

**BE IN THE KNOW • VISIT OUR WEBSITE • GET INVOLVED • FILL IN OUR SURVEY
GET NOTICED • REGISTER IN OUR DIRECTORY**

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 56

Contents

[Developments and opportunities](#) | [Events and training opportunities](#)
[Business support and resources](#) | [Sources of funding](#) | [Publications](#)



Developments and opportunities

Revenue and Customs to make guidance accessible

HM Revenue and Customs is to review all its charities guidance to make it accessible 'to the whole of the charities community, from volunteers to professionals'. This is a major undertaking which will take some time, and HMRC will be contacting 'many groups and individuals to understand their issues and concerns'. In the interim it will produce a number of short guides on specific topics to support charities. Read the HMRC announcement at www.hmrc.gov.uk/charities/improving.htm

Online donation facilities from BT

Telecom (and IT) company BT has set up an online giving facility as part of its contribution to the community, so is not charging, except for credit/debit card charges. Visit www.btplc.com/mydonate/index.aspx

DTA has now merged with BASSAC and is now known as Locality

Locality was formed in April 2011 by the merger of bassac and the Development Trusts Association, two leading networks of community-owned and led organisations. It helps people set up locally-owned and led organisations, supporting existing organisations to work effectively through peer-to-peer exchange of knowledge and best practice on community asset ownership, collaboration, commissioning support, social enterprise, community voice and advocacy. Locality also works to influence government and others at national and local level to build support and investment for the movement. Visit: www.locality.org.uk

The big Venture Challenge

UnLtd is looking for the 25 most ambitious social entrepreneurs in England for the next Big Issue. Winners will get an initial £25k with a chance to access up to £150k of seed investment plus business support and mentoring. They are looking for people with ideas to transform disadvantaged communities, have what it takes to build credible ventures, and the ambition to scale up impact fast. For more details contact Sinead Hanks on 020 7566 1116 or email: sineadhanks@unltd.org.uk

Getting small organisations heard by political parties

NCVO's Party Conference Bursary scheme enables a number of small organisations to attend each party conference in the autumn and have their voices heard at a national level. Open to voluntary and community organisations with an income of less than half a million pounds, NCVO members are given preference. Applications are requested by **20th May**. For more details visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/partyconferencebursary

Contract Finder

A new free facility for small businesses to find online public sector procurement and contracting opportunities above £10,000. It provides access to new public sector contract opportunities in addition to closed contract documents. To go to the Contract Finder please follow the link: www.contractsfinder.businesslink.gov.uk/?xgovk3w=bl1000&xgovf0p=%7Cxgovs9k=biscf%7Cxgovr3h=cftx1%7Cxgovc8h=1000%7Cxgovk3w=bl1000%7C&xgovd2v=en&xgovj6d=0a80a437cd657c4ee8f025782ccc5264e9522f94

Big Society Awards

The Big Society Award recognises individuals, groups or organisations that are demonstrating the Big Society in their work or activities. To nominate visit: www.number10.gov.uk/bigsocietyawards

Co-operative petition launched

An alliance of co-operative businesses and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) launched a new petition on 4th April. The first of its kind, this petition calls for co-operative action to narrow the gap between rich and poor in the UK. For further information and to view and/or sign the petition visit: www.uk.coop/yourstoshare/petition



Events and training opportunities

Charity Fair

27th-28th June, Hotel Russell, Central London

Up-to-date training in over 100 compact workshop sessions covering every aspect of the voluntary sector. Entry to Charityfair is free. You can access high quality training for as little as £25 per session and £50 for masterclasses, depending on how many sessions you book. Workshops last one hour and provide the core information needed to develop skills in key subject areas. Visit: www.charityfair.org.uk

Third Sector's Digital Fundraising Conference

11th May, The IBIS Hotel, Earls Court, London

Join Third Sector, your peers and 17 experts from organisations including Beatbullying, Children In Need Appeal, NSPCC, British Heart Foundation, Help for Heroes and Merlin to harness social, online and mobile media channels to engage donors and generate income. For more information visit: www.haymarketevents.com/conferenceDetail/533/digital-fundraising



Business support and resources

Protecting charities from fraud and financial crime

The Charity Commission has published the third chapter of its online compliance toolkit for charity trustees, Protecting Charities from Harm. It highlights some of the types of fraud and financial crime to which charities are vulnerable and provides practical advice for trustees and managers on how to tackle it. Read the news item at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_toolkit_chapter_3.aspx

Social Enterprise ICT Support for Civil Society organisations

This report was commissioned by the Regional ICT Champions as part of its work plan which is funded by Capacity Builders. The report focuses on a number of key questions: How have the

markets for ICT services, specifically in servicing civil sector organisations, changed since April 2008 and have any of the ICT services changed during that time? Is there a strong future for social enterprises delivering ICT services in the civil sector? What makes ICT social enterprises working in civil sector successful? How will ICT social enterprise develop and address new opportunities in the future. It will be useful for anyone thinking of setting up or running a social enterprise to deliver ICT services to the civil sector; Policy-makers and funders who want to understand how they can support the development of social enterprise models to deliver ICT services to the civil sector; and anyone interested in helping to meet the ICT support needs of the civil sector. Read the report at www.ictchampions.org.uk/wp-content/ICT-Support-Social-Enterprise-Report-FINAL.pdf

Endorsed sector accreditation schemes

The Charity Commission has published a round-up of the accreditation schemes developed by sector bodies that it endorses. It is not currently accepting any more applications for endorsement. The schemes include ACRE's Good Practice Quality Standard, Charities Evaluation Services' POASSO Quality Mark and Visible from Community Matters. Read: [www.charitycommission.gov.uk/About us/About the Commission/endorsement qs.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/About_us/About_the_Commission/endorsement_qs.aspx)

Getting IT to help with monitoring and evaluation

Charities Evaluation Services has produced a guide to help organisations select a suitable IT system or database to support their monitoring work. The guide should help establish what is needed from a system and focuses on low-cost, off-the-shelf database systems with a comparison table to clearly demonstrate key features. 'IT for Outcomes' can be downloaded at www.ces-vol.org.uk/index.cfm?pg=416

Health and safety for low risk activities in the sector

In addition to the general 'Health and safety made simple' web pages from Health and Safety Executive, the HSE has created a new web section for voluntary organisations managing low risk activities: www.hse.gov.uk/voluntary/index.htm

Social Firms UK guide to help supported businesses convert into sustainable social enterprises

The Guide covers the What, Why and How to create a modern business ready to meet complex and economic goals, whilst also supporting and empowering some of the most disadvantaged people in the community. Invaluable practitioner insights into unique journeys towards Social Firm creation will ease the way for other supported businesses to make that transition and remain sustainable. Visit: <http://socialfirmsuk.co.uk/resources/library/how-convert-supported-business-social-firm>

For further support contact:

Ana Fajardo (Economic Development Manager – West Sussex County Council)

Phone: 01243 777606 Email: ana.fajardo@westsussex.gov.uk



Sources of Funding

Community Cohesion Grants

Crawley Borough Council is inviting voluntary and community groups to apply for grants from £50 to £2,500 to help create a more cohesive town. For more information visit www.crawley.gov.uk/communitydevelopment. If you need support in applying for a grant, contact Crawley CVS on 01293 657156 or email: info@crawleycvs.org

Nationwide Foundation

The Nationwide Foundation makes grants of up to £5,000 to registered UK charities which offer financial and/or housing-related support. For more information visit:

www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/default.asp

Radcliffe Trust Music Grant

This scheme supports registered charitable organisations undertaking projects which further musical education. The Fund will support projects with the following themes: Composition and contemporary music, music therapy or special needs, youth orchestras, performance projects, and educational projects. Deadline for applications is **31st August**. Applications to be made in writing, and should include: A covering letter with official address, telephone number, email address and charity registration number; an outline of the proposal and the specific request to the Trust; a budget, including total cost of the project, the amount requested, and other income secured or requested; and an indication of past grants from the Trust. For more information contact: The Administrator The Radcliffe Trust, 6 Trull Farm Buildings, Tetbury, Glos GL8 8SQ Tel: 01285 841900. Email: radcliffe@thetrustpartnership.com

Woodward Charitable

The Woodward Charitable supports small-scale organisations that work for the benefit of their local area. In particular, the programme wishes to support projects with the following themes: homelessness, prisons and prisoners, travellers, addiction and domestic violence. The Trust will also consider funding initiatives with the following themes: arts outreach work by local groups, environmental projects, especially those with a strong educational element. Deadline for applications is **31st May**. Interested applicants should visit the Trust's website before applying. For more information contact Karin Hooper, Sainsbury Family Charitable Trusts, Adlington House (1st Floor), 150 Victoria Street, London SW1E 5AE. Tel: 020 7410 0330 or visit www.woodwardcharitabletrust.org.uk/guidelines.html

Boost Charitable Trust grant

Building On Overlooked Sporting Talent (BOOST) provide and administer grants to organisations which support disabled or disadvantaged people to overcome obstacles and take part in sporting activities. Profit-making organisations are excluded from this fund. For more information contact: Lucy Till, 5 St Bride Trust, London EC4A 4AS, Tel: 020 7078 1955 or visit: www.boostct.org



Publications

Rural areas a test bed for innovative solutions

Two new reports have been published by Carnegie Trust UK's Community of Practice (CoP) members: "The Power of the Plan" – a simplified and integrated planning system drawing on considerable practitioner experience; and "A Shareholder's Guide to Rural Services" – proposing that rural areas can provide a test bed for innovative solutions to service delivery in local neighbourhoods, sharing ideas about how this is already happening. Both publications can be downloaded from www.plunkett.co.uk/newsandmedia/news-item.cfm/newsid/500

If you wish to be added to the emailing list please contact: 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 | Website: www.icis-info4life.org.uk