



Ealing Community Network

Welcome Pack

The Community Network Team welcomes you as a new member of Ealing Community Network (ECN). We hope this pack will give you all the information you need to introduce you to the Network and to become an active member.

The Network was set up in 2002 as part of the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Programme. Further details on Neighbourhood Renewal can be found on the ECN website www.ealingnetwork.org.uk

ABOUT EALING COMMUNITY NETWORK

What Is Ealing Community Network?

Ealing Community Network supports and develops a collective voice for voluntary and community groups in Ealing.

Ealing Community Network has an agreed constitution. This includes a statement of values and equal opportunities principles. A copy of which can be found in this pack.

Aim Of ECN

"Our aim is an effective voice for every community and every local neighbourhood"

ECN membership is open to all voluntary and community groups who are based in or work in Ealing.

What Is The Role Of ECN?

Ealing Community Network:

- ❖ Provides a voice for the voluntary and community sector in relation to the decision making of the local authority, Primary Care Trust, the Police and other statutory bodies
- ❖ Elects reps onto Ealing Local Strategic Partnership, other multi agency partnerships and working parties
- ❖ Supports the development of local networks for different communities and neighbourhoods
- ❖ Coordinates a local ECN Community Chest small grants programme
- ❖ Provides free community training and development for groups, management committee and members
- ❖ Supports local residents and community groups on deprived estates and neighbourhood in coming together to improve service delivery

How Can ECN Help Its Members?

ECN can help members by:

- ❖ Giving groups a forum to raise issues of importance to them
- ❖ Giving groups the opportunity to network with other voluntary and community groups in the borough
- ❖ Enabling member groups (particularly small groups) to be elected as community representatives onto over 30 local partnerships (a copy of all elected reps can be found in this pack)
- ❖ Sending member group's regular news and e-mail briefings about funding, conferences, events etc.
- ❖ Organising free capacity building training for member groups
- ❖ Giving groups an equal say in decision making around priorities for local grants programmes
- ❖ Giving groups access via the ECN website to information and discussions i.e.: key documents, meeting agendas, providing a free "Ealing Community Calendar on our website to help you publicise your events and AGMs.
- ❖ Signposting groups to other information and support services

How Often Does The Network meet?

Meetings take place every two months and rotate at different times, venues and areas of the borough to make it as convenient as possible for all ECN members to attend. All venues are wheelchair accessible. A copy of the latest meeting dates is enclosed in this pack.

We also hold an annual conference to discuss future priorities and elect representatives onto Ealing LSP.

What Is The Purpose Of ECN Meetings?

Ealing Community Network meets regularly so that as many members as possible can be involved directly in:

- ❖ All Network decisions about its activities and expenditure
- ❖ Agreeing priorities for the ECN Community Chest and Local Network Development Fund
- ❖ Electing representatives onto partnerships and work groups
- ❖ Receiving presentations from the London Borough of Ealing, Health Trusts and other organisations
- ❖ Receiving reports from the Local Strategic Partnership and other partnerships and forums
- ❖ Addressing and discussing specific areas of concern to Network members

The ECN Steering Group

ECN has a Steering Group of up to 20 groups plus the Chair, Andy Roper of Ealing Community and Voluntary Service and the 2 Vice Chairs of the Network, Simon Hall of Acton Housing Association and Nivene Powell of Ealing Racial Equality Council.

The role of the Steering Group is to assist in developing strategies and policies for the Network, monitor the ECN budget and work plan and make recommendations to Network on key draft reports.

10 Local Networks and Forums nominate a representative directly onto the Steering Group:

Acton Community Forum
Ealing Black and Ethnic Minority Forum
Ealing Disability Forum
Ealing and Hanwell Area Community Network
Ealing Local Agenda 21
Ealing Pre-school Learning Alliance
Ealing Refugee Forum
Greenford, Perivale and Northolt Area Community Network
Southall Community Alliance
Voluntary Sector Mental Health Forum

In addition there are 10 individual group places that are elected by ECN as a whole every 2 years. Out of these, 5 must come from small groups with less than 2 full time workers. In fact all current directly elected reps are from small groups. The current elected representatives are:

Farhan Ahmed	Access for Support and Development Centre
Don Ayre	Ealing Tenants and Leaseholders Group
D H Bhasin	St Joseph's Drive Residents Association
Paul Bizmungu	Great Lakes Development Network
Jay Dasani	Lohana Community West London
Bill Davidson	Acton Alliance
Sylvia Francis	Third Age Foundation
Carl Johnson	United Anglo Caribbean Society
Mohamed Kayyam	Caribbean Islamic Cultural Society
Chris C W Onuoha	Oke-Osisi Afrika Organisation

Local Network Development Fund

Ealing Community Network has a commitment to support existing networks, and encourage the establishment of new networks by allocating a substantial amount of money each year. The Local Network Development Fund can be used to fund an admin worker's time, mailings, a special event, newsletters or other developmental activities. For more details contact the ECN team.

Ealing Compact

ECN on behalf of all voluntary and community groups in Ealing has work with the London Borough of Ealing to produce a Compact. A Compact is an agreement between the statutory sector and the voluntary sector about how they wish to work together in the future. It includes commitments on both sides. Copies of the compact are available by ringing the CEF team on 020 566 0921 or e-mailing cef@ealingcvs.org.uk.

ECN currently has a working party preparing a Compact with the local health Trusts. This should be completed in the new year.

As a Member of Ealing CVS Should You Still Apply For ECN Membership?

Yes, you should still apply to ECN for membership. The two organisations operate separately but with Ealing CVS as the elected lead organisation for ECN.

What Is Ealing Community and Voluntary Service

EalingCVS is the key infrastructure organisation for voluntary and community groups in Ealing. Services provided by Ealing CVS includes:

Admin Services & Publications

Provides support services to local groups including mailings, photocopying and a venue for meetings. There is also a library. Contact Helen Stow.

Training

TIDE provides training for voluntary and community groups in Brent, Ealing and Harrow and recruits new volunteer trainers leading to recognised teaching qualification. Contact Helen Stow.

Volunteering

Ealing Volunteer Centre has hundreds of opportunities to help develop new skills and help for people with mental health problems who wish to volunteer. Groups can also publicise their volunteering opportunities through the Centre. Contact Lizzie Saunders.

Funding

Provides funding advice to large and small groups. Publishes a magazine called "EVOLVE" giving up to date funding advice 3 times per year. Contact Antony Bewick-Smith.

Development

Provides a free community accounting advice. Groups can also be supported through the process of charities registration. Contact Paul Boielle.

Ealing CVS is part of a multi-borough IT project. Groups can access IT advice on a Tuesday between 10 and 4 by calling Jason King on 01895 449 394.

Health Care

Provides up to date information on social care issues including developing partnership working with local social and health services. Contact Jim Wong.

Neighbourhood Renewal

Provides services in the most disadvantage Neighbourhoods. This covers 3 estates in Southall and 1 in Acton. Ealing CVS is lead organisation for the Neighbourhood Improvement Fund, which provides funding for residents on the 4 estates to undertake small regeneration projects of their own. Contact Carmel Cahill.

EalingCVS also hosts the South Acton Neighbourhood Renewal Coordinator, Eddie Capone.

For more information relating to EalingCVS Tel: Tom Maramaros 020 8579 6273