News from West London Alliance – ISSUE 05/2011

This newsletter is produced by the West London Alliance (WLA) to provide information about collaborative initiatives and programmes between West London boroughs and with other organisations in West London. More detailed information about WLA programmes and the latest news can be found on the West London Alliance web site: www.westlondonalliance.org.

West London Transport Efficiencies Programme

Capital Ambition has confirmed £200,000 of funding to support the work of the West London Transport Efficiencies Programme in setting up a new WLA Regional Transport Bureau. This brings the total funding provided for this programme by Capital Ambition to £232,000.

The first programme savings are being achieved as participating boroughs have started to shared some routes. Work is underway to increase these savings through greater collaborative working facilitated by the new Bureau which is set to be the heart of the transport programme. The Interim Bureau Manager, Ann Priest, started work on 19th September to assist the work to establish the Bureau while the permanent Bureau Manager is recruited.

An advert to express an interest in a new Private Hire Framework contract appeared on 20th September. The London Borough of Brent in partnership with the London Boroughs of Barnet, Ealing and Hounslow is seeking expressions of interest from companies that wish to be considered for inclusion on a tender list for the provision of a framework for passenger transport services for vulnerable children, young people and adults for the London Boroughs of Barnet, Brent, Ealing and Hounslow, and for other public bodies across London that may wish to make use of these services. For further detail, please click here.

Contact: Lance Douglas, WLA Assistant Director – lance.douglas@brent.gov.uk.

Outer London Commission Meeting in Public – 1st November 2011

A public meeting will be held from 6.00 – 9.00pm on 1st November 2011 at the Queens Hall, Ealing Town Hall by the Outer London Commission (OLC) in the last in their series of meetings in public.

The OLC, established by the Mayor to advise on how Outer London can play its full part in the city's economic success, is focusing on informing Supplementary Planning Guidance to implement the policies of the new London Plan, published in July this year. The WLA will present the context of West London to the OLC and there will be the opportunity for stakeholders to express their views.

The meeting, being facilitated by the WLA, is open to all members of the public. For details of the agenda and background papers, please click here.

Contact: Kate Stevenson, WLA Policy & Project Officer – kate.stevenson@lbhf.gov.uk

West London Housing Partnership - Temporary Accommodation Procurement Framework

The West London Boroughs, lead by Brent, have set up a Framework agreement for the procurement of privately managed accommodation for homeless households and those threatened with homelessness. The Framework will help Boroughs reduce the use of expensive and unsuitable B&B accommodation for families, and achieve efficiencies by using their joint purchasing power to drive down costs.

Contact: Rachel Ormerod, Head of West London Housing Partnership – rachel.ormerod@lbhf.gov.uk

West London Adult Social Care Programme - Southern Cross Update

The task group set up as part of WLA Adult Social Care Programme and comprising of representative from each borough, is continuing its work as the transfer of Southern Cross residential care homes to their landlords new providers gathers pace. Southern Cross is a significant provider of residential care services to West London with 14 care homes across the WLA Boroughs alone. In light of the financial difficulties being experienced by the company, Boroughs with the support of the WLA have developed collaborative contingency plans.

The task group is in frequent contact with Boroughs to ensure communications around the transition are accurate and consistent, both for internal stakeholders as well as residents and their families. The landlords of the homes in West London have been in contact with the Boroughs to explain who will provide the care services and meetings are being arranged with the new providers. The priority for both the WLA and Southern Cross is to ensure the continuity of the services for residents and families, and having a strong approach to communications and information sharing allows us to ensure this.

For further information, contact Kieran Topping, Senior Category Manager - Toppingki@ealing.gov.uk.

To contact the West London Alliance:

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