

RESILIENCE FOR COMMUNITY GROUPS

Free Northern Conference 1st December
2011 At Manchester Mechanics Institute 103
Princess St, Manchester M1 6DD

Community North West and the Empowering Communities Project invites community activists, local workers, community groups and small voluntary organisations from the North to come to this Conference to plan how best to organise, campaign and survive.

Chaired by Professor John Diamond, key national speakers from the Carnegie UK, Voice4Change, National Coalition for Independent Action, Community Development Exchange and the national TUC will be challenging the Big Society view that we are "all in it together."

All the main speakers will be available to follow live by website if you can't make the Conference but still want to contribute or ask questions.

For a free place booking form, or for more information please contact Hilda at info@communitynw.org.uk

How is your
Community group
Surviving the
recession?

Are you fundraising,
downsizing or using
more volunteers?

How can Community
groups campaign
and/or work together
to survive?

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ORGANISE CAMPAIGN SURVIVE



LOTTERY FUNDED



Manchester
Metropolitan
University

cdx

National Coalition for
Independent Action



Community North West

Programme for the Day

- 9 30am** Arrival & registration
- 10 00am** Introduction by Prof John Diamond
Confirmed keynote speakers are:-
Nick Beddow - CDX
Nick Wilding - Carnegie UK
Cllr Terry Shields – Thompson Centre, St Helens
- 11 00am** Q&A Session
- 11 20am** The Resilience Survey – early findings for NW Community Groups presented by Eve Davidson Research Associate Manchester Metropolitan University
- 11 30am** Coffee break
- 11 45am** Morning workshops
- 1 00pm** LUNCH
- 1 45pm** Confirmed keynote speakers are:-
Paul Nowak - National Office TUC
Vandna Gohil - Voice4Change
Melaina/Penny - NCIA
- 2 30pm** Afternoon workshops (repeat of the morning workshops)
- 3 30pm** Plenary Session – panel with Prof John Diamond

The workshops will be your chance to look in detail at some of the ideas and hear about the experience of local community groups and campaigns that have emerged from CNW "Survival Seminars." Each workshop will be repeated to facilitate wide debate.

Carol Packham MMU with Eve Davidson
Research Associate

Ian McHugh Save Bolton Libraries Campaign
with Stefan Cholewka Salford Unemployed
Workers Centre

Alison Gilchrist, Independent Consultant
with Helena Kettleborough & Danielle Reed,
Thompson Centre

Penny Waterhouse with Melaina Barnes NCIA

**Interim results for the
Community Groups Resilience
Survey**

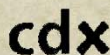
**Campaigning against the cuts -
sharing the lessons**

**Networks for Community
Resilience and development**

**Let's talk about people, places,
money and photocopyers**



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National Coalition for
Independent Action



Community North West

Chair

Chaired by Prof John Diamond – Edge Hill University, Lancashire

John Diamond will introduce the idea of the need for an alternative narrative to that being given by the Coalition Government in terms of what Big Society means to local communities across the North West.

Keynote Speakers

Nick Beddow – Chief Officer CDX (Community Development Exchange)

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT & COMMUNITY ORGANISING - POWER, EQUALITIES & SOCIAL JUSTICE Nick will be exploring the potential for bringing the two approaches closer together so that communities can receive support, if they want it, for mass action, while protecting the needs of less dominant voices and minority interests and how we might start to tackle the root causes of the mess we're in!

Nick Wilding – Carnegie UK EXPLORING COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

Nick will be talking about working with a group of activists and professionals over about 18 months from different parts of the UK and Ireland to learn together what community resilience means and whether and how it can be built. He will show the way they worked and to help to draw out some of the lessons they learned as well as show a short animated film (made by folk in Ireland), that is a spin-off from the work. See Exploring Community Resilience which is free to download at www.fieryspirits.com

Cllr Terry Shields – St Helens

Terry was the Mayor of St Helens 2009/10 and amongst many other responsibilities is Chairman of Re-New Parr, one of the most deprived areas in the NW. He will be talking about local plans to make sure the Thompson Centre, a key local community resource, survives.

Paul Nowak – TUC National Officer for Voluntary & Community Organisations

The TUC has been playing a key role in coordinating information and anti-cuts campaigns and as well providing evidence about trade unionists' concern about the role of mutuals, competition and the privatisation of public services. Paul will explore ways that community campaigns and trade union fight backs can link up.

Vandna Gohil, Director – Voice4Change

Voice for Change has been playing a key role nationally about how the recession and in particular the Coalition's austerity measure have been affecting adversely and disproportionately the black and ethnic minority groups and communities across the country.

Penny Waterhouse and Melaina Barnes – NCIA

The National Coalition for Independent Action has been the key national organisation that has been at the forefront of campaigning for retaining a genuinely independent voice for the voluntary and community sectors. Penny and Melaina will talk about what resources help voluntary and community activity to be independent, whether it's for simple conviviality, culture, local support or political action.

