



DECEMBER 2006

<u>Community Care Providers Forum</u>	<u>East Lothian Compact</u>
<p>On Monday 30th October 2006, a meeting was held in the Brunton Hall bringing together Community Care Providers to consider if they would like to establish a Forum which would be facilitated by ELVON as part of our funding agreement with East Lothian Council's Community Support Department and to mandate representatives to sit on the new Joint Planning Groups.</p>	<p>At the Community Planning Implementation Group Meeting on the 13th November 2006, ELVON submitted a paper seeking approval to start work on developing a Compact for East Lothian.</p>
<p>The meeting was well attended and constructive with speakers and workshop sessions. It was agreed to hold a follow up session in January 2007 to develop proposals further.</p>	<p>Approval was given and Mr Ian Muir OBE has been appointed as Independent Chairman of the Working Group. Ian was Chairman of Jewel and Esk Valley College for many years, Director of the Association of Scottish Colleges since 1996 and Technology Management Consultant since 1995.</p>
<p>It is hoped that this meeting will formally establish a Providers Forum and may elect Provider Representatives to sit on the Joint Planning Groups.</p>	<p>Representatives from the voluntary Sector and Statutory Agencies represented on the Implementation Group will be invited to join the working group. The group's remit has still to be finalised and this will be one of its first tasks. Throughout the groups working life we expect it to engage fully with the community and you will therefore be given the opportunity to feed into the compact development process.</p>
<p>We are currently compiling a database of Community Care Providers and want to ensure that we have all relevant agencies on our list.</p>	<p>We have already gathered information on Compacts in other areas and we very much appreciate the assistance being given to us by our colleagues at Edinburgh Voluntary Organisations Council (EVOC) who were heavily involved in the development of the successful Edinburgh Compact.</p>
<p>If you are a Provider and wish to be part of this process, could you please contact either James Bruce or Bill Bradford at ELVON to ensure that we have your correct details on file so that information can be sent to you.</p>	

ELVON is a Council for Voluntary Service (CVS), which exists to represent and support the voluntary sector, to assist organisations in coming together for common purposes and to enable local people to gain access to decision processes that affect their community.

Database Update

Attached for anyone receiving this newsletter by post is a Database Update form which we would be very grateful if you could complete and return it to us as soon as possible. This will allow us to ensure that we have the most up to date information on your organisation. Copies for those who receive their newsletter by email were sent out a few weeks ago and thank you to those who have already returned them. If you have not already received one, please let us know.

Emergency First Aid Training

Following on to the recent Training Needs Analysis we have arranged the following courses on Emergency First Aid. A number of organisations identified these as a training need in their completed returns:-

Emergency First Aid – uncertificated course - Monday 8th January 9am to 1pm

Emergency First Aid – certificated course – Friday 12th January 9am to 4pm

A buffet lunch will be provide on both courses and although the short course is uncertificated participants will receive a form of certificate recording that they have attended the course.

Places are limited to 12 on each course and will be allocated on a first come first served basis. To reserve places on these courses please complete and return the application form attached to this newsletter by post to ELVON at 82 High Street Tranent EH33 1HH or by email to bill.bradford@elvon.org.uk

East Lothian Voluntary Sector Children's Forum

The forum is continuing to meet on a regular basis and to look at the issues relating to Children's Services within East Lothian and in particular how voluntary organisations feed into the Children's Integrated Services Plan.

The next meeting will be at 2.00 pm on Monday 26 February at Musselburgh East Community Learning Centre. If you would like to attend or require more information on the Forum, please contact James Bruce at ELVON.

Recycling First

The sales area at our new warehouse at Macmerry Industrial Estate is becoming very popular with an average of between 25 and 30 people a day coming along to look for some good quality bargains among our surplus items of household furniture. The Warehouse is open on Monday to Friday 10.00am to 3.30pm.

Since the Warehouse was opened on the 31st August we have sold 225 items which has generated £6,203. All proceeds from the sales go back into supporting Project.

Also within the Warehouse is our Electrical Workshop which is run by a qualified Electrician who is also a volunteer. PAT testing is carried out on all White and Electrical items which are donated to the Project. The Electrician also teaches placements and volunteers on how to use and operate the Portable Appliance Tester.

Over the past 3 months we have supplied 46 appliances to people referred to us through out East Lothian. We are unable to sell electrical items due to the high demand of referrals.

The van and team have clocked up 4,483 miles in the last 3 months and have collected 429 household items from 381 households. In total over the past 3 months the Project has diverted 24 tonnes from going to land fill.

Recycling First has just launched a 'Mobile Phone Recycling Scheme' to help conquer the UK's growing mountain of over 15 million discarded mobile phones each year. We aim to bring in old and unwanted mobile phones in exchange for cash to support the Project.

You can return unwanted mobile phones and accessories directly to us at our Warehouse at Macmerry or hand them into the ELVON Office in the High Street, Tranent.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the public of East Lothian for their continued support to the Project and to all our volunteers who work so hard for us.

Tom Logan
Development Worker



CAREFREE KIDS



Our Project continues to grow steadily. Over the past three months we have received referrals from 19 families and given out 43 items of equipment. The most popular item given out on loan still continues to be the stairgate, although at this time of year we lend quite a lot of fireguards too.

Due to the change in law regarding the use of child car seats we have now submitted a funding application to allow us to purchase these items. The outcome of this will be known in April next year. In the meantime we will still be unable to supply these items.

If you would like to find out more about how the Safety Equipment Loan Scheme works or make a referral give us a call on the number below.

TOYS FOR GIRLS AND BOYS

Due to the success of our Toy Library we are now opening it up to all areas within East Lothian.

We stock a wide range of educational and stimulating toys for children from birth to 5 years in a variety of categories. The Library is based in our Advice & Information Centre at 70 High Street, Tranent and is open two mornings per week.



Anyone wishing to find out more, or request a membership pack, please do not hesitate to contact us.

FIRST AID FOR PARENTS

These courses are now finished although due to the recent success of running them, we are looking to organise and run more in the new year.

These will be free to parents living within East Lothian, on low income or in receipt of benefits with a baby or young child. More information will be provided in the next newsletter.

PROJECT EVALUATION

CONTACT US

Paula Edmond, Project
Manager
82 High Street, Tranent
East Lothian, EH33 1HH

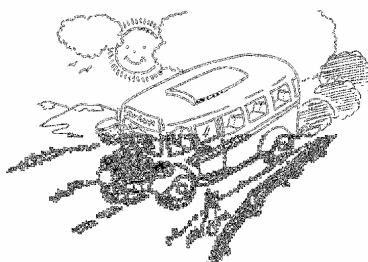
Tel/Fax: (01875)
616618/619605
Mobile: 07834954924

Email:
paula.edmond@carefreekids.org.uk

We would like to thank all referral agents and families who took part in our recent evaluation of the Project. The final report will be available after the year.

***“MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM ALL AT CAREFREE KIDS”***

Lammermuir Community Transport



Lammermuir Community Transport was started in April 1987 when the then Lothian Regional Council donated a minibus to the local community of Tranent. We exist to provide low cost, local, accessible transport to community and voluntary groups throughout East Lothian.

Our vehicles are available for hire seven days a week and can be hired on a daily, weekly or longer basis.

All drivers must be over the age of 21 and have held a driving licence for a minimum period of three years and hold a MiDAS certificate. The maximum age allowed by our insurance company for driving our vehicles is 70.

The mileage charge is 65p per mile and is inclusive of fuel and insurance. There is a minimum hire charge of £15

At the present time we have the following vehicles for hire:

05 Reg - Ford Transit 17 seats including the driver.

52 Reg - Ford Transit 15 seats including the driver.

V. Reg - Citroen Coachbuilt 16 seaters including driver. Wheelchair accessible.

V. Reg - Citroen Coachbuilt 17 seaters including driver. Wheelchair accessible.

P. Reg - LDV 17 seats including driver.

N. Reg - Ford Iveco 17 seats including driver. Wheelchair accessible.

K. Reg - Ford Transit 15 seats including driver. Wheelchair accessible.

For further information, please contact Sheena Bruce on 01875 613449 or by email at lammcomtran@aol.com

Funding News

WRG Communities Challenge

Landfill operator Waste Recycling Group (WRG), has announced a new £1 million [community challenge fund](#) to support projects to enhance and improve local community environments. The funding is being made available through Waste Recycling Environmental Limited (WREN), a company limited by guarantee and a non-profit making Environmental Body (EB) registered to fund projects which are "eligible" under the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme. Communities that are within 10 miles of a [WRG landfill site](#) or transfer station are eligible to apply for capital grants of between £75,000 and £250,000 to fund the creation or renovation of community facilities.

Eligible applicants need to be not for profit organisations such as charities, constituted community groups or local authorities. The type of projects that can be funded can include parks, community gardens or open green spaces, community centres or halls, play areas, skate parks or multi-use games areas, nature reserves or local conservation areas, multi-use sports facilities or a combination of facilities. The closing date for applications is the **30th March 2007**.

Norwich Union Community Stars Programme

Norwich Union Community Stars Programme is a new grant to support projects in local communities. Grants of £250 to £1500 are open to most registered charities, as long as the proposed project is a specific one that can be completed in the next 12 months. National charities may apply as long as the money is used for a project specific to the region being applied to.

Certain projects are ineligible for support however, including those with political, sectarian or religious causes, overseas aid initiatives, public or private schools and animal welfare charities. For further information on this scheme or to receive an application packs organisations should contact Ruth Lawson by email at lawsonr@norwich-union.co.uk , or telephone 0191 206 5052.

It's Your Community

The Conservation Foundation, in partnership with O2, has announced the launch of a brand new award scheme, [It's Your Community](#), aimed at providing funding for projects designed to improve local environments throughout the UK. All types of environmental projects such as: turning derelict land into an amenity park or wildlife area, tree planting, creating a wildlife pond, renovating neglected river and canal footpaths, providing water butts and recycling facilities in village halls - are welcome to apply.

Awards of up to £1,000 are available to local groups and individuals for the hire of tools or equipment, and to purchase plants, paint, signs, materials etc. The fund is open to local amenity groups; community councils; schools; youth clubs; heritage groups; environmental and conservation groups; as well as individuals who can show that their project will benefit the local environment. Applications are considered on the 20th of each month and applicants will be informed by the beginning of the next month. You must be able to spend the money within three months of receiving the award.

Cemex Community Fund

The [CEMEX Community Fund](#) is a grant-giving fund established by CEMEX under the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme. Its aim is to support sustainable local community and environmental projects within 10 miles of a [CEMEX operation](#). Each year Cemex allocates around £150,000 to support around 10 projects in England, Scotland and Wales. Support is available for projects which provide or improve community facilities; and deliver biodiversity conservation for UK species or habitats; or restore or repair buildings for religious worship, or of architectural or historical interest.

Organisations wishing to apply need to be enrolled as an Environmental Body with Entrust, the Regulator of the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme. The next deadline for submitting expressions of interest under the Cemex Community Fund is the **8th January 2007**.

Scottish Seed Fund

Start up and very early stage companies with high growth potential who are finding it difficult to raise money from banks and investors are eligible to apply for loans and equity investments of between £20,000 and £100,000 from the [Scottish Seed Fund](#). This is a new fund that targets businesses in Scottish Enterprise areas that demonstrate high growth potential in terms of launching new products, entering new markets or increasing employment. Applicants will need to secure 50% of the finance requirements for other private sector investors. Applications to the Scottish Seed Fund can be made at any time.

Toy Appeal

We are currently in the middle of our Wheelie Bin Challenge collecting new toys for distributing to disadvantaged families this Christmas.

The appeal finishes on Friday 15th December and if you would like to donate or help sort the toys, please contact Sharon at ELVON.

Ending On A Sad Note

This is the last newsletter that our current information officer Alex Richards will be sending you.

Alex retires in January and we would like to take this opportunity to thank him for all his hard work and effort that he has given ELVON over many years, firstly as the Community Care Worker and then as our Information Officer.

Alex brings a lot of fun and laughter into the office and this will be missed by us all. We all wish Alex good health and a long and happy retirement.

ELVON and Associates

Email contacts for all ELVON staff and other office users

James Bruce	Director	james.bruce@elvon.org.uk
Sharon Innes	Admin/Payroll	sharon.innes@elvon.org.uk
Margaret Brown	Admin	margaret.brown@elvon.org.uk
Alex Richards	Information Officer	alex.richards@elvon.org.uk
Bill Bradford	Development Officer	bill.bradford@elvon.org.uk
Tom Logan	Recycling First	tom.logan@elvon.org.uk

Other email addresses at the ELVON office are:

Pamela McKinlay	Roots and Fruits	roots.fruits@btinternet.com
Paula Edmond	Carefree Kids	paula.edmond@carefreekids.org.uk

ELVON Website	www.elvon.org.uk
Recycling Website	www.recyclingfirst.freeuk.com
Carefree Kids Website	www.carefreekids.org.uk

The next issue of the ELVON newsletter is due out the first week in February 2007. If you would like to share information, advertise your events or promote your organisation, contact us on 01875 615423 or by email at elvon@scvo.org.uk

Closing date for articles is Monday 25th January 2007

**East Lothian Voluntary Organisations Network
(ELVON)**

82 High Street

TRANENT

East Lothian

EH33 1HH

Tel/Fax: 01875 615423

Email: elvon@scvo.org.uk



***A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY AND PEACEFUL NEW YEAR TO ALL OUR READERS***