



Welcome

The first issue of the Third Sector Noticeboard has been well received and many staff said that they had 'dipped in' to at least one of the topics. It aims to provide a summary of regional and national initiatives to discuss with your team and third sector area lead.



■ Quiz! - NEW

If you are not the lucky one on holiday – take a break and try out this quiz about the third sector – or perhaps, try it as a group in your next team meeting.

Hot Topics!

- [Click here for this month's Hot Topic...](#)

LSC Regional News

- [The Voluntary Sector Skills Survey 2007– South East](#)
The Survey was commissioned by the UK Workforce Hub in collaboration with NCVO and Skills for Health. Explores and examines the nature, scope and impact of skills shortages and skills gaps in the unpaid workforce!
- [Third Sector Conference](#)
Being planned for the autumn. The aim of the conference is to examine the human resource skills and organisational capacity of third sector organisations in the south east in supporting marginalised and hard to reach young people and adults access employment. The joint planning group involves the LSC and the Third Sector.
- [South East Skills Challenge](#)
One aim of the LSC Skills for Priority Learners, is to increase take-up of skills training amongst volunteers. Train to Gain contracts have been agreed with CVS, Scouts and Age Concern.
- [NIACE Regional Capacity Building Seminars](#)
Registration to the regional capacity building programme funded by NSLC and delivered by NIACE is open.

LSC National News

- [Third Sector National Learning Alliance \(TSNLA\)](#)
The TSNLA is a growing national alliance of voluntary and community organisations and social enterprises providing learning. NIACE has been commissioned to build a national 'tree' connecting third sector networks and contacts.
- [ESF Awards to the Third Sector](#)
In the first round of ESF procurement for the ESF 2007-2013 programme, the third sector secured 40% of the contracts awarded across the country. In the South East, the sector was awarded 39% of contracts, accounting for 55% of total LSC ESF funding.
- [LSC round table meeting at the Office of the Third Sector – 18th Sept](#)
The event, hosted by the LSC, will provide an opportunity for the sector to explore with Ministers some of the issues that may need to be addressed to further fit the Train to Gain service to the sector's needs. Phil Hope and David Lammy are due to attend.

HOT TOPIC: New Government White Paper

- [Communities in control: Real people, real power](#)

A White Paper presented to Parliament by the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government 9th July. Sets out investment for the third sector to enable it play an increased and enhanced role in public service delivery. There is a lot of detail but try looking at the Executive Summary and Implementation Action Plan.

But, of immediate interest:

Young People

- DCSF has established a Youth Sector Development Fund to support good third sector organisations expand their capacity to deliver good quality provision for young people

Adults

- DWP & ACEVO task force to explore the role of the third sector in the welfare-to-work reform
- DWP exploring how those on benefits can be supported in taking up volunteering opportunities
- DWP to look at allowing community organisations to pay people to do work that strengthens their communities without affecting their benefits

Volunteers

- 500,000 more young volunteers through a new programme called **vinvolve**
- £2m investment to create opportunities for people with disabilities to become volunteers and volunteer managers
- £3m Volunteering for All campaign to raise awareness of volunteering opportunities and help people become volunteers
- Office for the Third Sector will invest £2m in opportunities for people with disabilities to become volunteers and volunteer managers

Duty to involve

- The 'duty to involve' to be extended to named additional agencies and bodies across England and take appropriate steps to involve people in decision, policies and services that may affect them or be of interest to them. Named agencies include Job Centre Plus, Regional Development Agencies, Youth Offending Teams, Probation Trusts & other providers of probation services
- Local authorities must engage more people in commissioning local goods and services
- Public bodies should, where appropriate, join up with other organisations to engage people and to identify ways to streamline consultation and engagement: - includes Local Strategic Partnerships

Commissioning

- Local authorities will be encouraged to ensure social enterprises are able to compete fairly for contracts

Capacity building investment

- £515m committed in third sector programmes across the country to build their capacity, become more effective, to help them transform public services and to give them and those for whom they work, a greater voice. (The Implementation Annex of the White Paper summarises the various investment programmes)
- Office for the Third Sector to carry out a new national survey of third sector organisations to better understand the issue which influence the well-being of the sector
- Central and local government committed to working with the third sector in line with [Compact – a framework for partnership working set out in 1998](#)

Who's Who?

South East:

- Lead Directors:
Adults: [Fiona Willmot](#)
Young People: [David Waggett](#)
- Regional Champion: [Madeleine Watters](#)
- Area and Programme Leads:
[Jon Thompson - TV](#)
[Gerrard Marsden - HloW](#)
[Berry Bonner le-Fur - SUS](#)
[Wendy Prichard-Smith – SUR, Community Grants](#)
[Kate Tymms – Community Grants](#)
[Sue Hopkins - K&M](#)
[Bill Chandler - TtG Volunteers](#)
[Tish Mason - Adult Safeguard Learning](#)
[Simon Holt - Regional ESF](#)

- [Don't forget to try the quiz!..](#)

A Skills Passport for the Third Sector

The London Teaching Public Health Network, supported by Skills for Health, London, has carried out a study to develop a skills passport for the third sector which makes a major contribution to the public health agenda, improving and protecting health and well-being through their work with marginalised and hard to reach groups.

There are opportunities for the sector to engage more through commissioning arrangements and the 2012 Olympics.

National:

- Senior Policy Manager: [Cheryl Turner](#)
- National Champion: [Margaret Coleman](#)
- NLSC Advisory Group – Working Together

