



# Community Linking Project 2008 Clarkwell & Limeside

## 1.0 Background

1.1 Clarkwell Community Partnership Group (CCPG) is a young voluntary group, which audiences mainly come from the Bangladeshi community (over 90%). Avenues & Hollins Tenants and Residents Association which audiences mainly from the Indigenousness community (over 90%). The two groups met through philosophical project coordinated by Contour Homes and First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO).

1.2 As a result of community exchange visits by the two voluntary organisations it was decided to involve the younger generations from the two communities. In order to achieve this goal, a bid was submitted by CCPG to Respect Our Community Award (ROCA) and was successful.

## 2.0 Event at Castleshaw Centre – 5<sup>th</sup> August 2008

2.1 The project was made possible with the involvement of Castleshaw Centre staff and their valuable practical resources. The day involved:

- Cultural Awareness
- Team building
- Respect
- Problem Solving in Teams
- Overcoming Challenge (high wall climbing)
- Light Exercise
- Orienteering
- Socialising

2.2 The two organisations had link officers who helped to coordinate the event, FCHO – Sayful Alam and Contour Homes – Shanine Meadowcroft. Each officer worked closely with the two groups to recruit participants for the project with all necessary parental consent.

## 3.0 Fitting the criteria of ROCA

3.1 Through the involvement of the two groups, the neighbouring communities are now aware and through media coverage wider communities of Oldham know about the project.



3.2 Delivery of the project by FCHO, Contour Homes and Castleshaw Centre has increased participation to bring the two neighbourhoods together by making friendship link.

3.3 The project has increased confidence amongst young people and awareness of each other's cultural differences.

3.4 The project successfully delivered friendship link amongst different communities.

#### 4.0 Making a Difference

4.1 The project has raised awareness and broken down cultural barriers by participation and respect.

4.2 The Linking Project has brought the two separate communities together and is helping create respect amongst the young people which can be carried back to the community they live thus resulting in positive attitude to their peer and others and creating respect in Oldham.

#### 5.0 Finance

5.1 Total expenditure for the project was: £662.05 this included, transport, Tutors fees, food and venue hire.

#### 6.0 Conclusion

6.1 The project is part of on going link between Clarkwell and Limeside with its aim to bring together two communities usually separated by race and cultural differences.

6.2 The event, which took place at Castleshaw centre, shows that with right resource and partnership work applied to a community project of this nature can result in Community Cohesion.

6.3 The two organisations with support of FCHO and Contour Homes hopes to deliver many projects with its aim to bring diverse communities together.

6.4 Due to the success of the project delivered with support of ROCA, we believe that this initiative needs to be analysed and look at setting up a scheme for the Borough of Oldham.

