhumanrights.com For further information about the project, please contact the Chair at inge.thornton@tiscali.co.uk

UK Black Pride 2008

UK Black Pride are hosting their annual event on 16th August 08 in Regents Park, London. For further details, please see www.ukblackpride.org.uk

Awards for Bridging Cultures

The Awards for Bridging Cultures (ABCs) will celebrate local schemes and projects, run by grass roots, community and voluntary organisations and local authorities or public sector organisations that build bridges between communities. The ABCs are funded by The Baring Foundation and delivered by the Institute of Community Cohesion (iCoCo). The application process is short and simple and the deadline for applications for 2008 is Wednesday 1st October. For further details please see www.bridgingcultures.org.uk

Reminder: Consultation on the Equality Framework for Local Government

The deadline for responding to the consultation on the Equality Framework for Local Government has been extended to 10th September 08. For further details see www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageld=8488097

More Diversity in Public Appointments

Harriet Harman, Minister for Women & Equality, and Ed Miliband, Cabinet Office Minister, have recently announced new measures to increase the number of women, disabled people, and black, Asian and minority ethnic people appointed to the boards of public bodies, so that they reflect the wider population. For more information see www.equalities.gov.uk/news/news-page2.htm

European Commission Report: Measuring Progress in Equality

The European Commission Directorate General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities have recently published a report on 'How to measure progress in combating discrimination and promoting equality?' This can be downloaded at www.ec.europa.eu/employment_social/fundamental_rights/pdf/pubst/stud/measprog08_en.pdf

Contact

If you would like further information about the issues raised or to disseminate information through this newsletter, please contact Carmel Kerr at c.kerr@wmra.gov.uk or on 0121 678 1010.