

Care Council to Consult on New Equality Plan

The Care Council for Wales (Care Council) is in the process of developing its Strategic Equality Plan which is a requirement of the new public sector equality duties for Wales and replaces our race, disability and gender equality schemes. Following a process of stakeholder involvement, the Care Council is now looking to consult on the equality objectives between January and March 2012. Susanne Maddax HSC Facilitator (Caerphilly Borough) is working closely with the CCW Business Support Officer to arrange an opportunity for members of the Caerphilly Health and Social Care Voluntary Sector Alliance to contribute to the consultation and details will follow shortly.

For more information and if you want to take part contact Susanne on 01495 863540 or email susanne.maddax@gavowales.org.uk The paper is available on the following link. <http://www.ccwales.org.uk/about-us/council-meetings/meetings-papers-2012/council-meeting-55>

Get IT Together Caerphilly Launch

At Bargoed Library, Hanbury Road, Bargoed, Wednesday 29th February 2012 at 1.15pm – 3.15pm. The project, aims to encourage elderly and disabled residents of the Borough of Caerphilly to realise the benefits of being online through a unique mix of informal training and support. Get IT Together is a partnership between BT, Caerphilly County Borough Council, and Citizens Online and is part of a wider programme across the UK involving the Nominet Trust and a raft of other local partners. The event will consist of brief presentations from the partnership members, and an opportunity to see the project in action by meeting some of the volunteers and learners who will benefit from this 3 year project. Kerry Goodenough came to the last Caerphilly Voluntary sector Health and Social Alliance meeting in November to talk about the project. If members of the Alliance want to attend either contact Susanne Maddax 01495 863540 or Kara Lee via email at LEEK@caerphilly.gov.uk or by telephoning 01443 864226 by Friday 24th February 2012.

Venue for Hire

Neuadd St Catwg Community Hall in Gelligaer is available for hire. The hall features a large hall with stage & multimedia facilities, a conference room & a cyber café, alongside a fully equipped kitchen. Please see the attached leaflet for more details about our venue. For any enquiries regarding hiring the hall or to arrange a visit please contact me on 01443 834022 or e-mail neuaddstcatwg@gmail.com

Useful Websites for Health and Social Care Statistics and Evidence

There are a number of useful resources in cyberspace that voluntary sector organisations can use to inform reports, practice, bid applications etc. For example:

<http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sites3/page.cfm?orgid=256&pid=51576> a new resource in relation to age-the NHS Centre for Equality and Human Rights

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/statistics/?lang=en-links> to Welsh Government statistics and other related bodies

www.daffodilcymru.org.uk A welsh Government sponsored site, where you will find projection and trend information on adults and older people and children and young people (you will need to register your organisation and create an account). If you would like some guidance on where to find specific statistical data etc. please contact Susanne Maddax susanne.maddax@gavowales.org.uk or telephone 01443 863540.

National Leadership and Innovation Agency for Healthcare-Learning Laboratory

The Learning Lab has a collection of books, audio CDs, DVDs and training packs available to loan. There is a free postal loan service - items will be posted to you and you can return the item using the freepost address. Most items are loaned for a one month period. If you want to extend the loan period on an item you have borrowed, you can do this by accessing your library account on the library catalogue or by emailing the Learning Lab. As long as the item hasn't been reserved by another member, you will be able to extend/renew the loan.

Join the Learning Laboratory at <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/829/page/42632>

Accessible Healthcare for People with Sensory Loss in Wales

This report is designed to assist the NHS in Wales in delivering high quality and accessible services to people with sensory loss in Wales. You will find easy read versions in English and Welsh at the following link. <http://www.wales.nhs.uk/sitesplus/829/news/21696> Alternatively if you wish to view the full document contact Susanne Maddax 01443 863540 or email susanne.maddax@gavowales.org.uk and a copy can be sent out to you.

Gwent Police Awards

The Chief Constable launched the Gwent Police Awards on 23 January 2012 Gwent Police are asking for your help to identify those who would be worthy of recognition due to their work, actions or service to the communities within Gwent. The three award categories we would like you to consider are:

Working In Partnership Award

- Awarded to recognise the importance of working in partnership to deliver improved services to the citizens of Gwent.
- This is a joint award and an individual or group of people can be nominated for this award but it should include both Gwent Police staff as well as partners, e.g. Local Authorities, Voluntary Sector, citizens.

Gwent Active Citizen Award

- This prestigious award is given to members of the public for meritorious and public-spirited actions, which is of great assistance to the police and the community. Awards are made both for bravery and also for other meritorious actions.

Diversity in Action Award

- Awarded to recognise the excellent work of a Gwent Police individual or team in the area of diversity, e.g. age, disability, gender, gender, re-assignment, race, religion or belief, sexual orientation, vulnerable groups.

For more information contact Alisa Quartermaine alisa.quartermaine@gwent.pnn.police.uk or telephone 01633 642028. Note: **closing date for nominations is 29 February 2012.**

Scams Awareness Month

February is the annual Scams awareness month, but scams happen at any time of the year. If you think you're up to date with the different types of scam, think again. Scammers can be very inventive! Scams can take the form of bogus and fraudulent offers sent by post, telephone, email or text. Protect yourself and your personal information with our unbiased information there are some useful resources at the following link

http://www.moneyadvice.service.org.uk/yourmoney/everyday_money/guides/staying_safe_against_scams.aspx

Independent Living for Disabled People.

The Independent Living Project is being taken forward by the Welsh Government in partnership with disability organisations and disabled people. The Welsh Government intends to publish a 'Framework for Action' by summer 2012. The publications accessed at the link below contain all the latest news and set out the next steps to be taken in 2012. Contact

details are provided, alongside information detailing how you can get involved and contribute towards the project.

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/equality/publications/independentlivingproject/?lang=en>

Quality Assured Lifelong Learning [QALL] Project

Third Sector Workshops are being organised by WCVA in collaboration with the Care Council for Wales on Wednesday 22 February 2012, Swalec Stadium, Cardiff. This programme presents a very exciting opportunity for third sector organisations across Wales to support the development, and/or delivery of specialist and unique training that can be quality assured, accredited and then promoted as part of a national learning framework. The QALL sits within the Credit and Qualifications Framework Wales, and is being fully supported by CCW. Further information on the QALL can be read in the attached document entitled 'QALL info' or visit the CCW website at

<http://www.ccwales.org.uk/qualifications-and-careers/qualifications/credit-qualification-framework-wales>

If you wish to attend please contact Sarah Lamberton at WCVA to check availability and book your place or contact WCVA's Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329 or e-mail to slamberton@wcva.org.uk

New Alcohol Campaign Online

An innovative campaign has been launched covering Merthyr, Caerphilly, Rhondda Cynon Taff and Blaenau Gwent, to ensure young teenagers have the confidence and information they need to make safe decisions about alcohol consumption. Wreckedlastnight.com is the first campaign of its kind as it is based on the alcohol-related concerns of hundreds of 14 to 16-year-olds, who were asked to say honestly why they chose to drink alcohol, or not, and their reasons behind those decisions. Wreckedlastnight.com includes messages delivered via 3D cinema adverts and website, with free 3D glasses being handed out to young people across the region. There will also be bus and billboard adverts to raise awareness and generate interest.

Teenagers who visit [wreckedlastnight.com](http://www.wreckedlastnight.com) also have the chance to put their new-found knowledge to the test, by entering a prize draw quiz in which they can win their share of £1,000 in Apple vouchers. The web link is <http://www.wreckedlastnight.com/>

An Introduction To Emergency First Aid For Children

The British Red Cross have launched a series of informative resources to educate children of all ages about emergency first aid. Looking at different scenarios and using pictures, videos and teaching resources, the Life.Live It campaign is a really great, easy to understand introduction to emergency first aid. To find out more visit:

<http://www.redcross.org.uk/What-we-do/Teaching-resources/Teaching-packages/Microsite/Life-Live-it-first-aid-education-for-children>

Developing Social Enterprise in Health and Social Care

'Exploring the potential of Social Enterprise in Health and Social Care' is a one day event being held at the Swalec Stadium in Cardiff on the 28th March 2012. Topics being considered centre around the following questions and issues:

- What are the challenges facing health & social care services and why do we need to consider new solutions?
- What are social enterprises and what is their potential within health and social care?
- Is there a greater role for social enterprise?
- What are the barriers to be overcome?
- Develop an action plan to address these barriers
- Case studies – best practice examples

To note, this event is free of charge but travel expenses will not be paid. Due to the high level of interest already received and the limited number of spaces on offer, an 'expressions of interest' page has been set up. Please register your details via the link below and you will be contacted nearer to the time of the event if you have been successful in gaining a place <https://www.eventsforce.net/nliah/frontend/reg/thome.csp?pageID=43003&eventID=171&eventID=171>

Diary Marker

This year's 'Voluntary Sector Achievement Awards Evening' will be taking place on Wednesday 20th June 2012. GAVO will forward nomination packs once these have been received from Caerphilly County Borough Council. For more information contact GAVO 01443 863540.

Diabetes Peer Support Conference 'Diabetes - What You Need Know'

March 15th 2012 10.00am -2.00pm St David's Centre, High Street Rhymney, NP22 5LP.

The Conference will be chaired by Cllr Gaynor Oliver with presentations by specialist diabetes staff (including Consultants) from Aneurin Bevan Health Board, Cwm Taff Health Board and All Wales Retinopathy Screening. A buffet and refreshments are included and there is a delegate fee of £4.

For more information contact Gerald Jones Gerald.jones@gavowales.org.uk or telephone the GAVO Rhymney Office 01685 843597.

Social Services Integration Programme-Caerphilly and Blaenau Gwent Boroughs

'Creating and Environment for Collaboration', 14th March, 9.00am St Margaret's Park, Aberbargoed. This event will provide an opportunity for voluntary organisations providing social care support to influence and shape community services in the context of social care provision. This event is specifically targeted at senior staff in provider organisations rather than users and carers who will be able to participate in a range of events as the programme progresses as part of the communication and engagement strategy. For more information or to book please contact Chris Kedward 01443 864679 or email kedwacm@caerphilly.gov.uk

Carers Drop in for Coffee and Chat

Disability Cando are supporting Carers 'Coffee and Chat' afternoons on Tuesday 21st February and Tuesday 20th March at 2.00pm-4.00pm at the Penllwyn Millennium Centre Pontllanfraith NP12 2EQ. Support, advice and information will also be on hand for those that want to find out more in relation to carers. For more information please contact Disability Cando on 01495 233555.

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