



NATIONAL VOLUNTEERING DATABASE (NVD) ADVISORY GROUP

Terms of Reference

Introduction

do-it.org.uk, the National Volunteering Database (NVD) is owned and managed by YouthNet UK. Launched in 2000 by Tony Blair, do it is supported by the Office of the Third Sector, as part of the Government's active community strategy, to make information about volunteering as accessible as possible. YouthNet's considerable experience in building online databases placed it in an ideal position to develop this initiative. Although YouthNet's primary focus is 16-24 year olds, the database is intended for people and volunteers of all ages.

The NVD is currently published via www.do-it.org.uk. Over the past 7 years since it's inception, the NVD has acquired over 800,000 opportunities for volunteering (representing some 800,000 actual vacancies), available in 21,000 local and national organisations, posted via around 370 local Volunteer Centres and more than 100 regional and national charities, public sector, youth and sporting agencies. www.do-it.org.uk website is currently used by 50,000 unique users every month and has over 200,000 registered volunteers.

The Future

Aims

YouthNet is committed to ensuring that do it, the National Volunteering Database develops as an accountable public service, which both increases the number of volunteers throughout the UK and provides an effective resource and recruitment tool for volunteer involving organisations, being free to the general public.

YouthNet aims to utilise the vast potential of new and emerging technologies to make information on the NVD as widely accessible to the general public as possible.

In order for it to achieve this, YouthNet requires the support of representatives from the volunteer involving sector, media and government and has established a national Advisory Group for this purpose.

Terms of Reference

The NVD Advisory Group has been established to assist YouthNet's Board of Trustees, Chief Executive and Officers in the overall development of the National Volunteering Database and specifically in the aim of engaging volunteer involving organisations in maximising the outcomes of the project, and ensuring that the NVD is accountable and relevant as a public service, both for the volunteer-involving sector and the general public.

In the context of the strategic direction, business plans and work programmes of YouthNet UK, the NVD Advisory Group will be asked to advise on:

- The strategic development priorities for the development of do-it, the National Volunteering Database with particular regards to issues of diversity, quality, functionality and currency of the database.
- The development of content, partnerships and marketing activity
- Accessing networks for collaboration, support and potential funding sources and advising on distribution and wider promotion of the database.
- Developing the role, remit and profile of the NVD, with advisory group members taking on an ambassadorial role where appropriate

Terms of reference to be amended as and when necessary and reviewed at least annually.

Membership

It is suggested that membership of the Advisory Group is broken down as follows:

- YouthNet (Chair)
- Volunteering England (key partner) x 2 (*Regional and Local Development, Sports Development*)
- Media x 2 - *TimeBank and 1 – tbc*
- Office of the Third Sector (strategic funding partner) x 1
- National volunteer involving organisations x 2 – *currently Red Cross and Age Concern*
- Volunteer Centres x 2 – *currently Westminster and Hull*
- Corporate x 2 (*tbc*)
- Public sector x 2 (*both tbc*)
- Voluntary Sector IT x 2 – *Alpha Omega, CTT*
- *Health and Social Care* x 1 (*tbc*)
- *Yong peoples volunteering* x 1 – *v*
- *Sport* x 1 – (*tbc*)

Total of 18 members.

Members are asked in principal to commit to 2 years after which they can stand down or continue as appropriate. Membership will be reviewed annually.

Meetings

It is envisaged that meetings will take place 3 times a year and will last for approximately 2.5 hours. This situation will be reviewed annually.

JT 05/01 Revised LB 11/02 Revised LB 3/04 Revised FD 3/05 Revised LB 11/07