

social inclusion news

Welcome to Capital City Partnership's Social Inclusion News. We would encourage you to share your views, contribute information and articles to forthcoming editions. Details of how to do this are included on the last page.

Ethnic Minorities get Helping Hand on Job Ladder

An innovative outreach programme by Trust, Hanover & Bield Housing Associations is achieving success in opening the door to new career opportunities for black and ethnic minority (BME) people in Edinburgh & Lothians.

The programme, led by Job Opportunities Development Officer Nasreen Amjad, has already assessed or worked with almost 200 BME people seeking to overcome barriers to both employment and career advancement in housing and the public sector.

Nasreen Amjad said: "We're helping to equip BME people with the knowledge, skills and contacts they need to get into housing and the public sector. We're very encouraged by our progress. So far we've assessed 191 people and 20 of them have secured jobs."

The programme, which received funding from Communities Scotland and Capital City Partnership, provides individual support and also workshops to build confidence and teach interview techniques.

Rabia Sethi, one of the participants in the Job Opportunities Project, undertook a successful three month placement with Port of Leith Housing Association and went on to secure a permanent job with the association.

Rabia Sethi said: "I love my new job but I wouldn't have thought of a career like this or known how to get a foot in the door before I took part in the Job Opportunities programme. The support I got helped me have the confidence to go in and win the job."

The programme has enlisted local public sector employers to provide work placements for BME candidates. These include; Lothian & Borders Police, Stevenson College, the Procurator Fiscal, Trust, Hanover & Bield housing associations and also Melville and Port of Leith Housing Associations.

In the case of the Procurator Fiscal service, they became involved in the programme in 2006, providing an initial two month placement for a candidate who helped prepare cases for court. The placement was so successful that the individual was hired for a permanent position.

Bob Comrie, Area Business Manager for the Crown Office and Procurator Fiscal Service in Lothian & Borders, said: "The placement has been highly successful for both the organisation and the individual. As an organisation we're keen to reflect the demographic background of the community and promote a greater understanding of the work we do, this initiative helped with this aim."

The programme is the latest success for Trust, Hanover & Bield, who jointly fund an award-winning Equal Opportunities team, headed by Housing Equal Opportunities Manager Rohini Sharma-Joshi, a specialist on racial diversity issues in Scotland.

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Rohini Sharma Joshi commented: *"People from BME backgrounds are under-represented in housing and public sector employment which accounts for 24% of all employment in Scotland. That is a waste of talent and a missed opportunity for everyone. Our programme is making inroads in tackling this important issue."*

She added: *"We are actively recruiting more housing and public sector organisations to the programme and we would urge employers interested in taking part in this innovative scheme to get in touch with us to find out how they can benefit."*

Rohini expressed the view that as Scotland's demographic picture changes, building better links between employers and people from black and ethnic minority backgrounds will become more important as the population ages and the labour market tightens.

According to the 2001 Census, the population of Scotland is declining, but the ethnic minority population is rising. However, there is evidence that Scotland's businesses are not making the most of the existing workforce as unemployment among ethnic minorities in Scotland is higher than for white Scots.

"Our programme is about helping BME people gain equal access to job opportunities and understanding specific barriers they might encounter. We can deliver a win-win scenario both for BME people seeking jobs and public sector employers seeking talented recruits," said Rohini.

For more information on the Job Opportunities Programme please contact Housing Equal Opportunities Manager Rohini Sharma Joshi on 0131 444 4950 or e-mail: RSharma@trustha.org.uk



Rabia Sethi, one of the participants in the Job Opportunities Project
© Job Opportunities Programme



Financial Inclusion Campaign – Now Let's Talk Money

How many of us find managing money stressful? For someone who is "financially excluded" – often identified as having a lack of access to money advice, basic bank accounts, and low awareness of affordable sources of credit – this is especially hard.

The Now Let's Talk Money campaign seeks to make "financially excluded" people more aware that free money and debt advice, affordable loans and bank accounts are available to them and where they can go to access these services.

For instance, one of the campaign's aims is to reduce the number of people who use high-interest doorstep lenders who can charge up to 200% interest or even illegal loan sharks often with repayments rates of 1000% or more.

Campaign staff are working closely with local organisations to encourage them to sign up to the campaign, to help raise awareness of where to signpost people or even set up a financial inclusion forum at a local level.

For information on what services are available locally - phone the freephone number 0800 012 1656 or log onto www.direct.gov.uk/nowletstalkmoney to access case studies, receive news updates or download information.



Freephone - 0800 012 1656
to find out who you can talk to locally for free and confidential advice about your money worries

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Annual Volunteer Recruitment Fair Hits Edinburgh

Charities, voluntary organisations and community groups search for volunteer activists and voluntary Management Board members

Volunteer Centre Edinburgh will be hosting another Volunteer Recruitment Fair this year, between 11.00am – 7.00pm on Thursday 4th October 2007 at The Assembly Rooms in George Street, Edinburgh.

The Volunteer Recruitment Fair is a highly successful, annual event, which showcases volunteering opportunities, and puts potential volunteers in touch with the hundreds of organisations that currently require volunteer activists or voluntary Management Board members.

With over 100 voluntary organisations attending on-the-day, and the Volunteer Centre Edinburgh stand with access to over 700 other volunteering opportunities across the City, visitors will be spoilt for choice. Members of the public are invited to visit, browse, pick-up leaflets, speak to volunteers and staff, and enjoy a coffee in a relaxed environment.

What: Volunteer Recruitment Fair
 When: 11.00am – 7.00pm on Thursday 4th October 2007
 Where: The Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh
 Cost: Free of charge

Volunteering involves someone making the choice to donate their spare time or expertise to help a charity, voluntary organisation, community group, campaign or club in an unpaid capacity. Individuals volunteer on Management Boards, on environmental projects, as befrienders, with children and families, and in sports coaching and care work, amongst many other roles.

As part of the Volunteer Recruitment Fair, a special 'Get on Board' event will take place at 5.30pm. The 'Get on Board' event will enable potential volunteers to learn more about becoming a volunteer member of an organisation's Management Board, and will feature some of the Edinburgh-based voluntary organisations that are currently recruiting Management Board members.

What: 'Get on Board' event
 When: 5.30pm – 6.30pm on Thursday 4th October 2007
 Where: Volunteer Recruitment Fair, The Assembly Rooms, George Street, Edinburgh

Two of the Edinburgh voluntary organisations that are currently recruiting Management Board members are: WHALE Arts Agency, a voluntary organisation providing access to the arts for people in Wester Hailes and across West Edinburgh, which is looking for people with personnel, finance and legal expertise (see: www.whalearts.co.uk), and: Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre in Moredun, South Edinburgh (see: www.goodtrees.edin.org).

Margaret Faichney, Manager of the Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre, said: *"Goodtrees Neighbourhood Centre provides services and activities such as a Mother and Toddler Groups, and Adult Education for local people. We need more volunteers to join our Management Committee, with skills such as finance and secretarial know how, to help the Centre meet the needs of local people."*

Talking about the 'Get on Board' event and volunteering opportunities, Jean Cuthbert from Volunteer Centre Edinburgh, said: *"There are over 1,800 voluntary organisations in Edinburgh, all of which are run by Management Boards made up of volunteers. Many of these organisations are currently looking for people with different backgrounds, experience and skills to become a volunteer member of their Management Board. The 'Get on Board' event at the Volunteer Recruitment Fair will help put potential volunteers together with those who really need them."*

Jean Cuthbert continued: *"Being a volunteer Board Member is a demanding and*



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responsible role, but it can bring huge rewards. Not only do you support a worthwhile organisation providing essential services, but you can gain knowledge, experience and contacts that can improve your social life and help your career. Giving up just a few hours each month can make a great difference for a voluntary organisation, for the community, and for you. I urge everyone who reads this to come to the 'Get on Board' event and to consider becoming a voluntary Board member for one of Edinburgh's many worthwhile charities and voluntary organisations."

For more about the 'Get on Board' campaign, or the Volunteer Recruitment Fair, visit the Volunteer Centre Edinburgh's award-winning website at: www.volunteeredinburgh.org.uk/getonboard or contact Jean Cuthbert on 0131 225 0639.

Members of the public can sign-up to receive the latest volunteering opportunities by e-mail, by visiting: www.edinburghvolunteers.org/bulletin

The Xcellence Factor: Adding Value to Communities

Thursday 11th October 2007
The Lighthouse, Glasgow

Quality Scotland's Voluntary Sector Network presents their third annual conference, where you will have the opportunity to learn about any developments in the quality arena in the voluntary sector, including the launch of a tailored self-assessment tool for the sector and a new membership rate for small organisations.

Workshops will provide practical case studies on implementing continuous improvement programmes - whether your organisation is large or small, including Delivering European Excellence, Social Auditing, Small Organisations and Excellence and Leadership in Social Enterprise.

To book your place at this highly valuable learning and networking opportunity or for more information go to Quality Scotland's website at <http://www.qualityscotland.co.uk/events.asp?cat=The+Xcellence+Factor&cid=QSC-EC-10042> or contact Frances or Shona on 0131 556 2333.

Empowering Communities Workshops

The Scottish Government is committed to doing more to empower individuals and communities to have more control over their own lives and more choice in how their needs are met. They are particularly keen to empower people living in areas of deprivation. There is much good work going on across the country where the public sector and community groups are working to ensure that local people have more say in the things that affect their lives. This is true in both urban and rural areas.

These workshops will set out to agree some principles and look at the practical issues about empowering communities. Most of all Communities Scotland want to hear your views as part of the debate on how this becomes meaningful and useful for communities.

Over the next three months these workshops will bring people together in Glasgow (October 29th), Aberdeen and Edinburgh (details to be confirmed).

For further information and a booking form, please follow this link - http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/cs_006607.hcsp#TopOfPage



QUALITY
SCOTLAND



Communities
Scotland

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BA Professional Development in Community Regeneration

The BA Professional Development in Community Regeneration has been developed in response to a call for a training programme for those working in areas of most social and economic need in Scotland and the rest of the UK. Jointly developed and delivered by the School of Town and Regional Planning and the School of Education, Social Work and Community Education at the University of Dundee, the programme brings together the skills of the planner with those of the community educator at a time when inter-professional and collaborative working are becoming more and more important in the delivery of public and community-based services.

Who is this programme for?

In line with the Scottish Executive's social justice and inclusion agenda, the degree has been specifically designed for those involved in community-based regeneration whether working in central or local government, or as part of a local partnership. Its aim is to work towards improving professional knowledge and skills in community planning, community capacity building, collaborative practice and sustainable development.

What are the entry requirements?

Entry requirements are dependent on the level at which a participant wishes to gain entry. At SCQF 8 (diploma level) the requirement is the equivalent of 120 SCOTCAT credits; and at SCQF 9 (degree level) the equivalent of 240 SCOTCAT credits. Participants may also have a professional qualification or experience of working in a relevant profession for a number of years.

How is the programme structured?

The programme has flexible entry and exit points allowing you to enter at a level appropriate to your level of education and experience. The diploma level consists of 6 modules and the degree level consists of 4 modules. The degree level comprises core and specialist modules as follows:

Core modules are:

- Professional Development & Inquiry
- Professional Project

Specialist modules are:

- Community Regeneration
- Community Education Approaches

How is the programme delivered?

This programme is delivered flexibly primarily by distance learning, to enable participants to continue in employment and to study in their own locality.

How much does the programme cost?

At SCQF level 8 each module costs £280 and at SCQF level 9, each module costs £420. (These costs are subject to annual review).

To obtain further information and an application form, please contact Pat Baxter on 01382 464403 or e-mail p.z.baxter@dundee.ac.uk, <http://www.cpdeducation.co.uk/programmes/baprofdevcommunity.htm>

MSc in Applied Professional Studies

The MSc in Applied Professional Studies at the University of Dundee has been developed to enable practitioners from a broad range of professions to engage

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creatively with the concerns of organisations in an informed and research-minded way. The programme is structured in a modular format of 6 modules and can be completed within 2 1/2 years. Practitioner research is a central theme of the programme and threaded throughout all module areas are inquiry-based learning activities building towards a Research Project or Dissertation.

How is the programme structured?

Key components of this 6 module programme are: Module content; issues/concerns in professional practice: Inquiry activity/research projects and review of relevant literature, additionally supported by e-learning and workshops when required.

What qualification will the students be awarded?

Taking into account participants' professional interests and contexts, a series of Named Awards has been constructed, to enable participants to focus on a practical area of professional practice if required. There is also a generic award if participants want to gain a broader learning experience through their programme of study.

The awards within the programme are:

- MSc Applied Professional Studies (General Award)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Education, Philosophy, Policy and Practice)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Community Learning and Development)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Community Planning and Regeneration)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Equality and Social Inclusion)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Leadership and Organisational Development)
- MSc Applied Professional Studies (Inter-professional Practice)
- Subject to further approval there will be an award of Master of Education.

Students may choose to graduate with Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma in any of the Named Award areas.

How is the programme delivered?

This flexible programme has been developed to enable the participant to undertake 'mixed module' delivery on a part-time basis. The modules may be offered by face to face delivery, distance learning and work-based learning on a two intake basis per year.

How much does the programme cost?

The single module fee is £420. Completion of a Postgraduate Certificate (2 modules) would therefore cost £840; Postgraduate Diploma (4 modules) £1680 and Masters Degree (6 modules) £2520.

To obtain further information and an application form, please contact Fiona Paterson on 01382 464365 or e-mail f.j.paterson@dundee.ac.uk, <http://www.cpdeducation.co.uk/programmes/mscaps.htm>

Postgraduate Certificate in Social Enterprise

The Postgraduate Certificate in Social Enterprise is the only postgraduate degree in Scotland designed specifically for the growing Social Enterprise sector. This one year, part-time programme offers people working in a social enterprise or in associated sectors the opportunity to become more effective in their working role and in their organisation.

The programme was developed through the collaboration of Glasgow Caledonian University and the Social Enterprise Academy in response to the growing number of government initiatives that encourage voluntary and community-based organisations

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to demonstrate greater entrepreneurial flair, innovation and self-reliance. It offers you unique opportunities to develop your knowledge of social enterprise as a business model from economic, financial and environmental through to operational and cultural factors.

Practical Approach

The programme's practical approach to learning benefits students and the organisations they work for by offering a work-based project as a key element of the programme.

Who is it for?

The programme is intended for managers in the sector, professionals involved in promoting social enterprise, aspiring and existing social entrepreneurs, public sector advisors, mentors, managers from existing voluntary organisations, local and national government officials and executives from economic development agencies.

Knowledge & Skills Developed

You will:

1. Understand current issues, challenges and strategies in social enterprise within the context of the UK
2. Develop original and creative responses to social enterprise problems and issues
3. Plan and implement a strategy to resolve a complex social enterprise issue facing your organisation resulting in a clearly communicated and professionally valuable conclusion

For further information please visit <http://www.caledonian.ac.uk/cbs/gab/socialenterprise/index.html>

Healthy, Happy and Wise: Working Together for the Well-being of Scotland's Children

Children in Scotland annual conference in association with Scottish Borders Council

1st - 2nd November 2007

Macdonald Cardrona Hotel in Peebles

The state of our children's well-being is a measure of the state of our nation. This conference looks at the research on childhood, reflects on the experience of being a child in today's society and in a year of political change, examines what is being done to ensure the well-being of Scotland's children.

Day one offers a selection of workshops by Scottish Borders Council. In the afternoon delegates will learn about research and statistics that define childhood in Scotland today.

Day two will look at examples of how professionals, children and young people are working together to remove barriers to the access and delivery of children's services with emphasis on participation and changing professional practice.

Speakers include:

- Professor Lord Winston, world-renowned fertility expert, and presenter of the BBC series "Child of our Time" (day one)
- Aldo Fortunati, Italian developmental psychologist and early childhood education specialist (day two)
- Professor Jonathan Bradshaw, co-author of the UNCIEF Report Card on child well-being in rich countries (day one)

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Who should attend

This conference is relevant to those working with children of all ages. Everyone whose work affects the lives of children and young people. Policymakers and practitioners from government, education, social care, health, criminal justice, police, leisure, recreations, the arts and housing, those working in the early years sector in nurseries and primary schools and those working in high schools and with families. Local authority chief executives and heads of service as well as elected members.

Non-residential Cost

Delegate rate - non-residential £299.00

Discounts available

Discounted rate: non-member individuals and small organisations - non-residential £245.00

Discounted rate: member statutory and large voluntary organisations - non-residential £235.00

Discounted rate: member individuals and small organisations - non-residential £185.00

Residential Cost

Delegate rate - residential £399.00

Discounts available

Discounted rate: non-member individuals and small organisations - residential £345.00

Discounted rate: member statutory and large voluntary organisations - residential £335.00

Discounted rate: member individuals and small organisations - residential £285.00

Further information and booking details are available at http://www.childreninScotland.org.uk/html/tra_tshow.php?ref=1046

Improving your Community - Getting Children and Young People Involved

28th November 2007
Glasgow

This Children in Scotland one-day workshop looks at encouraging the effective engagement of children and young people in community planning, development and regeneration. Participants will be provided with practical examples, ideas and activities from the DIY Guide to improving your community getting children and young people involved, a tried and tested 'toolkit' for the effective engagement of children and young people within their local community. A copy of the toolkit is included in the workshop price.

The workshop programme will include:

- methodologies for introducing the United Nations Convention of the Rights of the Child to children and young people
- practical ways to help children and young people critically assess their communities
- activities to enable young people to gather information, highlight themes, agree and prioritise common issues

Children
IN SCOTLAND
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working for children and their families

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- supporting a group of young people to take collective action in order to bring about change.

Who should attend

This workshop is for all those looking for practical ways to engage with and involve children and young people in any setting across the statutory, independent and voluntary sectors, including social work, childcare, education (pre-school, primary and secondary schools) out of school clubs, youth forums, arts organisations, theatre, museums, science centres and galleries.

Delegate Cost

Delegate rate £160.00

Discounts available

Discounted rate: non-member individuals and small organisations £130.00

Discounted rate: member statutory and large voluntary organisations £130.00

Discounted rate: member individuals and small organisations £105.00

Further information and booking details are available at
http://www.childreninScotland.org.uk/html/tra_tshow.php?ref=1036

Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum Open Forum

Changing Neighbourhoods: Lessons learned from the recent Joseph Rowntree Foundation 'Light Touch' research - reflections and the way forward for Scotland

Thursday 25th October
Glasgow

At this Open Forum, participants will hear a plenary presentation by John Low from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF). Following this presentation, John will be joined by a senior representative from Community Development Association Scotland (CDAS) and others on a specially invited panel for a highly interactive comments and debate session. The Forum will be relevant to all with an interest in, or commitment to, Community Regeneration in Scotland. It will be held in central Glasgow.

Further information and details of how to book will be available shortly on SURF's website at <http://www.scotregen.co.uk/index.asp>. The recently launched JRF report that the event will focus on is available for download in PDF format at http://www.scotregen.co.uk/pdf.pl?file=surf/news/Changing_Neighbourhoods.pdf

Thanks to funding provided by Communities Scotland's Scottish Centre for Regeneration, SURF's Open Forums are free and are also open to non-members of SURF. The half-day event will end with an informal networking lunch.

Community Justice Reforming Civil Society

The Sacro Annual Lecture 2007
5.30pm, Thursday 11th October
Playfair Library, Old College, South Bridge, University of Edinburgh

Richard Garside will talk to Ruth Wishart about the need to reform civil society to reduce criminal behaviour, rather than tinkering with or toughening up the criminal justice system, and that we should look for the answers in social policy rather than criminal justice policy.



Scottish Urban Regeneration Forum

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Richard is Director of the Centre for Crime & Justice Studies, an independent charity based at King's College London that informs and educates about all aspects of crime and criminal justice. A regular commentator on crime, criminal justice and related issues on television and radio he has also written for national newspapers and magazines.

Ruth Wishart, the respected journalist and broadcaster, writes a weekly column for the Herald and presents programmes on contemporary ethics for the BBC. She has been an assistant editor of the Sunday Mail, Scotsman and Sunday Standard. An experienced conference chair, her interests include the arts and politics, especially social policy.

The Sacro Annual Lecture begins at 5.30pm and will be followed at 6.30 by a drinks reception. The event is free and open to the public.

To register your attendance, please e-mail Steven Morton at events@national.sacro.org.uk

GO4Volunteering

The majority of voluntary organisations in Scotland depend on volunteers for the services they deliver, the activities they run and the huge range of work they carry out in their local communities. GO4Volunteering helps the management committees and staff of local grassroots organisations to build their skills around recruiting and supporting their volunteers. Examples of what could be funded are:

- training programmes for voluntary management committees
- training programmes for volunteers
- visits to more established organisations to share their experience of what works well with volunteering
- consultation with volunteers so that organisations know more about what volunteers need and value
- publications, subscriptions or the cost of undertaking investors in Volunteers through Volunteer Development Scotland
- the cost of professional support or consultancy to help develop useful volunteer policies or training packs, including policies on equality and diversity

What is not funded

GO4Volunteering will not consider funding volunteer 'thank-you' or 'award ceremony' events, the purchase of equipment, on-going volunteers' expenses or on-going running costs.

Who is eligible

The grant is aimed at small, local groups with limited funding. Groups will be considered for grants if they have:

- income below £50,000 per year
- a signed constitution or set of rules (if you do not have a constitution you should approach your local Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) who will be happy to advise you)
- a bank account in the name of the group
- an independent referee who can vouch for the group and has knowledge of the plans for using the grant, such as a community worker or volunteer centre worker.

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Level of grants

The programme will provide approximately 100 grants per year of between £500 and £2,000.

Full guidance and an application form are available at
<http://www.voluntaryactionfund.org.uk/grant-schemes/g4v>

Get Your Voice Heard! Report Launched

During 2006 and 2007, a small, committed group of people came together to ask tough questions of whether Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) people in North Edinburgh and Leith can 'get their voices heard'.

They joined a pioneering project in local participation, co-ordinated by Edinburgh's Centre for Human Ecology (CHE). It was also an experiment in how we might build communities - and a nation - that enables all to feel included and have a real stake in building our common future.

For a start, the group was comprised about equally of local BME residents, and professionals working in the Council, Health Service and Police. CHE recognised the issues they were addressing meant everyone had to be around the table.

Secondly, it drew heavily on Training for Transformation and action research approaches pioneered in Scotland by CHE. This is an approach to creating trust and authentic inquiry into the things that most concern us. It doesn't flinch from conflict and issues of racism, identity, belonging and power. At its heart, it is about 'research with people, not on them'. CHE found inspiration in our common humanity and became friends.

CHE looked carefully at the community planning process as it was being put in place in Edinburgh. They decided that one practical place for action was in transforming the ways community councils work. With community planning structures giving community councils more power, it's vital that we don't just carry on with business as usual. Down this road only means more democratic deficit and split communities as BME voices continue to be excluded from local decision-making.

It's not just about community councils. CHE want our public institutions to take seriously the potential for projects like theirs to foster genuine learning and dialogue that breaks down barriers between professional silos; between different local communities; and seeks to address democratic deficit and inequalities all at the same time.

These recommendations and more are spelled out in the report which is available at
<http://www.che.ac.uk>

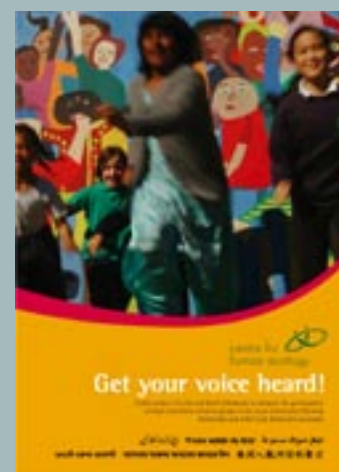
Further resources and information on upcoming courses on action research are available from <http://www.nickwilding.com/GYVH/report.htm>

“New Powers for Communities?”

1st November 2007, 11am – 3.15pm
Carlton Hotel, Edinburgh

The Scottish Government was elected on a platform which includes proposals for 'new powers for communities'. These include:

- giving deprived communities the ability to opt for a new 'empowered status', which might allow local people to co-manage a proportion of public spending and services
- devolving greater responsibilities to community councils, including possible responsibility for a portion of current local spending.



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This seminar will allow people from all the sectors involved to look at what this might mean in practice and what community development can do to help make such powers work effectively. The discussions will contribute directly to the work that the Scottish Government has begun on the implementation of these proposals.

Speakers include:

- Stephen Maxwell (Scottish Council of Voluntary Organisations)
- Alasdair McKinlay (Communities Scotland)

Co-chairs:

- Stewart Murdoch (Community Development Alliance Scotland)
- Alan Barr (Scottish Community Development Centre)

This event is being run in partnership between SCDC and CDAS. Cost per person, including lunch is £45 + VAT.

For further information please contact James Anderson on 0141 248 1924 or e-mail James@scdc.org.uk. Booking forms are available at http://www.scdc.org.uk/news/news-index/144/?sess_scdc=bbff5cb0432db34903f2cfea36fa4d1f

How Scotland's Government Works?

2nd November 2007
Edinburgh

Holyrood magazine is pleased to announce the second of its Politics explained series of training events, how Scotland's government works.

Scotland has a minority government for the first time. This conference examines how the government works, how a manifesto commitment becomes policy and how to engage with the Scottish government.

This is a must attend event for professionals working in public affairs, a public body or as a teacher or lecturer in politics or related disciplines.

By attending this conference you will:

- Gain a real understanding of the Scottish government
- Learn from senior officials who work in, and with, the Scottish government
- Hear how Scotland's government has developed since May 2007
- Learn how to engage and communicate with the Scottish government
- Contribute to the debate about the future of Scotland's government

For further details, including the full agenda and delegate rates, please see the conference website at <http://conferences.holyrood.com/content/view/189/29/>

If you have any questions, please e-mail govexplained@holyrood.com or call 0131 272 2130.

Building Confidence – the Role of Credit Unions

Biennial Bert Mullen Lecture
18th October 2007
University of Glasgow

The Scottish Centre for Research on Social Justice is very pleased to be co-hosting the second Bert Mullen Lecture with the Scottish League of Credit Unions.

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The speaker will be Dr Carol Craig from the Scottish Centre for Confidence and Well-Being. The lecture will take place on Thursday 18th October - International Credit Union Day.

Places are free and are available from Jeane Bonner on 0141 330 2094 or e-mail j.bonner@socsci.gla.ac.uk

Better Health, Better Care – Consultation

Better Health, Better Care: A Discussion Document sets out some of the approaches that the Scottish Government believe are necessary in order to meet their strategic objective of helping people to sustain and improve their health, especially in disadvantaged communities, ensuring better, local and faster access to health care.

You are invited to take part in a discussion about these approaches, to help shape priorities and in particular, define the actions that you would like to see prioritised by the new Government and NHS Scotland over the next few years.

Responses to the discussion paper should be made by 12th November 2007.

The document is available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/08/13165824/0> and details of how to respond are available at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/08/13165824/10>

Poverty Alliance Seminar

19th October 2007, AGM 10.00am, Seminar 10.30am - 12.30pm (lunch provided)
Glasgow City Halls, Candleriggs, Glasgow, G1 1NQ

Over the last few years a number of campaigns have emerged across the UK that have called on employers to pay a living wage to all workers. These campaigns have developed in response to the continuing problem of low pay and the failure of the minimum wage to lift people out of poverty. Over the last few months the Poverty Alliance has been working with the Scottish Trades Union Congress, the Scottish Low Pay Unit and Scottish churches to assess the level of support for a campaign to promote living wages in Scotland.

Poverty Alliance have been encouraged by the support that has been expressed so far and now wish to broaden the discussion in order to launch a Scottish campaign. Speakers at the seminar include Deborah Littman from Unison and London Citizens, an organisation leading the campaign for living wages in London, Alison Miller from the Pilton Partnership, who will speak about the results of research into employment in Edinburgh, and Peter Kenway from the New Policy Institute (tbc), who will give an overview of the problems of low pay in Scotland. The seminar will be an opportunity to look at how the campaign is organised and to look at practical ways that we can take the fight against low pay forward.

Travel and childcare expenses are available (please let Poverty Alliance know in advance if you need expenses).

To register for the event please contact Poe McHugh on 0141 353 0440 or e-mail poe.mchugh@povertyalliance.org

UnLtd Sport Relief Awards

This new £1m awards programme is aimed at encouraging young people to use sport to tackle social issues in their communities.

The UnLtd Sport Relief Awards programme is delivered by UnLtd – the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, and will give young people aged between 11-21 the



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opportunity to unite communities divided by conflict, using the enabling power of sport. It will provide awards – in the form of cash and practical support – to young people who have innovative, sports-related ideas for tackling problems in their communities.

Cliff Prior, UnLtd CEO, said:

“The Sport Relief Awards are so exciting as they are youth-led and all about encouraging young people to become leaders in their communities. UnLtd is convinced that young people can be the solution to the problems of social conflict, the gangs and discord that are so much a current concern. A big part of UnLtd’s work is about getting young people involved at grassroots level and the Sport Relief awards will build on this experience. I look forward to seeing some inspirational young people come through.”

International basketball player and children’s TV presenter, Ade Adepitan, has pledged his support for the awards:

“Young people are right at the heart of their communities, and they are in a great position to really make an impact. These awards will enable young people to get out there and put their ideas into action. I would urge any young person to make the most of this opportunity and apply.”

UnLtd Sport Relief Awards is an open programme across the UK and will provide awards in the range of £250-£5,000 to enable promising young people with innovative ideas to set up projects.

Further information and application details are available at <http://www.unltd.org.uk/template.php?ID=110&PageName=sportreilef>

HandsOnScotland Toolkit

The HandsOnScotland Toolkit is an online resource for anybody working with children and young people. The website has been designed to help you make a difference to children and young people’s lives, by giving you tools to respond helpfully when they are troubled.

It is a one-stop shop for practical information and techniques on how to respond helpfully to children and young people’s troubling behaviour, build up their self-esteem and promote their positive mental wellbeing.

The website was commissioned by HeadsUpScotland, the National Project for children and young people’s mental health, in response to recommendations from the SNAP (Scottish Needs Assessment Programme) report on Child and Adolescent Mental Health (2003). The SNAP report found that many frontline workers from all agencies feel they lack the practical skills and confidence to help children and young people who have troubling behaviour.

These children or young people may be waiting to see a mental health specialist or they may have already received specialist assessment, but need ongoing support from frontline workers. Alternatively, they may not need to see a specialist, but they need someone to help them through a difficult time in their lives. If help is given early enough, when a problem appears, it may not become a serious issue. So the website was developed to provide the information and tools to help frontline workers to offer help and support to children and young people in such situations.

The website is available at <http://www.handsonscotland.co.uk/centre.html>

Creative Clusters 2007

Creative Clusters 2007 takes place between Friday 9th and Wednesday 14th November, in locations across London that are home to world-leading creative enterprises and culture-led regeneration projects.

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The fifth Creative Clusters Conference takes place at a turning point for the UK's creative economy agenda. It is ten years since Chris Smith took over the UK's Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), set up the Creative Industries Task Force and commissioned the initial research into Britain's creative industries. The DCMS Mapping Document that followed a year later introduced the phrase 'creative industries' to mainstream politics, and the term soon came to signify a set of policy concepts that were taken up across the world.

Now, with a change of Prime Minister in the UK triggering a mood of reassessment and renewal, stakeholders in the creative industries agenda are taking stock. The government's Creative Economy green paper, due to be published shortly before Creative Clusters, will provide the fullest analysis yet of the creative sector's importance to the UK economy, and to Britain's international standing. It will propose a policy framework for the next ten years that will feature strongly in the conference agenda.

But there is more to 'taking stock' than renewing the grand narrative. The great challenge for this sector is that the work must resonate on many levels. Policy initiatives, and their underlying rationale, must take into account the demands of individual creativity, the interests of local and regional culture, as well as the social and economic forces of globalisation.

Creative Clusters is firmly rooted in the practical and the local: the organisers want to know how policy initiatives actually play out in the ground. The core of the programme is made up of case studies of ground-breaking and exemplary projects from around the world that offer lessons for policy development. There will be a special emphasis on the local areas of London in which the conference is taking place, with study-tours to leading initiatives across London: the City Fringe, Brixton, Soho, Lewisham, the South Bank, Exhibition Road, Paddington, Hackney and more.

But a focus on London does not mean the conference is London-centric. Creative Clusters includes voices and projects from across the UK regions, and from across the world.

For our international visitors, there has never been a better time to visit London. The UK's creative industries are booming, and London is being called the 'world creative capital'. Yet the more we work with other countries and cultures, the more we find we have still to learn. Creative Clusters is a truly global forum, and you are invited to bring with you your own experiences and insights.

Further information and booking details are available at <http://www.creativeclusters.com/>

The Launch of Pilotlight Scotland

The Pilotlight model was designed to overcome both the barriers to business leaders volunteering and to ensure that charities would find the help given effective.

The process always begins by working with the charity on a business plan from which other assignments then flow. Pilotlight asks for up to three hours a month of senior business people and ensures their time giving is based around their diaries. Pilotlight manages teams of senior business people to coach charities through the process of building measurably more sustainable and effective organisations.

Pilotlight manages the interaction between the charities and the professionals throughout the relationship. Other volunteering relationships match rather than manage skills. This brokerage frees both sides to concentrate on sharing their skills effectively. The model is designed solely for senior business professionals to give their skills and is therefore tailor made for strategic skills giving. Pilotlight focus on encouraging multiple skills giving to a charity over several years and structure this around a strategic business plan.

Pilotlight believe that:

- By bringing together the passion and expertise of the voluntary sector with the best of business thinking they can help to create more effective and

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sustainable organisations

- The most successful collaborations between the private and voluntary sectors are grounded in mutual respect and recognition of the skills and expertise represented by each sector
- Small charities and social enterprises are best placed to find innovative and effective solutions to the changing needs of the disadvantaged in society, and their knowledge and commitment should be nurtured and supported
- Systematic evaluation is central to achieving excellence and enables small charities to compete in an increasingly challenging environment
- One of the primary objectives of any small community or voluntary organisation should be to make themselves sustainable, so they can continue to help their beneficiaries as long as their services are needed

Pilotlight Scotland launched last month and is now operational in Glasgow and Edinburgh. Five charities are undergoing assessment and 20 Scottish members have signed up already, including corporate membership from HBOS, Scottish Power, PWC, Openreach (part of the BT Group), Aegon, BDO Stoy Hayward and Adam & Co.

Further information on Pilotlight Scotland is available at
<http://scotland.pilotlight.org.uk/>

PUBLICATIONS

Evaluation of the Implementation of Regeneration Outcome Agreements

This study was commissioned by Communities Scotland, and undertaken by ODS Consulting between October 2006 and March 2007. **The summary is available at http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_019964.pdf**

Review of Employability in Regeneration Outcome Agreements (ROAs)

It is now recognised that action to tackle worklessness sits at the heart of the process of achieving sustainable community regeneration. This desk-based study by the Training and Employment Research Unit (TERU) at the University of Glasgow assessed the employability content of all 32 of Scotland's Regeneration Outcome Agreements (ROAs). **The summary is available at http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_019967.pdf**

Review of Availability and Use of Evidence in Regeneration Outcome Agreements

This research was commissioned to assess the availability of quantitative and qualitative evidence in the CRF. Use of the highlighted evidence sources in the 2005-2008 ROAs was assessed and its adequacy in evidencing the overall impact of the CRF programme was also considered. **The summary is available at http://www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/pubcs_020030.pdf**

Working for Families Evaluation Phase 1 (2004-2006)

This report presents an evaluation of phase 1 of the Working for Families programme, which was established to invest in new initiatives to improve the employability of parents who have difficulty participating in the labour market. **The report is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/09/04163714/0>**

Quality of Life Fund Evaluation

This report presents the findings of an evaluation of the process and operation of the Quality of Life Fund undertaken by SQW Ltd in 2007. The research involved a survey of local authorities, six of which were studied further as case studies. **The report is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/09/12153313/0>**

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Report on the Scottish Adult Literacy and Numeracy Strategy 2006/2007

Report on progress with the Scottish Adult Literacy and Numeracy Strategy 2006/2007. **The report is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/09/07135512/0>**

Recorded Crime in Scotland 2006/07

Statistics on crimes and offences recorded and cleared up by the eight Scottish police forces in 2006/07. **The report is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/08/30141914/0>**

Edinburgh Labour Market Bulletin

This new quarterly bulletin, produced by the City of Edinburgh Council's City Development Department in conjunction with the Joined Up for Jobs Partnership, is designed to provide a regular snapshot of labour market conditions in the Scottish Capital. **The bulletin is available at http://www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk/employment/uploads/Edinburgh_Labour_Market_Bulletin_-_Issue_1_-_Aug_07.pdf**

Experiences of Poverty and Educational Disadvantage

Children growing up in poverty and disadvantage are less likely to do well at school. This feeds into disadvantage in later life and in turn affects their children. To break this cycle, we need to address the attitudes and experiences that lie behind social differences in education.

This paper:

- looks at the experiences of children from different backgrounds and their attitudes to education
- summarises the messages from the first eight projects in the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's Education and Poverty programme

The first eight projects are:

- A child's-eye view of social difference
- A review of research on the links between education and poverty
- Children researching links between poverty and literacy
- Educational relationships outside school
- Mapping the alternatives to permanent exclusion
- School exclusions: Learning partnerships outside mainstream education
- The impact of poverty on young children's experience of school
- Tackling low educational achievement

The paper is available at <http://www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/2123.asp>

Best Practice in Establishing Urban Regeneration Companies in Scotland

This report looks at 'best practice' in the set up and early operation of URCS in Scotland. It looks at what works well - from governance structures through to structures for community involvement and also outlines some potential pitfalls for newer or even future URCS to avoid. **The report is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/09/20103240/0>**

Skills for Scotland: A Lifelong Skills Strategy

The strategy covers early years provision, schools, further and higher education, work related learning and informal learning opportunities, as well as looking at information, advice and guidance and funding systems. **The strategy is available on the Scottish Government's website at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/09/06091114/0>**

A Tale of the Cities: the Best of Times?

From iconic developments like the Birmingham Bullring, to major arts centres like Newcastle's Baltic centre, cities across the UK have been reborn thanks to city

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councils working closely with the business community, a report from the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC) argues. The report features essays from local Chambers of Commerce in nine UK cities, including Edinburgh, giving first hand accounts of how business has worked with local authorities and regeneration agencies to drive economic success. **The report is available at http://www.chamberonline.co.uk/policy/pdf/Tale_of_the_Cities.pdf**

The Impact of Pathways to Work

This report, published by the independent Policy Studies Institute on behalf of the Department for Work and Pensions, presents estimates of the impact of the 'Pathways to Work' package of reforms. These reforms are aimed at encouraging employment among people claiming incapacity benefits; that is, people claiming Incapacity Benefit (IB) or Income Support (IS) on the grounds of disability. **The report is available at <http://www.dwp.gov.uk/asd/asd5/rports2007-2008/rrep435.pdf>**

Disabled Children and Child Poverty

This briefing paper, produced by the Every Disabled Child Matters campaign as a contribution to the Campaign to End Child Poverty, sets out the case for targeted measures to tackle poverty in families with disabled children. **The paper is available at http://www.edcm.org.uk/pdfs/disabled_children_and_child_poverty.pdf**

What is the Funding Situation for CHIs Beyond March 2008?

The CHEX (Community Health Exchange) staff team were concerned that from their day to day contact with organisations across Scotland there was a sense that organisations were finding themselves in an increasingly difficult funding environment. Having watched community health initiatives in Glasgow close or be reduced to minimal levels in 2006, they were concerned that the picture from across the country would result in similar occurrences throughout Scotland in the course of 2007. To test this concern they devised an online questionnaire with 10 questions relating to organisational sustainability. 32 organisations responded over a period of 4 weeks in April 2007. **The results are available at http://www.chex.org.uk/uploads/survey_monkey0407final_report_.doc?sess_scdc=6418bc2e1dd5f16cc88cad75f6c12f5c**

It's All About You: Citizen-Centred Welfare

Despite rising employment, more than 3.5 million people are not in work and are claiming benefits. At the same time, levels of benefits have not kept pace with rises in earnings and there is a strong correlation between a child living in a workless household and a child living in poverty. This report from the Institute for Public Policy Research looks at the potential of a single working age benefit and argues that greater personalisation is needed in welfare to work services if the Government is to deliver on its pledges to end child poverty and achieve an 80 per cent employment rate. **The report is available at <http://www.ippr.org/publicationsandreports/publication.asp?id=559>**

Developing Business Juggler

This latest Communities Scotland Learning Point looks at the challenges of introducing continuous improvement to organisations working in the voluntary, social economy and housing sectors across Scotland. **The Learning Point is available at http://www.scr.communitiesscotland.gov.uk/stellent/groups/public/documents/webpages/scrcs_019708.pdf**

Digital Inclusion: a Discussion of the Evidence Base

This research assesses the current evidence base on digital inclusion and the digital divide, discusses how digital inclusion and the digital divide are currently conceptualized, evaluates the existing frameworks for measuring the digital divide and profiles the segments of the population affected by it. The factors which may influence the future evolution of the digital divide are considered and the case for market failure and public sector intervention to bridge the digital divide are examined. The report suggests ways of addressing gaps in the current evidence base and finds that, despite developments in technology, the uptake of ICT has largely plateaued. The research

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finds that access to ICT is not enough - a proportion of non-users of the internet reside in connected households; and that a significant proportion of the digitally excluded is at risk of deepening its exclusion. **The report is available on the UK Online Centres' website at http://www.ukonlinecentres.co.uk/downloads/DigitalInclusion_A_discussion_of_the_evidence_base.pdf**

Capital City Partnership Working Paper 4 - Ethnic Minorities in Edinburgh

This paper highlights the number of minority ethnic people in the city and also indicates the claimant count. The number of ethnic minorities participating in various employment programmes is also considered; which is vital in relation to equalities monitoring. **The paper is available at http://www.joinedupforjobs.org.uk/employment/uploads/WP4_-_EM.pdf**

Capital City Partnership Working Paper 5 - Foreign Migrants in Edinburgh

This paper highlights the number of foreign nationals in the city, the sectors which they are employed and where they originate. The evidence surrounding economic impact is also considered. **The paper is available at <http://www.joinedupforjobs.org>.**



Capital City Partnership is a partnership of key statutory, voluntary and community agencies in the city working together to promote social inclusion and achieve social justice for the people of Edinburgh. We exist to find creative and sustainable solutions to overcome social exclusion and to promote joined up governance in the city. For further details about Capital City Partnership please go to the website at <http://www.capitalcitypartnership.org> or contact us at the address below.

Alternative Formats

The Capital City Partnership Social Inclusion e-zine is distributed monthly by e-mail in PDF and text-only Word formats. Large text, braille, audio copies and community language translations are available on request by contacting Gillian Baxter, Information Worker, on 0131 270 6040. The e-zine is also available either in PDF format or as a text-only Word file, on the Capital City Partnership website at <http://www.capitalcitypartnership.org>

Forthcoming Copy Deadline & Mailing List

The Capital City Partnership Social Inclusion e-zine is published on the first Monday of each month. The next issue will be available on **Monday 5th November** and any information for inclusion, along with contact details, should be submitted to gillianbaxter@capitalcitypartnership.org under the heading 'CCP e-zine contribution' by **Friday 26th October** and should be relevant to the publication date.

If you would like to be added to or removed from our **mailing list** please send an e-mail to gillianbaxter@capitalcitypartnership.org with the heading 'CCP e-zine mailing list'.

Please feel free to **comment** on any aspect of the newsletter including any changes that would make the newsletter more accessible.

Please note that the views expressed in this newsletter are not necessarily the views of Capital City Partnership and that we cannot be held responsible for the accuracy of the information published.

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