

Edinburgh Network of Voluntary Organisations
for Children, Young People and Families

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AGM Update

The AGM of the Network took place on 18 December 2007. We would like to thank all of those who attended. Maureen Martin, Senior Manager of the Action Group, who has been the Chairperson since the inception of the Network stood down from the position and Stuart Mair, Project Co-ordinator with Canongate Youth Project, was duly elected to succeed her. Vicki Ridley, Manager, Granton Youth Centre, was elected as member of the Network Executive Committee (NEC). The full NEC list can be found at: <http://www.eke-out.org.uk/network/nec.php>

The Network was delighted that Gillian Tee, Director of the City of Edinburgh Council Children and Families Department, was there to present certificates to the young people who had taken part in the development of the first young people's version of the Integrated Children and Young People's Services Plan and in the development of the mechanisms for the ongoing involvement of young people in integrated services planning. Ms Tee opened by giving a presentation to the assembled Network members on 'The Value of the Voluntary Sector' saying that she would like to share a few thoughts on how valuable the voluntary sector is to her and how she would like to develop the relationship. She acknowledged that these were difficult times and that she was committed to working in partnership with the voluntary sector to negotiate a way through such times. She reported on some of her experiences in Oxford, where she said that what families had often valued most, as far as service provision was concerned, was the 'relationship' that was formed with the providers and that this was something that the voluntary sector was particularly good at.

Ms Tee concluded by asking what outcomes young people would like to see in the next 5 years. She said that, whatever the answer, their views should be at the heart of any plans developed that will affect them. She went on to pose the question of how the sectors could work together to achieve the goals set. She said that the voluntary sector could help achieve the set objectives by playing to its strengths and that she looked forward to working with the voluntary sector in the coming years.

Ms Tee presented the young people with their certificates and thanked them for taking part in the development of the 1st young people's version of the Integrated Children and Young People's Services Plan, saying how popular and accessible it is. She also went on to say that there is a firm commitment to having young people take part in plans that are about them.

We would like to take this opportunity to once again thank Ms Martin for all her sterling efforts on behalf of the Network and to wish the newly appointed members well in their respective roles.

Resources

With Youth in Mind

'Youth In Mind' is the first national directory of mental health services available to the general public with the purpose of helping children, their families and teachers deal with the subject of mental health. It contains reviewed resources such as books and websites relating to the subject. It also has an online questionnaire (which was a basic survey tool used by the Department of Health). The questionnaire asks 25 to 33 questions that can be completed in under 10 minutes by parents, teachers, or by 11- to 17-year-olds themselves. The directory and questionnaire can be accessed at: www.youthinmind.co.uk

A Fairdeal for Edinburgh's Young People

Fairdeal is the City of Edinburgh Council's consumer advice and advocacy service for 11 to 21 year olds. It has been established to help young people who are unhappy with goods or services that they have bought. They have a free phone-line service (free from landlines only, mobile rates apply). It is open from Monday to Friday 10am-6pm on 0808 80 10 335, an email service at: fairdeal@edinburghyoungscot.org a text service on 07781 484 322 (texts cost 1p) and Fairdeal is also on Bebo.

Young Scot Magazine

Young Scot launched a brand new magazine for young people in Scotland just before Christmas in 'The Sunday Mail'. It has now been made available online at: <http://viewer.zmags.co.uk/showmag.php?mid=pwsqf> (please note you will need Adobe 8 flashplayer to run it). You can also access it by following the link on www.youngscot.org

Privacy Impact Assessment

The Information Commissioner's Office has recently made available on line, a Privacy Impact Assessment handbook. The handbook is intended to help organisations address the risks to personal privacy before they implement new IT systems or change the way they handle personal information. The handbook can be downloaded from: http://www.ico.gov.uk/upload/documents/pia_handbook_html/html/foreword.html.

It's Personnel

The Chartered Institute of Personal Development (CIPD), the personnel professionals' body, has updated its factsheet entitled 'Retention of personnel and other related records'. The new factsheet is of use to any organisation that has to keep personnel records and is divided into two parts i.e. records for which there are statutory retention periods and records for which no statutory retention periods exist, but for which recommended retention periods are given. It also covers the legal position as there is a substantial and complex amount of EU and UK legislation that surrounds the subject. The factsheet can be found at: <http://www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/hrpract/psnlrecrd/retrecords.htm>

It's a Question of Health and Safety

The Health and Safety Executive (HSE) has updated their leaflet 'Workplace health, safety and welfare: a short guide for managers' which covers a wide range of basic health, safety and welfare issues that apply in many workplaces. The update can be found at:

<http://www.hse.gov.uk/pubns/indg244.pdf>

Charity Begins Online?

The 'MyCharityPage' is a new website that has been constructed to help charities fundraise more effectively, engage with supporters and to facilitate networking with one another. Organisations can build up online profile pages and each user is given their own URL so that friends and supporters can visit their web page directly to make donations. It is not unlike the well-known and well used social networking site 'Facebook'. Fundraisers and charities can register at: <http://www.mycharitypage.com/>.

Publications

Being Young in Scotland 2007

The third bi-annual YouthLink Scotland report is now available. The current report gives a 'snapshot' of how the 2500 young people living in Scotland, aged between 11-25, who took part, feel about being young in today's Scotland. To find out more go to:

<http://www.youthlink.co.uk/news/newsarticles/beingyounginscotland>

'For Love and Money: Governance and Social Enterprise'

This report was commissioned by the Governance Hub and the Social Enterprise Coalition to look at the evidence base on the distinctive governance challenges faced by social enterprises and how they can be best supported. The subsequent report makes a number of recommendations on how better support could be provided for social enterprises and identifies a range of challenges that face the sector. The report summary can be found at:

http://www.governancehub.org.uk/docs/For_Love_&_Money_%20Exec_Summary_FINAL.pdf

It's good to share

The Big Lottery Fund has released the presentations (as audio or slides) from their first national conference on evaluation which took place in November 2007. The presentation information can be downloaded from their web site, at

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/2007_conference.htm

Template for full cost recovery

Acevo and New Philanthropy Capital have released part of their Full Cost Recovery toolkit. It can be downloaded free at: <http://www.fullcostrecovery.org.uk>.

Warning: Too much Information can Harm

The UK Government is committed to a range of actions that they hope will transform the quality of the information it requires third party organisations - such as business - to give to consumers. To this end the Better Regulation Executive and National Consumer Council report have published a report entitled "Warning: too much information can harm" the report can be found at:

http://bre.berr.gov.uk/regulation/documents/next_steps/warning/consumer_info.pdf

Cannabis Supply and Young People

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation has published a report based on interviews of 182 young people aged between 11 and 19, all of whom had used cannabis and/or had been involved in cannabis transactions in recent months. Using the information gathered from their test group the subsequent report provides a snapshot of how young people in a large city and rural villages get cannabis and can be found at:

www.jrf.org.uk/knowledge/findings/socialpolicy/2175.asp

Achievement Counts: A Students' Guide to Credits and Qualifications

The above young peoples guide is about the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF). The SCQF is a way of comparing the wide range of Scottish qualifications. It covers achievements from school, college, university and many work-based qualifications. It does this by giving each qualification a level and a number of credit points. The young people's guide can be downloaded at: <http://www.scqf.org.uk/downloads/Achievement%20Counts-%20A%20Short%20Guide%20to%20the%20SCQF%202006.pdf>

Scottish Government Publications

Working with Hard to Reach Young People: A Practical Guide

The guide hopes to provide practical guidelines for professionals who seek to improve their engagement with hard to reach young people with a view to reducing offending.

The guide can be downloaded from:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/206127/0054786.pdf>

The 'Children Looked After Statistics 2006-07'

These statistics focus on the number of children who were looked after by, or eligible for, aftercare support from local authorities between 1 April 2006 and 31 March 2007. The statistics can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/stats/bulletins/00626>

'Getting it Right for Every Child in Kinship and Foster Care'

The 'Getting it Right for Every Child in Kinship and Foster Care' strategy document outlines the support for a minimum national allowance of between £119 and £198 per week to be paid to all carers, with similar allowances to be paid to approved kinship carers of looked after children. It also proposes better training and support for foster and kinship carers, a specialist information service to give kinship carers advice on benefits and maximising financial support and a national protocol for dealing with complaints and allegations against foster and kinship carers. The strategy document is available at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/fosterkinshipcarestrategy>

Effectiveness of Interventions to Prevent Suicide and Suicidal Behaviour: A Systematic Review

The remit of the review was to provide a comprehensive overview of the known effectiveness of interventions aimed at preventing suicide, suicidal behaviour and suicidal ideation (process of forming and collating ideas) , both in key risk groups and in the general population. The review can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/15102257/0>

Home Education Guidance

This guidance document applies to home education provided by parents, not to education being provided outwith school by local authorities and can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/12/17133313/0> It has been issued under Section 14 of the Standards in Scotland's Schools etc. Act 2000 and must be read in conjunction with that Act and the Education (Scotland) Act 1980 (with the relevant legislation being sec 2 which can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/12/17133313/2>)

Parents' Access to and Demand for Childcare Survey 2006: Final Report

The overarching aim of this research was to provide a detailed assessment of issues relating to parents perceptions of access to and demand for childcare and to compare and contrast these, where possible, with the results of the 2000 and 2004 surveys. The resulting findings can now be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/12/13142214/0>

Building Excellence: Exploring the implications of the Curriculum for Excellence for School Buildings

This publication by the Scottish Government hopes to capture the main messages from the Building Excellence programme. The Government says that it hopes to "build schools that meet the needs of students and teachers working within Curriculum for Excellence, and find opportunities within the curriculum for learning from the surrounding spaces." The publication can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/12/14115428/0>

Scottish Survey of Achievement 2006: Local Authority Reports

The SSA is the annual national survey of pupils' attainment in the Scottish 5-14 curriculum at P3, P5, P7 and S2. The SSA has also been designed to provide information at Local Authority level. In addition to the authority results published as part of the national report in August 2007 (the), five authorities requested a further, more detailed analysis of their results (Edinburgh being one of the authorities not listed is not listed as

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/06/21120102/0>

Consultations

UK wide

Child Trust Fund (CTF) Consultation - Voucher Requirement for Account Opening (closing date 25/01/08)

The UK Government are currently considering the following 3 options with regard to the use of CTF vouchers to open CTF accounts - To make it mandatory for providers to open accounts without receiving the voucher from parents (option A) - To remove the legal requirement that the voucher must be seen to open an account, but to make the transition to a voucherless account opening system optional for providers (option B) - To leave the system unchanged (option C). To access the consultation go to:

http://customs.hmrc.gov.uk/channelsPortalWebApp/channelsPortalWebApp.portal?_nfpb=true&_pageLabel=pageLibrary_ConsultationDocuments&propertyType=document&columns=1&id=HMCE_PROD1_028029 Comments on the proposed options should be sent to: HMRC Child Trust Fund Consultation, Room G54, 100 Parliament Street, London SW1A 2BQ, or emailed to ctfteam.car@hmrc.gsi.gov.uk

Improving Specialist Disability Employment Services (closing date 10/03/08)

This consultation contains the Department of Works and Pensions (DWP) proposals to reform the disability employment services that help disabled people who have complex issues find, retain and progress in employment situations such as: the Job Introduction Scheme; Work Preparation; WORKSTEP; Access to Work and the role of Disability Employment Advisers in Jobcentre Plus. The DWP are seeking views about the reforms proposed in the consultation. They are particularly interested in hearing from disabled people, employers and organisations that represent the interests of disabled people. The consultation can be found at: www.dwp.gov.uk/resourcecentre/des-consultation.asp (see the Events section for the Scottish region consultation event on the subject)

'Improving Outcomes from Health and Safety: A Call for Evidence', a Review

The Better Regulation Executive in the Government's Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform department (BERR) wants to hear from organisations and individuals who have an interest in health and safety issues. The responses will be fed into the 'Improving outcomes from Health and Safety: A Call for Evidence', a review. The review can be found at:

http://bre.berr.gov.uk/regulation/documents/health_safety/bre_review_hs_071127.pdf

Review of the Consumer Protection Review Regime in the UK (to report by spring 2008)

As markets and technologies continue to develop at an unprecedented rate this presents new challenges for the UK government in regard to its consumer protection regime. The legislative system has to keep pace with these developments and provide the consumer with adequate levels of protection. The UK Government has therefore launched a review of the consumer protection regime in the UK, which can be found at: <http://bre.berr.gov.uk/regulation/reform/consumer/> your views and evidence about the subject should be Emailed to: consumerlawreview@berr.gsi.gov.uk or for more information call 020 7215 0257

Scottish Consultations

Meeting the Charity Test (closing date 07/04/08)

The Office of the Scottish Charity Regulator (OSCR) has launched a consultation on the subject of updated guidance on meeting the charity test in Scotland. The revised 'Meeting the Charity Test' *will also take in* the regulator's experience over the past 18 months, as we reported previously, OSCR has been carrying out a pilot study of the rolling review of the 23,000 charities on its register. This provided them with some insights into the application of the charity test. The guidance also includes considerations of developments South of the Border in England and Wales (The Charity Commission is also due to launch its guidance on public benefit for charities in England and Wales). The consultation can be accessed at: <http://www.oscr.org.uk/NewsItem.aspx?ID=76b9ef38-a449-454b-adbc-f688c9f5572c> OSCR is also running local consultations on the subject, the Edinburgh one is due to take place on 04/02/08 at the Apex European Hotel in Haymarket. To book a place at the free event, which will be in a focus group format, please email consultations@oscr.org.uk or phone Derek Galbraith on 01382 346838 stating your preferred location, date and time. Please also let them know if you represent a charity, are a professional adviser, or represent some other interest.

Disclosure in Criminal Proceedings (closing date 21.01.08)

Proposals for legislation to implement the recommendations in the report of his Independent Review of the Law and Practice of Disclosure in Criminal Proceedings in Scotland, by the Rt Hon Lord Coulsfield. The report recommended legislation to put onto a statutory footing the requirements of disclosure of evidence by the prosecution to the defence. To find out more go to <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/11/09145246> Responses should be sent to: Disclosure Consultation, Criminal Procedure Division, GW14 St Andrews House, Regent Road, EDINBURGH EH1 3DG. Or emailed to: disclosureconsultation@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Discussion paper on the future direction of housing policy in Scotland (Closing date 25.01.08)

The discussion document 'Firm Foundations: the future for housing in Scotland' describes the Scottish Government's vision of a housing system capable of: Delivering more houses that meet higher environmental standards; Offering more choice of housing that is affordable; Contributing to the creation of sustainable mixed communities; and Achieving better value for public expenditure. For more details see: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/30153156/0> or contact Becky Smith, Social Housing Division, Housing and Regeneration Directorate, 1H - (S) Victoria Quay, Leith, Edinburgh, EH6 6QQ, or you can telephone her on (0131) 244 7753.

The Independent Examination of Proposals for Major Change in NHS Services (closing date 25 January 2008)

The Scottish Government has announced its intention of introducing independent, external scrutiny of proposals for major changes in NHS services before full public consultation takes

place and of consultation on what form the independent scrutiny should take. For more details go to: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/10/26111633/0>
Responses to :NHS Independent Scrutiny Consultation ,FREEPOST NATN452,
Mailpoint 1, Healthcare Policy and Strategy Directorate, St Andrew's House,
Edinburgh, EH1 0BR Or e-mail to NHSindependentscrutiny@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007 Secondary Consultation (closing date 12/02/08)

This consultation document invites public comment on the policy proposals for the secondary legislation required to implement the vetting and barring functions introduced through the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (Scotland) Act 2007. The secondary consultation can be found at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/11/01111737/0>

Draft Agency Guidance Notes on the Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula (Scotland) Regulations 2007 (closing date 13/02/08)

The Food Standards Agency is consulting on draft guidance notes that aim to help industry, enforcement officers and other interested parties interpret the provisions of the Infant Formula and Follow-on Formula Regulations 2007 (further information about the regulations, and the European legislation that they implement, is provided in the details at: <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2006:401:0001:01:EN:HTML>).

The consultation can be found at:

<http://www.food.gov.uk/consultations/consultscot/2007/informscotguide2007> .

Comments should be sent to: Carol MacMillan, Food Standards Diet & Nutrition Branch, Food Standards Agency Scotland, 6th Floor, St. Magnus House, 25 Guild Street Aberdeen AB11 6NJ or emailed to: Carol.Macmillan@foodstandards.gsi.gov.uk

NHS Health Boards (closing date 01/04/08)

This consultation is about the Scottish Government plan to introduce direct elections to health boards, in an attempt to try and increase patient involvement in NHS service decisions. Subject to consultation on the issue, the Scottish Government intends to introduce legislation which is called the 'Local Healthcare Bill' which, if adopted, will cover direct elections to NHS Health Boards. If direct elections are adopted this would mean the way the NHS is run would be significantly changed therefore the Scottish Government wants the public's opinions on the Options listed. The consultation documents can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/04140108/6>

'Services for Edinburgh Communities' Customer Service Strategy (closing date 25/01/08)

Services for Communities is a department within the City of Edinburgh Council, whose aim is to provide clean, green, safe and better communities. They wish to hear the public's view on what we need to do to provide good customer services and there is a survey to be completed that can be found at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=vl4oe6hH1NglizsQMIKy_2bA_3d_3d

Local Healthcare Bill (closing date 01/04/08)

The Scottish Government wants to encourage greater public and patient involvement in the planning and delivery of local NHS services in Scotland. To this end, they have issued a consultation document on the subject of direct elections to NHS Boards in Scotland. Subject to consultation on the issue, the Scottish government intends to introduce legislation in a Local Healthcare Bill to provide for direct elections. The consultation can be accessed at:

<http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/04140108/0>

Choosing the Right Ingredients: The Future for Food in Scotland: Discussion Paper

The Scottish Government has released a discussion paper on the subject of food, in regard to how is it produced? Is it good for us? Is it 'green' enough? Do we have enough choice?

The Scottish Government are looking for public comment on the paper which can be found at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2008/01/15085441/0> with the response form at: <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/consultations/health/foodfuture.asp> You can also take part online at: www.scotland.gov.uk/food/

Events

'Improving Specialist Disability Employment Services' Scottish Consultation Event

BASE and the Scottish Union of Supported Employment (SUSE) are organising a series of events with DWP to discuss the 'Improving Specialist Disability Employment Services' Consultation. The Scottish consultation event will take place in Edinburgh on 21/01/2008. The free event is particularly aimed at disabled people and their carers, and organisations that represent the interests of disabled people. To book a place go to http://www.base-uk.org/events/2008/DWP_des.doc Final details of the venue will be issued once the booking has been made. Those who attend will be given the opportunity to discuss the consultation and contribute their views. BASE/SUSE will use the information that obtained from the all the events around the UK to prepare their formal response to the consultation. (Please note that BASE will be organising a series of regional consultation days for providers).

Institute of Fundraising Conference

The Institute of Fundraising Scotland Conference entitled 'Empowering Charities to Appeal to New Audiences and Generate Greater Revenue' takes place on 05/02/08 at the Roxburghe Hotel, Edinburgh. It hopes to provide attendees with updates on techniques that are being used across the sector, for more information about the conference see: <http://tinyurl.com/3a68kq>

Show me the Money

Now let's talk money! Is a free financial inclusion seminar that is taking place in Conference Room 3, Victoria Quay, Edinburgh on 15/02/07, 9.30am to 12.30pm with a buffet lunch. To register for a place call Carena at the Capital City Partnership on 0131 270 6035 or email her at: carenabrogan@capitalcitypartnership.org.uk Friday 15 February 2008

YouthLink Scotland's National Youth Work Conference

YouthLink Scotland's National Youth Work Conference takes place at Murrayfield Stadium in Edinburgh on 11th-12th March 2008. There will be around 60 workshops taking place over the two day period with youth work and schools being the theme for day 1 and generic youth work themes for day 2. To find out more go to: <http://www.youthlink.co.uk/nationalconference20>. Booking forms can be downloaded at: <http://www.youthlink.co.uk/docs/Conference%202008/Conference%20booking%20form.pdf>

Reconnecting - More Choices, More Chances for Young People: A Practical Approach

This one-day conference is being held in Edinburgh on 19/02/08. This Children in Scotland conference is in association with YouthLink Scotland and supported by the Scottish Government. The aim is to facilitate an understanding of the underlying problems that lead to young people not being in education, employment or training. The conference will also explore what contribution adults can make in their lives. To find out more go to: www.childreninScotland.org.uk/rmc, email: conferences@childreninScotland.org.uk or call 0131 222 2438.

Scottish Centre for Intergenerational Practice (SCIP)

SCIP's remit is to work with the public, private and voluntary sector organisations, as well as individuals and families, to gather and share best practice, provide information and support, and develop new opportunities for inter-generational working in communities. A

partnership consortium, which includes Children in Scotland and the University of Strathclyde, has been commissioned to help develop the initial framework for the centre. SCIP wants to meet and talk to organisations, practitioners and communities throughout Scotland to share information and consult on the future activities of the centre. During February/March 2008, SCIP will be travelling throughout Scotland with a roadshow of free events. If you would like to be a roadshow partner, or would like to be involved in a roadshow event by, for example, exhibiting your project, contact Karen Mounthey on Karen@scotcip.org.uk or phone 0131 228 8484.

Funding

'Grassroots grants' scheme

In December 2007 the Cabinet Office unveiled the name of a new, multi-million pound funding programme, that is intended to boost local community organisations with access to small grants and long-term financing. It also announced the appointment of the Community Development Foundation as its lead national partner in delivering the scheme. The 'Grassroots Grants' will be launched this year with £130 million in total being made available from 2008-2011. The monies available will be divided into two parts: an £80 million small grants fund for community organisations; and £50 million fund for endowment programmes that enable local foundations to generate additional donations from the private sector on a matched basis and invest them in endowments, in the hope of building their capacity to provide long-term funding for frontline community organisations. The Community Development Foundation (CDF) is expected to open an application process to identify and appoint local funders to deliver 'Grassroots Grants' on a local basis and it is hoped that applications to access the funds will be invited by April 2008. To find out more go to:

http://www.cdf.org.uk/pooled/articles/BF_NEWSART/view.asp?Q=BF_NEWSART_297231

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The Foundation has recently launched a new funding approach whereby the majority of the funding they provide will be channelled through the 'Main Fund'. This they hope will be a more open, less prescriptive way of working. The organisation expects to fund a wider range of work than before, although their core interests should remain in the fields of culture, education, environment and social development. The 'Main Fund Guidance' can be found at: www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/main-fund It should be noted, however, that the organisation will also run a number of smaller, more focused funding strands with the first 3 being: Biodiversity, Museum and Heritage Collections, and New Approaches to Learning with further funding strands expected to be announced later in 2008. The Funding Strands Guidance can be found at: www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/funding-strands

Wakeham Trust

The Wakeham Trust provides grants for people/small organisations that wish to try and improve their local communities. The Trust is particularly interested in supporting neighbourhood projects, community arts projects, projects involving community service by young people, or projects set up by those who are socially excluded. To find out more about the scheme go to: www.wakehamtrust.org/index.php

A Positive Destination (closing date 30/03/08)

Positive Destinations is a 3 year grants programme which will award 3 grants of £500,000 to children's charities. The grants are to be aimed at innovative and effective projects that boost the future chances of vulnerable young people at key life stages for example: pre-school; the transition from primary to secondary school, or the 14-16 age range. There is also another £500,000 of monies available for 3 smaller grants. For more information about Positive Destinations email: pudsey@bbc.co.uk (put Positive Destinations in the subject line). It is hoped that full details about the grants will be up on the Children in Need website (<http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/>) from the beginning of February.

GreenPrints (closing date 25/01/08)

GreenPrints is a two-year programme which will offer funding of up to £10,000, as well as support and practical expertise to help young people aged between 16 and 25 make a real difference to the communities in which they live. To find out more and apply go to:

www.sitatrust.org.uk/greenprints/apply/flagships

The Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) (closing date 21/02/08)

JRF is currently funding a programme which focuses on the understanding of and equipping better those who are seeking to build support for UK poverty eradication. At the moment, a number of agencies are involved in trying to influence attitudes towards poverty, employing a range of approaches but JRF think that the knowledge of the impact of these initiatives is limited. Therefore, this project aims to provide up-to-date knowledge and analysis of initiatives to build support for UK poverty eradication. In particular, it will identify factors which contribute to success. The successful proposal will document what has been learned from good practice in terms of achieving impact and also capturing this. To find out more go to <http://www.jrf.org.uk/research-funding/calls/identifying-success.asp>

Harvest Trust (closing date 31/01/08)

The Harvest Trust charity organises simple seaside holidays for disadvantaged children. The holidays take place between April and October each year and are specifically for groups of 8 to 11 year olds who really need a week away. They are based at the Trust's own Holiday Centre near Cardigan Bay in West Wales. The holidays are arranged in partnership with schools, youth and community groups.

For further information, see: www.hartrust.vispa.com/whatisharvesttru.html

National Youth Worker of the Year Awards (closing date for nominations 01/02/08)

For the first time, Youthlink Scotland will be holding a Youth Work Awards Dinner at Murrayfield Stadium on the evening of Tuesday 11 March 2008 to celebrate and recognise outstanding service and performance by managers, youth workers and peer educators in the youth work field. There are 8 categories of awards: Youth Service Manager of the Year (Local Authorities); Voluntary Organisation Youth Service Manager of the Year; Youth Worker of the Year (Full Time); Youth Worker of the Year (Sessional Paid); Volunteer of the Year; Peer Educator of the Year; Innovator of the Year and Lifetime Achievement (YouthLink Scotland Fellowship Award). Nomination forms can be downloaded at:

<http://www.youthlink.co.uk/docs/Conference%202008/Nomination%20Form.pdf>

Going back to the root (closing date 04/02/08)

A grants programme for grass roots organisations working across all areas of equality has been launched by the Equality and Human Rights Commission. Details can be found at:

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/aboutus/grants/pages/grantsandfunding.aspx>

Young Scot Awards 2008 (closing date 08/02/08)

Nominations are being sought for the 3rd annual Sunday Mail & Lloyds TSB Young Scot Awards 2008. The awards are intended to showcase what young people in Scotland are managing to achieve. To find out how to nominate a young person for an award go to:

www.younscotawards.co.uk

Champions for Sustainable Communities Awards 2008 (closing date 08/02/08)

The above awards are being presented to recognise outstanding individuals who have championed sustainable development within their community. There are 4 award categories: community group, public & third sector, business, and international. To find out more about the awards and how to nominate someone for an award go to:

<http://www.forward-scotland.org.uk/Latest/Champions-for-Sustainable-Communities-Awards.html>

Snap! (closing date for entries is 01/03/08)

Mencap's annual photography competition is back for its 6th year and they are looking for entries which show photographs of people with a learning disability or photos taken by people with a learning disability. There are 6 themes to enter photographs:

- A day in the life - tell us about what you do
- Celebration - what has made you happy or proud?
- Changing minds - helping people understand about learning disability
- Relationships - love, family and friendship
- Through my eyes - how do things look to you?
- Travel and interesting places - where have you been?

You can apply online or by post. To enter online, please visit www.mencap.org.uk/snap and follow the instructions. If you would like to order an application form by post, contact the Snap! team by calling 020 7696 5524.

Training

Counselling: An Introduction (SQA Level 2)

This course starts on 20/02/08 at Stevenson College, and runs every Wednesday 1.15pm to 4.15pm till 21/05/08. The course has 3 main themes; knowledge, skills, and self-awareness. It covers an explanation of the counselling relationship and an exploration of the different settings where counselling takes place. For more information go to:

<http://www.evoc.org.uk/learning/programme/detail.asp?id=232>

To discuss course content please contact Jenny Haines on 0131 555 9124 or you can email jenny.haines@evoc.org.uk

Partners in Advocacy - Young Women's Self Help Group

Partners in Advocacy are running a self-help Group for young women experiencing problems at home, school or in the community. The group is offering young women the chance to meet with others in their age group to get support and encouragement to get their voices heard. Anyone interested should contact Lorna Wynn, Advocacy Co-ordinator on 0131 478 7723 E-mail: lorna@partnersinadvocacy.org.uk

Trauma and Recovery

This is a series of 3 training seminars that take place from the 4th to the 6th of March 2008. The topics to be covered include: exploring trauma; promoting resilience and developing healing environments. To find out more go to: <http://www.childreninscotland.org.uk/tar>

Healthy eating class

The Children's Weight Clinic is a new class being run by Edinburgh-based dietician Laura Stewart for parents to help them promote healthy eating to their children. The classes are being held at St George's West Church, Shandwick Place from 24/01/07.

Free Training for National Voluntary Organisations

Fairbridge (the organisation develops and delivers services for some of Scotland's most challenging young people) are running the following 'suite' of courses in Edinburgh over the space of a month which are designed as a 'whole' course or stand alone single day modules. They have been designed to cater for experienced or new staff. The courses on offer are as follows:

22nd February Facilitation, Participation and Group Dynamics

6th March Goal setting, Reviewing and Transfer to Learning

12th March Difficult and Dangerous Behaviour

20th March Choice Theory

To find out more call Lorna Mitchell on 0131 475 2303 or email: lorna.mitchell@fairbridge.org.uk. More information can be found at: www.fairbridge.org.uk/training

Scottish Youth Housing Network

The 'Young People and Mental Health' training day takes place on 07/02/08 at Update in Edinburgh. This introductory level course looks at the impact of mental illness and trauma on the lives of young people. To find out more go to: <http://www.syhn.org.uk/> or Contact: SCSH on 0131 226 4382 or email: Ashleigh@scsh.org.uk

OU STUC for Learning?

A new learning initiative for people working in the voluntary sector has been introduced by the Open University in Scotland (in collaboration with the Scottish Trade Union Congress). The 'Openings' courses are for people of all ages, from all educational backgrounds and have been designed as an introduction to further study or perhaps a work-based qualification. Anyone interested in finding out about the 'Openings' courses should go to: www.open.ac.uk/openings or call Terry Anderson on 07791 704 682 or email: tanderson@stuc.org.uk .