

## Notes of the CCEN Executive Board Meeting Held on Tuesday 8 December 2009

**Present:** Nasim Ali, Ruth Appleton, Anju Bhatt, Mukid Choudhury, Charlie Legg, Peter Ward

<b>In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair, Charlie Legg agreed to chair the meeting</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
	Sarah Elie, Simone Hensby, Lincoln Lim,
<b>2.</b>	<b>CCEN Papers</b>
<b>a)</b>	<p><b>Minutes &amp; Matters Arising</b> Minutes were agreed as true and accurate record <u>Matters arising:</u> 2c) Economic Development Partnership rep – DT informed members that she has been unable to contact Neil Roberts who is the only VCS rep on the partnership board. However Phillip Colligan has said he is interested in developing an Employment Partnership as this is a major part of economy. VCS can play role in this as the sector is a large employer, offers employment training, volunteering opportunities etc.</p>
<b>b)</b>	<p><b>Report from LSP: Health &amp; Wellbeing Board Seminar</b> There were no comments on this item</p>
<b>c)</b>	<p><b>Recession Update</b> <b>RA</b> – taking on finance and admin recruit through Funding from Future Jobs. The person will be based at the Somali Centre</p> <p><b>NA</b> - concerned about organisations not being able to cope with increase in rents on council properties – could CCEN request that rents increases be frozen during the recession? It is not just the rent increases but the increases in core costs due to rises in utility prices. Most groups are on NFA which is frozen so groups are using reserves to cover increasing costs which has implication for their sustainability. Also costs for repairs and maintenance are increasing so budgets are getting tighter and tighter.</p> <p><b>MC</b> - his organisation has been allocated funding for repairs but under section 106 the money has not yet been released this means that British Land are not doing the work because of the recession and organisation may lose the money.</p> <p><b>CL</b> – his group had a cut in funding for youth provision but then got some money back which has simply delayed them making staff redundant. Perhaps any money available in various pots should come to groups where funding has been cut first. Youth unemployment is real problem yet services that can help are being cut. His group have received funding for 4 posts through Future Jobs (6month unrenewable funding) and these will be in grounds maintenance.</p> <p><b>CL</b> - Suggested CCEN monitor redundancy in the VCS due to the cuts and lack of project funding.</p>

	<p><b>AB</b> mentioned that use of volunteers has implications on Professional Indemnity Insurance for organisations like CAB as they use more volunteer advisers.</p> <p><b>NA</b> stated that using volunteers alone is unmanageable they need appropriate support</p> <p><b>PW</b> said that his funding has been cut from £57,000 three years ago to £50,000 and is now frozen by MPA</p>	<p><b>Issues to raise at LSP:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Freeze on rent increases for duration of recession</li> <li>• Any spare money within LBC for repairs &amp; maintenance</li> <li>• Recession funding should be opened out to VCS</li> </ul> <p><b>CCEN</b> to monitor redundancy – email out to groups about any redundancies /potential redundancies as result of cuts in funding/recession</p>
<b>3</b>	<b>LSP Papers</b>	
a)	<p><b>CAA</b> This document would be on the oneplace website tomorrow but copies were available at the meeting – there would be a presentation on this at the LSP</p>	
b)	<p><b>LAA Paper</b> CL said that his impression of the paper was that some areas were not doing well but many were making some progress</p> <p><b>DT</b> mentioned areas of contradiction due to the effects of the recession – for example increase in use of gyms – this is because people can no longer afford private gyms so are using public gyms more and the low take up of formal childcare – this is because lots of people are now out of work and don't need childcare!</p> <p><b>DT</b> spoke about the issue of social cohesion (5.8 page 5) <b>PW</b> said there has been a lot in the press about the Prevent Agenda. There is a 'prevent' sub group which will be looking at social cohesion and how to measure it. Keep saying that people get on together but have no evidence to back this up.</p> <p><b>AB</b> There has been no reportback on any progress – the Prevent Strategy should have been item at the last Social Cohesion Forum but it didn't happen.</p> <p><b>AB</b> Social Cohesion indicators in Local H which is monitored through the Place Survey . Camden did not do as well as expected in this also the police are worried about NI21 in which Camden scored badly. Consultation has identified communication as the main cause of concern from residents.</p> <p><b>NA</b> raised the issue of the NI's around young people which seem to be much lower than last year</p> <p><b>CL</b> Felt that lots of the figures in the report relate to the early days of</p>	

	<p>the recession – next year will be much harder so should be looking at greater need</p> <p><b>AB</b> – qualitative outcomes based issue re funding review – should be feeding in. Philip Colligan at a meeting recently stated that the review would be looking at how the council <b>and its partners</b> fund the VCS. CCEN needs to keep an eye on this VCS shouldn't be part of the cuts as we offer services to the most vulnerable communities who do not access public services</p> <p><b>CL</b> said that in the area of youth work we should identify what LBC does and what the VCS does. If LBC provides 50% of services then they should get 50% of the cuts – not just cut the VCS</p> <p><b>DT</b> – the Extended Planning Performance Group discussed VCS delivery in relation to efficiency savings at the last meeting. Job Centre Plus are looking at contracting out more services to the VCS next year</p>	
c)	<p><b>Worklessness Presentation</b> Philip Colligan wants to discuss the value of setting up an Employment Partnership – unemployment for under 25's and over 40's/50's is big issue and impacts on family poverty.</p>	
<b>4</b>	<b>Information Exchange</b>	
	<p><b>AGMs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CamdenBME Alliance – 13 January at VAC 2.00 – 4.30pm</li> <li>• Bengali Workers Association – 20 December – closed meeting</li> <li>• VAC – 22 February London Irish Centre 5.00 – 8.30pm</li> </ul>	
	<p><b>Bengali Workers Association are about to launch 3 new projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aural History – 20 people who came to Camden in the 60's and 20 3<sup>rd</sup> generation people</li> <li>• Bengali Women's Development Project – targeting women from all communities</li> <li>• Older People Outreach – 50+ women from SE Asia identify access to services and support them in accessing appropriate services</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>Date of next meeting</b> LSP Thursday 10 December CCEN Seminar Tuesday 19 January 2010 CCEN Executive Tuesday 23 February 2010</p>	