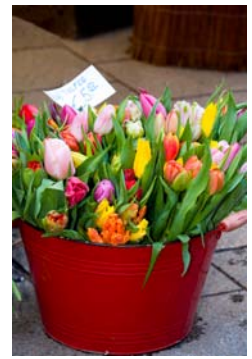


Berks East Funding Project

Funding Newsletter

The Berkshire East Funding Project is working across East Berkshire "supporting the voluntary and community sector in obtaining funding"



Spring 2010
Volume 1
Issue 3

Grants Good News!



Several groups across East Berkshire have received grants from Grassroots Grants two of these are:



Bracknell Area Deaf and Hard of Hearing Support Groups (BADHOGS) received their second grant from Grassroots Grants. Geoff Hallett, BADHOGS Secretary said "We at BADHOGS are very grateful to the Berkshire Community Foundation for awarding us this second Grassroots grant of £2,325. We also had wonderful support from Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action who gave good advice during the application process. The grant will enable us to develop our Deaf Awareness campaign throughout Bracknell

Forest starting from the town centre during Deaf Awareness week June 28th to July 4th. The grant will also help part-fund a portable loop system to help those of our members who use hearing aids. We would also like to hear from deafened people living in the area about their concerns and how communications can be better improved throughout the community. We can be contacted via our email at badhogs@btinternet.com or see our web-page at www.localgiving.com/badhogs"



1st Priestwood Guides, Bracknell received a Grassroots Grant for £500. Sam Creber who runs the brownies and guides said "The Guides have bought tents and camp equipment with the majority of the grant. This has meant all the Guides can participate in the unit camp and will be able to take part in a larger division camp. Without the grant the girls would not have been able to take part in the large camp at the end of the summer. The tents will last for many years so will benefit a huge number of girls. This is the only holiday some of these girls will get this year. We also invested in some fun games like twister and Uno. While the girls are having fun and relaxing we will see them smile and laugh. It gets the girls together as a unit and allows them to forget worries and stress at home or at school. Thank you"



The Windsor Voluntary Resource Centre recently received a grant of £2,500 from the Michael Shanley Group to purchase a mobile hearing loop that can be used in all their rooms at the Resource Centre. This will ensure the hard of hearing attending the venue have assistance at meetings and training courses. The photo shows the Windsor Voluntary Resource Centre being used for a meeting.



Citizens Advice Slough has recently had success with a Thames Water Grant Application. Janice Haynes Chief Executive of the Citizens Advice Slough said "the CAS was awarded £55,000 for a two year project for debt counselling on the Britwell Estate in Slough."

Funding Advisor Ray Emmans said "it was a high quality application that was submitted by the CAS with a great return"



Bracknell Forest Over Fifty Forum formerly the Bracknell Forest Senior Citizens Forum received £646 from Equality and Human Rights Commission's 'Older Bursary Scheme' for assistance with publicity costs and promotional material for the forum following its recent name change.



The East Berkshire Funding Project team



Funding Advisors

Ray Emmans is the Funding Advisor for the Slough, Windsor & Maidenhead areas. He works four days a week. Ray will be based at the Slough CVS most Tuesdays and at Windsor & Maidenhead Voluntary Action on Wednesdays/Thursdays/Fridays. Ray will be available for funding advice and help on application form completion. Ray can be contacted at Slough on 01753 578243 or at Windsor on 01753 622433 or wmvafunding@hotmail.com



Carole Allen is the Funding Advisor for the Bracknell Forest area. Carole is based at the Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action offices at Amber House, Bracknell for three days a week. Generally this will be Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Carole is available for funding advice and help on application form completion. Contact her on 01344 383523 or by email to carole.allen@bfva.org

Procurement

Dave Furze is the Procurement Implementation Officer for the project. He is based at the Slough CVS offices at Church Street, Slough and will be available generally on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays. Dave is developing support for commissioning and procurement workshops and working towards matching voluntary and community organisations with commissioning opportunities and potential partners. Dave can be contacted on 07803 897135 or by email to dave@sloughcvs.org.uk.



Further funding information is available on our websites:



Bracknell Forest Voluntary Action
Slough Council for Voluntary Services
Windsor & Maidenhead Voluntary Action

www.bfva.org
www.sloughcvs.org.uk
www.wmva.org



Funding Central News

Angela Smith Third Sector Minister Praises Success of Funding Central.

Thousands of voluntary organisations and social enterprises have benefited from the new website, which also provides valuable advice and information on developing skills to draft winning tenders and successfully apply for grants or loan finance. Of those responding to an on-line survey in January, 100 organisations (16% of respondents) successfully applied for grants and contracts of between £800 and £85,000, with many more applications pending.

A survey of site users shows more than 70 per cent rate the “search” options as good or very good and 63 per cent think the advice section is good or very good. A total of 73 per cent of survey respondents rated a weekly personalised funding newsletter, supplied by Funding Central, as good or very good. Graham Collins, sustainable funding programme manager at the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO), which runs the site, said: “It’s great to see so many organisations using – and successfully securing income – through the website and valuing the advice posted there too. Funding Central is a vital resource for all third sector organisations because it brings together the broadest range of funding and finance opportunities in one place enabling organisations to explore all income options and make informed choices.” The website is funded by the Office of the Third Sector.

Angela Smith, Minister for the Third Sector, said: "OTS is delighted to be funding this great initiative. Funding Central makes it much easier for all voluntary and community organisations to find out about the funding and finance options available to them. “The site allows comprehensive information to be found in one place and this is especially valuable during the economic downturn as third sector organisations will be able to spend more time on their core functions and less time searching and researching numerous sources of funding. “It's very promising that so many organisations are using the site and making the most of the opportunities available to them."

Two New Publications To Help Everyone Involved In Third Sector Commissioning

The *Building Bridges Programme*, has set as a key principle that success in Third Sector Commissioning needs to be based on healthy dialogue between public bodies and voluntary and community organisations. If you like, this is the deck of the bridge that spans between the two sectors. The two new resource below will help you to understand what is involved in commissioning so you can have a more fruitful dialogue with your commissioning officers.

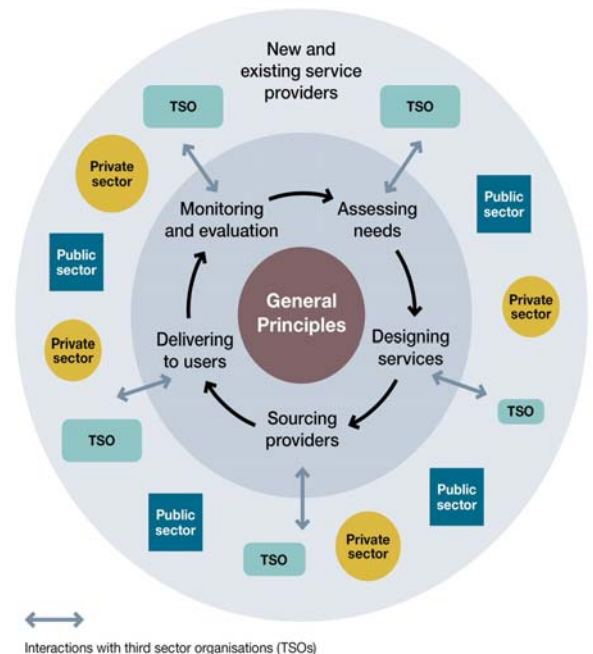
National Audit Office launches a web-based toolkit for Successful Commissioning

The National Audit Office has launched a new version of the Decision Support Tool, *Successful Commissioning: How to secure value for money through better financial relationships with third sector organisations*. This was an [online launch](#) (17 March) included a number of videos featuring different aspects of commissioning.

The guide is a vital resource for anyone interested in obtaining commissions from public bodies. It is aimed at local commissioners, rather than central government, making it extremely useful for reading for all third sector groups. Crucially, it supports a continued role for grant funding.

Katy Wing, NAVCA's CEO said about the guide ".....It will be an invaluable tool in helping local voluntary and community organisations challenge poor commissioning practice. But it will also be extremely useful in helping the local voluntary and community sector to work constructively with local commissioners and develop a shared understanding of commissioning processes."

The NAO model (right) highlights those elements of the commissioning cycle where a **good relationship** with third sector organisations (TSOs) has a significant impact on helping commissioners achieve good value for money. The guidance is organised around these elements.



Pathways through the maze: a guide to procurement law

<http://www.navca.org.uk/localvs/lcp/news/maze>

The first comprehensive guide to procurement regulations written for voluntary organisations and community groups.

The Guide answers the most common questions voluntary and community organisations have about procurement processes and explains the legal requirements applying to public bodies' procurement exercises.

To find out more about the *Building Bridges Programme* and how we can help you contact Dave Furze on **Tel: 07803 897135** or 01753 524176 or e-mail dave@sloughcvcs.org.uk.



2010 Dates 'Find out About Funding Workshops'

Monday	26 April 2010	South Ascot Village Hall, Church Road, South Ascot
Thursday	20 May 2010	Easthampstead Baptist Church, Bracknell
Tuesday	20 July 2010	Town Hall, St Ives Road, Maidenhead
Tuesday	16 November 2010	Slough CVS offices, Church Street, Slough



If you would like to attend any of these workshops please contact Carole or Ray details on page 2.

East Berkshire Funding Fair

Plans are underway for the East Berkshire Funding Fair on **Wednesday 29th September 2010**. Look out for the booking forms coming out soon. Amongst others the Big Lottery will be present at the Funding Fair giving details of their grant making programmes until 2015.



Big Lottery News

This year the Big Lottery Fund has teamed up once again with ITV to run the People's Millions competition. There is a chance for groups to win up to £50,000 to improve their local area. Voluntary or community organisations, schools, local authorities and health bodies are all eligible to apply for between £20,000 and £50,000 (including VAT). The groups that make it through to the final will go head to head on ITV Meridian news in late November to compete for viewers' phone votes. More information is available at www.peoplesmillions.org.uk. Groups can apply online or call 0845 0 10 11 12. The closing date for applications is 12 noon, 14 May 2010.



Funding News....

MARS in the Community are currently looking for applications, grants in excess of £500 are available for projects meeting their criteria. Business Objects are still seeking applications from groups who provide extra curriculum activities in English, Maths and Science to children grants up to £6000 are available contact the Berkshire Community Foundation to register your interest. Sport Relief money is coming to Berkshire with grants of up to £10,000 available. Grassroots Grants are now open, for its final year of grants to groups who have been formed for over 1 year who have an average income of less than £30,000 over the past 3 years, up to £5,000 is available. All these grants are available through the Berkshire Community Foundation so contact them to apply. Further information on facing page or contact Berkshire Community Foundation telephone 0118 930 3021 and website is www.berkshirecf.org



SAP Business Objects Foundation



LOTTERY FUNDED

