

Network News



Gwent
Association of
Voluntary
Organisations

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January 2014

What's been happening

Welcome to 2014 and the start of a new year. As you can see from the top of the newsletter we have a new logo which reflects the wider focus that the network now has. I also thought I would use this time to reflect back on 2013.

It brought many challenges and a lot of changes. The Blaenau Gwent Single Integrated Plan was developed and the structure to deliver it was implemented. The Children and Young People's Partnership held its final meeting and we all had to get to grips with thematic groups. This year will be the year these new planning process become embedded and the voluntary sector defines how it contributes to the outcomes needed in Blaenau Gwent. Deb Jeffreys will be arranging a series of workshops for the voluntary sector on each of the themes during February and March, more details to follow soon or you can contact Deb on her email deb.jeffreys@gavowales.org.uk

The Network meetings were really well attended and covered a wide range of subjects including funding, safeguarding, volunteering, project information and updates from GAVO staff. They are a great way to network, learn and share information. Diary dates for 2014 are Feb 18th, May 13th, Sept 23rd and 25th Nov.

There were some key safeguarding events including the Meow Meow Practice Exchange, and the Safeguarding Conference. Following feedback from the conference I am hoping to arrange some workshops to look in more depth at issues around drug misuse, cyber bullying and abusive relationships.

Moving forward in 2014 I will continue to support the voluntary sector through organising events and meetings, highlighting training opportunities, providing information and representing the sector on a number of key strategic planning groups. The GAVO Team are always available if you have any questions or need support with anything. I look forward to working with you all in 2014.

Regards Kim
3rd Sector Engagement Officer



YEAR OF THE HORSE

A fifth of young people under 20 live in poverty in Wales, a new report says.

The Public Health Wales (PHW) Observatory report examined the health of young people looking at indicators like nutrition, physical activity and substance misuse. It also looked at issues like income, housing and family environment. The report found the poverty figure rose to a quarter in the south Wales valleys and also said almost a third of children aged four to five are obese.

PHW says most of Wales' one million young people up to the age of 24 are fit and healthy, but "action is needed to improve the health of a significant and unacceptable number".

Professor Peter Bradley, executive director of public health development for PHW, said: "It is great to see that the majority of Welsh children and young people are fit and healthy. However, this report provides a stark reminder that action is needed to improve the health of a significant and unacceptable number of children and young people.

Report's findings

30% of people aged 11-16 eat fruit and/or vegetables every day

27% of 16-24 year olds do 30 minutes of vigorous activity five or more times a week

46% of people aged 16-24 drink above the recommended guidelines

One in 10 children aged 11-16 tried a drug at some point in the last year

81% of boys and 74% of girls aged 11-16 rate their health as good or excellent

45% of households classed as homeless or in temporary accommodation had dependent children

Child Poverty Strategy - Progress Report 2013

This Welsh Government report gives an update on progress made since the introduction of the Child Poverty Strategy in 2011. The report looks at key developments in Wales, set out in the Programme for Government, the Child Poverty Strategy, the Tackling Poverty Action Plan and the Strategic Equality Plan.

News in Brief

Less than a third of children in Wales eat fruit or vegetables every day

A [report](#) by Public Health Wales paints a stark picture of the health of children and young people in Wales. Source: Western Mail

e-cigarettes advice

In response to confusion about [whether electronic cigarettes are harmful](#) or helpful to quit attempts and health in general, Public Health Wales has reviewed the available evidence to help health professionals and the public be more informed about the products

Dragons Choose Well

Newport Gwent Dragons rugby players have put their driving force behind the [Choose Well Campaign](#) to help people in Wales make the best choices when it comes to their health.

Improving the health of children and young people in Wales

This [report](#) provides a comprehensive picture of the health of children and young people in Wales at a community level.

Energy prices rise eight times rate of earnings

Households have been [subjected to price rises from the big six energy firms since October 2010](#) that are eight times higher than increases in average earnings, reveals Citizens Advice. New calculations from Citizens Advice find that the big six suppliers have increased their prices by a total of 37% since October 2010. Average earnings have only risen by 4.4% during the same period.

Low pay 'traps' 80,000 in Wales, 10-year study says

Wales is one of the [worst regions of the UK for people stuck on low pay](#), according to a 10-year study. It says 80,000 people - just under a third of those working in low paid jobs have been in that situation for a decade.

Funding News

For more information on any funding matter please contact Mandy Moore at GAVO Brynmawr email: mandy.moore@gavowales.org.uk
01495 315626
Tel: 01495 315626



The Welsh Community Grant Fund is a new Sainsbury's grants programme specifically for Welsh projects.



Grants of up to £500 will be awarded annually to charities and local community groups for a range of projects and activities which fit our core values of food, family, kids and health and also arts/culture, environment and social welfare. In this round we have £53,792.33 to award. Organisations can be any size as long as they support the community in Wales.

Applications are online only and should take no more than 15 minutes.

Go to www.ccworks.co.uk/sainsburysguidelines to find out more about our guidelines and criteria. The deadline for applications in this round is **28 February 2014**.

The 2014 funding round dates for the People's Postcode Trust

The application form and 2014 guidelines will be available for organisations in Scotland, Wales and North of England from 6 January 2014.

Through the Trust funding has been available for projects that provide assistance in one or more of the Trust's following fields of operation:

- Prevention of poverty; reduction of distress and suffering.
- Promote, maintain, improve and advance health.
- Advancement of citizenship or community development.
- Advancement of public participation in sport.
- Advancement of human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation.

Advancement of environmental protection or improvement.

Registered charities, SCIOs, constituted voluntary and community groups, social enterprises, community interest companies (CIC), not-for-profit organisations and sports clubs are eligible to apply. Grants normally range from £500 to £10,000 for organisations in Scotland and England and up to £5,000 for those in Wales.

The Princes Trust & Communities First Present...

Exploring Enterprise - Try It! Blaenau Gwent

If you're aged 18-30, living in Wales and unemployed or working fewer than 16 hours a week, the Enterprise programme can help you to explore and test your business idea and decide whether self-employment is right for you.

The programme can give you:

- a taste of what you need to know and do to start your own business
- one-to-one support to help you to explore your idea and turn it into a business plan
- support to help you test the market for your business and feel what would be like to run it for real
- mentoring to help you develop your business or access other opportunities in education, training, work or volunteering
- a low-cost loan to help you start your business

If this sounds like it could be for you, book yourself on to:

Exploring Enterprise
14th - 17th January 2014



To secure the place to your future
Phone:

Andrew on 07545 210494 or Bethan on 07976 778051.



Communities first cymunedau yri gyntaf

The **co-operative**



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

CONFERENCE
CYNHADLEDD



Neglect

The lived experience of the child

Keynote Speakers include:

- Professor Jan Horwath, *Sheffield University*
- Dr. Sally Holland, *Cardiff University*
- Dr. Aideen Naughton, *Public Health Wales*
- Ruth Gardner, *Neglect Advisor, NSPCC*

8:45am - 4:30pm

Wednesday 12th February 2014

Christchurch Centre,

Malpas Rd, Newport, NP20 5PP

Working Together For Children



Gweithio'n Gyfán Ar Gyfer Plant

For booking form visit website <http://www.sewsc.org.uk/training/>



Pathways into Playwork



Tri-County Play Association have recently received funding for a new project is called 'PlayVolution - pathways into play work' which aims to get young people aged 14-25 including those who are not in education, employment or training, to volunteer in play work settings and see play work as a future career path.

The project has been funded by Gwirvol and the Equitable Charitable Trust to provide support for volunteers and provide training for them in courses relevant to play work. These courses are provided free of charge and will consist of level 1 Safeguarding Children, Paediatric First Aid, inclusive play, elemental play and our introductory course 'Discovering Play work'. They will then have the chance to go on and complete accredited courses in play work which will also be provided free of charge. Visit www.tricountyplay.co.uk for more information.

Teresa Price
Training Officer / Volunteering
Tri-County Play Association

Bevan Foundation Poverty and Education Network

5 February 2014, 9.00 - 13.30,

City Temple, Swansea

This seminar will look at the role of family learning in closing the educational attainment gap, with guest speakers Meilyr Rowlands (Strategic Director, Estyn) and Cerys Furlong (Director, NIACE Dysgu Cymru, as well as case studies of good practice.

To reserve your place please visit <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/poverty-education-network-family-learning-tickets-8733621497>.



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

National Evaluation of Families First

Families First is designed to improve outcomes for children, young people and families. It emphasises prevention and early intervention for families, particularly those living in poverty.

[Year 1 report](#)

The focus of the report is on the early implementation and delivery of the programme. It draws on research with national stakeholders including Families First practitioners.

The findings examine the programme management and governance and provide an update on progress in the following areas:

- Joint Assessment Family Framework (JAFF) and Team around the Family (TAF)
- strategic commissioning
- disability
- learning sets.

Messages from this report will be used to inform the future delivery of the Families First programme.

National Evaluation of Flying Start

The Welsh Government has published an [impact report on the Flying Start programme](#). Flying Start is the Welsh Government's programme to help disadvantaged families, offering free childcare for 2-3 year olds, parenting support, an enhanced health visitor service and help for early language development.



Dates for Your Diary 2014

Network Meetings

Tuesday 18th February 10.00—12.00

Tuesday 13th May 10.00—12.00

Tuesday 23rd September 10.00—12.00

Tuesday 25th November 10.00—12.00

Venues to be confirmed

Contact: Kim.jones@gavowales.org.uk or Mandy.moore@gavowales.org.uk

Action Planning Workshops (Single Integrated Plan Thematic Groups)

Thursday 20th February—Thriving 10.00—1.00

Booking form out soon or for more information contact:

Deb.jeffreys@gavowales.org.uk