

RIEP Equality & Diversity Partnerships Programme



Bulletin - Issue 1

December 2009

Hello, and welcome to the first edition of the RIEP Equality & Diversity Partnerships Programme Bulletin!

The aim of this bulletin is to keep you updated on the progress made to date, of the several projects within the Equality and Diversity Partnerships Programme, which is taking place throughout the sub-region.

The project team is now complete and started in post as of October 2009. The team consists of Suzanne Kinder (RIEP Equality and Diversity Partnerships Manager) and Alpa Parmar (RIEP Equality and Diversity Partnerships Communications Officer). Details of both can be found at the bottom of the bulletin.

Now there is a lot of work going on behind the scenes - so if you have been wondering what we have been up to, we have been working to begin the programme with a successful start!

Partnership-Wide Equality and Diversity Audit

With this in mind, a lot of time is currently being spent on conducting a partnership-wide Equality and Diversity Audit, which is an extension to the original audit compiled by the LeicesterShire Equalities Forum (LSEF) members.

The audit will capture the findings of the current and future positions, priorities and timescales within each of the organisations with regards to Equality and Diversity. Additionally, it will act as a comparison tool for the 10 local authorities in terms of measuring performance against the Equalities Framework for Local Government and will also identify cross-cutting themes and highlight areas where it would be advantageous to work in partnership.

Each organisation within the LeicesterShire Equalities Forum should have either had a visit from Suzanne/Alpa as part of the audit process or have one scheduled over the next few weeks. If this is not the case, please do contact us to arrange a visit, our details are on the back.

The findings of the audit will be produced and circulated by the end of December 2009.

Website

Good News! We now have our own Equality and Diversity web page, which is linked in the Leicestershire Together site.

The address for our webpage is:

www.leicestershiretogether.org/index.htm

The web page is currently under construction with the aim to be fully up and running in the New Year.



The page will be an effective communications tool for the LeicesterShire Equalities Forum and so if you have any ideas of what you would like to see included on the page or what you think would be useful to share with other forum members then please do get in contact to ensure we make the most of the opportunity.

Democratic Involvement Project

The sub-group working on the democratic involvement project have finalised the revised project brief, with the aim of delivering the project by the end of February 2010 to tie into the upcoming general election. This project brief was sent to Black Futures who have since advised that, unfortunately, the project is undeliverable in the time frame given.

Black Futures have offered to provide some alternative suggestions on what could be delivered in the timeframe we have available. Upon receiving this, the sub- group will meet again to discuss how to take the project forward, whether to take forward the alternative as suggested by Black Future or to take the original project brief out to tender with a view to delivering it after the general election.

Irene and Sally will provide a further update on the project at the next Leicestershire Equalities Forum meeting.

Equalities Mapping Project

The equalities mapping project is being led by Joelle Bradley (Research Manager) from Leicestershire County Council.

At first different priorities and indicators within each theme were identified (e.g. health, education, crime etc as suggested by IDEA guidance) according to the equality strands.

However, after speaking to groups such as CYP Equalities Group and the Equalities Board it was decided that it would be more useful for services to separate chapters by age groups e.g.

- 0-5
- 5-13
- 14-19
- 19-25
- 25-45
- 45-65
- 65-85
- 85+



Therefore, identifying all equality issues within each age group according to needs at that age. (E.g. covering the 5 ECM outcomes for Children and YP and the SCS priorities for all groups)

Joelle is currently;

- Relating the information gathered through the theme based approach to this structure.
- Producing some of the data, this will be shown on maps to highlight differences by neighbourhoods.
- Identifying areas of transition and if possible track vulnerable groups through the life stages.
- I am currently looking at education data to identify under achieving groups and predictors of risk.

A further, more in depth, update on the equalities mapping project will be given at the next Leicestershire Equalities Forum Meeting.

Next LeicesterShire Equalities Forum Meeting

The next LeicesterShire Equalities Forum meeting will take place:

Date: Thursday 17th December

Venue: Training Room 1, 7th Floor, A Block, New Walk Centre, Leicester City Council

Time: 9.30am – 11:30am

If you require any further information about any of the projects included within the programme please contact:

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