

Equality & Diversity Update

September 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 Work Update

The Equality and Diversity Partnership will next meet in 18th October. The agenda and papers for the meeting will be available from www.wmra.gov.uk/equalities around two weeks before. Information on the work of the Partnership can be found at www.wmra.gov.uk/equalities

Everyone Matters in a Sustainable Community Event: 27th September

A limited number of places are still available for the Sustainability West Midlands and West Midlands Regional Assembly event will take place from 9.00am - 1.00pm at the Nishkam Centre, Soho Road, Birmingham. The event will seek to disseminate good practice as well as inform regional decision and policy-makers on related issues. It will include workshops on:

- Health and Wellbeing
- Economic Inclusion and Prosperity
- Planning, Transport and Communities that function well
- Housing and Homes
- Safe and Just Communities with a vibrant and Playful Culture
- Climate Change and People

If you would like to attend, please contact Wendy Sharpe at w.sharpe@swm.org.uk

Equality and Diversity Training Opportunities

Telford Race, Equality and Diversity Partnership, with support from Capacity Builders, are running a number of equality and diversity training courses over the coming months. For further information, please see [http://www.tredp.org.uk/Diversity%20Course 4%20 4.pdf](http://www.tredp.org.uk/Diversity%20Course%204.pdf)

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CRE Discrimination Law Review Report

The Commission for Racial Equality have produced a report following the Discrimination Law Review consultation event held with the West Midlands Regional Assembly in Birmingham on 26th July. If you would like to receive a copy of this report, please contact Zahid Nawaz at znawaz@cre.gov.uk

Gender Advisory Bureau: Free Networking Events - 12th November

Following the notice in last month's newsletter, the Crown Prosecution Service will be working in partnership with the GAB to host three networking sessions (including a short presentation on An Introduction to Transgender Awareness) on Monday 12th November at their offices in central Birmingham. There are three time slots – 10.30am, 1.30pm and 3pm. If you would like to attend, please email Rico at g.a.b@btconnect.com

Disabled Persons Transport Committee – Recruiting

The Secretary of State for Transport is seeking nominations for membership to the Disabled Persons Transport Advisory Committee (DPTAC). The deadline for applications is 19th October 07. Please see www.dptac.gov.uk for more information

Heritage Lottery Fund: Committee Member Sought

The Heritage Lottery Fund are looking for a new member to join their West Midlands Committee. Applications are especially welcome from representatives from the black and minority ethnic communities and also those with links and knowledge of local community development. For further information, please visit www.hlf.org.uk (vacancies) or telephone 0207 591 6014.

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Where our Journeys Meet

Where Our Journeys Meet - has been developed for raising awareness on refugee, asylum and migrant issues and is available to download from www.wmlga.gov.uk/page.asp?id=510

This document, by the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership brings together material from across the region about the asylum process and the experiences of people from refugee and migrant backgrounds. It also includes activities to raise awareness, develop practice and challenge attitudes towards those new to the UK.

National Coalition of Black Led Organisations: Conference

The National Coalition of Black Led Organisations & Government Office for the West Midlands are holding a People's Conference on Black Professionals in Leadership: Delivering Race Equality & Community Cohesion. The event will take place on Tuesday, 9 October 07 at GOWM, Birmingham. If you would like to attend, please contact Equalities Associates on 01234-881213 to request a booking form.

The Age and Employment Network Annual Conference: 30th October, London

This event sets out to explore the 'Good Work' theme within the context of an ageing society and the political, economic and employment challenges that it brings. It will conclude with a debate on 'Age Management and Good Work', chaired by TAEN's new Chief Executive, which will consider the concepts underlying an 'age management' approach aimed at sustaining workers' economic activity, contribution and productivity as they age.

Speakers include Caroline Flint, Minister of State For Employment and Welfare Reform at the Department for Work and Pensions, David Coats, Associate Director of Policy at the Work Foundation and **Baroness Sally Greengross**, Life Peer and Commissioner for the Commission for Equality and Human Rights. Please see <http://www.taen.org.uk/Publications/TAEN%202007%20conference%20brochure.pdf> for further details.

Supporting a Diverse VCS Infrastructure Event

RAWM in association with Big Lottery Fund are undertaking a programme of joint strategic planning designed to provide voluntary and community sector organisations with an opportunity to influence the strategic planning process of two infrastructure funding programmes:

- BASIS - Round Two (Big Lottery Fund)
- Improving Reach Programme – Round Two (Change Up).

The findings of this work will be fed into the Regional Voluntary and Community Infrastructure Investment Strategy and Delivery Plan. For further information, please contact Dawn Carr on 0121 359 9113 or at dawnc@rawm.co.uk

Regeneration, Economic Inclusion, Cohesion: RegenWM Event

RegenWM have assembled a top-quality range of speakers to update you on the latest issues, including one of the Commissioners on the Commission for Racial Equality's formal investigation into Regeneration, Vincent Wang. In addition, Sarabjeet Soar, a government advisor on small business issues, will present the findings of research commissioned by the West Midlands Minority Ethnic Business Forum and Advantage West Midlands into whether minority ethnic businesses have benefited from regeneration as they should. Other regional experts include Ted Cante author of the 'Cante Report' and head of the Institute for Community Cohesion, Derrick Campbell of the government's Guns and Gangs thinktank, and Gerry Dawson of Urban Living, the Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder. Please see http://www.regenwm.org/events/event_details.asp?eid=356 for further details.

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.