

SPEAKINGOUT

Supporting the Sector to Influence Policy

Government and charities – a civil partnership?

**A national conference joining up cross-government
agendas for children and young people**

Speaking Out National Conference 2009



Wednesday 9 December 2009

Church House, Dean's Yard, Westminster, London SW1P 3NZ



Speaking Out for Children and Young People

This **free** one day, national conference, funded by the Cabinet Office, aims to bring together key players working to improve outcomes for children and young people across England. The conference will look at how partnership working between government and charities can be further improved and is aimed at strategic managers and decision-makers working to improve outcomes for children and young people. An exciting range of speakers (including Angela Smith MP, Minister for the Third Sector and Nick Hurd MP, Shadow Minister for Charities, Social Enterprise and Volunteering), and seminar sessions will explore areas of cross-cutting policy and consider how partnerships between government and the charitable sector can help to achieve positive change. The conference provides an opportunity for local, regional and national policymakers to meet colleagues from the sector and exchange ideas about key issues affecting children and young people in some of the most challenging areas of frontline delivery.

Colleagues attending the event will have opportunities to:

- share and develop learning about cross-government policy with the children and young people's voluntary and community sector;
- exchange views with our panel of influential speakers about how partnership between charities and government can be strengthened;
- learn from innovative practice from around the country;
- participate in seminars addressing key cross-cutting issues for children and young people;
- develop a greater understanding of partnership arrangements and how they work nationally and locally; and
- network with colleagues, policymakers and establish new partnerships.

Speaking Out

The Speaking Out project is jointly run by The National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS) and Children England. The project is a strategic initiative funded by the Office of the Third Sector, to raise the voice of the children and young people's voluntary and community sector within key policy debates across a range of Government departments. Seminars at the event will focus on key policy priorities identified for the project over 2009/10.

Programme

9:30 Arrivals, registration and refreshments

10:00 Chair's introduction to the day:
Maggie Jones, Chief Executive,
Children England

10:10 Keynote address followed by questions:
**Angela Smith MP, Minister for the
Third Sector**

10:40 Response address followed by questions:
**Toby Blume, Chief Executive,
Urban Forum**

11:00 Break

11:20 Seminar session 1

Health and Well-being

As outlined in the Government strategy, Healthy Lives, Brighter Futures, health and well-being is an essential part of ensuring children and young people can enjoy life and reach their full potential. The charity Young Minds, which supports young people with emotional and mental health problems, will provide a national policy view on key developments, initiatives and policies around mental and emotional well-being. The Wish Centre, an organisation which supports children and young people with mental health issues such as self harm, will provide a practice perspective.

Community Empowerment

Strengthening communities children and young people to shape the services they receive has been an area of priority for Government and for charities working in local communities. The seminar will look at how local communities can be empowered to effect change through learning from one frontline agency, PARCA who will showcase their work with refugees and asylum seeking young people and a national policy expert from DEMOS looking at the challenges and solutions involved.

Housing and homelessness

This session will highlight key issues for children and young people at risk of homelessness and experiencing unstable housing. A voluntary sector policy representation will provide a national perspective on what has been successful,

and what Government needs to do next and how the voluntary and community sector are supporting this. The Barnardo's Families in Temporary Accommodation Project will offer a practice perspective on responding to the distinctive challenges for this group of children and young people.

Education, employment and training

Education, employment and training can be huge drivers of positive outcomes for young people, but for too many young people, aspirations and expectations can be low, leading to worklessness and social exclusion. YWCA England and Wales will provide an expert overview of the challenges and solutions involved, and Warwickshire Council for Voluntary Youth Services will lead a discussion on how local agencies can work better together to encourage greater opportunities for young people.

12:30 Lunch & networking

13:30 Chair's introduction to afternoon session –
Susanne Rauprich, Chief Executive, NCVYS

Nick Hurd MP, Shadow Minister for Charities, Social Enterprise and Volunteering

14:00 Seminar session 2 (same as with session 1)

15:00 Break

15:20 Panel discussion: What should be the top priority for children and young people in the next five years?

Chair: **Susanne Rauprich**,

Chief Executive, NCVYS

Speakers: **David Akinsanya**, freelance journalist and presenter of Channel 4's *Find me a Family series*.

Stephen Cheung, recipient of the Princess Diana Award for community work and independent candidate in the European Elections, June 2009
More exciting speakers to be confirmed.

16:15 Chair's round-up: **Susanne Rauprich**,
NCVYS Chief Executive

16:30 End

Name

Position

Organisation

Address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Fax

NCVYS member

Children England member

Other (Please state)

Seminar selection

There will be two seminar sessions. Please indicate your first and second choice to allow us to accommodate your preference, should some seminars become oversubscribed. One choice per session.

Session 1:

Health and wellbeing

Community empowerment

Housing and homelessness

Education, employment and training

Session 2:

Health and wellbeing

Community empowerment

Housing and homelessness

Education, employment and training

Special needs

Please let us know if you have any special requirements, including access needs and dietary requirements. We will do our best to accommodate them.

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The deadline for bookings is Friday 20 November 2009.

Confirmation of booking and further information about the day will be sent before the event.

Cancellations and substitute delegates

This is a free event; however, all delegates must complete and return the booking form to attend the event. All cancellations should be made a minimum of one week in advance – no later than 1 December 2009. Any cancellations after this time will incur a fee of £50 to cover the cost of delegate expenses. Any requests for a colleague to attend on your behalf must be made prior to the event at speakingout@ncvys.org.uk or telephone Sophie at NCVYS 0207 278 1041.

Travel bursaries

Limited travel bursaries are available and will be granted on a case by case basis. To request a bursary, please contact us at the above email address.

Please
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Charities working for children and families



NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR
VOLUNTARY YOUTH SERVICES



CabinetOffice
Office of the **Third Sector**