

## Poverty Alliance conference – 25 September – Edinburgh

Ensuring a lasting legacy for the European Year for combating poverty and exclusion was the theme of this conference which welcomed delegates from across Europe to the Scottish capital.

### What we want from the year

The opening session provided opportunities to outline “What we want from the Year”. Ann McKechnie, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland welcomed the opportunity that the European Year presents for dialogue and debate on the challenges that we face in striving towards a more prosperous future for all Europe’s citizens. She said that the Year will be used to strengthen public and political commitment to social inclusion, both in the UK and across the EU and to underline the need for both collective and individual responsibility in the battle against poverty and exclusion.

### Getting the EU year that we want

A key issue emerging from the group discussion sessions “Getting the EU Year we want” was that Europe is not a level playing field in tackling this agenda, a fact which has been further highlighted by the economic downturn. At least one Member state has opted out of involvement in the European Year for financial reasons and in another the Government is hoping to outsource the management of the Year because of an imminent election.

### Tackling Poverty beyond 2010

The final plenary “Tackling Poverty beyond 2010” concluded that a new vision is needed to ensure a positive future for the Lisbon Strategy. This should include a re-thinking of Europe’s economic model and a sustainable strategy for tackling poverty and which takes more account of the differences that exist across the twenty seven Member States. If you want further information on Poverty Alliance please go to their website [www.povertyalliance.org](http://www.povertyalliance.org)

### Next issue

The next issue of this newsletter will be published on **23 October**. If you wish to submit articles or details of events please submit by **noon on 21 October** via email.

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## Current News

### Postal Dispute & Calls for Proposals

Due to ongoing industrial action by Royal Mail workers, significant backlogs of mail are being reported across the UK. This is a particular problem in the London area and South East region, where substantial delays in the delivery of mail are being experienced.

In light of this situation, please note the following with regards to the submission of proposals:

As indicated in the guidance for all Calls for Proposals, the **date of dispatch**, as evidenced by the postmark, will be taken as the date of submission. The deadline for submission is the **15 October**.

Hard-copies of proposals and supporting documentation must be **received** by the NIB on or before the **16 October**. Any proposal **received** by the NIB after this date will not be eligible for consideration.

**It is the responsibility of applicant organisations to ensure proposals are submitted and received in line with these deadlines. Please be aware of potential delays in the postal network as we are unable to make exceptions to these deadlines.**

Please contact the NIB immediately if you have submitted a proposal but have not received a confirmation receipt within 5 days of postage. Where possible, please email your proposal to [2010.EY2010@dwp.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:2010.EY2010@dwp.gsi.gov.uk). However, **hard-copies** of proposals and supporting documentation must be received by **16 October**.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact us.

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q. Will there be workshops/seminars to help those planning to submit a proposal?**

A. No. You are welcome to raise any questions via email, we will reply quickly if we are able to ensure no time is lost in the application process.

**Q. There is no signature box on the application form itself, where do I sign?**

A. The application form has to be submitted with three other forms, as well as back up information if necessary. These forms are Declaration of Honour, Financial Identification and Legal Identity and are an integral part of the application. Each of the forms mentioned has to be signed by an authorised signatory of the applicant organisation.

**Q. Is DWP providing the 50% match funding?**

Page 13 of the National Programme seems to indicate so but the call states that co-financing "may come from either public or private sources" (eg private foundations or business).

A. Whilst we encourage organisations to make a contribution to the funding of their proposed activities, this is not mandatory. It is possible to apply for 100% of costs to be met by a grant from the NIB.

**Q. Could you confirm whether under the regional activities grant programme, you expect to award each grant to a different organisation in each of the 9 GOR's and the DA's - so if an organisation applies for more than one regional grant they could only be awarded one of them?**

A. There is no presumption that each regional event will be run by a different organisation. It is possible for a successful proposal to cover two or more regions. However, if an organisation wishes to submit proposals for more than one region, each region should be submitted on a separate application form.

### EY2010 Logo

If you are arranging an event that is not funded as part of our programmes but wish to use the logo, you can download a 'Request to use the EY2010 Logo' form from our website.

We will consider all requests fairly and respond within 5 working days.

## Upcoming Events

### October 2009

- 15 October** – Deadline for Calls for Proposals by 5pm
- 23 October** – 'Global Challenges, European Responses' at Lumley Castle, Chester le Street. The event will show how the North East region has risen to the challenges presented by the Global Economic downturn. For further information contact Dorothy Gibson on 0191 383 3448, e-mail [dorothy.gibson@durham.gov.uk](mailto:dorothy.gibson@durham.gov.uk)
- 29 October** – European Commission's conference 'Poverty between reality and perceptions: the communication challenge, Brussels.' For further information, see European Commission website: <http://ec.europa.eu/>

### November 2009

- 19 November** – 'No Going Back – Empowering Single Parents out of Poverty' Single Parent Action Network conference at 34 Great Smith Street, Westminster, London. Confirmed speakers include:  
**Yvette Cooper MP** – Secretary of State, Dept for Works & Pensions  
**Caroline Kelham** – Head of Child Poverty Unit, Dept for Works & Pensions  
 For further information tel 0117 951 4231 fax 0117 935 5208 or e-mail [lsobel@spanuk.org.uk](mailto:lsobel@spanuk.org.uk)
- 24 & 25 November** – 'Rights, Indicators and Outcomes: Measuring the Well-being of Children and Young People in Wales'. 2 day conference at the Christchurch Centre in Newport, South Wales. Confirmed speakers include  
**Dr. Brian Gibbons AM** – Minister for Social Justice and Local Government (with a lead on poverty).  
**Jane Hutt AM** – Minister for Children, Education & Lifelong Learning (with a lead on Children & Young people).  
**Richard Thurston & Dr Beverley Morgan** – Office of the Chief Social Research Officer, Welsh Assembly Government.  
**Catriona Williams** – Chief Executive Children In Wales (and President of Eurochild)  
**Tracey Lee** – Managing Director, Newport City Council  
 For further information: please contact Ms Sarah Thomas: email [sarah.thomas@childreninwales.org.uk](mailto:sarah.thomas@childreninwales.org.uk)

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