

# access

The Equal Brighton and Hove Newsletter  
Issue 6, Friday 24<sup>th</sup> February 2006

## .....update

### Equal Brighton and Hove: Core Team update

The office move last week went swimmingly, thanks to Rachel Brown's great organisational skills, so the core team is once again fully operational. Just to reiterate, our address has changed, but each team member's phone number and email address remain the same.

There are many changes afoot within the core team. We will be very sad to see Susie's departure on March 17<sup>th</sup>, when she'll be moving to Oxford to set up home. Susie has been an invaluable member of the team, and will be greatly missed by us all. Adam will be ably taking Susie's place as Senior Administrator, and will have the support of three further administrators, Vikki Osborne, Barnaby Waights and Paul Donlan. We hope you'll join us in waving a fond farewell to Susie, and welcoming the new members of our team.

The Beneficiary and Finance Monitoring Team are continuing their visits to each Activity Provider to determine the routes that beneficiaries may follow towards training and employment. The benefits of these visits are many: APs will have clarity as to the relevant forms to use for reporting along a beneficiary's journey; and through gathering further information on each AP, Equal can create a tool which will assist each project and its partners to better identify appropriate progression routes for beneficiaries within the Equal city-wide partnership.

## .....events

### Providing Opportunity & Support to Young Adults with Complex Needs Conference

28th March 2006, New Connaught Rooms, London WC2

The recently published report by the Social Exclusion Unit, 'Transitions: Young Adults with Complex Needs', highlights that the important time of transition to adulthood is critical for young adults and that the decisions made during this time are key to their future success.

Certain marginalised groups of young people face disproportionate disadvantage including those that are homeless, unemployed, have poor health and lack sufficient levels of education and training to succeed.

This conference, while exploring the interconnection of services available to those who face disadvantage, will focus on access to education and the important role that a joined-up approach to services plays in ensuring success.

With more than one million 16-24 year olds not in education, employment or training this conference will highlight the importance of access and opportunity for young adults with complex needs and consider the policy and best practice that will help deliver targeted outcomes for young people.

The keynote speaker at the event will be Phil Woolas MP, Minister of State for Social Exclusion, ODPM.

For more information about the conference, and to register your attendance, [click here](#).

.....national news.....

from [www.dwp.gov.uk](http://www.dwp.gov.uk)

The new labour market figures were published on February 15<sup>th</sup>, along with the new DWP benefit statistics.

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Employment and Welfare Reform, said of the report "These figures reflect the rather mixed picture of recent months...Our recent welfare reform green paper (reported on in Access issue 4, 27<sup>th</sup> January 2006) sets out the further steps we will take to tackle worklessness".

To read the full report, [click here](#).

.....over to you.....

**Brighton & Hove City Council Supported Employment Team Project**

This project brings together a range of partners to deliver employment and employability support to people living in areas of deprivation. A key strength of the project is that partners are working together, in some instances for the first time, to develop a whole range of real local opportunities for people.

The Bridge and Whitehawk Inn have extended their 'Gateway' service to residents who would otherwise have been excluded. They have expanded their range of adult learning opportunities to include both home-developed courses, such as Intermediate Counselling Skills, and accredited courses provided by City College Brighton and Hove and Varndean College. Equal Brighton and Hove has provided these institutes with the opportunity to deliver courses such as Business Administration and Personal Services [e.g. Indian Head Massage], that could lead directly to employment.

Work Placements feature as part of the Business Administration course and are also provided by Brighton & Hove City Council's Human Resources Department. On offer to beneficiaries are thirty 12-week work placements across the range of council departments, with full support and training provided. This is fully supported by the council's Want to Work project, which is providing direct assistance in gaining employment to local residents.

The Working Together Project, apart from taking a lead with supporting the community and voluntary sector to know about and make use of Equal projects, is also developing and delivering Learning Champion courses. This opportunity to promote the importance of learning within organisations is mirrored by the work of the Learning Disability Service, which is using Equal to develop an innovative Personal Skills Profiling Course for people with significant learning disabilities. This two-part project is also working to ensure that people with learning disabilities are accessing volunteering opportunities that have been inaccessible in the past. Accessibility is also the key for the Children's Centres Service, which will be using Equal funding to build opportunities to support parents of young children in seeking and gaining employment.

Despite the late start to this project, it has enjoyed significant success to date with many beneficiaries gaining access to advice that they previously could not, attending training that had not been available to them before and, of course, securing employment.

Maureen Pasmore is Project Lead at Brighton & Hove City Council Supported Employment Team Project - you can contact Maureen on 01273 296090 or email [Maureen.pasmore@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Maureen.pasmore@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

.....diary.....

2<sup>nd</sup> March: Earshot's Radio Reverb Community Radio License Award Event By Invitation Only RadioReverb celebrate, and promote the Equal message to organisations across the city.

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Please send ideas, comments and suggestions to [kellee.rich@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:kellee.rich@brighton-hove.gov.uk)