

**Voluntary Sector Employability Forum  
Wednesday 23 September 2009**

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Marri Welsh	CVS Fife
Sarah Lawson	CVS Fife
Carole Patrick	CVS Fife
Elizabeth Kirk	CVS Fife
John Oates	Brag Enterprises Ltd
Stephen McCue	Dyslexia Pathways
Mary Miller	East Fife Women's Aid
Lorna Douglas	ENABLE Scotland – Fife Services
Victoria Wright	ENABLE Scotland – Fife Services
Karen Anderson	Fife Gingerbread
Marlyn Murdoch	Fife Society for the Blind
Anne Crawford	Fife Women's Technology Centre
Lynne Dunn	Kingdom Housing Association/Fife Works
Joanne Aitken	Kingdom Housing Association/Fife Works
Dawn Robb	Lead Scotland
Jacqueline Bonellie	Link Living Ltd
Eddie King	Momentum Fife
James Lawson	North Queensferry Heritage Trust
Laura McNamee	Scottish Christian Alliance/The Gilven Projects
John Hughes	The Ecology Centre
Linda Turnbull	Volunteer Centre Fife
Jacque Mellon	Volunteer Centre Fife
Sandra Beveridge	West Fife Enterprise Ltd
Maureen Nisbet	West Fife Enterprise Ltd
Maureen Campbell	16+ Learning Choices Implementation Team

Apologies

David Sharratt	CARF
Sallie Anderson	Fife Employment Access Trust (FEAT)
Andrew McDaniel	Kingdom Housing Association
Alan Boyle	West Fife Enterprise Ltd

**Welcome & Introductions**

Marri welcomed everyone to the second forum meeting and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

**Actions points from previous meeting**

- **FORT Data Protocol**  
Marri has requested this and will circulate to the forum via email update
- **Opportunities Fife Branding**

Marri thanked the forum for their feedback at previous meeting, and to BRAG, Gilven Projects and West Fife Enterprise for field testing the branding with some of their clients. The logo has now been agreed – copy circulated round the forum for information.

## **Opportunities Fife Update**

- **Opportunities Fife Strategic Group**  
Due to meet on Tuesday 29 September. A draft copy of the Opportunities Fife reporting structure was circulated for information.
- **Delivery Groups**  
Marri confirmed that there is voluntary sector representatives on each of the four delivery groups, who will feed into this forum accordingly:
  - More Choices More Chances (MCMC): Alan Boyle, West Fife Enterprise Ltd
  - Client Engagement & Progression: Sandra Beveridge, West Fife Enterprise Ltd
  - Employer Engagement: John Oates, BRAG
  - Quality & Performance: Maureen Nisbett, West Fife Enterprise Ltd
- **Website**  
Opportunities Fife will be launching a website in the near future and will hold all communication regarding strategic objectives, funding etc. This website intended for those agencies involved or interested in employability.
- **Opportunities Fife Conference – date for your diary**  
Friday 13 November, The Vine Church, Dunfermline  
This aim of this event is to give staff from a wide range of agencies across Fife the opportunity to hear about new partnership action and to help shape Fife's future employability services. Registration will be via the new Opportunities Fife website. Marri will circulate more information/details when available.

## **Flexible New Deal Update**

- From October 2009, the various New Deal programmes will be replaced with Flexible New Deal (FND). Under FND, after 12 months of unemployment, claimants will be referred to private or Third sector contractors who will be paid by results to find them work.
- Forth Valley, Fife and Tayside in Phase 2 area.
- Fife Partnership approach to bidding as sub contractors – early discussions have taken place. Marri will coordinate a separate meeting regarding FND with Voluntary Sector colleagues who could be interested in the sub contractor bid.
- See Social Market Foundation website for their paper 'Flexible New Deal: Making It Work' : [www.smf.co.uk/flexible-new-deal-making-it-work.html](http://www.smf.co.uk/flexible-new-deal-making-it-work.html)

## **Guest Speaker – Maureen Campbell, 16 + Learning Choices Activity Agreements**

- Maureen gave a brief overview of 16+ Learning Choices and information on Activity Agreements; an agreement between a young person and an advisor that the young person will take part in a programme of learning and activity (non formal option) which helps them to become ready for formal learning or employment. Maureen has been tasked with mapping out which services in Fife might be able to offer support to a young person under Activity Agreements and came along to the forum today to introduce this to the Voluntary Sector. CVS Fife will be working with Maureen on a mapping exercise via e bulletin. Meanwhile if you have any questions or interest in this area of work, please contact Maureen 08451 555555 ext 441104/471071  
Email: [Maureen.campbell@Fife.gov.uk](mailto:Maureen.campbell@Fife.gov.uk)

## **AOB/Information Sharing**

- **Journey Through The System : a look at homeless life in Fife**

Laura McNamee from The Gilven Projects informed the forum of this documentary film, which has been made in collaboration with The Adam Smith College. The premier screening is on Monday 5 October, 2pm at Rothes Halls Glenrothes. The film aims to raise people's awareness of homelessness and the difficulties people face while trying to make their way through a formal system. The film offers a glimpse of some of the real issues which effect homeless people including barriers to employment. Please contact Laura if you would like to attend this screening.

- **NHS Employability, Wellbeing & Work Network**

Marri informed the forum about this network, which is coordinated through Katie Provan at NHS Fife. The meeting will take place on Tuesday 10 November, 9.30am at Rothes Halls. These meetings will be an opportunity for individuals and organisations working in employability to network and learn more about each others services. Marri will circulate more details on this meeting in due course.

- **CVS Fife Marketplace Event**

Carole informed the forum re the CVS Fife Marketplace on Friday 4 December, Rothes Halls. Further communication to follow via CVS Fife e-bulletin, where organisations interested in exhibiting can book a place.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

- Wednesday 18 November 2009, 9.30am in Room 10, Rothes Halls

### **2010 dates:**

- Wednesday 20 January 2010, 9.30am in Room 10, Rothes Halls
- Wednesday 17 March 2010, 9.30am in Room 10, Rothes Halls