



**Wales Council for
Voluntary Action**

**Issue date:
3 December 2012**

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Are you looking for funding?

If you are looking for funding for your organisation or project, WCVA can carry out a funding search for its members on Grantfinder. Contact the Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, help@wcva.org.uk or complete a funding enquiry form online [here](#).

If you are a local organisation your county voluntary council (CVC) can provide funding advice. If you need contact details for your CVC, click [here](#).

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Contracts & tenders

To promote your organisation to public sector purchasers and to get free email alerts of relevant tenders and contracts, register with Sell2Wales - www.sell2wales.co.uk.

Official name and address of contracting authority

Organisation: Wales Co-operative Centre

For the attention of: Christine Heath, Llandaff Court, Fairwater Road, Cardiff CF5 2XP. Tel 0300 111 5050, email organisationaldevelopment@walescooperative.org, www.walescooperative.org.

Object of the contract

ITT Support to Co-operative Housing Schemes in Wales

As part of the Co-operative Housing in Wales project (CHiW), the Wales Co-operative Centre is establishing this co-operative housing framework agreement to provide organisational development support to housing co-operative initiatives across Wales.

[Click here for more information](#)

Reference number: ITTSCHSW12

Deadline date: 20 December 2012 (14:00)

Resources

[ITT Support to Co-operative Housing Schemes in Wales - English](#) (175 Kb)

Official name and address of contracting authority

Organisation: Neath Port Talbot County Borough Council

For the attention of: Stuart Smith, Corporate Procurement Unit, Neath Port Talbot CBC, Civic Centre, Port Talbot SA13 1PJ. Tel 01639 763928, email s.d.smith@npt.gov.uk, www.npt.gov.uk/procurement.

Object of the contract

The development of a service model and full business case for the older person's mental health service in the Western Bay area

The Western Bay Older and Disabled Person's Project has prioritised the development of an integrated service model and fully costed business case for older people with dementia. The purpose of this project brief is to set out the support required to develop evidence based, fully costed business case that will be agreed by all three local authority partners and the ABMU Health Board (the Western Bay Partners).

Instructions to suppliers

To receive a copy of the quotation document, please email Stuart Smith, Corporate Procurement Manager at s.d.smith@npt.gov.uk.

Reference number: NPT/099/2012

Deadline date: 4 January 2013

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Funding

The Engagement Gateway

The Engagement Gateway is a grant scheme supported by funding from European Structural Funds that aims to reduce economic inactivity in the Convergence areas of Wales and improve the employability of disadvantaged people furthest from the labour market.

The Gateway will invest in organisations that provide activities to build the skills, confidence and knowledge of target groups; and which link progress to a 'next step' such as referrals to other projects, volunteering, training, supported employment or full employment.

How much money can the Gateway invest in organisations?

Engagement Gateway has £6 million to invest in the Convergence areas of Wales.

We will offer grants of the following levels:

- Level 1 will offer project grants of up to £25,000. Match funding is not a requirement at this level.
- Level 2 will offer project grants of between £25,000- £75,000. An element of match funding is required at this level.
- Level 3 will offer project grants of between £75,000- £150,000. An element of match funding is required at this level.

Match funding may include financial contribution to the total costs, in-kind donations or volunteer time.

What happens next?

The two part grant application process has now opened for Phase II of the Engagement Gateway project. Organisations that wish to be added to the approved supplier list will need to complete and submit a pre qualification questionnaire (PQQ).

If your organisation was an approved supplier for Phase I of the project, it will remain on the approved supplier list for Phase II; however, if you would like to increase the target groups, geographical areas or levels of funding for which it is approved, you will need to submit a PQQ amendment form with specific information on the changes requested. This form will be sent to all existing suppliers and will also be available on request.

Invitations to apply will then be released to organisations on the approved suppliers list in order for them to apply for grant funding. We will be releasing three waves of funding containing a number of grant rounds between October 2012 and February 2013. Each of these will include a general specification for projects to work with any of their approved target groups in any of the Convergence areas. A detailed timetable of our plan can be found in the PQQ guidelines.

If you would like to request a PQQ pack or have any further questions please contact the Engagement Gateway team at gateway@wcva.org.uk.

Support for work-based training in heritage sector

The time-limited 'Skills for the Future' targeted grant programme from Heritage Lottery Fund aims to support organisations across the UK to create new opportunities for work-based training in the heritage sector. First-round applications close at noon on 31 January.

See <http://preview.tinyurl.com/bgl7y23>

(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 546)

Awards

The National Diversity Awards 2013

Nominations open in January for the UK's Largest Diversity Awards Ceremony! The National Diversity Awards 2013 in association with Microsoft is a celebration of outstanding achievements of positive role models and community organisations across The UK. For one night only we come together to honour the rich tapestry of our nation and recognise individuals and groups from grass root communities who have contributed to creating a more diverse and inclusive society.

The National Diversity Awards is a prestigious black tie event held at The Queens Hotel, Leeds on 20 September 2013.

The concept for The National Diversity Awards arose when The Diversity Group identified an urgent need for more positive role model to be actively promoted, empowering and inspiring the wide breadth of communities across The UK.

Our aims and what we inspire to accomplish by holding these ceremonies:

- The promotion of Equality and Diversity.

- To create role models from all sections of society.
- The elimination of discrimination on the grounds of race, gender, gender identity, disability, sexual orientation, religion or age.
- Celebrate the achievements of people, community/charity organisations and companies that strive for a more inclusive society.
- Highlight how diverse communities have contributed to the economy of The United Kingdom.
- Nominations will open in January for the public to put forward their local heroes and organisations.

Award categories include: Positive Role Model; Community Organisation; Entrepreneurial of Excellence - All of which will be split into age, race, disability, gender and LGBT. You can also nominate for a Corporation of The Year and Lifetime Achiever.

For more information on The National Diversity Awards please visit:

www.nationaldiversityawards.co.uk

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General

Network Jobs

WCVA's latest edition of Network Jobs is available [here](#). If you would like to sign up to receive future copies please email help@wcva.org.uk or call the Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329.

Business rates relief for charities - call for evidence

The impact of business rates relief for charities in Wales is the subject of a new call for evidence issued by Professor Brian Morgan, chair of the independent panel that produced a review into business rates for the Welsh Government earlier this year. Professor Morgan, from Cardiff Metropolitan University and Juliet Luporini, from Swansea Business Improvement District, have been requested by Business Minister Edwina Hart to examine the issue of business rates relief for charities, as well as social enterprises and credit unions.

Responses are invited by email or by post. The deadline is Wednesday 19 December 2012. Views on the following areas are being sought: the levels of relief that are currently available to charities across all the types of non-domestic premises they occupy; whether the relief available to charities should be changed and the impact that this might have based on available evidence; whether relief, or further relief, should be offered to social enterprises and credit unions as an incentive to support their work; any other evidence or examples that you think are relevant.

More information can be found here:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/businessandconomy/policy/charityrelief/?lang=en>

Responses can be sent by email: businessrates@wales.gsi.gov.uk or by post to: David Warren, Welsh Government, Department for Business, Enterprise, Technology and Science, QED Centre, Main Avenue, Trefforest Estate, Pontypridd CF37 5YR.

Everything you need to know about running your arts or crafts group

Need help with your amateur arts or crafts group? Running Your Group, the new online information service from Voluntary Arts, has the answers for you. This one-stop shop

provides instant guidance on all aspects of running a voluntary arts or crafts group, whether it's attracting new members, starting a committee or fundraising advice. The free account gives you access to over 150 briefings on topics like social media or organising events; enews packed with information about the sector; quick reference guides on a range of topics and a discussion forum to connect with your peers. The subscription levels include all this and step-by-step tutorials, live online events with access to key decision makers and a comprehensive pack to help groups plan for the future. For more information go to www.runningyourgroup.org

Fundraising Standards Board to begin random audits of members' activities next year

Alistair McLean, chief executive of the FRSB, says the audit process should be operating by June and might start with a 'light-touch' online investigation into membership compliance. The [Fundraising Standards Board](#) will start carrying out random audits of members' fundraising activities from next year, the regulator's chief executive has said. Alistair McLean told *Third Sector* that it had always been the FRSB's intention to move away from the current system of self-certification to auditing members' compliance, as recommended by Lord Hodgson in his review of the Charities Act 2006, published in July. (Source: Third Sector Online, 21/11/12)

Government eases rules for Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme

Sajid Javid, the Treasury minister, says he has listened to charities' concerns and made changes to the proposed scheme. The government has softened the eligibility criteria for charities to make claims under the forthcoming Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. The scheme, which will enable charities to claim Gift Aid-like payments on small donations totalling up to £5,000 a year without individual paperwork, is being introduced in the Small Charitable Donations Bill, which is going through parliament.

[Government amendments](#) to the bill, published today, say that to be eligible to claim under the scheme, charities must have made successful Gift Aid declarations in two out of the previous four tax years, rather than three out of the previous seven. The amendments also reduce the matching requirement for the amount of Gift Aid that charities must claim in the same year: charities will have to claim £1 in Gift Aid for every £10 claimed under GASDS, rather than £1 for every £2 in Gift Aid as previously required.

(Source: Third Sector Online, 23/11/12)

Lord Hodgson questions whether state-funded charities should have charitable status

Charities such as the British Council are 'government departments in all but name', the Conservative peer says. The Conservative peer Lord Hodgson has said some charities are 'government departments in all but name' and questioned whether it is right that they have charitable status. Hodgson also said that national charities often exerted too much control over their local branches, and that many medium-sized charities were 'moribund or semi-moribund', in that they were not achieving much, and should close or merge with other organisations.

(Source: Third Sector Online, 21/11/12)

New MA course in Health, Ethics and Society

University of Wales Trinity Saint David is now offering a new distance-learning MA course in Health, Ethics and Society (available to start from Jan 2013). Health is now widely recognised as a universal human right, enshrined in the WHO Constitution; both national and international policies highlight the necessity of social and cultural factors to promote health and wellbeing. The MA in Health, Ethics and Society will be of particular interest to

those employed in the public (eg policy, health and social care services) and voluntary sectors, who wish to explore more widely the ethical, social and cultural questions relating to health and their workplace experiences, and to apply ethical theories and understandings to these first hand workplace experiences. Further details are available from Dr Rachel Casiday via email r.casiday@tsd.ac.uk.

Wales first in the world to legislate for play

The Welsh Government is taking a global lead on promoting the [importance of children's play](#) and is legislating to place a duty on local authorities to assess the sufficiency of play and recreational opportunities for children in their areas.

(Source: Public Health News, Nov 12)

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Green news

[Green Events](#)

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Events

[Climate Week - Britain's Biggest Climate Change Campaign, 4-10 March 2013](#)

Thousands of events and activities are being planned by organisations from every part of society for Climate Week. Showcasing real, practical ways to combat climate change, the week aims to renew our ambition to create a more sustainable, low-carbon future. To find out more, visit the Climate Week website, email info@climateweek.com or telephone 020 3397 2601.

News and Policy

Link to WCVA [Climate Change Information](#)

Read the latest blog from [Environment Wales](#)

Read the latest newsletter from [Cynnal Cymru - Sustain Wales](#)

Read the quarterly newsletter from [Planning Aid Wales](#)

Read the latest from the [Energy Savings Trust](#) & sign up for the monthly E bulletin.

Read the latest from the [Carbon Trust](#) & sign up for E newsletters.

Read the latest newsletter from [Keep Wales Tidy](#)

Read the minutes from the last [Climate Change Commission](#) meeting

Contact Rita Singh to sign up to receive the new e newsletter from Community Energy Wales - rita@cynnalcymru.com or check out their latest news at <http://www.communityenergywales.org.uk>

Wales News

Sustainable Development Bill

During the three month consultation period over 300 people attended one of four consultation events held across Wales, and WG received almost 4000 consultation responses. A summary of consultation responses was published this month and the report can be found on the website at

<http://wales.gov.uk/consultations/sustainabledevelopment/sdbill/?lang=en>. The Welsh Government will soon publish the White Paper setting out our detailed proposals for the Bill. This will be supported by a series of consultation events. More information on the White Paper and consultation will be available soon.

Flood Awareness Wales helps to prepare communities at risk of flooding and provides them with the tools and knowledge needed to respond appropriately during a flooding incident. Read 'Your community flood news' [here](#) for flood news and information from communities around Wales.

[Wales recycles more than half its waste](#)

Welsh councils collectively recycled 53% of their waste in the first quarter of 2012/13. This means that Wales continues to lead the rest of the UK on recycling and is on course to meet its first statutory target. These new statistics show there has been a two percentage point increase in recycling compared to the same three months in 2011/12.

Reports and publications

[Annual report shows how Wales is embracing sustainable development](#)

Minister for the Environment and Sustainable Development, John Griffiths, has welcomed publication of this year's Sustainable Development Annual Report 2011 - 12. The report explains how the Welsh Government promoted sustainable development in its work during the past 12 months. It includes updates from across the Government, on how every portfolio is applying sustainable principles in its work.

Business cases for action on climate change

The Welsh Government has developed a bilingual business case for the third sector to help organisations to take action to reduce emissions and prepare for the unavoidable impacts of climate change. This is a really useful guide taking organisations through the case and approach to mainstreaming climate change into the work and aims of the organisation.

[Business cases for action on climate change: Third Sector](#)

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Funding

Please [click here](#) to see our Funding Resources for Climate Change Projects Information Sheet.

Tidy Wales Awards

The search has begun to find community groups, schools, businesses and other organisations across Wales who have gone the extra mile to improve their local environment. From litter picks to increasing biodiversity and transforming disused green space - Keep Wales Tidy honours those volunteers, our heroes, who work towards a more

beautiful Wales. Visit the Keep Wales Tidy [website](#) and consider the 7 categories. All groups, schools and organisations wishing to be considered should apply by **midnight on Monday 14 January 2013**.

[£40 million for local energy bill blitz](#)

The Government is putting local action at the heart of efforts to keep energy bills down and homes warm, with an £40 million competition aimed at driving local initiatives to boost energy efficiency, reduce fuel poverty and encourage collective switching and purchasing.

If you would like to include anything in the next edition of 'green news' please contact Jessica McQuade at WCVA: jmcquade@wcva.org.uk.

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JRF Blogs & Publications

The following blogs and publications have been added to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) website.

New publications and blogs w/c 19 November 2012

[Lunch clubs - a social lifeline for older people](#)

'I think it is the company, not so much the food'

(Part of [Austerity in the UK](#))

Blog by Claire Turner

[Being a lone parent: isolation, loneliness, stigma](#)

I was a teenage parent, married and unhappily, after a brief but violent period, divorced by the time I was 21, left alone to raise my daughter, who is herself now a lone parent of two daughters, left alone to raise them. Coincidence? Family culture? I am sure.

(Part of [Austerity in the UK](#))

Blog by Tracey Robbins

[Overcrowding: the story behind the statistics](#)

When you watch a film like this it's really easy to forget the history of social housing as a step up in housing conditions from the slums of the time.

(Part of [Austerity in the UK](#))

Blog by Kathleen Kelly

[Low incomes and high costs - a precarious balance](#)

The Banos seem like a family balanced on the brink. The cost of living is creating such pressure on them, despite the best efforts of both parents to work their way towards affording that talismanic holiday or simply the extravagance of a £20 skirt.

(Part of [Austerity in the UK](#))

Blog by Chris Goulden

[Community Asset Transfer in Northern Ireland](#)

What might help support more sustainable forms of asset transfer in Northern Ireland in the future?

Research by Brendan Murtagh et al

[State of Care in Britain today - we need a revolution](#)

I would welcome today's the Care Quality Commission's (CQC) State of Care report. No doubt another frenzy of judgemental headlines will follow. Who will get the blame this time?

Blog by John Kennedy

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Policy

Consultations

[Business rates relief for charities- call for evidence](#)

WCVA will be submitting a response to this consultation. If you have any comments that you would like us to include in our response please email them to mmatheron@wcva.org.uk

The impact of business rates relief for charities in Wales is the subject of a new call for evidence issued by Professor Brian Morgan, chair of the independent panel that produced a review into business rates for the Welsh Government earlier this year. Views on the following areas are being sought: the levels of relief that are currently available to charities across all the types of non-domestic premises they occupy; whether the relief available to charities should be changed and the impact that this might have based on the available evidence; whether relief, or further relief, should be offered to social enterprises and credit unions as an incentive to support their work. Any other evidence or examples that you think are relevant. The deadline date for responses is **19 December 2012**.

[Consultation to collect views about whether a Public Health Bill is needed in Wales](#)

This consultation provides an opportunity to consider whether legislation could help us to further improve overall health and wellbeing in Wales. It starts a debate about whether new legislation would provide an effective way of making further progress in key areas. The deadline date for responses is **20 February 2013**.

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Publications

Community Co-operatives in Wales

The Wales Co-operative Centre has published its fourth and final report for the International Year of Co-operatives, [Community Co-operatives in Wales](#). Based on the results of a survey of 23 Welsh community co-operatives, it highlights the economic, social and environmental benefits and includes case studies from Wales and elsewhere.

(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 546)

'Out of Sight' - visual impairment and poverty in Wales

The Bevan Foundation has launched the latest report looking at poverty in Wales. [Out of Sight](#) was commissioned by RNIB Cymru and asked the Bevan Foundation to investigate the link between visual impairment and poverty.

Social entrepreneurship in later life

Created by Nesta in partnership with UnLtd, [Rooted: growing your own social venture](#) is a practical guide to support social entrepreneurship in later life, aiming to provide clear, step by step advice and resources for people considering starting up their own social or community-run venture.

(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 546)

Trustee Handbook

The Charity Commission has produced an online [Trustee Handbook](#) particularly aimed at charities, such as Parent Teacher Associations and community groups that see several trustees arrive and leave each year. It includes a checklist of documents and information new trustees should either receive from their charity or find for themselves on the Commission's website.

(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 545)

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Training

[WCVA training](#)

[Other training](#)

WCVA training

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B Voluntary and community organisations

C Others

NEW DATE

Institute of fundraising - introductory certificate in fundraising

[Thursday 13 December](#) - Glamorgan Archives, Cardiff

The Introductory Certificate in Fundraising is designed for those new to the fundraising sector, non-fundraisers wishing to understand the fundraising environment or volunteers wishing to extend their knowledge of fundraising.

Coming end of January 2013

Using the volunteering impact assessment toolkit

[30 January 2013](#) - Cardiff

Aims: To introduce participants to the key principles of impact assessment and enable them to use the Volunteering Impact Assessment Toolkit to carry out an impact assessment of volunteering in their own organisation or project.

Does my project or organisation make a difference? This is a question asked by you, your funders, trustees, staff, service users, volunteers and the community. When volunteers are involved it adds a level of complexity that many approaches don't take account of. The Volunteering Impact Assessment Toolkit is a way of putting volunteering on the map in your project or organisation, demonstrating the value of volunteering to the aims of your project or organisation.

This one-day course will help you understand the basics of impact assessment; looking at the stakeholders involved, scoping an assessment, selecting tools to use, analyzing information and findings and reporting to different audiences. The toolkit (retail price £35) is included in the price of the course, and includes access to an internet based resource centre.

The day will involve lots of practical exercises and relevant case studies and enable you to work on areas of your own impact assessment to take back to your organisation.

Who is this course for?

This course is for project managers, those leading organisations working with volunteers and those tasked with measuring outcomes or impact who need to be able to understand impact assessment, how to measure it and how to report it to stakeholders.

Fees: A £150 B £180 C £210

Marketing planning for managers

[30 January 2013](#) - Rhyl

Aims: To introduce participants to the key principles that underpin the marketing planning process, and enable them to devise their own marketing plan to support the delivery of their organisation's work.

You may have a brilliant product or service to offer but do the right people know about it? How we engage with customers, whether they are consumers or other organisations is crucial to our success in the voluntary sector, but few of us have the resources to employ marketing specialists.

This one-day course will help you improve your understanding of marketing, taking you through what is involved in the whole marketing process, from analysing your products and services, identifying target markets and choosing appropriate marketing tools.

The day will involve lots of practical exercises and relevant case studies and enable you to work on areas of your own marketing plan to take back to your organisation.

Who is it for?

This course is for managers and/or those leading marketing within their organisations and who need to be able to devise a marketing plan

Fees: A £125 B £155 C £185

Other training in January places still available - Book now to secure your place

Evaluating and monitoring outcomes

[10 January 2013](#) - Cardiff

Structuring and writing competitive tenders

[23 January 2013](#) - Bridgend (am)

[Please read our pre-booking guidance.](#)

Competitive tender presentations

[23 January 2013](#) - Bridgend (pm)

[Please read our pre-booking guidance.](#)

Dealing with disciplinaries and grievances

[23 January 2013](#) (am) - Cardiff

Measuring soft outcomes

[24 January 2013](#) - Carmarthen

Gift Aid registration surgery

[24 January 2013](#) - Rhyl

[31 January 2013](#) - Aberystwyth

To book on line please click on the course title or complete a [booking form](#) returning to training@wcva.org.uk or telephone the WCVA helpdesk on 0800 2888 329.

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Other training

Exploring counselling skills

15 & 16 January 2013, Cardiff

This course has been written to meet the needs of practitioners who work with vulnerable people, people who are distressed or need to bring about change in their life. By the end of the course participants should be able to: define the different counselling models and what counselling skills are; outline the ethical issues, the limitations of the use of counselling skills and the need for support; discuss issues around self-awareness and formulate clear boundaries; explore conversation management, structure and time keeping; examine what is meant by 'enabling change'; skills practice. Further details are available from NewLink Wales, tel 029 2052 9002, email info@newlinkwales.org.uk or www.newlinkwales.org.uk.

Engaging young people with a learning disability

Tuesday 29 January 2013, Cardiff

The course is designed to explore practical and creative ways to better engage and communicate with young disabled people. The course will give you tools, games and resources for use when planning services, consulting with or communicating with young disabled people. It will cover: why it is important for young people to participate in planning their services; look at good practical examples; briefly look at policy around participation; try out some methods; provide resources to work with after the training. Further details are available from Jenny Brock, email Jennifer.brock@learningdisabilitywales.org.uk or tel 029 2068 1161.

NEA Cymru Fuel Poverty Conference

31 January 2013, Swalec Stadium, Sophia Gardens, Cardiff

The Welsh Government has an ambition to eradicate fuel poverty in Wales by 2018. With latest estimates showing that one in three Welsh households are now living in fuel poverty and an average dual fuel bill of £1,258 a year, this conference will aim to examine whether this target is still achievable. The conference will explore recent policy developments at a UK level in relation to energy policy and welfare reform changes, discuss the place of fuel poverty in the wider anti-poverty agenda in Wales, and what implications these changes will have for fuel poor households in Wales. John Griffiths AM, Minister for Environment and Sustainable Development will deliver the key note address. To view the draft programme and to book online go to www.nea.org.uk/cymru-conference.

Welfare Reform

6 February 2013, Cardiff

The consequences of the new Welfare Reform Act will start to come into force from April 2013. This will be the biggest social security shake-up in forty years. This course aims to help you understand the changes in Welfare Reform, their likely impacts and to help you

begin to prepare for them. The course is designed for anyone working in a support, care or advice role for a disabled adult who wishes to know more about the key benefit changes taking place and the impact they will have. Further details are available from Jenny Brock, tel 029 2068 1161, email Jennifer.brock@learningdisabilitywales.org.uk.

Wales Public Service Winter School: Outstanding Leadership

5-7 February 2013, Nant Gwrthryn, North Wales

There is now only one week left to apply for the 2013 Wales Public Service Winter School. Don't miss out - apply for your **free** place now. Winter School is a residential immersive learning event designed to meet the development needs of those engaged in leading across the Welsh Government and wider public service in Wales. This event has been specifically developed for top level leaders from across the public and voluntary sector in Wales (eg Senior Civil Servants, Chief Executives and equivalent).

Speakers for 2013 include:

Professor Richard Wiseman: Psychologist, broadcaster and author who currently holds Britain's only Professorship in the Public Understanding of Psychology at the University of Hertfordshire.

Ilona Boniwell: Principal Lecturer in Positive Psychology at the University of East London and Programme Leader for the first Masters Degree in Applied Psychology (MAPP) in Europe.

Christopher Rodrigues CBE: Chairman of VisitBritain and former CEO of Thomas Cook. Christopher is also Chairman of The Windsor Leadership Trust.

The final date for applications is **7 December 2012**. Application forms and further information can be accessed via the following link:

<http://eventsconferences.academiwales.org.uk/Home.aspx?SitePageID=457>

Understanding your customers - equality and diversity for service providers

26 & 27 February 2013, Chester and Llandudno

The population of England and Wales has increased by 7.1% since 2001 and is more diverse than ever before: over 16.4% of people are aged over 65; more people than ever will live to see their 100th birthday; Black, Asian and minority groups currently account for 8.5% of the population; 6% are lesbian, gay and bisexual; approximately a quarter of people are disabled; one in four people will experience poor mental health during their lifetime; one in four people will provide regular and unpaid care to someone close to them. This course has been specifically written to help service providers better understand equality and human rights laws and sets out ten simple, practical, no-nonsense steps to help you make your services accessible, welcoming, inclusive and diversity friendly. Further details are available from realequality@btinternet.com or tel 01244 676488.

A Date for your Diary! YMCA SleepEasy Event 2013

8pm Friday 8 March to 6am Saturday 9 March 2013, Carpark Level 6, St Davids Shopping Centre, Cardiff

Cardiff YMCA Housing Association is pleased to be working in partnership with Land Securities Group plc (owners of St Davids Shopping Centre) to host the second YMCA SleepEasy event for YMCAs in Wales.

The YMCA SleepEasy 2013 aims to raise the awareness about homelessness and has two objectives: to raise money to enable YMCAs to continue to deliver opportunities for vulnerable people, and to ensure that homeless services continue to grow and meet demand; one of the most basic human rights is to have somewhere safe and stable to live, yet homelessness continues to be one of the worst social problems in Britain today. On

Friday 8 March YMCA are challenging you to leave your beds for the night and spend a night sleeping 'rough' with the aim of raising money, and awareness about homelessness and 'sofa surfing'. The YMCA SleepEasy Event is a national YMCA fundraising event, where people sleep rough so others don't have to.

YMCA are also looking for volunteer promoters, fundraisers, sponsors and people to help out on the night to keep everyone entertained. For a volunteer event co-ordinators guide, an application form and sponsorship details for this event or for a copy of the Fundraising Toolkit, email mandy.smithson@cardiffymcaha.co.uk or tel 029 2046 6381.

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End of e-briefing

Disclaimer

Inclusion of third party information in WCVA's members' email briefing does not constitute an endorsement by WCVA. WCVA takes no responsibility for the quality of third party events, products or services featured in this briefing. Whilst every care is taken to provide accurate information, neither WCVA nor the editor undertakes any liability for any error or omission. If you wish to be deleted from this mailing list, please email help@wcva.org.uk.