

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

Social Enterprise e-bulletin

Issue 64

Contents

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



Developments and opportunities

6th SOCIAL ENTERPRISE AWARD WEST SUSSEX

To celebrate West Sussex County Council and West Sussex Social Enterprise Network (WSSSEN) are launching the 6th Social Enterprise Award. This year there are 10 prizes of £5,000 each for the best 10 ideas. **The deadline to submit your entry is 4th of January 2012.** Guidelines and entry form can be downloaded from: www.wssen.org.uk

Skill Share West Sussex

Are you looking for volunteers with a particular skill for your voluntary and community organisation or social enterprise? Register FREE today: www.skillshare-westsussex.org.uk

A Day with a Data Expert

Up to ten charities could get a day's worth of help from a data expert provided via the Nominet Trust. This would take the charity through what they could be doing with all the open data that is available and the data which the charity holds itself. Visit: www.nominettrust.org.uk

Opportunity to Promote Events

The BBC is offering promotional opportunities for charities through its new Things to Do website. By signing up as a partner, relevant organisations can post events under various programme-linked themes, including arts and crafts, history, nature or science-based activities, outdoor and adventure-based activities. Read more at: www.civilsociety.co.uk/it/news//content/10945

Leadership and Management Development Grant

This scheme is funded by the government's Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). It is being administered regionally by the Business Links. The scheme will complement other support available to small and medium-sized enterprises to support growth through the Business Improvement Programme. Visit: www.businesslink.gov.uk/bdotg/action/detail?itemId=1087604465&type=RESOURCES

£50 million to shelter VCS from funding cuts

BIG is announcing at least £50m of extra funding to support hundreds of vital voluntary and community sector (VCS) projects in England deal with the impact of funding cuts. All eligible grant-holders will be sent an email about applying to the Supporting Change and Impact Fund with details of how they can apply. For details visit: <http://bigblog.org.uk/2011/10/25/lottery-50m-to-shelter-vcs-from-funding-cuts>

Community Business Loan

The RBSG Micro-finance Fund helps potential and existing social entrepreneurs who are unable to access finance through normal mainstream channels. The fund offers financial support for starting or expanding a community-based business. For more details visit:

www.rbs.co.uk/business/banking/g3/community-business-loan-fund.ashx#tabs=section1

Report on the Big Society

House of Commons Committee report stated that if the government Big Society ambitions are to be successful, the government must act in support of 'little society'. That means commissioning policies need to help local organisations not just the big nationals. Full report available at:

www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201012/cmselect/cmpubadm/902/90202.htm

Press release available at: www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/public-administration-select-committee/news/publication-of-big-society-report/

£16.8 million support for free advice services

A new £16.8 million central government fund to help not-for-profit free advice services in England will be delivered by the Big Fund, Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society. The fund will provide immediate support to debt, welfare benefits, employment and housing advice services. In addition, the Cabinet Office will conduct a review to ensure that people continue to have access to good quality free advice services in their communities. Find out more at:

www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/168-million-support-free-advice-services



Events and training opportunities

Effective Marketing for Small Organisations

2nd February 2012, London, NW1 2DP

For those who need a basic understanding of marketing and practical methods to implement. Includes the marketing mix & toolbox, profiling, segmenting, targeting, good copy, and overview of a marketing strategy. By the end of the course attendees will be able to review their current approach and have a greater understanding of the importance of marketing. For more information visit: www.dsc.org.uk/Training/Informationandcommunication/@120103



Business support and resources

The Buy Better Together Challenge

BIS has launched the Buy Better Together Challenge. An initiative to help inspire new models of community buying, stimulate enterprise and promote shared learning. As well as producing a guide giving practical information and advice on how to set up and run a community buying group, they are looking for organisations who have devised new ways of buying collectively to help save money, or people with ideas about communities working together. There is a Buy Better Together Challenge £60k pot will go towards training, mentoring and seed funding for stand out projects and includes £15k for the overall winner. For more information visit: <http://discuss.bis.gov.uk/buying/innovation-prize/>

Updated decision guide on social media for the sector

American non-profit software information provider, Idealware, has updated its 'Nonprofit Social Media Decision Guide'. which looks at the various tools available, examines what you might want to achieve with social media, integration and a workbook. The new edition has additional sections on goals and strategies, and information about using social media for advocacy and fundraising. Quick registration is required to download the document from:

www.idealware.org/reports/nonprofit-social-media-decision-guide

Communicating the Difference Made

New Philanthropy Capital has produced a report that draws on six "bright spots" - charities that are at the forefront of impact measurement in the UK - to show that impact measurement is both worthwhile and possible. It also includes a section on 'Developing impact measurement in nine steps'. Download 'A journey to greater impact: six charities that learned to measure better' from:

www.philanthropycapital.org/publications/improving_the_sector/improving_charities/journey_to_impact.aspx

Ethical Property Foundation going nationwide

In early 2012 the Foundation is launching their Property Advice Service nationwide, so groups across England can benefit from their help and access a register of property professionals. Help includes questions about leases, to delivering more in-depth solutions such as feasibility studies for funding and investment purposes. A new nationwide contact number will be launched shortly. Visit: www.ethicalproperty.org.uk/news_detail.aspx?ID=79&ResultList=1

Guide to voluntary sector quality standards

'Quality in the Voluntary Sector: a guide for not-for-profit sector quality awards' has been produced for the Accreditation Providers' Forum. It gives a brief description and a tick list of the coverage (and ISO 9001 validity) for each standard, including those from ACRE, Befriending Networks, Community Matters, Volunteering England, Helplines Association and others. Download the document from:

www.accreditationprovidersforum.org/guidedownload.html

Charity Commission publishes Investment Guidance

The Charity Commission has published updated guidance on Charities and Investment Matters. The new online guidance, which replaces the Commission's previous advice on investments, describes the legal duties and principles that apply to charity investments and the risks that trustees must address. It offers a clear framework for decision-making, but emphasises that it is up to trustees to decide on the most appropriate overall investment strategy for their charity. Read the item at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/RSS/News/pr_cc14.aspx

Institute of Fundraising plans research portal

The Institute of Fundraising will launch an online portal early next year to bring together research on fundraising, according to Peter Lewis, its new chief executive. In an interview with Third Sector, Lewis said the institute wanted to bring together all the research that had been done on fundraising and identify where more was needed. "I think there is a lack of research around the fundraising agenda," he said. The portal would be part of the Institute's new website, which will be launched in January. Read more at:

www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/2021265

Community Resources national circular

This magazine provides community sector organisations with free advertising and it also aims to signpost to free or low cost resources. The mailing list exceeds 10,000 organisations across England and includes regional voluntary hubs, volunteer centres and local government agencies. Organisations large and small are encouraged to take advantage of the free advertising and national reach. Read more at: www.communityresources.org.uk



Sources of funding

Lush Charity Pot

The majority of this funding is allocated to small grassroots groups as Lush believe they can make the most impact by funding projects that others do not, so they give priority to less-popular causes which are more difficult to raise funds for. They support small, grassroots organisations working in: Environment, Animal protection and Human Rights. Visit: www.lush.com/shop/about/charity-pot

Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust

This Trust offers grants to charitable organisations working in the UK, particularly Sussex, on projects concerning the environment and wildlife. Funding is not available for individuals, large national charities, play schemes or children's holiday schemes, projects that promote a particular religion, local authorities, or expeditions or overseas travel. Applicants may apply at any time. For information on how to obtain the grant contact: Emily Verdeyeyn, Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, c/o Kleinwort Benson, 30 Gresham Street, London EC2V 7PG, Tel: 020 3207 7338 or email: emily.verdeyeyn@kbpb.co.uk

ESF Community Grants

Grants of up to £12,000 are available to third sector organisations in the South East who support the most disadvantaged individuals to access further learning opportunities or progress to employment. Priority will be given to groups who work with: lone parents; women; people with health/disability issues; older people; or people from ethnic minorities and diverse communities. Projects to be completed by 30th September 2013. For more details visit: www.actionforall.org.uk/fundingyourfuture/news/view/1791



Publications

Tough Times

The Audit Commission has published Tough Times, a report on local authorities' implementation of the public spending cuts. The report looks at the impact on councils of: a real terms reduction of £3.5 billion in government funding; and a £1.2 billion fall in local income from council tax, fees and charges. The report recommends that councils use the Audit Commission's Value for Money profiles to see how their council compares to the national picture set out in this report, identify councils facing similar challenges, and learn from others' approaches. Download the document and methodology and data definitions at: www.audit-commission.gov.uk/nationalstudies/localgov/Pages/toughtimes.aspx

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.

Phone: 01903 859928 | Email: admin@icis-info4life.org.uk | Website: www.icis-info4life.org.uk