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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; Brighton University; Councils for Voluntary Service in the county and West Sussex County Council.

Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 62

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Developments and opportunities

Compact Week 2011

The theme for this year's Compact Week on 7th-11th November is 'Local knowledge is local power'. This annual event is held to promote the Compact, the longstanding agreement that sets out shared commitments and guidelines for partnership working between government and the voluntary and community sector. To find out more visit: www.compactvoice.org.uk

Government seeks to remove 'social enterprise' from social value Bill

The government wants to remove the term 'social enterprise' from the Public Services (Social Enterprise and Social Value) Bill, which has recently had its third reading in the House of Commons. The amendment, which has been tabled by Minister for Civil Society Nick Hurd on behalf of the government, says the term 'social enterprise' should be left out of the title of the Bill. Read the article at: www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/10722/

£10 to create the next Freecycle or JustGiving

A £10m fund to find and back innovative ideas for increasing volunteering and charitable giving has opened. The Innovation in Giving Fund, launched by Nick Hurd, will be run by NESTA, the National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts. The fund forms part of a £34m package to increase levels of social action. The other £24m will back the White Paper's Social Action Fund, which will be managed by the social Investment Business. Read the full story at: www.socialenterpriselive.com/section/news/policy/20110907/%C2%A310m-create-the-next-freecycle-or-justgiving

NAO Compact Review

The National Audit office is undertaking a review of the Compact and Central Government, including agencies. They have sent NAVCA a letter about asking for views. They would welcome initial thoughts to shape a response. Email: policy@navca.org.uk

Citizens' Mutual opens for business

'Your Square Mile' - a citizens' mutual, was launched on 4th October to provide local enterprises and individuals with a range of benefits to help them improve their local area. The mutual

gives anyone over 16 years the opportunity to join for £10 and have access to Public Liability Insurance and £25,000 of Personal Accident Insurance to cover any kind of volunteering, plus a free legal services helpline and 20% off printing to help promote local activity with communities. It is looking at developing a range of other benefits including more affordable CRB checks for smaller charities, a loyalty card for discounts at local shops, community gardening kits and more. For more details visit <http://yoursquaremile.co.uk/ysm-home/the-mutual/>

Entrepreneurs set up 'school' to help social entrepreneurs exploit the digital revolution

An open competition has been launched to find social economy organisations who want to develop an income-generating digital product. Sidekick School will provide support and expertise to help four organisations create a digital product that can make a difference to people's lives whilst helping the organisation become more financially sustainable. Find out more at: www.sidekickschool.org

Social enterprise financial awards spreading slowly

The Santander Social Enterprise Development Awards are being rolled out throughout the UK by 2012. They are targeted at established social enterprises with two or more years of trading, that have ambitions to develop their business but need a financial boost to help them realise their ideas. Find out more at: www.santanderseda.co.uk

VAT returns to go fully electronic

HM Revenue and Customs have issued a 'VAT Notes special supplement' on the move to online filing of VAT returns and electronic payments for virtually all VAT registered businesses from April 2012. They will write to relevant organisations in February 2012 giving details of the changes and support available. Download the VAT notes at: <http://voluntarynews.org.uk/news/2011/09/vat-returns-go-fully-electronic>



Events and training opportunities

Getting Down to Business Programme

As part of WSSSEN and West Sussex County Council's commitment to support community, voluntary organisations and social enterprises in West Sussex, we would like to invite you take part in our forthcoming FREE workshops programme aimed at helping your organisation get started and operate successfully as a social business. Topics: Find out about social enterprise - 13th October and 2nd February 2012; Starting up a social enterprise – putting your ideas into action - 20th October and 9th February 2012; Planning ahead - preparing a business plan and business case for your social enterprise - 2nd November and 1st March 2012; and Financing your social enterprise - 17th November and 21st March 2012. To book a place email: dawn.brock@ruralsussex.org.uk or phone 01273 407313.

Good Deals 2011

24th November, The Barbican Centre, London

Tickets are available for this impact investing conference, bringing together inspirational social entrepreneurs with innovative investors to get good deals done. The event is suitable for social entrepreneurs, charities and ethical businesses seeking out ways of raising capital, new ways of doing business and a chance to network; investors wishing to learn how to make their money work for good; business leaders exploring innovative business models; and policy makers. To book a place visit: www.good-dealsuk.com

Designing Projects Well: how to develop a theory of change (intermediate)

16th November, Brighton

Participants will be able to understand the importance of outcome monitoring in measuring programme effectiveness, be able to identify measurable targeted outcomes, develop a

pathway of change that links intermediate outcomes to longer-term change, and be able to lead their organisation through a theory of change processes. Cost is £150 + vat. For more details contact Louis at Pamoja Consulting on 01273 622229, email: louis@pamoja.uk.com or visit www.pamoja.uk.com

Qualitative Methods for Evaluation 28th-29th November, Brighton

Participants will be able to understand the value and purpose of using qualitative evaluation to demonstrate outcomes and impact, understand key approaches and methodologies for qualitative evaluation, identify and overcome key challenges to effective evaluation, and understand how to translate the results of an evaluation into organisational learning and development. Cost is £299 + vat. For more details contact Louis at Pamoja Consulting on 01273 622229, email: louis@pamoja.uk.com or visit www.pamoja.uk.com

NCVO Sustainable Funding Conference: Adapt, Gain, Grow 24th November, Mary Ward House, London

Discover the value of new funding relationships across a range of different income streams, gaining insight into both sides of the funding relationship. Find out why funders, donors, commissioners, customers and investors put their money into voluntary and community organisations through workshops, debates, discussions and plenary sessions. Gain skills and behaviours to maximise the return on your funding relationships, making use of the new financial models available. Learn from innovative organisations who will explain what they are doing to increase their funding, alongside the people and organisations who make their ideas a reality through funding, giving, purchasing or social investment. To book a place visit: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/sfpconference2011



Business support and resources

Charities at Comet

Charities at Comet has been working with charities and not for profit organisations for more than two decades. They offer an adaptable business account and a wide range of top brands, including their own brand, to suit every need and budget. Find out more at: www.cometb2b.com

Austerity measures are hitting children's charities hardest

Research by the National Children's Bureau and NCVO finds that the children and young people's voluntary sector is amongst the hardest hit by government funding cuts and local authority austerity measures.

Influencing the new health system

A briefing 'Influencing the New Health System in a Local Area' has been jointly produced by NAVCA, NCVO and Regional Voices, in response to the new structures and new organisations for health and social care commissioning due in 2013. It gives a simple overview of which organisations will be important at a local level and advice on how to engage with and influence them to ensure that the concerns, expertise and experience of the sector are central to these changes. Read more at: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/civil-society/new-briefing-help-charities-navigate-changes-local-health-agenda

Commentary of Best Value Guidance

A short commentary on the government's new Best Value Guidance for local authorities making decisions regarding the funding of charities, voluntary organisations, social enterprises and small business has been written by a partner at Bates Wells and Braithwaite Solicitors. It covers the legal status and what it means for funded groups, in particular around any decision to cut funding. Read more at: www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/civil-society/helping-you-understand-new-best-value-guidance

For further support contact your local Social Enterprise Advisor
Barbara Beaton, Action in rural Sussex (AirS)
Phone: 01424 893698 Email: beatonbjb@aol.com



Sources of funding

Communitybuilders opens new loan fund for regeneration

Communitybuilders, a fund that supports community-based and community-led organisations in England, has opened applications for loans of up to £750,000 for six regeneration projects. Investments can be used for property renovations and refurbishments, land or property purchases (and some related fees like architects and surveyors), purchase of vehicles, IT equipment and fixtures and fittings. The minimum that can be applied for is £250,000, the maximum £750,000. For more information visit: www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk/cb

£20m grant fund to encourage social action

The Social Action Fund is a new grant fund managed by the Social Investment Business on behalf of the Office for Civil Society. The fund aims to inspire organisations to create new social action opportunities through people giving what they have, whether their time, money, assets or knowledge and skills. Visit: www.thesocialinvestmentbusiness.org/our-funds/social-action-fund/

Community First

£80m Office for Civil Society fund that will run until March 2015 to help communities come together through new and existing community groups to identify their strengths and local priorities plan for their future and become more resilient. The funding is being administered via two strands; the £50 million Endowment Match Challenge and the £30 million Neighbourhood Matched Fund. Read more at: www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/community-first

Community Action Against Crime Innovation Fund

This fund encourages creative new approaches to tackling crime. The fund is worth £5 million in 2011/12, with a further £5 million set aside for 2012/13. It will encourage greater community activism and enable communities to develop innovative approaches to tackling the local crime issues that matter to them. Deadline for applications is 1st December 2011. Read more at: www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/crime-innovation-fund



Publications

Localism and the National Planning Policy Framework

The Local Government Group has published a 16 page booklet to encourage councils to work with parishes and neighbourhoods to develop local plans and emphasise the importance of keeping these up-to-date. Download the document at: www.pas.gov.uk/pas/aio/1611732

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 and 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.



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