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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.

## Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 55

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## Developments and opportunities

### **Budget 2011 News – Gift Aid**

Gift Aid reforms include a pledge by the Chancellor for administration to be much easier by 2013, with the introduction of an online system. Gift Aid benefit limits will be increased from £500 to £2,500, subject to the existing 5% limit, from April 2011. New guidance will be published to help clarify what constitutes a benefit. From April 2013, the Government will introduce a new scheme to allow charities to claim Gift Aid on up to £5,000 of small donations without the need for Gift Aid declarations. For more information on the Budget report visit: [www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/2011budget\\_documents.htm](http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/2011budget_documents.htm)

### **3R Promise**

The Volunteer Rights Inquiry, established by Volunteering England, is asking all volunteer-involving organisations to sign up to the 3R promise, which they are putting forward as a way to raise standards of volunteer management. The three Rs are based on: getting it Right from the beginning, ways to achieve Reconciliation if things go wrong, and accepting Responsibility. Visit: [www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/Volunteer+Rights+Inquiry](http://www.volunteering.org.uk/WhatWeDo/Policy/Volunteer+Rights+Inquiry)

### **Simplifying charity law into one Act**

Consolidation of current charity law into one Act of Parliament has been announced, with the publication of a Charities Bill. The Bill brings together law from Recreational Charities Act 1958, Charities Act 1993 and Charities Act 2006, updating text and simplifying the structure of the existing legislation but does not change policy. The exception to the consolidation is part 3 of the 2006 Act, which would make the Charity Commission the lead regulator of public charitable collections but has never been activated. Read the article at: [www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/consolidation-charity-law](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/consolidation-charity-law)

### **Join the whole country in celebrating small charities**

Be prepared for the Small Charity Week on 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> June 2011, created by the Foundation for Social Improvement. There will be opportunities to take part in new fundraising initiatives, take your message to policymakers at the heart of government, and be part of the movement that

can show the public what the Big Society is all about. For more information about how you can celebrate the week visit: [www.smallcharityweek.com](http://www.smallcharityweek.com)

### **Finding government contracts**

The 'Contract Finder' website has been set up by the government to help charities and small businesses find, and tender for, all public sector contracts worth more than £10,000. Register on the site to receive emails on relevant opportunities:

[www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk](http://www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk)

### **April start for government's community organisers**

The government has selected Locality, the merged Development Trusts Association and bassac association, to carry out its national community organisers programme. This aims to help local people develop community projects in deprived areas in England, with up to 500 senior Community Organisers being trained and given bursaries of £20,000 for their first year, plus a further 4,500 part-time and voluntary organisers. Read the official news item, Third Sector article and comments at: [www.thirdsector.co.uk/News/DailyBulletin/1055870/](http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/News/DailyBulletin/1055870/)

### **Advertising standards apply to charity websites from March 2011**

A lawyer at Bates Wells and Braithwaite who acts on behalf of the Advertising Standards Authority has clarified that their expanded online remit, as of 1st March, is "not being extended to website content for not-for-profits unless it is soliciting donations". He suggests that it is a good idea to keep the fundraising part of websites and online communications slightly separate from the more campaigning and lobbying side. Read the Committee of Advertising Practice general advice page at: [www.cap.org.uk/CAPServices/Digital-remit-advice.aspx](http://www.cap.org.uk/CAPServices/Digital-remit-advice.aspx)

### **More charity consortia to deliver service contracts**

The Social Investment Business plans to launch a series of consortia, involving up to 10,000 charities, to bid for local and national government contracts, Third Sector reports. SIB is expecting to announce up to three contracts shortly. Read more at: [www.thirdsector.co.uk/news/article/1060132/](http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/news/article/1060132/)

### **Community investment tax relief to be retained**

The government will keep Community Investment Tax Relief despite a recommendation that it should be scrapped. The relief allows investors in community development finance institutions to reclaim up to 25% of their investment over five years. In his Budget speech, George Osborne said CITR would be kept. He said the Budget abolished 43 complex tax reliefs because of recommendations from the Office of Tax Simplification (OTS). Read more at: [www.thirdsector.co.uk/channels/Social%20enterprise/Article/1061654/Community-investment-tax-relief-retained/](http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/channels/Social%20enterprise/Article/1061654/Community-investment-tax-relief-retained/)



## **Events and training opportunities**

### **Voice 11**

#### **29<sup>th</sup> March, Social Enterprise Coalition, London**

This event will bring together existing, new and emerging social enterprises, investors and public and private sector partners, as well as political and business leaders. The day will provide delegates with a forum in which they can network, exchange ideas, learn new skills and understand the market opportunities for social enterprise. For more details phone: 020 7793 2319, Email: [events@socialenterprise.org.uk](mailto:events@socialenterprise.org.uk) or visit: [www.socialenterprise.org.uk/pages/voice11.html](http://www.socialenterprise.org.uk/pages/voice11.html)

### **Annual Charity Law Conference**

#### **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> May, Charity Centre, Euston, London**

Conference on the latest legal updates, practical workshops and key law information that all charities should know, run by the Directory of Social Change in association with Bates Wells



## Business support and resources

### Views

This is a new social enterprise which aims to help charities and voluntary organisations to prove the impact of their services and evidence the value of outcomes achieved. Views contains a range of functions which enable organisations to report against multiple outcome frameworks and publish comprehensive reports in online and hardcopy formats. These tools can help organisations develop bespoke datasets and reporting formats for multiple funders which can facilitate new funding and partnership opportunities. Visit: [www.views.coop/](http://www.views.coop/)

### Examining political, economic, social and technology trends for charities

New from sector consultancy nfpSynergy is 'Look! nfpSynergy did my PEST analysis' - the socio-economic trends affecting charities today. It asks "What key political, economic and social (and technical, legal, environmental) trends are influencing the ways in which charities work today?" Download the document from:

[www.nfpsynergy.net/includes/documents/cm\\_docs/2011/I/look\\_nfpsynergy\\_have\\_done\\_my\\_pest\\_analysis\\_february\\_2011.pdf](http://www.nfpsynergy.net/includes/documents/cm_docs/2011/I/look_nfpsynergy_have_done_my_pest_analysis_february_2011.pdf)

### Community development finance via social media

The Community Development Finance Association has launched a social media-based lending platform, Ourbnk, designed to extend accessible finance to those unable to borrow from traditional sources. It will link individuals, small businesses and social enterprises to local Community Development Finance Institutions. CDFA news item, visit: [www.ourbnk.com](http://www.ourbnk.com)

### Volunteering research e-newsletter imminent

The Institute for Volunteering Research has launched an e-newsletter containing information about the latest research and events, as well as news from elsewhere in the sector. Sign up at [www.ivr.org.uk/News/IVR+newsletter](http://www.ivr.org.uk/News/IVR+newsletter)

### Calling all CICs! Complete the CIC Association questionnaire

The CIC Association has launched the second CIC Annual Questionnaire, and is calling all CICs to complete it. [www.socialenterpriselive.com/your-news/calling-all-cics-complete-the-cic-association-questionnaire](http://www.socialenterpriselive.com/your-news/calling-all-cics-complete-the-cic-association-questionnaire)

### Sustainable development is directly relevant for many organisations

To mark Climate Week, NCVO has produced 'The Sustainable Organisation: what does sustainable development really mean for voluntary and community organisations?', from a project to stimulate fresh thinking about the relevance of sustainable development to the missions and strategies of non-environmental organisations. Read the article at: [www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/civil-society/does-voluntary-sector-need-radical-rethink-sustainable-development](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/civil-society/does-voluntary-sector-need-radical-rethink-sustainable-development)

Contact your local Social Enterprise Advisors for support:

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## Sources of Funding

### **WSSC Adults' Services Prevention & Wellbeing Grants Programme**

This programme is open to voluntary and community organisations and groups until Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011. The programme funds start-up costs for services and activities for adults including older people, which contribute to the objectives of the Prevention and Wellbeing Agenda: social contact and stimulation; activity and exercise; occupational/educational activities; peer support groups; and maintaining or restoring independence. For an application pack contact Graham Tabbner on 01243 777017 or email: [graham.tabbner@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:graham.tabbner@westsussex.gov.uk) providing your name, organisation, address and contact details. Read the Day Activities Consultation Report: [www.westsussex.gov.uk/living/social\\_care/adults/day\\_services/your\\_day\\_your\\_say\\_developing.aspx](http://www.westsussex.gov.uk/living/social_care/adults/day_services/your_day_your_say_developing.aspx)

### **Wates Foundation – Grants Programme**

Grant for third sector organisations that promote social responsibility and address issues of disadvantage in eligible English counties. The scheme is intended to support community organisations that work to eradicate social disadvantage and promote social responsibility by building family values, improve community health, address crime in the community, protect the environment and improve the voluntary and charity sector. For more details contact: the Foundation on 01372 861000, email: [director@watesfoundation.org.uk](mailto:director@watesfoundation.org.uk) or visit: [www.watesfoundation.org.uk](http://www.watesfoundation.org.uk)

### **Improving Futures**

The Big Lottery Fund has launched this £20m programme funding local voluntary sector organisations working in partnership with public services to help families with children aged 5-10 years with housing, health, employment and other needs. Deadline for expressions of interest is 12<sup>th</sup> May 2011. [www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog\\_improving\\_futures?regioncode=-uk](http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_improving_futures?regioncode=-uk)



## Publications

### **Overview on managing charity assets and resources**

The Charity Commission has produced a guidance document 'Managing charity assets and resources: an overview for trustees' (CC25). It is a general introduction to the management of a charity's assets and resources, with a summary of the key points to consider. Read it at: [www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Publications/cc25.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Publications/cc25.aspx)

### **Learning from across the sectors**

A new 'How To' guide from ACEVO seeks to increase understanding between the voluntary, private and public sectors and broaden experience and skills. 'Pushing at Open Doors: A Guide to Building Cross Sector Learning Relationships' can be downloaded from [www.acevo.org.uk/Page.aspx?pid=191&nccsm=21&nccscid=28&nccsct=Free+Downloads&nccspID=1069](http://www.acevo.org.uk/Page.aspx?pid=191&nccsm=21&nccscid=28&nccsct=Free+Downloads&nccspID=1069)

If you wish to be added to the emailing list please contact: [info@wssen.org.uk](mailto:info@wssen.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 working with all sectors; facilitating access to information support the independence, health and wellbeing of all in the county.

If you know of 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 and we will promote them to the sector.

Phone: 01903 859928 | Email: [admin@icis-info4life.org.uk](mailto:admin@icis-info4life.org.uk) | Website: [www.icis-info4life.org.uk](http://www.icis-info4life.org.uk)

