

## MAKING RIGHTS REAL

A national conference for voluntary and community organisations working to tackle inequality and promote human rights

Thursday 15 November 2007, ICC, Birmingham

Speakers confirmed include:

**Barbara Follett MP** – *Parliamentary Under Secretary of State, Department for Work and Pensions*

**Patrick Diamond** – *Head of Strategy, Equality and Human Rights Commission*

**Sarah Spencer** – *Chair, Equality and Diversity Forum*

**Dinah Cox** – *CEO of Race on the Agenda and Chair of the London Change Up Equalities and Human Rights Group*

2007 is European Year of Equal Opportunities for All. The European Commission, UK Government and the new Equality and Human Rights Commission are discussing and consulting on:

- **Rights** – how can we raise awareness of the right to equality and non discrimination?
- **Representation** – how can we increase the participation of under represented groups in society?
- **Recognition** – celebrating and accommodating diversity
- **Respect** – promoting a more cohesive society

The voluntary and community sector (VCS) plays a key role in all these areas so the Government Equalities Office and the new Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) have joined forces and working with the Equality and Diversity Forum and the British Institute of Human Rights have arranged this dedicated event for VCS organisations to:

- Increase awareness and understanding of key equality and human rights frameworks and developments in the UK
- Discuss the current and future role of VCS and those people and communities it works with and represents, in 'making rights real'
- Identify existing best practice and make recommendations on how to improve the way that inequality and discrimination are tackled in law, policy and practice.

This event is funded through the European Year of Equal Opportunities for All so there is no conference fee for participating organisations. A full programme and booking form will be issued shortly – to request these or for other enquiries please email:

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