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Welcome

Welcome to our latest edition of Voluntary Sector News!

We hope you're enjoying the Summer so far. Inside you'll find plenty of information about how we're working with others to support people back into work and provide valuable services to organisations and individuals at this difficult time. You'll find details of our training programme, funding information and news of events and networking events that you might want to tap into.

If you're planning on going to the **Lincolnshire Show 24-25th June**, please come and see us in the Lincolnshire County Council Marquee. We will be exhibiting alongside the other CVS's across the County, to promote volunteering and other aspects of our services.

With the better weather, you might want to consider getting a team together to do some volunteering. We have a wide range of opportunities available in a number of charities and organisations around the City that would suit a group of volunteers. This can be an excellent way of team building and making a difference to a community or a project. Teams can be from as few as 6 people to as many as 20, so if you would like to give this a try, please give us a call on **Tel: 01522 551683**.

You can also contact us if you are an organisation that would like some support. Don't forget that we can recruit volunteers for you for one-off events such as fun days, fundraisers, sports events, etc.

National Make a Difference Day will be happening on 31st October 2009, which is a great opportunity to do some volunteering in your community.



Volunteers Week 2009

Twenty five years of national Volunteers' week went with a bang at VCS Lincoln. We joined in the national theme of 'Recruit, reward and recognise' to celebrate volunteers and volunteering. We have enclosed some snippets of information and some photos, to give you a taster of some of the highlights. In all, we supported 276 volunteers through the events we held, during Volunteers' week and hopefully, inspired many more, through press articles and radio broadcasts!

The Event - (Recognise)

We began proceedings with a Volunteer Oscar event, held at the New Life Centre, on 29th May. 82 people came along for a fun evening of music, trophies and awards. We would like to thank those organisations who nominated volunteers, and particularly to all who volunteered. We launched the new VCS DVD, showcasing a number of volunteering projects in and around Lincoln. This is now available to view on www.youtube.com search 'Voluntary Centre Services Lincolnshire'.



Pub Quiz (Reward)

This annual institution took place on 3rd June, at Ruston Marconi Sports Club and 11 organisations took part. The winners were Lincoln Toy Library, who bagged £150, St Andrew's Hospice and Weirfield Wildlife benefited from second prizes, as did the Contact Club, through a generous donation by the third second-place team – NHS Foundation Trust. In third place, came St Giles Matters. Thanks to all who took part, and everyone who helped write the questions. A huge thanks also to Ed Hollamby of ESH Consultancy, for being our quiz master for the evening. We're already planning for Quiz night 2010!

Volunteers' Fair (Recruit)

We hosted a showcasing event to attract volunteers and we were oversubscribed in terms of organisations wishing to take part. We only had space for 18 organisations, but the event drew in over 90 people. Most stands were kept very busy throughout the morning, signing up volunteers and handing out information.

Volunteer training

We ran First Aid and Confidence building training aimed specifically at volunteers during volunteers week. Volunteers' Week is always an important and busy time for us, but this year has been particularly special. We hope the events you held for Volunteers' Week were equally successful. Maybe you could start thinking about next year and what you could do to celebrate your own local heroes (1-7 June 2010). Keep us posted!

Volunteer Co-ordinator Forums and

We have some exciting networking events coming up, which we would like to draw your attention to:-

23rd June - Volunteers and the law

22nd September – ISA and CRBs

All meetings are currently held from 10.00am – 12.30pm in the Conference Room at The Healthy Hub, and are followed by a light, networking lunch. **Please contact us on 01522 551683, if you are interested in booking a place.**

We will be trying different days for our VCFs from October onwards, as we have had feedback that Tuesdays are not suitable for everybody. We will also be experimenting with some out of hours VCFs for those who struggle to get along to our office-hours meetings. Please keep an eye on our website for further details. One event which we would like to give some advance notice of is the following networking event we are hosting:-

BBC Children in Need Funding Advice Day
Thursday 8th October
VCS Lincoln @ The Healthy Hub

This event is aimed at organisations working with children and young people with an interest in putting in an application to Children in Need. The day is split into two halves. In the morning, there will be overview for organisations giving funding advice to clients, about Children in Need.

During the afternoon, there will be individual surgery sessions for organisations wanting to bid for small amounts of funding, e.g. youth clubs, holiday schemes, sessional staff and equipment.

10-12.30pm – Presentation and updates

1.30-3.30pm – Surgery sessions – you will need to book and appointment to attend

Please book early, as places are limited, or contact us on Tel: 01522 551683 to find out more.

New Volunteering opportunities needed !!!

This is a hugely busy time for volunteering and we would love to hear from you if your organisation has a need for volunteers. You can find a form to complete on our website: www.volunteercentrelincoln.org.uk, or simply give us a call on **01522 551683** to discuss and we will forward a form on to you. We are seeing over 40 volunteers every single month and this is set to increase, so we are looking for some good quality volunteering opportunities: anything from admin, to environmental, people-based to ICT.

It is vital that organisations we already refer volunteers to, get back to those volunteers as quickly as possible. One of the biggest complaints we have from volunteers on our books is that there can be a big delay between our referral letter going out to organisations and those organisations getting in touch to meet with the volunteer. Please remember to act speedily, as volunteer enthusiasm can wane if they do not hear back from you quickly.

Free Bursaries £1000 from the “modernisation fund”

You can get professional help through the Lincolnshire Community Foundation (1092328) to streamline operations, work better with partners, perhaps reduce costs or increase business. You may also qualify for a further £10,000 award.

Third Sector Service Providers:

If you want to develop partnerships or shared services and would benefit from 2 days FREE advice, a feasibility study and a business report, then give me a call.

Consultants & Business Advisors

If you're an innovator with business and charity experience, we'd like to hear from you too.

Next steps:

Give me a call (01529 307749) or email me gordonhunter@email.com. We're planning a workshop in late June or early July. We'll match consultants to opportunities. Then there's a chance of qualifying for further development funding.

What do you get?

There are circa 25 bursaries each worth £1,000 available in the Lincolnshire County Council area. You will get at least 2 days consultancy and a report offering advice and, if the project is feasible, an action plan – this may lead you to the next stage of applying for a development grant. The object is to promote collaboration (including with statutory partners) and streamline your operations, ideally increasing income and reducing costs. Consultants' fees will be paid direct by the Community Foundation.

Consultants:

The Community Foundation will supply a list of approved consultants for you to choose from. They should have business development and 3rd sector experience.

Timetable:

Applications can be submitted (see www.modernisationfund.org.uk) up to 31st July. Decisions will be made by 14th August. You must receive your two days consultancy by 30th September 2009.

Size of Organisation:

Your turnover should be between £150,000 and £750,000 (we need two years' accounts as proof).

Type of Organisation:

You should be involved in one of the following: mental health, substance abuse, domestic violence, family support, homelessness, community cohesion, alleviating poverty, community safety, victim support, advice (eg debt, housing, legal), employability, training.

Gordon Hunter, (Director)

Lincolnshire Community Foundation, Carre Street, Sleaford, NG34 7TW

www.lincolnshirecf.co.uk

Funding Information

EAST MIDLANDS REGION ESF COMMUNITY GRANTS

The East Midlands ESF Community Grants programme, designed to assist small not-for-profit groups based in and run by people from the community they support, has opened to applications. A range of skills and employment activities can be funded, to enable people from the hardest to reach communities, experiencing multiple disadvantages, to make progress towards the labour market. The maximum grant is £10,000 (with an expected average value for a grant being £5,870). Supported projects will provide local groups with the opportunity to undertake activities that help engage and progress disadvantaged individuals in positive community work. Projects that help to develop confidence and skills may include aspects of the following; Volunteering and work experience opportunities; Non-accredited first steps learning; Tasters to encourage the take-up of learning; Basic help with skills for life; Job search support.; Mentoring; Advice on project eligibility; help with application development and the submission of applications is available on a one-to-one basis. Applicants are advised to contact their local ESF Development Worker to ensure maximum support can be provided. The next deadline for applications is the 16th October 2009. Local contact details are listed on the funding provider's website. **For Lincolnshire & Rutland contact: CG Partnership Tel: 01673 843489**



<http://cgpartnership.com/2009/02/16/community-grants/>

FUTURE JOBS FUND OPENS FOR APPLICATIONS

The Department for Works and Pensions (DWP) has announced that the Future Jobs Fund is now open for applications. The £1Billion Future Jobs Fund is one of the measures announced by the Chancellor in his budget and will aim to create 150,000 new jobs between October 2009 and April 2011. The jobs created through the Future Jobs Fund will be paid at least at National Minimum Wage and will be targeted primarily at 18-24 year olds, but some funding will also be available for other disadvantaged groups and unemployment hotspots. Applications can come from anyone, but the DWP has a strong preference for partnership bids and encourage all bidders to demonstrate that key partners within the area have been involved in developing the proposals. The total maximum contribution available through the Future Jobs Fund is £6,500 per job created for 18 -24 year olds approaching 12 months of unemployment, or people in areas of high unemployment. The DWP expect the majority of bids to the Fund to be led by local authorities, sub-regional, city region and local partnerships, or by national or local public sector and third sector bodies. Bids will need to be in line with existing locally agreed work and skills strategies and show that they do not replicate or replace existing jobs. Other large organisations such as social enterprises and voluntary sector bodies will be able to bid as long as their proposals meet the criteria set out during the bidding process. Any bids from national organisations should indicate the geographical areas in which they are seeking to create jobs. **Applications can be submitted at any time. Bids are assessed on a rolling basis.** All bids submitted by 30 June 2009 will be considered for the first allocations of funding to enable the first jobs to begin in October or earlier. **If you intend to recruit your first employee in January then submit the bid by the end of September.** DWP will aim to notify bidders within 5 weeks of submitting a bid whether or not their bid was successful.



<http://www.dwp.gov.uk/campaigns/futurejobsfund/>

EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION GRANTS

The European Youth Foundation is an independent, international, non-governmental organisation dedicated to the positive development of children and young people throughout the world. To support its objectives the Foundation makes grants to international not for profit youth organisations and networks. The types of activities supported include international youth meetings, the development of projects that benefit young people and help towards the administrative costs of eligible organisations and networks. In addition the Foundation also funds a range of pilot projects. The next application deadline is the 1st October 2009.



<http://www.eycb.coe.int/EYCBwwwroot/index.asp?language=eng&url=/EYCBwwwroot/ENG/EYF.asp>



£1 MILLION PACKAGE TO SUPPORT PEAK DISTRICT BUSINESSES AND COMMUNITIES

The East Midlands Development Agency (emda), the Peak District National Park Authority and the Derby and Derbyshire Economic Partnership (DDEP) have launched the 'Live & Work Rural' programme. This is a three year scheme worth £1,253 million that aims to help businesses create new jobs and safeguard existing ones and enable communities to carry out projects to benefit local residents. The 'Live & Work Rural' programme aims to offer advice to anyone who has a business idea or is thinking of setting up a rural company that uses the Peak district environment as an asset with the aim of: Creating new jobs ; Work with existing companies to help them get grants from local and regional funding bodies; Give companies advice about how they could use the Peak District environment to develop busines; Help business reduce their carbon footprint. Live & Work will also work with Peak District communities to enable them to: Develop plans to tackle community issues; Encourage local people to use their skills for the benefit of the community and help strengthen community groups or initiatives; Help find funding to enable communities to deliver their projects. <http://www.emda.org.uk/news/newsreturn.asp?fileno=3605>

SPORT ENGLAND LAUNCHES NEW INNOVATION FUND

Sport England has announced that its new Innovation Fund is now open for applications. The overall aim of this £5 million grants programme is to invest in new ideas which will reach a whole new audience, and provide better, more exciting sports opportunities to a wider range of people, some of whom, perhaps, think that sport is not for them. Grants of between £10,000 and £500,000 will be available to sports clubs, voluntary or community organisations, local authorities, education establishments (such as schools, colleges and universities) and national governing bodies of sport. Grants will be awarded to small-scale but groundbreaking innovative projects that have the ability to become the scaled-up, widespread activities that deliver high quality community sport in future years. Sport England are looking to support between 10 and 20 projects and there is a two stage application process. The closing date for stage 1 of the application process is 5 pm on the 10th August and applicants will be notified of the outcome in October 2009.

http://funding.sportengland.org/funding_programmes/innovation_fund1.aspx

SECRET MILLIONAIRE FUND OPENS FOR BUSINESS (UK)

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and Channel 4's TV programme, The Secret Millionaire have teamed up to give viewers of the programme a chance to act on the charitable inspiration fuelled by the show. Lottery funding worth £1 million has been made available for people to apply for, or nominate projects to apply for grants of between £300 and £10,000 (£5,000 in Wales) from the Secret Millionaire Fund. Viewers can propose a community project or organisation that they think would benefit from BIG funding. BIG will then contact the organisation to see if it is eligible to apply for this small grants scheme and send out the relevant information. Alternatively if viewers have an idea for a project that can bring real improvements to the lives of communities, and can pass a simple eligibility test they can apply to Secret Millionaire Fund. In both cases the same eligibility criteria as Big Lottery Fund Awards for All programme apply and Lottery grants are awarded following an application and assessment process which takes up to 8 weeks. The Fund will be open until the 21st December 2009 but applications can be submitted at any time up to this date..

http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund_info.shtml



E.ON SUSTAINABLE ENERGY FUND

The E.ON Fund which supports community energy projects has changed its name from the E.ON SOURCE Fund to the E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund.

The Fund supports projects which either result in the production of energy from a sustainable source or which reduce the amount of energy used by a community organisation. Community groups, charities and not-for-profit organisations that benefit young people, elderly people or people in fuel poverty can apply for grants of up to £20,000 (for up to 90% of costs) to implement sustainable energy projects in community buildings. Joint proposals, for example with local authorities, will be considered although the community organisation must lead the application. To be eligible projects must: result in the creation of renewable energy and/or a reduction in the amount of energy used; have a positive impact on the local community; have a measurable positive impact on the local environment which will most likely be demonstrated through carbon savings; be used for purchase and implementation of capital equipment, physical measures and associated costs; involve and/or have consent from their local community; be sustainable beyond the support of the Fund; and be completed within 12 months of a grant being awarded. The next deadline for this applications is the 16th October 2009. <http://www.eon-uk.com/about/2654.aspx>

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VCS Lincoln Training

When?	Training Programme
<p>Tuesday 8th September 09</p> <p>10.00 -1.00pm</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>Managing your Money with CAB</p> <p>This short, practical course will cover – how to complete a basic budget, ways of increasing your income, how to make good credit choices (e.g. different types of borrowing and the costs of borrowing) and how to choose and use a bank account. This course will be useful for you if you need general information about how to get control of the money you have and how to budget for day to day items, and more expensive items. It will help you to feel in control of your money.</p>
<p>Tuesday 15th September 09</p> <p>10.00 – 1.00pm</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>Dealing with Debt with CAB</p> <p>This short, practical course will cover – the most common reasons for unpaid bills and debts, what can happen when you don't pay bills, how to prioritise bills and where to go for further help. This course will be useful for you if you need general information about dealing with the debts you already have, and deciding which debts are most important. It will help you get back control of your money if you feel you are struggling.</p>
<p>Wednesday 23rd September 09</p> <p>10.00 – 12.00pm</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>Introduction to Volunteer Management with Dianne Slapp VCS Lincoln</p> <p>If you are considering taking on volunteers, this could be the course for you! During the session you will be taken through the essentials of working with volunteers and find out all you need to know to get started. There will be plenty of information, hints, tips and advice. Come prepared to share your experiences</p>
<p>Thursday 1st October 09</p> <p>10.00 -1.00pm</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>Being more Assertive with Margaret Nicol</p> <p>Wanting to feel better about yourself and have more confidence in your own abilities? This short, practical course will equip you with some essential techniques for becoming more assertive in your dealings with others.</p>
<p>Thursday 8th October 09</p> <p>10.00 -1.00pm</p> <p>FREE</p>	<p>BBC Children in Need Funding Advice Day with Kathryn Kendall</p> <p>This event is aimed at organisations working with children and young people, who are interested in putting in an application to the Children in Need fund. The presentation in the morning will provide an overview to bodies who give advice on funding rather than to individual applicants. The afternoon surgeries are for organisations wanting to bid for small amounts of funding, e.g. for youth clubs, holiday schemes, sessional staff and equipment. Please book early, as places are limited.</p>

When?	Winter Training Programme
Thursday 15 th October 09 9:30 -1.00pm FREE	<p>Get Yourself Organised with <i>Ed Hollamby: ESH Consultancy</i></p> <p>If you find yourself struggling to fit everything life throws at you to the 168 hours each week, spending a couple of hours on this course might help make better use of the other 165! Put it in your diaries now so as not to miss this helpful workshop on how to manage your time more effectively.</p>
Tuesday 20 th October 09 9:30- 4.30pm Lunch Provided FREE	<p>Management Committees with <i>Dianne Slapp & Helen Sutton</i></p> <p>Course Details: Find out more about the roles, responsibilities and skills needed for being part of a management committee. This course will be ideal for those who are new to management committees, or those who would like a refresher on good practice.</p>
Tuesday 27 th October 09 10.00 - 4.00pm Lunch Provided FREE	<p>Recruiting Volunteers</p> <p>Volunteers are essential to many organisations and bring valuable skills and experience with them. This course offers hints and tips on how to attract and recruit volunteers for your project, including: advertising, role descriptions, and incentives. Come and find out how to make your volunteering opportunities more appealing to volunteers.</p>
Wednesday 11 th November 09 10.00 –1.00pm FREE	<p>Change Management with <i>Ed Hollamby: ESH Consultancy</i></p> <p>It has been said that the only constant is change. Within the voluntary and community sector, the way we manage and facilitate change is hugely important, given how the sector is affected by so many internal and external factors. This workshop looks at how people within your organisation are likely to change and share best practice to involve others and minimise difficulties.</p>

All the courses are being held at The Healthy Hub, Beaumont Fee, Lincoln LN1 1UW (the building previously known as The Voluntary Sector Hub).

Places are limited and will be allocated on a strictly first come, first served basis. To book places, or for more information, please contact VCS – Lincoln on Tel: 01522 551683.

ETN Training Events

GETTING LOCAL PEOPLE ACTIVE AND INVOLVED

Doncaster

July 8 2009

How can we genuinely involve local people in our work? How can we make sure people have a good time and want to do more? How can we make sure their involvement works for us too? This interactive and very popular event will provide you with methods for increasing the involvement of local people in environmental projects. Using lessons from our own work, the day begins by looking at what encourages people to get involved and ends by designing involvement opportunities in your own projects and activities. The event will be of interest to staff working in environmental and countryside situations who work with communities as part of their job, including community forest staff, rangers, rights of way and access staff, project managers, field and project officers, woodland officers, rural community councils and local authority staff. It is also suitable for volunteers and members of voluntary groups who want to increase their membership. It will be most suitable for people at project officer level who have some experience, but those new in post who would like to gain insight and ideas for working with communities will find plenty to inspire them.

GREENING YOUR WORKFORCE

Doncaster

July 14 2009

Do you want to encourage and motivate your employees to save energy and reduce waste at work? Are you interested in establishing a network of effective Environmental Champions in the workplace? Then this workshop is for you! The TUC states that UK workplaces generate over 66 million tonnes of carbon emissions each year from the energy and resources they consume but waste on average 30% of the energy they buy! Here's your chance to do something about it. This event will look at identifying the barriers to attitude and behavioural change at work, identify the hooks that will motivate employees to take action in the workplace and demonstrate a range of work based strategies that can achieve energy and waste savings. The event is aimed at those responsible for encouraging environmental good practice in the workplace. You may be within a local authority, community business or voluntary organisation. You also may be working for an organisation keen to encourage employees of local businesses to take action and become more environmentally aware.

INTRODUCTION TO FUNDRAISING

Birmingham

September 10 2009

Are you new to fundraising? Or do you need to take a fresh look at your fundraising practices? This event is essential to give you a sound introduction to the principles of fundraising from statutory and non-statutory sources, the tools for understanding key donors, and what you need to develop a successful fundraising strategy. The event will be suitable for beginners and anyone involved in fundraising as part of their role. It provides an excellent grounding before attending our ever popular 'Preparing effective funding applications' held on 5 November 2009 event by the same trainer.

INTRODUCTION TO MANAGEMENT

York

September 14 - 15 September 2009

This popular 2-day (non-residential) event is designed for anyone who is new to management, is thinking of becoming a manager, or who has been carrying out a management role without having had the benefit of any formal management preparation or training. It is at an introductory level and does not assume any prior management training or experience. The event covers what management is about, different management styles, managing change, overcoming common management problems, and skills in managing people, including supervision and delegation.

For further information on other courses available please contact them on 0121 359 2113 or Email: ETN@btcv.org.uk . You can also book online or request further details via the BTCV online shop - see <http://shop.btcv.org.uk/etn>, or visit www.btcv.org/shop

Involving Lincs

Involving Lincs is a way of bringing together organisations who deliver support services to other third sector groups, organisations and social enterprises.

These services include support to: develop volunteering opportunities or recruit volunteers; develop the governance structure of the group; increase access to funds and grants; network with other groups or represent third sector opinion; develop the business plan for the organisation; provide office accommodation or other practical help – and so much more. These support services are often termed Capacity Building Services or Infrastructure Services.



The aim of Involving Lincs is to provide a County consortium supporting co-operation between voluntary and Community sector organisations providing infrastructure that supports the voluntary and community sector in Lincolnshire

The Involving Lincs mission is the 'Facilitation of infrastructure services and third sector voice in Lincolnshire'. This is being achieved by co-ordinating the delivery work of the Involving Lincs members and not by creating a new 'super-organisation'.

What does Involving Lincs actually do?



- **Provides the opportunity** – for joint delivery of services e.g. joint funding bids, joint training delivery; co-ordinated delivery of volunteering opportunities; joint research on needs, and outcomes.
- **Provides a Forum** – for sharing information through the use and development of its website, e bulletins, shared press releases, e networks etc.
- **Creates a stronger third sector voice** - through the development of positive links with other groups and organisations e.g. the large VCS CEO group, the emerging Single Equalities Council, Funding organizations, the Lincolnshire Community Cohesion partnership etc.
- **Acts as a route** - for third sector involvement in strategic developments by passing on requests for representation to members and their wider networks, e.g the LAA, the LCCP and the emerging Third Sector Strategy research.

• **Records the success** - of the sector both in relation to individual organizations and wider partnerships. By bringing this information together and encouraging Third sector groups to share their information, partners develop a wider understanding of the role, function and value of the Third Sector.

Urban Challenge is a member of Involving Lincs and we deliver support services across West Lincolnshire through our three area based offices: VCS Lincoln, VCS North Kesteven and VCS West Lindsey. Urban Challenge still has its independence, but through working with other members of Involving Lincs, we have been able to access additional funds to deliver our work and feel that we are now part of a bigger picture for the development of the third sector in Lincolnshire”.

Membership is open to all groups and organisations from the third sector, and to stakeholders for other sectors who are interested in supporting the growth and sustainability of the third sector.

For a membership pack email enquiry@southlincscvs.org.uk or for a chat or query, phone Helen Kearsley-Cree on 01522 873454.



East Midlands Empowerment Partnership

What's it all about? The East Midlands Empowerment Partnership has been set up to improve the quality, co-ordination and evidence of empowerment in the region. Launched in December 2008, the East Midlands Empowerment Partnership has grown out of the new government White Paper 'Communities in Control, Real People, Real Power'. Across the UK there are 9 Regional partnerships and together they are part of the National Empowerment Partnership. These initiatives seek to increase the number of people, particularly in disadvantaged areas, who participate in public issues, contribute to the improvement of public services, and help to shape the future of their local communities.

What will happen in the East Midlands?

We have an inclusive mission to:

- Improve and increase empowerment activities across our region
- Co-ordinate dialogue between the public sector, third sector agencies and grassroots organisations
- Identify evidence of what works as key to underpinning policy for public service delivery within national, regional and local government

We do NOT act as a delivery body for empowerment. And we're certainly NOT here to tell you what to do. Our aim is to set up a framework to enable the public sector, third sector and communities at a regional and local level to **share and maximise existing skills, expertise, knowledge and networks**. We want to bring added value to the many activities already taking place in the East Midlands, and find ways to measure and encourage effective empowerment of local citizens in public services. Over the coming months we will be creating a series of printed and online resources together with workshops and networking events.

Who's already involved in our region?

Some agencies are already involved in the Partnership, for example GOEM, East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership (EM IEP), EMDA, Community Matters, East Midlands ACRE Network, TANC, Young Advisors, Lincoln University and various social enterprises. However, the partnership is still in its infancy. Leicester North West Community Forum is the lead and 'Accountable' body for the Partnership. We are a small, resident run, not for profit organisation with a vision. *'Leicester North West Community Forum is committed to the creation of a Partnership that harnesses, and supports, the potential that exists across the region within the people, and organisations, who have a passion to empower others and their community to bring about positive change.'* Kath Taylor, Local Resident and Chair of Leicester North West community Forum.

How can I get involved?

We have created 6 options for you (or your organisation) to get involved in the Partnership depending on your interest area.

- Young people's empowerment in the East Midlands
- Rural empowerment in the East Midlands
- Neighbourhood empowerment in the East Midlands
- Asset Management empowerment in the East Midlands
- Special Interest empowerment in the East Midlands
- Social enterprise empowerment in the East Midlands

For more information contact us at Leicester North West Community Forum.

Aruna Bhagwan: aruna.bhagwan@alchemyhouse.co.uk and
Helen Whitney: helen.whitney@alchemyhouse.co.uk
 Tel: 0116 229 3204

Leicester North West Community Forum
 Alchemy House
 90-92 Bishopdale Road
 Beaumont Leys
 Leicester
 LE4 0SR



How could policing be improved in your community?



Have your say by becoming a member of the Independent Advisory Group for Lincolnshire Police's West Division.

The Independent Advisory Group (IAG) is a diverse group of volunteers who meet with police officers every 2-3 months to discuss policing issues and influence the service provided by the police. Group members provide advice to the police to help them monitor and improve their work with the diverse communities of Lincolnshire, with particular emphasis on dealing with hate crime; advising on critical incidents and advising on policies, procedures and training.

The group is community-led and independent of the police, and has a key role in working to improve trust and confidence in the police, particularly amongst minority communities. The West Division IAG has recently re-launched covering three districts. The group would like to welcome new members who live or work in West Lindsey, North Kesteven or the city of Lincoln.

Group members need to be able to work as part of team, listen to the views of others as well as express their own, challenge the views of others in a constructive way, consider their own prejudices and act with integrity, fairness and respect. Occasional training opportunities may be available for IAG members to learn more about how the police and other aspects of the criminal justice system operate. Meetings are held at venues and times as agreed by group members. If you'd like to contribute but meetings aren't your thing, the group would still be interested to hear from you.

If you want to know more, please contact Caty Collier at VCS NK on 01529 308450 or email caty@volunteercentrenk.org.uk.



Workplaces!!!

Does the interview process always give you the right person for the job?

Want to try a candidate out before offering them employment?

We can help you through our Workplaces project.

The aim of *Workplaces* is to assist people into employment by offering them a short but productive and beneficial work experience opportunity with a view to achieving sustained employment. Workplaces is available throughout the East Midlands region.

Employer benefits:

- The chance to try out a prospective employee free of charge for 2 weeks, giving you the opportunity to 'try before you buy' with no commitment
- No recruitment agency fees
- Very little paperwork involved
- Funding towards supported work experience during the first 2 weeks
- Free introduction to pre-screened job-ready candidates without the need for advertising
- Free publicity
- Instant free online advertising of work experience opportunities through our website
- Easy to access employer webpage assisting you to create a suitable job profile
- A thorough work experience matching service
- Continued support from experienced business advisors during the initial 2 weeks
- Signposting to other organisations able to offer long term funded training programmes



Want to find out more? **Call Lucy or Sue at Apricot on tel: 0845 2012595 or visit their website on www.apricotmanagement.co.uk/stdTemplate.aspx/home/Workplaces**

