

VETTING & BARRING SCHEME

OCTOBER 2009

FREE INFORMATION SESSIONS

The new Vetting & Barring Scheme, established under the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups legislation, will be fully operational from 12 October 2009.

In order to prepare employers, organisations, regulatory bodies and workers to undertake their responsibilities and requirements under the new scheme, the Department of Health, Social Services and Public Safety has commissioned the Volunteer Development Agency to deliver a series of Information Sessions between October 2008 and October 2009. There is capacity for up to 80 participants at each session, **so book early to avoid disappointment.** Most sessions will run from 9.30am to 1.00pm, with the exception of the Sport and Faith information sessions (in Miscellaneous Groupings) which will run from 6.00pm to 9.30pm. Details of sectors and locations are listed below, along with booking instructions.

Please identify all staff in your organisation who need to be informed of these changes and forward this letter to them. Please feel free to share it with any agency or organisation you feel might benefit from participation.

Sessions will be tailored to the needs of the following sectors:

- Health Sector
- Education Sector
- Voluntary and Community Sectors
- Miscellaneous Groupings

Health, Education and Voluntary/Community Sectors sessions will be held in **each** of the following locations:

- Belfast
- Newry
- L'Derry
- Coleraine
- Cookstown
- Craigavon
- Fermanagh

Miscellaneous Groupings – only one session of each will be held:

- Housing - Belfast
- Sport - Belfast
- Local Government - Antrim
- Transport - Belfast
- Faith communities - Belfast

In order to secure a place at one of these sessions, please follow the booking instructions below:

Booking

Please ensure that you identify the sector and location that is most suitable to your needs. In order to book a place online please follow the links below:

www.volunteering-ni.org

Under the heading ‘What we do’ click on ‘Child Protection’

Click on ‘Vetting & Barring Scheme Information Sessions’

Follow booking instructions.

If you do not have access to the internet, or have any difficulty with the online booking system, please contact:

Julie-Ann Ashe on 028 9081 8316 or

julie-ann@volunteering-ni.org