

### Annual Review 2010/11

















## Join us: the benefits of membership

Clinks is a membership organisation and our greatest strength lies in our members, who shape our work. To find out about all the benefits of Clinks membership visit: www.clinks.org/join-clinks

My thanks to Clinks for promoting subsidised places to the recent conference. I'd like to wholeheartedly endorse this idea to enable smaller organisations to keep up to date in this way. A small gesture, but one that made a big difference to us at Red Kite Learning.

CLINKS SECURED COMPLIMENTARY CONFERENCE PLACES FOR SOME OF OUR SMALLEST MEMBERS, WHO WOULDN'T OTHERWISE HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ATTEND.

> 7 CONFERENCES 13 FREE PLACES £2,800 SAVED

Brendan Tarring, Chief Executive, Red Kite Learning



#### The key benefits of joining Clinks

- O Up to 20% discount on training, events and publications
- Advice, support and free access to GRANTnet
- Free marketing opportunities to a network of over 7,000 contacts
- O Influence policy and decision makers through consultations
- Stay informed and up-to-date with a weekly e-bulletin and regular briefings
- Shape Clinks' future strategy and development

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Live updates of news and resources from Clinks and those working within criminal justice, with over 1,000 followers. | @Clinks\_Tweets

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About Clinks Clinks supports the Voluntary and Community Sector working with offenders in Digiteral and Wates. Our aim is to ensure the Sector and all hose with whom it works, are informed and engaged in order to



**www.clinks.org** is a huge resource of information for anyone working in the VCS in criminal justice.



#### Join us: the benefits of membership

Become part of Clinks. Find out about the key benefits of Clinks membership.



#### Introduction

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Clinks' Chair Dame Anne Owers and Director Clive Martin review 2011, examine issues for the Voluntary and Community Sector and discuss Clinks' work.



**Supporting local practitioners** See how Clinks works at a local level and uses this insight to inform, influence and represent members at a national level. **Valuing diversity** 

Find out how Clinks ensures it represents a wide range of organisations, communities and interests.



Changing government agendas amid a recession provide opportunities and challenges.



Clinks informs and influences national policy makers about issues affecting the Voluntary and Community Sector.



Clinks enables its members to respond formally to new policies through consultations, round tables and surveys.





**Partnerships** Working in partnership enables Clinks to expand its reach and services.

the lives of offenders and ex-offenders.



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**Our members** 20 Our diverse membership – innovative and dynamic organisations that make a significant impact on

#### **Our vision**

Clinks' vision is of a vibrant and independent Voluntary and Community Sector working with informed and engaged communities to enable the rehabilitation of offenders for the benefit of society.

#### **Our mission**

Clinks supports, represents and campaigns for the Voluntary and Community Sector working with offenders. Clinks aims to ensure the Sector and all those with whom they work, are informed and engaged in order to transform the lives of offenders.

In this climate, it is all the more important to stay focused on the needs of offenders and the challenges they will face ... It is vital that the Sector's distinctive characteristics – its independence, responsiveness and capacity to innovate – are not lost. Anne Owers DBE | Chair, Clinks





This has been a challenging year – not just for Clinks members, but for the wider Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) and the prison and probation services. The combination of diminishing resources and increasing demand has placed a huge strain on both the VCS and the statutory sector. Front-loaded local authority cuts have had an immediate impact, particularly on small, localised, niche providers. Surveys in Spring and Autumn show the VCS is facing redundancies, decreasing resources and increasing demand.

At national level, the combination of large-scale contracting and back-loaded Payment by Results has excluded many VCS organisations or confined them to the role of sub-contractors, operating under a private sector prime provider. These challenges – and the risks they pose to a sector that is already more fragile – were recognised in *Competition, Commissioning and the* VCS, a report produced by the Reducing Reoffending Advisory Group (RR3), which Clinks convenes.

Meanwhile, the promised 'rehabilitation revolution' – designed to spring money from prisons by reducing the use of short sentences – has faltered in the wake of political opposition and the aftermath of the riots. Prison numbers have shot up to over 88,000, yet there is still a requirement to make substantial savings, which could mean a reduction in services within prisons and a further reduction in probation budgets.

There are also opportunities. The localism agenda has a lot of resonance for a Sector whose roots are local and clientled – though it is unclear how this fits with a centrally-driven National Offender Management Service or the elected Police and Crime Commissioners. The growing interest in restorative justice, pioneered within the Sector, could provide new openings. The focus on desistance – why and how people stop offending – emphasises the need for social capital and 'soft' outcomes that lead to personal change. Both require inputs from outside the correctional services and play to the existing strengths of the VCS. However, these are potential and prospective, not actual and cashable.

In the immediate future many organisations will struggle to survive and others will face difficult choices between delivering sub-optimal services or none at all. In this climate, it is all the more important to stay focused on the needs of offenders and the challenges they will face in accessing services as provision reduces, employment opportunities shrink and the pressure grows to 'cherrypick' those most likely to produce results. It is vital that the Sector's distinctive characteristics – its independence, responsiveness and capacity to innovate – are not lost.

In this environment, Clinks' role becomes even more important. On the one hand, with over 350 members, it is well placed to monitor and publicise the challenges the VCS faces and ensure that these are communicated to government, commissioners and the public. On the other, it can help to equip the Sector to face those challenges: providing information, strengthening networks and promoting opportunities. Both are likely to be much needed in the months ahead.

Anne Owers DBE | Chair

We have a Sector which is creative, indefatigable and absolutely determined to continue its valuable work ... It is our challenge to ensure that the Sector moves back to more solid ground where it can thrive, and continue to cultivate healthy, safe and harmonious communities. Clive Martin | Director, Clinks





In our annual review last year, I talked about 'opportunities and challenges'. Since then, arguably, little significant has changed for the VCS overall. Apprehension about the future has increased, but we continue to wait to see how the landscape evolves. In the meantime we see diminishing resources and increased demand.

Anne has outlined the key issues above. I want to give you an overview of how Clinks is seeking to assist the Sector in making the most of the current situation.

Contracts and Payment by Results are having an increasing impact on the Sector. Clinks has published *Competition, commissioning, and the VCS* (see page 12), which highlights the complexity of this territory. Its findings have led us to explore how we can further support organisations to make informed decisions which benefit the Sector and service users. We continue to voice concern about Payment by Results, while simultaneously seeking ways to make it work.

Clinks remains committed to promoting a diverse Sector. Following on from our well received reports on rehabilitation for Black, Asian and Minority Ethic (BAME) offenders, we are now working with BTEG (Black Training and Enterprise Group) to establish a national network of BAME organisations working with offenders (see page 6). We are also working with both Women's Breakout and the Women's Resource Centre to highlight the different needs of women offenders and those that work with them.

Clinks has been monitoring the impact of the economic downturn. The most recent results indicate that the majority of the Sector has avoided the cliff edge which loomed at the end of the financial year in 2011, but many are still perilously close. It is deeply worrying that 77% of respondents are relying on reserves to run (see page 9), which is symptomatic of a slow but steady erosion of the Sector\*. Coupled with continued uncertainty about new opportunities, the Sector is under considerable strain. In the face of all this, I continue to be impressed and inspired by the commitment, resilience and determination of those in the Sector.

We are extremely grateful to all our funders, who have offered continued support through challenging times.

We all know these are tough times, which are likely to continue so for some time. We have a Sector which is creative, indefatigable and absolutely determined to continue its valuable work. But we also know all things have a breaking point. It is our challenge to ensure that the Sector moves back to more solid ground where it can thrive, and continue to cultivate healthy, safe and harmonious communities.

#### **Clive Martin** | Director

\* For full report of the findings see: www.clinks.org/publications/ecodownturn

# Supporting local practitioners

Clinks' local work allows an exchange of information with organisations working in our communities. We capture the experiences of frontline practitioners to help us share good practice, evaluate how national policy impacts at a local level, and ensure we are well informed in order to campaign for the Sector.



#### Local VCS development team

Clinks' local work enables us to understand the main issues for our members in a specific geographic area. The Government's drive to devolved local decision-making is introducing greater local variation, making this work more important than ever.

It is therefore timely that we have secured funding for two new development officers in 2011. In addition to our established South West team, we are delighted to have a member of staff in both London and Greater Manchester. We are already developing links with members, and working with them to identify and understand the key issues in those localities, including support for the VCS in Payment by Results pilots and the introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners.

The South West team has developed extensive direct contact with our members and other stakeholders. This has enabled them to support the Sector in a variety of ways, including fostering better joint working between the VCS, prisons, probation and police services. They have developed partnerships with local umbrella organisations in order to better support the VCS working with offenders.

Our local development staff bring us closer to more members, providing intelligence to inform the work Clinks does.

> Sarah Anderson of Revolving Doors Agency, at our Spring Conference.





We have been able to focus on working alongside local infrastructure such as Councils for Voluntary Service to take a lead on providing voice, capacity building and networking opportunities for the VCS working with offenders and their families.

#### Strengthening the role of the VCS locally

Between November 2010 and April 2011, Clinks worked to strengthen the role of the VCS in Integrated Offender Management (IOM) in four pilot areas: Bournemouth, Dorset & Poole; Croydon; Gloucestershire; and Leeds.

In each area, Clinks supported locally-inspired, VCS-led initiatives that achieved innovative VCS involvement in IOM arrangements. This work was was positively evaluated by the Hallam Centre for Community Justice at Sheffield Hallam University. The project clearly showed that the VCS can have a role at the strategic level in local IOM arrangements and that, where they do, this role adds real value. **Sally Pickering**, Chief Executive at GAVCA, explains the value of the project:

"The Clinks IOM project has made a significant difference to partnership working in Gloucestershire. The experience for practitioners of working so closely and intensely together gave colleagues in the Probation and Police Services first-hand experience of the enthusiasm, flexibility and pace at which the VCS works, which they found inspiring and motivating for their own work.

"Specifically, volunteer managers within Gloucestershire Constabulary and the Probation Trust established links with VCS service providers and GAVCA's Volunteering Services, which will enable them to further develop their use of volunteers in the future. Work to develop the Gloucestershire VCS market has resulted in increased and improved information about local services available to IOM case managers.

"At a strategic level, the Commissioning Framework that was developed through the project is now being hailed by the county's Stronger, Safer Justice Commission (GSSJC) as the way forward for commissioning services to reduce reoffending in the future.

"The difference made to IOM service users was demonstrated at a conference held in October 2011. This included input from members of Voice 4 Change, a service user group established during the project. The benefit to individual members of the group included giving public presentations, moving into paid employment and facilitating workshops, which they would never have dreamed of doing months earlier. But the group has also really influenced the development of IOM services, helping practitioners to recognise how best to meet the needs of their service users through extensive research, culminating in a report which was presented to the IOM Board.

"Service users have also benefited from new initiatives that were established during the project: two social enterprises providing work opportunities for IOM offenders, and a family-focussed support package. One of the social enterprises was so successful that the service user nominated to speak about his experience at the conference couldn't attend because of a contract that the new business had taken on.

"Clinks' support was invaluable to GAVCA, the consortium lead. Clinks brokered all the grant requirements with the Home Office, leaving GAVCA free to get on with the practicalities of delivering the project. As a supportive and encouraging friend in the background, Clinks also helped all partners to survive the demanding pace of this short project and its support since the project ended, in helping the consortium to share what it had learned and build on what was started, has been greatly appreciated."

### Valuing diversity

The VCS is diverse and wide-ranging, supporting some of the most marginalised individuals in our society. In the past year we have undertaken research into the resettlement services available to Black, Asian and Minority Ethnic (BAME) prisoners, as well as working closely with the youth and women's sectors.



#### Equality and diversity, up close

Published in December 2010, *Double Trouble* found that in order to access resettlement services BAME offenders need to be personally resilient, and that there are key points at which interventions make a crucial difference. It demonstrated that those interventions need to be culturally sensitive and reflect the individual's ethnicity.

The follow up research to *Double Trouble* resulted in two further publications. *Lessons of Resettlement* included in depth interviews with 15 ex-prisoners about their backgrounds, history of involvement in the Criminal Justice System, and the process of resettling after release from prison.

The second report, *Stories of Resettlement*, presented detailed stories of five men and women who have spent time in prison and are in the process of 'resettling' into life outside. The five were from different backgrounds and at different stages of the resettlement process, but all stated their clear desire to lead productive lives and to stay away from offending in the future.

The five study participants spoke about their experiences, with a great deal of insight and openness. As a result, the stories presented in the report convey the complexities and challenges of resettlement.

A third report, *Family Engagement in the Resettlement Process*, was undertaken to understand the impact of imprisonment on the families of BAME offenders.

This report, based on interviews with 28 families from different backgrounds, examined their understanding of resettlement. It concluded that the involvement of families will materialise through better integrated support for families from prison and probation services. The final report was a case study of the Beyond Prison service, run by Southside Partnership, which presented their role in greater depth. This case study described how the project assists in the resettlement process of BAME offenders.

These reports can be downloaded from our website at: www.clinks.org/publications

#### Young people

During 2011 we developed a new partnership with National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (NCVYS) in order to combine our knowledge and networks, and develop greater expertise in youth justice.

We are doing this through existing networks and our own online discussion forum. We have held discussion forums in London and Leeds to start a dialogue on the current situation in the Youth Justice System. Clinks and NCVYS have used these forums to identify the priority issues for those working with young offenders and are now exploring ways to support the Sector with these.

To get involved in these forums, join the Youth Justice group at www.clinks.ning.com.





In the first half of 2012, we will be working with VCS organisations to conduct rigorous assessments of the work of their volunteers - work that we hope will produce learning that can be shared with the Sector more widely.

#### Volunteers

Clinks' Volunteering Guides provide advice and examples of good practice to assist VCS organisations who involve volunteers in their work. We are currently carrying out a survey to gather feedback on the Guides and how useful they have been, as well as developing new ones in the series, on topics including peer-to-peer services.

In May 2011, Clinks' Volunteering and Mentoring Network looked at valuing volunteering. Volunteering England has developed a Volunteering Impact Assessment Toolkit (VIAT) which Clinks has been adapting for use by VCS organisations working with offenders. In the first half of 2012, we will be working with VCS organisations to conduct rigorous assessments of the work of their volunteers – work that we hope will produce learning that can be shared with the Sector more widely.

The project is currently identifying partners, and will conduct impact assessments in early 2012.



### **Sector challenges**

The greatest challenge facing the Sector is how to finance our work during a time of austerity. Clinks is seeking to support the Sector to realise the opportunities which are available, and to be realistic about the future.



#### Championing sustainability

Clinks' Sustainable Work with Offenders Project (SWOP) supports the sustainability of VCS organisations working with offenders during this time of change and austerity. It does this in three ways:

#### **1. Consultancy support**

Providing consultancy for small-to-medium sized VCS organisations to address their sustainability, including: improving fundraising; testing new income generation models; bidding for tenders; down-sizing and outsourcing; collaboration and exploring new opportunities or directions. Support is delivered by specialists through face-to-face work.

#### 2. Sustainable funding road shows

Clinks ran a series of five road-shows around the country to highlight new opportunities and issues for the Sector. Events have been held in London, Birmingham, Preston, Exeter and Tyneside. These provided a mixture of key note presentations, workshops and one-to-one surgeries from Sector experts, researchers and NOMS commissioning managers – all of which will support the Sector's resilience in these challenging times.

### 3. Supporting the Sector to respond to emerging issues

Clinks is carrying out more targeted work where we see VCS organisations that work with offenders struggling with a specific issue or opportunity. For example, we have facilitated a round table exploring the issues of the VCS sub-contracting and are now developing support for the Sector in this area. Our strategic planning day was excellent. We now have a clear set of strategic actions to undertake that will address our situation. Paul Taylor, Archdeacon of Sherborne, Chair of Footprints

#### **Footprints** | www.footprintsproject.co.uk

The Footprints project, in Dorchester, mentors men and women who are leaving prison or serving a sentence in the communities of Dorset, Bournemouth, Poole, and South Somerset.

They applied to the Clinks SWOP scheme as they needed to develop strategies to respond to cuts in funding. Clinks linked the Footprints project with an experienced local consultant, who helped the organisation analyse their situation. She then facilitated a strategic planning day with trustees and senior staff, which produced an action plan for sustainability. Two staff also attended a training day led by the consultant to help improve bid writing.

Paul Taylor, Chair of Footprints project, commented on Clinks' support: "It helped us clarify the key issues facing us and develop a set of realistic short and longer term actions. The consultant's critique of our situation was masterful. She also engendered a positive, 'can do' mentality and therefore was encouraging, enthusing and energising. Our strategic planning day was excellent, well worth while and should be repeated next year. We now have a clear set of strategic actions to undertake that will address our situation."





#### **Economic Downturn survey**

#### **85 organisations responded**

- **85%** have been affected by the economic downturn
- **279** staff have been made redundant between April and September 2011
- **90%** are having to spend more time fundraising
- **77%** have had to use their reserves to compensate for a decrease in income
- 82% anticipate using reserves imminently
- **68%** receive statutory funding
- **84%** have seen an increase in the number of people accessing their services.

For the full report go to www.clinks.org/ publications/reports/eco-downturn.





Two Clinks reports examining the impact of the economic downturn are available at: www.clinks.org/publications/ reports/eco-downturn

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### Informing

We represent the VCS to influential policy and decision makers. We promote the Sector's achievements, and seek to work with stakeholders to identify solutions to challenges.



#### Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Group

The Reducing Reoffending Third Sector Advisory Group (RR3) aims to strengthen and build the effectiveness of the partnership between the MoJ and the VCS. The RR3 is a direct mechanism for informing policy makers about the innovation and creativity that exists within the VCS, as well as the challenges that organisations face.

Following a major review of RR3 in 2011, the Group is now administered by Clinks and chaired by our Director, Clive Martin. RR3 meets quarterly and includes 15 VCS members as well as senior officials from the MoJ and NOMS.

The group convenes Task & Finish Groups to examine key policy themes in depth. Task & Finish Groups are facilitated by Clinks and informed by consultations with our members. The RR3 co-opts experts from the Sector to produce a report on each policy theme, culminating in a proposed action plan and list of recommendations for MoJ and NOMS to take forward.

The first Task & Finish report – *Competition, Commissioning* and the VCS – aimed to ensure that VCS organisations can fully participate in the changing landscape on a fair basis. It explored key issues including new commissioning structures and the importance of involving the Sector and service users; the increasingly competitive market for offender services; and prime and sub-contractor relationships within Payment by Results.

The report also called for desistance research to inform commissioning. Delegates from the RR3 presented the finalised report to Crispin Blunt, the Minister of Prisons and Probation, and the MoJ has committed to taking a number of the Group's recommendations forward. Clinks disseminated the findings more widely at a round table with Clinks members in December 2011 and stimulated further debate through a range of facilitated workshops.

The newly developed Task & Finish cycle has created a vehicle for more co-ordinated policy positions, representing a diverse range of viewpoints. The recommendations of the RR3 are designed to proactively shape future strategic direction, thereby strengthening the voice and influence of the Sector from the earliest stages of policy development.

Find out more about RR3 at: www.clinks.org/policy-campaigning/rr3





FUTURE CJS Policy

#### **Consultation on Breaking the Cycle**

Clinks ran seven consultation events at the beginning of 2011 to explore the proposals put forward in the Ministry of Justice's *Breaking the Cycle* Green Paper. Over 350 delegates attended the events.

"This has been a great opportunity to hear everyone's views and have our voice heard. We do such good work and need to be creative."

Delegate

Consulting a wide range of practitioners made our response both representative

and comprehensive. We supported the ambitions to reduce the prison population by reserving custodial sentencing to those offenders that present a risk of harm to the public. We saw a significant role for the VCS in supporting the Government to achieve this aim and to effect a significant reduction in reoffending.

Disappointingly, the Government's response to the Green Paper consultation marked a retreat from some of the more radical proposals outlined in the Green Paper. Being a member of Clinks enables us to engage with important policy issues for our corner of the Voluntary Sector. It means we have access to information, and good practice, which has been developed by real people working in projects across the country. Andy Keen-Downs, Pact

Developing service user involvement

Clinks undertook a review of service user involvement across prisons and probation trusts. The reports promote the view that playing an active role in the community and taking on a measure of responsibility can assist in the offenders in their journey away from crime.

The review focused on dialoguebased approaches such as service user groups, prison councils and diversity representatives. It highlights innovative practice and the benefits of service user involvement for improving services and empowering service users. The researchers also identified barriers to meaningful participation, which gave rise to a number of recommendations for improving provision.

Despite perceptions that VCS organisations could be excellent partners in facilitating service user involvement, the VCS seemed to be a largely untapped resource in this regard. The review has therefore helped Clinks to identify where further research and improved networking may be required.

As a result of this work, NOMS released a tender early in 2012 for VCS organisations to take forward the recommendations in our report.



### Influencing

Clinks is well positioned to respond to evolving and proposed government policies. We convene meetings, forums, and consultations to ensure we understand the implications for the VCS. Key issues are raised with policy and decision makers, and we work with all concerned to seek solutions.



#### **Stimulating discussion**

At the beginning of 2011 we published a number of discussion papers on the new policies and agendas emerging from the newly-formed coalition government. The discussion papers aimed to inform the Sector and stimulate debate on issues arising. Titles included:

- A changing landscape: police reform and local commissioning
- Criminal justice outsourcing: what is the potential role of the VCS?
- A new focus on measuring outcomes: where do we start
- Payment by Results: what does it mean for voluntary organisations working with offenders?
- Localising justice: how can we increase local VCS involvement in service design and delivery?
- Big Society: constraints and potentials.

#### **Formal responses**

Our formal responses in 2011 included:

- Clinks' written evidence on the new landscape of policing
- MoJ strategy for the secure estate for children and young people in England and Wales
- MoJ's response to the *Breaking the Cycle* consultation and the *Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Bill*
- Breaking the Cycle Green Paper.

To see a full list, please go to: www.clinks/publications

#### Helping to shape the response

It is important that Clinks maintains a thorough understanding of the impact of the economic downturn and the Government's austerity measures on the VCS working with offenders. To this end, we carry out regular surveys of the VCS. In addition, at the start of 2011 we ran a series of six consultation events and five round tables.

We also asked 18 Voluntary and Community Sector providers to record fortnightly journals of their experiences at the start of 2011. This included experiences of working in partnership with the statutory sector such as Community Safety Partnerships, local authorities and police. A journal writer describes the experience opposite.

The VCS is facing an extremely challenging environment, which for many organisations combines increased demand on services, spending more time fundraising and networking, changes in staff and low staff morale. Underlying all of this is the deep concern that it is the beneficiaries of their services who are going to suffer most – and this will impact on society generally in the future.

When the Dust Settles draws together the findings from all our research and makes a number of recommendations to protect the most vulnerable.

For a full report of the journals and the economic downturn survey, go to: www.clinks/publication/reports/ecodownturn

#### **Safer Future Communities**

Safer Future Communities supports the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector involved in community safety to adapt to the new landscape, including preparing for the new Police and Crime Commissioners and other key partners and commissioners with which the Sector needs to develop relationships. In particular, we want to encourage the involvement of organisations working to address:

- Crime and reoffending
- Anti-social behaviour
- Substance misuse
- Violence against women and girls
- Youth crime
- Diversity.

The project is co-ordinated by Clinks and run in partnership with Women's Resource Centre, Drugscope, National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (working with their partner, the Council for Wales of Voluntary Youth Services), National Association of Voluntary and Community Action and Wales Council for Voluntary Action.





The very act of keeping the journal allowed me to maintain some perspective and to identify Eco-Actif's strengths as well as build the support we needed into our Transition Fund application. Anna Burke, Eco-Actif CIC

Straight from the journal | Anna Burke, Managing Director, Eco-Actif CIC | www.ecoactifservicescic.co.uk

"This piece of work started with a survey and continued with a series of four reflective journals over a crucial eight week period from December 2010. We had the opportunity of looking at how the emerging changes affected us as an organisation, the actions we needed to take and the support we needed to move forward. The format was brief and easy to follow, but allowed for analysis of issues. In addition, we met several times to pool experiences and discuss our findings.

"For me, as the managing director of a small social enterprise working mainly in the criminal justice sector, this was a fascinating – and occasionally terrifying – experience. The journal entries coincided with a very bruising time for Eco-Actif, due to a 70% reduction in funding and the closing of our branch in Lambeth. I had not undertaken a reflective journal of this kind since my teacher training many moons ago and I found the discipline of setting down my thoughts highly constructive. Looking back on the journals, I can see that I veered widely between hope and despair. Nonetheless, the very act of keeping the journal allowed me to maintain some perspective and to identify Eco-Actif's strengths as well as build the support we needed into our Transition Fund application. In addition, the networking events provided a valuable opportunity to share experiences, ideas and good practice.

"In all, I feel that the process itself increased my own confidence and that of my colleagues and helped us to weather the storm. Our Transition Fund application was successful and we are using the funding to capacity build our organisation. We're not quite out of the woods yet but we are recouping our position – we have secured an end-to-end Work Programme contract in partnership with 3SC and we have a number of exciting initiatives in the pipeline. We are also now ready for Payment by Results contracts and welcome the opportunities that this will bring us in the future.

"I am very happy to have been involved in such an innovative piece of research which has helped us to identify how we can continue to support our clients to turn their lives around."

### **Partnerships**

Working in partnership enables Clinks to expand its reach and services by sharing knowledge and expertise with other organisations. The list opposite gives an indication of the wide range of partners with whom we work.



#### **Arts Alliance**

Clinks continues to co-ordinate the Arts Alliance, a network of almost 300 arts organisations working in all areas of criminal justice across England and Wales.

Over the course of 2011 membership of the Alliance has risen from 200 up to almost 300, including Geese Theatre and Changing Tunes, the National Gallery and the British Museum, as well as dozens of freelance artists.

#### **Representing the sector**

The Arts Alliance represents the arts sector in regular cross-departmental meetings with government. We sit on the Arts Forum, which brings together civil servants from the Ministry of Justice; Department of Culture, Media and Sport; the Department of Business, Innovation and Skills; the Youth Justice Board and the Home Office to discuss issues affecting arts organisations which work in the Criminal Justice Sector. We provide a clear, unified voice for the Sector.

#### **Proving our worth**

One of the key themes of our work this year has been proving the effectiveness of the arts. In April, working together with the Charities Evaluation Service, we produced 'Demonstrating the value of the arts in criminal justice', a guide to help smaller organisations get to grips with monitoring and evaluation. In October, we held the second Anne Peaker debate, which was on the subject of how to value the arts. The debate focussed on the findings of a report by New Philanthropy Capital which calculated the financial savings from the reduction in crime, reduced criminal justice costs, and the increased employment of ex-offenders following an arts-based intervention.

The Arts Alliance is funded by the Ministry of Justice, Arts Council England and the Monument Trust.

www.artsalliance.org.uk



Well managed, inclusive partnerships offer a win-win-win situation for the service user, the commissioner and the organisations involved. Vivienne Hayes, Women's Resource Centre

#### Women's Resource Centre | Vivienne Hayes, WRC

"Women's Resource Centre (WRC) promotes and supports partnerships as well as leading and participating in them. Women only services and spaces are under threat, as is the survival of the Women's Voluntary and Community Sector. We see partnerships as one way to secure the future of the diversity of the VCS, which is crucial if we are to meet the needs of individuals and communities in a way which has real impact and supports social change for all. Well managed, inclusive partnerships offer a win-win-win situation for the service user, the commissioner and the organisations involved.

"Over the last few years, WRC has worked in partnership with Clinks on a number of pieces of work involving organisations working with women offenders. This partnership combines Clinks' expertise of the VCS working with offenders and that of WRC on the women's sector. By combining our expertise and networks, we can explore the issues and ensure that we provide the best support to those working with women offenders.

Last year we worked with Clinks to explore how the women's sector working on violence against women and girls was being affected by the Coalition Government's agenda and the economic downturn – information which we used both to influence government, but also to inform the work that WRC and Clinks do to support their sectors. This year, we are pleased to partner Clinks on the Safer Future Communities Project, which will support the VCS to engage with Police and Crime Commissioners and other commissioners and strategic partners."

#### In 2011, our strategic partners included...

- Locality
- Women's Breakout
- Women's Resource Centre
- NAVCA
- BTEG
- NCVYS

- Drugscope
- Victim Support
- Mind
- Volunteering England
- Mentoring & Befriending
   Foundation
- Homeless Link
- 3SC
- New Philanthropy Capital
- Charities Evaluation Services
- CWVYS
- WCVA

Basing the Arts Alliance at Clinks brings a huge amount of expertise and knowledge to our network. Clinks has an unrivalled position in the Sector, and their ability to access key people has been enormously beneficial to the Alliance. Tim Robertson, Chair, Arts Alliance





#### Clinks staff...

Hazel Alcraft | Database & Events Administrator Kate Aldous | Communications & Partnership Manager Louise Clark | South West VCS Development Officer Nathan Dick | Localism Team Leader Laura Foreman | Administrator (joined 27.10.11) Lesley Frazer | Policy Manager Joe Gardham | Communications Co-ordinator Clare Hayes | Policy Officer Ben Jarman | Policy Intern – Volunteering (joined 10.10.11) Laura Lavery | South West VCS Development Officer Clive Martin | Director Stephen Nash | Arts Alliance Manager (joined 01.08.11) **Richard Nicholls | Programme Manager** Katie O'Donoghue | Policy Intern (joined 10.10.11) Anne Taiwo | Finance Manager (joined 04.07.11) Jilly Vickers | Localism Development Officer - London (joined 08.08.11)

#### Retired

Bill Frost | Finance Manager (retired 02.06.11) Malcolm Thomson | VCS Engagement Manager (retired 30.09.11)

#### **Management Committee**

Paul Cavadino Julian Corner Robert Fulton | Treasurer Lucy Gampell OBE | Acting Chair (28.01.10 to 20.01.11) Lystra Hagley-Dickinson (resigned 17.03.11) Norma Hoyte Peter Kilgarriff Anne Owers DBE | Chair (from 20.01.11) Steve Rawlins Timothy Robertson

#### Officers

Acting Chair (28.01.10 to 20.01.11) | Lucy Gampell OBE Chair (from 20.01.11) | Anne Owers DBE Treasurer | Robert Fulton Company Secretary and Director | Clive Martin

#### Volunteers

Clinks would like to thank our volunteers – Sue, Michelle and Sharron Webb – for their hard work, dedication and contribution to Clinks.

#### **Professional advisors**

Auditors | JWPCreers LLP, Chartered Accountants, York Bank | CAF Bank Ltd, West Malling / HSBC, York / Scottish Widows, Edinburgh

#### Name and registered office

Clinks is a registered charity no. 1074546 and a company limited by guarantee, registered in England no. 3562176. Registered office | 59 Carter Lane, London EC4V 5AQ Tel | 020 7248 3538 E-mail | info@clinks.org Web | www.clinks.org

#### **Governing document**

Clinks is a company limited by guarantee and a registered charity governed by its Articles of Association.

#### **Financial information**

A summarised version of our accounts for the year to 31 March 2011 is shown on pages 19. A full set of audited accounts is available from our registered office.

#### Thanks to our funders in 2010-11...

- LankellyChase Foundation
- The European Commission
- The Tudor Trust
- Monument Trust
- Home Office
- Arts Council England
- Barrow Cadbury Trust
- Ministry of Justice
- Department for Communities
   and Local Government
- NOMS South West

| Unrestricted Funds<br>£ |  | 2011 Total<br>£   | 2010 Total<br>£  |
|-------------------------|--|---|--|
|                         |  |   |  |
|                         |  |   |  |
| 35,000                  | -  | 35,000  | 65,000   |
| 50,552                  | -  | 50,552  | 8,190  |
| 15,789                  | -  | 15,789  | 586  |
| 164,769                 | 2,068,710  | 2,233,479   | 870,238  |
| 266,110                 | 2,068,710  | 2,334,820   | 944,014  |
|                         |  |   |  |
| 76,909                  | 1,843,661  | 1,920,570   | 901,970  |
| 7,713                   | 646  | 8,359   | 9,506  |
| 84,622                  | 1,844,307  | 1,928,929   | 911,476  |
| 181,488                 | 224,403  | 405,891   | 32,538   |
| -                       | -  | -   | -  |
| 181,488                 | 224,403  | 405,891   | 32,538   |
| 208,664                 | 180,052  | 388,716   | 356,178  |
| 390,152                 | 404,455  | 794,607   | 388,716  |
|                         | £ 35,000 50,552 15,789 164,769 266,110 76,909 7,713 84,622 181,488 - 181,488 208,664 | 35,000       -         50,552       -         15,789       -         164,769       2,068,710         266,110       2,068,710         266,110       2,068,710         76,909       1,843,661         77,713       646         84,622       1,844,307         181,488       224,403         -       -         181,488       224,403         208,664       180,052 | £££35,000-35,000-50,552-50,552-15,789-164,7692,068,710266,1102,068,710266,1102,068,71076,9091,843,6611,920,5707,71364684,6221,844,3071,928,929181,488224,403405,891181,488224,403208,664180,052388,716 |

#### **Auditor's statement**

In our opinion the summary financial statement is consistent with the full annual accounts of Clinks for the year ended 31 March 2011. JWPCreers LLP | Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2011

#### **Statement of the trustees**

The Summarised Financial Statements are not the full statutory accounts, but are an extract thereof, containing a summary of information relating to the Statement of Financial Activities. The full statutory accounts have been audited and received an unqualified report from the auditors, JWPCreers LLP. They were approved by the Trustees on 11 October 2011 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and Companies House. A copy of the full statutory accounts, auditors report, and trustees' annual report can be obtained from our registered office.

Robert Fulton | Treasurer

CLINKS MEMBERS (A S OF OCTOBER 2011) 1923 INDEPENDENT FEOPLE. 2ND CHANGE FROMESTICS. 9 PLUS EMPLOYMENT LIMIT FOR ALTON PROSENCE AND SUPPORT LIMITED ADDRM ADULLAM HOMES NOUSING ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON PROSENCE ADD SUPPORT LIMITED ADDRM ADULLAM HOMES NOUSING ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON PROSENCE ADD SUPPORT LIMITED ADDRM ADULLAM HOMES NOUSING ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON PROSENCE ADD SUPPORT LIMITED ADDRM ADULLAM HOMES NOUSING ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON SUBJECT ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON SUBJECT ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT CLINK) FOR ALTON SUBJECT ASSOCIATION (LTD ADURACULUMERT) F

### **CLiNKS**

59 Carter Lane • London • EC4V 5AQ 020 7248 3538 • info@clinks.org www.clinks.org

