

All written information is available, on request, in **Larger Print**,

on audio tape  and on disk 

Dates for SVS Mailing in 2009

Cut off date for articles	posting date
8 th June	29 th June
31 st Aug	21 st September
16 th Nov	7 th Dec

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The '**SVS MAILING**' is produced by:-
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SOUTHAMPTON VOLUNTARY SERVICES MAILING



Above: Volunteers are awarded for 100 hours Voluntary Service, certificates were given out at the Mayors Parlour by The Right Worshipful, The Mayor of Southampton, Councillor Elizabeth Mizon



**Southampton Voluntary Services -
working in partnership for the future of the city**

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Housing, Refugees/Asylum Seekers, the Homeless

Name	Deadline	amount	Website
Changing Lives Programme - Crisis	Opens 25th May 2009	Up to £2,500 to move towards work	http://www.crisis.org.uk/page.builder/changinglivesawards.html

Changing Lives Programme – Crisis <http://www.crisis.org.uk/page.builder/changinglivesawards.htm>

The Changing lives programme (run by Crisis) re-opened for applications on 25th May 2009. The programme provides financial awards of up to £2,500 to solitary people who are homeless or settling into a home and looking for support so that they may achieve their vocational goals. The Awards can be used for; course fees; equipment or materials for courses; tools materials and equipment to get back to work; and to set up a business. Applications can not be made by the homeless person, but rather by the support organisation providing ongoing help. This could be a key worker, someone providing guidance concerning training or employment, a housing support officer or someone like a mental health worker. Contact them on 0844 251 0111, or changing.lives@crisis.org.uk <http://www.crisis.org.uk/page.builder/changinglivesawards.html> for more information.

General (including, arts, buildings, elderly people etc)

Name	Deadline	amount	Website
Secret Millionaire Fund – Big Lottery Fund	Several rounds finishing 21 Dec	£300-£10,000	http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/fund_info.shtml Telephone 0844 888 0100.

Secret Millionaire Fund – Big Lottery Fund

The Big Lottery Fund (BIG) and Channel 4's have launched a £1 Million funding pot following the Secret Millionaire TV programme. Viewers can apply in two ways – by nominating a project that is already established (BIG will then contact the project to confirm eligibility) or, if they have an idea for a project that will make a difference to their community, they can contact BIG directly. The fund has the same criteria as the Awards for All programme, with 'grants' of between £300 and £10,000. There is also an eligibility test on the website (http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/funds_2/). The assessment process will take roughly 8 weeks. Applications can be submitted anytime until 21st December this year.

Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation

Awards grants to registered charities with projects falling into the categories of the Environment, Education. The Arts, Heritage, Youth, Community, Environment/conservation, Animal welfare, Health and Medical research, Housing, Welfare and Leisure. Grants range from single payments of between £200 to £5,000 to up to £100,000 in exceptional circumstances. Applications can be made at any time and decisions are made within the following three months. Please contact the Foundation on Tel: (020) 7408 2198 with any enquiries. Applications will need to be submitted by post to: the Bernard Sunley Charitable Foundation, 20 Berkley Square, London, W1J 6LH.

Children and Young People

name	deadline	amount	website
Children In Need	15 th July 09		http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/ SVS Mailing April 09
Young Filmmakers	7 th July '09 13 th Oct '09		www.firstlightmovies.com/funding grants continue into 2010
Headley Foundation	22nd July '09 30th Sep '09 25th Nov '09	£5000 maximum	http://www.hedleyfoundation.org.uk
The Yapp Charitable Trust	30 th Sep 09		http://www.yappcharitabletrust.org.uk/ SVS Mailing April 2009

Young Film Makers www.firstlightmovies.com/funding

Awarded by First Light Movies to young people aged between 5 and 18 to support all aspects of film productions. There are different funding streams available.:

The Pilot Awards - Deadline: **7th July 2009**. Grants up to £5,000 for production of a 5 minute film
What's the Big Idea Awards - Deadline: **13th October 2009**. Grants up to £3,000 to develop ideas and stories for films

Online application process. For further details please visit the website.

Young Roots (£3,000 to £25,000) <http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/YoungRoots/>

The Young Roots Programme aims to involve 13-25 year-olds in finding out about their heritage, developing skills, building confidence and promoting community involvement. Young Roots projects stem directly from young peoples' interests and ideas, harnessing their creativity and energy and helping them work with others in their local community.

Young Roots is a rolling programme and there are no deadlines for applications. You will receive a decision on your application within 10 weeks from us receiving your fully filled-in application

Hedley Foundation

The main objective is to support registered charities working with young people. Further priority is given to projects which deal with the provision of specialist equipment for Disabled people and the terminally ill, plus support for their carers. Most grants awarded are of capital or one-off nature, but the Trustees sometimes agree to help fund the introduction of new and innovative projects with a series of up to three annual grants. Few grants exceed £5,000 and most of them go to charities where they can make an impact. Exclusions include core revenue, costs, salary or transport funding. The Trustees meet six times a year. Application should be downloaded from the website and sent by post to: Mrs Pauline Barker, The Hedley Foundation, 1-3 College Hill, London EC4R 2RA. All applications will be acknowledged, but, in the case of those short-listed, not until after they have been considered by the Trustees. Please visit <http://www.hedleyfoundation.org.uk> for more

SCC Grants review

Many voluntary organisations will have heard that SCC has commenced a review of its grants scheme and several local groups have already spoken to us about their concerns around these concerns. SVS had expressed some initial views in respect of grant funding and its importance to the sector and had also expressed concern over the original proposed timetable for the review which was not Compact complaint which SCC has duly taken on board and adjusted so that the formal consultation period will now run from August to October. SVS Executive Committee have had an initial discussion about the stance we should take as an organisation and obviously we would wish this to be fully informed by our member organisations throughout the process so please feel free to contact Jo Ash on j.ash@southamptonvs.org.uk at anytime with your views or please copy us into any responses you make formally to SCC on this topic.

SCC recently hosted an initial informal meeting for organisations currently receiving grant funding which highlighted a wide range of issues and concerns that will inform the initial report going to **Cabinet on Monday 27th July**. The papers for this will be available on line on **Fri 17th July**. In response to the request from the organisations present SVS will host a voluntary sector only discussion on **Monday 20th July 6.30 – 8.30pm** at the Voluntary Action Centre which will inform us of the views of the sector and help decide what further action or representations should be made. Please confirm your attendance with Vicky Smith at SVS on v.smith@southamptonvs.org.uk or tel 023 8022 8291.

There will also be a jointly arranged SCC meeting for the sector as part of the formal consultation phase on **Thurs 17th September 6.30pm** at the Voluntary Action Centre. We look forward to hearing your views on this important issue and to seeing you at the meeting and please do not hesitate to contact Jo or any of the Voluntary Sector Support Team with your views.

Improvements to Voluntary Action Centre

SVS recently successfully applied for a capital grant through Capacity builders' Capital Investment Programme to provide a number of enhancements to the public areas of the Voluntary Action Centre. Improvements now in place include two ceiling mounted projectors and some new furniture in the meeting room suite; improved public access photocopying, scanning and printing equipment and an LCD communication screen to promote volunteering opportunities and other sector-specific information, both based in our reception area; and upgraded IT facilities and greater connectivity for public IT equipment, both with wired access and wireless access, throughout the building's public area.

These improvements will benefit all the groups and agencies making use of the building and will, we hope, make the building an even more attractive destination for groups and agencies seeking meeting room space in a central, convenient, well equipped and modern facility.

For information on how to book one of our meeting rooms please contact us on 02380 228 291 or email admin@southamptonvs.org.uk.



K2 URBAN YOUTH FESTIVAL



This year's K2 Urban Youth Festival will be held in Hogland's Park on Saturday 1st August from 12 – 6pm. The festival will provide a day of positive activity for young people, with loads of things to do in a safe and supportive environment. Young people are involved in organising the festival and perform on the stages. Added to this the festival is an opportunity for agencies to engage with young people about a whole range of things that can affect their lives.

The festival is organised by SVS Safe in Sound project and SCC Youth Support Service. For more info contact:

Rob Kurn

r.kurn@southamptonvs.org.uk

Simon Whitmore

Simon.Whitmore@southampton.gov.uk

Street Homeless Prevention Team

Homelessness Partnership 5-Aside Football Tournament 2009



Sixteen teams participated in this year's much anticipated annual Football Tournament, held at Southampton Sports Centre on 18th June. Teams came from projects in London, Bournemouth, Portsmouth, Winchester and Southampton and included service users and support staff. It was a great day, thoroughly enjoyed by both participants and spectators. This year, the semi finals both ended in penalty shoot outs and the final was a close match between teams from Southampton (College St) and Portsmouth (Centre Point) with the cup finally going to Centre Point. Ex Saints legend Francis Benali presented the trophies



The Tournament was sponsored by Saints in the Community and staffed by volunteers. Special thanks go to all those individuals from SVS, the SHPT volunteering project and in particular Barclays Bank whose staff team gave their time for a range of tasks from refereeing to organising the lunch. This annual event is now a regular on the calendar for many of the homeless services in the South and we have already had

volunteers put their name down for next years event.

Winners of the Homelessness Partnership Cup Centre Point Day Centre, Portsmouth



charitable purposes. Projects must be new or a distinctive extension of an existing project and make a significant difference to the users. Any formal group, including constituted groups and registered charities, are eligible to apply - as long as the group and project fulfils the set criteria. Applications are made on-line. Trustees are meeting in **May, August and November 2009**. For more information visit the <http://www.nominettrust.org.uk> or telephone 01865 334 000 or enquiries@nominettrust.org.uk.

New Funding Guidelines - Tudor Trust

The Trust is keen to support work across the UK which addresses the social, emotional and financial needs of people at the margins of our society. They are particularly interested in helping smaller, under-resourced organisations which offer direct services and which involve the people they work with in their planning. Established funding areas include: youth, community relationships, mental health, substance abuse, and homelessness, older people, learning, housing, financial abuse and criminal justice. Successful applications are listed on their website: many groups have received 3 year funding.

There is no set grant amount as applicants are advised to apply for what they need. Grants can last over one, two or three years. The Foundations has a Two stage process. First stage proposals include an introductory letter. Those invited to stage two will be informed within one month. Applications can be made at anytime. Decisions on most applications made within three months of progression to second stage. For further information, please visit <http://www.tudortrust.org.uk/> and <http://tudortrust.org.uk/Portals/0/downloads/Funding%20guidelines%200911.pdf>

New Funding guidelines: The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

The Esmée Fairbairn Foundation revised their guidelines at the beginning 2009. The Foundation aim to fund activities of charitable organisations that "have the idea and ability to achieve change for the better". The Foundation is primarily interested in organisations with a national level remit, who carry out work that is difficult to fund. Successful applicants:-
Address *significant* gaps in provision, develop or strengthen good practice, do things in a new way, challenge convention, test out new ideas or practices, take an enterprising approach, set out to influence policy or change behaviour.

The Foundation allocates one third of it's funds to specific "strands" of work, currently around the subjects of: Biodiversity, Museum and Heritage Collections and New Approaches to Learning (more information on these strands can be found at <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/funding-strands.html>).

Two thirds of funding will be spent on the Foundation's Main Grant's programme - of which the focus is work around the UK's cultural life, education, the natural environment and enabling people who are disadvantaged to participate more fully in society.

The Foundation makes grants towards core and project costs.. Applicants can hold 'strand' funding and 'main' funding simultaneously, though they may only submit one application at a time, There is no maximum grant size - the Foundation asks that the amount you request should be the amount you need. Grants are for 1-3yeras. There are no deadlines for applications - Trustees meet four times a year. The Foundation has a number of exclusions, please visit <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/main-exclusions.html> for more information. Applicants are strongly advised to seek further information from the Foundation's website at <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/>.



Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales is one of the UK's leading grant-makers and funds small and medium sized underfunded charities (12 months reserves or less) working at the heart of communities to tackle disadvantage across England and Wales. *They would welcome more enquiries from **Southampton**.*

The Foundation's Community Programme supports charities that help disadvantaged people play a fuller role in the community, particularly where that is achieved through improving social & community involvement; improving life choices & chances, or helping people to be heard. The programme supports charities to continue and develop their existing work; help improve the quality of services; expand services; and implement projects.

Grants from the Community Programme are from one to three years and are appropriate to the size and needs of each charity. Charities applying for a grant from the Community Programme should be clear about the specific changes and benefits that their work will provide for their beneficiaries.

The Foundation will not support: Capital projects, appeals and refurbishments, Holidays or trips; Environmental work, expeditions and overseas travel.

All Applicants are requested to complete an online expression of interest form before submitting a full application and will be advised of deadlines when they have spoken to a member of the Foundation's staff. To view the full guidelines for charities applying for a grant from the Lloyds TSB Foundation Community Programme, and to find out if your charity might be eligible, please visit www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk.

<http://www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk/HowtoApply/Pages/HowToApply.aspx>

The Rayne Foundation

The Rayne Foundation provide grant aid for UK registered charities, in support of work of national importance, which helps society's most vulnerable or disadvantaged individuals, especially children, young people and the elderly. Support is given for organisations which focus on: increasing understanding and/or tolerance, tackle exclusion, reduce conflict and build productive relationships which benefit the public. They have a list of more focused special interests on their website (<http://www.raynefoundation.org.uk/GrantAreas.aspx>). The Foundation will fund Capital work (unless specifically stated in certain sectors), salaries and all types of project costs plus a reasonable contribution to overheads; general running or core costs (normally for a maximum of three years). Applicants will need to complete a "first stage" initial application form – if successful, applicants will be asked to complete a detailed form. First stage applications can be made at any time. For more details, please visit <http://www.raynefoundation.org.uk/Guidelines.aspx>

Nominet Trust

The Nominet Trust was set up to provide funding for innovative Internet projects that make a positive difference to the lives of disadvantaged and vulnerable people. It offers grants to support the improvement and safe usage of the Internet for educational, inclusion, research and other



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**REACH FOR THE STARS : SHOWCASING DAY CARE
HALF YEARLY MEETING & CONFERENCE
WINCHESTER PLANETARIUM
WEDNESDAY 10th JUNE 2009 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.**



Celebrating 25 years in Independent Living

1984—2009
6th November 2009

For more information

Phone 023 8033 0982
Minicom 023 8020 2649
www.southamptonCIL.co.uk

Everybody needs good Neighbours.....

This years Mayoral theme is Community and citizenship. As part of this the Mayor is championing a Good Neighbours Weekend, where individuals and groups will be encouraged to do something for their neighbourhood and its residents. It can be anything from inviting neighbour in for tea or tidying an elderly persons garden the possibilities are endless For more information contact the Mayors Office or have a look at the website www.southampton.gov.uk

Do you provide care for a relative or friend who cannot manage without your help?

Do you live in Millbrook, Shirley, Maybush, Shirley Warren or Freemantle?

We are a group of carers who want to start a self help group to provide short breaks of 2—3 hours.

The basic idea being you look after 2 people at the same time while the other carer can use that time for other activities and personal time. By coming together we can meet our common needs.

We will be arranging a meeting for anyone who is interested please contact us through Nathan Brown on 02380 630068 or email Nathan@risecomputershop.com

*** Officers Needed ***

Do you or any of your family suffer from Osteoporosis? Our local support group is at serious risk of closure due to lack of committee members. We need a Chairperson and Secretary ASAP. If you or anyone you know is interested please contact us on 02380 76 76 23.

Just a reminder.....

St Marks Church have a wide variety of halls and meeting rooms for use by the public and local organisations, which are currently underused. To arrange a booking or for more information please contact bookings@stmarkssoton.co.uk or visit the website www.stmarkssoton.co.uk





Improving support
for a stronger third sector

Capacity Builders Modernisation Fund!

Free morning workshops are being held in Winchester on 29 June 2009, Southampton on 30 June and Portsmouth on 1 July to explore the impact of the economic downturn and signpost you to useful resources and funding.

The workshop is being run by Community Action Hampshire, who is acting as a Local Delivery Agent for the Government's NEW [Modernisation Fund Grants Programme](#). During the workshop you will have chance to:

- look at how the economic downturn may be affecting the local communities you serve
- look at what your organisation can do to respond and increase your impact and become more resilient by working more closely with others
- learn more about a range of useful resources
- find out more about how to apply for the new Modernisation Fund Grants Programme.

To find out more about this event and register your interest in attending, please contact: rosie.taylor@action.hants.org.uk for further details.

About the Modernisation Fund Grants Programme.

The first phase of the Modernisation Fund Grants Programme is aimed at helping you understand your needs better. During June and July organisations delivering services that meet the needs of communities affected by the recession will be able to apply for £1,000 bursaries to pay for initial advice to explore how they can become more resilient and increase their impact by working more closely with others. Early applications are encouraged and will stand more chance of being successful. Visit www.modernisationfund.org.uk to find out more.

Please contact Philip Lee on
023 8021 6017 for further information

Buildings/Environment/Ecology

Name	Deadline	amount	Website
Landscape Partnerships – Heritage Lottery Fund	10 th October for Pre qualification	£250,000- £2 million	http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/LandscapePartnerships
Parks for People – Heritage Lottery Fund	31 st July ish to meet pre-qualification date	£250,000- £2 million	http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/Parks+for+People/
Biffaward Funding	Deadlines vary, please visit website.		http://www.biffaward.org/welcome.php Featured SVS Mailing April 09

The Dulverton Trust. <http://www.dulverton.org/>

The Dulverton Trust is an independent grant-making charity. We provide money to UK registered charities and to organisations with charitable status. We do not provide support for individuals. Groups who operate on a local basis and have an income of less than £400k can apply for up to £3,500. The panel meet 4 times per year.

The Trust prioritise areas of deprivation and the Cotswolds. They fund ecology- but most small grants seem to be awarded to Youth clubs, Scout groups Community Associations etc. They value letters of thanks

Mental health and Well-being

Name	Deadline	amount	Website
Ecominds (Big Lottery Fund)	65 grants of under £20,000 available	Small to £250,000	http://www.mind.org.uk/ecominds/FAQ.htm .; www.ecominds.org.uk or call the Changing Spaces Advice Line on 08453 671 671. Featured SVS Mailing April 09

New Grant Addressing Mental Health Issues For Prisoners and ex-offenders <http://www.trusthousecharitablefoundation.org.uk/home.html>

From July 2009, the Trusthouse Charitable Foundation will start a three year themed grant which will fund projects addressing mental health issues for prisoners and ex-offenders. Organisations working in this field, should contact the Foundation for an initial discussion. They will then send details of how to apply nearer the time. The Foundation usually makes £2 million of grants per year with the average grant around £6,000 though they can range from £1,000 to £30,000

New grant for disabled young people between 12 and 18 years

Name	Deadline	amount	Website
Fun and friendship	July 2009	12 grants of £300,000 over 3 yrs	BBC Children in Need 020 8576 7788 Email Pudsey@bbc.co.uk http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml

Fund and Friendship BBC Children in Need

Programme aims to create ongoing opportunities for young disabled people to meet friends, have a good time and 'do what everyone else does'. Successful applicants will clearly demonstrate where young people play an active role in running the project, describe how young people are currently supported and how they anticipate providing this aspect of the programme.

SVS produce a *small grants guide*, which lists funding up to £10,000. It can be downloaded from our website www.southamptonvs.org.uk under funding, or call 02380 228 291.

We also produce a series of *factsheets*, including topics on funding, business planning, managing funds etc. Downloadable from www.southamptonvs.org.uk under 'sector support'

We subscribe to the *Charities Information Bureau* newsletter, which we can forward to SVS members. Call us on 02380 228 291, or you can subscribe yourself: www.fit4funding.org.uk

We hold some information on funding, including for *individuals in need*, or loans for musical instruments. l.evans@southamptonvs.org.uk tel 02380 216019

We have *funderfinder*, a database, which all voluntary groups may use. Call 02380 228291 to make an appointment to use the programme. If you haven't used the programme before, then a Development worker can be available to help you.

Before making an application, to any funder, Please, please

- o **Check the criterion, read the exclusions,**
- o **Complete the application form, follow the guidance**
- o **comply with deadline dates**

enclose all the requested paperwork

All funders report that many, many applications end up in the bin for the above reasons!

The following is provided with thanks to **Southampton City Council Funding Opportunities Group Bulletin (FOG) - Regeneration Team - May 2009.**

If you wish to be added to the FOG Newsletter circulation list please contact Paula Studd on **02380 832355**, or email paula.studd@southampton.gov.uk

As a result of consultation carried out by Paula for the FOG Newsletter, we are now able to offer 'headline information'. For Grants over £100,000 we plan to give web links. For grants featured in earlier editions of SVS mailing, the issue will be listed. Earlier copies of SVS mailing can be accessed through our website www.southamptonvs.org.uk under publications

Please note, there are also some additional funders found through RAISE, CVS network, notified to SVS etc listed Please let us know your views on the changed layout, and whether you have found these pages useful. l.evans@southamptonvs.org.uk or tel 02380 216 019. Thank you!

Grantfinder

Southampton City Council has an online free funding database, available to all Southampton residents and project beneficiaries with an email address, as long as their project has a Southampton postcode. It is based at: <http://www.euro-info-centre.co.uk/funding.htm>. When you have registered with them, you will be e-mailed a password which will allow you to gain access. Having logged onto the system you will need to answer a few simple questions about yourself and the project you wish to undertake; the database, Grantfinder, will then provide an overview of all the schemes available.

Volunteering Opportunities

Volunteering for Nacro Volunteers play a vital role in Nacro's youth projects, community mediation work and its education and employment schemes – and a growing part in our work with prisoners. Volunteers offer their time, skills and experience and, in return, Nacro offers training and a chance to get involved in positive and effective activities. Volunteers join Nacro for all sorts of reasons - to give young people a good start in life and to put something back into the community; or to gain work experience, receive training, challenge themselves, and meet new people.



Nacro volunteers get involved in many different roles, including:

- Coaching young people in football projects
 - Providing one to one support to learners in our education and employment centres
 - Mentoring young and adult prisoners before and after release
- Using theatre and drama to educate and engage young people

For more info contact Becky Spake on 02380216002 or email b.spake@southamptonvs.org.uk



Southampton Shopmobility provides a wheelchair and mobility scooter hire service to any one with a limited mobility be it temporary or permanent.



Working as a volunteer office assistant is a varied and rewarding role with no two days the same! You'll be one of the first points of contact for customers, answering the phone, providing information about the service, booking and registering customers, dealing with a range of enquiries and providing instruction on vehicles. In addition to this we work with the disabled community in Southampton attending events and giving presentations to groups.



Volunteers usually work half a day a week. For more information contact Lilah Turtle Tel: 02380 631263 or E-mail: city.shopmobility@southamptonvs.org.uk

Options The service is looking for enthusiastic and caring volunteers to join the friendly team to assist in the smooth running of the office, and welcoming the clients to ensure the best possible service for them.

- Duties will vary from greeting clients and signing them in, preparing client files through to safe recording and storage of files at the end of treatment.
- Taking calls from clients, taking their details and signposting them where appropriate. Making sure our waiting room is user friendly.



For more info contact Becky Spake on 02380216002 or email b.spake@southamptonvs.org.uk

DWP Volunteering Scheme Summary**Background**

In England, BTCV, CSV, V and Volunteering England have been appointed to broker suitable work-focused volunteering placements for Jobseekers Allowance claimants. The programme will run for two years, with a value of £6.8 million, and will aim to place 34,000 jobseekers in work-focused volunteering placements.

Role of SVS

Our role is to take referrals from the Jobcentres, meet with any perspective candidates and match them with an organisation where they can volunteer for an unspecified period of time. If the Jobseeker and potential volunteer agrees, we will then help them find a volunteering role. The qualifying criteria for clients are:

- they must be claiming Jobseekers Allowance
- they must have been claiming JSA for 6 months or longer
- they have been referred to us by a Jobcentre Plus office
- they have not chosen the 6 month volunteering option before



Part of the Department for
Work and Pensions

Our aim is to facilitate a volunteering opportunities for these DWP clients. Our experience has shown that volunteering can help individuals who are looking for work to build up a routine, improve their self-confidence, increase their motivation as well as help them gain new skills and knowledge.

For the purposes of this referral system the volunteering option they choose must provide them with work related experience. This could range from turning up on time and carrying out simple tasks at a one-off event to something more involved and longer term if this has the agreement of all parties.

SVS has been clear with the JCP that any referrals are individuals who genuinely want to volunteer their time in the hope of making themselves more employable. The scheme is entirely voluntary and there is no question of the volunteer having their benefits sanctioned for not turning up or for choosing not to engage with this volunteering option.

Organisations that are willing to take volunteers on short-term placements under this scheme will receive a £10 placement fee for every volunteer that attends. The initial expenses of the volunteer will be covered up to £20.

The Volunteers Coordinators Group will be covering the subject in more depth their next meeting on Tuesday 23rd June, 1pm at the SVS building, The VAC Kingsland Square, St Mary's.

To attend or for more information contact
Becky Spakeon 02380 216002 or
email b.spake@southamptonvs.org.uk.

DWP Department for
Work and Pensions

**Southampton City Council – Review of Grants to Voluntary Organisations**

On 16th March 2009, Southampton City Council's Cabinet approved a review of its grants to voluntary organisations. The council recognises the immense contribution of the voluntary sector to the city and its citizens which it supports in many ways including significant financial contributions through annual revenue grants amounting to £2.2 million and also contracts for services.

This article provides an update on the review and gives advance notice of a consultation event on 17th September.

The recommendations approved by the Cabinet on 16th March 2009 were:

- a corporate review of grants covering cross-Portfolio and individual Portfolio voluntary sector funding issues is undertaken across all grant making Portfolios
- the review of advice provision in relation to immigration, nationality and race advice services is incorporated into the wider review of advice services being undertaken as part of the corporate grants review
- authority to agree the full scope of the review is delegated to the Stronger Communities and Equalities Manager following consultation with the lead Cabinet Member for voluntary sector issues
- the review is completed by July 2009 to ensure that grant aided organisations are given sufficient notice of changes that may result in significant reductions in grants in the next funding cycle.

The Review is being carried out by the Neighbourhood Services Division of the council (Stronger Communities and Equalities Team). It is being overseen by a Reference Group that includes external representation from the University of Southampton (Professor involved in third sector research) and RAISE. In practice, the review has, in the main, only been carried out internally so far, before formal consultation is launched with the voluntary sector.

In carrying out this Review it is important to note that grant allocations reflect the council's new priorities, i.e.:

- Providing good value, high quality services
- Getting the city working
- Investing in education and training
- Keeping people safe
- Keeping the city clean and green
- Looking after people

There are also a number of other issues currently affecting voluntary sector funding that need to be considered. These have been identified as a result of the preliminary internal consultations. They include:

- "silted up" grants budgets with no capacity to fund new groups/projects
- the impact of procurement legislation on grants
- appropriate funding mechanisms i.e. grant aid or contracts for services
- building local voluntary sector capacity to respond to tender opportunities
- up-dating Funding Agreements, Criteria and Conditions of Grant Aid
- support for organisations responding to the economic downturn
- support for voluntary sector advice services
- ensuring other reviews being undertaken or planned are done within a corporate framework to ensure consistency (e.g. review of sport and recreation funding)

The council's Cabinet will meet on 27th July to consider the outcome of the internal Review. Some informal consultation with current grant aid recipients will inform this report. A number of recommendations in principle will be made in this report, subject to a formal 12 week consultation period with the voluntary sector to comply with the Compact Code on Consultation. A report will then be brought back before Cabinet in November/December for a final decision on the recommendations arising from the review.

As part of this consultation, Southampton City Council will be holding a 'stakeholder' event on 17th September, from 6.30pm at the offices of Southampton Voluntary Services in Kingsland Square. Light refreshments will be provided. This event is not restricted to current recipients of grant aid as the council is keen to consult as widely as possible.

If you would like to attend then you will need to book a place by contacting the Stronger Communities and Equalities Team by either phoning 023 80833445 or emailing communities.equalities@southampton.gov.uk.





Empowering the Voluntary Sector to Influence Public Bodies

NAVCA are organising workshops across the country to give confidence to voluntary sector organisations in influencing public bodies. Events take place in:

Lincoln 02.06.09 (EVS114)
 Chester 03.06.09 (EVS121)
 Taunton 10.06.09 (EVS122)
 Reading 02.07.09 (EVS123)
 Stratford-upon-Avon 08.07.09 (EVS125)
 Kings Lynn 15.07.09 (EVS126)

For further information please go to www.navca.org.uk/evs

Futurebuilders

Futurebuilders have just launched two exciting new services.

The first one is merge maker, an online match making service for third sector considering working together.

The second is a pilot consortium which will provide core services such as bid writing, financial modelling, contract negotiation, and performance management for third sector organisations wishing to bid for public sector contracts in the fields of welfare reform, education and training, and health and social care.

Future builders are currently looking for organisations with interest and expertise in contracting and service delivery to join the management and delivery arm of the consortium.



Investing in the third sector
Improving public services

If you are interested or would like further information please have a look at the website www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk

In Other News.....

New Government Taskforce—the taskforce is looking at ways of bringing business and third sector together to help communities affected by the down turn. It will report its findings to Laim Byrne, Minister for the Cabinet Office, before the end of July.

National Compact— A refreshed national compact is to be launched in Compact week in November. A consultation is scheduled for June-August.

New WACA Chief Executive—Paul Williams has been appointed as WACA's new Chief Executive to replace Diana Woodridge. Paul has previously been a Director of a major UK charitable foundation, and he has worked extensively as a management consultant for third sector organisations. We wish Paul much success as he takes on this role.



Southampton Partnership Update

There have been no further meetings of Southampton Partnership Policy Board since our last report as this is only scheduled to meet twice a year.

SP Delivery Board though continues to meet monthly and has been attended by Phil Lee SVS Deputy Chief Executive.

Recent agendas included items on progress against work plans and the 09/10 business and communications plan, a presentation on the development of Neighbourhood management in the city and an update on the approach to the Comprehensive Area review in April as well as updates in the LAA 2007 -10 stretch targets pump priming allocation 2009 refresh submission and Migration Impact grant funding bid . These papers should all be available on the SP website –

www.southampton-partnership.org.uk

At the May meeting items considered included use of vacant retail premises , including for possible community use, Public procurement and Small / Medium Enterprises which are experiencing similar issues to voluntary groups in progressing opportunities under the current rules, support for Job-seekers, impact of the Chancellors budget statement on the city and opportunities for the city linked to the Olympics 2012.

In additional both meeting tracked the indicators being used to monitor the economic downturn effects in the city which show a variable picture as might be expected. SVS has submitted an update paper on the impact of volunteering and capacity to respond to increased enquiries which will be discussed at the June meeting. Positive inks have been made with Job Centre Plus to ensure that there is additional support available for unemployed people wishing to keep their skills live and work pattern active through volunteering and any organisations wishing to ensure its volunteering vacancies are actively promoted should contact Becky Spake at SVS on T 80216016 or email

B.Spake@southamptonvs.org.uk or email Volunteering@southamptonvs.org.uk

SPDB also considered performance against the first quarter for the LAA targets with review in detail undertaken by each of the 4 key partnerships – The Children Trust, Safe City partnership , Health and Wellbeing partnership and Economy and Enterprise Board. The LAA comprises 12 strategic targets with 22 performance indicators, 33 designated targets, 16 statutory targets for children and young people's educational attainment and 165 Local Improvement targets so there is a full range of areas for the boards to oversee and progress. Again a comprehensive paper setting these out can be seen on the SP website.

If you would like any information about any of these matters please feel free to contact Jo Ash at SVS or any of the 3 elected sector reps – Mary Carnegie, Gulzar Sharif and Pete White.





Pensions - Personal Accounts Regulations

2012 will not only be a landmark year in the UK with the arrival of the summer Olympics. It will also be the year in which pension compulsion arrives. This is a major change to UK pensions. The Government has estimated that some 7 million people are either not saving enough or not saving at all for their retirement. To deliver their aims, the Government is placing the onus on employers to help in encouraging more people to save through Personal Accounts. This will affect all employees and employers, the new system will effectively force many workers to save for their pensions for the first time - and force their employers to contribute as well.

Key Issues

Employers must auto-enrol all jobholders in a pension scheme if they are aged between 22 and state pension age and earn more than £5,035

Automatic enrolment also applies to workers, as well as employees, and in particular to agency workers. The legislation defines employees and workers collectively as "jobholders"

Jobholders will contribute a minimum of 4% of earnings between £5,035 and £33,540 a year, while employers will contribute 3% on the same band of earnings. The effect of excluding the first £5,035 of earnings is to reduce the effective rate of employer contribution on total pay. To take an easy example, the effective rate of contribution in relation to a jobholder earning £10,000 a year will be only 1.5% of gross pay.

There will also be a transitional provision whereby the employer contribution will start at 1% of earnings in the first year, moving up to 2% in the second year, and 3% from the third year onwards.

For their part, jobholders will be able to opt out of the scheme, but if they do so they will be auto-enrolled back in again every three years.

The employer will have to either enrol employees in a Personal Account, or put them into the company's existing pension plan, provided that the plan is as good as a Personal Account.

- If the jobholder does not want to be a member of a plan they will have to opt out.



SWINE FLU Department of Health Information For the 3rd Sector

Current Situation

As you will be aware, cases of Swine Flu have been confirmed in various countries and a number of people in the UK are now known to have contracted the virus. The World Health Organization (WHO) have increased the pandemic influenza alert to level 6, highlighting that the current threat from Swine Flu has now become a pandemic. Doctor Margaret Chan Director - General of the World Health Organisation has this to say -

"In late April, WHO announced the emergence of a novel influenza A virus. This particular H1N1 strain has not circulated previously in humans. The virus is entirely new. The virus is contagious, spreading easily from one person to another and from one country to another. As of today, nearly 30,000 confirmed cases have been reported in 74 countries. This is only part of the picture. With few exceptions, countries with large numbers of cases are those with good surveillance and testing procedures in place. Spread in several countries can no longer be traced to clearly-defined chains of human-to-human transmission. Further spread is considered inevitable. I have conferred with leading influenza experts, virologists, and public health officials. In line with procedures set out in the International Health Regulations, I have sought guidance and advice from an Emergency Committee established for this purpose. On the basis of available evidence, and these expert assessments of the evidence, the scientific criteria for an influenza pandemic have been met. I have therefore decided to raise the level of influenza pandemic alert from phase 5 to phase 6. The world is now at the start of the 2009 influenza pandemic."

Role of the Third Sector

Throughout a pandemic, third sector organisations may receive additional requests for help, particularly from health and social care partners, who need to be freed up to provide critical care. You may wish to consider how your services or activities may be utilised, enhanced or expanded to help and what support volunteers and staff may need to take on new, enhanced or expanded roles. Your ability to provide this help will depend on your current capabilities, your knowledge of the likely needs of your current service user groups and the effect a pandemic may have in reducing your own capacity and resources. Addressing this now will help you consider the potential impact of your decisions and choices on your partner organisations and the statutory services.

More information

In order to help you access the most appropriate information for you and your organisation as easily as possible, a protocol has been agreed that makes:

- Directgov (www.direct.gov.uk/swineflu) the primary government website for essential cross-government swine flu messages
- NHS Choices (www.nhs.uk) the primary public-facing health information and advice service
- the Department of Health website (www.dh.gov.uk) the home of content relating to health and care professionals
- Business Link (www.businesslink.gov.uk/swineflu) the home of business-related information.

A swine flu information line has also been set up and is available on 0800 1 513 513 (or 0800 0 514 142 in Northern Ireland)



The Home Office has announced the dates for the Vetting & Barring Scheme Information Roadshow Series, presented in association with the Department for Children, Schools and Families and the Department of Health.

The series will demonstrate how the Criminal Records Bureau and the Independent Safeguarding Authority will deliver the new scheme as laid down by the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006.

The events will explain the scope of the scheme and impact on employers, voluntary organisations and service users, and provide an opportunity for delegates to have their questions answered.

The events are free to attend and open to all interested parties, however, places are limited and must be booked in advance through the Vetting & Barring Scheme on line booking service at www.isa.gov.uk.

The venues will run a morning session from 10:00am until 1:00pm and an afternoon session from 2:00pm until 5:00pm, with the exception of London which will run a single session from 1:00pm until 4:00pm.

If you have any questions or queries about the Vetting and Barring Scheme or the role of the ISA then a new dedicated contact centre is ready to take your calls.

You can get in touch with the Vetting and Barring Scheme's enquiry handlers by calling 0300 123 1111.

This is a Lo-call number and you will only be charged the same rate as you would be for making a local telephone call.

The CRB has released its new Code of Practice for recipients of Disclosure information today.

Organisations that are using CRB checks must comply with the CRB's Code of Practice.

The previous Code of Practice was produced at the inception of the CRB and was first published in 2001. Since then there have been a number of key legislative changes, such as the Police Act 1997 (Criminal Records) (Registration) Regulations 2006 which placed mandatory conditions on Registered/Umbrella Bodies.

The new Code of Practice brings together all of the legislative changes which have come into force since 2001 into one document for easy reference and clearly outlines the eight key obligations for Registered/Umbrella Bodies.

The new Code of Practice is available to download from the CRB website www.crb.gov.uk and any copies of the previous code should be destroyed.

It is anticipated that this automatic enrolment will significantly increase the number of people saving in a pension plan for their retirement.

The most important point is that if employers have to pay pension contributions for higher numbers of staff their costs are going to rise and will need to understand the implications of this.

- Review your scheme and check how the current contribution rates compare against the proposed new arrangements.
 - Check with your current provider to see if they are likely to be able to offer any form of auto enrolment in compliance with the proposed legislation.
- If you have no current pension provider, plan the phased introduction of pension benefits over the next few years so that come 6 April 2012 you do not have a sudden hike in payroll costs.

Projected number of people of standard pension age or older (thousands)

Year	2008	2015	2020	2030	2040	2050
Women	7,465	7,197	6,877	7,896	8,715	8,698
Men	4,324	5,264	5,804	6,721	7,396	7,360
Total	11,789	12,461	12,681	14,617	16,111	16,058
Total % of population	19%	19%	19%	21%	22%	21%

Government Seeks Feedback on fit note

A twelve week consultation has opened on the government's new fit note which will replace the current sick note aiming to help more people stay in work rather than succumbing to long term absence. Employer's views are sought on the design of the note, which will give more medical advice on how an employer might accommodate employees with health problems. The new fit notes are planned to roll-out across the UK in spring 2010. For more information visit the Health Work and Wellbeing website www.workingforhealth.gov.uk