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USEFUL WEBSITES

Aside from research on the internet and other sources, there are three subscription services which have been used to compile the information in this newsletter:

- Charities Information Bureau: <http://www.cibfunding.org.uk/>
- Grants Online: <http://www.grantsonline.org.uk/>
- Profunding: <http://www.fundinginformation.org/>

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information contained herein, however, please note that sources and conditions of grant aid may change rapidly and individuals should check all appropriate conditions prior to application. Contact details also alter frequently, so website addresses have been included for access to up-to-date information.

GRANTS & AWARDS

YEAR OF THE VOLUNTEER 2005 SMALL GRANTS PROGRAMME

Volunteering England, in partnership with BitC, The Media Trust, TimeBank and Youth Action Network, Youthnet, are distributing small grants in order to enable and encourage more people to participate in the Year by taking action to address the needs of their own communities.

2005 small grants aim to support local people to put their own ideas into action.

All activities should:

- ❑ be owned, managed and delivered by local people and
- ❑ must aim to involve other local people in its delivery
- ❑ benefit the local community.

Size of grants

- ❑ Grants of £500 - £1,500 will be available to individual people or informal groups of people (e.g.: a group of work colleagues) to organize a project or activity in their area which will make a difference to their community

OR

- ❑ Grants of £1,000 - £4,000 will be available to formal groups and societies (e.g.: parent's groups) and not-for-profit organizations (e.g.: registered charities; schools) to support individual people to organize their own project or activity

OR

- ❑ Grants of up to £6,000 are available to consortia of groups or organizations that want to work in partnership with each other to support individual people to organize their own project or activity

Among the examples listed of types of projects that will be considered for funding is:

- ❑ a group of work colleagues to set up a football club at a local community centre

All activities funded by a 2005 small grant must aim to involve new people in the planning and delivery of the activity.

You can apply for a grant any time between 1 February 2005 and 5 October 2005, the next deadline is **March 9th 2005**.

Volunteering England grants team:

Tel: 0845 305 6979

Email: 2005smallgrants@volunteeringengland.org

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

NEW PROGRAMME TO PROMOTE SOCIAL ENTERPRISE IN RURAL AREAS

The Government has announced a new programme to promote social inclusion in rural areas through the use of social and community enterprise. Known as the Sustainable Funding for Rural Social Exclusion Programme, £1.5 million will be available between now and March 2006 to support approximately 100 different

projects in the East Midlands, North East, **North West** and the South West of England.

The Programme will support two main types of projects:

- ❑ Projects submitted by community and voluntary organisations or parish councils wishing to develop enterprise-based approaches to improve the financial sustainability of their activities.
- ❑ Projects submitted by groups of people in rural areas wishing to establish or develop a social enterprise which will contribute to the alleviation of social exclusion.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/news/2004/041129b.htm>

LOCAL NETWORK FUND FOR GREATER MANCHESTER

If you are a small local community group, a group of young people or parents and you need help with the cost to organise or run an activity or project with disadvantaged children or young people, the Local Network Fund may be able to help.

Small local community groups in all 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester, working with children and young people aged 0 – 19 yrs, may be eligible for a grant of up to £7,000 to help with the cost of providing the activity or service.

The aim of the Local Network Fund is to help disadvantaged children and young people achieve their full potential by investing directly in the activities of the local community and voluntary groups. The fund can help projects which:

- ❑ improve the lives of disadvantaged children cope with economic disadvantage,
- ❑ help children that are isolated or have trouble accessing services,
- ❑ give children the opportunity to achieve aspirations and gain experiences or
- ❑ give children the chance to express their opinions or themselves.

The Local Network Fund can not support projects or activities which:

- ❑ solely benefit statutory services, national organisations or individuals,
- ❑ activities which help only one child or family,
- ❑ activities where the purpose is to promote religious belief or where people are excluded on religious grounds,
- ❑ political groups or activities promoting political beliefs
- ❑ projects for personal profit

Groups who want to apply for the funding can contact the Local Network Fund national call centre on 0845 113 0161 to request an application pack. If you would like any further information regarding the fund please contact the Community Foundation for Greater Manchester on 0161 214 0940 or visit www.communityfoundation.co.uk

FUNDING TO IMPROVE THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

The Hanson Environment Trust has announced that the new application form and guidance notes for the small grants scheme, previously known as the community grants scheme, is now available. Under this scheme, community groups can apply for up to £4,000 for projects that have a lasting impact upon the local environment. To be eligible, applicants have to be located within 10 miles of a Hanson operation in

the UK. In addition, the Hanson Environment Trust also makes grants of up to £25,000 through its main grants programme. To be eligible to apply to the main grants programme, organisations need to be an Enrolled Environmental Body.

<http://www.hansonenvfund.org/welcome.php>

BIFFAWARD FLAGSHIP PROGRAMME

The next deadline for the Biffaward Flagship Programme is the 17th June 2005. The aim of the programme is to support regionally or nationally significant voluntary sector led regeneration or biodiversity projects to make a significant impact on the quality of life of the region. In particular the programme is looking to fund projects that are particularly innovative and bring something new to a region. To be eligible projects must be within 10 miles of a Biffa operation. Eligible organisations can apply for between £150,000-£500,000 but will have to secure 25% of funding from other sources

<http://www.biffaward.org/welcome.php>

RURAL STRESS ACTION PLAN CALL

Applications are invited for funding under the fifth Rural Stress Action Plan. The aim of the Plan is to strengthen organisations and partnerships providing a range of support measures for rural people.

The Plan targets projects aimed at four groups of people:

- ❑ Owners, occupiers and workers on the land
- ❑ People who run small rural businesses and their employees
- ❑ People with debt problems
- ❑ People at risk of suicide

The level of funding available is between £5,000 - £25,000 per year. The closing date is the 9th February 2005.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/rural/stress/default.htm>

<http://www.ruralnet.org.uk/~rsin/news/rsap.htm>

COALFIELDS REGENERATION TRUST

The Coalfields Regeneration Trust is able to accept applications throughout the coalfield areas of England, Scotland and Wales up to April 2005.

The Trust is always open to good ideas, but as a guideline, the projects they fund usually fall into one of the following categories:

- ❑ Providing community support and facilities
- ❑ Developing enterprise
- ❑ Life-long learning
- ❑ Small, locally-owned environmental improvement schemes
- ❑ Helping people into work through building skills and training

In November 2004 the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister announced that £35 million would be allocated to allow the Trust to continue its operations at least until the end of 2007/08 in England. In England, the eligible area covers the coalfields of

the East Midlands, Northeast England, Northwest England, West Midlands and Yorkshire and operations in Kent. Grants range from £30,000 to £200,000.

The current application round closes on 1 April 2005.

North West Regional Office:
 Bold Business Centre
 Bold Lane
 Sutton
 St Helens WA9 4TX
 Tel 01925 22 20 66
 Fax 01925 22 20 47

<http://www.coalfields-regen.org.uk>

YAPP CHARITABLE TRUST

The Yapp Charitable Trust makes grants to small charities to sustain their existing work with:

- ❑ elderly people
- ❑ children and young people aged 5 - 25
- ❑ people with disabilities or mental health problems
- ❑ people trying to overcome life-limiting problems of a social, rather than medical, origin such as addiction, relationship difficulties, abuse, a history of offending
- ❑ education and learning, (including lifelong learning)

The Yapp Charitable Trust has now announced that the last closing date for charities in Scotland and Northern Ireland to apply to the Trust will be from May 2005. After this date, the Trust will focus its grant making on England and Wales.

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

CHARLES HAYWARD FOUNDATION

The Charles Hayward Foundation makes grants of up to £20,000 to charitable organisations throughout the UK. The Foundation supports a wide range of community and social welfare initiatives, including, helping young people at risk, support for those with physical and learning disabilities, improving the local environment, victim support services and the rehabilitation of offenders, the elderly and the provision of community facilities such as community centres and village halls. Applications can be made at any time.

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

SPECIALIST SCHOOLS PROGRAMME

The next deadline for grant funding under the specialist Schools programme is the 4th March 2004. The Specialist Schools Programme helps schools, in partnership with private sector sponsors and supported by Government funding, to develop specialisms in specific subject areas. The funding available includes up to £100,000 (per application) for a capital project to enhance the facilities in the subjects related to the school's specialism; and recurrent funding of around £126 per pupil per year for

four years to implement their specialist school development plan. This programme is open to any maintained secondary school in England.

<http://www.standards.dfes.gov.uk/specialistschools/>

CHILDREN IN NEED

Charities, self-help groups and voluntary organisations working with disadvantaged children and young people living in the United Kingdom are able to apply for funding under the Children in Need initiative. The initiative is looking to fund organisations that help children and young people suffering from illness, distress, abuse or neglect, any kind of disability, behavioural or psychological problems and / or living in poverty or situations of deprivation. The application should demonstrate how your project will change the lives of children for the better. The next application deadline is the 30th March 2005.

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/>

NEWS

BIG LOTTERY FUND CHANGES

The Big Lottery Fund is announcing changes to its operational funding processes that will be implemented throughout 2005 as it continues to develop and launch its new funding programmes.

Programmes previously operated by the New Opportunities Fund, which were all time limited, will be phased out in line with published timetables. Meanwhile, applications for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Funding Programmes, previously run by the Community Fund, will be wound down. This includes the Medium and Large Grants Programmes in England, and the UK-wide Strategic Grants Programme, including international and research. The deadline for applications to be submitted to these programmes is 31 May 2005 and the Fund will be awarding and announcing grants up to November 2005. You will be able to download applications from the website only up until 31st March 2005. After that you'll still be able to request a form from the advice line and they will continue to send these out until 31st May.

Their grants officers will continue to carry out assessments, but the last grants will be announced in November 2005. The only exception is for applications for building work or property refurbishment above £30,000. In these cases, all grant applications have to be in by 31st March.

From early summer to late 2005, the Big Lottery Fund expects to launch incrementally a range of new programmes. The Big Lottery Fund has given an undertaking that 60-70% of its new funding will go to the voluntary and community sector and 30-40% to the public sector and others.

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/newsroom/release.aspx?prld=771>

EXTRA £111 MILLION OF EUROPEAN FUNDING TO BOOST JOBS AND SKILLS

The Department of Works and Pensions has announced that an additional £111 million of European Social Fund (ESF) Objective 3 funding will be available in England. ESF Objective 3 is the European Union's key programme for funding initiatives relating to employment, training, lifelong learning, entrepreneurship and social inclusion. The

money will be targeted at helping people who remain unemployed or inactive despite record levels of employment in the UK.

<http://www.esf.gov.uk/news/index.asp>

SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES FUND: IMPLEMENTATION GUIDANCE

The formation of 'The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund' (SSCF) sees a merger of several existing ODPM and Home Office funding streams, which share a number of closely related objectives. These are aimed at tackling crime, reducing the harm caused by illegal drugs, addressing anti-social behaviour, improving the poor condition of streets and other public spaces; in particular for deprived neighbourhoods where these issues are often more prevalent.

In addition to addressing these issues, the Government will work with local partners to support the increase in the capacity of local communities and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), so that they are empowered to participate in local decision-making and are able to influence and deliver services and help build more cohesive communities.

The intention behind the SSCF is to reduce the bureaucracy relating to multiple funding streams and increase flexibility for partnerships to use funding to deliver agreed local and national outcomes.

<http://www.neighbourhood.gov.uk/formatteddoc.asp?id=827>

CONSULTATION ON REGIONAL FUNDING GUIDELINES

The Government wants to devolve greater discretion and flexibility to the regions and to promote better integration of regional strategies for economic development, transport, planning and housing. To do this, regions would need to have information about what resources would be available.

As part of the Pre-Budget Report on Thursday 2 December 2004, the Chancellor of the Exchequer announced the publication of a consultation paper on regional funding guidelines. This paper sets out how regional funding guidelines might work and the Government would welcome the views of stakeholders.

Responses are requested by 10 March 2005 and a copy of the paper is available on the Treasury's website from the link below.

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_regions/documents/page/odpm_regions_033109.hcsp

LLOYDS TSB ISSUE NEW GUIDANCE

The Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales has published its new 'Guidelines for Charities who are Applying for a Grant 2005'. Grants are given to grassroots charities which help disadvantaged and disabled people to play a fuller role in the community. The Foundation funds a wide range of social and community needs, including core funding - from disability information services to community centres and telephone helplines.

Full details of regional and England and Wales-wide funding strategies can be found at www.lloydstsbfoundations.org.uk. A copy of the guidelines can be obtained by telephoning 0870 411 1223 or from the website.

CHANGES AT CARNEGIE UK TRUST

The Carnegie UK Trust, one of the largest independent grant giving foundations has announced that it will stop making grants to the Voluntary sector as of March 2005. This is part of a shift in the Trust's policy to move away from short term "reactive" grant making and towards the funding of action research orientated activities of national importance that will have a more long term and sustainable impact upon statutory and non-governmental services.

http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/news_and_events/young_people

COMMUNITY GROUPS GET MILLIONS TO CREATE LIVING SPACES IN THEIR NEIGHBOURHOODS

More than £3.8 million is being awarded to community groups to help create cleaner, safer, greener neighbourhoods, through the Government's Living Spaces programme.

ODPM Minister Phil Hope announced the latest allocations from the £30 million scheme, which is providing the funds and support to help people improve their local environment – the gardens, parks, play areas and other public areas - near to where they live.

New projects receiving funding include a street community garden in Manchester, a nature reserve restoration in Stanmore, a children's play area in Preston, a 'chill out zone' in Birmingham, and a park bandstand renovation in Wednesbury. In its first year, the programme has so far helped groups create or improve 121 play areas, 69 community gardens, 23 local parks, 30 footpaths and 20 village greens.

Living Spaces is not currently accepting new applications for funding. This does not mean an end to the scheme. The Living Spaces partner organisations are working with partners across Government and elsewhere to ensure that Living Spaces, or a similar type of funding scheme, will continue in the future. Check The Living Spaces Website regularly for updates <http://www.living-spaces.org.uk/>

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/pns/displaypn.cgi?pn_id=2004_0330

NHS TO RECEIVE £3 MILLION FOR TRAINING TO TACKLE OBESITY

The Department for Health has announced that Primary Health Care Trusts will receive an extra £3 million to help in the fight to tackle obesity in England. The money will be split amongst the nine English regions, with the funding targeted at Primary Care Trusts in the country's most deprived areas. The money will be made available to help in the training of healthcare professionals in obesity prevention and management, and will be distributed to Public Health leads in the nine English regions

http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/PressReleases/PressReleasesNotice/fs/en?CONTENT_ID=4099741&chk=fbRvql

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MERSEYSIDE

The Community Foundation for Merseyside has recently published its 'Grant Guide for November 2004 to March 2005'.

Several funds are covered by the recently published guidelines:

- ❑ Alliance & Leicester Fund
- ❑ Childrens Voices Fund
- ❑ Community Fund for Healthy Eating
- ❑ Local Network Fund for Children and Young People
- ❑ Mersey Docks and Harbour Company 500 Fund
- ❑ Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chest
- ❑ Neighbourhood Renewal Community Learning Chest
- ❑ Sefton Smartstars - Developing Play and Community Activities Fund
- ❑ The Green Machine

Community Foundation for Merseyside

Alliance & Leicester

Bridle Road

Bootle GIR OAA

Tel: 0151 966 4604.

E-mail: info@cfmerseyside.org.uk

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

PILOTS SELECTED FOR LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS (LAAS)

Twenty-one areas have been selected by the Government as pilots for Local Area Agreements (LAAs), giving them more control over their finances and more freedom to work in innovative ways to benefit their communities. The areas are Greenwich; Hammersmith and Fulham; Dorset; Devon; Kent; Brighton and Hove; Suffolk; Peterborough; Derby; Derbyshire; Telford and Wrekin; Coventry; Wolverhampton; **Wigan; Knowsley**; Stockton-on-Tees; Gateshead; Barnsley; Sheffield; Doncaster; and Bradford.

The Agreements will be structured around three key themes: children and young people; safer and stronger communities; and health and older people. Authorities and their partners will negotiate clear targets and outcomes for these areas with central government, but will have the freedom to decide how best to achieve them. Local Public Service Agreements (LPSAs) will form a key part of the Agreements, offering reward grants for performance. If the pilots are successful Local Area Agreements will be rolled out more widely from 2006/7. On 27 July 2004 the Government announced a new 10-year vision for local government. Details are available at: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_localgov/documents/divisionhomepage/029981.hcsp

The prospectus for Local Area Agreements is available at: http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_localgov/documents/page/odpm_localgov_029989.hcsp

USEFUL WEBSITES

There are a range of useful funding services available on the web:

www.governmentfunding.org.uk

This site is your online portal to grants for the voluntary and community sector from the following funders:

- Department for Education and Skills
- Department of Health
- Home Office
- Office of the Deputy Prime Minister
- Government Offices for the Regions

Access Funds: <http://www.access-funds.co.uk/>

Business in the Community 'professionals4free':

<http://www.professionals4free.org.uk/>

Charities Information Bureau: <http://www.cibfunding.org.uk/>

The European Commission Representation in the United Kingdom Guide:

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

The European Social Fund UK website: www.esf.gov.uk

FunderFinder: <http://www.funderfinder.org.uk/>

Funding Finders: <http://www.fundingfinders.co.uk/>

Grantsnet: <http://www.grantsnet.co.uk>

Grants Online: <http://www.grantsonline.org.uk/>

j4b: <http://www.j4b.co.uk>

Profunding: <http://www.fundinginformation.org/>

