

## CVABV Report to SENACT Meeting July 8 2010

In March we started cooperation with Amanda Peacock, Community and Learning Manager for Blyth Sure Start area, and Hana Wincop, Health Trainer with Northumberland Care Trust. At the beginning of April CVA Blyth Valley, proposed meetings for mothers with children within the sure start programme to encourage and support greater use and understanding of Sure start services.



We were advertising the event on the Polish website, press, also advertised in Ashington College and Blyth College. The meeting was held in Blyth 26/04/2010 West Children's Centre. At the meeting there came a few mothers with children. Unfortunately, the number of people attending started low. Following that meeting was born a few ideas: where we can still advertise. Leaflet was created, which was delivered to a dozen points in Blyth (Hospital, Library, shops, etc). At present, the meeting comes about 20 people, different nationalities, meetings are held on Monday afternoons initially for 7 weeks, then we will have the holiday break and start again in September.

. We made also contact Anne Lyst from CAB. The CAB have extended their services to the migrant community in Northumberland as part of the Migration Matters programme and we are working to ensure this is successful in our area.

We started cooperation with Police. In April, we had a meeting Police with the Polish Community, which has improved the understanding of how police services work and how they can contact police when required

We have worked with Northumberland College with their ESOL group in Blyth to encourage new ways to improve language. The group have been doing a 'proggy mat' project and have now had visit from the Tellers of Tales creative writing group and they will continue to work together, we are also making links with the local photography group, which will also help with language skills and understanding cultures.

On 02/06/2010, we organised a certificated Health and Safety training course for taxi drivers in the area which included:

- Manual handling,
- Carrying and lifting,
- Lone working,
- Regulations
- First Aid.



We took 33 bookings for taxi drivers. Training took place in two sessions' morning and afternoon preceding the lunch. Unfortunately the training was only attended by 15 drivers. These were people from England, Poland and Lithuania. The majority of those who had booked and attended were the migrant workers.



The training was successful we have partnered with several taxi companies, from across the North East

I have been helping with ICCQ to translating a document to ask polish people if they use libraries in area, why they do not use libraries, what would help them to use libraries more.

We are looking at new opportunities for informal ESOL learning which would encourage new people to attend, we hope to achieve other monies to develop new opportunities.

I have been meeting with Thom at CVABV to decide on what activities we can be developing during the remaining time of my contract.

Mariusz