

## Invitation!

The East London CVS Network would like to invite all infrastructure organisations working in East London to a conference on May 24th 2006 to look at the issues posed by the Commissioning and Procurement Agenda.

**Speakers include:-**

- Alan Riddell - Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM)
- Nick Aldridge - Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO)
- Ade Adepitan (GB Athlete & TV personality)

**The event will allow a unique opportunity for infrastructure organisations to:**

- Consider the implications of the National Procurement Strategy on the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in East London
- Discuss the support needs of front-line voluntary and community organisations (VCO) who are interested in selling their services to the public sector
- Assess the support needs of infrastructure organisations, both in terms of their own organisations and in supporting front-line Voluntary and Community Organisations
- Agree future training and events

**For further information about the conference and a booking form contact: Josephine Mason at the East London Network office or look on the ELN website: [www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk](http://www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk)**

Commissioning and Procurement is a crucial issue for the VCS: it could provide sustainable and long-term funding which is less susceptible to change than traditional grant funded work ... or it could undermine much of the work currently undertaken by the sector.

- What is your view?
- Do you know of any interesting projects or resources?

Let ELN know by emailing [info@elcvsnetwork.org.uk](mailto:info@elcvsnetwork.org.uk)

## ChangeUp East London

**ChangeUp is a government funding programme to build capacity and infrastructure in the voluntary and community sector. It aims to support front-line voluntary and community organisations so that communities have access to quality services.**

**In East London investment is being made at both a local and sub-regional level.**

The ChangeUp East London Partnership has been meeting regularly to ensure the implementation of the East London Infrastructure Investment and Development Plan.

Significant achievements have been made in the following areas:

- Workforce Development
- Encouraging Diversity in the voluntary and community sector
- Developing a Volunteer Centres Network
- ICT Development

Information on Payroll Providers and Criminal Records Bureau (CRB)

Umbrella organisations will be available via the ELN website in the near future.

In addition, work looking into the Human Resources and Legal Support Needs of the Voluntary and Community Sector is about to get underway.



### Issue 3 / April 2006

## ICT

**The Business Plan** to develop the circuit rider project across the nine boroughs is now available on the ELN website. Comments are welcome. The proposal is to develop three mini-hubs. Three ICT Support Workers will be recruited to provide strategic and technical assistance to the VCOs. An ICT Sub-regional worker will be recruited to coordinate the project and plan for its future.

**Continuation Funding** for the current ICT Development Project has been secured from both the pan-London and the sub-regional level. This will provide additional time to implement the Business Plan and fundraise for the project.

**ICT News/ funding info:**

The ICT Development Workers circulate ICT news and funding information relevant to the voluntary sector through the ICT groupmail. If you would like to receive information please email your request to Miles or Arit:

[ict@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:ict@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk)

**ICT across the Pond:**

The ICT Development Workers, together with other ICT Champions across London had the opportunity to attend the Non-profit Technology Enterprise Network (NTEN) conference in Seattle in March 2006. Please visit the ELN website for more information about lessons learned of benefit to us.

The East London ICT Project was set up in 2005 to develop ICT support for VCOs in the East London Sub-region. The Two Development Workers, Arit Amana and Miles Maier are based in Hackney at Hackney Voluntary Action.

Contact us on 020 7241 4443 x 30 or email [ict@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk](mailto:ict@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk)

# Workforce Development

The East London VCS Workforce Development Coalition has been set up to look at the challenges facing the sector, including:

- The public sector commissioning agenda
- The changing role of the voluntary and community sector and their need to meet accreditation and inspection requirements
- An investment strategy to deliver the scale and range of workforce development required
- The anticipated growth of the sector as a result of expansion of the Thames Gateway and the delivery of the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

We are also considering models of good practice, structures for delivery and development of possible career pathways.

Initial investment has been through ChangeUp – but additional funding has been secured from a number of sources, including Skills for Care London, North East London Strategic Health Authority, Thames Gateway London Partnership Third Sector Strategy Group, and the Learning and Skills Council London East.

As the first stage we are undertaking a pilot project which will collect information about the workforce development needs of VCOs in the sub-region. To do this we are using software which collates information on staff, volunteers and board/management committee members within organisations.

This bespoke software has been specifically written for the VCS as a Human Resources tool, which is being provided free to VCOs in East London. It will support VCOs to manage staff development and help prove commitment to Investors in People and PQASSO for those organisations developing quality standards.

It also provides the basis for an organisational training and development strategy, individual training records showing when training is due or when qualifications such as first aid updates are required.

If you are a voluntary or community sector organisation based in East London then there is still an opportunity for you to benefit from this exciting project.

Contact [WfD@elcvsnetwork.org.uk](mailto:WfD@elcvsnetwork.org.uk) NOW !!

**You will receive:**

**FREE software**

**FREE licence fee for the first 12 months**

**FREE installation**

**FREE training and support in using the software**

**In order to benefit from this amazing offer, you will need to register your interest, arrange to have the software installed and for an appropriate member of staff to receive training AND to have submitted the organisational and training needs data by mid-June 06. The clock is ticking!!!**

Partnerships are already being developed with funders so that we can target training money and opportunities at VCOs who have returned their training needs data. In order to benefit from these training and funding opportunities you need to be part of the pilot project.

An evaluation of the pilot project will be taking place in the coming months and will be available via the East London CVS Network website: [www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk](http://www.elcvsnetwork.org.uk)

The information will also provide base-line data for the creation of the East London Workforce Development Strategy for the Voluntary and Community Sector. Consultants have now been recruited and are working with the East London VCS Workforce Development Coalition to collate information and write the strategy.

We will endeavour to keep you informed via the ELN website.



## The VCS and the Olympics & Paralympics

The London Civic Forum 2012 Project is a partnership between London Voluntary Service Council, the East London CVS Network and London Civic Forum. It is funded for six months (due to end mid July 2006) through ChangeUp.

The project is assessing the infrastructure needed for a meaningful and appropriate involvement of the voluntary and community sector in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. At this stage it is clear that a central focus point for the sector is necessary for information and idea sharing.

The project is opening communication lines with the agencies responsible for delivering the Games. As these organisations are still in the process of forming, it is important that this project continues to advocate for the breadth and scope of the voluntary and community sector.

The project has commissioned a risk assessment to assess the risk of voluntary and community groups not engaging, which will be completed by the end of April. We are also working to find a visual identity to help organisations find their place within the build up to the Games.

**For more information please contact Miriam Haywood at London Civic Forum on 020 8709 9788 or [miriam@londoncivicforum.org](mailto:miriam@londoncivicforum.org).**



## Information on the ELN website:

The ELN website has developed over the last 6 months ~ since the end of July 05 to the end of March 06 we have had over 1200 hits. Each month the number of hits grows ~ hopefully showing that it is a useful resource to the sector.

Information includes regular updates on:

- ChangeUp
- Jobs and tendering opportunities
- Training opportunities
- VCS news
- Publications and Resources available

We welcome any feedback so that we can continue to build the website into an even better resource!

[www.elcvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.elcvnetwork.org.uk)

## Encouraging Diversity in the voluntary and community sector

**MiNet launched the East London Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Network on the 8th of March 2006. The event was well attended by various BME networks from the representative boroughs and guest speakers included Government Office for London (GOL) and Association of London Government (ALG).**

### The Main Aim of Network

- To provide strategic leadership for the BME communities in the East London sub-region, acting as its voice and participating in decision making and policy development.

### Key Objectives Include:

- Provide a structure for cross borough working, development of joint projects; sharing resources, information and good practice.
- Act as a gateway to the BME communities in East London providing opportunities for more effective consultation and make the 'hard-to-reach' reachable.

Full membership is open to BME Local Infrastructure Organisations providing 'second tier' support in the 9 East

London boroughs of the network. The group has met once since its inception and plan to hold monthly meetings.

If you are interested to join or would like to find out about the network then please contact:

Nwadi Okereke, ([nwadi@rota.org.uk](mailto:nwadi@rota.org.uk))

Tel. 0207 729 1310.



### Supporting the LGBT VCS

Kairos have appointed consultants Urban Inclusion to lead on 'PIP', Phase One of the LGBT Infrastructure Project which aims to explore and map the existing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender voluntary and community sector and its needs with a long term aim of developing an appropriate and supportive infrastructure. A steering group for the project has been drawn from a wide group of LGBT individuals and organisations to add value to and share the learning from this project. Results from the research will be made public at an event on 4 July 2006. **For more information contact Kairos in Soho on 020 7437 6063 or check the website [www.kairosinsoho.org.uk](http://www.kairosinsoho.org.uk)**



## The VCS and the Olympics & Paralympics

The London Civic Forum 2012 Project is a partnership between London Voluntary Service Council, the East London CVS Network and London Civic Forum. It is funded for six months (due to end mid July 2006) through ChangeUp.

The project is assessing the infrastructure needed for a meaningful and appropriate involvement of the voluntary and community sector in the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games. At this stage it is clear that a central focus point for the sector is necessary for information and idea sharing.

The project is opening communication lines with the agencies responsible for delivering the Games. As these organisations are still in the process of forming, it is important that this project continues to advocate for the breadth and scope of the voluntary and community sector.

The project has commissioned a risk assessment to assess the risk of voluntary and community groups not engaging, which will be completed by the end of April. We are also working to find a visual identity to help organisations find their place within the build up to the Games.

**For more information please contact Miriam Haywood at London Civic Forum on 020 8709 9788 or [miriam@londoncivicforum.org](mailto:miriam@londoncivicforum.org).**



## Information on the ELN website:

The ELN website has developed over the last 6 months ~ since the end of July 05 to the end of March 06 we have had over 1200 hits. Each month the number of hits grows ~ hopefully showing that it is a useful resource to the sector.

Information includes regular updates on:

- ChangeUp
- Jobs and tendering opportunities
- Training opportunities
- VCS news
- Publications and Resources available

We welcome any feedback so that we can continue to build the website into an even better resource!

**[www.elcvnetwork.org.uk](http://www.elcvnetwork.org.uk)**

## Encouraging Diversity in the voluntary and community sector

**MiNet launched the East London Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) Network on the 8th of March 2006. The event was well attended by various BME networks from the representative boroughs and guest speakers included Government Office for London (GOL) and Association of London Government (ALG).**

### The Main Aim of Network

- To provide strategic leadership for the BME communities in the East London sub-region, acting as its voice and participating in decision making and policy development.

### Key Objectives Include:

- Provide a structure for cross borough working, development of joint projects; sharing resources, information and good practice.
- Act as a gateway to the BME communities in East London providing opportunities for more effective consultation and make the 'hard-to-reach' reachable.

Full membership is open to BME Local Infrastructure Organisations providing 'second tier' support in the 9 East

London boroughs of the network. The group has met once since its inception and plan to hold monthly meetings. If you are interested to join or would like to find out about the network then please contact:

Nwadi Okereke, ([nwadi@rota.org.uk](mailto:nwadi@rota.org.uk))

**Tel. 0207 729 1310.**



### Supporting the LGBT VCS

Kairos have appointed consultants Urban Inclusion to lead on 'PIP', Phase One of the LGBT Infrastructure Project which aims to explore and map the existing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender voluntary and community sector and its needs with a long term aim of developing an appropriate and supportive infrastructure. A steering group for the project has been drawn from a wide group of LGBT individuals and organisations to add value to and share the learning from this project. Results from the research will be made public at an event on 4 July 2006. **For more information contact Kairos in Soho on 020 7437 6063 or check the website [www.kairosinsoho.org.uk](http://www.kairosinsoho.org.uk)**



## Training Opportunity

Do you want an internationally recognised management qualification for yourself or for members of your team?

Would you like the opportunity to learn and develop alongside other Voluntary Sector managers?

Havering Association of Voluntary and Community Organisations (HAVCO) are pleased to announce that they have received European Social Fund (ESF) funding to support practicing managers in the voluntary sector across all 9 East London boroughs. The Chartered Management Institute (CMI) have designed, will deliver and accredit the training programme and each manager will be provided with an advisor, a range of distance learning materials and a series of one-day workshops.

HAVCO are also training a number of coaches and mentors from the voluntary sector to provide support to new trainees. These coaches and mentors have recently completed their own CMI training from a previous successful ESF project HAVCO ran last year.

The management qualifications are being offered at Level 3 & Level 4 in order to meet the needs of managers at significant stages of their career.

For more information please ring **01708 742881**, or contact:

**Michelle Mack**, Project Manager **E** michelle.mack@havco.org.uk or  
**Lisa Franklin**, Project Co-ordinator **E** lisa.franklin@havco.org.uk

## Thames Gateway London Partnership

ELN have been part of the recruitment and selection of consultants to carry out a large piece of action research on the third sector across the London Thames Gateway area.

This work will take place between April and September and looks at the sectors capacity to contribute to economic development, social inclusion, equality, health and sustainability in the context of the areas transformation over the next 20 years. Consultants 'Rocket Science' have been successful in securing this contract.



## East London CVS Network

The East London CVS Network covers the London boroughs of Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham, Bexley, Greenwich, Lewisham, Havering, Barking & Dagenham, and Redbridge.

ELN aims to encourage the development of Infrastructure Support which will enable a strong and vibrant Voluntary & Community Sector to have a positive impact on those who live, work, learn and play in East London.

## ELN contact details

**Alice Wallace** co-ordinator

**E** alice.wallace@elcvsnetwork.org.uk  
**T** 01708 778060

**Josephine Mason** admin

**T** 01708 778060  
**E** josephine.mason@elcvsnetwork.org.uk

**Arit Amana** ict development worker

**E** ictse@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk  
**T** 020 7241 4443 x30

**Kelly Montgomery** co-ordinator

**E** kelly.montgomery@elcvsnetwork.org.uk  
**T** 01708 778060

**Miles Maier** ict development worker

**E** ictne@hackneyvoluntaryaction.org.uk  
**T** 020 7241 4443 x30