

**Welcome to the September 2009 edition of the OCN Eastern Region newsletter.**

**Much has happened over the summer so here is a brief summary of recent events and qualifications developments.**

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Please feel free to [forward the newsletter](#) to a colleague.

## **The latest QCF and FLT information**

### **Qualifications and Credit Framework**

The [Qualifications and Credit Framework](#) (QCF) readiness pages of the QCA website include a raft of new resources.

Of particular note is the new [interactive presentation](#): a clear, concise description of the QCF. This would be useful as a tool for informing parents and potential learners.

The QCF Provider site also has details of a [QCF Champions Training Programme](#) starting this term.

A [QCF Policy Update](#) is also available.

### **Foundation Learning**

The [Interim Guidance](#), published in May 2009 is intended to update providers, and other partners and stakeholders, on the ongoing design, development and implementation of the Foundation Learning Tier. It covers the changes to the presentation of the Progression Pathways to emphasising personalised, destination-led learning programmes of flexible content and duration to support individual progression.

This has been followed over the summer by the publication of [Delivery Guidance](#) for 2009-10.

### **Practitioners' Forum**

The next FLT Practitioners' Forum will be held in the autumn.

If you would like an invitation to the event, please email our [marketing team](#).

## **FLT News from Recognised Centres**

**Norfolk Children's Services** has appointed an FLT champion for Norfolk. Sharon Money will survey existing provision for students working at Entry Level/Level 1 across the 14-19 sector, including LLDD and specialist provision for other vulnerable groups; draw together good practice of programmes of study that might be developed into formalised FLT 'progression pathways'; and work with relevant partners to propose replicable models for the different 'progression programmes'.

She will also give a series of talks on the FLT, gather case studies and draw up an FAQ section to put onto the 14-19 Prospectus in Norfolk. The work started in May this year with Sharon working one day a week for Children's Services and the project runs until December 2009.

**City College Norwich** (CCN) has also planned new FLT provision from September 2009 using the Step-UP qualifications. CCN has previously run a series of taster sessions for disaffected year 10 and 11 pupils to try to engage them in further learning. It has enjoyed success, with high retention rates, but has not necessarily addressed the needs of all learners or stretched them. It was only half a day a week and did not provide for learners who were above E3 level.

The concept for the new course is to have a structured programme at Entry 3 and Level 1 for disengaged Year 10 and Year 11 pupils, offering true personalised learning, formal nationally-recognised qualifications and clear pathways for progression. The course will cover 5 vocational areas; Hairdressing, Sport and Leisure, Construction, Catering and Health and Social Care; alongside the core work skills and life skills units. In the first instance it will be a one day a week course.

## Other News from Recognised Centres

### Norfolk Adult Education

Christine Deeley, co-ordinator of Norfolk Adult Education's highly successful Access to Higher Education Health Professions programme, has received the Norfolk County Council Outstanding Contribution Award for customer focus and was then chosen by the Chief Executive, David White as winner of the Chief Executive's Award, awarded to the 'unsung hero' of NCC. Part of the nomination read:

I am nominating her for this award because of the incredible difference she has made to the lives of her learners. Since she started working on the Access programme she has inspired hundreds of people, many from disadvantaged backgrounds to change their lives. By encouraging and supporting her learners (many of whom had bad experiences at school) through their Access programme she provides the opportunity for them to go on to university and gain the qualifications they need to become qualified professionals, for example nurses, midwives, paramedics. The level of support Christine provides for both learners and tutors is exceptional.

## Accredited Courses for Charity Fundraisers

Charity Fundraising Ltd offers regular, low cost training events designed to support the needs of smaller charities and social enterprises. These are small group workshops, allowing them to really look in depth at each delegate's projects. They invite charities to provide specific details of their needs in advance and tailor the day accordingly. The training is carried out in a friendly, social atmosphere and discussion is encouraged throughout the day.

They currently offer two courses: **Finding Funding** and **Grants and Beyond**.

**Finding Funding** is aimed at smaller charities or projects in larger organisations. It is ideal for those with some experience of management in the charity and community sector, but who may not necessarily have experience or formal learning in fundraising. Typical learners have included chief executives of smaller charities and project managers in larger organisations. They encourage participants to consider their own projects and ideas as case studies. Learners will discover how to identify potential funders, plan their fundraising, prepare budgets for their proposals, how to make better applications for funding and acquire knowledge and techniques that can be used in running their project or charity. The next scheduled courses are on September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2009 and 4<sup>th</sup> November 2009. More details can be found on the [Charity Fundraising](#) website.

Finding Funding is now accredited by OCN Eastern Region for One Credit at Level Three toward the National Occupational Standard, NOS, "Develop and Implement an Integrated Fundraising Plan".

Graham Parker, Director of Charity Fundraising Ltd. commented, "We always advocate external accreditation of learning. Our accredited course should be attractive to anyone considering a career in fundraising or voluntary sector management and for larger organisations provides valuable opportunities for Continuing Professional Development."

**Grants and Beyond** complements Finding Funding and looks at further sources such as loans, equity and venture funds.



### About Charity Fundraising Ltd

Charity Fundraising Ltd is a UK fundraising consultancy offering a full range of fundraising services, from funder research and bid writing through to full campaign management. They also offer strategic advice, business planning and training / mentoring. The team of professional consultants has expertise in supporting charities and social enterprises across a broad spectrum of the not for profit sector.

## Adult Learners' Week 2009

Street Life Soccer:

National 'Opening Doors to Adult Learners' Award  
Winner

**Michael Douglas:  
East of England Outstanding Adult Learner**

Street Life Soccer, run by Blue Cat Initiative and Football in the Community, began as a workshop at Norwich's main homeless hostel three years ago and has since seen more than 200 homeless and vulnerable learners step out onto the football pitch. Working with Norwich City Football Club's Football in the Community team, Street Life Soccer now runs daily Team Talk sessions of learning and a further hour of football coaching. Many of the learners have gained a first qualification and some have gone on to be coaches.



The Blue Cat team with Susie Fowler-Watt, BBC Look East presenter

An example of the success of this programme can be seen in another winner: Michael Douglas. After a difficult start in life, Michael realised he was going off the rails in his twenties and sought help, completing a course of cognitive behavioural therapy; and gaining accommodation with the YMCA in Norwich. Homeless and on Job Seekers Allowance, Michael took the decision to join Street Life Soccer in September 2007, despite a 13 year break from education. Michael completed the 30 week Street Life Soccer course and received four Open College Network certificates in team-working, decision-making, communication and personal development.



Michael Douglas receives his award from HRH Princess Anne

The coaches recommended him for further training and he took the FA Level 1 Coaching qualification and the OCN Level 1 certificate in mentoring with the Norfolk Volunteering Service. Since September 2008, Michael has used his skills to support new students at Street Life Soccer and has also worked as a volunteer with Football in the Community coaching children. He has got two part time jobs - one with Norwich City Football Club and another as a support worker for the YMCA.

## NOCN Qualifications Updates

The following qualifications have been approved or extended in the last few months. More details on each can be found in the [news section](#) of the OCN Eastern Region website.

### New Qualifications

NOCN Suite of Qualifications in Making it in Fashion (QCF)  
NOCN Suite of Qualifications in Media Literacy (Entry 3) (QCF)

### Extended Qualifications

NOCN Level 1 Award, Certificate and Diploma in Art and Design  
NOCN Suite of Managing Voluntary and Community Organisations Qualifications  
NOCN Level 3 Award in Managing Volunteers  
NOCN Level 3 Award in Tackling Substance Misuse  
NOCN Suite of Learning Disability Qualifications

If you would like to discuss these or any NOCN qualifications please contact your Development Manager or email [OCN Eastern Region](#).

## OCN Eastern Region News

### Have you sent your curriculum plan back?

If you have not yet returned your organisation's curriculum plan, please do so as soon as possible. Please note that the estimated learner numbers are just that - an estimate to assist us in our business planning for the coming year. OCN Eastern Region will not invoice your centre for this number of learners, invoices will be raised upon registration of learners as usual.

### Fees 2009-10

The Centre Recognition and Learner Registration fees for 2009-10 have been published. A copy of the [fees leaflet](#) can be downloaded. Prices for full qualifications are published on the [NOCN website](#).

### And finally,

We are pleased to announce that Carol Snape has been confirmed as the new Chief Executive Officer of OCN Eastern Region. Carol has been with the organisation for nearly three and a half years, formerly in the role of Director of Business Development.

**Feedback**

If there are topics you would like to see covered in future issues, please let us know. You can email [newsletter@ocner.org.uk](mailto:newsletter@ocner.org.uk) or [click here](#). We are always interested to hear your thoughts and opinions.

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