



## Welcome to Pentagon Partnership's e-bulletin for October.

This month's e-bulletin is a little later than normal, but its absolutely jam-packed with information about Pentagon's plans for the rest of the year, as well as updates on the Comprehensive Spending Review and the Third Sector Strategy for Communities and Local Government.

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## Pentagon News

### Annual Review 2006-2007

Our Annual Review is available to download [here](#). If you would like one or more printed copies, please email [jon.goodwin@pentagonpartnership.org.uk](mailto:jon.goodwin@pentagonpartnership.org.uk)

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### Annual Conference – report

Our Annual Conference on September 12<sup>th</sup> was a huge success. We're putting together a report on the day and this will be available soon.

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### Election to the Tyne and Wear City Region Employment Consortium

#### Who's going to represent our sector on employability issues?

Pentagon Partnership has secured a seat for the VCS on the new City Region Employment Consortium. At our Annual Conference on September 12<sup>th</sup>, we invited nominations from people who felt they could represent the sector on the Employment Consortium. Five candidates have been nominated for the position, and we're asking the sector in the City Region to vote on who should take up the VCS seat on the consortium.

The nominees are:

- James Herbert (Mental Health Matters)
- Irene Lindsay (D'ArtE CIC)
- Geraldine Ling (Lawnmowers)
- Roger Mould (Newcastle CVS)
- Kate Welch (Acumen Trust)

More information, including a voting form and profiles of each candidate, is available [here](#). Votes must be received by the end of this Friday, October 19<sup>th</sup>.

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## Are You Leading The Way? 10 Steps to Your Future Success

### WORKSHOP

#### On a Dynamic New Management Toolkit from Pentagon Partnership

Thursday 8 November 2007  
9.30am- 12.30pm  
Wallsend People's Centre, Frank Street, Wallsend

DO YOU WANT TO...  
Sustain your organisation?  
Develop your potential?  
Expand your geographical boundaries?

**Yes?** Pentagon Partnership's new publication, *Are You Leading The Way? 10 Steps to Your Future Success* is an innovative toolkit, designed for organisations across the voluntary and community sector, irrespective of size.

This toolkit has two unique features...simplicity and diversity of use!

**Simplicity** – each stage of the toolkit is based around a consistent framework which can be adapted to meet the exact needs of your organisation

**Diversity** – the detail derived from using the toolkit can be used

- as essential management information for taking your organisation forward
- to prepare you for bidding for any contracts
- to develop partnerships in order to submit a combined bid

Using a review process, the toolkit takes you through a series of audits using a simplified method of self assessment. Worked illustrations are used throughout and are based on genuine local examples developed with the help of 58 voluntary and community sector organisations.

#### Welcomed by the sector, feedback has included:

*"Renewed ideas for assessing and reviewing our organisation"*

*"Very user friendly and accessible"*

*"A practical toolkit...will use to help in implementing the strategic plan"*

*"It may make the voluntary and community sector more competent to deliver partnership working with the public sector"*

The toolkit retails at £30 and includes a free CD.

However delegates attending this event will be offered this management tool for **just £20!**

**A 33% discount....**

To book a place on this event, [complete this booking form](#) and return it to [christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk](mailto:christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk) or to Christine O'Brien, Pentagon Partnership, c/o VODA, The Shiremoor Centre, Earsdon Road, Shiremoor NE27 0HJ.

To buy a copy of the toolkit for the full price of £30, please email [christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk](mailto:christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk) or call 0191 200 1405.

## Even More for Your Money – The Way Ahead

Do you want to give yourself the edge? Do you want to...

- ...demonstrate your organisation's value
- ...calculate your contribution to your community
- ...measure the economic value of the work you do
- ...show how you're delivering on your social objectives

**YES?**

**THEN WE HAVE FIVE 'IMPACT MEASUREMENT TOOLS' FOR YOUR ORGANISATION!**

Last year we launched the 'Even More for Your Money' project at a special event at the Mansion House in Newcastle. **Ten organisations** have spent this year working on one of the tools, with support from experienced regeneration consultants.

We are now ready to **showcase our findings** through five themed events in November and December, across Tyne & Wear. Each event will feature a summary of the five tools below followed by a focus on one of them by the relevant consultant. Each consultant will be joined by representatives from the organisations who piloted the model.

**Social Appraisal Toolkit (SAT)**  
**Local Multiplier 3 (LM3)**  
**Social Audit Network (SAN)**  
**Social Return on Investment (SROI)**  
**Social Auditing**

***Which one is right for you?***

Each tool encompasses a wide range of **impact measurement techniques**, suitable for organisations of all sizes and needs. From a short toolkit which helps you to assess the social impact of a small organisation, to ongoing management projects which look at all aspects of a well-established organisation, **there's something here for you!** Some of the tools measure social and environmental performance in these terms, while others help put an economic figure on this work: **invaluable information** when bidding for a contract, loan or grant!

For full details of the events, including information on the five models (which will help you choose which event to attend), please visit our website [here](#).

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# CHRISTMAS NETWORKING WITH THE PENTAGON PARTNERSHIP

Thursday 13 December 2007  
The Mansion House  
Newcastle upon Tyne

12.30 pm - 4.00 pm

## DO YOU WANT TO...

- ...find partners?
- ...enhance your service provision?
- ...expand your geography?
- ...put your name on the map?

**...THEN NETWORKING IS THE KEY**

*Here at Pentagon we are offering you the opportunity to join colleagues from across Tyne & Wear and beyond in our Christmas celebration networking event.*

### **Buffet Lunch**

With the chance to mingle with other guests to begin your networking experience

### **Speed Networking**

Each attendee will have 60 seconds to promote your organisation to potential partners from across Tyne and Wear and beyond... What do you do? What are you looking for in a partner? What can you offer a partner? What support would you like to promote your organisation and take it to its next level?

### **PQQs**

#### **(Pre-Qualification Questionnaires)**

January 2008 will see the last opportunity to bid for Learning & Skills Council contracts for **3 years** as the deadline for submission of PQQs closes!

Pentagon is offering 20 lucky organisations FREE professional support to complete their PQQs before the deadline.

Applications to be one of the 20 will be taken at the networking event

### **Christmas Raffle**

Donations and Prize offerings gratefully received!

Download a booking form [here](#) and return it to [christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk](mailto:christine.obrien@pentagonpartnership.org.uk), or to Christine O'Brien, Pentagon Partnership, c/o VODA, The Shiremoor Centre, Earsdon Road, Shiremoor, NE27 0HJ.

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## **Policy News**

### **Comprehensive Spending Review**

Last week's Comprehensive Spending Review and pre-budget statement included the following commitments of interest to the sector:

- £80m for a small grants programme for local community groups
- £50m to establish local endowment funds
- £10m to support community anchors
- £117m for the youth volunteering charity 'v'
- £85m CapacityBuilders money to continue the ChangeUp project
- £65m for Futurebuilders

For more information see the Office of the Third Sector website [here](#).

Read the full Review document [here](#).

### **Third Sector Strategy for Communities and Local Government – regional response**

You may remember we held a consultation event, in association with VONNE, on the Strategy in August. VONNE has finalised its regional response to the consultation, and this is available on their website, [here](#).

The Tyne and Wear VCS response, which in part informed the VONNE regional response, can be found on our website [here](#).

### **Community Assets update**

Another policy we consulted the sector on earlier this year was the Community Assets Fund (see our consultation response [here](#)). The £30 million fund is now open to applications. Community Assets will offer grants of between £150,000 and £1 million to refurbish local authority buildings, ensuring they are appropriate for transfer to the VCS.

For more information visit the [Office for the Third Sector website](#).

*We welcome your comments on this bulletin. This will enable us to shape our information services to meet your needs.*

Read previous e-bulletins [here](#).

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