



**Positive for the Future -  
Helping Voluntary  
Organisations continue  
through tough times  
Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011**

## **Summary Report**

On 29<sup>th</sup> November 2011, East Midlands Voluntary Youth hosted a regional Forum for youth work practitioners entitled 'Positive for the Future – Helping Voluntary Organisations continue through tough times'.

The Forum was attended by 34 youth work practitioners from across the East Midlands region and was held at The Cadet Centre in Toton, Nottingham. The aim of the day was to re-launch EMVY after a period of dormancy (due to funding issues), share information on national, regional and local issues, provide networking opportunities and to hold the 2001 Annual General Meeting.

The Forum began with a welcome from John Ludlam, Vice Chair of EMVY. Joanne Wheeler from the Young People Division of the Department for Education then gave a brief overview on the new national youth policy 'Positive for Youth' and talked about working together for young people.

The national picture of youth policy was then developed by Kanchan Jadeja, Chief Executive of the National Council of Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS). Kanchan gave an update on the national picture for the youth sector from the NCVYS perspective.

After a brief break, Nigel Brown, Chair of the Training and Work force Development East Midlands group (TWDEM) gave an introduction to TWDEM. TWDEM aims to contribute to the strategic development of Training and Workforce Development, acting as a champion for youth within the 0-25 agenda in the East Midlands and beyond. Nigel talked about the work that TWDEM is doing and what they hope to achieve in the near future.

Justine Darke, Service Manager – Youth Strategy, Nottingham City Council, then gave a brief update on the current situations within the region's local authority youth services and what this may mean to the voluntary youth sector.

To continue the regional perspective, Raul Valdivia Murgueytio from the MUNDI Global Education Centre and the Global Youth Work Project East Midlands gave a presentation entitled 'Global Youth Work: Rethinking Youth Work in the Age of Globalisation'. Raul spoke about how global youth work provides an interesting framework for understanding the nature of youth work in an increasingly globalised world, promoting critical debate around some of the key issues of our time.

The group then broke for lunch and a chance to network and visit the displays and marketplace.

After lunch, EMVY briefly held its AGM. Trustees for EMVY are now Simon Worsley (Chair), Alistair Langton (Treasurer), Jim Jenkinson, John Ludlam, Justine Darke, Rachel Jones, Ian Tannahill, Charles Shaw and David Springett.

The afternoon session then continued with a look at more localised issues. Jonny Gutteridge from One East Midlands spoke about 'New Thinking in Funding'. He explained how work done through



One East Midlands with funding advisors informs organisations about responding to the changing funding landscape.

'A Brief Introduction Social Enterprise' was given by Dorothy Executive Officer of the Cooperative and Social Enterprise Development Agency. The session explained what a social enterprise is and used case study examples to explore how and why people set up social enterprises.

Lisa, Sarah and Rebekah from the 'Just Ask' Project, part of Catch 22, then talked about 'Just Ask Nottingham', focussing on the recent work being conducted by young people and what their findings have been so far in terms of their employment campaign.

Finally, Karen Parsons from Children's Links gave a brief presentation on the Safe Network, which is funded by the Department of Education and recognises the need for a tailored safe guarding support for the Third Sector following its Staying Safe Consultation with charitable and voluntary sector organisations.

The day was informative and enjoyable – thank you to everyone who attended and to all those who made the day possible by giving presentations, helping with planning and the overall organisation on the day, and to everyone at the Cadet Centre who hosted us.

Some comments on the day:

Met all my expectations, thank you and I have prepared a report to share with my team

I found today educational and informative. I enjoyed all presentations and plan on contacting people from today's meeting

I felt this was a really useful day with a structured agenda which provided insight into global, national and local delivery issues.

Today was my first meeting and thought it was good; continue to support and inform..

Thank you for all the hard work. We work in difficult circumstances and in isolation. Sharing ideas and obtaining contact is an excellent way forward.

All presentations and the Evaluation Summary can be found on the EMVY website

Thank you once again to everyone involved.

