

## Monthly Update Providing Key Information about the Third Sector

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### NEWS FOR SUPPORT AGENCIES

#### NAVCA BRIEFINGS

##### 1. Health & Social Care Bill

The Government's listening exercise on the Health and Social Care Bill is an opportunity to get changes to the Bill.

<http://www.navca.org.uk/news/hsclisting.htm>

##### 2. Big Society Bank

NAVCA has produced a briefing for members on the government's plans to create a Big Society Bank. <http://www.navca.org.uk/news/bsbank.htm>

##### 3. Child Poverty Strategy

NAVCA has produced a briefing to help members understand the key areas of the strategy and how local voluntary action can contribute to it. Members should ensure their local child poverty strategies address the key local issues and reflect the contribution that the local voluntary and community sector can make.

<http://www.navca.org.uk/news/childpoverty.htm>

#### Keeping up with Political Updates and Consultations

COVER's political updates webpage and consultations page are regularly updated to provide you with the latest information about emerging policies and consultations <http://www.cover-east.org>

#### COVER Research on GP Consortia

COVER recently carried out a piece of research with VCS organisations in the East of England looking at their engagement with emerging GP consortia. The findings, as well as two other useful research documents from other organisations can be found on <http://www.cover-east.org/Dept-Health-Project.asp>

### **Cuts Website**

A reminder for local charities, voluntary organisations and community groups to record their cuts on the voluntary cuts crowdourcing website so a national picture can be built up. The link for newsletters, ebulletins and further information is <http://voluntarysectorcuts.org.uk/>

### **New Model of Volunteering – Slivers of Time**

The Government is encouraging new models of promoting volunteering. One such new model that is emerging is slivers of time. Volunteer Centres need to be aware of this new way of marketing volunteering and need to confidently promote the benefits of their services <http://www.slivers.com/sectors/volunteering.html>

### **How to Engage with Local Sports Clubs and Organisations**

NAVCA, in association with Sport England, have released the Step by Step Guide for local support and development organisations who want to engage with community sports clubs and organisations.

<http://www.navca.org.uk/localvs/sport/sportnews/stepbystep.htm>

### **Peterborough Council for Voluntary Service**

PCVS has produced a leaflet for use by any local group working with local companies, local communities and other stakeholders to promote the work of the sector. <http://www.pcvs.co.uk/downloads/pcvs-brochure.pdf>

## **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

### **NESTA, Creative Councils call for ideas**

Creative Councils is a new programme from NESTA, working with the Local Government Group, to support local authorities to develop and implement innovations to meet the challenges of tomorrow. They are aiming to work with a small group of pioneering local authorities. An opportunity to work with the voluntary sector. [http://www.nesta.org.uk/areas\\_of\\_work/public\\_](http://www.nesta.org.uk/areas_of_work/public_)

### **Statutory guidance on cuts from CLG**

CLG has launched a new consultation on draft 'Best Value' guidance. It sets out clear guidelines for local authorities who are considering cutting funding to local voluntary organisations and community groups. The guidance sets out the specific terms of engagement between the sector and local government and builds on the principles of the Compact. This is more important than ever and should help both partners work together effectively to help identify ways of lessening the impact of cuts on individuals and communities. To ensure that the final guidance is as well-informed and robust as possible, answer the online survey before the closing date of 14 June.

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/bestvalue> Initial concerns are about scrapping the duty to involve and to produce a community strategy.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/bestvalueconsult>

### **Procurement rules flowchart**

Complexities in the EU procurement process have resulted in a flow chart from NAVCA: <http://www.navca.org.uk/localvs/lcp/news/procurementrules.htm>

## **LEGAL MATTERS**

### **Bank Holiday Working**

If you haven't already sorted out the implications of the extra bank holiday on 29th April, see this short item from Acas, <http://www.acas.org.uk/index.aspx?articleid=3197>, or <http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#bankholiday>

### **Minimum Wage Increases Announced**

The adult national minimum wage is to increase by 15p an hour, to £6.08, from 1st October 2011. For 18 to 20 year olds the change is 6p, to £4.98, 16 to 17 year olds add 4p to get £3.68, apprentices up 10p to £2.60.

### **SANDY ADIRONDACK: AMENDMENTS TO THE LEGAL UPDATE WEBSITE FOR VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS at [www.sandy-a.co.uk/legal.htm](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/legal.htm)"**

#### **Governance resources**

[www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#governanceresources](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#governanceresources)

- revised governance code for voluntary and community organisations
- ICSA guidance on matters that must be dealt with by the board, rather than by individual board members (even officers) or staff;
- governance codes for commercial businesses;
- new Charity Commission website of resources for small charities;
- seven linked briefings for charities working internationally;
- updated CC25 Managing charity assets and resources: An overview for charities;
- the Commission's compliance toolkit on protecting charities from harm: part 2 on due diligence, monitoring, and verifying end use of funds, and part 3, on fraud and financial crime;
- 15 questions trustees needed to ask themselves two years ago during the economic downturn, and still need to ask themselves in the current political/economic environment.

#### **Charity law**

- Charity Commission guidance and model constitutions for charitable incorporated organisations (CIOs) were published on 28 March. But still no final draft regulations and no implementation date – these will come from the Office for Civil Society rather than the Commission.  
[www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio-constitutions](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio-constitutions)

- Weighing up CIOs versus charitable companies, based on what we know so far. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio-yes-or-no](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio-yes-or-no)
- Charity Commission strategic priorities ( = cuts to frontline services) [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charcomm-cuts](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charcomm-cuts)
- Foundation and voluntary schools to regain exempt charity status. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charityreg-exempt](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charityreg-exempt)
- Tribunals service (including charity tribunal) merged with courts service on 1 April. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#chartribunal](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#chartribunal)

To subscribe to Sandy's email updates, send details to [legalupdate@sandy-a.co.uk](mailto:legalupdate@sandy-a.co.uk)

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED

### **New Guide to Commissioning for Development Workers**

NAVCA has launched a guide to commissioning aimed at development workers supporting local charities and voluntary organisations to engage with the commissioning landscape for the first time. This guide, called "[A beginners' guide to commissioning](#)", is the first of its kind.

<http://www.navca.org.uk/publications/beginnersguide/Home.htm>

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT/EVENTS

### **Small Charity Week (20-24 June 2011)**

Small Charity Week is all about celebrating the work of the small charity sector and making sure everyone knows all about it. Each day has a different theme (there's I ♥ Small Charities Day, the Big Advice Day, Policy Day, Fundraising Day and Celebration Day) and every day has lots of opportunity to get involved to gain new skills, raise your profile and raise funds.

<http://www.smallcharityweek.com/>

## FUNDING

### **Top Tips for Applying to Grant-making Trusts and Foundations**

By making sure you apply to the correct trust or foundation with the right application, you are more likely to get the positive results you want. [http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/TopTipsforApplyingtoGrant-MakingTrustsandFoundations?dm\\_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1](http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/TopTipsforApplyingtoGrant-MakingTrustsandFoundations?dm_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1)

### **Support for Health and Social Care Volunteering**

The Department of Health's Health and Social Care Volunteering Fund second local grant scheme is open to applications. This provides a combination of grant

funding and support to local voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations, with up to £50,000 available for 2 or 3 year projects. The fund aims to enhance capacity in the health, public health and social care volunteering field and help organisations grow and develop. Apply online by 25th May, <http://www.volunteeringfund.com/node/18>

### **Energysave Fund**

Grants of up to £100,000 are available from a new fund set up to help registered community groups save energy and get involved in using and generating their own renewable energy. Applicants need to register online and generate as much support as possible on their group's page to gain consideration. Deadline 31 May <http://www.energysave.com/fund/about-applying/>

### **Nationwide Foundation Charities**

Nationwide Foundation Charities offering support to address housing issues and homelessness among vulnerable groups can apply for grants of up to £5k. There are two priority groups: Survivors of domestic abuse and older people with their housing needs. <http://www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/default.asp>

### **Sports England Small Grants Programme**

Up to £10,000 is available for local community sports projects that sustain and develop sports opportunities for people. Your project must cost less than £50,000 and have a timescale of less than 12 months. [http://www.sportengland.org/funding/small\\_grants.aspx](http://www.sportengland.org/funding/small_grants.aspx)

### **Triangle Trust 1949 Fund**

The [Triangle Trust 1949 Fund](#) makes grants of £1,000 to £10,000. It prioritises smaller charities and is interested in funding new activities.

## **OTHER NEWS**

### **Top 10 Tips on being a Trustee**

Being a Trustee is one of the most rewarding and valuable things a person can do. It doesn't matter whether you are called a Trustee, member of the Board, Director, Management or Executive Committee member – these top ten tips are relevant to you.

[http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/TopTenTipstoBeingaTrustee?dm\\_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1](http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/TopTenTipstoBeingaTrustee?dm_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1)

### **Guardian Free Advertising for Volunteers**

Guardian Jobs are offering free advertising for organisations looking for volunteers on [guardianjobs.co.uk](http://guardianjobs.co.uk) as part of its commitment to voluntary sector recruitment. <http://jobs.guardian.co.uk/>

### **workonit.org**

workonit.org is a new social market place which aims to retain the engagement of skilled staff whose roles are in transition and who are at risk of dropping out of the public sector. <http://www.workonit.org/>

### **Top tips on Managing in a Downturn**

The environment charities operate in has the potential to affect all charities. Those who survive will have considered their environment, implemented good management, had strong cash resources and used their reserves appropriately. Kate Sayer, partner of Sayer Vincent, has over 25 years experience working with charities and their financials. She points out that the key to surviving is to do what you should normally be doing, but doing it well.

[http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/BigThinkingRealImpactPositiveOutcomes/TopTipsonManaginginaDownturn?dm\\_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1](http://www.dsc.org.uk/NewsandInformation/News/BigThinkingRealImpactPositiveOutcomes/TopTipsonManaginginaDownturn?dm_i=6S7,DCLV,TDRZE,120EV,1)

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