

The Network Newsletter – Ebulletin 263, 10 September 2018

Events

Events have been added to the Courses & Events pages on The Network website – see: <http://www.seapn.org.uk/courses>.

Funding & Opportunities

Digital Inclusion Fund

<https://www.citizenonline.org.uk/digital-inclusion-fund/>

(Source: SAVS Weekly Email, week ending 31 Aug 2018)

What is it: The Digital Inclusion Fund aims to support initiatives designing, researching or delivering digital inclusion programmes with a focus on older and/or disabled people, in a new, creative and innovative way. It aims to improve essential digital skills and demonstrate how digital inclusion can improve the lives and well being, of older and/or disabled people. The initiatives supported may also have scope to scale up and deliver a wider impact. Funding could be used to test and learn from the new approaches to tackling digital exclusion.

Who can apply: Charities and not for profit organisations, including social enterprises, supporting or aiming to support older and/or disabled people with essential digital skills, although this does not need to be the main focus of your organisation. The funded projects ideally will have the potential for transformative social impact at scale and the ambition for growth and sustainability.

Where: The funding must be used to benefit residents living in England.

How much: Those eligible can apply for grants between £50K-£200K

Duration of Funding: Twelve months from January 2019 – December 2019. As this is a short funding period, we would welcome applications from projects already in operation, however you must demonstrate how the funding will add a step change and real new value to your existing project and not be part of core funding.

When: Applications are open from midday on Monday 10 September until midday Monday 1 October. Successful applications will be notified no later than 12 November 2018.”

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Libraries give us power”

<https://www.bigissue.com/opinion/paul-mcnamee-libraries-give-us-power/#.W2hE2K1zVro.twitter>

(Source: email from Simon Wallace, 22 Aug 2018)

Opinion piece from Paul McNamee (*Big Issue* editor) calling for an end to library closures (particularly because of their role in supporting children's literacy):

"Don't say it's local government. Don't say it's not something you can influence. Your party has been in government for almost eight years. In that time, over 470 libraries have closed across the UK."

"Rotherham: Council and Mowbray Gardens library – working together to help people back into work"

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/08/31/rotherham-council-and-mowbray-gardens-library-working-together-to-help-people-back-into-work/>

Libraries Taskforce blogpost that describes how Rotherham's Mowbray Gardens Library helped someone back into work.

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

Estimating the prevalence of the 'toxic trio' ...

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/07/Vulnerability-Technical-Report-2-Estimating-the-prevalence-of-the-toxic-trio.pdf>

(Source: Children & Young People Now *Daily Bulletin*, 17 Aug 2018)

New, grim "Technical Report" from the Office of the Children's Commissioner, which looks at:

"[...] the potential numbers of children in England living in households where the 'toxic trio' of factors affecting adults may be present. The 'toxic trio' is the interaction of:

- Domestic violence and abuse (DV&A) within the household
- Parental substance misuse (alcohol or drugs)
- Parental mental health issues" [p3]

The report concludes that:

"We find that 100,000 children in England (0.9% of all children in England) are in a household where a randomly-selected adult faces all three 'toxic trio' issues to a severe extent, while 420,000 children (3.6% of all children in England) are in a household where a randomly-selected adult faces all three 'toxic trio' issues to a moderate/severe extent." [p10]

Unemployment by ethnic background

<https://researchbriefings.parliament.uk/ResearchBriefing/Summary/SN06385#fullreport>

(Source: Equality and Diversity Forum *Newsletter*, 28 Aug 2018)

New House of Commons Library Briefing Paper which gives a bit more background to the headline stats:

"The UK unemployment rate was 4.0% in April-June 2018. The rate was 3.6% for people from a White background compared to 6.3% for people

from BAME (Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic) backgrounds, although there was substantial variation between different ethnic minority groups.” [p1]

Tackling social and digital exclusion – Other Agencies

Evidence of the link between inclusive education and social inclusion: a review of the literature

https://www.european-agency.org/sites/default/files/Evidence%20%E2%80%93%20A%20Review%20of%20the%20Literature_0.pdf

(Source: NCB *E-Zine*, 21 Aug 2018)

“This literature review examines the link between inclusive education and the social inclusion of people with disabilities. According to the review, there is evidence to suggest that there is a link between inclusive education and social inclusion in the areas of education, employment and living in the community. At the same time, the review suggests that attending segregated settings minimises the opportunities for social inclusion both in the short term (while children with disabilities are at school) and the long term (after graduation from secondary education).”

“Gypsy, Roma & Traveller (GRT) targeted bullying”

https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/all-about-bullying/groups-more-likely-experience-bullying/race-and-faith-1?utm_source=NCB+free+newsletters+-+Master+list&utm_campaign=f6fb0e283c-EMAIL_CAMPAIGN_2018_08_15_12_21&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_65c90e506d-f6fb0e283c-321127661&mc_cid=f6fb0e283c&mc_eid=b1c1881164

(Source: NCB *E-Zine*, 21 Aug 2018)

The Anti-Bullying Alliance has pulled together resources relating to the bullying of Gypsy, Roma and Traveller children and young people.

Prosperity and justice: a plan for the new economy

Full report: <https://www.ippr.org/research/publications/prosperity-and-justice>

Summary: <https://www.ippr.org/files/2018-09/cej-final-summary.pdf>

(Source: email from IPPR, 5 Sep 2018)

“The IPPR Commission on Economic Justice was established in autumn 2016 in the wake of Britain’s vote to leave the European Union. The purpose of the Commission was broadly conceived: to examine the challenges facing the UK economy and to make recommendations for its reform.

The members of the Commission come from all walks of life and different political viewpoints. They voted on different sides of the EU referendum, and the Commission is independent of all political parties.” [Summary, p1]

The ‘key messages’ from the Commission are:

1. The UK economy is not working

2. The economy needs fundamental reform
3. A fair economy is a strong economy: “It used to be thought that prosperity and economic justice were in conflict; we had to choose one or other but could not have both. The international evidence now points in precisely the opposite direction. A more equal economy generates stronger and more stable growth, lower social costs and greater wellbeing. Both economics and morality argue for an economy which achieves prosperity and justice together.” [p4]
4. Economic justice needs to be ‘hard-wired’ into the way the economy works: “It is not sufficient to seek to redress injustices and inequalities simply by redistribution through the tax and benefit system. They need to be tackled at source, in the structures of the economy in which they arise. These include the labour market and wage bargaining, the ownership of capital and wealth, the governance of firms, the operation of the financial system and the rules that govern markets. Economic justice cannot be an afterthought; it must be built in to the economy.” [p4]
5. Achieving prosperity and justice together requires a comprehensive and integrated programme of reform across the economy
6. Achieving change means redressing imbalances of economic power: “from corporate management towards workers and trade unions, from dominant companies towards innovators and entrepreneurs, from short-term finance towards long-term investors, from Whitehall towards the nations and regions of the UK. We need a more active and purposeful state, acting to achieve prosperity, justice and environmental sustainability on behalf of society as a whole. It must be decentralised, with stronger powers for the nations and regions of the UK. Managing economic change will require greater social partnership, both within companies, and between businesses, trade unions, government and civil society.” [p5]
7. Change is possible, and urgent.

Diversity in books and other materials for children & young people

“Children’s reading: research, tips and articles”

<http://www.aneharding.net/2795/childrens-reading-research-tips-articles/>

(Source: email from Anne Harding Training, 5 Sep 2018)

Valuable round-up of recent articles and research.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“15 books to support children's mental health”

<https://www.tes.com/news/15-books-support-childrens-mental-health>

“A school librarian shares her recommended reads for helping children to talk about mental health problems more openly”

Updated 26 Jul 2018.

Heritage and society 2018

<https://content.historicengland.org.uk/content/heritage-counts/pub/2018/heritage-and-society-2018.pdf>

(Source: *Heritage Update*, 377, 23 Aug 2018)

This latest report from Historic England includes a section on the importance of the historic environment for our health and wellbeing, and a section on bringing people together, both citing key reports and other evidence.

Health & Wellbeing issues – Government, Government Agencies and Local Government

“Putting mental health at the top of the agenda”

https://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/our-work/blogs/putting-mental-health-top-agenda?utm_campaign=GB+e-newsletter+%7C+May+2018&utm_source=emailCampaign&utm_content=&utm_medium=email

(Source: email from EHRC, May 2018)

Important EHRC blogpost (to tie in with Mental Health Awareness Week 2018 – apologies for the delay in including this) which includes videos of three individuals, talking about their experiences of detention under the Mental Health Act; and an outline of the work that the EHRC is undertaking “to demonstrate how mental health services need to change to improve equality and human rights protections for everyone.”

LGBTQ issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“Drag Queen Story Hour Brings Fun—And Continued Protests”

<https://slj.com/?detailStory=drag-queen-story-hour-brings-fun-continued-protests>

(Source: *LJXpress – Library Journal*, 4 Sep 2018)

“It’s been nearly three years since the first Drag Queen Story Hour (DQSH) was held at the San Francisco Public Library. Since then, the events have gained popularity across the U.S. and Canada, with drag queens reading, singing, and doing crafts with kids ages three to eight in a way that “captures the imagination and play of the gender fluidity of childhood and gives kids glamorous, positive, and unabashedly queer role models,” according to the DQSH website.

It is a favorite event at many libraries and book stores.”

However, not all reactions are favourable, and this important article rounds up some key issues.

Broader issues – Libraries, Museums, Archives and Cultural and Heritage Organisations

“An introduction to measuring outcomes”

<https://librariestaskforce.blog.gov.uk/2018/08/28/an-introduction-to-measuring-outcomes/>

First in a new series of blogposts from the Libraries Taskforce, “[...] which summarise and share the learning from our Making an Impact workshops.”