



*Organised by Wolverhampton City Council and Third Sector Partners in co-operation with the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA) under the auspices of the Very Important Twinning - Volunteering in Towns Project.*

## **Volunteers, Voluntary Organisations and Localism - Promoting community sustainability & engagement**

Wolverhampton Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton, WV1 1RP, United Kingdom.

**Wednesday 8th & Thursday 9th of May 2013**

### **Introduction**

You are invited to this exciting conference which is being organised by Wolverhampton City Council and a range of its partners. The event is also in co-operation with the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA) under the auspices of the Very Important Twinning, Volunteering in Towns Project which is financed by the European Commission and deals with volunteering and democracy in an enlarged Europe.

The project seeks to promote volunteering in various European cities, raising debates on questions of active citizenship and participation. There are 19 partners in the project who are local and regional authorities, NGOs (third sector organisations and associations) across Europe who are working together over the three year life of the project.

A series of conferences and workshops are being organised to enable delegates to reflect upon how active citizenship can improve governance across Europe. Through these debates good practice will be identified and shared by local, regional and international participants.

The workshop in Wolverhampton will take place on 8th and 9th May 2013 and will focus on "Volunteers, Voluntary Organisations and Localism - Promoting community sustainability & engagement".

The conference is being delivered by the City Council in partnership with HM Government's Cabinet Office and key Voluntary Sector partners in the City: Access to Business, Base 25, Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council, University of Wolverhampton, The Haven, Bilston Resource Centre, the TLC College and the Refugee and Migrant Centre. The conference will be conducted in English with translation by volunteers available if requested in advance.



**Volunteers, Voluntary Organisations and Localism -  
Promoting community sustainability & engagement**

**DAY ONE AT: Wolverhampton University, Wulfruna Street Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1LY, United Kingdom**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**Wednesday 8th of May 2013**

- 09:30-10:00 REGISTRATION AND COFFEE
- 10:00-10:15 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS
- ALDA & ITS WORK WITH CIVIL SOCIETY  
Councillor Roger Lawrence, Leader of Wolverhampton City Council & Treasurer  
of ALDA in 2012/2013
- 10.15-10.30 CONFERENCE PROGRAMME  
Karen Cross, Head of Community Initiatives, Wolverhampton City Council  
Councillor Elias Mattu, Cabinet Member for Leisure and Communities
- 10:30-11:00 LOCALISM, VOLUNTEERING, AND A BIG SOCIETY  
Helga Edstrom, Policy Manager, Office For Civil Society, H.M. Cabinet Office
- 11:00-11:20 WOLVERHAMPTON COMPACT AND THE VOLUNTEERING CODE OF PRACTICE
- WOLVERHAMPTON COMPACT MONITORING & IMPLEMENTATION GROUP
- 11:20-11:50 QUESTION TIME SESSION
- 11:50-12:50 VOLUNTEERING SOUND BITES AND SUCCESS STORIES.  
AN INTRODUCTION TO THE AFTERNOON WORKSHOP SESSIONS
- 12:50-14:00 LUNCH  
(Delegates to sign up for two thematic workshops from attached list DURING THE LUNCH BREAK)
- 14:00-15:00 THEMATIC WORKSHOP - SESSION 1
- 15:00-15:30 REFRESHMENTS AND NETWORKING
- 15:30-16:30 THEMATIC WORKSHOP - SESSION 2
- 16:30 NETWORKING OPPORTUNITY AND DISPLAY STANDS

**Volunteers, Voluntary Organisations and Localism -  
Promoting community sustainability & engagement**

**DAY TWO AT: Wolverhampton Civic Centre, St Peters Square, Wolverhampton,  
WV1 1RP, United Kingdom**

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**Thursday 9th May 2013**

- 09:45-10:15 REGISTRATION (Refreshments and Networking Opportunity)
- 10.15-10.45 THE WORK OF WOLVERHAMPTON CROSS SECTOR FUNDING GROUP AND EUROPEAN FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES – INFORMATION AND ADVICE  
Delivered by Heather Clark and Mark Connell - Wolverhampton City Council
- 10.45 – 11.15 THE JOURNEY OF AN INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER  
Delivered by Carl Clinton - University of Wolverhampton
- 11-15-11.30 COFFEE BREAK
- 11.30-12.50 ACTION PLANNING SESSION  
Chaired by Dr Pauline Anderson - Head of Social Sciences, Policy and Criminology  
University of Wolverhampton
- 13:00 CLOSE OF CONFERENCE AND LUNCH  
Civic reception hosted for all Delegates by the Right Worshipful, The Mayor of the City of  
Wolverhampton, Councillor Mrs Christine Mills
- AFTERNOON SIGHTSEEING AND OPTIONAL VISITS TO  
Wolverhampton City Centre, All Saints Workspace, Access to Business shop or Bantock House  
& Museum

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**Practical information:**

**Registration and contact person:**

Participation in the conference/workshops is free, but all participants need to book by sending an e-mail. Please let us know if you have any special access or dietary needs:  
For more information please contact Kuldip Khela by email [kuldip.khela@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:kuldip.khela@wolverhampton.gov.uk)  
Or telephone: Within the UK 01902 550115 or outside the UK (+44) 1902 550115

**Travel and accommodation costs of international participants:**

The participants will be responsible for their travel and accommodation costs. However, the organisers have negotiated hotel rooms starting at £34.95 per night.

More information on the VIT project can be found on the website of the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA), the lead partner of the project: [www.alda-europe.eu](http://www.alda-europe.eu)

## The City Council Partners in this Project are:



**Office of Civil Society** – supports Ministers in their commitment to make it easier to run a charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation; get more resources into the Sector and strengthen its independence. It also seeks to make it easier for sector to work with the State. OCS are working across Government to translate the Big Society vision into practical policies. OCS reports to Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society.

**Website:** [www.gov.uk/government/topics/community-and-society](http://www.gov.uk/government/topics/community-and-society)



**University of Wolverhampton** - The roots of the University of Wolverhampton lie in the 19th century growth of Mechanics Institutes, providing vocational and general education for working men. With 150 years of pioneering education for all, the University is now a global provider of entrepreneurial education and its students are involved in volunteer programmes.

**Website:** [www.wlv.ac.uk](http://www.wlv.ac.uk)

**Contact Email:** [enquiries@wlv.ac.uk](mailto:enquiries@wlv.ac.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 321000



**Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council** - exists to support the development and sustainability of an effective voluntary and community sector, promoting the principle and practice of voluntary and community activity, in order to facilitate the development of diverse, strong communities and to enhance quality of life within the City of Wolverhampton.

**Website:** [www.wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk](http://www.wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk)

**Contact Email:** [info@wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk](mailto:info@wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 773761

## Thematic Workshop : Employment & Training



**Access to Business** - provide a continuous pathway of unique support into training, employment and self-employment for Wolverhampton unemployed people with a particular focus on disabled residents, volunteers and those with health problems.

**Website:** [www.access2business.co.uk](http://www.access2business.co.uk)

**Contact Email:** [enquiries@access2business.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@access2business.co.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 572397



**Bilston Resource Centre** - provides career advice and guidance for residents from diverse communities to improve their chances of finding work. Additional support includes ESOL, Citizenship, and Work Skills training as well as their Volunteer Project.

**Contact Email:** [brcinfo@btconnect.com](mailto:brcinfo@btconnect.com)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 353705



**TLC College** - delivers a diverse range of support services to the community in order to help individuals and groups to achieve their potential. TLC Volunteering project creates links with other businesses and community enterprises (NGOs) to provide volunteer placements and work experience.

**Website:** [www.tlccollege.org.uk](http://www.tlccollege.org.uk)

**Contact Email:** [mkhan@tlccollege.org.uk](mailto:mkhan@tlccollege.org.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 714433

### Thematic Workshop : Refugee and New Migrants



**Refuge & Migrant Centre (RMC)** - provides a dedicated service to asylum seekers, refugees and vulnerable migrants living in the Black Country. The project was set up in 1999 by volunteers who were themselves refugees.

**Website:** [www.rmcentre.org.uk](http://www.rmcentre.org.uk)

**Contact Email:** [info@rmcentre.org.uk](mailto:info@rmcentre.org.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 311554

### Thematic Workshop : Infrastructure



**WVSC** - Promote volunteering opportunities and link individuals seeking voluntary work with third sector organisations requiring volunteers. Through the service they give participants a chance to assist in their communities, develop new skills and support them into new jobs and careers.

**Website:** [www.wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk](http://www.wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk)

**Contact Email:** [info@wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk](mailto:info@wolverhamptonvsc.org.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 773761



**Gloucester Street Community Centre** - Established in 1987 to tackle a range of social issues within the area, such as social welfare, health & wellbeing, education and unemployment. Other services include; advice and guidance, training and development, counselling and accredited learning.

**Website:** [www.gscommunitycentre.org](http://www.gscommunitycentre.org)

**Contact Email:** [admin@gscommunitycentre.org](mailto:admin@gscommunitycentre.org)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 425461

### Thematic Workshop : Womens



**The Haven** – Set up in 1973 The Haven Wolverhampton is a charitable organisation which supports women and their dependent children who are vulnerable to domestic violence, homelessness and abuse.

**Website:** [www.havenrefuge.org.uk](http://www.havenrefuge.org.uk)

**Contact Email:** [info@havenrefuge.org.uk](mailto:info@havenrefuge.org.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 572140



## Thematic Workshop : Young People



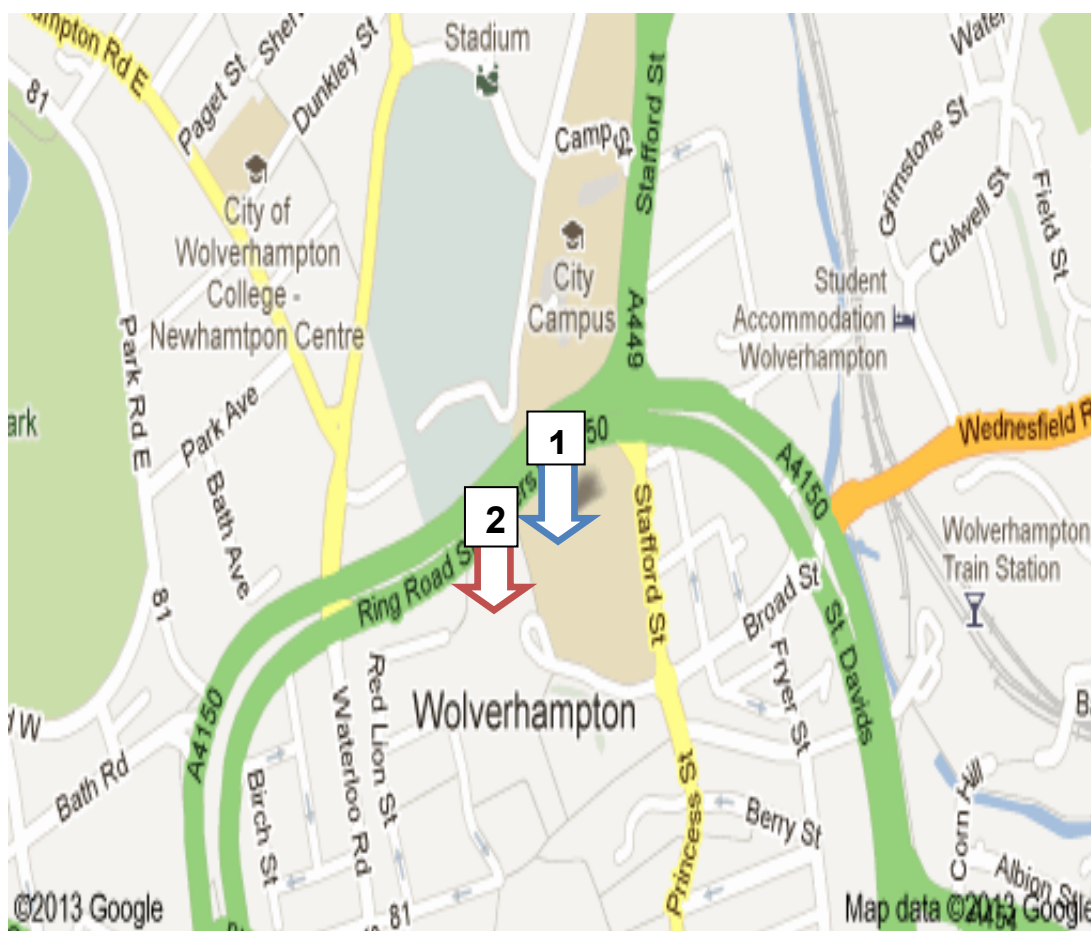
**Base 25** - Provides guidance and support for local young people aged between 11 and 25 from across the City. They operate a successful counselling service; encourage young people to volunteer and assist Eastern European children and families integrate into the City.

**Website:** [www.youthlink.btck.co.uk](http://www.youthlink.btck.co.uk)

**Contact Email:** [base25enquiries@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:base25enquiries@hotmail.co.uk)

**Contact Telephone:** 01902 572040

## MAP OF WOLVERHAMPTON CITY CENTRE



**Venue 1 for : Wednesday 8th May 2013**  
**University of Wolverhampton**  
Wulfruna Street  
Wolverhampton  
WV1 1LY

**Venue 2 for : Thursday 9th May 2013**  
**Wolverhampton Civic Centre**  
3rd Floor, Civic Centre  
St Peters Square, Wolverhampton  
WV1 1SH