



******* SAVE THE DATE *******

VOLUNTARY SECTOR FORUM
TUESDAY 25 SEPTEMBER 2018 (Morning, more details to follow)
Tooting United Reformed Church, Charlemont Road Entrance, London SW17 9NQ

**** EXCLUSIVELY FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS ****

NEWS

Ofsted report on Wandsworth Children's Services published

John Johnson, Director of Children's Services has put out the following message:

'As you may know, the latest Ofsted report into Wandsworth Council's children services was published on Friday 20th July. To view the report, please follow the link:
<https://reports.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/wandsworth>.

We are very pleased that the report concludes that the Children's Services Department has improved significantly since the last inspection three years ago and is no longer classed as inadequate.

While it is very important that we acknowledge there is still more work to do, it is equally important to celebrate the overall tone of the report, which is very positive. There are significant outcomes achieved and the department is clearly now heading in the right direction. It is very important that we can now say with confidence that children in Wandsworth are safe, that the quality of help and support provided to children and families has improved and that the department no longer needs outside intervention.

..... some of the highlights which show the improvements we have made in the last two-and-a-half years:

- Children in need of help and protection are now identified quickly, and support for them is effective in reducing risks.
- Disabled children receive a good social work service, and services to care leavers have improved from inadequate to good.
- The strategic partnership response to child sexual exploitation and to those children who go missing is well established and identifies those children at risk, with comprehensive

safety plans in place for those children.

- Children and families have access to timely early help support, with the range of early help services strengthened.
- Children in care live in safe, good-quality homes with committed carers who are able to meet their needs.
- Children are well supported by a range of specialist services, achieve well at school and regularly see their social worker.
- Care leavers are supported well by personal advisers and specialist staff who help them to progress in many aspects of their lives.

The Ofsted report also praises the work that children's services has done with CLICK (Children Living in Care Kouncil) who are positively influencing decision making and help to shape the services they receive. The report acknowledges that the "range and reach of CLICK work demonstrate notable and sustained achievements."

The report lists some recommendations to help the Council achieve a good rating for its next full inspection in three years' time and we will now need to work diligently to implement those recommendations. Specifically, it says that there is more to do in securing best practice in the areas of child exploitation, securing permanent family arrangements for children coming into care, taking greater account of some children's views when we are working with them, and strengthening our partnership working with health services.

But our top priority has to be recruiting and retaining the best staff that we can, employing the right people – especially in the areas of social work – and striving to establish consistency in this area.

So finally, can I thank you all for the support and commitment that you have given to the Council over the last two-and-a-half years. Without your determination to give the borough's children the best possible support, we would not have made the progress that we have. So I hope that you will have a good break over the summer – then together let's aim for that next elusive 'good'.'

From Wandsworth Local Safeguarding Board:



Attached is the summary prepared by the NSPCC of the key changes to practice as per the revised Working Together 2018 published on 4 July 2018. This summary does not include all the changes and you may want to read further by accessing the Working Together 2018 Document.

Wandsworth Radio: 'Find your voice'

An opportunity for sharing your story on mental health and recovery, raise awareness and share your personal story. The radio show will be on every Tuesday between 9-10pm on Wandsworth radio,

Direct Internet Link: <http://www.wandsworthradio.com/listen/>

Wandsworth Radio: <http://www.wandsworthradio.com/>

If users are not able to listen in live, you can catch up on the following platforms:

Catch Up Link: <https://www.mixcloud.com/WandsworthRadio/>

My Blog and Podcast: <https://getthemessagegtm.wordpress.com/>

Please get in touch with Roo at GetTheMessageGTM@Gmail.com for more information.

Battersea Arts Centre – Scratch Hub

Thanks to Battersea Power Station Foundation, we will be able to offer some **free Scratch Hub Springboard memberships** - these are **a limited number of free, one-year part-time memberships** which will be awarded to individuals and organisations who live or work in Wandsworth or Lambeth, and would not be able to afford to pay for a membership.

We are looking for exciting individuals and organisations, game-changers who see the Scratch Hub as a platform to take risks and develop their potential – and we would be incredibly happy and proud to have members of the Local Roots network in this new community. We have already started to fill up the spaces; see [the attached flyer](#) for more information and how to apply. If you have any questions, do not hesitate to get in touch.

Falls Focus Group

Attached is the Falls questionnaire in PDF format and the link to complete the questionnaire on Survey Monkey if preferred. <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/W279QHD>

If you complete the questionnaire on paper, please return to the following freepost address;

**Patient Engagement
FREEPOST
WSMS**

Also **Jane French** is looking for volunteers to join a Falls focus group. If you are interested in joining this group, or know anyone who you think might be interested in joining, can you please contact **Jane** on jane.french@swlondon.nhs.uk.

GSK Impact Awards

<https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/projects/gsk-impact-awards>: open to registered charities that are at least three years old, working in a health-related field, deadline 20 September.

EVENTS

Battersea Arts Centre needs you!

We need your help in shaping our plans for adults. We are running a focus group for adults 18+ years old on Saturday 11 August 2018. If you are interested in joining, please email Sam at samb5404@gmail.com with your name and email address (your contact details will only be used for recruitment for this focus group and deleted afterwards). There are 8 places. More information on the attached flyer. And for families too! We need your help in shaping our plans for families. We are running a focus group for families (one adult plus one child aged 6-12 years old) on Saturday 11 August 2018. If you are interested in joining, please email Sam at samb5404@gmail.com with your name and email address (your contact details will only be used for recruitment for this focus group and deleted afterwards). There are 8 places. More information on the attached flyer.



BATCA would like to invite you to the **Community Fun Day** coming up in Broadwater Road Tooting from 12-5pm on Saturday 22 September.

Some of you are already familiar with the Fun Day, which brings the community together like no other event and provides a great day out for all ages. There are big crowds from all faiths, cultures, and ethnic groups. This will be the ninth Fun Day. It is organised in partnership by the Balham and Tooting Community Association (BATCA), Gatton Muslim Primary School and sister schools and St Augustine's church.

Community groups and charities make a big contribution to the Fun Day. There are a number of ways you can support it:

- Take a table (at no charge) to tell the public about your work and engage with a large, diverse public. Or exhibit something or lead an activity of some sort;
- Spread the word through your networks;
- Simply come on the day to enjoy it!

The Fun Day will, as in previous years, involve: fairground rides, inflatables, farm animals, multicultural food, sports, lots of children's activities, stalls and more. The Mayor of Wandsworth and other local leaders are expected to be there.

Please let Kate know if you are interested in taking a table, and/or for more information. Take a look at the Fun Day facebook page or the [BATCA website](#).

Kate Allan, Fun Day Organiser, Secretary, BATCA
Mob: 07966 690308, tel: 020 8870 1550 **Facebook** [@TootingFunday](#)



The WSCB Annual Safeguarding Conference this year will take place on Thursday 18 October 2018. [Please save the date.](#)

The title of the conference is: ["Safeguarding Children from Exploitation"](#)

The following themes will be covered:

Trafficking via County Lines, Child Sexual Exploitation, Criminal Exploitation and Political Exploitation (Extremism).

VOLUNTEERING

HOME START WANDSWORTH NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

'Be the start of something amazing'

Home Start Wandsworth supports families with young children under the age of five. They help with day-to-day challenges, improving confidence and connection, and empowering parents to build better lives for their family. They are looking for parents, grandparents and carers from the Balham and Tooting area to join their volunteer team to visit families and help run their family hubs.

Volunteers support families who are finding it difficult to cope and provide them with **emotional support, practical help and friendship**. You can use the knowledge and experience gained from looking after your own family to support others who are struggling. All you need are **empathy, enthusiasm and reliability**.

Could you spare a few hours a week to support a local family and make a difference that could last a lifetime? Apply *now* for the next volunteer prep course starting on 13 September. See [attached flyer](#) for details.

To apply contact Home Start Wandsworth:

tel: [020 7924 5268](tel:02079245268) or enquiries@homestartwandsworth.org.uk [**www.home-start.org.uk**](http://www.home-start.org.uk)

JOB VACANCIES

Future Skills is recruiting for a male and a female youth worker to start in September. The job descriptions for both are [attached](#).

Battersea Arts Centre is recruiting for a new [Welcome Team Member \(Front of House & Box Office\)](#). Applicants don't need any particular qualifications or to have prior experience of working in an arts organisation or venue, so if you know someone engaging and helpful who has some experience in a public-facing role, let them know.

[**Role: Welcome Team Member \(Front of House & Box Office\)**](#)

[**Deadline: 10am Monday 6 August**](#)

FUNDING

Wimbledon Foundation Community Fund

The purpose of the Fund is to benefit the community and provide support for local organisations to meet local needs in the boroughs of Merton and Wandsworth.

Deadline for the next round is: Wednesday 5 September 2018 @ 5pm (for projects from mid-November 2018 onwards). Decisions will be released by 9 November 2018.

Themes

Organisations will be able to apply for funding towards work that focuses on meeting local needs through addressing one or more of the following themes:

- Projects which improve *mental and physical health and wellbeing*
- Projects which address *education, training and employability needs*
- Projects which address *poverty, disadvantage and isolation*
- Projects which encourage *community cohesion* and improve *inter-community relationships* (including inter-generational activities)

Grants are for between £500 and £5,000.

The following deadline will be: Wednesday 13th February 2019 @ 5pm (for projects from early May 2019 onwards). Decisions will be released by 18th April 2019.

If you have any questions or want to discuss any element of the fund or your application, please call: 020 7582 5117 or email: applications@londoncf.org.uk More details here: <https://londoncf.org.uk/grants/wimbledon-foundation-community-fund>

People's Postcode Lottery invites local charities to apply to £3m funding pot

See more [here](#). You will need to be quick as there is a very short application window between **1 August and 15 August 2018**.

Building Connections Fund

Funding size: £30,000 to £100,000 - Main fund: Close to £9 million. Application deadline: Main fund: **Friday 24 August by 12 noon**. Awards will be made by December 2018 and projects can be funded until March 2021

This fund is all about tackling loneliness for adults and Elders; and there is a strand for young people too (in conjunction with Sports England). It aims to:

- increase social connections, helping people form strong and meaningful relationships and creating a sense of community and belonging, and helping people feel more connected;

- support organisations to build on their existing work, eg. by reaching more people, or working in a new area or with a different method or group of people;
- encourage organisations to join up with others locally;
- improve the evidence base and use learning to inform longer term policy and funding decisions.

Partnerships with statutory bodies are welcome though the project lead would need to be from the voluntary and community sector. To find out more, go here:

<https://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/funding/programmes/building-connections-fund#section-1>

Wandsworth CCG Community Grant Scheme 2018 – Deadline 31st August

The Community Grant scheme aims to award grants of up to £2,500 for community and voluntary sector organisations that work with disadvantaged communities, and those most at risk of poor health. The Scheme also aims to help groups tackle health inequalities by supporting people to make healthier lifestyle choices, and improve access to local healthcare and other support services.

There will be a workshop to assist organisations in completing the application form on Monday 13th august 2018 from 11.30-2.00pm at the CCG's east Putney Office. Please see the attached application form and full guidance for more information, or go to

<http://www.wandsworthccg.nhs.uk/getinvolved/Pages/Community-Grant-Scheme-2018.aspx>

If you want to sign up to receive these updates from the Wandsworth Voluntary Sector Co-ordination Project ☺, or ask to be removed from the list ☹, please contact:
wvscp@wandcareall.org.uk