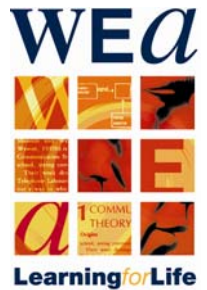


WEA WEST MIDLANDS PRESS RELEASE 19/08/09

WEA EMPOWERING LOCAL PEOPLE



The educational charity WEA has recently been awarded £500,000 by the Government's Communities and Local Government (CLG) department from its Community Empowerment Fund.

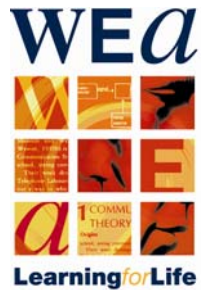
The aim of the fund is to provide grants to third sector organisations that deliver on the themes set out in last year's white paper - Communities in control: real people, real power. The funding will support the WEA's three year Learning for Community Involvement (LfCI) project (2009-2012) which focuses on a key theme of the white paper - empowering local people.

The grant will enable the design and delivery of community based adult education programmes that will help people learn ways in which they can become involved in their local community and provide some of the necessary skills, knowledge and confidence to become active citizens.

The project will be coordinated by WEA West Midlands Region but activities will be happening across all of the WEA's English Regions. The key project outcomes will be the design and delivery of cross regional community empowerment programmes and activities to promote community development. This will enable WEA to contribute more effectively to the empowerment agenda.

Howard Croft, Project Coordinator comments: "As a provider of community based adult education developed through partnership working, the WEA is well placed to help people identify information and networks and develop the confidence and skills that can enthuse and underpin greater social and civic action. We look forward to delivering this for CLG".

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For further information about the project or other courses that WEA provides please contact the WEA on 0121 237 8120 or visit our website www.wea.org.uk
“END”

Notes to the Editor

Summary of WEA

The Workers' Educational Association (WEA) www.wea.org.uk is a national adult educational charity and operates at local, regional and national levels. Nine Regions in England, a Scottish Association and over 450 local Branches make up the WEA's National Association.

Through these local and regional centres, today's WEA now runs over 10,000 courses each year, providing learning for more than 110,000 adults of all ages and drawn from all walks of life.

The West Midlands Region www.westmidlands.wea.org.uk enrolls 10,000 students a year on a wide range of free or affordable community educational courses across the West Midlands.

WEA West Midlands' Contact Details:

Workers' Educational Association

West Midlands Region

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Tel: 0121 237 8120

Email: westmidlands@wea.org.uk

Registered charity number: 1112775.

Company limited by guarantee in England and Wales no: 2806910. Registered office:
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