



South West Forum Annual Conference and AGM  
3rd and 4th November 2009  
Thistle Hotel, Cheltenham



# Value, Voice and Vision

Working **together** for a stronger South West social purpose sector

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*Working together for a stronger South West social purpose sector*

## Confirmed Speakers

**Sukhvinder Kaur-Stubbs**,  
Chair, Volunteering England

**Sir Harry Studholme**,  
Chair, South West RDA

**Simon Blake**,  
Chair, Compact Voice

**Peter Bungard**, Chief Executive,  
Gloucestershire County Council

## Features

As usual, we're offering a packed programme – along with the ever popular project visits, expect to be 'snapped' by a volunteer from the Snappers Photography project, catch up with colleagues from across the region, and take the plunge in the hotel pool and relax in the health and leisure club.

Dinner on Tuesday evening provides a great informal networking opportunity – and of course, there will be an exhibition area for your display stands.

The first session of this two-day event will incorporate Gloucestershire Compact event, so special rates apply for Gloucestershire VCOs and public sector partners.

# This conference will explore:

## Value

\* **Better together:** voluntary and public sector partnerships for delivery of public services mean better outcomes for local people.

\* **Access all areas:** better relationships with under-represented groups – challenges and possible solutions.

\* **A different offer:** what's special, or even unique, about voluntary action?

## Conference Outcome

**South West voluntary and community organisations are better equipped to influence the policies, strategies and organisations that affect their work and their beneficiaries.**

## Voice

\* **Including everyone:** what happens to those organisations that do not feel they have a voice – and where is the voice for volunteering and volunteers?

\* **All together now:** is a collective, representative voice for the sector really possible – or desirable?

\* **Independence and accountability:** how can we stick with our values in a competitive contract culture?

**South West Forum's vision** is for the South West to be a region with strong, independent voluntary and community organisations which:

- \* are equal partners in the development and delivery of policy;
- \* are leaders in meeting the social, economic and environmental needs of the region; and
- \* collaborate and co-operate to achieve their mission.

## Vision

\* **Staying afloat:** how are voluntary and community organisations preparing for the big public spending cuts ahead?

\* **Victims of our own success?** Is increasing 'professionalization' of the voluntary sector excluding grassroots organisations? Can volunteer-led organisations compete? Should they have to?

\* **Where next:** when will we be recognised as the First, not the Third, Sector?!

# Programme

## Tuesday 3rd November

- 2.30pm Conference welcome – *Hilary Watkins*, Chair, South West Forum
- 2.35 **Valuing the voluntary sector: the RDA perspective**  
**Sir Harry Studholme**, Chair, South West Regional Development Agency
- 3:00 Gloucestershire context: achievements and local case studies
- 3:30 **'Mind the Gap'**: presentation of Gloucestershire Assembly research
- 3:45 Exploring 'under-representation' - workshops
- 4:45 **Voluntary voice: why it matters**  
**Peter Bungard**, Chief Executive Gloucestershire County Council
- 5:15 Break
- 5.30 South West Forum AGM
- 7.00 Performance from local group and dinner

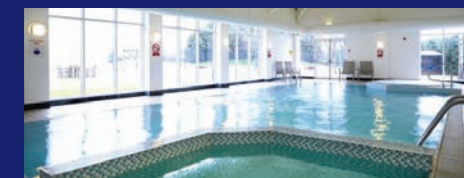
## Wednesday 4th November

- 9.30am Conference welcome – *Peter Kirkham*, Vice-Chair, South West Forum  
**A vision for volunteering**  
**Sukhvinder Kaur-Stubbs**, Chair, Volunteering England
- 11.00 **Bus trips to local projects** or on-site workshop alternatives
- 1.00pm Lunch, exhibits and networking
- 2.00 **Stronger together, weaker apart**  
**Simon Blake**, Chair, Compact Voice
- 2.15 **Formal debate**: "Commissioning public services from voluntary organisations is making them become arms of the state".
- 3.15 Value, Voice and Vision Awards
- 3.30 Conference close

## Venue accessibility and facilities

We strive to ensure our events are accessible to everyone so if you have any particular requirements, please tell us about them on the booking form.

If you'd prefer a room on the ground-floor room or need a room adapted for wheelchair users, please tick the box on the booking form. All ground floor bedrooms are accessed via two short sets of steps which are served by stair-lifts. Accessible parking spaces are available very near to the hotel entrance which has level access and automated doors. The car park has a barrier system operated from the car window – if this will cause you difficulty please tell us the time you expect to arrive. Cheltenham Thistle hotel is 1.5 miles from Cheltenham rail station – if you are interested in sharing a taxi, please tell us the arrival time of your train.



Cheltenham Thistle boasts excellent gym and swimming facilities which are available free of charge to all residents. Wireless internet access is available throughout the hotel but charges apply.

# Booking Details

Your name

Your organisation (and the network organisation which you belong to if your organisation is not a SWF member)

Address and postcode

Tel No  Email address

Any special dietary or access requirements

Do you require a ground floor room  wheelchair accessible room

I have completed the fees section below

I enclose a cheque for £ ..... Or invoice my organisation

Invoice address (if different from above)

Data Protection: We will only use the information you have given us for event administration purposes; this may include circulating your details to other participants at the same event. If this is not acceptable for any reason, please tick this box

**Booking**

Email to [marilyne@southwestforum.org.uk](mailto:marilyne@southwestforum.org.uk) or fax to 01392 823033 or post to South West Forum, Unit 6, Cranmere Court, Lustleigh Close, Matford Business Park, Exeter EX2 8PW

Terms and conditions of booking are available from [www.southwestforum.org.uk](http://www.southwestforum.org.uk) or on request – and a copy will be sent to you on receipt of your booking.

Please note that the latest date for cancellations without fee is 19th October 2009.

<b>CONFERENCE FEES</b> PLEASE TICK BOX AS APPROPRIATE	SWF MEMBERS*	NON-MEMBERS	DISCOUNTED RATE FOR LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**
Full 24 hour rate includes dinner and accommodation	£130 <input type="radio"/>	£180 <input type="radio"/>	£110/160 <input type="radio"/>
3rd November only (includes dinner)	£50 <input type="radio"/>	£80 <input type="radio"/>	£30/60 <input type="radio"/>
4th November only	£50 <input type="radio"/>	£80 <input type="radio"/>	n/a
Exhibition Space	£35 <input type="radio"/>	£75 <input type="radio"/>	n/a

\* SWF member rate is open to members of SWF Network members

\*\* Representatives of Gloucestershire organisations attending the Compact event will be eligible for the discounted rates for local organisations.



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