



News from West London Alliance – ISSUE 07/2011

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 WLA web site: www.westlondonalliance.org.

Successful Launch of the West London Children's Programme

The West London Children's Programme was successfully launched by Michael Lockwood, Sponsor Chief Executive and David Archibald, Lead Director for the Programme on the 13th October at an event attended by over 80 colleagues from west London boroughs.

Colleagues working in Children's Social Care and Special Educational Needs teams heard about the overall vision and aims of the Children's Programme, the collaborative projects and delivery of the Programme and took part in group discussions based on the opportunities and challenges of sub-regional collaborative. Expertise and knowledge was shared to further develop innovation in west London's approach to externally provided provision for looked after children, care leavers and those with special educational needs. A range of ideas and opportunities to further develop the programme were the result of the group discussions, key points were:

- Communications - it was unanimously agreed that communication of the Children's Programme and the work of the WLA to all staff involved in Children's Services in west London, as well as external providers of services, is vital;
- Partnership working - west London boroughs working together as partners and recognising themselves as one customer as opposed to competitors in the market;
- Maximise existing west London resources, areas of expertise and use collective buying power to shape and develop the placement local market;
- Contracts, procedures and processes- Standardisation of contracts, specifications, monitoring requirements and processes in order to cut un-necessary cost out of providers expense and the supply chain; and
- Choice - ensuring that the local placement market allows children and young people and their families to have a choice of how their care or support is provided maximising the budget available; maintaining or driving up the quality of the services and improving the outcomes for children and young people.

The WLA are taking into account all of the feedback received to develop the work of the Programme. If you would like a copy of the presentations given at this event, please contact Jennifer Crawford, Programme Administrator - jcrawford@ealing.gov.uk

West London Children's Programme – Provider Forums to be Held in November

Following on from the successful launch of the West London Children's Programme, the WLA will be holding a series of Provider Forums in November for different areas of the external placement market. The aim of these events is to set out the work of the different areas of the Programme and begin to engage Providers in the development of local, good quality and cost effective services for looked after children, care leavers and those with special educational needs

Forums, focusing on the topics outlined below, will be taking place on the following dates:

- Independent Fostering Agencies - 8th November 2011 from 10am at Victoria Hall, Ealing Town Hall



- Non-Maintained and Independent Special Schools - 8th November 2011 from 1.30pm at Victoria Hall, Ealing Town Hall
- Residential Children's Homes - 22nd November 2011 from 1.30pm at Liz Cantel Room, Ealing Town Hall

If you would like more information about these events, please contact Jennifer Crawford, Programme Administrator - jcrawford@ealing.gov.uk

To find out more about the West London Children's Programme overall contact Matthew Jones, WLA Assistant Director - matthew.jones@lbhf.gov.uk

Reminder of the Outer London Commission Meeting in Public on 1st November 2011

The Outer London Commission (OLC) is holding the last in their series of meetings in public on Tuesday 1st November from 6.00-9.00pm at the Queens Hall, Ealing Town Hall.

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,. A presentation will be given to the OLC on the context of West London and there will be the opportunity for stakeholders to express their views.

For details of the agenda and papers, please click [here](#). If you have any comments or would like to attend please contact Kate Stevenson, WLA Policy & Project Officer - kate.stevenson@lbhf.gov.uk

Update on Tri-borough working – New Corporate Structure

A new corporate structure to reflect Bi- and Tri-borough working arrangements has been approved and came into effect from the 20th October.

The appointment of Derek Myers, as joint Chief Executive of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea was ratified at Full Council in Hammersmith and on Wednesday 19th October. The new Joint Management Group will be:

- Both RBKC's and H&F's Directors of Finance, Jane West* and Nicholas Holgate
- Tri-borough Executive for Children's Services, Andrew Christie
- Tri-borough Executive Director for Adult Social Care, Andrew Webster
- Bi-borough Executive Director for Environment, Leisure and Residents' Services, Lyn Carpenter
- Bi-borough Executive Director for Transportation and Technical Services, Nigel Pallace
- Executive Director of Housing and Regeneration, Mel Barrett
- Executive Director of Planning (RBKC), Jonathan Bore

*Jane West will become Executive Director of Finance and Corporate Governance and, in addition to her current role, will head the council services not part of Tri or Bi-borough arrangements. Jane will also become H&F's Electoral Registration Officer and Returning Officer.

To contact the West London Alliance:

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