

## Monthly Update Providing Key Information about the Third Sector

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### **SURVIVING THE CUTS**

#### **Surviving the Spending Review**

NCVO's Third Sector Foresight has aggregated some key details and essential resources to help you respond to some of the longer term impacts of the spending review. Make sure that your organisation takes full advantage of the numerous opportunities offered by planning your response now.

<http://www.3s4.org.uk/news/what-might-the-spending-review-mean-for-you>

#### **Post CSR developments**

Is it a bird? Is it a plane? Visit <http://myhertstogether.blogspot.com> for some post-CSR developments.

#### **Crowdsourcing the cuts.**

NAVCA's compilation of actual cuts in government funding to VCS organisations around the country. This is a live document which is updated regularly. The latest version is available on the NAVCA website.

<https://spreadsheets.google.com/ccc?key=0AI3G3FWusZ9cdEV3cHFjS0YtZUgwS2FxVHBFY0hVcUE&hl=en#gid=0>

#### **Open letter to the Sector**

Cabinet Office Minister Francis Maude and Minister for Civil Society Nick Hurd have sent an open letter to the voluntary and community sector with an update on the outcome of the Spending Review and the opportunities and challenges it presents for charities, social enterprises, voluntary and community groups.

<http://www.consultationinstitute.org/home/big-society/>

#### **Political updates**

**COVER has a political updates page on its website.** This page is updated regularly to provide you with relevant information on key policy changes, budget

cuts and new responsibilities under the new coalition government.  
<http://www.cover-east.org/Political-Updates.asp>

***Also See Working in Partnership, Legal Update Public Sector Funding & Contracts & Events below***

## **WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP**

### **Better Together**

Nick Hurd launched Better together: preparing for local spending cuts to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.

Published jointly by NAVCA and the Office for Civil Society this document highlights examples of local public bodies and the voluntary and community sector working together successfully to manage the impact of public spending cuts. At this point in time the way in which local areas prepare and plan for forthcoming spending reductions is key.

The document identifies five principles of good practice:

- Communication
- Collaboration
- Transparency
- Strong leadership
- Robust evidence

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

### **Exposure of Sector to Cuts**

The Minister also launched Exposure of the voluntary and Community and Social Enterprise Sector to cuts in public funding. This Cabinet Office publication states "the first and foremost source for information should be through direct communication with the local voluntary community and social enterprise sector and infrastructure bodies. Local Councils for Voluntary Service (CVS) agencies hold a wealth of knowledge and scope of the local sector, its impact on citizens and communities and the current challenges it may be facing. Discussions of risks and impacts of potential spending cuts will be vital in mitigating the impact of any such cuts on the sector and the communities and citizens it supports".

<http://www.navca.org.uk/NR/rdonlyres/E72E08BC-E500-407C-BF1B-E141B082A8BB/0/ExposureofVCSEsectortopublicfundingcutsFINAL.pdf>

### **Big Society: Consultation Institute briefings**

The Consultation Institute has published a series of briefing papers on the Big Society, including The Big Society and the Voluntary Sector by Linda Rogers, Head of Communications and Engagement, Voluntary Norfolk.

<http://www.consultationinstitute.org/home/big-society/>

**Commissioning and the Big Society:** The Kindle partnership (of which NAVCA is a member) has published a guide for commissioners to help them understand

the role that community organisations can play.  
<http://www.navca.org.uk/publications/commbigsoc/>

## HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE

### **Health service reform**

Care Services Minister Paul Burstow has said in a response to a parliamentary question that voluntary organisations would continue to make a vital contribution to health and care and that the DH is keen for primary care trusts to engage with stakeholders, including organisations they hold funding agreements with (through both grant and contract arrangements) recognising the principles of the Compact.  
<http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm201011/cmhansrd/cm101110/text/101110w0003.htm#10111060001136>

### **NAVCA Members: Host a Health Event**

NAVCA is inviting members and local affiliates to apply for up to £3,000 to organise and host a learning and networking event on the new health structures being developed in your local area. Deadline: 17 December.  
<http://www.navca.org.uk/news/healthevents.htm>

### **Health and People with a Learning Disability – Consultation**

NHS East of England has launched a formal consultation on the proposed Vision for Better Health and Wellbeing for People with a Learning Disability and their Families. The consultation began on 12 October 2010 and will run through to 11 January 2011. The vision focuses on putting people with a learning disability at the centre. [http://www.eoe.nhs.uk/page.php?area\\_id=50](http://www.eoe.nhs.uk/page.php?area_id=50)

### **A Vision for Adult Social Care**

The Government has published its plans for adult social care services. <http://www.navca.org.uk/teams/hsc/news/visionadultsocialcare.htm>  
The Department of Health has also launched a consultation on Transparency in outcomes: a framework for adult social care - a new strategic approach to quality and outcomes in adult social care. Deadline: 9 February.  
[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH\\_121509](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Consultations/Liveconsultations/DH_121509)

### **Think Local , Act Personal**

NAVCA endorses the partnership agreement [Think Local, Act Personal](#), which sets out the next steps for personalisation and community-based support.  
<http://www.navca.org.uk/teams/hsc/news/thinklocal.htm>

## LEGAL MATTERS

### **Preparing for pension changes in 2012**

Anthony Collins solicitors has a reasonably clear explanation of the changes coming in from 1st October 2012 on employee auto-enrolment into a qualifying pension scheme. Employers should start preparing and checking

whether there could be additional costs and administration, and whether any existing pension scheme needs to be changed.

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/39gz993>

### **Legal factsheets for community groups**

LawWorks, the charity providing pro bono legal advice for community groups, continues to add to its range of online fact sheets. Recent additions include a glossary of common terms in commercial leases

<http://www.lawworks.org.uk/?id=498&entityType=Document>, and the new rules on Pre-Employment Health Questions under the Equality Act <http://www.lawworks.org.uk/?id=500&entityType=Document>

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

#### **Trading and social enterprise**

- Getting towards a definition of social enterprise. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#socialenterprise-definition](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#socialenterprise-definition)
- Business Link and Business Link London guidance on setting up a social enterprise – the London guidance in particular is also useful for existing charities or other organisations that need to move towards charging for their services or activities rather than depending on grants. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#socialenterprise-setup](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#socialenterprise-setup)
- Everything you need to know guide to the tax implications of charity trading, from the Charity Finance Directors' Group. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#trading-cfdg](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#trading-cfdg)

#### **Public sector funding & contracts**

- Refreshed, reviewed, reduced, renewed.... yet another new version of the Compact due soon. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#compact](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#compact)
- Compact implementation guide for local partnership working. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#compact-implementation](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#compact-implementation)
- New edition of NAVCA/NCVO's *Pathways through the maze: A guide to procurement law*. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#publicservicesdelivery](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#publicservicesdelivery)
- Some new resources on challenging funding cuts. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#challengingcuts](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#challengingcuts)

#### **Legal aspects of volunteering** (some updates a year old)

- Government abandons earned citizenship (which included volunteering as a route to it). New [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#earned-citizenship](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#earned-citizenship)
- New edition of Jobcentre Plus's *Volunteering while getting benefits* (DWP1023). [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vols&benefits](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vols&benefits) or go direct to [www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/dwp1023.pdf](http://www.dwp.gov.uk/docs/dwp1023.pdf)
- Volunteering held not to be an occupation. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vol-occupation](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vol-occupation)
- Low Incomes Tax Reform Group report on issues in reimbursing volunteer expenses. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volexpenses](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volexpenses)
- Volunteer Rights Inquiry to issue 'call to action' in the new year.

- [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volrightsinquiry](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volrightsinquiry)
- TUC/Volunteering England charter on relations between paid staff and volunteers. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vol-tuc-charter](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#vol-tuc-charter) or go direct to [www.tuc.org.uk/workplace/tuc-17329-f0.cfm](http://www.tuc.org.uk/workplace/tuc-17329-f0.cfm)
- Volunteering England resources now available only to members –listed some alternative sources. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volresources](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#volresources)

### Charity law

- Charitable incorporated organisation (CIO) delayed until spring 2011 at the earliest. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#cio)
- Revised Charity Commission guidance on trustees' duty to report serious incidents to the Commission. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#seriousincidents](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#seriousincidents)
- Charity Commission guidance on conflict of interest duties of directors of charitable companies. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#codir-conflict](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#codir-conflict) or go direct to <http://tinyurl.com/ycggf92>
- Registration of previously exempt charities. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charityreg-exempt](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#charityreg-exempt)

### Employment

- Government confirms that agency temps will get new rights from 1 October 2011. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#agencyrights](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#agencyrights)
- Resources on the status of interns. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#interns](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#interns)
- TUC, ACAS and ICO guidance on drug testing by employers. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#drugtests](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#drugtests)
- Supreme Court confirms that effective date of termination for notice of summary dismissal sent by post is when the employee receives and reads it. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#dismissalbypost](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#dismissalbypost)

### Changes in September and October 2010

**1 October:** New provisions in the Equality Act came into effect for charities whose beneficiaries are defined by a 'protected characteristic' – e.g. the beneficiaries are restricted to only women or men, or people of a particular racial, national or ethnic group, or of a particular s\*\*ual orientation, religion, belief or age, or disabled people in general or with a particular disability. Such charities now have to be able to show that such restriction is intended to prevent or compensate for a disadvantage, or is 'a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim' (which basically means it is objectively justifiable). The Charity Commission has published guidance, and does not expect this to be an issue for the majority of such charities. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#equality-charities](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#equality-charities) or go direct to the Charity Commission's guidance at <http://tinyurl.com/36r2aop>. Note: Charities and other organisations whose beneficiaries are not defined by a protected characteristic can provide services to such groups, provided the activities are intended to prevent or compensate for disadvantage or are a proportionate means of achieving a legitimate aim.

**1 October:** Equality and Human Rights Commission's codes of practice on employment; equal pay; and services, public functions and associations have been laid before Parliament.

[www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#equality-resources](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/employment.htm#equality-resources)

or go direct to <http://tinyurl.com/2fo5v3p>

**1 October:** Companies must have at least one natural person (human being) as a director. Trading subsidiaries and other companies – whether charitable or not – that have an incorporated body as sole director must urgently appoint at least one human director. [www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#codir-natural](http://www.sandy-a.co.uk/managing.htm#codir-natural)

**1 October:** Premises with a premises licence or club premises certificate must require photo ID for age verification, and must ensure alcohol is available in small units (unless it is sold only in sealed tins or bottles).

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

**1 September:** Revised CAP code for advertising, sales promotions and direct marketing, and new BCAP code for broadcast advertising.

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

**By 30 September:** Very large organisations with high electricity consumption may need to have registered for the CRC energy efficiency scheme (formerly called the carbon reduction commitment).

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

## CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

### CWDC

Education Minister Sarah Teather has announced the Government's decision to no longer fund workforce development activity through the Children's Workforce Development Council, to remove its NDPB status and to bring ongoing key functions into the Department. [http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/4333\\_cwdc-response-to-announcement-to-withdraw-funding](http://www.cwdcouncil.org.uk/news/4333_cwdc-response-to-announcement-to-withdraw-funding)

### Children England

Children England is currently offering three months trial membership for free. <http://www.childrenengland.org.uk/joinus/452>

### Improving outcomes for children, young people and families

The Department for Education is inviting expressions of interest for grant funding from voluntary and community organisations, social enterprises and other organisations bidding on a not-for-profit basis to support the delivery of key national priorities for children, young people and families. Deadline for expressions of interest: 9 December.

<http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/policiesandprocedures/procurement/a0037/current-contracts-advertised-by-the-department>

## RECENTLY PUBLISHED

### **Trustee Conflict of Interest**

A guide to conflicts of interest for charity trustees Charity Commission.

[http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Charity\\_requirements\\_guidance/Charity\\_governance/Good\\_governance/conflicts.aspx](http://www.charitycommission.gov.uk/Charity_requirements_guidance/Charity_governance/Good_governance/conflicts.aspx)

### **Localism and the VCS**

CLINKS, the national infrastructure body supporting VCOs working with offenders, has published localism and the VCS. Although aimed at organisations in the criminal justice sector, this will be of interest to the wider VCS.

<http://www.clinks.org/assets/files/PDFs/Localising%20justice.pdf>

## LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT/EVENTS

### **The Future of the Voluntary and Community Sector and Social Enterprises: Funding, Regulation and the Big Society Forum, 25 January 2011, Central London.**

This forum will examine the potential for new funding streams and mechanisms, the impact of government spending cuts on frontline organisations and how the third sector will fit into the Big Society. <http://www.insidegovernment.co.uk/other/voluntary-sector/index.php>

**Herts Community Foundation Annual Conference** followed by the **Herts Community Assembly Annual Conference**. Find out more about 'The Big Society' from a senior executive of the Office for Civil Society. 9 December 2010, 10am-3.30pm at **Fielder Centre, Hatfield Avenue, Hatfield. AL10 9TP.**

<http://hcfconference2010.eventbrite.com/>

## FUNDING

### **UK online centres**

If you can provide public access to computers and the internet you can join the UK online centres network and receive support and funding for your organisation.

<http://www.ukonlinecentres.com/corporate-pages/centre-partners-network/get-involved.html>

### **Comic Relief**

The latest cycle of Comic Relief funding is now open. Current programmes include: mental health; domestic and sexual abuse; refugee and asylum-seeking women; sport for change; local communities; older people; young people aged 11-25. Grants on average vary between £25,000 and £40,000 per year, for up to three years. Deadline 7 January; Expressions of interest for Sport for Change deadline: 17 December. [http://www.comicrelief.com/apply\\_for\\_a\\_grant/uk](http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk)

### **Waitrose Community Matters**

Each Waitrose branch has £1,000 (or £500 for convenience shops) each month

to share out between three local good causes.

<http://www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk/display.aspx?masterid=1d1b3ed8-af38-4649-88fb-ad44b0a97ae9&navigationid=622>

### **StreetSmart**

StreetSmart supports a wide range of homeless organisations that operate in the cities in which the campaign runs. Deadline: 24 December.

<http://www.streetsmart.org.uk/apply-for-funding.php>

### **Church and Community Fund**

The Church and Community Fund helps imaginative and innovative projects of all kinds that bring the community into the church and the church into the community. The maximum grant is £10,000. Deadline: 31 December.

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

### **Ulverscroft Foundation**

The Ulverscroft Foundation supports projects which will have a positive effect on the quality of life of visually impaired people.

<http://www.foundation.ulverscroft.com/>

### **Co-operative Membership Community Fund**

The Co-operative Membership Community Fund helps local communities throughout the UK. Between £100 and £2,000 is available for positive work in the community. <http://www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/>

### **The Lichfield Grant Aid Scheme**

Offers grants of up to £1,000 to individuals, residents' organisations, voluntary and community groups, and parish councils promoting participation in sport, leisure or cultural activities. Eligible expenditure includes purchasing sport or play equipment, running expenses for a new mother and toddler group, running costs for coaching courses, and staging events, festivals and arts projects. Deadline: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2010. <http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/grants>

### **Community Sustainable Energy Programme - Final deadline**

CSEP offers grants for the purchase and installation of any combination of renewable energy and insulation measures. Organisations can apply for up to £50,000 or 50% of the project cost. Final deadline is 17 December.

<http://www.communitysustainable.org.uk/page.jsp?id=2>

### **Pond Digging Fund**

In association with Biffaward, Pond Conservation has developed a fund to support pond creation in England and Wales. Deadline for third and final round: 23 December. <http://www.pondconservation.org.uk/millionponds/funding>

## OTHER NEWS

### **Don't stop the music**

The Government has decided to end voluntary and community groups' exemption from paying for music licenses. The licensing exemption will end on 1 January, but the licensing body PPL is "giving a grace period of one year for charities to allow them time to adjust to the new arrangements".

<http://www.ppluk.com/en/Music-Users/Information-for-Charities/>

### **Advertising and websites**

From 11 March 2011 material on websites that solicits funds or advertises products or services will be covered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

<http://www.asa.org.uk/Media-Centre/2010/ASA-digital-remit-extension.aspx>

### **Real Power for Communities Website Launched**

Real Power for Communities will be the biggest online campaign to get power devolved to local charities and community groups. It also helps you to understand ways local groups can benefit from Government plans to devolve powers and the Localism Bill. [www.rp4c.org.uk](http://www.rp4c.org.uk)

### **Portability of CRB checks**

The [Criminal Records Bureau](http://www.crb.gov.uk) has announced that it intends to make it possible for employers to share CRB checks, reducing the need for multiple checks. The Government aims to introduce this as part of legislation in the Freedom Bill, once detailed proposals have been modelled, developed and tested.

<http://www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk/faqs/portability.aspx>

### **Free advertising for voluntary roles**

Guardian Jobs has announced a new service allowing you to advertise your organisation's volunteer roles online free of charge. Tel 0203 353 3400 or email [sales@guardian.co.uk](mailto:sales@guardian.co.uk)

**IT's Champion:** [Click here](#) to read the latest edition of the newsletter of the Eastern Region Information Cluster, ERIC, and the East of England Regional ICT Champions <http://79.170.40.175/i-trust.org.uk/icteast/Newsletter/September%2010/index.htm>

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