



# Charitable Trusts West Midlands

## E -Bulletin

Issue No.2 April 2013

### Regional News

#### The Impact of Welfare reforms in Birmingham

The damaging impact of the government's proposed cuts to social security benefits has been highlighted in evidence submitted to a Birmingham City Council inquiry (The Impact of Welfare Reform in Birmingham – Written Evidence, Social Cohesion and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee, Birmingham City Council). The worst impacts will be felt on child poverty, people on low pay, young homeless people, disabled people, and people living in social housing.

The aim of the Council's inquiry is to understand what the implications of welfare cuts might be for communities and individuals in Birmingham, and whether there will be an impact on social cohesion in the city.

Read More <http://www.poverty.ac.uk/reports-government-cuts-benefits-england-regions/damaging-impact-benefit-cuts-birmingham>

#### Asylum, Refugee and Migrants - strategic responses

The role of the West Midlands Strategic Migration Partnership WMSMP was one of eleven Regional Partnerships across the UK that were established following the introduction of a Regional dispersal policy in 1999 for people seeking asylum. Since then the WMSMP is now under the Centre for Local Government, WM. This has been achieved within an environment of significant reductions in financial and human resources affecting all partner organizations. The secretariat maintains a significant role with corporate partners at a Regional, national and local level in leading on and enabling the development of effective operational and strategic responses to the needs of asylum seekers, refugees and economic migrants. To find out more: <http://www.wmemployers.org.uk/who-we-are>

### National News

#### Budget 2013 - Gift Aid Reform and Social Investment

The Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme was passed into legislation last year and commences in April. The Government has recently consulted on Social Investment tax relief and although listened to the feedback the conditions for any tax relief on social investment remain tough. To read more click here: <http://www.bigsocietycapital.com/sites/default/files/pdf/tax%20relief.pdf>

### CTWM latest News

**ABM and Talk** - 12th March 2013 @ HPLC from 5.30pm. Caroline Hutton, Director of Martineau Gardens was the guest speaker. To see a copy of her presentation and film go to: <http://www.ctwm.net/>

Executive Committee meeting - 24th April 2013 - roundtable discussion: 'commissioning and its impact on charities' 12.30pm - 1.45pm.

**Children in Need** invite members to attend an initial meeting with Mark Tyler, WM advice and support to SE and CICs to discuss a future funding workshop on 14th May @2pm @ Children in Need. Contact Melinda Connelly for further information on [<melinda.connolly@bbc.co.uk>](mailto:melinda.connolly@bbc.co.uk)

### Links:

Published by: Association of Charitable Foundations, February 2013  
*'For Good And Not For Keeps'* was commissioned to explore one of the most testing questions faced by trustees of charities with long-term missions who rely on investment assets to fund their activities. 'How much can we safely spend on our charitable activities year on year while preserving the value of our investment assets for future generations?' To read more click here. <http://www.acf.org.uk/publicationsandresources/?id=136>

A review of A History of the Barrow Cadbury Trust: Constancy and Change in Quaker Philanthropy - available from [www.bctrust.org.uk](http://www.bctrust.org.uk) £20

### About Charitable Trusts West Midlands

Established in 1975 it is the leading membership association for trusts and foundations in the West Midlands. With 50 members ranging from large national trusts that give grants in the region to local grant givers and individuals.

Charitable Trusts West Midlands is an unincorporated not for profit organisation. It provides charitable trust funders with an opportunity to share and learn from each others experience of grant giving and develop good practice in grant making; explore matters of common concern, and forge productive relationships that contribute to the wider benefits and overall sustainability of the region's voluntary and community sector.

The organisation also aims to provide a route for charitable trust funders to be able to engage formally with private and public funders and their networks to increase opportunities for co-ordination and collaboration to better meet the needs of the diverse communities in the region.