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Voluntary Sector Forum

November 2nd 2010

News and features about the work of London Councils funded organisations, about VSF and policy and commissioning information from London Councils.



Grants committee has been moved from November 8th to November 25th - as always you must let London Councils know that you are coming. Email lisa.dominic@londoncouncils.gov.uk to get your name on the list.

Don't forget to submit your monitoring returns for the monitoring period 1 April - 30 September 2010 by close of play on 10th November.

[The LC consultation on the future role and scope of the London Boroughs Grants Scheme ends at on 10th November](#) - don't forget to submit your response and influence the decision-making process.

Legal challenge

Legal papers have been sent to London Councils the implications of which might delay the process and result in judicial review - the papers focus on the legality of the decision-making process, the consultation process, right to reply and equality obligations. A response is expected today 2nd November.

To read the papers go to the [VSF web pages](#).

[VSF Campaign update \(October\)](#)

[The VSF Interim response](#) (submitted on 7th October) was also included in the papers that went to [Grants Executive on October 19th](#).

[LVSC's interim response](#).

VSF Conference 2010 [workshop presentations](#).

[LVSC Policy Evaluation - survey reminder](#)

This survey is being undertaken as part of the evaluation of the impact of VSF and the other LVSC supported networks. The purpose of the survey is to identify the current strengths of the network and where it can improve in

supporting VSF members including your organisation.

The survey has been designed to take less than 10 minutes to complete. We would be very grateful if you could complete it. The better the response the stronger can be the voice and representations of the sector to funders and other stakeholders.

LVSC Conference

Closing the gap: inequality in London

Tuesday 23 November 2010

Clifford Chance, Canary Wharf, London E14 5JJ

Sarah Teather, MP for Brent Central and Minister of State for the Department for Education, will start the plenary sessions. The conference will feature more high profile and inspiring speakers including Professor Danny Dorling from The University of Sheffield, Professor Jane Wills, University of London and Neil Jameson from the London Living Wage campaign, Professor John Hills from the London School of Economics, Emma Stewart from Women Like Us and Graham Fisher CEO of Toynbee Hall.

For more details and to book contact us on annualconference@lvsc.org.uk or 0203 349 8900

LVSC Health Inequalities Survey

The deadline for responding is: Friday 12th November 2010

Developing Third Sector Capacity to Engage with London's Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy Survey

Health inequalities are the differences in health status and outcomes between different groups and individuals.

- Are you a voluntary and community sector organisation (VCS) that engages with or would like to engage with the London Mayor's Health Inequalities Strategy & Implementation Plan?
- Do you need support to engage with the Mayor's Strategy & Implementation plan or would like to do so more effectively?
- Does your organisation contribute to reducing health inequalities in London?
- Would you like support to demonstrate the impact of this work or would like to do so more effectively?
- Do you support organisations that contribute to reducing inequalities in health?

If the answer is YES to any of the above, please respond to the survey and forward it on to your members!

Your response will help build an evidence base of VCS organisations in London that work to reduce health inequalities. It is anticipated that this work could

support voluntary and community sector organisations to secure appropriate funding to work on reducing health inequalities in the future.

VCS action is recognised throughout the Mayor's strategy as important. Explicitly this includes action on community engagement, building capacity, empowerment, employment and skills, arts and creative projects - right across the sector our positive actions will be supporting people's health, whether or not that is their stated intention.

Find out more about the [London Health Inequalities Strategy and Delivery Plan](#).

[LVSC's briefing](#) on the strategy (scroll down to policy briefing number 49).

VSF Member Notices

[The London Centre for Personal Safety](#) offers Free Self-Defence Training for Young Women in London.

LCPS has been funded by the City Bridge Trust to deliver personal safety and self-defence training, with a focus on sexual assault prevention, for young women and girls aged 14 to 21 years old.

The Training is FREE to organisations and the young women they work with.

The project aims to:

- prevent and reduce sexual violence and the fear of sexual violence
- develop women and girl's ability to respond positively to threats to their safety.

To book a self-defence course: contact LCPS for more information on 020 8743 7827 and 020 8740 1114.

[Looking ahead: challenges and change in the Community Sector](#)

6 December 2010

Helping to support voluntary and community organisations working with children and young people plan for the future

This one day event will look at what the Big Society means for VCS groups working with children and young people, and changes to the commissioning landscape in London. Speakers include Kim Sibley from the Department for Education, and Nathalie Trentham from the Commissioning Support Programme.

There will also be workshops on how to engage in commissioning, and developing a social enterprise.

Booking at link above.

Women's Resource Centre Sharing Our Strengths support programme
[Counselling and Therapeutic Interventions for Working with Women](#)
[Overcoming Experiences of Violence: A Multicultural and Feminist Approach:](#)
February - July 2011

Are you committed and passionate about providing the best possible services for women and children surviving violence?

This FREE 14-day course has developed out of Women and Girls Network's (WGN) 12 years' experience of training women who work with survivors of violence. This programme provides a comprehensive introduction to the issues involved in working with women to aid recovery from experiences of gendered violence.

The course is accredited by the Open College Network and is a fantastic opportunity to access an in-depth and practical training course, delivered by practitioners at the forefront of the field.

The closing date for applications is Friday 19 November at 5pm. The course is currently only open to staff and volunteers of organisations funded by London Councils under service specifications 43, 59, 60, 61 & 63, 62, 65, 69, 70 and 72.

If you have any questions, please contact ellen@wrc.org.uk

[Fawcett Society Campaigns for Equal Pay for Women](#)
[Equal Pay Day - 2nd November 2010](#)

Join Fawcett to demand women's right to equal pay!

40 years after the Equal Pay Act, women working full-time in the UK are still paid on average 16.4% less per hour than men.

The full-time pay gap between women and men - at 16.4% - is equivalent to men being paid all the year round while women work for free after 2 November. Equal Pay Day is a national day of action to tackle the gender pay gap!

There are many creative ways that you can join the fight!

The Sustainable City Awards 2011 are Open For Entries! Deadline 8th November

LSx and the City of London are delighted to invite you to enter the Environmental Management in SMEs category in the 2011 Sustainable City Awards. These awards recognise and reward UK organisations from small multinational businesses to small charities, and promote outstanding achievements and innovation across all aspects of sustainability.

For further information about how to enter please contact Alasdair Tatam, programme officer on a.tatam@lsx.org.uk or [enter online](#).

VSF invites all members to submit items, notices and advertisements for inclusion in the bulletins. The bulletin is due to go out on the penultimate or last day of the month - please get copy to tim@lvsc.org.uk a week before that deadline

Any suggestions for articles for the next bulletin, or anything you would like to see included, if you would like your work showcased please email tim@lvsc.org.uk.

Please also let us know what you think of this bulletin so that we can improve our service to VSF members.

Please forward this bulletin to your networks and any contacts that might benefit from the information.

**This bulletin comes from:
London Voluntary Service Council
4th Floor
88 Old Street, London EC1V 9HU**

www.lvsc.org.uk

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