**North East VCS Equalities Coalition**

**Provider Proposal Form for Expressions of Interest in delivering the Coalition for Action on Diversity and Equality (CADE) Project**

**Purpose and Scope:**

This document is an opportunity for the North East VCS Equalities Coalition to evaluate your organisation’s interest in and ability to contribute to the delivery of the CADE project as a sub contracted provider using funds supplied by One NorthEast. Please aim to root your estimates in evidence or experience.

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| **Organisation Name** | LBi Women North East |
| **Address including Postcode** | 3rd Floor  11 Nelson Street  Newcastle  NE1 5AN  Jud Hindess |
| **Name of Contact** |
| **Telephone & Fax Numbers** | 0191 277 2045 |
| **Email** | lbinortheast@freeuk.com |
| **How long has your organisation been in existence?** | 4 yrs – 3 yrs under VONNE Management; 1 yr as independent organisation |
| **Does your organisation publish audited annual accounts? If so please attach** | Previous year’s accounts are part of VONNE annual accounts |
| **Please list the members of the partnership that you are applying on behalf of** | **MESMAC North East**  A regional organisation that works with gay and bisexual men to increase the range of choices open to them around wide-ranging issues. It has office bases in Newcastle (Phone: 0191 233 1333) and Middlesbrough (Phone: 01642 804400), or email all@mesmacnortheast.com. MESMAC services are free to clients, confidential and include one-to-one support and counselling, information and advice via telephone, social and support groups, sexual health advice and free condoms and lube. They also work in partnership with other agencies on a range of activities to assist in developing and improving access to services and opportunities for people from lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) communities and with other service providers in any subject area who are aiming to offer more inclusive services to LGBT people.  **Hart Gables**  Hart Gables is a registered charity in Hartlepool that offers support to lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Hartlepool and the surrounding areas.  We run 3 support groups for women, young people and a mixed group.  We also offer counselling and a telephone helpline service.  **Middlesbrough LBi Women’s Network**  The Lesbian and Bisexual Women’s Network is part of Middlesbrough Community Network at Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency. The LBWN supports the development of community groups for lesbian and bisexual women, including facilitating access to resources and funding, coordinating and publicising events, a regular monthly drop-in and a website at www.lbwn.co.uk. The LBWN provides training to service providers to raise awareness of the needs of lesbian and bisexual women and promote this communities needs within services. The LBWN also works with agencies to develop specific services for LBi women in Middlesbrough.  **NEOLN**  The Aims of NEOLN are, in the interests of social welfare,  a) to provide an organisation for older lesbians in order to decrease social isolation and to counter the effects of discrimination and oppression often experienced by them  b) to encourage mutual care, support, friendship and activities designed to improve their quality of life."  **NEWCASTLE LESBIAN LINE**  The Newcastle Lesbian Line is a Voluntary Organisation run by volunteers and provides a telephone and Internet based service providing, advice, information and support for lesbians, bisexual women, and women questioning their sexuality, living in the North East. Since August 2005, we have been running a free lesbian counselling service that provides support on a range of issues, not just those concerned with sexuality.  The ‘Line’ also runs a “meet and greet” service, enabling women who do not have the confidence to go to a social group alone, or who do not have any friends that are aware of their sexuality. This offers an opportunity for them to gain the confidence and create their first networks of support within the lesbian community  ..Our service is often the first North East port of call for many women in the North East who have newly self identified as lesbian or bisexual who are questioning their sexuality and those who may have decided, for may reasons, that they want to renew or access the local Lesbian network.  We recognise that we need to provide a service for those lesbians, bisexual women, and women questioning their sexuality who are socially isolated, especially those coming out late in life, who are often married, or those from poorer socio-economic backgrounds, those isolated because if where they live and those experiencing multiple discrimination.  Chair of Management committee: Frankie Williams- Senior Lecturer Sunderland University Community and Youth January 2007    **Fourth Action - Northumberland LBi Network**  Fourth Action promotes equality and diversity with communities, and has supported the LGBT network through fund-raising and facilitation. Current work includes the coordination of the Northumberland LBi Network, and work for the Northumberland Care Trust on promoting equality for lesbians and bisexual women.  MET Ltd.  **Management and Equality Training Ltd**. is a social enterprise. We are a training and research consultancy for the development of Organisations and Communities.  We are an international team of 11 core members, all with specialist areas of work but with an equalities perspective.  We have a particular expertise around equality issues, capacity building, and empowering interventions on an organisation or individual level.  We work with organisations to research and develop ways of ensuring that their service provision is seamless, inclusive and attractive to all sectors of the community they serve. Training and Research is designed and delivered specifically to fit the needs of the Organisation |
| **Please describe your organisation’s track record in delivering capacity building or training within the VCS, and include any experience your organisation has in delivering programmes for statutory agencies** | We coordinated a Regional LGBT newsletter and web-site  The worker supported LBi projects across the Region through events, one-to-one support and project development.  We ran networking events bringing together groups to share practice and strengthen the identity of the LBi Communities.  The LBi project, through VONNE its original parent body, managed a Change Up grant to help develop the LGBT Network’s capacity during 2005-6. This programme included the funding of an LGBT Research group, a website and newsletter, and seminar activity.  The project commissioned research into the needs and interests of LBi women across the region, and also covering the project’s potential support role, both to LBi groups and to public sector agencies. The project has been commissioned by Northumberland Care Trust to support development work with LBi women. |
| **Please describe your organisation’s involvement in promoting equality and diversity** | The worker served on the BECON management committee and made valuable contributions to the policies of the organisation  The worker was an active member of the NE VCS Equalities Coalition.  The project is involved with the Networking for Change initiative.  LBi NE has played a significant role influencing and promoting equality and diversity, Steering Group members have represented the LBi community @ the LGBT Policy Research group, |
| **Legal Status including Charity/Company Number** | Company Limited by Guarantee |
| **Please indicate when you could delivery after 1 Feb 2007** | Immediately on receipt of contract |

**Proposal:**

(Please Fill in Your Response Below)

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| **Request for Detail** | **Response** |
| **1. What would you be interested in delivering?** | Development of LGBT Strand through a programme of consultations, culminating in a regional conference in April. This will include separate and joint space for L,G,B and T communities and have a planning group involving each of the partners in this proposal.  The conference will generate an action plan to inform the next phase of the initiative. |
| **2. What delivery methods would you use?** | Consultation, dialogue, communicating via web-site and newsletter  Regional LGBT Conference to assess progress to date and develop an action plan for the next phase of work |
| **3. How would you achieve a region-wide spread?** | Our partners are located across the Region which gives us a headstart for building on existing links  We will ensure that region-wide spread is a priority in all of our activities |
| **3. If your proposal includes training delivery, will the training be accredited?** | There will be many learning opportunities but we do not plan at this stage for accredited training |
| **4. Predicted Outcomes (eg: numbers of participants and their who are likely to complete / achieve a part qualification** | The various elements within the strand will have a better understanding of each other’s strengths and needs  We will have developed an infrastructure to support coordinated work  We will design and develop a Regional Conference to produce an agreed action plan for the next phase of work for the strand |
| **5. Please outline your proposal’s milestones for delivery.** | Month 1 Wide promotion of the development work for each element in the strand  Month 2 Each element will be supported to host a consultation meeting  Month 3 Steering Group with representatives from each element will meet to plan regional workshop  Month 4 Regional Workshop  Month 5 Draft Action Plan |
| **6. Please indicate (a) Total cost of programme or training to be offered & (b) cost per beneficiary** | Newsletter  Web-site  Meetings  Regional Workshop  Admin support  £15000 |
| **7. Can you meet LSC Health & Safety Requirements?**  **If yes, please supply additional information how this is policy is implemented and also a copy of the policy. If no, how would you approach meeting the requirements?** | Yes. Managed and implemented by the Directors |
| **8. Do you have an Equality & Diversity Policy? Y/N?**  **If yes, please supply additional information how this policy is implemented and also a copy of the policy. If no, please explain how you would approach meeting this requirement?** | Yes. Managed and implemented by the Directors |
| **9. Do you hold any Quality Standards Y/N?**  **If yes, please state standard(s), how this relates to your organisation’s activity, and last review date. If no, please state how you will work towards relevant standards.** | No |
| **10. Please state what risks are attached to the delivery of your proposal and what steps you may take to minimise risk?** | Risk 1. There are so many different needs that it may be difficult to stay focused on the bigger picture  We will ensure that these needs are not lost, we will carryout a range of participatory appraisal exercises throughout the course of the programme. Findings can then be used to inform future priorities.  Risk 2. The North East Region has such poor transport links it could create barriers for meetings-We will host sessions in a range of venues to maximise participation. |
| **11. Any other supporting Information relevant to this proposal?** |  |

Please return this form by Monday 15th January 2007 to Regional Youth Work Unit via e-mail: [ivan@rywu.org.uk](mailto:ivan@rywu.org.uk) or post to RYWU, Design Works, Felling, Gateshead Tyne & Wear NE …or fax …