

eNews

1997 - 2007

regionalforum 

*a decade as the voice of the
voluntary and community sector*

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 leading trade fair for the social economy, is less than 1 week away!

The event, which takes place at York Racecourse, is already full for exhibitors. Delegate bookings are brisk and we are confident that we will exceed last year's record numbers - so please book now if you wish to attend this year.

The Dragon's Den competition, which offers social enterprises £15,000 to develop new enterprise ideas, attracted nearly 30 applications. The four finalists have now been selected and they will have their chance to make a pitch to win the development grant in front of a live audience at Footsey.

To book a delegate place, or to find out more about the event, please visit <http://www.footsey.org.uk>

Influence the development of a regional disability network

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

The survey can be accessed through the front page of the Regional Forum website at: www.regionalforum.org.uk and you have until Friday 26th October to complete it. The results of the survey will be collated and analysed by a regional disability network steering group when they are discussing possible priorities and future actions for such a network.

If you have any questions, or would like to contribute to the development of a regional disability network for Yorkshire and the Humber, contact Ruth Beattie on 0113 394 2300 or email: ruth.beattie@regionalforum.org.uk

Regional Forum AGM & 10th Birthday

You are invited to join the Regional Forum for its AGM and a Drinks Reception on Thursday 29th November 2007 at the St George's Centre, Leeds. Felicity Everiss, Director of Government Office for Yorkshire and The Humber will speak about the regional agenda 10 years on and Martin Wainwright, Northern Editor of The Guardian, will look at whether voluntary action is part of the "Northern Spirit".

3.30 pm Forum Members' AGM
4.00 - 5.30 pm Drinks Reception

Formal invitations will be sent out soon.

Regional Community Panel

The Yorkshire and Humber Regional Empowerment Partnership is the regional consortium of the National Empowerment Partnership (NEP). The main purpose of the NEP is to improve community empowerment and engagement by showing where they are taking place, how well they are working, what makes them work well, and disseminating and applying those lessons widely.

The Regional Empowerment Partnership is being led by Communities & Organisations: Growth & Support (COGS) and the Regional Forum is a consortium member.

Central to the Regional Empowerment Partnership is the establishment of a Regional Community Panel. The panel will bring community voices to the heart of a strategic regional programme.

The Community Panel will bring together people who are active at neighbourhood/community level around the issues of local and community voice, democracy and the themes of:

- Active citizens
- Strengthened communities
- Partnership with public bodies

Some may be paid workers, but most will be residents who are already active in an unpaid capacity. This way the panel will be able to draw on a broad range of existing knowledge, skills and experience.

Applications are now being sought in our region for up to 20 places on the panel.

Members of the panel will contribute community perceptions of what works, what are the barriers and start the development of a community auditing mechanism.

The closing date for applications is 6th November 2007.

All queries relating to this process should be addressed to COGS on tel: 0114 255 4747, or e-mail: mail@cogs.solis.co.uk

Regional Economic Strategy - Response

A big thank you to all of you who responded at short notice to the Forum's request for information on projects in the region that provide routes to employment and help build sector capacity to deliver mainstream services.

We received details of over 140 projects.

You can download the full response from our website along with other recently posted documents including a response to the Communities & Local Government Third Sector Strategy and a guide to Regional Voluntary and Community Sector Networks in England.

Visit

http://www.regionalforum.org.uk/publications_resources/

to access all the Forum's online publications and resources.

bassac Yorkshire and Humber Network meeting in Todmorden

On 2nd October, bassac's Yorkshire and Humber members gathered at the Acorn Centre in Todmorden on the Yorkshire and Lancashire border. bassac's new regional manager, Tatum Yip, chaired a meeting about the next steps for the network.

Members shared experiences of community asset transfer and discussed current national initiatives such as the Community Alliance programme and the role of Community Anchors.

After the meeting, members enjoyed a tour round the centre and homemade lunch provided by the Acorn Centre's community café.

Thought for the month.....

"Why do you take by force what you could obtain by love?"

(Powhatan - American First Nation)



Great North Run

Congratulations to Caroline Savage, Regional Forum Information & Communications Officer, and her husband Adrian on completing the Great North Run held on Tyneside at the end of September.

Caroline finished 31029th in a time of 2hrs 44 mins and has so far raised over £600 for Cancer Research. A big thank you to everyone who sponsored her run. Having enjoyed the race so much Caroline has already signed up to take part next year.

Partnerships for the Future

The West Yorkshire Local Development Agencies Partnership (WYLDA) is working to develop effective partnerships between the voluntary and community sector, public sector agencies and funders in the region.

To support this WYLDA is organising an all partner event to:

- Increase mutual knowledge and understanding between the voluntary and community sector and public agencies;
- Explore future ways of working;
- Agree a collective mechanism for on-going dialogue and joint planning.

The event on Wednesday 20th February 2008 is intended for any public sector/strategic agencies or funders wishing to develop stronger links with the voluntary and community sector in West Yorkshire.

Contact Emma Jones on 0113 262 2789 for further information.

Events

25th October - Get involved in socio-economic research projects, Leeds
Yorkshire Forward is working with Beta Technology to deliver a regional event to raise awareness of socio-economic research funding opportunities.

14th November - CDX Regional Event, Leeds
Engage with and discuss the opportunities and challenges presented by the Community Development Challenge report.

15th November - Sustainable Development Board Advisory Group Event, Leeds
Learn about sustainable consumption and production, environmental limits and knowledge and skills required for sustainable construction.

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

Annual Members' Survey

Thank you to all those who have already responded. There is still time to submit the 2007 Annual Members' Survey. Click on the the link below to complete the survey online:

<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

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

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