

Dear Colleagues,

I hope you will find the following information useful. Please feel free to circulate it. If you would prefer not to receive this newsletter, please let me know by return.

### **Representation Vacancy – Children & Young People’s Strategic Partnership Board**

We are pleased that the Voluntary and Community Sector has been offered a second seat on this important Board. This Board is responsible for the Children’s Trust arrangements in the city, and feeds into the Local Strategic Partnership. This is a real opportunity to be involved in strategic work with children & young people at the highest level in the city. For further information go to: <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/7333.html>.

If you are interested in representing the Voluntary & Community Sector on this Board, please contact Barbara O’Sullivan (Barbara.osullivan @portsmouthccs.org.uk) for a nomination form. For an informal chat about the role, please contact Charlie Adie ([Charlie.adie@motiv8south.org.uk](mailto:Charlie.adie@motiv8south.org.uk)). **Closing date for nominations: 7 July 2008.**

### **Training Opportunity – Dealing with Difficult Behaviour:**

**FREE** interactive two day workshop for parents, community workers, volunteers, voluntary organisation staff and practitioners with, or working with, children under eight in the city of Portsmouth. With Simon Burnham Senior Educational Psychologist with the Portsmouth Educational Psychology Service. The training session consists of two workshops spread over a month; you must be able to attend both sessions.

Workshop 1: 9.15 - 2.45 Tuesday 1 st July 2008

In this workshop you will bring with you a particular case study, your own child or a child you are working with. You will be given a practical tool kit comprising of advice and strategies on how to understand and deal with the problem behaviours that child expresses, to take away and try out in your particular situation/setting. There will also be opportunities to share and discuss the issues you bring with others in small group settings.

Workshop 2: 9.15 - 12.30 Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2008

In this workshop you will come with feedback on your experiences of applying the approaches you learnt about in workshop 1, have the opportunity to explore possible benefits or problems you encountered and receive more advice from the educational psychologist.

Includes lunch at Workshop 1 and a free crèche. Venue: Buckland Community Centre, Malins Road, Buckland PO2 7BL. To book, please contact Katherine Marsden-Broad ([Katherine@puef.org.uk](mailto:Katherine@puef.org.uk), 9267 0034)

### **Parent Partnership – New Address:**

Frank Sorrell Centre, Prince Albert Road, Southsea, PO4 9HR. As of 30 June. Telephone and e-mail remain unchanged.

### **Joint Area Review (JAR)**

The JAR is an external inspection - led by Ofsted - to evaluate the way local services, taken the extent to which services contribute to children and young people:

- staying safe • being healthy • enjoying and achieving • achieving economic wellbeing • making a positive contribution

The Joint Area Review focuses primarily on the most vulnerable children and young people including aspects where performance is judged weak and groups of children and young people who are most at risk, in particular those that require safeguarding, looked after children, children with learning and other disabilities. The assessment covers publicly funded services for children and young people in the local area, including those that are directly managed or commissioned by the council as well as services provided by health and youth justice services. Questionnaires have been circulated to gather the views of Voluntary and Community Sector organisations, including topics such as partnership working, the local Compact, commissioning/grant funding and safeguarding and support systems. If you'd like more information please contact **Mandy Lindley** on **023 9283 4169** or e-mail [mandy.lindley@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:mandy.lindley@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

### **Children & Young People's Consultation – Information-gathering**

Tim Stokes is working with Paddy Bradley at PCC to pull together all the information he can on children and young peoples' consultation and participation initiatives in Portsmouth over the last year or two. This information will be fed into the JAR and so feedback is needed **by 23 June**. What Tim requires is a very brief note of what took place, when, the initiative aim, the children & young people involved (not their names!!) and any outcomes.

Time writes "This is a real chance to publicise and celebrate the amazing work the voluntary and community sector are doing with our young people." If you are able to help please contact him directly: email: [tsstokes@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:tsstokes@hotmail.co.uk) or 01329 283920.

### **Monitoring & Evaluation – Are You Up to Scratch?**

At the Alliance Briefing on 20 May, Chris Woodfine from PCC spoke about the allocation of the Early Intervention Fund and emphasised the ongoing importance of organisations being able to demonstrate effective monitoring of their outcomes if they are to be successful in obtaining funding. We will devote part of our next Briefing session to this subject, but in the meantime, colleagues may find the following information, provided by Katherine Marsden-Broad of PUEF to be helpful:  
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/society/2006/nov/01/childrenservices.guardiansocietysupplement>

Katherine writes: "This link is to an article in the Guardian[...] The article gives a simple explanation of the philosophy of the approach and mentions Mark Friedman's work in Portsmouth with Rob Hutchinson, the city's former social services director and now an IDEa associate. The link below is to a more in-depth paper entitled improving service delivery – introducing outcomes-based accountability, and Portsmouth local authority is one of the case studies. It analyses how local authorities have used this particular approach in their CYPP and children's trust arrangements". <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/5573454>

### **Portsmouth's LINK**

*If you don't know about LINK yet, take the time to read this. You may want to consider how the groups you work with are going to get involved.*

What is a LINK?

LINKs are the new way central government wants agencies to involve local people and communities to have their say on how health and social care issues are provided. The LINK aims to provide more people with the opportunity to influence public services in ways that are relevant and meaningful to them, ensuring:

- communities have a voice in the process of commissioning health and social care and making key decisions about local health and social care services
- both individuals as well as local user groups, and voluntary and community sector organisations are involved
- people's views and experiences of health and social care services in their area are gathered and recommendations made to local commissioners and providers.

How are we making this happen in Portsmouth?

The city's LINK Development Group brings together representatives from voluntary and community sector, the former patient and public involvement forums, user and carer groups and interested local people. The group first met in May 2008. Portsmouth's 'proper' LINK will start from September 2008, when a 'host' organisation is up and running. Stephen Morgan, Project Manager in the Democratic and Community Engagement service at the council says: "The LINK aims to give people a stronger voice in how their health and social care services are delivered. Run by volunteers and groups and independently supported – the role of LINKs is to find out what people want, monitor local services and to use their powers to hold service providers to account. Portsmouth has a history and commitment to involving local people in decision-making and the development of the city's LINK will help build on this".

Want more information?

To find out more or to get involved in the Portsmouth LINK: visit the dedicated webpages at: <http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/yourcouncil/11992.html>  
call the LINK Development Officers Mary Vallely and Lynda Jones in the Democratic and Community Engagement service on (023) 9268 8657  
email us at [links@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:links@portsmouthcc.gov.uk)

### **Lottery makes BIG investment in young people's local services**

The Young People's Fund 2: Local Grants opened for applications on 19th May – the closing date is 19th October 2008. The Minimum grant is £10,000, the maximum is £500,000. In total up to £38 million is available for grants. The Young People's Fund 2 Local Grants programme will put young people at the heart of local issues and services that affect their lives in England. It's the chance for young people to lead on developing the activities and services that they want in their local area.

The programme has two aims:

- to ensure that all organisations that provide services to young people, involve them in developing, running and reviewing policies and services
- to help achieve the five Every Child Matters outcomes.

Up to £38 million is available to support projects across England where young people lead from start to finish. This programme will only consider projects that are youth-led. The programme is focussed on changing the lives of young people aged 10–18. They will also support projects working with young people up to the age of 25 if they are finding the change to independent living difficult. To download an application form, and for more information go to

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/apply-uk>

### **Parenting Involvement – Tendering Opportunity**

PCC are seeking bids to develop, structure and co-ordinate parent involvement in services and strategy development across the city of Portsmouth, within the context of the Parenting Support Strategy for Portsmouth. Should you wish to submit a bid for this piece of work you will need to register on InTend, which is PCC's web based procurement system. To do this, please follow this link and it will inform you how to register and log on to Intend.

<<http://www.portsmouth.gov.uk/procurement/10270.html>>

Please feel free to contact Simon Nigthingale should you require any assistance with this: [simon.nightingale@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:simon.nightingale@portsmouthcc.gov.uk) 023 9268 8253

### **Website for Dads**

A new website, [www.dadtalk.co.uk](http://www.dadtalk.co.uk), has been launched. The site contains articles, videos and podcasts to help dads take part in debates, offers a forum for dads to talk to one another, and signposting to specialist services. The site has been established by a consortium of organisations and is funded by the Department for Children, Schools and Families under the Parent Know-How scheme

### **Next Alliance Briefing – 16 September 12:30 – 3:00pm**

The next Alliance meeting will take place on 16 September and will include an update on the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) as well as a special discussion on evaluation and measuring outcomes. Further details will be available closer to the time.

### **Promote Your Work!**

If you have an event coming up or want to seek partners for a new project, please get in touch. I am happy to include details in next month's alliance newsletter. **I'd be particularly interested to hear from organisations promoting summer schemes for children and young people.**

Best wishes,

*Barbara*

Barbara Jane O'Sullivan  
Community Network Co-ordinator  
PCCS, 338 Commercial Rd.  
Portsmouth PO1 4BT

023 9282 7110  
[www.portsmouthccs.org.uk](http://www.portsmouthccs.org.uk)

Reg Charity No. 1062338