

G:up Spotlight Sept 2011

A snapshot of G:up's latest news, events and opportunities for the CYPF VCS



G:up is an alliance of West Midlands children, young people and families', voluntary and community sector (CYPF VCS) organisations, networks, and partners.

G:up works in a regional space to develop networks, collaboration and communications, build capacity and shape policy. More on G:up's website: www.gup.org.uk

Catalyst in the West Midlands Latest

G:up coordinated a meeting on 10th Aug and brought together key regional partners to look at how best to develop a regional VCS training partnership and bring this funding and capacity building opportunity to the region.

G:up invited Gethyn Williams, Director of Workforce Development at Catalyst funder NCVYS who attended and supported the meeting. Attendees approved the need for a regional training partnership and that G:up should coordinate this and an initial framework for a partnership was drawn up.

Key information and next steps:

- See the meeting notes and the latest Catalyst information at www.gup.org.uk/catalyst
- The **next meeting will be held at bayc on 12th September 2011**, where a draft regional bid will be discussed
- G:up will submit the final bid before the deadline of 19th September
- To join the partnership or for more details, contact: catalyst@bayc.org

G:XL Back Office Packages – save money on essentials!

5 opportunities have been researched and released by G:XL contract holder Midlands Youth and G:up, offering great savings on essential products and services such as utilities, stationery, office supplies and accountancy services. All are available on the G:up website: www.gup.org.uk/packages

For the last year, the [G:XL Back Office Services Learning Cluster](#) has sought collaborative, money saving solutions for the sector through both bulk/ collaborative purchasing and outsourcing, learn more about this by reading [G:up's new collaborative purchasing guide](#) (see below).

New G:up Tools - www.gup.org.uk

- **G:up Organisational Self Assessment Toolkit** - great, free, development tool: www.gup.org.uk/toolkit
- **G:up Signposting Database** - find organisations/tools to support your work: www.gup.org.uk/providers
- How is our sector represented at strategic levels? - **New G:XL Report and Action Plan:** www.gup.org.uk/repauditreport



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New G:up Collaborative Purchasing Guide

G:up has written a brief guide for the sector on collaborative purchasing - getting together with other organisations to increase your purchasing power and get better deals - critical as the sector looks for efficiency savings and survival strategies as budgets and resources are squeezed. Download it free: www.gup.org.uk/collabpurguide

Upcoming G:up Events!

For more info, contact G:up via the contacts below or visit the G:up website!

G:up Coordinated Regional Catalyst Bid meeting , 12 th Sept 2011, 1pm-4pm, bayc	See above, full details available here: www.gup.org.uk/catalyst
G:XL Workforce Development Learning Cluster meeting , 22 nd Sept 2011, B'ham	All details via: www.gup.org.uk/TrainingWFDandQualityLC
G:XL Information and Communications Learning Cluster meeting , 28 nd Sept 2011, 10am-12pm, bayc	Training: writing an effective press release and taking good photos.
G:XL Regional Participation Event Sat 1 st Oct, venue TBC	Find out all about and celebrate CYP participation! Networking, national participation organisations, regional and local contacts, workshops and more.
G:up AGM and conference , 3 rd Nov 2011, Birmingham (all day event)	Save the date. Details TBC.

Are you a member of G:up?

It is **free** to join G:up and being a member enables you to:

- Be linked in with a large and diverse network of CYPF VCS organisations, staff and partners right across the West Midlands and beyond
- Get a login for the G:up website to upload your news and events yourself – in order to reach wide and diverse audiences across the West Midlands through G:up's online news centre (www.gup.org.uk/news), regional training and events calendar (www.gup.org.uk/calendar) and daily automatic Updates filled with the latest news, events and opportunities
- Be featured amongst G:up's members on the G:up website (www.gup.org.uk/gupmembers) – raising the profile of your organisation and work, including to new audiences and increasing connections within and to the sector

Get the latest news on [G:up's website](http://www.gup.org.uk), sign up for automatic [email Updates](#) and see G:up's [newsletter](#) for more on G:up's projects and opportunities !

Get in touch: e. gup@bayc.org t. 0121 460 5870 w. www.gup.org.uk