



BBWCVS

Basildon, Billericay and Wickford Council for  
Voluntary Service

# Voluntary Sector News

June 2011

Issue 1

Promoting voluntary action in Basildon District



**Volunteer Centres**

Essex

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**BBWCVS STAFF**

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To view this newsletter and previous editions online, please visit  
<http://www.bbwcvs.org.uk/Newsletter.htm>

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Please note that BBWCVS is not responsible for the content of external websites, opinions expressed on those sites do not necessarily represent those of BBWCVS.

We are happy to receive brief items for the newsletter, but reserve the right to refuse any item.

### **Welcome to our summer edition of our newsletter.**

Running a charity or voluntary organisation is hard at the best of times. With rising demand and less predictable income it has got even harder. In this situation I think we need to ask the question "what can we do to make life easier?" In some ways this was what we are trying to capture with the recent membership survey. Your response has been helpful. I said in the last edition that I would report some of the headlines and give feedback so here goes.

I am pleased to report that the majority felt we were doing a good job, that you particularly valued the support provided by the Volunteer Centre, and found advice on funding and training especially useful. Critical comments were received about our website and we remain committed to undertaking an overhaul of the site. You also requested more engagement with the Chief Officer. As a result I have agreed with staff that we will undertake a minimum of one visit per year to membership groups, to understand your needs, wants, and wishes and how we can assist, as well as understanding the services you provide.

We are still interested in your views so have attached a further form to complete and return. Copies are also available in an electronic format on the attached link.

### **Basildon Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2033**

Over the last year there have been a number of changes that have impacted on the conventional work of Local Strategic Partnerships. In order to meet these new challenges, and following a recent review, the Basildon Local Strategic Partnership and the Basildon Renaissance Partnership merged to form a joint affiliation in April 2011.

The new Partnership has developed five overarching objectives with underpinning priority themes. As a result a refresh of the Basildon Sustainable Community Strategy has become necessary to incorporate the updated vision, priorities and action plans.

The current Basildon Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) was adopted in 2008, with the inclusion of accompanying three-year medium term delivery plans for 2008-2011. The strategy is important as it helps to frame medium term planning, develop a relevant evidence base and provide an overarching framework for all other key plans and strategies. This is now the subject of a review. The refresh will consist of a review of the vision, priorities and action plans along with the performance management framework. It will look at how the SCS fits and aligns with other strategies.

### **This is now your opportunity to help shape the landscape.**

Are the priorities right? Where are the gaps? How can we work with our partners to help meet the objectives? Is the vision right? Comments on the emerging SCS objectives; feedback on the role of the voluntary sector in the delivery of the SCS objectives and comments on what support BRP can provide to build capacity and help the third sector to deliver on these objectives are all welcome. If you have any comments or suggestions please let us know by Monday 22nd August. They can be sent to [sarah.love@basildon.gov.uk](mailto:sarah.love@basildon.gov.uk) or [chris@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:chris@bbwcvcs.org.uk)  
Finally enjoy your summer holidays.

## HealthWatch Update

Following the consultation on the proposal for a shadow Local HealthWatch organisation in Essex, the county council has set up a web page to keep people informed about the developments of HealthWatch in Essex:

[www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/Partners/Adult-Social-Care-providers/Pages/HealthWatch-consultation.aspx](http://www.essex.gov.uk/Business-Partners/Partners/Adult-Social-Care-providers/Pages/HealthWatch-consultation.aspx)

Essex County Council expects to hear whether or not the bid to be a HealthWatch 'Pathfinder' has been successful by the end of July, the early indication is that The Department of Health is supportive of the proposal. The website will be updated regularly to notify people of how HealthWatch is progressing. Please visit the website for information about

- The plans to set up a pathfinder HealthWatch in Essex
- Some of the most frequently asked questions about HealthWatch
- The wider changes that are planned in health and social care

For more information please contact Duncan Wood:

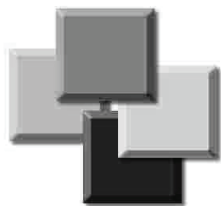
E-mail: [mail.PublicEngagement@essex.gov.uk](mailto:mail.PublicEngagement@essex.gov.uk)

Paper: Research & Intelligence Unit  
Room D102  
County Hall  
Chelmsford CM1 1QH

## Health & Social Care Bill Changes

Following the listening exercise the government has announced changes to the Health and Social Care Bill. A number of changes the sector has been pressing for have been made. However, there are still concerns about the lack of any specific reference to the involvement of local voluntary organisations and community groups in the new structures. Consequently we will be taking every opportunity available to us over the coming months to make the case for the involvement of local voluntary organisations and community groups. We will also continue our work to support local members and the organisations they work with to influence the development of and be involved in the emerging local structures.

## TRAINING



### Voluntary Sector Training

Places may be limited on some of the following courses, so please book as soon as possible....

**Voluntary Sector Training (VST)** is an independent charity working to support the development of a strong, effective and diverse voluntary and community sector in Essex. BBWCVS works in partnership with VST to provide good quality training for the needs of the sector in Basildon District. For further information please go to the VST website, where you can also find info on courses:

<http://www.voluntarysectortraining.org.uk/index.htm>

You can also contact them on:

Tel - 01371 876747

Email—[admin@voluntarysectortraining.org.uk](mailto:admin@voluntarysectortraining.org.uk)

### BBWCVS WORKSHOPS - 2011

| DATE                  | LOCATION   | VENUE                        | TIME        | TOPICS  |
|-----------------------|------------|------------------------------|-------------|---|
| Sept 15 <sup>th</sup> | Pitsea     | Pitsea Leisure Centre        | 10:00-12:00 | Big Lottery Fund programmes                   |
| Oct. 13 <sup>th</sup> | Billericay | Queens Park Community Church | 10:00-12:00 | Writing about Need and Understanding Outcomes |
| Nov. 10 <sup>th</sup> | Brentwood  | The Nightingale Centre       | 10:00-12:00 | Introducing Reaching Communities              |
| Dec. 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Basildon   | The George Hurd Centre       | 10:00-12:00 | How to Apply – Reaching Communities Workshop  |

To register for the above workshops or for more information please email; [pam@bbwcv.org.uk](mailto:pam@bbwcv.org.uk) or telephone: 01268 294439

## LOCAL NEWS

### EACVS Website

Basildon, Billericay & Wickford CVS is a member of the Essex Association of CVSs (EACVS.) Members of EACVS provide help and support to front line voluntary and community organisations across Essex, Southend and Thurrock. Each works behind the scenes in their locality to ensure that local voluntary groups get the support that they need. They offer a range of services to the local voluntary and community sector, work collaboratively where this is of benefit to the local sector, and are part of a network that is in touch with over 164,000 local charities, voluntary and community groups across the country. To find out more, visit the new website at:

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



## ESSEXFAMILY

### Spreading the message

#### A workshop to help develop a shared communications and engagement plan

Are you interested in helping develop a shared approach to communications and engagement for EssexFamily?

We want an environment for authentic collaboration, where we can create real momentum behind the EssexFamily project. And we'd like you to be part of it. You don't need any marketing or communications experience. Just ideas and a few hours of your time.

**When:** Friday 22nd July 2011

**Where:** Rayleigh Weir Fire Station, 500 Rayleigh Road, Benfleet, Essex, SS7 3TR

**Time:** 10am-12pm

**RSVP:** [info@essexpartnership.org.uk](mailto:info@essexpartnership.org.uk)

### **Working with Job Centre Plus**

NAVCA has produced a briefing on working with Job Centre Plus. This includes an explanation of the Work Together initiative and the co-location project. NAVCA is keen to hear about members' experience of working with Job Centre Plus.

### **First aid advice**

The Health and Safety Executive has updated its 'Basic advice on first aid at work' leaflet.

### **IBM pro bono marketing support**

IBM is launching a marketing program to provide charities and voluntary organisations with pro bono marketing consultancy. As the first step they want to ask organisations to complete a short survey in order for us to design the right content and services

### **Third Way and Big Society**

Rob Macmillan reviews Bill Jordan's new book which critically examines the concept of the 'Third Way' and its connection to the idea of the 'Big Society'.

### **2012 Jubilee bank holiday**

The 2012 late May bank holiday will be moved to Monday 4 June 2012 and an additional Jubilee bank holiday will be on Tuesday 5 June 2012.

### **Risk Management Guide from the Charity Commission**

This is a useful guide for groups when they are considering risk management.

### **Make a difference day**

On Saturday 29 October get involved in Make a Difference Day, the UK's biggest day of volunteering! Last year more than 2,000 organisers put on activities involving 70,000 volunteers. More information and free resources are available online.

## CONSULTATIONS

### **Basildon Renaissance Partnership Sustainable Community Strategy Consultation with Voluntary Sector**

It is important that as many groups in the Voluntary Sector respond to this consultation as possible. The timeline for the consultation is such that, BRP partners have asked to see the first developed draft of the Basildon Sustainable Community Strategy at the meeting on the 6th September 2011. In order to meet these timeframes, and for the document to be meaningful, comments will need to be returned by Monday 22nd August to enable time to incorporate and circulate to the Board in advance of the meeting.

This consultation concentrates on the overarching objectives and priorities for the SCS; there will be ample opportunity later in the year to discuss the work plans in more detail. For copies of the Draft SCS Objectives & Priorities Document and SCS Refresher Paper SL V2, please go the CVS website. If you have any questions please contact the CVS office.

### **Public services white paper**

The government has launched its [white paper on the reform of public services](#). After much delay the Cabinet Office has published the Open Public Services white paper which will be followed over the summer by 'a wide-ranging discussion with individuals, communities, public sector staff, providers and others with an interest in how public services are delivered'.

## COMPACT

Many organisations either rent or use council-owned premises. NCVO have produced a guide which is a short introduction on how the Compact, public law, and equalities duties, are relevant and can be used where decisions are taken that affect your use of premises. It will help organisations to know where they stand, what their rights are, and how they may be able to challenge unfair decisions.

The Empowering the Voluntary Sector project brings together expertise in the Compact and public law providing advice and advocacy for organisations on a whole range of decisions taken by public bodies. Contact them on 020 7520 3161 or by email [evsAdvice@ncvo-vol.org.uk](mailto:evsAdvice@ncvo-vol.org.uk)

## **Education Endowment Fund**

The Sutton Trust has been awarded a £125 million grant by the Government to establish a new initiative to boost the attainment of some of the country's most disadvantaged children. The Education Endowment Fund (EEF) will be used to initiate grants and seek proposals from schools, teachers, local authorities and charities to improve the performance of poor pupils in the country's most challenging schools.

## **Hilden Charitable Fund**

The Hilden Charitable Fund makes grants to projects that address disadvantages and in particular wants to support projects that address homelessness; asylum seekers and refugees; community based initiatives for disadvantaged young people; and penal affairs.

## **Clothworkers' Foundation**

The Clothworkers' Foundation funds work to improve the quality of life, particularly for people and communities facing disadvantage.

## **The Santander Foundation**

The Santander Foundation funds local, regional and national charities for their work within the UK. We are committed to helping disadvantaged people through our two charitable priorities.

## **MacRobert Trust**

The MacRobert Trust offers grants between £5,000 and £10,000. There is a list of priority categories on their website.

## **The Sport England Small Grants Programme**

You can apply for any sum from £300 to £10,000 but the total project cost cannot exceed £50,000. The Sport England Small Grants Programme uses lottery funding to make awards of between £300 and £10,000 to not-for-profit organisations to deliver new community projects to either grow or sustain participation in sport or to support talent development.

## **Nationwide Foundation Charities Small Grants Programme**

They make grants to:

- ◆ Registered charities – charities which are registered with the Charity Commission in England and Wales, with the Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator in Scotland and registered as exempt with the Inland Revenue in Northern Ireland
- ◆ Charities with incomes of less than £750,000
- ◆ Charities delivering work in the UK (including Northern Ireland)
- ◆ Registered charities whose work fits at least one of our funding priorities

## **The ASDA Foundation Trust (UK)**

Charities, schools and community groups have the opportunity to apply for funding for local projects that require financial assistance to the ASDA Foundation. The ASDA Foundation trust was set up in 1988 to support local good causes chosen by employees and is funded by profits from the mid-week national lottery. Organisations can apply for funding for a wide range of projects as long as they have the support of local ASDA colleagues.

Potential applicants should contact their local Store or Depot in the first instance.

## FUNDING

### **VOLANT Charitable Trust**

Set up by J K Rowling to support charitable causes, this trust funds research into Multiple Sclerosis and work to alleviate social deprivation, with a particular emphasis on womens' and childrens' issues. Deadline 29 July.

### **The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund**

The Triangle Trust 1949 Fund is inviting applications from charity organisations for projects that support carers, community arts and education disability, older people, poverty, integration and rehabilitation. Deadline 12 August.

### **Fidelio Charitable Trust**

The Trust provides grant funding to help individuals and organisations of exceptional ability in the UK who would not otherwise be able to carry out an artistic project or activity without financial support.

The Fidelio Charitable Trust is provided and administered by the Fidelio Charitable Trust and is for educational institutions and third sector organisations active in the UK. The Arts Grant is intended to support talented individuals or groups who are unable to reach their potential without financial support.

In particular, the programme wishes to fund work in the following areas:

- Dramatic arts.
- Operatic arts.
- Music.
- Speech.
- Dance.

### **Grants Available for Charities to Set Up Online Businesses**

#### **Application deadline: 31st July 2011.**

Two grants of up to £10,000 are available to charities to set up an online trading or fundraising business, or grow an existing online trading business, by taking advantage of platforms such as eBay for Charity to raise funding for their charity.

The funding is managed by MissionFish, which has worked with eBay to deliver eBay for Charity since 2005, helping over 5,000 UK charities to raise over £25 million. If more than two sufficiently high quality applications are received, MissionFish may make further funds available to support them. Where relevant, a leading ecommerce solution provider, will also deliver the following services to successful applicants at no charge.

- ◆ A year's ecommerce consultancy and advice, and a high-quality design upgrade and accompanying hosting and support (for a year);
- ◆ a Webstore, if required, at a highly subsidised cost.

MissionFish will also try to provide additional support for grantees, where appropriate, such as mentoring and advice from a successful online business or trading charity, and professional advice on legal or tax issues to charities who need it.

## QUEENS PARK FAMILY FUN

An annual event at Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Queens Park Family Fun Day will take place on the **23rd July 2011, 1—5 pm**. The event is organised by BBWCVS, Hannakins Farm Community Centre.

We have booked activities for children including face painting, balloon arts, climbing wall. Selection of Polish cakes and Afro-Caribbean foods will also be available to try on the day, free of charge. During the day a mini zoo will also be set up in the park. Performances include Lady



GAGA tribute act, Belly Dancers and local youth dance groups. The project is funded by Fair Share Trust Programme, Community Development in Billericay, which enables us to keep the event completely free of charge for all to attend and enjoy.

Various organisations have already booked stalls to participate! There are still places available. To book, please call Artak on **01277 658086** or email: [artak@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:artak@bbwcvcs.org.uk)

## International Day 2011

International Day 2011 took place on the 28th May 2011 at Frypa Hall in Basildon. A number of partners, agencies and resident groups were among the organisers of this event, led by BBWCVS. This was the 4th year running of this multi-cultural celebration of dance, music, food, arts, crafts giving residents an opportunity to fully participate in the various activities, all free of charge, including free foods & activities for children. This event has become very popular in the last four years and attracts many organisations and charities who run stalls and provide information, advice and guidance on the day.

The organising committee is looking for more partners, sponsors for 2012 event. To enquire about how you can get involved please call the BBWCVS **01268 294124**.

Pictures and videos of the International Day can be found at: <http://www.bbwcvcs.org.uk/ID11.htm>



## BBWCVS EVENTS DIARY

### Volunteer Centre Coffee Mornings

These will be held on the 3rd Thursday of every month: 21st July, 18th August and 15th September are the next 3 dates. For further details please contact Sharon Chan on 01268 294797 or email: [sharon@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:sharon@bbwcvcs.org.uk).

### Voluntary Sector Forum

The next Forum will be held on Tuesday 13th September 2011 from 2pm to 4pm in The St Georges Suite, Basildon Centre, St Martins Square. For more information please contact: Pam on 01268 294439 or email [pam@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:pam@bbwcvcs.org.uk) Jackie on 01269 294798 or email [jackie@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:jackie@bbwcvcs.org.uk)

### Queens Park Fun Day

This years Fun Day will be held on Saturday 23rd July from 1pm to 5pm at Hannakins Farm Community Centre, Queens Park, Billericay. For more information please see the article on page 11 or contact Artak on 01277 658086 or email: [artak@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:artak@bbwcvcs.org.uk).

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### THE NEXT EDITION

**THIS IS YOUR NEWSLETTER!** Do you have anything that you want to say or promote? If YES, then send your articles to the CVS Office ([admin@bbwcvcs.org.uk](mailto:admin@bbwcvcs.org.uk)) and we'll include them in the next edition of **BASILDON, BILLERICAY AND WICKFORD VOLUNTARY SECTOR NEWS.**

**DEADLINE FOR ARTICLES: Monday 5th September**