

Monthly Update Providing Key Information about the Third Sector

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NEWS FOR SUPPORT AGENCIES

Crunch Time

NAVCA has published a report showing how the recession is affecting third sector organisations, and the planning activities being carried out to build resilience. The report reviews work undertaken by 900 organisations around the country over the last few months as part of NAVCA's Local Resilience Action Planning (LRAP) initiative. It provides evidence of how the recession has impacted on the local third sector and shows local infrastructure organisations (LIOs) have a critically important role in supporting the local third sector during the recession and leading them out of the recession.

www.navca.org.uk/news/crunchtime

Community Foundations

Following a response from NAVCA members about their relationships with Community Foundations, Kevin Curley (NAVCA Chief Executive). Kevin will be using Essex, Hertfordshire and Dorset as examples of close working when he speaks at the annual conference of the Community Foundation Network on 9 September.

Early Intervention Service Tender

Please find the link to relevant information regarding the Tender opportunity to deliver the Early Intervention Service to support the Emotional Well-being & Mental Health of children and young people in Hertfordshire. The deadline for applications is 25th September 2009.

<http://www.hertsdirect.org/contractsandtenders>

Backing Young Britain

The Government has launched a 'Backing Young Britain' campaign, calling on business, employers, voluntary organisations and public sector bodies to help young people through the current difficult economic times by providing access to

jobs, training and work experience. NAVCA and OTS would like to encourage you (if you haven't already done so) to sign up to one or more of the seven pledges on the campaign website at: www.hmg.gov.uk/backingyoungbritain, and to promote the campaign to other third sector organisations.

NJC negotiations

Following a meeting on 21 July of the full Employers' Side of the National Joint Council, an improved and final offer in settlement of the local government services 2009 claim was made in a letter to the Trade Union Side.

<http://bit.ly/njc21july> or www.lge.gov.uk

East of England Procurement Hub

Recently launched, the East of England Procurement Hub has a list of searchable national and regional framework contracts for use which can avoid the need of having to conduct your own procurement process. A unique and distinctive feature of the Hub is that it will offer you the ability to rate and review contracts which may help you with your supplier selection process. It will also give users access to a set of standard procurement documentation as well as links to information about training, events and good practice. Registration is **free** at: www.improvementeast.gov.uk/procurementhub/ or download the information leaflet [here](#).

PQASSO Quality Mark receives Charity Commission stamp of approval

The Charity Commission has announced its endorsement of the PQASSO Quality Mark - the new 'kite-mark' for the third sector. Organisations that achieve the PQASSO Quality Mark at levels 2 and 3 will be able to use the Charity Commission's Charity Quality Standards stamp confirming that they are accredited by standards that meet the Hallmarks of an Effective Charity. For more information about the PQASSO Quality Mark visit www.pqassoqualitymark.co.uk

Empowering the Voluntary Sector Newsletter

The ninth edition of the Empowering the Voluntary Sector Newsletter, which focuses on using the Compact to resolve disputes with public bodies, is now available on the NAVCA website.

www.navca.org.uk/services/learningopps/evs/evsnewsletter.htm

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WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP

Business and the third sector: Innovation in tough times NAVCA has welcomed a new report looking at how the third sector, public sector and private sector can support each other through the recession. The report was published by an independent taskforce commissioned by OTS and is part of the Real Help

for Communities plan announced in February.
www.navca.org.uk/news/businessandthirdsector

Herts Forward 2021 Bulletins

Click on <http://www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward/10hfpartnership/14039070/> for updates on the work of the Herts Forward partnership across the county (includes work of CAA, LAA and LSP).

Places Analysis Tool

The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) has created a 'Places Analysis Tool' (PAT) to help people find and use data on national indicators, including National Indicators 4, 6, 7 and 8. <http://bit.ly/patool> or www.navca.org.uk/ilpnews

The third sector role in Comprehensive Area Assessment

The NAVCA and IDeA guide to Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) is now available online. <http://bit.ly/caaguide> or www.navca.org.uk/ilpnews

LSP and LAA resources - from the Improvement Network

Following on from the Audit Commission's national study 'Working Better Together? - managing local strategic partnerships' the Improvement Network has published two new products to help local public, private and third sector partners work better together: the 'LSP improvement tool' and the 'Delivery Chain Toolkit' (designed to increase local partners' understanding of each others' roles and improve delivery of their local area agreements through delivery chain analysis workshops). <http://bit.ly/impnet> or www.navca.org.uk/ilpnews

Working together to deliver public services - real life stories

A collection of case studies compiled by NCVO to highlight different approaches that voluntary and community organisations and other providers have used to deliver public services together, [http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/index.asp?id=10020#Real life](http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/index.asp?id=10020#Real%20life).

When it Comes to the Crunch...

How councils are responding to the recession. Audit Commission.
<http://bit.ly/tothecrunch> or www.audit-commission.gov.uk

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LEGAL MATTERS

Companies Act changes

The Bates Wells & Braithwaite website has a summary of company law changes taking place on 1 October, which will affect charitable companies.
<http://bit.ly/companiesactchange> or www.bwbllp.com

Also see Sandy Adirondack on the change in model articles for company incorporation, <http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#companyformation>. However, further news on model rules for charitable companies is awaited, <http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charM&A-amendment>.

Reserves policies made simple

Guidance from Sayer Vincent. <http://bit.ly/reservespolicies> or www.sayervincent.co.uk

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Feelings Count

New Philanthropy Capital, in partnership with the Children's Society, has developed a questionnaire to enable charities and funders to measure the impact they have on 11 to 16 year olds' well-being. <http://bit.ly/feelingscount> or www.philanthropycapital.org

DCSF third sector strategy

DCSF has launched a new strategy outlining how the Government will work with the third sector to improve the life chances of children, young people and their families. <http://bit.ly/dcsftsstrategy> or www.dcsf.gov.uk

Engaging Young People in Your Community Organisation

The updated 'Youth Engagement Toolkit' from Community Matters sets out eight simple steps that will help young people take on a bigger role in local projects and groups. Available for download by community organisations via a short form at <http://preview.tinyurl.com/nec9uj>.

Funding Opportunities for Youth Media Projects

Three new funding opportunities are available from First Light: **Mini Mediabox** is entry-level grant giving smaller organisations (those with a turnover of less than £100,000) access to grants of up to £5,000 for youth-led media projects. **The Young Film Fund** will give 5 to 19 year olds professional support to make a short film, with available funds ranging from £3,000 to £30,000. **Second Light**, a talent development scheme centred on production based training, will give 30 young people aged 18 to 23, from BME backgrounds, supported opportunities to move into the film industry. www.firstlightonline.co.uk

Mix Mediabox

The Media Trust has opened a new £1.2m fund for charities and community groups to set up youth-led media projects. Mix Mediabox will offer grants of between £5,000 and £20,000 to groups setting up projects in which 13 to-19-

year-olds explore community cohesion. Stage 1 deadline is 21 September.
www.media-box.co.uk/funding.php?ID=1

Youth Music

Youth Music has launched a new round of its Open Programme, providing grants of between £5,000 and £30,000 to organisations working with children and young people aged 0-18 years old (or up to 25 years old if you work with detained young people, or those with disabilities or special educational needs). Projects can last between six and 24 months. Next deadline is 10 November.

www.youthmusic.org.uk

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PUBLICATIONS

A guide to funding and resources for social care

Skills for Care has launched an online guide to resources and funding for social care employers who want to develop the potential of their organisations and train staff. www.skillsforcare.org.uk

Skills for Care launch Common Core Principles for End of Life Care

Skills for Care have launched an easy to use set of common core competences and principles to help social care employers and workers working with adults at the end of their lives. The guide and associated e-learning is available from http://www.skillsforcare.org.uk/developing_skills/endoflifecare/endoflifecare.aspx?

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TRAINING/EVENTS

How can you attract and engage members?

NCVO membership conference. 21 October, London. www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/membconf09

Herts Training and Development Consortium

Visit www.HTDC.org.uk for latest training opportunities in Herts including Improving Outcomes for trainers and tutors (16 October), financial capability for frontline workers (with CAB input) and information about the Herts Funding Fair on 14 October 2009.

Thinking About Social Enterprise Workshops

Are you ...a charity looking at trading as a possible new income stream or a local authority officer wanting to understand more about social enterprise

Or a voluntary sector adviser unsure about whether to recommend trading to clients. If you are go to <http://www.see.co.uk/> for information about Thinking About Social Enterprise Workshops.

New SKiLD learning programme

The new SKiLD learning programme for Autumn 2009 to Spring 2010 is now available. All one day SKiLD courses are now £49 for development workers in organisations from all sectors, including lunch, refreshments and VAT. Courses include: 1 October, tools for development workers, Peterborough. This course is for people who have been supporting groups for a while, and want some new ideas and techniques; 2 October, negotiation skills, London. This course will give you strategies to help you persuade and influence people with confidence. www.skild.org.uk/training

SKiLDbites

The new edition of SKiLDbites, the e-bulletin specifically for development workers is now available. www.skild.org.uk

SKiLD Framework

The SKiLD framework website is a useful and user-friendly way for development workers from LIOs to track their personal development. Visit www.skildframework.org.uk to register for free.

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FUNDING

Communitybuilders Fund

Adventure Capital Fund has confirmed the criteria and investment packages for the Communitybuilders Fund, which have been agreed with the OTS and Communities and Local Government. Communitybuilders will provide a mix of loans, grants and non-financial support and 60% of the fund will be for loans. The fund will open on 7 September. www.communitybuildersfund.org.uk

Lloyds TSB Foundation: Young Offenders Programme

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales has launched a new £1m funding programme for charities which are working to improve the life choices and chances of young offenders. The programme is open to local, regional and national charities of any size that have a proven track record of working with young offenders in one or more of the following areas: accommodation; skills training; employment mentoring; drugs and alcohol; mental health; restorative justice; family support; and relationships. Expressions of interest should be submitted by 25 September. www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk

Porticus UK

Porticus UK award grants of between £10,000 and £25,000 for registered charities that strengthen family relationships or enrich education. Whilst they are faith-based, Porticus welcomes applications from non faith-based organisations. <http://porticusuk.com>

Faiths in Action

Faiths in Action is a £4m grants programme for faith, interfaith, and voluntary and community sector organisations at national, regional and local levels in England. It aims to bring faith communities together, promoting understanding, dialogue and partnerships. www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/faiths-in-action

Third sector work with offenders: Networking support grant programmes

NAVCA is inviting LIOs and sub-regional consortia to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to support networking or training activities which will build knowledge, skills and confidence and enable partnership work to implement plans to reduce re-offending at a local level. The closing date for applications 1 October. www.navca.org.uk/supportingoffendersnews

Future Jobs Fund

The Government has created a £1bn Future Jobs Fund to which local authorities and other organisations can bid to create around 150,000 new jobs. This is a new approach to create jobs and provide hope for young people and jobseekers in deprived communities. <http://campaigns.dwp.gov.uk/campaigns/futurejobsfund>

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OTHER NEWS

Vetting and Barring Scheme info resources

If you are involved in communicating the upcoming changes on vetting employees and volunteers who work with children and vulnerable people, you may want to check the resources available at <http://www.isa-gov.org.uk/toolkit/>. Produced by the Independent Safeguarding Authority, there are posters and email inserts for volunteers, groups not used to CRB checking/registering employees, and groups that are.

Lower cost for CRB checks

The Criminal Records Bureau is to reduce the fee for a Standard Disclosure from £31 to £26 as of 1st October. This is due to an expected increase in the volume of disclosure applications being processed as the new Vetting and Barring Scheme comes into place. However Enhanced checks, which are heavily used by organisations working with children or vulnerable adults, will remain at £36.

CRB news item at

http://www.crb.gov.uk/media/press_releases/crb_reduces_fees.aspx.

Basic legal advice by web and email

A new web-based system has been created to provide brief legal information in response to straightforward legal queries, to assist not for profit organisations and individuals who cannot afford to pay for solicitors privately. Initial Electronic Advice is run by LawWorks (the operating name for the Solicitors Pro Bono Group) in partnership with advice agencies and voluntary sector umbrella bodies.

<http://www.lawworksiea.org.uk>

Contingency planning for flu

NCVO has brought together a range of useful links giving information around contingency planning for swine flu. How would your organisation cope in the absence of key individuals or a high percentage of frontline staff?

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/about/index.asp?id=14012>. Personnel professionals body CIPD has also further updated its introductory guidance on how employers should respond at <http://www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/health/general/birdflu.htm>.

New advice line on personal debt issues

The Debt Advice Foundation, which promotes research and education around debt issues, has launched a hotline as a response to the increasing demand for support from people struggling with debt and money worries. See

<http://www.debtadvicefoundation.org> for more details.

Calling all VCS organisations working with offenders

Clinks' new, improved Working with Offenders Directory is ready for organisations to submit their details. Listing an organisation's details is free, quick and easy to do online. It enables you to promote your organisation's work to all those who use the Directory, including VCS organisations, prison and probation officers, commissioners and offenders. www.workingwithoffenders.org

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DISCLAIMER: *This Info Bulletin contains extracts from key Third Sector updates received by Herts CVS from different sources. Herts CVS does not endorse any publications, events and services mentioned and is not responsible for the content of external websites*

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