

Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 37 SEPTEMBER 2009

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<http://www.wssen.org.uk>

This bulletin is brought to you by the West Sussex Social Enterprise Steering Group and is sponsored by West Sussex County Council. The Steering Group includes organisations interested in social enterprise: Business Link; Action in Rural Sussex; ICIS; Voluntary Organisations Liaison Group; Brighton University; Councils for Voluntary Service in the county and West Sussex County Council.

If you know of information, services or events that would be helpful to emerging or existing social enterprises in West Sussex, or organisations considering developing a social business activity, please let ICIS know (details on page 4) and we will promote them to the sector.

Contact your local Social Enterprise Advisors for support:

Barbara Beaton (Action in rural Sussex – AirS)

Phone: 01424 893698 or email: barbara.beaton@ruralsussex.org.uk

Mark Habibi (West Sussex Voluntary Organisations Liaison Group - VOLG)

Mobile: 07833 906592 or email: mark.habibi@volg.org.uk

Contents: [Social enterprise developments](#) : [Events and training](#) : [Business support and resources](#) : [Sources of funding](#) : [Publications](#) : [To go on the mailing list](#)

Social enterprise developments and opportunities

An opportunity for sponsored specialist business support

Funding support of between £500 and £2,500 is on offer to social enterprises in the South East who need to access specialist support in order to progress their business development. The funding has been made available by the Government's Office for the Third Sector and is being run by Business Link South East in partnership with Social Enterprise South East (se2 partnership) - of which WSSSEN is a member. Social enterprises who wish to find out more should contact

Business Link: 0845 600 9006 and speak to a Business Link Adviser (local contacts: Nigel Jeffrey and Noz Islam), or download the documents from: www.wssen.org.uk

New ambassadors website launched

The Social Enterprise Ambassadors website has lots of new features and ways to interact with some of the most inspirational social entrepreneurs in the country. Read their biographies, browse latest news and blog posts, and view the new campaigns page; plus images and videos of ambassadors working within their social enterprises and at events. Visit: www.socialenterpriseambassadors.org.uk/

Company Law changes from 1st October 2009

From 1st October a number of company law changes will impact on charitable companies, trading subsidiaries owned by charities and community interest companies. This includes forms from Companies House, new filing requirements and changes around company constitutions. Bates Wells and Braithwaite solicitors have produced a summary of changes. View the summary at: www.bwbllp.com/Updates/Detail.aspx?UpdateID=243&Location=1&ID=0

Social Enterprise Day 2009 Photography Competition

19th November is Social Enterprise Day. This competition is intended to show that social enterprise is more than just 'business as usual'. The search is on for photographs that show how social enterprise is using business to make positive change. For details visit <http://tiny.cc/Y7EuH>

Community Investment Tax Relief (CITR)

The CITR aims to encourage individual and corporate investors to invest in specialist financial intermediaries known as Community Development Finance Institutions (CDFIs) that in turn invest in for-profit SMEs, social enterprises and community projects that operate in disadvantaged communities. In return for making a debt or equity investment in an accredited CDFI, an investor may obtain tax relief certificates against their income tax or corporation tax liability at a rate of 5% of the amount of investment for five years. For more information contact: Jonathan Marshall, Department for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR) Phone: 020 7215 6318, email: citr@berr.gsi.gov.uk or visit: www.cdfa.org.uk

Events and training opportunities

Strengthen and Improve your Trustee Board 12th October, London

A well-functioning board is vital to organisations. This conference will include workshops for those new to trusteeship as well as more advanced topics such as membership issues, governing in a downturn and reviewing governance. Covers: the latest thinking on governance

and leadership; advice and information on governance issues, legal and policy updates; and an opportunity to network with other organisations. To book phone: 020 7520 2511 or visit: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/trusteeconference09.

The following three courses are run by Company Solutions; each costs £59 and can be booked online at: www.companysolutions.biz or by phone: 01388 517703

Fundraising Planning and Strategy

13th October, 9.30am-12.30pm, Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, Brighton

Gives a range of techniques and tools to help you develop your fundraising planning and strategy. It is suitable for everyone wanting help putting fundraising plans and strategy together, and covers: Assessing current fundraising plans; Analysing relative strengths and weaknesses; Developing effective research; Building a visionary case for support; Balancing strategic long-term priorities; Achieving total organisational buy-in; Making it all happen! and Ongoing review and change.

Sustainable Fundraising Development

13th October, 1.30pm-4.30pm, Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, Brighton

Designed to help you develop long-term sustainable income sources. Covers: What makes fundraising sustainable; Developing sustainable income sources; Encouraging your supporters to buy into sustainable fundraising; Using this independent sustainable income to increase funds from more temporary sources.

Creative Development of Funding Bids and Trust Applications

14th October, 1.30pm-4.30pm, Friends Meeting House, Ship Street, Brighton

Gives a range of techniques and tools to help develop the written part of funding bids and trust applications. Suitable for people wanting to improve their bids to potential funders, and covers: Improving your funding bids; Making every application come alive; Increasing your skills to get a positive response; Learning creative improvement techniques to use with every bid; Avoiding common mistakes; and Making the most of your organisation and its needs.

Pragmatic Planning – How to develop an achievable and fundable strategic plan 18th November, London

Addresses the challenge of preparing deliverable strategic plans where resources are tight, options are limited and there are competing demands. The day will help teams to create plans which are practical, achievable and credible to funders. You will look at key elements in a strategic plan and the interrelation with fundraising strategy. It will also explain how to: engage your board, staff and funders in the planning process; develop an inspiring vision; identify new strategic options; ensure the process affects what people do; measure progress and outcomes; and adapt the plan to accommodate the unexpected. To book phone: 020 8642 4122 or e-mail: dsenior@actionplanning.co.uk

**How to apply for EU funding – 2 day training course
13th-14th October, or 29th-30th October (provisional dates), Chichester**

West Sussex County Council's Europe office is working with the European Training Centre in Brussels to organise this two day training course which covers: how to apply for European Union funding; which funding streams match your project idea; how to write a good proposal; and how to manage your project budget. Course fee £500 per delegate. For more details email europa-office@westsussex.gov.uk

**Race and the Recession – Be part of the solution
27th October, 10am-4pm, London**

Conference examining the impact of the recession on BME third sector organisations and the communities they work with. It will look at how BME third sector organisations are important in tackling deprivation during the recession and will consider how their role can be supported in meeting the needs of a diverse society. Fee: £60 - £150. To book phone 020 7843 6113/6130, or visit www.voice4change-england.co.uk

**Good Deals 2009 – National Social Investment Conference
29th October, British Library, London**

Conference from National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts and the Office of the Third Sector bringing together inspiring social entrepreneurs with innovative investors to get good deals done. For a programme visit: www.good-dealsuk.com, email: conference@socialenterprisemag.co.uk or phone: 020 8533 8890

**Business
Support and
Resources**

Clarifying how The Compact relates to Procurement Law

The Commission for the Compact has published 'The Compact and Procurement Law: a guide to frequently asked questions', which clarifies how the financial relationships between public sector and third sector organisations are governed by both Procurement Law and the principles of the Compact. To download visit:

http://www.thecompact.org.uk/files/139878/FileName/compactandprocurementlaw_webversion.pdf

Funding body revamps online

Futurebuilders England (FBE) has launched its improved website, with a new Resources section featuring videos and audio as well as written material. Visit: www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk.

Clustering to deliver public services

i-Social Entrepreneurs (iSE), with support from the Office of the Third Sector, has developed a workbook 'Building your cluster' to help organisations to cluster, collaborate, partner, build consortia and work together to deliver public sector contracts. Read it at: www.i-se.co.uk/course/view.php?id=13

Building the strength of community-led organisations

The government's new Communitybuilders programme is designed to strengthen the resilience of multi-purpose community-led organisations through a mixture of financial and advisory support. It will offer loans, grants and mentoring support. For more details visit www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk

Example annual report for international aid charities

The Charity Commission has published more practical guidance to help charity trustees draw up their annual report and accounts, incorporating the new requirement to report on public benefit, this time for those working in international aid and development. Download at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/publicbenefit/pbreport.asp

Company charities' audit frequently asked questions

A Question and Answer pack on issues most frequently raised with the Charity Commission on 'Audit and examination of company charities' has been produced by the Charity Commission, which includes audit exemption under the Companies Act, the audit or independent examination of company charities and the audit of group accounts prepared by company charities. Visit: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportingcharities/auditqanda.asp

Basic legal advice by web and email

This new web-based system provides brief legal information on straightforward legal queries, to assist not for profit organisations and individuals who cannot afford to pay for solicitors privately. Initial Electronic Advice is run by LawWorks in partnership with advice agencies and voluntary sector umbrella bodies. Visit www.lawworksiea.org.uk

SE100 social enterprise online tool

The RBS SE100 index, run by Social Enterprise magazine, is an online tool that charts social enterprises' growth and social impact reporting. It monitors the growth of key players and emerging markets, discover rising stars and explore how effectively organisations measure social impact. For more details visit: www.se100.co.uk

Sources of funding

Community Small Grants 2009/10 – open to applications

Crawley Borough Council scheme which aims to support local voluntary and community activity with grants of £50-£1000. For more details visit www.crawley.gov.uk or contact Craig Downs on 01293 438763, email: craig.downs@crawley.gov.uk

Publications

Looking out: a practical guide to planning for a changing environment

£20 (NCVO members £14)

Whatever plans you make, changes that happen in the external environment will always influence your organisation, including shrinking sources of funding, changing government policies, shifting social attitudes or new technologies. This workbook offers practical knowledge, checklists and exercises. To order visit: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/lookingout

Tools for tomorrow: a practical guide to strategic planning for voluntary organisations **£35 (NCVO members £24.50)**

Gives a complete set of practical tools to simplify and structure your planning process. Combines exercises, case studies and worksheets. To order visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/tools



To go on the mailing list

If you wish to be added to the emailing list or provide copy for a future bulletin, contact Gemma at ICIS on 01903 859928, email: admin@icis-info4life.org.uk

As a West Sussex information provider ICIS links with social enterprise, funding and training and other support for groups and services. ICIS is a social enterprise and works with statutory, voluntary and independent organisations and facilitates access to information supporting independence, health and wellbeing for all in the county.

35 Worthing Road, East Preston, West Sussex BN16 1BQ. Phone: 01903 859929.

Email: admin@icis-info4life.org.uk Website: www.icis-info4life.org.uk