

# RICHMOND PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE REPORT

CHANGE, CHALLENGE, CHOICE

7 JULY 2017, TWICKENHAM STADIUM



“The business, voluntary and the community sectors are in one place and are all learning from each other”

## TWITTER ANALYTICS

#BusinessinRichmond

Estimated reach (accounts) **41,393**

Impressions **172,668**

**14** mentions of @LBRuT

**Key contributors:** Haymarket media, Jeremy Nicholas, Bay Area start up, RCVS, Open TRV, Colin Cooper, Tambo travel, TCMBarnes.



“Very nice atmosphere. I really liked the host who added some personality to the event”.

## CONFERENCE FEEDBACK

An electronic conference evaluation form was sent to every delegate. 22 delegates completed the survey and 5 provided additional comments.

	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Requires Improvement (RI)
1. How useful were the presentations?	3	16	3	0
2. How did you find the workshops?	6	11	5	0
3. Assess usefulness and relevance of market place	2	10	7	3
4. Overall conference experience?	7	14	3	1



## HEADLINE OUTCOMES OF RICHMOND PARTNERSHIP CONFERENCE

### Workspaces

- The workshop highlighted a need for affordable office space in the borough. It would be beneficial to have business, voluntary and community sectors located together and learning from each other.
- The conference findings on workspace and shared opportunities across sectors mirror outcomes raised in a Voluntary Sector Forum in May 2017.
- As an outcome from the conference, a business plan is in development exploring the creation of a website which could allow organisations to share their spare space and facilities to start-up companies, lone workers or voluntary and community groups.

### Digital

- The digital workshop discussions included issues around the usefulness of data, how to effectively use digital technologies, and digital skills (ensuring employees and residents are equipped with relevant digital skills).
- Richmond Council, working alongside other SW London boroughs, have been looking at digital skills needs to match business requirements.
- As a result of the conference, the Council is considering what other digital events should be held in the borough over the next year.

### Apprenticeship Levy

- This workshop provided attendees with information on how companies with a salary bill of over £3 million can use the levy and what this means to everyone else.
- Stigma still exists around apprenticeships which needs to be addressed.
- Since the conference, the Council has started working with other SW London boroughs to see if a regional approach can be taken to develop apprenticeship opportunities, particularly within the field of health and social care.

### Health & Wellbeing in the workplace

- The Council's Sports Development and Public Health teams, with London Sports Partnership, outlined the existing physical activity and sports offers available for businesses to promote to their workforce.
- Produced borough wide physical activity information sheet for all partners to access.
- Richmond Partnership members to encourage their workforce to have a work-life balance including physical activity.

### Collaborative Working across partnerships

- The workshop encouraged businesses and voluntary sector groups to honestly discuss ways in which they can support or contribute to each other's needs and objectives.
- Facilitated introductions between the Council's Economic Development Team and Richmond Council for Voluntary Service (RCVS).
- A business/community networking event, 'Planning for a Business,' has been proposed.
- RCVS is building links with the business community, including Richmond BID, to develop opportunities within the voluntary sector, such as skills sharing.
- Encourage businesses to allow staff to do voluntary work for one day per year and to use RCVS to connect with the voluntary sector.

### Skills

- Several issues regarding skills were discussed, including the need for more training, demand for care workers, developing contracts that the demand for care workers and employers, and addressing skills training for different generations.
- Life-long learning opportunities will be looked into to meet the needs and demands of mature students.
- Partners will consider how best to skill residents to meet their personal and businesses needs, ensuring training is offered at different levels.