



## **PARTNERS UPDATE**

**JUNE 2009**

### **Hot News**

#### **MyUkinfo.com launched**

The new national migrant portal was launched in London on June 12 by Richard Ellis (EEDA Chair) and James Undy (DCLG). Representatives from local authorities, Regional Development Agencies, Embassies and third sector organisations welcomed the portal as an important step to add value to agencies work as well as providing migrants with accessible and relevant information.

Keystone is part of a consortium with private sector partners developing the project on behalf of EEDA and the DCLG.

The website provides key information in English, Portuguese and Polish. More languages will follow soon.

The address is [www.myukinfo.com](http://www.myukinfo.com)

#### **West Thetford 2020**

Keystone was commissioned by Flagship Housing Group/ Peddars Way Housing Association to deliver a consultation project across the West Thetford estates examining residents views on what the area should look like by 2020. Keystone has organised focus groups, street surveys, children's art competition and work with young people. The project culminated with a Community Planning event.

#### **Keystone Healthy Town projects 'green light'**

Keystone's delivery of META Health Project has begun; the research on the health needs on migrants will start in June. The bike recycling scheme will start in autumn. Keystone is working with Genesis (Orwell Mencap) who are launching a similar project in Ipswich

## **Austrian Professor studies META**

Gertraud Pantucek, a Professor from Fachhochschule St. Pölten (St. Pölten University of Applied Sciences), is spending a month studying META as part of an international research project on supporting migrants. Gertraud will produce an interim research report for Keystone to assist with improving performance.

## **Keystone hosts OECD visit**

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development visited Keystone as part of a Defra/EEDA study looking at access to rural services. Keystone highlighted the importance of community led interventions, consistency in policy and funding and the anchor role of development/community trusts in generating and sustaining jobs and services.

## **Children and Youth**

### **Kollektiv**

The monthly rehearsal and practice sessions continue to take place at Connexions on the first Tuesday of each month. Plans for gigs and other activities in 2009 are currently being explored.

### **Charles Burrell Community Garden Project:**

This has been progressing well with the artist now recruited to create the sculpture. Numerous consultation discussions have taken place including;

- Art lessons at Charles Burrell Humanities School
- Meeting Richard Parrott at his farm in Weeting (Chair of Trustees for the Charles Burrell Museum) and viewing his collection of Burrell engines,
- 'Friends of Charles Burrell' Committee
- Open meeting for members of the Barnham Action Group and residents of Staniforth Road
- Door-knocking along Staniforth Road to talk to residents
- Youth group at the Abbey Neighbourhood Centre, which included working with the children to make a human steam engine, complete with moving parts!
- Session with the young people who have been attending the Charles Burrell project group workshops.

Work will now progress to get everything in place ready for the unveiling of the sculpture and garden on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2009, 12pm, meeting at Fulmerston Church.

## **Abbey Table Tennis Club**

This project began in February and takes place every Monday at the Abbey Neighbourhood Centre. The group is supported by two sessional staff and volunteers. Some excellent links are being developed with the Matthew House project which provides advice and support to people with drug and alcohol misuse issues and also the Princes Trust team.

## **Keystone Community**

### **Barnham Cross Community Work**

Following the completion and submission of the Barnham Cross Community Work report, Peddars Way have now agreed to re-fund the project for a further year. An action plan for the next 12 months will be put together in partnership with the Barnham Action Group. Work is likely to include addressing anti-social behavior, problems around the Pine Close shops, providing more activities and facilities for children and young people, supporting the Barnham Cross Regeneration Project and ensuring resident / tenant involvement with developments.

### **Barnham Cross Big Sitting Room**

A contract between Keystone and the Fulmerston Family and Community Project has now been agreed and the anticipated start date is likely to be sometime around the beginning of June. This will provide two evenings of youth activities on the Barnham Cross Estate for a year.

### **Thetford META**

The META team in Thetford is gearing up to embrace the Healthy Towns initiative which will promote the value of a healthy lifestyle to our clients. META is currently working with the Thomas Paine Festival organisers to ensure a cohesive approach to the celebrations

META has recently completed reports on the make-up of the populations in two Forest Heath District Council market towns.

### **Suffolk META**

Suffolk META will continue for another six months in Ipswich, Newmarket and Felixstowe. Local Authority partners are currently considering changes to better serve the rural areas surrounding Sudbury and Stowmarket which may include a mobile service visiting large employers and/or a telephone service to run concurrently with drop-in's in Thetford

## **KAVO (Keystone Area Voluntary Organizations)**

Terry Jermy has now been appointed to the role of KAVO Coordinator and together with Sadie Harvey (KAVO Manager)

A new 'Area of Interest E-bulletin Service' is being launched so that members can receive up to date e-mails specifically about subjects that are interested in.

The first event Sadie and Terry have organised is a Coffee and Cake Networking Morning on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2009, 10am – 12pm, in the Small Court, Guildhall, Market Place Thetford. Plans are also underway to organise a Southern Area Children and Youth Forum Celebration, a Volunteer Fayre, and a Community Fayre to take place later in the year.

## **Keystone Buildings**

### **Innovation Centre**

The current building occupancy remains at 93% and there are ongoing discussions with a potential tenant for the three remaining offices. During March and April there were a total of 70 meetings/conferences attended by 867 delegates.

### **Enterprise Factory**

The building is now 68% occupied following the Norfolk County Council / Fire Service taking a lease on Unit 2.

## **Keystone Enterprise**

### **Keystone Research and Consultancy**

The consultancy has recently completed the following contracts;

- DTA Pool/DCLG – evaluation of New Deal for Communities project sustainability plans
- Flagship Housing Group - West Thetford 2020 consultations
- Peterborough City Council – critical friend review of two neighbourhood organisations
- Social Enterprise East Of England - lecture series on asset development, lectures/host for the SEEE/DTA asset Road show for local government members and officers and contribution to SEEE virtual library on financial management
- DCLG Asset Transfer Unit – contribution to a new wiki on asset transfer
- The Northstowe Community Trust project is reaching its final stages.