



# Grapevine

ISSUE 44

Summer 2010

**THE NEWS-SHEET OF THE ESSEX COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES**



Welcome to the summer edition of Grapevine; I hope you are all looking forward to your summer holidays or your forthcoming camps and expeditions.

Our Spotlight this issue falls on 'community transport'; Do have a look and contact them they may be able to help you with your transport needs as they have mini buses that are standing idle most evenings and weekends.



As I am sure the majority of you will know, all training that had been delivered by ECC free of charge to the voluntary sector in Essex will from September no longer be free.....

### **ECVYS training needs and skills audit (attached to this edition of Grapevine)**

What ECVYS needs to do is to ascertain what your training needs are and then see if we can find funding to ensure that you all still have access to the generic training you need and also to 'professional accredited training'.

We have therefore compiled a survey which is for **everyone** in the Voluntary and Community Sector in Essex who works with children and young people, to find out what skills and knowledge there already are, and to identify gaps in training. (*You can also fill this in if you work in Southend and Thurrock and we will try to support you also*).

In addition to this attachment I am also sending you a generic training form to complete for your organisation's needs so that ECVYS can gauge which courses we need to deliver to ensure your organisation is up to date with CAF, Child Protection, etc.,

Please (where possible) get everyone in your organisation to complete this survey, as it only takes 10 minutes to complete, and spread the word to other organisations.

### **Vetting and Barring Scheme arrangements**

The Criminal Records Bureau has published a briefing, *Guidance on Safeguarding arrangements during the Scheme review period*. Whilst final requirements on individuals to register with the Scheme will depend on the outcome of the review, it is important to note that the requirements introduced by the first phase of the Vetting and Barring Scheme in October 2009 will remain in place.

<http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/pdf/VBS%20Interim%20guidance.pdf>

The Criminal Records Bureau has published guidance on the application process.

[http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/faqs/interim\\_application\\_process.aspx](http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/faqs/interim_application_process.aspx)

Have a good summer!

**Brenda**

[ct.commissioning@essex.gov.uk](mailto:ct.commissioning@essex.gov.uk)

This is the email address to use if you have any questions, concerns, queries regarding the Children's Trust Commissioning in Essex

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Cluster Meetings** Listed below are the dates for the next ECVYS and the Children & Families Network Cluster meetings in your area. For those of you who have not yet attended a Cluster Meeting, these groups aim to connect those working with Children, Young People and Families and to be a place of support, information sharing and dissemination of news from a local and county level. They also provide the opportunity to meet colleagues from different organisations. For details of venue etc please contact [admin@ecvys.org.uk](mailto:admin@ecvys.org.uk)

### ECVYS Clusters

**Mid Essex** - 10.00 a.m.  
Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> October

**North East** - 10.00 a.m.  
Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> October,

**West Essex** - 10.00 a.m.  
Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> October, 2010

**South Essex** - 10.00 a.m.  
Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> October,

**ECVYS Annual  
Conference 2011  
Date to be confirmed  
shortly**

## FUNDING



**The Foyle Foundation** is an independent grant making trust that distributes grants to UK charities whose core work is in the areas of learning, the arts and health.  
[www.foylefoundation.org.uk](http://www.foylefoundation.org.uk)

**Essex Community Foundation**  
This foundation awards grants to voluntary and community groups and organisations that are charitable in purpose and are working for the benefit of people in Essex, Southend or Thurrock. In order to make grants, Essex Community Foundation manages

funds from a wide range of sources and matches applications to the most appropriate fund. Grants of up to £10,000 are available; however, the average grant is usually £3,000. Eligible activities that the foundation will support are core costs, revenue costs, capital costs, new or continuing projects and one off initiatives. Exclusions are projects that operate outside of Essex, or benefit non Essex residents, political or religious activities that are not for the wider public benefit, statutory agencies, including parish councils and schools in the discharge of their statutory obligations, contributions towards general appeals, e.g. a £10,000 request for a project totaling £100,000 or activities that support animal welfare. Applications are accepted from voluntary or community groups and charitable organisations that are working for the benefit of people in Essex, Southend or Thurrock. Deadline for this programme is the 9th September 2010. For further information and application form, please go to [www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk](http://www.essexcommunityfoundation.org.uk).

### Community projects

The Kerrygold Community Awards recognise and reward community projects in the UK, where groups of individuals have worked together to achieve something in their community.  
[http://www.kerrygoldcommunityawards.co.uk/about\\_the\\_awards](http://www.kerrygoldcommunityawards.co.uk/about_the_awards)

## INFORMATION



### Mental health approach for young offenders

The Department of Health has published initial findings of the first UK evaluation pilot of a new mental health approach known as **Multisystemic Therapy** for young offenders. The evaluation found the pilot significantly reduced re-offending in troubled

and aggressive young people. Multisystemic Therapy involves improving parenting capacity, increasing young people's engagement with education and training, reducing their offending behaviour, and tackling underlying health or mental health problems. The approach has been trialled across 10 sites in England and is supported jointly by the DfE, the Youth Justice Board and Department of Health.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/detail.aspx?NewsAreaId=2&ReleaseID=414356&SubjectId=2>

### YouthNet survey into Young People's views on drugs

NCVYS members YouthNet have revealed the findings of a study into young people's views on drugs. The findings are based on the personal accounts of more than 600 16- to 25-year-olds who took part in YouthNet's online survey, *High or Dry*. The survey showed that 63 per cent of young people have taken recreational drugs, while 77 per cent said they need more support and guidance.

[http://www.youthnet.org/media/andcampaigns/pressreleases/trends\\_in\\_drug\\_use\\_revealed\\_in\\_new\\_youthNet\\_report](http://www.youthnet.org/media/andcampaigns/pressreleases/trends_in_drug_use_revealed_in_new_youthNet_report)



### Can the Government's Home Access Team help you?

The Government's Home Access Team would like to spread the word about the **FREE COMPUTERS AND ASSISTIVE TECHNOLOGY** that they are offering to school-age children with a learning or physical disability who come from a low-income family.

Do you know of anyone who might qualify?

BECTA HOME ACCESS working in partnership with dot community are giving away

free home computers with assistive technologies.

**Assistive Technology package 1**

This is designed for children that experience physical barriers to using a computer. It includes extra hardware, such as an adapted mouse, an alternative keyboard or keyboard stickers. It will help children to fully engage with learning at home.

**Assistive Technology package 2**

This is designed for children with more profound needs and will be tailored to the learner’s specific individual requirements. A specialist evaluation officer will liaise with the family to identify the most suitable assistive technology hardware, and once agreed, the equipment will be delivered direct to the family’s door.

**To find out if you qualify call 0800 877 8777 HURRY – WHILE STOCKS LAST!**

**Green Paper on SEN**

Sarah Teather MP, Minister of State for Children and Families has announced that she will launch a Green Paper in the autumn to look at a wide range of issues for children with SEN and disabilities. Teather said, "We want to make sure that the most vulnerable children get the best quality of support and care. Children with special educational needs and disabilities should have the same opportunities as their peers."

<http://www.education.gov.uk/news/news/sen-next-steps>

**DO YOUR BIT**

Oil on troubled waters - Less than a third of waste oil from DIY motorists is recycled – the rest ends up polluting rivers. Waste oil from one oil change is enough to cover a 4 acre lake. So instead of pouring it down the drain, find your nearest oil recycling bank at <http://www.oilbankline.org.uk>

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existing antidiscrimination laws with a single Act. It simplifies the law, removing inconsistencies and making it easier for people to understand and comply with it. It also strengthens the law in important ways to help tackle discrimination and inequality.

You can download the summary guide here: [www.equalities.gov.uk](http://www.equalities.gov.uk)



**RETENTION OF PERSONNEL RECORDS**

The Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development (CIPD), has revised its fact sheet 'Retention of personnel and other related records', which gives a checklist of statutory and recommended retention periods for various classes of personnel documents.

Details on the website: [www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/hrpract/psnlreocrd/retreocrds.htm](http://www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/hrpract/psnlreocrd/retreocrds.htm)

**World’s Biggest Coffee morning**

Witham Boys Brigade are holding a coffee morning in aid of Macmillan

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> Sept 7pm – 9pm  
Guithavon Valley Church Hall**

Go along and have a coffee, cakes and lots of fun!

**Spotlight on an organisation**

**Our spotlight falls on Maldon District Community Transport in Essex**

" We are a not for profit organisation and registered charity that provides transport for individuals and groups that cannot access public or private transport in the normal way. We are part funded by Essex County Council and supported by Maldon District Council and Maldon and District CVS. Part of our services includes hiring our minibuses to bona fide non profit making groups to allow them to use the minibus for their group purposes. The minibuses can be hired with or without a driver although we do insist that any drivers using our minibus must have passed a Minibus Drivers Awareness (MiDAS) course or an equivalent. (We can provide training if required). We use mainly volunteer drivers, all of which are CRB checked. All our minibuses are fully accessible with rear lifts and can be configured in a variety of seating arrangements. A minibus is classed as 9-16 seats, ours have a maximum of 15 passenger seats.

On most days of the week the minibuses are not used in the evening and rarely at weekends, which is a waste, especially as I know various youth groups could probably make good use of them. Our Community Transport scheme has been around for about 15 years but over time

contacts change or get lost and so many won't know of us.

Please can you forward my details to any youth groups in the Maldon area of Essex to see if any would wish to make use of our services? I have contacted Scouts and Guides direct via their regional/district offices.

I also have attached details of other CT Schemes within Essex that may be able to help other youth groups in other areas of Essex."



Basildon  
Basildon District Volunteer Carers  
01268 294235

Braintree  
Braintree Community Transport  
01376 327357

Brentwood  
Brentwood Community Transport  
01277 228080

Castle Point  
Castle Point Community Transport  
01268 638411

Chelmsford  
Chelmsford Community Transport  
01245 493761

Colchester  
Colchester Community Transport  
01206 562244

Epping Forest  
Voluntary Action  
01992 564040

Harlow  
Harlow Community Transport  
01279 446855

**Maldon  
Maldon District Community  
Transport 01621 843164  
(a.k.a Viking  
Community Transport)**

Rochford  
Wyvern Community Transport  
01702

543010

Southend  
South East Essex Dial a Ride  
01702

215665  
(SEEDAR)

Tendring  
Tendring Community Transport  
01255

436962

Harwich Connexions Transport  
Co-operative Ltd 01255  
552010

Manningtree Community  
Transport  
01206 393727

Thurrock  
Trans-Vol 08452 410399

Uttlesford  
Uttlesford Community Travel  
01371  
875787

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## RESOURCES & PUBLICATIONS

### Cards for Little Lives

Cards for Little Lives, funded by the Equitable Trust, is a resource for anyone working with primary school age children and consists of FREE Powerpoint files that can be either printed out or displayed on Smartboards. The cards are separated into different categories of well-being: Health, Safety, Achievement, Contribution and Economic Well-being - all reflecting the 5 Every Child Matters (ECM) Outcomes. Each card describes a situation that children can identify with and is designed to generate discussion. A teacher's guide is also available. For more information and to download the powerpoints click [here](#).



### New Health White Paper

The Government has published the NHS White Paper, *Equity and excellence: liberating the NHS*, which sets out a long term vision to continue and improve on the current NHS with 'a comprehensive service, available to all, free at the point of use, based on need, not ability to pay.'

[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_117353](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_117353)

### Criminal justice and addiction treatment

The Centre for Social Justice has published a *Criminal Justice and Addiction Green Paper*. The report calls for a radical shake-up of the criminal justice and addiction treatment systems. It calls for an urgent review of crime prevention and education programmes for young people with a view to immediately developing interventions in schools and for vulnerable young people.

[http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/client/downloads/CSJ\\_Green\\_paper\\_criminal\\_justice\\_07%2007\\_WEB.pdf](http://www.centreforsocialjustice.org.uk/client/downloads/CSJ_Green_paper_criminal_justice_07%2007_WEB.pdf)

### Restorative Justice

The Independent Commission on Youth Crime and Antisocial Behaviour has published a report *Time for a Fresh Start* calling for the introduction of restorative justice across England and Wales to halve the current number of juveniles in custody. Following an 18 month long study the commission has found that restorative meetings known as "youth conferencing" are the best way to deliver justice for the victims of crime, while cutting re-offending rates and custody numbers.

[http://www.youthcrimecommission.org.uk/attachments/076\\_FreshStart.pdf](http://www.youthcrimecommission.org.uk/attachments/076_FreshStart.pdf)

### Anti-social behaviour

The Royal Society of the Arts has published *The Woolwich Model: how citizens can tackle antisocial behaviour*. The report recommends that residents of high-crime housing estates, youth workers, teachers and housing managers should be trained to tackle anti-social behaviour as part of a "Big Society" drive.

[http://www.thersa.org/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/327082/0882RSA\\_21CE\\_benrogers\\_web.pdf](http://www.thersa.org/_data/assets/pdf_file/0004/327082/0882RSA_21CE_benrogers_web.pdf)



### Community cohesion

Local Government Improvement and Development (previously the IDEa) has published research conducted by the Young Foundation. It examined the vital role the voluntary and community sector (VCS) plays in fostering and promoting strong community cohesion. Equally importantly, the research also highlighted the role that local government plays in supporting this through effective partnership, engagement and funding arrangements.

<http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/20528985>

### Social exclusion

The charity 4Children has published a blueprint for councils to improve their support for children and young people affected by poverty. The report [Unlocking the potential of young people in Knowsley](#) was commissioned by Knowsley Borough Council but highlights challenges for decision makers nationwide who are seeking to unlock the potential for young people living in deprivation. Among recommendations in the report is for councils in areas of high social deprivation to recruit a peer mentor to help every young person classified as NEET (not in education, employment or training). It also calls for more homework clubs and the need to improve links with local transport firms and put in place subsidised travel plans.

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has published [Ethnicity and alcohol:](#)

[a review of the UK literature](#). The report provides a broad picture of drinking patterns, alcohol-related harm, and need for services across a range of ethnic groups. In relation to addressing the needs of young people, the report claims that young people from minority ethnic groups face additional challenges of reconciling drinking behaviour with cultural and gender expectations. It calls for the provision of culturally competent services that reflect an understanding of the conflicting pressures that young people face.



The Department for Work and Pensions has published [Families with Children in Britain](#). The report presents the findings from the 2008 families and children study, which investigated the circumstances of British families with dependent children. The first part of the report focuses on the circumstances, lives and conditions of families, covering topics such as family characteristics, health, education, and work. The second part focuses on the circumstances, conditions and lives of children, including topics such as health, schooling, and children and young people's activities.

how sheets offer information on topics such as sponsorship, gift aid, and involving children in fundraising. Users can also use the website to build contacts with other fundraisers, exchange experiences and best practice, advertise their events and identify suppliers.

[www.need2know.co.uk](http://www.need2know.co.uk)

This is aimed at young people aged 13-19 giving advice about everyday issues that concern and affect teenagers, such as health, money, work and relationships.

[www.askncvo.org](http://www.askncvo.org)

has a range of legal information covering model constitutions, changing constitutions, registering charities, names and more.



[www.filmstreet.co.uk](http://www.filmstreet.co.uk)

### FILM STREET

This website is for young people to explore films and film making. This interactive website also provides practical advice for parents, teachers and film makers who watch or make films with young people. Access brand new teacher resources that are mapped to the primary framework for literacy. Film Street aims to encourage children's participation and engagement with film culture.

<http://www.hmg.gov.uk/linkup/inkin.aspx>

### Toolkit for advice and guidance to vulnerable young people

As part of its Link Up, Link In campaign, HM Government has launched an online toolkit designed to help public sector workers offer advice and guidance to vulnerable young people, such as young care leavers. The toolkit recognises the need for joined-up working between the public and

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## USEFUL WEBSITES

[How2fundraise.org](http://www.how2fundraise.org)

Support for all volunteer fundraisers. How2fundraise.org is a free online resource, built by the Institute of Fundraising, to offer assistance to the millions of volunteer fundraisers that help to generate income for charities. The site is designed to increase the success of these vital workers in a number of different ways. Users can access How2guides, templates and tools, and know how sheets. The How2guides describe fundraising activities, (the templates range from letters to press releases), whilst the know

voluntary and community sector, and features practical case studies of projects that provide advice and guidance to young people.

[www.e-voice.org.uk](http://www.e-voice.org.uk)

### Websites for community groups

Cambridge Open Systems is making available websites to all community groups throughout the UK, for free.

Based on their successful VOICE service, any community, not-for-profit or voluntary group can apply to have a website.

With an easy-to-use website building package, users can set-up a website quickly and easily with no technical expertise required. Pre-built, interactive modules such as picture galleries, discussion boards, and surveys, can be added to websites with a single click.

[http://www.navca.org.uk/news/cuts\\_challenge.htm](http://www.navca.org.uk/news/cuts_challenge.htm)

**This link may be useful to you should you experience a cut in your funding.**

The Empowering the Voluntary Sector project has produced a special edition of its newsletter giving information about the processes and remedies that voluntary organisations and community groups can use to challenge funding cuts.

[www.getlegal.org.uk](http://www.getlegal.org.uk) Get Legal website is designed to:

- Help individuals, organisations and their advisors understand different legal and governance structures
- Help individuals, organisations and their advisors decide what legal and governance structure will work best for them according to their objectives and vision.
- Provide signposting and templates to help individuals, organisations and their advisors take forward the ideas and recommendations.

[www.suppliersdirectory.org.uk](http://www.suppliersdirectory.org.uk)

If you need to find a reliable supplier for software, hardware, a web designer or an ICT consultant then visit the ICT Suppliers Directory. The directory, produced by [Lasa](http://www.lasa.org.uk), offers a comprehensive, easy to search national listing of suppliers with a proven track record of working with the voluntary sector.

[www.lawstuff.org.uk](http://www.lawstuff.org.uk) The Children's Legal Centre has launched 'Lawstuff', a new website with information on the law as it affects children and young people. [www.exploreculture.org.uk](http://www.exploreculture.org.uk) is a free Essex County Council resource whereby cultural events can be uploaded and advertised. This is a new website designed to attract people to take part in the huge variety of cultural events and activities in Essex. The site includes listings for venues and events. So whether you are a folk music venue, a disco dance or reading group, a theatre, a sculptor, a museum or something utterly different, you should get your gigs, performances, club nights and exhibitions included. GET NOTICED FOR FREE!

<http://www.volunteersex.org> You or your organisations may like to know that the Essex Volunteer Centres have a website called Volunteer Essex which gives information about volunteering opportunities and contacting volunteer centres and other organisations likely to be able to help. The site is particularly aimed at undermining stereotypes about volunteering.

The site was created as part of the Essex Partnership's efforts on National Indicator 6 (volunteering), and was fortunately completed before the axe fell on Performance Related Grant money!



<http://www.ctxchange.org/>  
Useful website for charities

### Your representatives on the Children's Trust Board(s) and Implementation Groups

Children's Trust Board	Brenda Towle Martin Solder
CT Joint Commissioning Board	Brenda Towle Martin Solder
Local Children's Trust Boards	
North East	Dan Kessler
Mid Essex	Rowena Kerslake
South East	Jane Youdale
South West	Martin Solder
West	Brenda Towle
County Implementation Group	
Be Healthy	Dan Kessler
Stay Safe	Suzanne Free
Enjoy/achieve	Jane Youdale
Positive contribution	Martin Solder
14 - 19	Andrew Cawthorpe
Infrastructure	Brenda Towle
Workforce Dev	Brenda Towle
ECVYS Children & Families network	Rowena Kerslake

Don't forget the **Quarterly Surgeries with Commissioning Team** They run from 4:30 - 6:30 where community sector providers can book half hour slots.

- **6<sup>th</sup> September**
- **20<sup>th</sup> December**
- **15<sup>th</sup> March**

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