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Please forward any items for the February edition by Friday 12 February 2010

To: info@allianceherefordshire.org.uk





Dates for the Diary

Members' Meetings for 2010

All Members' meetings are held between 10:00 and 12:30 at The Rowing Club, 37 Greyfriars Avenue, Hereford.

If you would like to suggest guests or topics for future members' meetings, please let us know.

Meeting Dates for 2010

Tuesday, 16 March 2010
Tuesday, 15 June 2010
Tuesday, 14 September 2010
Tuesday, 14 December 2010

The Alliance AGM

Provisional Date: Tuesday 13 July 2010
Venue: To be advised

Interest Groups

Older Person's Interest Group (OPIG) and Disability Interest Group (DIG)

(Secretariat provided by Age Concern, Leominster & District)

All OPIG/DIG meetings are held between 14:00 and 16:00 at Vision Links, Widemarsh Street, Hereford.

Colette Colman, OPIG Chair reports:

The January 2010 meeting was cancelled due to the adverse weather conditions.

The last joint meeting of OPIG/DIG took place on 18 November 2009. The meeting was attended by Esther Grisenthwaite and Jim Wilkinson from Herefordshire Local Involvement Network (LINK). LINKs came about as a result of the Local Government and Public Health Act 2007, which has a direct impact on all NHS organisations. Section 242 of the Act is the duty to involve patients and the public in the planning and delivery of services and there is also the new duty on commissioners to report on consultation. Herefordshire LINK was

formally launched in October 2008. The steering group consists of a group of people both representing individual interests and also interests of various organisations relating to health and social care. Further information on their work and how you can get involved can be obtained from:

<http://www.herefordshirelink.org/>

The Alliance updated members on issues such as the Valuing People Partnership Board and Safeguarding Issues including the most recent Safeguarding Conference in Hereford. It was a reminder to those present of our responsibilities in the event of a disclosure or observation. Andrew Strong, Marion Tweed-Rycroft and myself are in touch with the Safeguarding team. There will be Safeguarding Training available and a request for all to get involved with the training questionnaire which will be circulated shortly via The Alliance.

There was an opportunity for members to update the group on their organisations issues and items of interest.





Next OPIG/DIG meeting: Wednesday 17 March 2010

The next meeting on 17 March 2010 will be attended by Leslie Libetta from the Integrated Commissioning team. Topics for this meeting include feedback from Leslie Libetta, an update/discussion on the Valuing People Board (learning disability) and its work, a presentation on 'Routeways into Work' and an update on Mental Health Services tender.

It would be good to have a range of people present, including those with an interest in disability, particularly learning disability, which has been under-represented at previous meetings.

I look forward to seeing you at our next meeting.

Future Meeting Dates:

Wednesday, 12 May 2010

Wednesday, 14 July 2010

Wednesday, 14 September 2010

Wednesday, 10 November 2010

Children's Interest Group (CHIG)

Helen Tank, CHIG Chair

All CHIG meetings are held between 12:30-14:30 at the Fred Bulmer Centre

Next CHIG meeting: Monday 15 February 2010

Future Meeting Dates:

Monday, 19 April 2010

Monday, 21 June 2010

Monday, 16 August 2010

Monday, 18 October 2010

Monday, 13 December 2010

Personalisation

Herefordshire Personalisation Event, Tuesday 23 February 2010, 10am until 1pm

As advised in a recent email to Members, this event will be led by Allan French and his team. Allan is the relatively new Interim Programme Lead on the Personalisation Agenda, HPS Integrated Commissioning Directorate.

The proposed agenda currently includes:

- Market Development
- E-Catalogue
- External Brokerage
- Communications – including Service Users
- Resource Allocation System
- Telehealth
- Personal Budgets

Contact Andrew Strong if you are interested in attending

Message from Integrated Commissioning Team on Personalisation

Allan French, Interim Programme Lead - Personalisation Agenda, Integrated Commissioning Directorate, Herefordshire Council reports:

This narrative very briefly outlines the terms of reference for a project to evaluate and develop a comprehensive programme of market development/facilitation in support of the personalisation programme in Herefordshire and to meet the future requirements of future commissioning strategies.





Definition of market facilitation.

“Based on a good understanding of need and demand, market facilitation is the process by which commissioners ensure there is sufficient appropriate provision available at the right price to meet needs and deliver effective outcomes both now and in the future”. Source- Institute of public care.

This requirement coordinates with World Class Commissioning Competency 7 – ‘Stimulate the Market’, the need to stimulate and develop the provider market which is defined as ‘the full range of goods and services that citizens may choose to purchase their support needs using state funding or their own resources’. Source - *Commissioning for Personalisation*

We believe this project is a key element to ensure the successful implementation of the personalisation agenda in Herefordshire. The major challenges in developing the social care, health and support market are how to commission for *individualised* services; and how to create *flexible* services for all people using them. As Commissioners our role in this project is to consider market intelligence, market structuring and the level of market intervention required.

In addition, it is expected that through the work of the Alliance the ‘market’ will have already begun to prepare for personalisation through bench marking, market analysis, strong performance management and marketing. This should be within a system which promotes personalisation and provides for a personalised commissioning approach, a service provider should be considering the following:

- how to individualise existing services;
- what should be its organisational mission and role;
- what is the future of the organisational size, shape and culture;
- how would it recruit, train, manage and support staff;
- how it would project itself to the public and potential service users;
- how it would account for individual budgets, income and expenditure;
- how would it continue to meet the requirements of regulators.

Clearly at a time of significant change, it is even more important to build sustainable, long-term relationships with service providers and groups of direct payment recipients. It is also clear that we need to work in close partnership with service providers in developing the social care and health

‘market’, communicating and sharing information, and signalling commissioning intentions.

Project E- catalogue – giving more choice and control to the service user

Allan French, Interim Programme Lead - Personalisation Agenda, Integrated Commissioning Directorate, Herefordshire Council reports:

Herefordshire Council will be offering service users and self funders the opportunity to take control over their care and support plan through the allocation of Personal Social Care Budgets as individual budgets or direct payments.

Potential service users will be able to choose from a wide range of services offered through provider’s innovation of new services.

The aim of ‘e-catalogue’ is the implementation of a web based technology in the same style as Amazon where service users will be able to manage their budgets, shop online with a shopping basket and purchase services to meets their needs and





for self funders to access information about providers and their services.

External Brokerage Project – update from HPS

A project team has been formed within the context of personalisation to pilot external brokerage of services to maximise the independence of services users and their choice and control over services provided. Learning from the pilot will shape the future approach to brokerage and will develop associated policies, methods and procedures.

Services for Independent Living (SIL) have been contracted to act as external broker for this project. SIL will broker services involved in the transfer of care into the community for a cohort of people and Council and SIL staff will be trained as brokers following a person centred approach to needs assessments.

The critical success factors for the project include development of new care packages; supported living arrangements; family and carers network of support in place for acceptance of the new care package; ensuring any safeguarding issues are addressed.

A Lessons Learned report will be created and updated throughout the length of the pilot.



Compact

National

Compact can guide councils' budget reviews

The Commission for the Compact has just published *Guidance for Local Authorities managing budget revisions* – about coping with the recession and increased demand for services on reduced funding.

It says the principles outlined in the guidance can help councils to meet and manage spending priority decisions that involve third sector organisations, and states that recognising and applying Compact principles helps local authorities to:

- Make robust decisions that minimise long term risk to service users
- Identify new approaches to services

- Minimise impact on Local Area Agreement targets
- Maintain partnership working with third sector organisations

Where there are to be any reductions in public spending, there should be a minimum of three months' notice about ending a funding relationship, reasons should be provided and organisations affected given an opportunity to respond.

See [www.thecompact.org.uk/files/140405/File Name/CompactGuidanceLABudget.pdf](http://www.thecompact.org.uk/files/140405/File%20Name/CompactGuidanceLABudget.pdf)

At a glance – changes in the new national Compact, directly quoted from

http://www.compactvoice.org.uk/information/101803/102028/compact_refresh/#glance

The Compact was refreshed and published last month.

'Here's a quick summary of some of the changes to the Compact document, noting some commitments have remained the same, such as 12-week consultation periods, 3 year funding and 3 month notice periods at the end of funding.





'Firstly it is now just one document: shorter and more accessible. Secondly the 'Achieving Equality' section broadens out many undertakings to cover the whole equality sector, which in the previous Compact and Codes related only to the BME sector.

'New commitments for Government:

- working towards a single safety check for volunteers who are volunteering for more than one cause (19.7)
- funding agreements to ensure that all sub-contractors which work with the voluntary sector have to follow Compact commitments (6.3)
- applying Compact commitments when distributing European funding (6.4)
- making payments within 10 days of invoices being received (11.2)
- ensuring that all third sector organisations have equal opportunities to access government funding programmes. This includes access to funds to build capacity (19.3)

'New commitments for the voluntary sector:

- being clear on who they represent and how their views have been gathered (4.3)
- applying Compact principles when sub-

contracting to other voluntary organisations (15.4)

- giving early notice to funders of significant changes in management, financial or other risks (17.4).'

Implications of changes to Herefordshire

Compact Guidance Local Authorities Budget states that 'while the national Compact is not directly applicable to local authorities, many are Local Compact partners, using its principles to help establish and strengthen partnership working with local third sector organisations'.

It remains to be seen whether Herefordshire decides to adopt one document rather than the Compact and three Codes currently in place – visit http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/community_and_living/neighbourhood/3333.asp .

The Alliance will continue to contribute to discussions at the Compact Code Implementation Group, which may wind up by 31 March 2010, and then at the Local Compact Working Group which is likely to become *the* Compact group for Herefordshire.

Key messages from The Alliance to HPS will continue to be:

- Three or multi-year contracts – resources
- Payment in advance where possible – resources
- Adequate notice for contract end or renewal (minimum of 3 months) – resources
- Involvement in needs analysis and planning – commissioning
- Adequate notice for each stage of a tender process – commissioning
- Clarity of role, as a partner or stakeholder – commissioning.

The message to providers/Alliance members in respect to resources has been that they should analyse their full costs, identify service unit costs, and assess/manage risk if quoted price for a service is below the cost. This sits alongside strategies for sustainability and improved competitiveness.





Strategic Planning and Commissioning

Local

Interim Director of Integrated Commissioning

Ann Donkin has been appointed Interim Director of Integrated Commissioning at HPS to cover Dr Ian Williams' indeterminate sick leave. Ann Donkin is an independent hospitals and health care consultant who has been working as part of the National Support Team at the Department of Health since 2007. Previously, she was Director of Modernisation and Organisational Development at the West Hertfordshire Hospitals Trust.

Deputy Chief Executive, HPS

Dean Taylor has been appointed Deputy Chief Executive at HPS. Dean is currently Strategic Director, Safer and Stronger Communities at Buckinghamshire County Council. Prior to that, he was Corporate Director, Strategy and Resources at West

Berkshire Council. He takes up his post in April, with responsibilities covering Legal and Democratic Services; HR and Organisational Development; IT and Herefordshire Connects; Policy and Performance; Communications; Customer Services and the Herefordshire Partnership.

Herefordshire Public Services Organisational plan

The **attached** plan was updated on 10 December 2009 but unfortunately it doesn't provide individuals names nor necessarily indicate what the area of responsibility is of individual managers or officers. We are hoping to be able to have an update of names and responsibilities for the integrated commissioning team soon.

NAVCA's Tender Support Service – see 'information for TSOs' (third sector organisations) attached

This provides one-to-one support to increase third sector organisations' (TSOs) ability to win contracts to deliver public services. One

day of consultancy is available and can be used for single or partnership bids. NAVCA will fund half the consultancy costs and the TSO will fund the other half. In the case of single bids, the total cost to the TSO will be no more than £250 + VAT, depending on the rate that the consultant charges. In the case of partnership bids, the total cost will be no more than £500 + VAT (for two days' consultancy) or £750 + VAT (for three days' consultancy).

TSOs must meet the following eligibility criteria. They must:

- be a local third sector organisation, i.e. already operating in the local area for which the tender is advertised;
- be tendering to deliver a service in the local area;
- be completing a tender submission for the first time, or have already written tenders once or twice but been unsuccessful;
- stand a reasonable chance of winning the tender, i.e. be tender ready;
- have no access to similar support through another source, such as membership of a national organisation that provides tender writing support;





- be willing to pay for half the day's consultancy;
- be willing to pay for the consultant's travel time and costs if they require face to face meetings.

The project is targeted at, but not exclusively for, medium-sized organisations (those with an income of no more than £1 million).

It is available through The Alliance following a successful bid from The Alliance to have the project in Herefordshire – one of just 11 areas nationally that was successful.

Contact Andrew Strong if interested.

Herefordshire Partnership, National Indicators, the Local Area Agreement and Area Based Grant

The Herefordshire Partnership (HP) has become increasingly important to health, care and support service providers (including several Alliance members) because of the Area Based Grant (ABG), National Indicators and Local Area Agreement (LAA) priorities.

HP was established in 2000 and comprises public, private, community and voluntary organisations that are 'committed to making a difference in the quality of life for people who live and work in the county'. Its vision and key areas of work are set out in the Community Strategy for Herefordshire.

Alliance members may know that there are 198 national indicators representing what Government believes should be the priorities for local government, working alone or in partnership. Intentions were set out in the 2006 local government white paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities'.

In each area in 2007, targets against the set of NIs were negotiated with Government through LAAs which will last three years, 2008-11. The Herefordshire LAA consists of three parts. The Story of Place places the LAA in context and outlines various aspects of life in Herefordshire, what is performed well at and what improvements are needed. From this comes the Priorities which reflect areas for improvement. Finally there are Indicators and Targets (refreshed in March 2009) which help measure performance against the priorities.

The ABG is a collection of grants which previously were allocated to organisations to fund particular pieces of work. 'This revenue funding is now going direct [to Herefordshire Council] who are free to use it as they see fit [through the HP] to support the delivery of local, regional and national priorities in their areas'. The ABG for Herefordshire now totals £15m for 2010-11. This has increased significantly due to the addition of the Supporting People (SP) programme grant of around £6m. ABG is, therefore, aligned to service delivery that meets NI and LAA targets.

No Wrong Door

Designing locality arrangements

Keeping you informed- seeking your views
Workshop dates for 2010

See **attached**





Health, care and support third sector provider interests

There are two basic reasons why the HP, NIs, LAA and ABG matters to third sector providers:

1. ABG is a significant source of funding (especially with the SP grant's inclusion as of 1.4.10) which the HP structure, through various Boards and statutory and non-statutory partnerships, decides upon
2. Performance management against the LAA and NIs requires/will or may require regular information from providers for HP via HPS officers and statutory/non-statutory partnerships.

These are the priorities in Herefordshire's LAA and related NIs that are particularly relevant to health, care and support providers:

Children and Young People (Children's Trust Board)	
Priority	NIs listed in LAA Refresh Document
Encourage and enable children and young people in Herefordshire to achieve their potential and participate in positive activities	NI 110: Young people participate in positive activities NI 51: Effectiveness of child and adolescent mental health services
Health and Wellbeing (Health and Wellbeing Board)	
Priority	NIs listed in LAA Refresh Document
Encourage and promote a healthy lifestyle with particular attention to	NI 56: Obesity among primary aged children in Year 6 NI 57: Children and young people's

reducing smoking, levels of obesity and excessive consumption of alcohol	participation in high quality PE and sport NI 121: Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at age 75 NI 123: Stopping smoking NI 39: Alcohol-harm related hospital admission
Help vulnerable people to live safely and independently in their own homes	NI 130: Social care clients receiving self directed support (direct payments or individual budgets) NI 135: Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carers' service or advice and information NI 136: People supported to live independently through social services NI 142: Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living

The following should be noted:

1. The LAA is due for annual review and is scheduled for completion by April 2010
2. Not all activity against the NIs is funded by the ABG
3. The LAA covers significant health and social care service areas
4. ABG allocation to NI 142 (formerly SP – housing-related support) is proposed to be divided into three themes and across three HP Boards: Health and Wellbeing, Stronger Communities, and Safer Communities. The SP Commissioning Body would be wound up. If approved this new arrangement will commence on 1 April 2010.





National

Right to Control trailblazers to extend personalisation

Disabled people should have choice and control over all aspects of their lives and so personalisation has to extend beyond social care to other services and support. The 'right to control' is about disabled people having control over certain state funded resources that they receive.

In its response to the Right to Control consultation which took place earlier this year, government has said that there will be Right to Control trailblazers in around eight local authorities in 2010. Expressions of interest in running these pilots are currently being invited.

Government wants a wide range of people to take part in the trailblazers including those with learning disabilities and people with mental health issues. Funding streams covered include: Work Choice, Access to Work, Independent Living Fund and the Disabled Facilities Grant. Government is also keen for consideration to be given to what

Supporting People money could be included. Adult social care funding should be aligned with Right to Control.

Under Right to Control, disabled people will not have to buy their own support services or equipment. Individuals could choose to continue receiving the services arranged on their behalf if they prefer, or have a combination of the two options.

The trailblazer programme should:

- Test the most effective ways of delivering choice and control to a wide range of disabled people
- Test aligning and streamlining the processes surrounding different funding streams to achieve agreed outcomes for disabled people
- Gather a robust evidence-base in relation to implementation and delivery of the Right to Control

The decision will then be made as to whether the Right to Control should be rolled out more widely and how this would be best done. More information at www.odi.gov.uk/right-to-control

NHS 5 Year Plan

National

Government launches 5-year plan for “people-centred” NHS

NHS 2010-2015: from good to great sets the vision for an NHS that focuses on being preventative, people-centred, and productive. The plan sets the challenge of delivering high quality health care within the context of a tough financial environment. (David Nicholson, NHS chief executive, says £15-20bn should be saved through increased efficiency during 2011-14.)

The strategy includes:

- A shift from ‘diagnose and treat’ towards ‘predict and prevent’ – the NHS will only meet this goal by working with local partners, including the third sector
- Moving from acute hospitals to community settings or the home





- One-to-one carers and health professionals for patients with serious long-term conditions
- The ability for patients with terminal conditions to choose where they spend their final days
- More control and choice for patients over the care they receive
- NHS Health Checks for all patients between 40 and 74 by April 2012.

Local

NHS Herefordshire: World Class Commissioning

NHS Herefordshire, the Primary Care Trust, presented its *'World Class Commissioning: Draft Strategic Plan for 2010 – 2014'* at a stakeholder event on 21 January. The plan sets out challenges ahead and its response, five strategic priorities, four cross-cutting objectives, 10 world class commissioning outcomes and nine programme budgets areas for urgent improvement. The plan goes on to describe the actions being put in place to take forward the plan. A Transition Board for provider services has been meeting since

summer 2009 and work-streams are also ongoing into care pathways, locality based healthcare services and urgent care.

An overview of the plan was given by Piers Ricketts, from KPMG, who have been assisting with the preparation of the strategy. Presentations were then made on the detail by Dr. Akeem Ali, Director of Public Health, Sue Doheny, Director of Quality and Clinical Leadership and Marcia Pert, Director of Resources. The importance of prevention and promoting healthy lifestyles was stressed, as was the need for health and social care to work together to meet increased demand and the overall needs of a growing ageing population.

Group discussions followed on how we can all work together to deliver the challenging health agenda, what we need to do, what will facilitate delivery and what are the risks we have to manage. Common themes in the feedback were the importance of joint working and involving the third sector both strategically and operationally, particularly at a local level.

In drawing the event to a close, Chris Bull, Chief Executive of HPS emphasised three things, that there needed to be firstly a continuing dialogue to identify what works;

secondly a better aligning of resources with what works, both in terms of outcomes and patients' experience, so that there could be informed and intelligent change; and finally that prioritisation was no longer negotiable but essential. Hard decisions would need to be taken, and taken rigorously but positively, and success would depend on the capacity, capability and commitment of all involved.

The Plan will be forwarded to the Strategic Health Authority for approval next month.

Third Sector

Local

Third Sector Support Services Review

As many members will be aware, a review of support services for third sector organisations has been commissioned by Herefordshire Public Services, (HPS). This will review services provided by six third sector infrastructure organisations, (Community First; Herefordshire Voluntary Action; Community and Voluntary Action, Ledbury; Age Concern, Herefordshire and Worcestershire; Herefordshire Council for





Voluntary Youth Services; and The Alliance), as well as services provided by public sector agencies, including HPS itself and other members of the Herefordshire Partnership.

The aim of the review is to produce proposals for streamlining the current arrangements from April 2011. A working group, chaired by David Powell, Director of Resources at HPS, will begin the review shortly.

The six third sector organisations being reviewed will be working together to over the coming months, identifying the key issues, and possible solutions. There is a strong imperative for change, given the prospect of heavy cuts in public sector budgets over the next few years, and The Alliance is approaching the review positively but under no illusions about what the future may hold.

Directors and staff at The Alliance will want to hear your views about what should happen. We will keep you informed of developments and be providing opportunities for you to come and discuss the issues and options. Equally, if you would like to put forward your views now, either on your own or with other member organisations, then please contact Helen Horton, Chief Executive in the first instance.

Herefordshire Third Sector Board (Interim)

This met again on Thursday 21 January 2010 mainly to consider the agenda for the Third Sector Forum but also to receive updates from Herefordshire Partnership representatives. Minutes will be circulated when they are agreed.

National

Public spending cuts 'could amount to billions', says Charity Finance Directors' Group

Office of the Third Sector: provides funding for charities to carry out public services

A new report paints a bleak picture for the charity sector. David Ainsworth reports

The charity sector could face cuts of billions of pounds because of reductions in public spending, a report from the Charity Finance Directors' Group has warned.

Public Funding Cuts in the Third Sector: Scale and Implications, written by Kate Hand, policy and campaigns officer at the CFDG, and Antonis Pappasolomontos, a researcher

seconded to the umbrella group from the Liberal Democrats, says that even in the best-case scenario the sector's funding would be cut by hundreds of millions of pounds.

Voluntary sector organisations receive about £11bn a year from the public sector, according to the report.

The report says the main factors that will affect the size of the cuts will be whether NHS funding is maintained or increased, how cuts are split between departments, whether the third sector remains a priority within government departments and how quickly growth returns to the UK economy.

It is not clear whether the Government will restrict cuts to low-priority areas or reduce all department budgets, it says.

"What is clear is that the third sector collectively is quite low on the list of political priorities, but that some of the areas charities work in are high priorities, such as substance abuse, family breakdown and employment services," the report says.

"Undoubtedly, a number of charities will see a reduction in the level of funds available.





"However, organisations working in areas of high government priority and within a protected budget may experience either an extension of existing funding levels or even an increase. Others will see new opportunities in the form of newly created funding streams."

The report says that in an average scenario the Office of the Third Sector, which provides much of the direct funding received by charities, could lose between £28m and £33m from its budget, but that the Conservatives have already pledged to cut OTS funding by closer to £100m.

3SC says 200 third sector organisations have shown interest in joining bids

3SC is the brainchild consortium of the Social Investment Business, which runs Futurebuilders. It was set up to bid for large-scale public sector contracts to enable smaller organisations to be involved. Organisations too small to win large national contracts on their own can register an interest in being part of the consortium at www.3sc.org/index.html

Members should note that Futurebuilders have closed funding for applications the time being as all money has been allocated.

Independent Safeguarding Authority

Safeguarding - Drawing the Line

Sir Roger Singleton, the government's chief adviser on the safety of children and chair of the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA), has issued a series of recommendations on how best to change the rules governing the Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) to ensure it strikes the right balance between offering protections without being overly burdensome.

He has now confirmed that "The normal, everyday practical arrangements which parents make with other parents, family members and friends to care for their children such as sharing the school run, arranging sleepovers and generally helping each other out are wholly unaffected by the scheme."

Sir Roger has made a series of recommendations – all accepted by government – on how to adjust the rules

setting out when a worker will have to register to best ensure the scheme is appropriate, balanced and proportionate. These include:

- Where organisations such as schools, clubs or groups make the decision as to which adults should work with their children, then the requirement to register with the VBS should apply, subject to the frequent and intensive contact provisions
- The frequent contact test should be met if the work with children takes place once a week or more (at present the test is if activity happens as often as once a month). The intensive contact test should be met if the work takes place on 4 days in a month or more or overnight.

Further recommendations mean that government will also take action to:

- Consider whether private health practitioners, such as chiropractors and homoeopaths should be required to register (they do not have to at present).
- Review the continuing need for 'controlled activity'. 'Controlled activity' is defined as a small number





of activities where there might be opportunity for contact with children or vulnerable adults, such as working as a hospital or school receptionist. This review will be launched in the New Year.

- Review the law and government's advice on when, in the future, workers who have already secured ISA registration, will have to get CRB checks.

The government is also urged to improve communications to make sure people understand the VBS and how it works, as well as its intrinsic value in protecting the members of our society who are the most vulnerable and deserve our action to ensure they are kept safe. Drawing the Line – A report on the Government's Vetting and Barring Scheme is at <http://publications.everychildmatters.gov.uk/default.aspx?DCSF-01122-2009>

Roll out of the VBS

The timetable for rolling out the scheme is unchanged:

July 2010 – new entrants and employees looking to work or volunteer with vulnerable

groups can start to apply to become ISA registered.

November 2010 – new entrants must become ISA registered before starting work with vulnerable groups.

April 2011 – existing workers start to become ISA-registered.

Members' Items

SHYPP – Job Opportunities

Outreach Support worker

See **attached** PS and JD

Age Concern Bromyard & District, Hereford City and Rural, Ledbury & District and Leominster & District have agreed to merge to form a single Age Concern working in Herefordshire.

A Steering Group has been formed from Directors of each Age Concern. The group has secured funding through the Modernisation Fund to undertake this process

and Barbara Parkinson has been engaged to facilitate.

The Steering Group has appointed Simon Marriot from Age Concern Bromyard & District as their Interim Chair and Colette Colman from Age Concern Leominster & District as their Interim Chief Executive.

The Steering Group will issue regular updates on the merger.

Grants & Funding

Availability of small grants in Herefordshire

A Funding Information Sheet from the HCDP (Herefordshire Community Development Partnership) is **attached**.

Its purpose is to act as a 'pointer' to small grants particularly for smaller third sector groups.

The sheet gives an idea of a few grants which are available and their objective.

There are many more grants available in Herefordshire, and the contact names on the sheet can help find and apply for them.





New Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund

This new Fund replaces the Opportunities for Volunteering (OFV) scheme which has been running since 1982. The new scheme will continue to support local volunteering projects in health and social care, and will also be available to national projects to improve health and well being. It will prioritise projects which work towards key aims such as improving adult social care and reducing health inequalities.

ECOTEC will manage the new Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund along with partners PrimeTimers, Attend and CVS (Community Service Volunteers). The Fund will run alongside the OVF scheme until 2010 to allow projects already being funded to run their course.

Applications for grants under the new Fund will open in January 2010. The first round will be for local projects; a second round later in the year will support national schemes. Visit www.volunteeringfund.com, helpline number 0845 172 8058.

For Information

New Website

KnowHow NonProfit is a new website built for the nonprofit sector: it is a comprehensive information resource and online community.

It is a place where new charity start-ups and experienced minds can share their knowledge and expertise with each other online.

www.knowhownonprofit.org is packed full of useful information, podcasts from events and a calendar of courses and conferences stretching across the UK. KnowHow Non Profit is funded by the National Lottery so all content is entirely free and available to all.

Peer Support with Personal Budgets

SIL is running a project called 'Peer Support with Personal Budgets'. The project aims to increase awareness and take up of Personal Budgets by providing information, advice to disabled people of all ages and impairments to assist them to access, understand and use Personal Budgets. The information and advice will be provided by volunteers who already have a Personal Budget.

Information and support to disabled and older people and their families about Personal Budgets will be provided on a 'surgery' basis in each of the 5 market towns on a monthly basis. The intention is that disabled people & family carers will be able to book a 1-1 session with an existing Personal Budget user, who will explain the process, the advantages, and possible pitfalls of a Personal Budget and help individuals to explore ideas about how to use it to suit them best.

If you require further information about this project then please call Angela or Helen on 01432 353397 or e-mail helen@s4il.co.uk or angelah@s4il.co.uk.

'Talk about local' project

'Talk about local' is about giving people an effective online voice for their local communities by:

- helping them create new local community media outlets on the web
- empowering people who haven't been on the web before
- creating a community of local 'activists' and publishers online

With 'Talk about local' funding and skills, UK online centres will create hundreds of





independent community websites across the country, owned and updated by ordinary local people on a volunteer basis. These sites will give communities an effective voice online, increase their self-advocacy and enable them to shape online the place in which they live or work. So whether you want to share gardening hints and tips with your neighbours online or want to gather support for a local campaign, 'Talk about local' will give you everything you need. And you don't need to know anything about computers – they'll show you how.

'Talk about local' aims to engage UK online centres in 150 places throughout England to train 3,000 local community activists to build 200 active community websites. The project run mainly out of Birmingham is funded by Channel 4, Screen West Midlands, and Advantage West Midlands. 'Talk about local' will be rolled out across the UK in January 2010. For more information on the project, please visit www.talkaboutlocal.org.uk

Would you like to take part?

Deaf Direct are a UKOnline Centre taking part in the 'Talk about local' pilot scheme – they have funding for 20 free training places. If you would like to find out more about setting up a

Talk about local blog for your community group, contact Jill Wyatt on 01432 357741.

Consultations

Place Shaping Herefordshire Consultation

Visit

<http://www.herefordshire.gov.uk/housing/planning/30579.asp>

Many in Herefordshire will be aware of the Place Shaping Paper which has been prepared to combine the consultation on three plans:

- Core Strategy – a preferred strategy and further options for Hereford, the market towns and rural areas and a number of general policy directions
- Hereford Area Plan – the 'Issues' stage
- Market Towns and Rural Areas Plan – the 'Issues' stage

The Place Shaping Consultation will take place from the **18th January until 12th March 2010.**

Proposed planning highlights include:

- Significant redevelopment in Hereford
- Significant expansion to Hereford
- A relief road that has been 'regionally endorsed'.

Content is very broad but implications fascinating: all in Herefordshire are encouraged to express their views. There are proposals, facts and figures contained in the consultation documents that may be very useful for organisations' strategic planning processes.

What is certain is that the population in Herefordshire will grow and so Herefordshire, particularly Hereford, needs to grow in order to provide homes, jobs, and education (including higher education).

Personal Care at Home. Ends: 23 February 2010

This consultation seeks views on proposals for regulations and guidance made under the Personal Care at Home Bill – in other words who will be entitled to receive free personal care at home and how will it work. The





intention is that councils will no longer be able to raise charges on the personal care element of someone's care received at home if they fulfil certain criteria. Although the consultation closes on 23 February, the Dept of Health has said that it would appreciate earlier responses, if possible. www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH109139

Training

Community First

Costing, Tendering & Bid Writing

Wednesday 14 April 2010

See attached flyer

Events

Herefordshire Third Sector Forum 10 February 2010

Attendee numbers are now close to full capacity – around 70 people. Speakers will be Stuart Etherington, NCVO, and Julie

Gethin, Head of Herefordshire Partnership. There will then be a panel session for questions and answers, followed by workshops to identify key issues for the third sector in Herefordshire and how the Forum and Third Sector Board could respond.

Contact Andrew Strong for more information.

Conferences

RADAR and the Appointments

Commission are working together by running two seminars – on the **11th February in London and 1st March in Manchester** to support and equip people with IID to successfully apply for Non Executive Director roles within their local NHS services.

Please see **attached** for further information and the application pack.

Trustee Exchange 2010 – one day conference that brings you together with trustees and other interested in governance to share experiences and learn from each other.

Thursday 18 March 2010, Radisson Blu Portman Hotel, London

To book a place, phone on 020 7819 1200 or email: events@civilsociety.co.uk or visit the website:

www.civilsociety.co.uk/trusteeexchange

Acknowledgement: Extracts have been taken from Community Action Hampshire's 'Action News Update'





Members' Office Space Available

Teme Valley Youth Project Wigmore

(Youth & Community Resource Centre, Kings Meadow)

Meeting Room, Office Space & Storage

Possibility of Separate Offices
Café Area, Patio, Kitchen & Creche area,
Access to Showers

RENT ON ENQUIRY
Contact No. 01568 770656

Mediation Hereford Hereford

(Berrows Business Centre, Bath Street)

Interview/Meeting Room Close to City Centre

Seats 2-6

RENT ON ENQUIRY
Contact No. 01432 264087

SHYPP Hereford

(6 Bridge Street)

Training Room

£7 per hour

Tea, Coffee & Biscuits provided

Lunch can be arranged at an
additional cost for full day bookings

Contact No. 01432 374320
E:mail: info@herefordshireshypp.org

If you have any office or storage space available and would like to advertise in News Link,

please send details to info@allianceherefordshire.org.uk



The Alliance of Voluntary Sector Organisations in Health and Social Care
Working collaboratively for improved health and care services in Herefordshire



Members' Office Space Available

Deaf Direct

Hereford

(Kemble House, 37 Broad Street)

Office Space & Meeting Room

Small office seats 1-2

Large office seats 2-3

Meeting room seats up to 6

Boardroom up to 10

Training room up to 25

RENT ON ENQUIRY

Contact No. 01432 357741

Echo Leominster

(40 West Street)

Meeting/Training Room

Seats 15
(Town Centre)

Comprising
Ground Floor

Whiteboard & Flipchart
Projector & Screen (extra £5)

Disabled Toilet

Kitchen Facilities

2 Disabled Parking Spaces

RENT £5.50/hour

Contact No. 01568 620307

Elgar Housing Association

Ledbury Office

Mobile Office

Opportunity for outreach work alongside Festival Housing Officer on existing routes and days. See existing route and timetable on:

http://www.festivalhousing.org/files/ART617_Elgar%20Routes%20Leaflet.pdf

Fully equipped satellite links

Alternatively an opportunity for own route/roadshow on Fridays or weekends with seating space for 8

Minibus can take 4 people in transit or 8 when stationary including the driver

RENT ON ENQUIRY

Contact No. 01885 483808

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please send details to info@allianceherefordshire.org.uk



The Alliance of Voluntary Sector Organisations in Health and Social Care
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Members' Office Space Required

Elgar Housing Association

Bromyard

Requires:

Desk space for back office functions

No face to face client meetings

Must have:

Access to Broadband.



Contact No. 01684 579303

Workmatch Ltd inc ABLE

Requires:

1 large or 2/3 small rooms on a daily basis

Must have:

Easy Access for people with mobility issues, close to rail/bus stop



Contact No. 01432 265545

Services for Independent Living

Hereford City

Requires:

1-2 meeting rooms sufficient for 5 people (2 of which are wheelchair users), 1 large meeting room suitable for board meetings (4 of which are wheelchair users), small rooms required daily, large room weekly, minimum

Must have:

Fully accessible entrance sufficient for a large electric wheelchair and accompanying PA



Contact No. 01432 353397

If you have any office requirements and would like to advertise in News Link,

please send details to info@allianceherefordshire.org.uk



The Alliance of Voluntary Sector Organisations in Health and Social Care
Working collaboratively for improved health and care services in Herefordshire



The Alliance of Third Sector Organisations working collaboratively for improved health and social care services in Herefordshire

The Alliance exists to be a point of contact, forum and voice for the sector on health and social care matters, to lead change in introducing standards in sector organisations providing health and social care services and to provide effective mechanisms for the sector to work with public authorities constructively over health and social care matters.

The strength of The Alliance is in its diverse and vibrant membership. This increased voice for the third sector is vital if the sector is to influence the design, commissioning, delivery and development of health and social care services for adults, young people and children in Herefordshire.

Contacts

Helen Horton - Chief Executive

Andrew Strong – Third Sector Commissioning Manager

Sandie Maddison – General Manager

Dawn Bannerman – Finance Officer

Angela Higgleton – acquA Administrator

The Alliance: Tel: 01432 265856 or email: info@allianceherefordshire.org.uk

acquA: Tel: 01432 355976 or email: accreditation@allianceherefordshire.org.uk

Address: Fred Bulmer Centre, Wall Street, Hereford, HR4 9HP

Office Hours: The Alliance office is staffed Monday to Friday 09:30 – 16:00. A message service is in operation at all times when staff are unavailable and messages will be followed up by the appropriate person as soon as possible.

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