

ON A MISSION

BRIEFING OF THE COMMISSIONING POLICY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT STEERING GROUP

STEERING GROUP MEETING

This is a summary of the Commissioning Project Steering Group meeting that took place on 15th March 2011.

CODE OF PRACTICE UPDATE

Commission Accomplished: the Public Sector Code of Practice for Commissioning Third Sector Services in Merthyr Tydfil and Rhondda Cynon Taf has been completed.

Bi-lingual copies will be available soon and it will also be available on the VAMT and Interlink websites.

The Code of Practice has been formally adopted by Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council, Voluntary Action Merthyr Tydfil and Interlink. It will be presented to the Cwm Taf Health Board for adoption at its meeting in April and will also be taken through Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council's decision-making processes in April.

COMMISSION ACCOMPLISHED WEBSITE

The website to support the implementation of the Code of Practice can be viewed on www.commissionaccomplished.co.uk

It contains the 16 checklists from the Code of Practice, an overview of Legislation, Strategy, Policy and Guidance and Resources pages. You can use it to "walk through" the different stages of the commissioning process (from both a commissioner and third sector organisation perspective) or to focus on a specific theme. They include partnership working, outcomes, "third sector friendly procurement", intelligent monitoring etc.

The website is still in the process of being written and tidied up. However, feedback would be welcome. Let me know if there are any mistakes, if I have missed anything out or about any aspect of it at all.

Contributions wanted

The website is about commissioning and all the themes related to it. However, it is also about our area. It therefore needs contributions from public and third sector organisations in the area to illustrate some of its key messages.

Case studies - examples of local social enterprises, social firms, effective service user involvement, ways of measuring value, innovative service design etc.

Resources - templates or policies that are or relevance to commissioning and procurement

Photos - of third sector services in the area - ideally with people in them (with permission)

Please do contact me if you can help with any of the above.

COMMISSION ACCOMPLISHED LAUNCH EVENT

SEE OVERLEAF FOR MORE DETAILS



VOLUNTARY ACTION
MERTHYR TYDFIL
GWEITHREDU GWIRFODDOL
MERTHYR TUDFUL



NHS
WALES
GIG
CYMRU



COMMISSION ACCOMPLISHED LAUNCH EVENT

Thursday 16th June 2011 • 9am - 12.30 pm
Orbit Centre Merthyr Tydfil

The aims are to:

- Launch the products of the Commissioning Project
- Promote the role of the third sector in commissioning
- Highlight the ways in which partner organisations already deliver the good practice in commissioning outlined in the Code of Practice and identify further areas for improvement

Speakers at the Launch Event:

- Gunther Kostyra of Value Wales
- David Boyle, Associate of New Economics Foundation

Representatives of partner organisations will outline their commitment to the Code of Practice.

The event will be free and refreshments will be available.

Places are limited. A final programme and booking form will be available soon.

TRAINING

Awareness raising events and training to support the implementation of Fulfilled Lives Supportive Communities Commissioning Framework and Guidance will be taking place soon. They include:

- Value Wales workshops in Rhyl (16th May), Llandrindod Wells (23rd May), Gorseinon (25th May)
- Introduction to the Commissioning Cycle from WCVA (date in June to be confirmed)

IN THE MEANTIME...

If you are a third sector organisation that is interested in delivering public services, you should do the following to make yourself known to public sector organisations:

- Register on sell2wales www.sell2wales.co.uk/suppliers/index.html and alito www.rctbusinessclub.co.uk/rct-procurement-services.html as a means of promoting your organisation to the public sector in Wales and to several local authorities (Rhondda Cynon Taf, Torfaen, Cardiff and Swansea) respectively. You can also use sell2wales to search the supplier database for potential collaborators for bids.
- Make sure that your information becomes part of the future Communications Hub for Cwm Taf. To find out more, contact Sharon Richards (sharon.richards@vamt.net) of VAMT or Ann Philpott ([APhilpott @interlinkrct.org.uk](mailto:APhilpott@interlinkrct.org.uk)) of Interlink.
- Be aware of a forthcoming VAMT event (end of June) which will recognise the third sector's contribution to the Merthyr Tydfil Community Plan.

To find out more about the Commissioning Policy Development Project, contact: Margaret McLaughlin, Project Officer on 01685 353920 - margaret.mclaughlin@vamt.net - To access further information about the project, see www.vamt.net and www.interlinkrct.org.uk