

# eNews



Yorkshire & Humber Regional Forum  
Updating you on our work

**The Regional Forum is the strategic organisation for the voluntary and community sector in Yorkshire and the Humber. We are a member led organisation with over 165 members. We bring together voluntary and community sector organisations to ensure that there is a coherent voice at a regional level and that the sector has the right support and structures to contribute to regional activity.**

## Footsey Latest

**FOOTSEY 2007**  
18th October  
York Racecourse



Footsey 2007 - the UK's foremost Social Economy Trade Fair is only 5 weeks away! Exhibitor numbers are on track to exceed the target of 100 stalls, and delegate numbers have already reached 200 and are rising rapidly. We are excited this year that there is a significant increase in delegates from Local Authorities and other service commissioners. If you haven't already booked a place we urge you to do so soon. Full booking details are on the Footsey website at <http://www.footsey.org.uk/>

Hot off the press, Government Office has just confirmed that the Regional Director (Felicity Everiss) will be formally launching the Yorkshire and the Humber Regional Compact at the event. We are also hoping that other public signatories will be present at the ceremony.

Finally, this is your last chance to enter the Footsey version of "Dragons' Den", with a chance to win an investment of £15,000 from the Adventure Capital Fund for a new enterprise idea. The deadline has been extended to w/c 17th September. To receive an application form by email, all you have to do is tick the box when completing your delegate booking form <http://www.footsey.org.uk/book/index>.

**See you there**



## The West Yorkshire Enterprise Partnership

The Regional Forum is working closely with the West Yorkshire Enterprise Partnership to develop links and information about business support for third sector organisations (TSOs) in West Yorkshire.

The work will be available in a directory format. It will provide basic information about services offered by each publicly funded business support agency, help TSOs access the most appropriate support, and strengthen networks and collaboration between agencies in the sector.

Ultimately it will help staff within organisations understand what other support is already available, with a view to ensuring that services are not duplicated unnecessarily.

Further information about The West Yorkshire Enterprise Partnership can be found at <http://www.wyep.co.uk/> or you can contact the Programme Manager Tim Foggin on: 07944 180740  
email [tim.foggin@blwy.co.uk](mailto:tim.foggin@blwy.co.uk)

## Annual Members' Survey

As a regional membership organisation it is important for the Regional Forum to hear the views of our members. We value your comments and feedback and we endeavour to respond appropriately to your requests or suggestions.

The Annual Members' Survey is a valuable way for us to assess how well we are doing and to look at opportunities for developing new services.

The 2007 survey is now underway and is available for members to complete online or in a paper form.

This year's survey covers the following areas:

- \* Communications
- \* Conferences & Events
- \* Customer Care
- \* Membership
- \* Policy development

The online survey is available at the following link:

<http://tinyurl.com/32jyhk>

To request a paper copy or a WORD copy of the survey, please call Andrew Scott on 0113 394 2300 or email: [andrew.scott@regionalforum.org.uk](mailto:andrew.scott@regionalforum.org.uk)

You can also contact Andrew if you have any queries with the online survey.

All responses need to be submitted by Wednesday 31st October 2007.

### Thought for the month.....

"Once the game is over the king and pawn go back into the same box"

(Anon)

## Events

**3rd October - Targeted Youth Support: Emerging Practice**, Leeds City Hilton Hotel  
A major regional conference in support of the Youth Matters Next Steps Targeted Youth Support agenda.

**4th October - Shelter Regional Homeless Prevention Conference**, Leeds Town Hall  
This conferences is designed for local and regional decision makers in housing and homelessness.

**22nd October - Networking event for the heritage sector in Yorkshire and Humberside**, The Merchant Taylors' Hall, Aldwark, York  
For everyone interested in heritage in Yorkshire and Humberside.

**29th October - Northern Regeneration Summit 2007**, Manchester  
The third annual Northern Regeneration Summit takes a 360-degree view of the North's economic, physical and social progress.

Visit our website for more information and contact details: <http://www.regionalforum.org.uk>

## Membership Renewals

The Forum provides members with opportunities for networking and encourages the sharing of good practice in the region. The information service keeps members up-to-date with regional and national developments, which have an impact on their organisations. Our membership covers the whole of the Yorkshire and Humber region.

Membership renewal is due for the new membership year 2007/08 in November 2007. The process starts in September and members will receive membership renewal forms in the post. The forms will be sent to the main contact at the member organisation. A second reminder will be sent in October by email.

New for 2007

We are currently developing a new online membership renewal facility and we will provide you with more information once this is up and running.

## European Social Fund (ESF) 2007-2013 Programme - PQQ Launch

This is crucial news for any organisation wanting to tender (on their own or as part of a consortium) for work from the new ESF programme or from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC).

### Background

National LSC Office has agreed that all LSC co financed activity in the 2007-2013 ESF programme will be procured through the Bravo e-procurement system. Procurement will follow a two stage process:

- 1 PQQ (Pre Qualification Questionnaire) this should be submitted via the Bravo Solutions portal on the LSC website between 31<sup>st</sup> August and 28<sup>th</sup> September. Providers can apply using the following link: [www.lsc.bravosolution.com/web/login.shtml](http://www.lsc.bravosolution.com/web/login.shtml)
- 2 ITT (Invitation to Tender) 12<sup>th</sup> November – 7<sup>th</sup> December

### Key points and issues

Applicants who want to apply for ESF and who completed PQQs for the LSC procurement exercise earlier in the year will be asked to complete some additional questions related to ESF.

Providers who do not submit a PQQ or who are unsuccessful and will not be invited to tender will have the opportunity to apply/reapply in Spring 2008.

Details of the launch of the new programme in Spring 2008 will be published in the national press including the Times Educational Supplement, The Guardian, and the Official Journal of the European Union.

Voluntary and community organisations which are interested in becoming part of an existing learning provider's consortium should contact their VCS sub-regional learning and skills organisation for information and support:

West Yorkshire Learning Consortium – tel 0113 2453143  
Humberside Learning Consortium – tel 01482 327438  
North Yorkshire Learning Consortium (c/o ACVO) – tel 01904 628682  
VC Train in South Yorkshire – tel 01709 518800

## A Regional Community Transport Network

The Regional Forum has been instrumental in setting up regional networks around a number of themes over the last 18 months and we would like to know if there is any interest from voluntary and community organisations in the region in forming a Regional Community Transport Network. The aim would be to have a network of organisations that would be able to:

- \* Share good practice around subjects such as systems and technical information.
- \* Develop community transport infrastructure support such as pooled resources, policies and practices.
- \* Engage with mainstream transport providers and regional strategic transport partnerships.
- \* Have an open forum for community transport providers and possibly run an annual conference.

If you are interested please contact Mark Crowe at the Regional Forum on 0113 394 2300 or email [mark.crowe@regionalforum.org.uk](mailto:mark.crowe@regionalforum.org.uk)

## Regional Infrastructure Consortium

The new Regional Consortium for Yorkshire and the Humber (RIC) is the third sector infrastructure consortium for the Yorkshire and Humber region. The RIC will operate at the regional level to:

- \* develop and enhance the quality and reach of regionwide infrastructure;
- \* allocate resources to meet infrastructure development priorities;
- \* develop opportunities for joint and co-ordinated working across the region;
- \* feed into strategic regional structures.

The RIC is an informal network with open membership for all regionwide third sector infrastructure organisations working in Yorkshire and the Humber. Members should work in at least 3 of the 4 sub-regions in Yorkshire and the Humber and their primary focus should be the provision of support to other third sector organisations (TSOs).

Membership of the group will include:

- § regional thematic networks
- § regional providers of infrastructure support
- § national voluntary and community sector organisations with a regional support role

If you think you should be a member of the Consortium, would like to join, or have a query then please contact Ruth Beattie on 0113 394 2300 or email [ruth.beattie@regionalforum.org.uk](mailto:ruth.beattie@regionalforum.org.uk)

## Changes at bassac

bassac - the national network of community based organisations tackling poverty, exclusion and discrimination - has a new Yorkshire & Humber regional manager.

Tatum Yip will work across the region from her base in the Regional Forum office.

For more information about the work of bassac contact Tatum on 0113 394 2300 or email [tatum@bassac.org.uk](mailto:tatum@bassac.org.uk)



## Influence the regional agenda on disability

The Regional Forum is carrying out a survey to gather information from organisations and groups working around disability in Yorkshire and the Humber. We are keen to get as much information as possible to find out the issues and needs facing disability organisations and to identify the purpose of a possible network.

The survey is accessible through the front page of the Regional Forum website at: <http://www.regionalforum.org.uk/> and should be completed by Friday 26th October. The results of this survey will be collated and analysed by a regional disability network steering group when they are discussing possible priorities and future actions for a network.

If you have any questions about the development of a disability network for Yorkshire and the Humber or to take part in the research: Contact Ruth Beattie on 0113 394 2300 or email [ruth.beattie@regionalforum.org.uk](mailto:ruth.beattie@regionalforum.org.uk)

## Regional Forum Staff Changes

The Regional Forum welcomed three new members of staff recently: Andrew Scott joins as Information & Communications Assistant, Matilda Korovesi is our new Administrative Secretary and Amanda Vickers joins us as Development Officer for Workforce & Skills.

Gopal Lama has begun a secondment to the regional Refugees' agencies organisation JANTELA based in Wakefield. We also bid farewell to Lesley Wood. Lesley is still working in the sector as a freelance consultant and all of the staff wish her well in her future venture.

Yorkshire & the Humber Regional Forum  
Suite D10, Joseph's Well  
Hanover Walk  
LEEDS  
LS3 1AB

0113 394 2300  
<http://www.regionalforum.org.uk>