

Voice Project Training March – June 2010.

Skilling up for Stronger Voices.

The skilling up for stronger voices training program was developed by NAVCA to support and develop the skills and understanding of local third sector representatives in effective partnership working. It is best described in 3 themes;

- Partnership skills – such as joint working with different organisations, representing and feeding back to networks and groups.
- People skills – such as acting assertively, solving problems and supporting others.
- Practical skills – such as communicating well, using information and being organised.

Partnership Development Officers, are trained in and licensed to, deliver the ‘Skilling Up’ training to Voluntary and Community Groups in Dorset. The course is split into 5 half day units, which will be run as part of the DCA training program throughout 2010.

The units are designed for anyone whose work, or volunteering, involves them, being a voice for others, influencing decisions, building partnerships and promoting the voluntary and community sector.

Thursday 25th March, 11am–1pm. Durweston Village Hall, (as part of DCA Networking day.)

Local Democracy and Partnerships

Brief overview of local council structures, outlining the role of the Dorset Strategic Partnership and opportunities to engage with it. Introduction to Local Area Agreements and exploring how to have a positive influence within this framework.

**Tuesday 20th April, 10 am – 1pm. Dorset Advocacy
Roles and Responsibilities of Representatives**

Exploring the role and key responsibilities of representatives within a local context. Considering the strengths and weaknesses of local representation.

Friday 21st May, 10 am – 1pm. Upwey Old School Village Hall

Skills for Influence

Exploring the practical and people skills and related behaviours, that can be used to overcome potential blocks to influencing others.

Friday 18th June, 10am – 1pm Wimborne, CLaRC, Borough Room

Skills for Partnership

Exploring the motivation between different types of engagement, participative and representative. The session will look at levels of engagement, identify expectations and plan for improved participation in partnership working.