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Everything in this newsletter represents in some way CfED's strategic priorities, aims and mission. Find out more about our work on our website [www.cfed.org.uk](http://www.cfed.org.uk)

**Our Aims:** Our aim is to provide leadership and promote good practice in the field of equality & diversity, through being responsive to the needs of communities of interest and geographical communities across the Borough of Dudley.

**Our Mission:** CfED is committed to eliminating discrimination and creating opportunities to build capacity and enterprise within local communities.

**Our Values:** CfED is an organisation that is:

- Professional, delivering high quality services
- Efficient, giving value for money
- Responsive
- A good model of equality and diversity principles and practice

## Dudley Unite

Over 150 residents of Dudley, from different backgrounds, come together to unite against Britain First's attempts to create racial division in our Town by espousing their racist Islamophobia. In a show of religious unity Reverend Andrew Wickens chair of the Interfaith Network and Imam Hashmi from Dudley Central Mosque were the first to speak between the numerous musical acts performing under the banner of Love Music Hate Racism.

All the racist and fascist groups in Britain seem to be making Dudley their number one tourist attraction. It is important that anti-racists across the region respond and show their opposition to such groups. That's why it was welcome that a group of Veterans came to show their opposition to Britain First.

Dudley Central Mosque once again opened its doors providing free food and refreshments, whilst numerous local acts entertained the Unity Festival organised by Unite Against Fascism and Dudley Trades Union Council. The message from Dudley to all the far right groups is 'LEAVE DUDLEY ALONE'.

*Used by kind permission of Dudley Unite Against Fascism*



## Charity Commission Reports

The Charity Commission has published two reports assessing how useful charity accounts are to users and whether they detail the activities carried out to further their purposes for the public benefit. A third of charities' annual accounts are of unacceptable quality and two-thirds of charities fail to formally report on the public benefit they provide in their annual reports, according to the Charity Commission.

The regulator recently published two reports based on a random sample of 107 charities' most recent annual accounts, covering the latest available financial year as of September 2014, when the sample was determined.

The Quality of Charity Accounts assesses these accounts against a commission concept of "acceptable quality" based on a number of criteria on how useful the accounts will be to their users, rather than on pure compliance with the Statements of Recommended Practice accounting standards.

The report says that 68 per cent of the accounts for financial years ending in the 12 months to 31 March 2013 were of acceptable quality, compared with 54 per cent of those for financial years ending in the previous year.

The second report, Public Benefit Reporting by Charities, looks at whether the accounts have complied with the requirement to include a report of the activities carried out to further a charity's purposes for the public benefit, and a statement as to whether the trustees have had regard to the commission's public benefit guidance.

It says that for accounts ending in 2012/13, only 35 per cent of the charities fully met the public benefit reporting requirement, and only 27 per cent did so the year before.

Paula Sussex, chief executive of the Charity Commission, said: "It is crucial that trustees take their annual reporting requirements seriously. That goes beyond getting the figures in your accounts right. It's about using the opportunity to explain a charity's impact, to tell its story in a way that its supporters and beneficiaries understand."

## Commission to support Police with new Stop and Search training

The Equality and Human Rights Commission is working with the College of Policing (COP) to develop a new stop and search training programme for officers.

The announcement comes as Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) publish their latest figures on stop and search, which show that police forces have made disappointingly slow progress in improving their use of stop and search powers since 2013.

The training will assist police officers in their statutory duties to promote and respect human rights and equality laws with a particular focus on reducing unconscious bias and discrimination, particularly against young black and Asian men.

The partnership between the COP and the Commission follows a warning from Home Secretary Theresa May that the Government would introduce legislation to reduce the overall use of stop and search and improve the stop to arrest ratios, unless the numbers came down.

The new training programme will initially be trialled with five forces before being rolled out across all areas. Officers will be assessed before and after training to measure changes in their understanding. There will also be a survey of members of the public who have been stopped and searched to measure their experience.

It will cover all 43 police forces in England and Wales and build on the Commission's work to identify good practice in stop and search.

Mark Hammond, Equality and Human Rights Commission CEO, said:

The excessive and unfair use of stop and search has been a serious problem for too long and despite concerted efforts by the Commission and others once it is tackled in one area it has become an issue somewhere else. Now there is a very strong will to change this throughout the police service, which will focus resources on dealing with crime and improve public confidence in the police.

## St Paul's Church



St Paul's Church in Blackheath has launched an inter-faith group to improve community cohesion.

The new women's craft group, which is called Community Creations, is open to women from all religions and ethnic groups.

Dudley and Walsall Mental Health NHS Partnership Trust awarded the group a £2589.85 grant from the Near Neighbours fund.

The group meet every Wednesday from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at St Paul's Church Hall, Vicarage Road.

Reverend Kathy Evans and Iram Maan are running the club which aims to encourage women to learn new skills, make friends and improve their wellbeing.

Graham Roberts, from the church, said: "The Near Neighbours initiative is supported by Central Government and is specifically designed with the purpose of enabling new relationships to form across diverse communities.

"This has run successfully for the last three years in a handful of areas and has only recently been extended to the Black Country and is exciting for St Paul's to be part of this important work."

## Showing domestic violence the red card

Everyone in the UK has the human right to be protected from violence and abuse, and to be heard when they reach out for help. Yet two women a week in England and Wales are killed by a violent partner or ex-partner. It's happening in every community across the country. On the football pitch there are referees, linesmen, TV cameras, fans and viewers, ready to call out violence and intervene. The world is watching and violence is punished. But in homes, behind closed doors, it's a different story. We may know someone is being abused but we hesitate, stand back, look the other way.

Women's Aid's Football United campaign works with football clubs across the UK, raising awareness about domestic violence and training people to be a hero off the pitch. There are no referees at home, but when someone reaches out for help they have the human right to be heard, and helped.

Watch a powerful new film called 'Unpunished' which shows how strongly the football community feels about violence on the pitch and uses the passion football supporters have for justice to ask why, across the UK, we are letting violence go unpunished at home.

Help women across the nation by sharing this film: [youtu.be/b2MFsmpbAIA](https://youtu.be/b2MFsmpbAIA)

## Government Appointment

The Prime Minister announced new ministerial appointments on 11 May 2015.

The Rt Hon Nicky Morgan remains Education Secretary and Minister for Women and Equalities, while the Rt Hon Michael Gove is appointed Lord Chancellor and Secretary of State for Justice.

## Minister for Social Equality

In one of the last cabinet positions to be named as part of the new Conservative government, Katie Hopkins has been named as the new Minister for Social Equality. In a press release regarding the appointment, Conservative Spokesperson explained the appointment: 'If there's one thing this government understands, its people, and that's why we're happy to announce that Katie is the newest part of #TeamConservative! She'll be able to say the hard things without worrying what people will think. She'll be able to get the job done, she knows what people want, and she'll give it to them. At the end of the day Katie has the common touch'. Hopkins is expected to manage the PMs new pro-Islamic integration initiative, which will see Katie Hopkins champion Islamic culture on behalf of the government. She is expected to visit mosques across the country to explain how Muslims can be more active in the community. She will be the first Minister to take policy recommendations via twitter, with the hashtag: #KatieFixItForMe

## Migrants feel well-integrated but worried

The overwhelming majority of UK migrants believe they are inaccurately portrayed by politicians and large sections of the mainstream media, according to the latest research carried out by Migrant Voice.

Less than 4 per cent of respondents to the survey felt they were represented fairly and accurately, and less than 7 per cent believed migrants were depicted in a positive light in some newspapers.

While most respondents felt they were well-integrated into British society, just less than two thirds (63 per cent) said the intense public debate about immigration has had a direct impact on community relations and their sense of belonging, with many believing it has led to more racism and discrimination.

A majority of migrants reported feeling used by politicians for their own electoral gain. One respondent commented: "While I normally feel perfectly integrated, the words used by some politicians and sections of the media makes me feel excluded."

Other common themes expressed throughout the research included:

- "The UK tabloid media compete with each other for headlines. Most of those headlines are negative things – you only hear about the negative migrant."
- "How can you feel like you belong in a society that makes it all too clear it hates you and want you gone?."
- "It frustrates me when illegality and terrorism creep into the debate as these issues criminalise migrants in public perceptions."
- "I feel they are putting a mark on my face for not being from here."

The research is based on evidence from 182 responses from migrants representing 43 countries of origin. Most respondents had lived in the UK for over three years, and almost half for more than 10 years.

**To see the full report visit the website on:  
[www.migrantvoice.org](http://www.migrantvoice.org)**

Article used by kind permission of Migrant Voice

## Kenneth Tulloch - CfED Volunteer

"I'm really excited by this opportunity to be part of the Centre for Equality and Diversity team in Dudley (CfED) as one of its newest volunteers. The Equality and Diversity issues are hugely important, and I think the work of the network is vital to promote good practice and developments in this area. As someone who have grown up in the borough I hope that any input that I may have will make a difference in the community that we live in".



I have lived in the West Midlands most of my life. I am a qualified IT engineer technician and have also worked in transport logistics and the aviation industries. 4 years ago I decided to go travelling and see more of the world and do some volunteer work. Up to date I've been to countries such as the USA, Barbados, Canada, India, Jamaica, Mexico and a few more. I have worked with volunteer groups such as United Nations Volunteers (UNV) and the WWF Canada Volunteer.



The Barbados Vagrant and Homeless Society (BVHS) were officially launched on February 20th 2010 but have been in operation since 2008. The organisation provides food, clothing, shelter, beneficial rehabilitative homecare housing and life skills programmes for the homeless and vagrant people across Barbados. While I was on my world adventure I volunteered and helped to provide food, clothing and personal development skills for some of the homeless and vagrant people of Barbados.

# Dudley College Careers and Volunteering Fair



## MONEY FOR LIFE SKILLS PROGRAMME MENTORS WANTED



Can you help people build up their financial skills?

### MONEY FOR LIFE SKILLS

- Do you have a passion for personal finance?
- Do you enjoy helping others?
- Do you have a few hours to spare?
- Do you want to give something back to the community?



Would you like training to be a qualified Money Mentor?



Providing the opportunity for you to help someone with financial skills:  
Saving, budgeting, peace of mind, confidence, self-esteem...



Could you help someone to increase their financial skills?

CfED need you to be a part of their team of dedicated volunteers to mentor and offer support & advice in a friendly, confidential and informal way, on one to one basis. For more information please contact:  
Seroj Kumari on 01384 456166 or email [admin@cfed.org.uk](mailto:admin@cfed.org.uk)  
16a Stone Street, Dudley, West Midlands, DY1 1NS

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Once again CfED money mentoring service was invited to attend this very popular fair held on 16 April 2015.

We talked to over a hundred students and members of staff. We have already been booked up to attend the college again to do undertake some basic money management training for groups of students. This is very encouraging as we think that students have many financial challenges.

We asked the students to have a go at a money management quiz and rewarded their efforts by giving them a copy of the answers and a lolly pop and a pen. If students were in a hurry we let them have the answer sheet as a handout too.

A total of 25 questionnaires were actually handed back. It was apparent that there was a low level of knowledge on most subjects covered. No one knew what a basic bank account was although one person answered a simple bank account which is quite close.

Most students thought that gas and electric pre-payment meters were a good idea although some appreciated the fact that you could not keep warm if you had no money left. None appreciated how expensive they can be.

There was much confusion about the cost of electricity

including one extreme example where the cost of electric quoted for a computer was £25 per hour instead of 7p.

We were delighted to attend again but clearly there is much more work to do in providing basic financial help to young people so that they can successfully keep out of debt and manage their money.

## FREE COMPUTER CLASSES

Find out how you can get in contact with old school friends / relatives using the internet.

Learn how to send / receive emails and surf the internet safely.



Every Tuesday Morning from 10am - 12pm

Venue: Community House, 18 Saredon Gardens, Friar's Gate DY1 4FA



Registered Charity No. 1114821

lead... influence... change

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## Rooting for Well-being

On April 15th, 2015, The New Testament Welfare Association held a well-being day called 'Rooting for Well-Being' giving participants in the project 'Rooted in Rhythm' an opportunity to showcase their new drumming skills. It was very well attended with over 75 people including members from our partner group Black Carer's who came out to support, share a new experience and meet with others in the community.

Speakers/stalls included Suzanne Hemming from Age UK, Vanessa Gill from the Stroke Association, Ravinder Raj from the Sickle Cell and Thalassemia Support Project (SCTSP), Deb Attwood from Healthwatch Dudley and Iram Maan from the Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership (DWMH), who each spoke about what their organisations do to support the Older community in and around Dudley, raising awareness of reducing health risks and promoting mental and physical well-being. Iram held a Mandala taster session which was thoroughly enjoyed by all who joined in, allowing them to focus on the different ways to Well-Being (Connect, Be Active, Take Notice, Keep Learning and Give) and what each meant to them, creating a mandala with stamps to express these feelings. There were also representatives from Health Exchange (Gurbaksh and Charlotte) who took BMI checks and spoke to people about issues that were important to them for improving their health.

Then, out came the djembe drums. Participants of the Rooted in Rhythm project, led by Bobby Woods and Sharon Walcott, came to the stage to perform some of the rhythms they learned and sing a few songs to entertain the guests. After this, anyone who wanted to had the chance to come up and join in the drumming. There was laughter, singing and good vibes followed by a hearty Caribbean meal to recharge batteries and seal the day. There were also fresh fruit smoothies made courtesy of Joanne Prescott.

All in all it was a wonderful, fun-filled day where all 5 ways to well-being were put in practice. This project and event were all made possible through the kindness of Public Health Small Grant Funding (Round 18) and we would like to thank Amarjot Birdi and Steven Richards from Public Health for coming out on the day to support us and see some of the good that comes from funding projects like this in grassroots organisations.



## Ethnic disadvantage in the housing market: Evidence from the 2011 census

There is a political consensus that Britain faces a 'crisis' caused by a lack of affordable housing. Solutions to the housing 'crisis' rely largely on market solutions.

This briefing explores the 'ethnic penalty' in housing and its implications for the proposed solutions to the housing "crisis". It uses 2011 Census microdata to explore the likelihood of black and minority ethnic groups experiencing housing deprivation (ONS, 2015a), focusing in particular on the experiences of households from Gypsy and Traveller, Black African and Bangladeshi background, as well as those with children and migrants.

To read more, go to: <http://www.better-housing.org.uk/briefings/ethnic-disadvantage-housing-market-evidence-2011-census>

## Farewell to Ron Sims

Over 100 well wishers attended Ron Sims 'leaving do' on Friday 1st May at the Wellington Road Community Centre.

Ron who has given 25 years service to the council is a well known and popular figure across several communities and among colleagues alike. His portfolio of activities includes the council lead on the yearly BME engagement event, Extra Care Schemes, Interim Chief Officer for housing and the Lye Homeless Centre plus many more. Community leaders showed their appreciation to Ron by offering lunch and the use of the community centre.



## West Midlands PCC's Community Initiatives Fund

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) for the West Midlands is encouraging voluntary and community groups throughout the West Midlands to apply for funding from his Community Initiatives Fund.

Local voluntary and community groups can apply now for grants of up to £750 for projects that improve community safety and increase reassurance within their community. Initiatives should contribute towards the objectives in the PCC's Police and Crime Plan or local policing plans.

Priority will be given to projects that encourage community contact with local neighbourhood officers to increase trust and confidence whilst simultaneously reducing crime, disorder and anti-social behaviour.

Proposed initiatives should also:

- Help to improve community safety and increase reassurance within the community
- Be in response to an issue affecting the community
- Have effective management structures in place
- Have an appropriate, clear plan and justification

There is no set deadline. Applications will be considered by both the Deputy and Assistant Police and Crime Commissioner at CIF Panel meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for late June 2015, with further meetings proposed for October 2015 and January 2016. For more details and an application form

<http://www.westmidlands-pcc.gov.uk/your-commissioner/community-initiatives-fund>

Source: West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner, 15/05/2015

## Trolley Parade

Bright, colourful and amazing designs were some of the terms used to describe the decorated shopping trolleys on Sunday 10th May on the Highfield Estate Halesowen.

Led by Garry Jones from Off Our Trolley Arts ([www.offourtrolley.com](http://www.offourtrolley.com)) 4 abandon trolleys on the estate ere decorated, giving a carnival like feeling, as they were paraded in open space outside the Cornbow Shopping Centre.



## Community Forums dates for diaries

Coseley East and Sedgley Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 15 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed	Gornal, Upper Gornal and Woodsetton Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 15 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed
Halesowen North and Halesowen South Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 16 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed	Netherton, Woodside and St. Andrews and Quarry Bank and Dudley Wood Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 16 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed
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Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge Town Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 17 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Amblecote Suite, Stourbridge Town Hall, Crown Centre, Crown Lane, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 1YE	Castle and Priory, St. James's and St. Thomas's Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 17 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed
Norton, Pedmore and Stourbridge East, Wollaston and Stourbridge Town Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 17 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Amblecote Suite, Stourbridge Town Hall, Crown Centre, Crown Lane, Stourbridge, West Midlands, DY8 1YE	Brierley Hill, Brockmoor and Pensnett Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 22 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed
Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 23 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed	Kingswinford North and Wall Heath, Kingswinford South and Wordsley Community Forum <b>Date/Time:</b> 23 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30 <b>Venue:</b> Venue to be confirmed

Belle Vale, Hayley Green and Cradley South Community Forum  
**Date/Time:** 24 Jun 2015 - 18:30 to 21:30  
**Venue:** Lutley Community Centre, 31 Brookwillow Road, Halesowen, West Midlands. B63 1BU



Do not forget that local community and voluntary sector groups can apply for funding of upto £5,000 from your respective Community Forum.

For an application form and further details about your Community Forum go online to:  
<http://www.dudley.gov.uk/community/community-council/community-forums/>

We welcome any articles, news, events, views and opinions that you would like to share with the wider community and see included in our newsletter.

Please send them to: Centre for Equality & Diversity, 16a Stone Street, Dudley, DY1 1NS.



TEL: 01384 456166

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