

Getting it Right

for disabled people

> New resources and updates

> Sharing office and activity space

> Interview with Jenny Hurst

> Health and wellbeing news

> News from the local sector

> Social Council news and diary

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The views expressed in Link are not necessarily those of KCSC.

At Kensington & Chelsea Social Council we aim to improve the quality of life for residents of the borough by supporting locally focused voluntary and community organisations.

We provide:

- organisational development advice, guidance and training including fundraising, governance and leadership
- co-ordination and representation at strategic meetings with the local authority and health services
- information and resources including a website, newsletter and fortnightly e-bulletin
- support to network and collaborate including through the organisation of a number of borough forums
- facilitation to develop a strong voluntary sector voice to influence decision makers and support for voluntary sector representatives

Viewpoint

A lot has happened since our last issue of Link. A Mayoral Election and EU Referendum to name but two. Both will impact the local voluntary and community sector.

WELCOME TO OUR SUMMER EDITION OF LINK packed full of information to both update and inspire you.

I assume I am not alone in thinking summer is the probably the best time of year. The sky is blue (mostly) and the evenings are long. However, it is in the run up to summer and in particular towards the school summer holidays that workloads seem to increase immensely. We try and pack as much in now so that the start of autumn almost feels like the start of a new year.

Re-invigorated and re-energised staff, fresh approaches and renewed commitments all happen because summer allows us to maximise our efforts, reflect and then relax. Summer is also a time when critical decisions are made. Last year we had the General Election, this year the London Mayoral Election and more critically the EU Referendum.

Drawing attention to the outcome of the London Mayoral elections, the Social Council would like to congratulate the new London Mayor and wish him every success. We all know the scale of the challenges he faces and the difficult problems to which he will be asked to find solutions. It is no secret that we have big concerns about housing in London and we believe there is an urgent need to keep London 'truly' affordable. This means a good mix of housing that can meet needs of people whether on low or middle income. It is hoped that Sadiq Khan will tackle this issue head on and particularly the challenges we have highlighted in our report on the private rented sector.

The EU Referendum is the other big decision that has been made this summer with the result showing that people wish Britain to leave the EU. It is difficult right now to know exactly what is on the horizon

or indeed how far away that horizon is, but it does signal change at some given point. What I have found difficult to stomach is the discussion on immigration and how it may have helped to drive the decision which was made.

If, because of the result people are feeling uncertain and scared about the future because they no longer feel welcome then please know that our organisation like so many others in this borough say this was not in our name.

The Social Council has seen some changes in our staffing recently. Jon our Health and Wellbeing Manager has moved on to new adventures and we welcomed our new graduate intern Jamie. Thanks to some funding from City Living Local Life we are able to employ Jamie as an intern for 3 months to focus on our food poverty and food banks project. You can read more about this work on page 15.

Finally I would like to say a big thank you to all those who came to

our joint annual Funders Fair run in partnership with Sobus and One Westminster. This year the event was held at Hammersmith Town Hall. With lots of stalls and workshops it was another successful event and I hope it was useful to all who came.

I hope you enjoy our newsletter and as always do let us know if you would like to see something included in a future edition or why not just give us some general feedback on the magazine itself.

Wishing you all a great summer.



Angela Spence, Chief Executive Officer

The Social Council has always been and will always be an organisation that welcomes communities from all backgrounds and cultures into the borough.

News and resources for voluntary organisations

Information and new support resources to help you run your organisation

London Healthy Workplace Charter

The Royal Borough is supporting local employers who wish to register with the London Healthy Workplace Charter in recognition that you take staff wellbeing seriously.

The business benefits of having a healthy, fit and committed workforce helps you get the best out of them with improved productivity, lower absence rates, fewer accidents and staff who are engaged and committed to the organisation.

The Council has a designated healthy workplace advisor on hand to support you, locally, free of charge, to review and develop all that you do to promote staff wellbeing.

You will gain recognition for good practice through the London Healthy Workplace Charter accreditation scheme. You can also benefit from heavily subsidised mental health training for managers and employee health check packages as you work towards your healthy workplace award.

rbkc.gov.uk/healthyworkplace
business@rbkc.gov.uk
07584 389 249

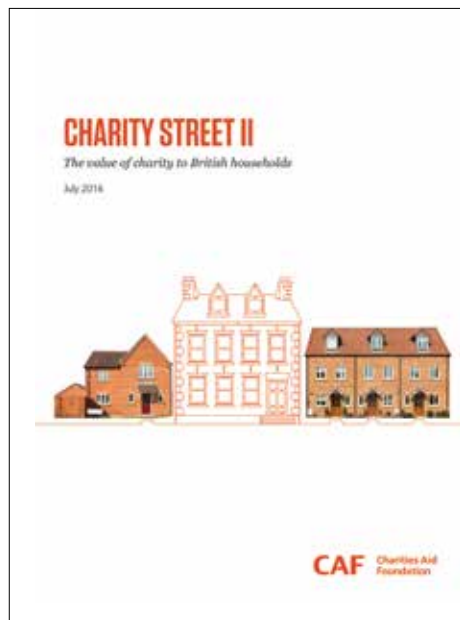
The value of charity to British households

“People living in the UK’s most deprived areas use fewer charities than those living in the most advantaged areas, but they are the more likely to view them as essential or very important to their lives.”

This is one of the findings from Charity Street II, a new report released by the Charities Aid Foundation. The report also found that despite the increasing use of charitable services, nearly 1 in 4 households were unaware that the services they use were provided by charities.

76% of people most trust charities to speak up for the disadvantaged. This easily makes charities more trusted than religious leaders (5%), councillors (4%), MPs (3%), businesses (1%), think tanks (1%) or civil servants (1%).

To read the full news release and download the report visit the CAF website.



cafonline.org

KindLink – Donor software for small charities

KindLink is a new donation management tool that is free to use for charities. It combines online donation processing including GiftAid reporting with a simple donor CRM database.

The only costs incurred are credit/debit card processing fees applied by the banks. (1.3% for debit, credit and phone payments).

To find out more and sign up visit the KindLink website.



kindlink.com

Corporate Services Grant Scheme

The Royal Borough's Corporate Services Grant Programme for 2017-19 is open for applications until 12 noon on Friday 16 September 2016.

The Corporate Services department is the main funder of voluntary and community services and the Council has expressed a

desire that local groups are able to continue delivering a range of services which respond to and meet areas of local need during a difficult financial climate.

Further details and links to apply are available via the Social Council's website.

Organisations which are successful will be expected to begin delivering their projects from 1 April 2017.

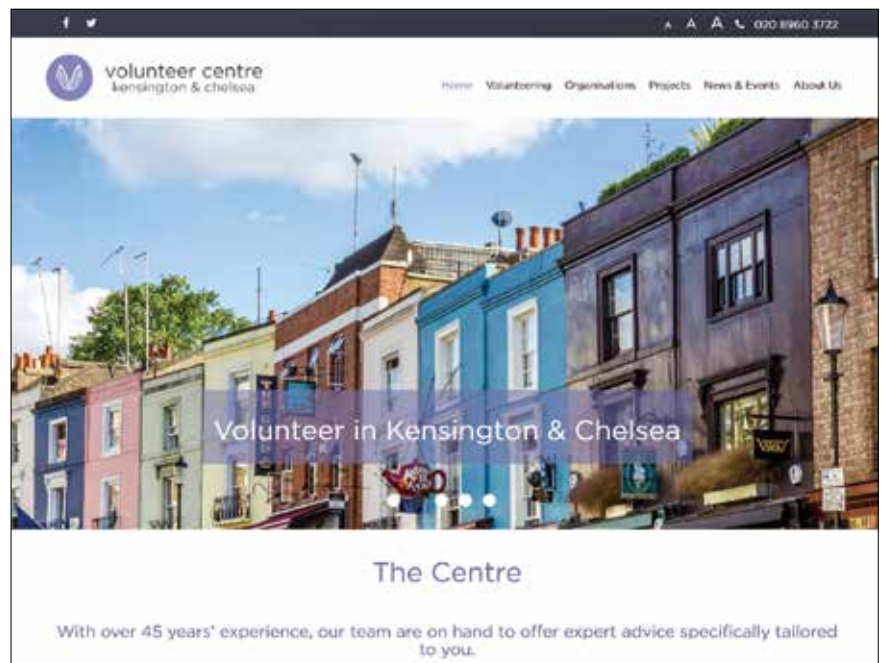


kcsc.org.uk/funding/rbkc-corporate-services-grants

Volunteer Centre – new projects and new website

The Volunteer Centre Kensington and Chelsea has relaunched its website this summer. The new site provides information on Volunteer Centre projects including World's End Good Neighbours which offers befriending services to lonely and isolated elderly residents on the World's End Estate and the recently launched Inside Out, which works with offenders and ex-offenders to offer hands on support for people with a criminal record.

The Volunteer Centre supports over 150 organisations in Kensington & Chelsea to recruit volunteers and secure vital help for their projects each year.



Visit the new site: voluntarywork.org.uk

Easing Community Tensions – Practical Advice for Charities

Following the EU referendum result there has been a spike in reported hate crime against minorities. The murder of MP Jo Cox in June has been linked to her strong support for Syrian

refugees and it clear many people are feeling uneasy at the rise in racism and xenophobia we are witnessing.

NCVO has published a useful blog article detailing some of

things voluntary organisations can do. It draws upon advice from a number of charities that specialise in community relations or in working with those who are immediately effected.

<http://blogs.ncvo.org.uk/2016/06/30/easing-community-tensions-practical-advice-for-charities>

Sharing office and activity space

With office space and space to carry out activities at a premium in Kensington and Chelsea we look at the pros and cons of sharing

Does your organisation share space with other organisations or is it something you may consider in the future?

With space in the borough becoming ever more scarce and expensive, voluntary and community organisations are facing increasing challenges to find suitable spaces to work from and deliver activities from.

Some organisations have made a success of sharing space to reduce costs and better utilised what is available. As more and more organisations may need to consider sharing a building or office space in the future, here we outline some of the benefits and some of the things you will need to bear in mind?

The benefits

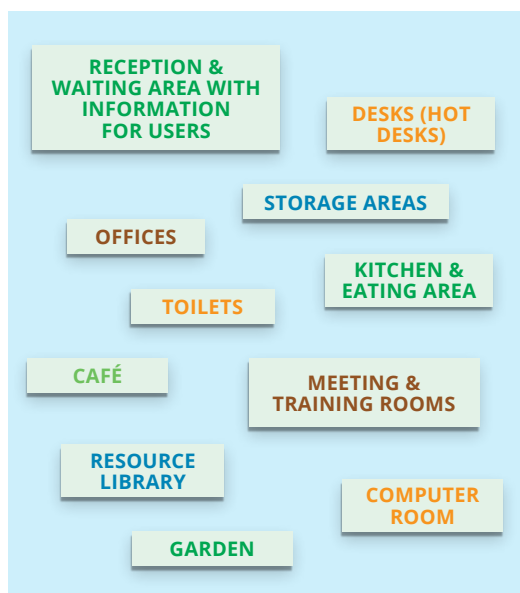
For users and the local community

- Users can access different services from the same building rather than having to travel between different venues
- A shared building with activities for different sections of the community can help bring local residents together, create a stronger sense of community and contribute to community cohesion

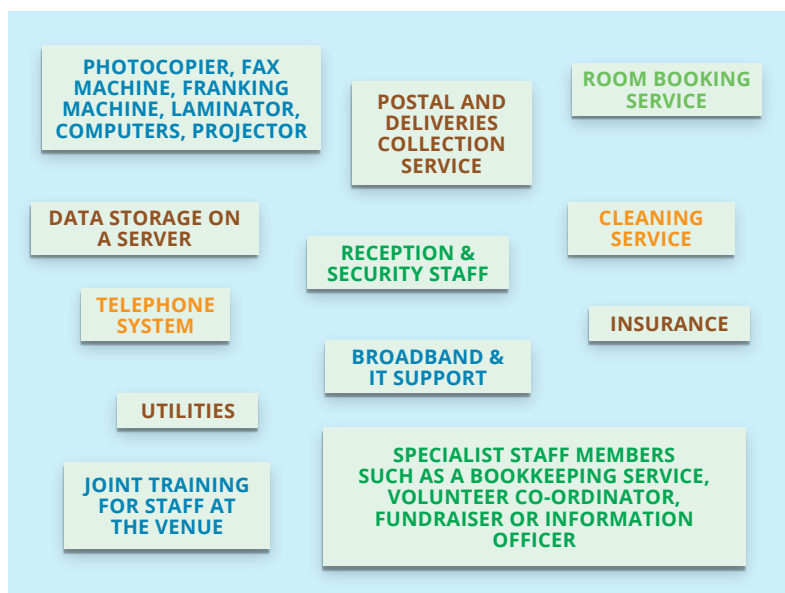
For voluntary organisations

- Organisations would be likely to see each other more, which would help them to get to know more about each other and their different services. This could lead to increased networking and collaborations and better referrals.
- It could encourage larger organisations to provide more support to smaller organisations
- There are likely to be increased efficiencies by maximising the space available and reducing some costs

So what areas could be shared?



What equipment or services could be shared?



What other potential cost savings are there?

- You could get discounts if buying larger amounts for multiple organisations such as stationary (as you will have greater bargaining power with suppliers when buying in bulk).
- If you sublet a desk or a room to another organisation this could be a valuable unrestricted income stream.

Some tips and things to consider

- Compatibility, for example do you and your potential sharers have a similar ethos? Will your users be comfortable accessing the same building?
- Do you agree on what you hope to achieve by sharing space? Do you share the same vision and expectations?
- Make sure you can agree standards, such as how you keep the space clean and tidy and how you implement security and health and safety rules
- Put in place policies and procedures regarding any shared facilities and equipment
- If you are planning to rent out space to another organisation conduct some research to gauge demand and understand what potential tenants are looking for
- If you are considering subletting, have you checked if this acceptable under the terms of your lease?
- If you are sharing space with multiple organisations consider setting up a steering or advisory group so that you can discuss ideas or concerns.
- Check that signage in the building is clear and easy to follow and that the branding of the building will appeal to users of the different organisations
- Make sure you are able to maintain confidentiality for users where needed. Consider if you will need private meeting spaces, areas to make private phone calls or to secure confidential material and locked cabinets.

Further reading on shared offices space:

Ealing Community Resource Centre: the journey

This report outlines the development of the Lido Centre in Ealing which offers shared hot-desking, office and meeting space as well as IT and communication resources for local voluntary and community organisations.

www.lidocentre.org.uk/Premises.html

Ethical Property Foundation

Offer advice and training to help charities and voluntary groups rent, buy or let or manage their property. They have pages on their website offering advice on co-location.

www.ethicalproperty.org.uk/sharing



The Social Council has been in conversation with the Royal Borough to explore the benefits of shared space and in particular the concept of a voluntary sector hub building.

■ An autumn workshop in collaboration with the Council will explore the topic in greater detail, seeking to learn lessons from other successful hub models.

■ Look out for details on the Social Council website and e-bulletin.

Getting it Right for Disabled People

Cuts to welfare payments in recent years have had a huge impact on the lives of many disabled people. Here we look at the roll out of Personal Independence Payments and the future for disabled young people

The past few years have presented many challenges for disabled people and it has been a difficult journey for some.

Back in 2013 we at the Social Council held a conference in partnership with Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea (ADKC) to look at the benefit changes that were being implemented and their impact on disabled people.

There was considerable concern over the general direction of the changes being introduced and in particular it was feared that the stricter criteria for fit for work assessments were failing some disabled people.

Now if anything, those concerns have grown. It has been widely reported that the fit for work assessments have caused untold misery for some of those who have undergone the process.

There is now concern over changes to the Personal Independence Payments or PIP which has given rise to fear that disabled people will lose out even further, thus having a greater impact on the lives of so many.

What is PIP?

Personal Independent Payments were introduced in 2013 and are gradually replacing the Disability Living Allowance (DLA). They are benefits given to people aged between 16 and 64 to help them



Cuts to benefit payments for disabled people have sparked several protests. In March Chancellor George Osborne was forced to withdraw a further £4.4bn of planned cuts to PIP.

cope with the extra costs faced because of an impairment or illness.

PIP includes a test carried out by an external company on behalf of central government to assess whether a person is fit enough to work. The criteria for PIP is much stricter than it was for the self-assessment for DLA.

The government had made plans to make the criteria for PIP even stricter by reducing the weighting given to 2 of the 10 criteria for the daily living element dressing and toilet needs.

In April this year, due to a public outcry, the then Chancellor George Osborne reversed some of the planned changes to the Personal Independence Payments. It was reported that 640,000

people could have been affected by the changes which included cuts to benefit payments for disabled people who use aids such as handrails and aids to use the toilet.

The switch to PIP was designed to save money, however the Office for Budget Responsibility (OBR) report that spending on PIP will continue to rise reaching £17.2bn by March 2021.

One such reason for the increase could be the successful appeals made against PIP rulings. Figures released in April 2016 showed that 61% of all rejected claims for the benefit are overturned on appeal. Campaigners say this is inflicting unnecessary stress and extra expense on people.

Where are we now?

Currently the proposals have been put off, but with a commitment from the government to reduce the welfare bill, the changes may yet be reintroduced.

■ The government has also commissioned a second independent review of PIP to see

how it is working and are asking for organisations and individuals who can contribute to provide evidence. The main objective according to Paul Gray who has been commissioned to undertake the review is to *'assess the impact of further evidence on coming to entitlement decisions which*

properly reflect claimant needs... and functional impacts of their condition'.

Information on the review can be found at the link below.

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/personal-independence-payment-pip-assessment-second-independent-review-call-for-evidence

A future for young disabled

Just as we are concerned about young people and their future in a rapidly changing environment the same level of concern must be shown for young disabled people who are more likely to live with long term poverty and exclusion.

■ According to Disabled People Against Cuts, by the age of 26 disabled people are nearly 4 times more likely to be out of work and will earn less when in work. It has also been found that young disabled people often cannot get adjustments in the

workplace or support for work experience or internships.

■ It is therefore critical that the government get it right with disabled people as the consequences can be grave when wrong.

■ Last year the United Nations opened an investigation into the British Government regarding its violation of the rights of its disabled citizens. This is the first time that the UN has felt that there was sufficient evidence to undertake such an enquiry, the findings of which are expected in 2017.

■ Disabled people make a huge contribution to the country with over 12 million disabled people in Britain it is only right and fair that they are treated equally and fairly.

■ The reality is that if we create an environment in which fairness and equality is accessible for the general population then naturally this includes disabled people. If politicians can get it right here then we would have taken a big leap forward in the right direction.

Disabled People's Question Time

A packed room of disabled people asked the questions that mattered to them to a selected panel of local politicians and decision makers at the K&C Disabled People's Question Time, on 14th July.

■ Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea organised this meeting in response to requests from members who, at a time when disabled people's rights and benefits appear to be under attack, wished to find out how the local decision makers viewed their future! Panellists included Victoria Borwick MP, Councillor Linda Wade, Marcia Richards – RBKC Head of Service, Care and Assessment, and Geoff Taylor-Meade, Department of Work and Pensions.

■ Questions on a whole range of subjects, including benefits, employment, access, discrimination, transport and housing, were submitted to the panel in a lively, informative, at times heated, but always friendly and worthwhile meeting.

■ Further events of this kind are already being planned for the future.

To read an interview with ADKC staff member and disability rights campaigner Jenny Hurst please turn to page 14.

Health & Wellbeing News

The official opening of St Charles Integrated Care Centre, integrated mental health care, an update on the older people's self-care pilot and a news of an upcoming JSNA

St Charles Integrated Care Centre officially opens its doors"

Although its doors have been open since late 2015, the St Charles Integrated Care Centre was officially opened on 18 June by the newly appointed Mayor of the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, Councillor Elizabeth Rutherford.

■ The Centre is dedicated to improving the health and wellbeing of people over 65, with a particular emphasis on integrated care. This takes a holistic approach which looks at the patient's whole quality of life as well as their immediate and obvious health needs.

■ Louise Proctor, Managing Director of West London CCG, said:

"We're proud of this flagship new integrated care centre with its holistic approach. It will give patients over 65 access to health services and social care under one roof and also offer carers and families the opportunity to get the information and support that they might need."

■ The opening was held alongside a Creativity and Wellbeing Day hosted by ACAVA, the Association for Cultural Advancement of Visual Art.

■ More than 100 local residents attended and were offered the opportunity to participate in a host of activities including musical memory box, iPad art classes, singing with Open Age, yoga and Bokwa sessions, face painting, smoothie making, water colour screen printing, digital photography, tote bag printing, knitting and crocheting.

■ An art tour was also offered by the ACAVA community arts project including displays of print work, mandala mosaics, resin work and a postcard collection.

■ The Integrated Care Centre is part of the St Charles Centre for Health and Wellbeing, Exmoor Street, London, W10 6DZ.

■ A second integrated care hub has opened in Chelsea, the Violet Melchett Centre will seek to offer similar services to patients in the south of the borough.



RBKC Mayor Elizabeth Rutherford officially opened the Centre, and praised the range of services on offer

Community Living Well Service

The Community Living Well Service is a new service that will offer integrated care to people with stable long term mental health needs who currently are supported by primary care services.

It is the result of a two-year co-production exercise that has involved service users with serious long term mental health needs, carers, local authorities, voluntary sector mental health agencies, GPs, secondary clinicians and health managers.

The service is designed to support service users and carers with wrap-around support that brings together case management, self-help, peer support, navigation and employment support, psychological therapies and management of physical care.

Fiona Sutcliffe, of the West London Clinical Commissioning Group's Whole Systems Mental Health team gave a presentation outlining the new service at the July meeting of the Health & Wellbeing Voluntary Organisations Forum.

She outlined the next steps which are to develop a single management structure for clinical and wellbeing services which will be situated in the local voluntary sector. To develop service 'hubs' and to set up navigator services. Existing services will be supported as they are re-focused to the new model of care.

Older People's Self-Care Pilot

The Older People's Self-Care Voluntary Sector Pilot programme began referring GP patients to services offered by voluntary sector providers in April.

There are currently five voluntary organisation's involved in the pilot scheme accepting referrals for 23 different projects across the West London Clinical Commissioning Group (WLCCG) area covering Kensington and Chelsea and Queen's Park and Paddington in Westminster.

By the end of July over 200 referrals will have been made through the scheme which allocates extra resources to providers to meet demand for additional places that are not funded elsewhere.

The pilot scheme supports patients with complex health needs aged 65+. The scheme is managed by the Social Council although referrals are made by a

team of newly recruited Case Managers linked to GP Surgeries.

If you offer services to people over 65 and you would like to find out more about being part of the self-care programme please get in touch.



Open Age's Men's Activities is one of the services available on the pilot. Here service users enjoy a day out at QPR Football Club

olivia@kcsc.org.uk

Have your say on the Draft Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2016-2021

The Royal Borough is seeking your views on the draft joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy on which you can comment until 18 October 2016.

Four overarching priorities have been agreed and RBKC's Health and Wellbeing Board believe this will bring the fastest and widest improvement to health and wellbeing. These are:

- 1 Enabling good mental health for all
- 2 Supporting children, young people and families to have the best possible start in life
- 3 Addressing the rising tide of long-term conditions
- 4 Delivering a sustainable health and social care system

You can download the summary document from kcsc.org.uk/news/joint-health-and-wellbeing-strategy or find full consultation details at rbkc.gov.uk/health-and-social-care/health-and-wellbeing-board.

Sector Roundup

A roundup of news from local voluntary and community organisations

Notting Hill Carnival Celebrates 50 years!

Carnival will return to the streets of North Kensington over the August Bank Holiday weekend.

■ This year's event marks 50 years since the 'street party' held in previous years turned into a carnival procession, as Russell Henderson's steel band went on a walkabout followed by most of the community.

■ A number of special events are being planned as part of 50 year celebrations that started in 2014.

www.thelondonnottinghillcarnival.com

Venture Kids to join Carnival!

This year children from the Venture Centre will be taking part in Carnival for the first time.

■ Following a successful crowdfunding campaign via

SpaceHive through which £5,521 was raised 40 children will be taking part in the 2016 parade. The money raised is being used to help the children design and make costumes and to hire a float for the procession.

■ The current Venture Centre is due to be replaced by a new community centre as part of the ongoing redevelopment of the Wornington Green Estate. The council is currently seeking the views of local residents and centre users on what they would like to see. The consultation is open until 26 November.

www.venturecentre.org.uk
www.rbkc.gov.uk/NKcommunitycentre



Big Local World's End and Lots Road

Big Local is a resident led initiative that will determine how £1m is spent to improve the World's End and Lots Road area over the next ten years.

■ Currently hosted by SMART, WELR Big Local worked for over a year to develop its plans to transform the area for the benefit of local people ahead of its official launch last October.

■ Since then it has installed new planters/ plants to brighten up the World's End Piazza and introduced new community grants to support residents who want to get a new project off the ground.

■ A youth led local radio station has given young people the chance to learn new skills whilst producing podcasts and video. A monthly music club is welcoming anybody who

wants to sing, play an instrument or just shake a tambourine whilst meeting their neighbours.

■ School children can improve their learning through a new homework club run by Ashburnham Community School whilst local residents can access employability advice including CV writing, interview techniques and job search through SMART. Those with an idea for a business will be able to attend a workshop run by Portobello Business Centre later this year.

■ If you live or work in the World's End and Lots Road area you are welcome to get involved.



One of the new additions brightening up World's End Piazza

welr.org.uk facebook.com/welrbiglocal [@welrbiglocal](https://twitter.com/welrbiglocal)

Maxilla Archive available online



The Maxilla Nursery Centre closed its doors for the last time in July 2015.

The pioneering children's centre had opened in April 1978 to serve under 5s and their families beneath the shadow of the Westway flyover in north-west Kensington.

An archive recording its rich history has been set up which is now available online. It captures the memories of the people involved. From the fight to make it happen and the early years to its final years and the unsuccessful battle to keep it open.

The archive presents the story of Maxilla through pictures, documents, video and interviews with those involved.

If you have memorabilia related to Maxilla you can still contribute. Visit the archive for details.

maxillaarchive.com

Do you want to feature in Link or in our e-bulletin?

If you have news to share or announcement to make why not let us help you get the word out?

We can circulate your news here, on our website and in our fortnightly ebulletin.

Get in touch and let us know what you're doing.

kuldip@kcsc.org.uk

Refugees Welcome in Kensington and Chelsea

The first Syrian refugee family to be resettled in Kensington and Chelsea as part of the government initiative to welcome 20,00 refugees arrived in July.

The Refugees Welcome Committee has been working hard to find suitable accommodation and plan for the arrival of families since the Council agreed to welcome 50 refugees into the borough in 2015.

More suitable accommodation is urgently needed with private sector landlords being offered a guarantee rental payment at the rate of the Local Housing Allowance for three years.

If you can help identify suitable accommodation in the private rented sector, please get in touch.

welcomecommittee@migrantsorganise.org

Meanwhile Gardens Celebrates 40 years

Once the site of crumbling canalside terraces and derelict wasteland Meanwhile Gardens is now an inviting garden oasis that celebrates its 40th birthday this year.

Located in North Kensington under the shadow of Trellick Tower, Meanwhile Gardens offers a range of services to residents from gardening for volunteers to play services for children and more. Meanwhile Gardens will be hosting a series of events to celebrate 40 years of its existence.



facebook.com/Meanwhile-Gardens-147597148610149

Interview with Jenny Hurst, Action Disability Kensington and Chelsea (ADKC)

Jenny Hurst is a Personal Budget Coordinator on the Lottery-funded "Taking Control" project. She spoke to us about her work and campaigning for disability rights

What does your work involve?

My work involves helping people who use care and support services get the right support. ADKC is user led and controlled by disabled people. My job also involves helping members have a say in the running of the project and to represent other care and support users in more strategic ways.

What do you enjoy most about working at ADKC?

ADKC has a long history of supporting local disabled people so I knew it was the organisation for me. I like that my job can be so varied and the staff, volunteers and members – they are such a genuine and thoughtful bunch and some share my wicked sense of humour!!

How do you think disabled people are perceived in society?

There is a damaging negative rhetoric that underpins many other issues we face. If you are not one of the few superhuman Paralympians, you are a "Benefit scrounger" as there is a lack of recognition of the inherent value of all disabled people to society – including people who happen to be "not fit enough to work".

Do you see yourself as a campaigner/activist?

I would definitely agree that I am a campaigner – for disabled people's rights. I am known as being challenging where things are not as they should be. I have been involved in local and national campaigns – including discussions with Ministers to have "Independent Living" and article 19 of the UN Convention of rights for people with disabilities (UNCRPD) recognised in the Care Act. I am also a member of Disabled People Against Cuts (DPAC) and



Jenny Hurst, ADKC

have been involved in protests, including in Parliament, Downing Street and Westminster Abbey – so maybe that makes me an activist?

You have been involved in the campaign to save the Independent Living Fund (ILF). Can you tell us more?

This fund supported 16,500 severely disabled people to have an active and independent life (including participating in leisure, volunteering, education, family life and work) with real control over how they are supported. Unfortunately, after many protests, discussions with ministers and two legal challenges we

lost and all ex-ILF recipients – including me – now have to run the gauntlet of the Adult Social Care system which is set up differently – some have had their care cut by 50% or more.

Do you think disabled people struggle to be heard?

There is still a paternalism so decisions are made for us and about us. I would like to see disabled people views, experiences, knowledge, skills, contacts and innovation being better recognised as qualifying us to have an input, as an equal partner, when identifying issues, developing policy and designing services. To quote a phrase commonly used by the disability movement, we will welcome the time when there is "Nothing about us, without us!"

If you had one wish or hope what would it be?

That we no longer needed to campaign for equal rights – that is to say rights and opportunities equal to those of our non-disabled peers rather than all disabled people being treated equally but with fewer rights and opportunities – as we would already have them.

Social Council Roundup

A roundup of some of the projects we are currently working on here at the Social Council

Thought for Food project

The K&C Poverty & Inequality Network (KCPIN) has been conducting research into free food provision for residents in Kensington and Chelsea. Recent figures suggest more than a million people in the UK, cannot afford to eat properly, stay clean or keep warm – leaving



many reliant on charities for essentials. The prevalence of food banks is testimony to the growing struggles of people on low incomes or those not in employment.

Over 1.1m emergency food parcels were distributed across the UK by Trussell Trust alone in the 2015/16 financial year. Our local project has aimed to gain a better understanding of where food or free meals are provided in the borough, who they serve and what support the facilitators require.

Our findings will be released in a report on Tuesday 13 September at Kensington Town Hall.

kcsc.org.uk/kc-pin/food-banks

amina@kcsc.org.uk

Funders Fair 2016

Our three borough Funders Fair returned to Hammersmith in July this year. 200 people attended for the chance to speak directly to funders and voluntary sector support organisations.

Remember if you need fundraising support or advice, you can contact the Social Council. We can provide advice to help you with your monitoring and evaluation systems, gathering evidence for fundraising bids and we can review your applications.



brenda@kcsc.org.uk

siobhan@kcsc.org.uk

Angela Spence joins the board at Westway Trust

Our Chief Executive Angela Spence has joined the Westway Trust Board to help shape the future direction of the Trust.

Angela who has been with the Social Council since 2008 was elected by member organisations in May this year. She joins Westway Trust as it emerges from what was a difficult period.

The Social Council has always sought to maintain a good relationship with the Trust and being a

member of the board Angela can focus on providing strategic support particularly in relation to the Trust's relationship with the voluntary sector.

Angela says:

"I look forward to bringing my experience with the local voluntary and community sector to the governance of Westway Trust. "The Trust is on a journey in terms of its development of itself and the Westway estate and I look forward to being a part of that."

Training to look forward to this Autumn

In June we asked you to tell us what training you would like to see us deliver, to help shape our Reaching Potential Autumn training programme.

As expected, your responses reflected a wide range of interests. They highlighted a demand for hands on practical support in such areas as learning how to use software effectively, as well as a desire for help in getting to grips with more strategic tasks, such as collaborating with other organisations. Communications and marketing topics were also popular.

In light of the feedback we have received to date we are in the process of planning training in the following areas:

- Project Management for Beginners
- Promoting Your Organisation Online
- Making an impact on Social Media
- The Basics of Grant Fundraising

Please keep an eye out for dates and further details on our website.

We still wish to hear from you about your training needs. If you haven't done so already, please complete our short online survey.



KCSC Conference and AGM

A Strong Foundation

Tuesday 27 September,
10am - 1pm

Small Hall,
Kensington Town Hall

A Strong Foundation will feature a guest speaker to talk about the strength of the voluntary and community sector in today's challenging environment and its vital role as a provider of services to residents.

There will be a focus on our role as the Social Council and what we need to do to continue being an enabling platform for the local voluntary sector.

Our AGM will begin at 12pm followed by a networking lunch.

kcsc.org.uk/reaching-potential-training-survey

Upcoming Voluntary Organisations Forums

Health & Wellbeing

Tuesday 18 October, 10am - 12:30pm

This quarterly meeting forum is for all voluntary sector health and wellbeing professionals in Kensington and Chelsea.

Children, Young People & Families

Tuesday 15 November, 10am - 12:30pm

A meeting for local children, young people and families service providers to address the wellbeing of service users.

Main VOF

Thursday 8 December, 10am - 1pm

A meeting that brings together voluntary and community organisations in the borough to discuss strategic matters and share information on local and national developments.

*All Forums are held at Kensington Town Hall,
Hornton Street, W8 7NX*

For full details of all the events we have coming up and to register please visit our website:

www.kcsc.org.uk/events

Sign up for a KCSC web account Do you attend forums & events hosted by the Social Council?

If you do, did you know that you can save time booking online by creating a website user account and logging in first. You will then find your event registration details prefilled.

By creating a website user account you can also sign up to our mailing lists and post notices directly on the website noticeboard to promote your organisation's work. **Sign up today!**

kcsc.org.uk/user/register