

BULLETIN 10:01 JANUARY 2010

This is our inaugural 'CANNY' electronic news bulletin. As always, if any of the information included might be of interest to your colleagues and friends, please forward this newsletter to them.

We always welcome any feedback so feel free to contact us on 01670 517178 or at info@ca-north.org.uk

GO GREEN!

Have you or your local community recently undertaken a green or carbon saving project?

It might be eg. an energy efficient heating system for your village hall, an alternative power source for your village or something as simple as developing a local allotment to grow your own fruit and veg!

Would you be willing to share your expertise with others who may be wanting to do something similar but are not sure where to start? Then please get in touch with us.

We aim to set up a link on our [website](#) and develop a valuable resource based on local knowledge and experience to help and encourage others who may be struggling to get started.

One simple starting point would be so helpful.

For further details please contact Marc Johnson on 01289 304141 or via marcjohanson@ca-north.org.uk

Launch of new 'Oneplace' website

The Government launched the new **Oneplace website** on 10th December.

<http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/Pages/default.aspx>

The site gives an overview as to how **local public services are performing in England, if they provide value for money and where they could improve.**

The Audit Commission, Care Quality Commission, HM Inspectorates of Constabulary, Prisons and Probation and Ofsted have worked together to provide an independent overview of the quality of life in your area.

You can also discover how well local public organisations, such as councils and police forces work together to meet local needs. Now, for the first time, you can find out - at the click of a mouse - how quality of life in your area compares with the rest of the country.

The link for Northumberland is

<http://oneplace.direct.gov.uk/infobyarea/region/area/Pages/areaoverview.aspx?region=52&area=386>

You can also use the Search Boxes on the website to get information on other public services providers in the County.

The North East Empowerment Partnership (NEEP) provides *"a forum for critical debate regarding the definitions of engagement and empowerment, and a practice-led exploration of their implications for policy and practice."*

NEEP is one of nine regional partnerships forming the National Empowerment Partnership resourced by central government for four years (2007-2011) to promote a *"truly participative society and promote the fundamental role of empowerment in achieving a more equal, cohesive and democratic society."* The partnership aims to encourage collaborative working between providers in the public, third and private sector to improve the quality, coordination and evidence of empowerment across England. NEEP brings together community engagement and empowerment representatives from across the region to improve understanding and to develop and build on good practice.

Ruahine Training and Consultancy on behalf of NEEP is currently researching *why* we in the north east are less likely to engage in civic activism than in the other English regions and identify the reasons why individuals may or may not choose to stand for office in their local community as a Parish, Borough or County Councillor.

NEEP is particularly keen to hear from anyone who has not stood for office before.

Interested? Please take the NEEP Active Citizenship SURVEY at
www.surveymonkey.com/s/CHZV6GR

DON'T STOP THE MUSIC !!

Charitable bodies and other not-for-profit organisations have been exempt from paying for a licence for public performance rights when playing recorded music in their premises.

However, in early November 2009, the Government response to the consultation on changes to music licensing announced that **it would repeal the exemptions and change the system of charging**. The reason given is that the exemptions are in breach of a European Directive on certain rights relating to copyright. The new rules will come into force in **April 2010**. **FOR MORE INFORMATION [CLICK HERE....](#)**

Residents urged to make voting plans

Away on polling day ? - get postal or proxy votes now

Voters are being encouraged to decide if they need to apply to vote by post or proxy in the next UK Parliamentary General Election which must be held by 3 June 2010.

It's quick and simple to register to vote and to get postal and proxy application forms. Visit www.aboutmyvote.co.uk or call Northumberland County Council's elections office on 0845 600 6400.



Home movers – have you forgotten something?

Often things can get lost or forgotten when moving house, but with a general election looming we are urging people to make sure their vote isn't one of them.

Anyone who has moved house recently, even if they have moved within the county, can get a registration form from any council contact centre, or alternatively they can print off a form from www.aboutmyvote.co.uk, fill it in, sign it and send it back to The Electoral Registration Office, Northumberland County Council, County Hall, Morpeth, NE61 2EF.

Happily Ever After? Sustainable Funding in Practice

Tuesday 2nd March 2010, 9.45am-4pm
St James Park, Newcastle

In a recession-hit economy, with grant funding already in decline, voluntary and community organisations have been busy developing other income streams in order to support their work. This one-day conference will explore the challenges and the successes of different methods of income generation, in order to help you make your organisation more sustainable.

For more details go to: www.fine.org.uk

The North East Guide to Grants for Voluntary Organisations 2009/10 edition

is now on sale with **50% OFF**

Just **£7.50** for larger organisations

Or £4.25 for organisations with income under £50,000 per annum.

The Guide contains information on over 90 charitable trusts and foundations which support voluntary organisations and community groups in Northumberland, Tyne & Wear, County Durham and Teesside and is an essential tool for any fundraiser.

“An excellent fundraising resource and a must for voluntary and community groups”

“I have fundraised for my organisation for ten years- this has been the single most useful tool I have used in that time”

To order your copy click here: www.fine.org.uk/NEGGVO_10sale.doc