

Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 42 February 2010

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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:

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Social enterprise developments and opportunities

£500m jobs fund called for in social entrepreneurship manifesto

A £500m jobs fund for social entrepreneurs is one of five big asks being called for by a group of sector leaders. The Social Entrepreneurship Policy Group has published a manifesto calling for the government to create something similar to the Future Jobs Fund. The group said the fund should be focused on enterprise, apprenticeships, employability skills and sustainable employment. Visit: www.socialenterpriselive.com

Social Enterprise Mark

Social enterprises are working to make a difference across the UK and beyond, but not enough people know what they are or how they work. Social enterprises are encouraged to visit the site to find out how they might apply to receive the new identifier. www.socialenterprisemark.org.uk

Social Enterprise Business Support Programme

This programme comprises work managed by the Social Enterprise Coalition in two existing projects: the Capacitybuilders funded National Knowledge Management Programme and the Big Lottery (BASIS) funded Improving Social Enterprise Expansion (I-SEE) Programme. Both projects aim to improve business support in the third sector. The Coalition will unite the projects into the Social Enterprise Business Support Programme. Visit: www.socialenterprise.org.uk/pages/seke.html

Local Community Buildings to be transformed through Government grants

96 Charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises will receive over £2.27m in grants to improve vital facilities they provide for their communities. The grants, worth up to £30,000 each, are part of the Capital Investment Programme delivered by Capacitybuilders. They support small scale improvements to resource centres. For details visit:

Beacon Prize

This is an annual award scheme to showcase exceptional contributions to charitable and social causes in the UK. Nominations are accepted from charities, voluntary and community organisations and the public in categories including community builder, young philanthropist, effective giving, and new initiatives. One overall winner will receive a prize of £30,000 to give to the charitable cause/s of their choice. Deadline for nominations is **16th April**. For more information visit www.beaconfellowship.org.uk

Working together for independent living

The Office of the Third Sector has gathered examples of effective partnership working from the Supporting People Programme to see what worked best, what has been learned so far, and where the opportunities are now in supporting independent living for the most excluded. Read the report 'Case studies of Local Authorities and third sector organisations working together to help vulnerable groups into homes and jobs' at:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/news/news_stories/10-01-25-supporting-people-case-studies.aspx

Social Enterprise Ambassadors

The programme has launched its first mentoring competition, offering exclusive access to all 28 ambassador's offices, insights and experience as prizes. Entrants must explain in 150 words why they think they should win the session with the ambassador of their choice. The competition runs until 31st March 2010. Visit: www.socialenterpriseambassadors.org.uk/competition

Are you a refugee who wants to make a difference?

RISE (Refugee Initiative for Social Entrepreneurs) is looking for refugees to apply to UnLtd's RISE Awards Programme. They are looking for refugees with ideas that address a social problem, make a difference in their community, provide an opportunity to learn new skills, or be a new initiative. Deadline for applications is **21st March**. For more details contact Maryam Pasha at RISE, Tel: 0207 566 1136, or email: rise@unltd.org.uk

Events and training opportunities

Self Directed Support (SDS) and Commissioning Support Event 2nd March, 9am-4.35pm, Lodge Hill, Pulborough

Free event looking at commissioning and partnership working, social impact measurement and outcomes based commissioning, self directed support process and practice, finance management including full cost recovery, business planning and marketing your services. The event is supported by West Sussex Councils for Voluntary Service, VOLG and AirS. For more details and a booking form visit: www.wssen.org.uk

Business Advice for Women

4th March or 10th March, Worthing

Business Link are offering free help and advice for women from BME communities, and for women with English as a second language, who want to talk about setting up a business or who already run a business that is under three years old. For more information phone Henna on 01903 211033, Mob: 0750 172 1183, email: info@bme-cs.org.uk, or to book an appointment contact Business Link on 0845 600 9 006.

Horsham Microbiz

Saturday 13th March, 10am-4pm, Horsham

If you run a small business or are thinking of starting a business, the Horsham Microbiz business to business event will feature business seminars with top tips, networking opportunities and new

exhibitors. The event is organised by Horsham District Council's Business Development Team. For more details visit: www.horsham.gov.uk/your_area/your_area_3926.asp

Business Support and Resources

Importance of analysis in funding decisions

New Philanthropy Capital published guidelines to evaluation, giving examples of how charities and funders benefit from analysis – it helps charities understand how they can improve and funders make thoughtful funding decisions. Visit:

www.philanthropycapital.org/news_and_views/recent_news/Default.aspx

Membership open for sector learning providers body

The Third Sector National Learning Alliance is now accepting membership applications. The Alliance is also creating a toolkit to make the business case for third sector learning providers, and is looking for sector case studies that show effective delivery of targeted learning as well as examples of social enterprise learning initiatives. Visit: www.tsnla.org.uk/content/become-member

Outcome Star™

Free tool for the voluntary and statutory sector to measure progress for service users receiving support in order to maximize independence or achieve other goals. There are different versions for different sectors, e.g. homelessness, substance misuse, mental health and young people. View the tool at: www.outcomes-star.squarespace.com/

Commissioning for community organisations working with children

'Commissioning and the Community Sector', published by the Kindle Partnership, is an introduction to commissioning for small and medium-sized community organisations working with children and young people. An online community of practice is also being developed. Visit: www.commissioningsupport.org.uk/cs/groups/commissioning_and_the_community_sector/default.aspx

Help with IT for adult care

Get Connected is a new support programme to enable providers of care for adults to access information and communication technology (ICT) more effectively. The first investment cycle is for voluntary and private providers registered with the Care Quality Commission who do not have good internet access. Bids need to show how people who use services, family carers and/or staff will benefit from improved access. Visit: www.scie.org.uk/workforce/getconnected/

Capitalise launch EFG Product

Capitalise Business Support has launched its new Enterprise Finance Guarantee (EFG) loan. This makes Capitalise the only Community Development Finance Institution (CDFI) in the south east and one of only a few lending institutions outside of high street banks able to offer the scheme. For more information contact Capitalise Business Support on 08456 018326 or visit: www.capitalise.org

Official round-up of charity law and regulation

The Office of the Third Sector has created a new 'Law and Regulation' web section. The law section is for charities, whilst the regulation section has pointers to subjects such as volunteering issues and commissioning from the third sector. Visit: www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/law_and_regulation.aspx

Making financial year-end as painless as possible

Don Bawtree, a senior figure in charity audit, offers some practical advice on how to make the year-end audit as painless as possible. Read it at: www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/indepth/content/5955/preparing_for_audit.

OTS regulation pages

The Office of the Third Sector website has a new section to help the third sector keep up-to-date with regulation, highlighting recent and ongoing changes and initiatives that are intended to make life easier for third sector organizations, and providing links to more detailed information. Visit: www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector

Electoral guidance for charities

Updated advice on 'Charities and Elections' has been published by the Charity Commission, to be used in the run-up to local or general elections. This includes whether a charity may be required to register with the Electoral Commission if it issues material that could be seen as indicating to the public that particular candidates or parties support or oppose the charity's policies. Read the article at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/news/pr_elections.asp or the guidance at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/supportingcharities/elect.asp

Sources of funding

Community Matters Funding

Waitrose is awarding £2.2m over the next year to around 7000 charities. The scheme allocates £1000 to each Waitrose branch to be distributed to three community projects chosen by customers and employees. For more information visit: www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk

Abbey Charitable Trust

This Trust is committed to supporting local communities by funding projects to help disadvantaged people based on education and training, financial advice, and community regeneration. For more details visit: www.aboutabbey.com

The Community Chest

Hall & Woodhouse have small grants of between £300 and £3000 available. Applications are welcome from any voluntary or community organisation or group with a local interest that is based or works in West Sussex for the benefit of local people. Deadline for applications is **28th March**. Visit: www.hall-woodhouse.co.uk/communitychest/west-sussex/overview/index.asp.

Publications

Managing a Downturn: staying solvent and surviving well

Authors: Kate Sayer et al

£18.95 Published by DSC

This guide is for anyone involved in running a charity that is feeling the pinch. It contains practical guidance on action to take to manage your finances well during an economic downturn, as well as information about the legal position, how to spot early signs of trouble, and tips on how to get through troubled times. The guide can be purchased from www.dsc.org.uk/Publications/Finance/@54037



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.

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