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# News You Can Use: Tees Valley Edition

Produced by Funding Information North East

**Issue 6 (February 2011)**

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Delivering quality...  
achieving impact  
in the Tees Valley

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Tees Valley edition of News You Can Use is FINE's digest of funding opportunities for Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector Organisations. FINE's regular News You Can Use is issued fortnightly to subscribers with additional email alerts for short deadlines. As part of the Tees Valley Partnership we are providing this free, quarterly edition with an additional focus on Tees Valley. For further information about our subscription services, please visit our website at [www.fine.org.uk](http://www.fine.org.uk) or contact FINE directly on 0191 477 1253 or [enquiries@fine.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@fine.org.uk). If you have any queries or suggestions contact Jen on 0191 477 1253 / [jen@fine.org.uk](mailto:jen@fine.org.uk) / John Haswell House, 8/9 Gladstone Terrace, Gateshead NE8 4DY. FINE is project of Gateshead Voluntary Organisations Council, Company Registration Number 7302622 Registered Charity Number 1137389.

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**News You Can Use:  
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Issue 6 (February 2011)  
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## Tees Valley Funding Opportunities

### Tender opportunity: Quotation for a Befriending Service

**Source:** ProContract / FINE

**Buyer:** Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council

**Respond by:** 10<sup>th</sup> March 2011 (Request for Quotation)

The Council is seeking organisations to run befriending and / or good neighbour schemes across East Cleveland. The aim of the service is to help reduce loneliness and social isolation amongst older people aged 50+. Essentially the service would offer personal visits at least once per week and / or weekly phone calls to people who are housebound or cannot leave the house alone, have limited social networks of their own and are considered at risk of needing social care input.

The Council wants to hear about other supportive roles voluntary groups could have alongside befriending (e.g. supporting people on discharge from hospital until a longer term service is found, keeping in touch with people over the internet, more practical services including gardening tasks or decorating). Whilst it is expected that the majority of the befrienders will be operating in a voluntary capacity it is important that there is a strong management infrastructure in place in order to take referrals. The organisation will be funded for administrative functions, office services and possibly office space. The amount of money available is £20,000, with the contract scheduled for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012.

This opportunity is being procured through a quotation process. This means there is no pre-qualification stage and all interested parties can submit a quotation.

Interested parties will be sent a Quotation Pack containing:

- details of the information to be included in the response
- further information on the contract needs (such as the specification)
- contractual terms and conditions
- evaluation criteria
- details and timetable of the process

For more information and to respond visit

[https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm\\_opportunity?openForm&contract\\_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8EBMUN&search\\_id=&org\\_id=ORG-QTLE-75FDAN&from=supplier\\_home](https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm_opportunity?openForm&contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8EBMUN&search_id=&org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FDAN&from=supplier_home) Alternatively for more information

contact Andrew Hames at [andrew\\_hames@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk](mailto:andrew_hames@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk) or on 01642 771 680.

## **Tender opportunity: Provision of an independent mental capacity advocacy service**

**Source:** ProContract / FINE

**Buyer:** Middlesbrough Council

**Respond by:** 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011 (Pre Qualification Questionnaire)

Middlesbrough Council is seeking expressions of interest from suitably experienced organisations for the provision of an independent mental capacity advocacy service.

The contract will operate as a Tees-wide, cross-authority contract, encompassing the areas of Middlesbrough, Hartlepool, and Redcar & Cleveland.

For more information and to respond visit

[https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm\\_opportunity?openForm&contract\\_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8DQF7B&search\\_id=&org\\_id=ORG-QTLE-75FD2F&from=supplier\\_home](https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm_opportunity?openForm&contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8DQF7B&search_id=&org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FD2F&from=supplier_home)

## **County Durham Environmental Trust Ltd [CDENT] (Darlington)**

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Environmental body

**Open to:** VCS

**Funding:** One-off grants

**Deadline:** Meets quarterly; next deadlines 8<sup>th</sup> April / 10<sup>th</sup> June 2011

CDENT is a registered environmental body under the Landfill Communities Fund. Its main interest lies in the physical implementation of landscape and habitat projects and in particular in the creation and improvement of green spaces accessible to the public. The fund awards one-off grants to groups in County Durham, Darlington, Sunderland, Gateshead and South Tyneside.

There are six main areas of work that the Fund will support:

- The restoration of land which can now not be used due to activities that used to be placed there
- The reduction, prevention or mitigation of the effects of pollution that have resulted from previous activity
- The provision, maintenance or improvement of a public park or other public amenity for the protection of the environment
- The conservation, restoration or enhancement of a natural habitat or the maintenance or recovery of a species in its natural habitat
- The repair, maintenance or restoration of a place of worship or a place of architectural importance which is open to the public
- The provision of financial, administrative or other similar services to other environmental bodies enrolled with Entrust

Feasibility studies and maintenance works will not normally be funded. Examples of projects supported by CDENT include:

- Barn Owl Nest Box project – the project will erect barn owl nest boxes in targeted locations of suitable barn owl habitat focussed on areas around Darlington, Upper Teesdale, Upper Weardale and the Upper Derwent Valley complementing existing initiatives - £4,385
- Harlow Print Wildlife Garden – to create a wildlife garden in the grounds of a print factory in South Tyneside to encourage biodiversity and wildlife - £10,000
- Durham Hedgerow Partnership – For the restoration of hedgerows through the traditional practices of laying, coppicing and inter-planting at a number of sites in the area - £16,253

Organisations should apply in writing, initially giving a brief description of the project together with detailed costings and information on other funders involved. Written guidelines are available upon request.

For more information visit [www.cdent.co.uk](http://www.cdent.co.uk) or contact on [judy@cdent.co.uk](mailto:judy@cdent.co.uk) / 0191 383 4630

## Tees Valley Volleyball Association

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Company (Association)

**Open to:** Clubs / individuals

**Funding:** Up to £150

**Deadline:** Not specified; meet in January and May

The Tees Valley Volleyball Association (TVVA) has limited funds but is open to applications for funding from Tees Valley clubs or individuals, up to £150.

They review applications in January and May.

TVVA is the “home of volleyball in the Tees Valley area”; they are part of the wider area covered by NEVA (North of England Volleyball Association) and collectively they are members of the EVA (English Volleyball Association).

The application form is in the Resources section of the website. For more information visit <http://www.teesvalleyvolleyball.co.uk/default.asp> or contact [admin@teesvalleyvolleyball.co.uk](mailto:admin@teesvalleyvolleyball.co.uk) / 07505 100 905

## W A Handley Charity Trust (Hartlepool)

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Charity

**Open to:** Registered charities

**Funding:** See text

**Deadline:** Meet quarterly (March, June, September, December)

The main categories of work supported by the Trust are:

- children and young people
- education
- expeditions
- community welfare
- medical care
- research
- churches

Grants will commonly be in response to appeals directed towards:

- crisis funding
- pump priming finance
- operating expenses
- alleviation of distress

Grants are made across the UK, but the charity has a strong preference for Northumberland, Tyne and Wear, County Durham and Hartlepool.

The Trust awarded 146 grants, totalling £364,600 in 2008/2009. Of these, 36 were one-off grants and the other 110 were to regular beneficiaries. Grants awarded were between £500 and £25,000, with the majority of grants around £1,000.

Grants by category were as follows:

- Social care – 4362 grants totalling £57,000
- Health – 23 grants totalling £42,050
- Education – 3 grants totalling £3,200
- Arts, culture and recreation – 18 grants totalling £30,000
- Religious activities – 9 grants totalling £11,950
- Development and housing – 4 grants totalling £4,750
- Environment and animal care – 2 grants totalling £1,750
- Philanthropy, volunteering and voluntary sector support – 11 grants totalling £13,750
- Civil society, law and advocacy – 4 grants totalling £6,350

Applications are made in writing to: Secretary, Messrs Ryecroft Glenton, 32 Portland Terrace, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE2 1QP. Applicants must quote their registered charity number and provide full backup information.

For more information write to the correspondent or email

[davidmilligan@ryecroft-glenton.co.uk](mailto:davidmilligan@ryecroft-glenton.co.uk)

## Educational Bursaries (Tees Valley)

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Community Foundation

**Open to:** Individuals

**Funding:** Up to £1,500 per annum over a 3 year course

**Deadline:** 30<sup>th</sup> June 2011

Undergraduate bursaries are available for students from Tees Valley (and surrounding areas) who will be starting university in the autumn of 2011.

Subjects include:

- Business, Accounts or Economics
- Disciplines relevant to energy generation (courses will incorporate some elements of engineering, chemistry, physics and mathematics)
- Law

For more information visit <http://www.teesvalleyfoundation.org/> or contact on 01642 260 860 / [info@teesvalleyfoundation.org](mailto:info@teesvalleyfoundation.org)

## UK Steel Enterprise (Tees Valley)

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Company – Not for profit arm

**Open to:** Small-Medium Enterprises (must have sound business plan)

**Funding:** Lending (various); see text. Maximum £750,000

**Deadline:** Not specified

UK Steel Enterprise Ltd (UKSE) aims to help the economic regeneration of communities affected by changes in the steel industry. They work in steel areas across the UK assisting job and wealth creation by supporting small and medium enterprises with finance and premises. They also assist community initiatives in these areas with both funding and in kind support.

Equity and/or loan finance is available for start-ups, expansions, acquisitions and buy-outs. Developing businesses with a well thought out business plan may be able to secure investment up to £750,000. Possible investment includes:

### Share capital and share/loan packages

- Share capital refers to the portion of an organisation's equity obtained by trading stock to a shareholder (UKSE) for cash or an equivalent capital item. Share capital will help strengthen the balance sheet
- Security is not required. As a shareholder, UKSE are more likely to be able to provide further expansion finance. Their shareholding will not usually exceed 25% of the company's equity and they leave control and management decisions in the hands of the directors

## Loans

- UKSE loans benefit from competitive fixed interest rates so that any base rate movements will not affect the cost of the loan
- Typically, loans are provided over a three to four year term. All loans may be repaid early without any penalty
- Larger loans are usually required to be secured (guaranteed) against business assets. Small loans are generally unsecured and will be free of administration or similar charges
- For business projects where security is not available they may be able to provide funding from the **Enterprise Finance Guarantee Scheme**. The most appropriate funding solution however, may be a mixed **share capital/loan package**

## Enterprise Finance Guarantee Scheme

UK Steel Enterprise is an accredited provider of this Government backed scheme. This enables funding for appropriate projects where there is insufficient security available in business assets to access a secured loan from the usual commercial sources. Effectively, the Government provides a guarantee against part of the loan amount. The scheme is available to qualifying UK businesses with an annual turnover of up to £25m. The recipient is required to pay a quarterly guarantee premium to the Government which is calculated as 2% per annum on the outstanding loan balance.

For more information visit

[http://www.uksteelenterprise.co.uk/finance\\_for\\_business.asp?nid=76&pid=7](http://www.uksteelenterprise.co.uk/finance_for_business.asp?nid=76&pid=7) or contact the North office on 01642 777 888 / [north@uksteelenterprise.co.uk](mailto:north@uksteelenterprise.co.uk)

## Other Funding Opportunities

### Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation (UK)

**Source:** Funding Insight / FINE

**Type of funder:** Charity

**Open to:** Not-for-profit

**Funding:** £10,000 - £25,000

**Deadline:** None

The UK branch of the Foundation has announced their Strategic Aims for 2011. They have a special interest in supporting those who are most disadvantaged; in particular with an emphasis on maximising the beneficial impact of the Foundation's work through encouraging cross-border exchanges of lessons and experiences. Grants will support a small number of innovative projects that:

- help improve people's perception of each other by providing opportunities for interaction through culture and between cultures
- assist the most disadvantaged in society to fulfill their potential by building connections and developing opportunities
- help develop a society which benefits from a more sustainable relationship with the natural world and understands the value of its resources

Applications can be submitted at any time. For more information visit

<http://www.gulbenkian.org.uk/news/news/138-Calouste-Gulbenkian-Foundation--UK-Branch--2011.html>

### Easi-Drive (UK)

**Source:** SYFAB / FINE

**Type of funder:** Company

**Open to:** Not specified

**Funding:** Not specified. £60,000 total

**Deadline:** Not specified

Easi-Drive, the accident management company, has launched a £60,000 'wheelsforgood' fund for 2011, to support wheel based projects related to the motor industry, wheels or transport. Some of the beneficiaries in 2010 included

- the Motor and Allied Trades Benevolent Fund (BEN)
- the Brain and Spinal Injury Centre (BASIC)
- IAM & Stockport Advanced Motorists 'Skill for Life' driving course
- Fix-It UK, the Wigan-based charity that runs vocational training courses in motor mechanics for disadvantaged 14-19-year-olds
- Olympic wheelchair rugby hopeful, Myles Pearson

To apply online visit [www.wheelsforgood.com](http://www.wheelsforgood.com)

## Giving World Online (UK)

**Source:** Direct

**Type of funder:** Charity

**Open to:** Registered charity / not-for-profit community group

**Funding:** Free goods

**Deadline:** None

Last year FINE publicised Giving World Online (GWO), a charity set up to offer a simple solution for companies with surplus goods to dispose of; they register and publicise their goods and then charities / community groups can also register to access the items free of charge.

A national awareness campaign is being launched by GWO over the next few weeks. Efforts are being focused on engaging more businesses to use GWO and so now is the time for charities and community groups to register.

For more information and to register visit [www.givingworldonline.com](http://www.givingworldonline.com)

## Golden Jubilee Trust (UK)

**Source:** Community Foundation / FINE

**Type of funder:** Charity

**Open to:** Registered charities

**Funding:** In kind work – secondment. 45 charities per year

**Deadline:** Trustees meet in Spring and Autumn

The Trust, run by the John Lewis Partnership, is looking for opportunities for charities for Partners in the business to take up secondment roles for up to six months.

The secondments are made by a board of trustees who make sure that Partners' skills are matched with the specific needs of the charity that is being supported. Secondments are flexible, from one week to six months, on a full or part-time basis, depending on what the job requires. The work can be for any reason, but it must have a clearly defined purpose and preferably give ongoing benefit to the charity. In general terms, secondments usually begin in January and July.

For more information and to apply visit

<http://www.johnlewispartnership.co.uk/Display.aspx?MasterId=302088b7-fc0b-4b0c-b0d3-fe2389abdbca&NavigationId=624> or contact Chris Jones: [chris\\_l\\_jones@johnlewis.co.uk](mailto:chris_l_jones@johnlewis.co.uk)

## Home Office funding to help tackle knife, gun and gang crime (England)

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Government

**Open to:** VCS

**Funding:** See text

**Deadline:** N/A

More than £18 million to tackle knife, gun and gang crime has been announced by the Home Secretary, responding to a report on knife crime projects published by Brooke Kinsella. The funding will run over 2011/2013. The funding includes:

- £4m for a 'Communities against Gangs, Guns and Knives' fund - for local voluntary organisations across England and Wales working with young people to stop involvement in knife and gang violence
- £250,000 for one further year of the Ben Kinsella fund for young people to run anti-knife crime projects in their local area

For more information visit

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/Detail.aspx?ReleaseID=417744&NewsAreaID=2>

## Home Working Fund (North East)

**Source:** Funding Insight / FINE

**Type of funder:** Government

**Open to:** "any appropriate business"

**Funding:** Up to £3,000 (up to £2,000 for skills development / up to £1,000 for capital equipment – computer hardware/software/telephony). 360 new jobs will be created

**Deadline:** None – first come first served basis. Fund runs until September 2011

The Home Working Fund is a new One North East pilot which aims to enable companies to create new jobs for home workers in the region. The £1.1m Fund aims to help organisations overcome the initial cost barrier of implementing a home working operation. The Home Working Fund is supported through Train to Gain, part of Solutions for Business, the Government's package of publicly funded support products offering help to companies to start, grow and succeed.

For more information visit <http://www.entrust.co.uk/page.asp?id=169>

or contact Leanne Moseley on 0191 244 4000 /

[homeworkingfund@entrust.co.uk](mailto:homeworkingfund@entrust.co.uk)

## Laura Ashley Foundation (England)

**Source:** FINE

**Type of funder:** Charity

**Open to:** VCS (constituted)

**Funding:** Prefer to award less than £10,000

**Deadline:** 29<sup>th</sup> March 2011

The Foundation supports small scale arts projects that fit with the ethos of protecting rural communities and encouraging participation in the arts, particularly that of textiles. They prefer to support revenue proposals rather than capital and will consider requests for core funding, including salaries and overheads. Potential applicants should submit a one-page summary of their request by either email or post, including:

- an outline of the group
- an outline of the specific project for which funding is required
- a breakdown of the financial element of the total project costs noting specifically how much would be requested from the Foundation, any match funding in place (or intended)

If successful at this first stage then the Foundation will forward a full application.

For more information visit <http://www.lauraashleyfoundation.org.uk/> or contact on 01686 610 648 / [lafwales@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:lafwales@tiscali.co.uk)

## Really Responsible (UK)

**Source:** SYFAB / FINE

**Type of funder:** Company

**Open to:** Charities / Social enterprises

**Funding:** See text

**Deadline:** N/A

Really Responsible Consultancy is allocating 50 project managers to charities over a six month period. This could be to help with a fundraising initiative or an unfinished project or just a fresh perspective on things.

Tutors and coaches are on hand throughout to ensure that the project is realistic and achievable within the time-frame. £1,000 of the programme fee is donated to the charity to support the project manager while they work on the project. It is expected that they will be working with the charity for one or two days each month.

Those interested should add their details to Really Responsible Register matchmaking tool:

[http://www.reallyresponsible.com/grants\\_funds\\_charities\\_social\\_enterprises.html#](http://www.reallyresponsible.com/grants_funds_charities_social_enterprises.html#)

## **Sport for You (UK)**

**Source:** Funding Insight / FINE

**Type of funder:** Company

**Open to:** Community / amateur sports clubs

**Funding:** £1,000 package. 5 grants awarded monthly over next 2 years

**Deadline:** None

The Daily Telegraph, in partnership with the Royal Bank of Scotland have launched a new grants programme to support community and amateur sports clubs. The funding can be used for a wide range of purposes such as improving facilities, setting up tournaments, etc.

To apply, clubs need to submit an online application of no more than 250 words why their community sports club needs a £1,000 grant and what use they would put it to.

For more information and to apply visit

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/sport/othersports/amateur/8281316/A-1000-amateur-sports-club-grant-could-be-yours.html>

## Tees Valley Funding Information

### Tees Valley Professional Services Group (PSG)

**Source:** FINE / Direct

PSG provide a wide variety of free professional support to voluntary and community organisations based within the Tees Valley. In order to make an application for support applicants must evidence the following criteria:

- Based within the Tees Valley
- Charitable aims and objectives
- A proven track record of delivery
- Less than 12 months operating costs in reserve
- Applicants will also be asked to supply the following supporting documents:
- Fully completed PSG application form
- Set of most recent trading accounts
- Signed governing document
- List of committee/board members

A percentage of PSG support are individual one-off projects such as a structure survey, a business plan, a marketing strategy or simply a new leaflet or some advice on a lease or property valuation.

Many community groups apply for PSG support more than once; they are not limited to making only one application.

Sometimes projects need support from a number of professional disciplines and provide an opportunity for PSG members to work collaboratively with other members.

PSG also deliver support to groups of community organisations via workshop in areas such as Financial Planning and Management, Business Planning and Human Resource management.

PSG cannot support the following:

- Animal Charities
- Aid Agencies
- Religious Groups promoting a particular religious view or one that has closed membership. Discretion may be given if organisation can show their activities benefit the whole community
- Commercial Business
- Litigation or Arbitration
- Audit Services

For more information visit <http://www.teesvalleypsg.org.uk/apply-for-support/>

## Other Funding Information

### Big Society

**Source:** Social Enterprise Live / Civil Society / FINE

Project Merlin talks between the government and the UK's biggest banks have resulted in an extra £200m for the Big Society Bank. This £200m is to be supplied to the bank over two years and will be in addition to the money banks are supposed to hand over from dormant bank accounts – which is estimated at anywhere between £60m-£100m. The £200m is touted as part of £1.2bn package to support 'regional growth and the Big Society'. However, the £1bn promised for regional growth - even though the money is supposed to be aligned to the objectives of the Regional Growth Fund - will only be used to increase the size of the previously announced Business Growth Fund, an equity fund targeted at businesses with a turnover of £10-100m. More relevant for the multitude of SMEs in the social enterprise sector is the announcement that Barclays, HSBC, Lloyds, RBS and Santander have agreed to increase the amount of money lent to SMEs by 15 per cent in 2011 up from £66bn in 2010 to £76bn.

<http://www.socialenterpriselive.com/section/news/money/20110209/merlin-conjures-%C2%A3200m-big-society-bank>

The Charities Aid Foundation is concerned that Big Society Bank loans could be too expensive for many charities and social enterprises. They have warned that if the bank operates on a commercial basis from the outset there is a risk that it will not let charities and social enterprises access affordable capital and that the focus should be on social – rather than financial - return.

[http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/8340/big\\_society\\_bank\\_interest\\_rates\\_could\\_be\\_too\\_high\\_for\\_many\\_warns\\_caf](http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/8340/big_society_bank_interest_rates_could_be_too_high_for_many_warns_caf)

### Community owned libraries support

**Source:** FINE

The Asset Transfer Unit is offering support to community organisations which are seeking to take over their local library in the face of funding cuts. The Asset Transfer Unit is delivered by the Development Trusts Association in association with Community Matters and the Local Government Association, and funded by Communities and Local Government. They are the leading provider of expert advice, guidance and support concerning the transfer of under-used land and buildings from the public sector to community ownership and management - helping organisations to develop those assets and deliver long-term social, economic and environmental benefits.

Those interested should contact the Unit on 0845 345 4564 or [info@atu.org.uk](mailto:info@atu.org.uk).  
<http://www.atu.org.uk/Stories/library>

## Department for Communities and Local Government: three consultations

Source: Volresource / FINE

The Department has three consultations:

### **Proposals to introduce Community Right to Buy (Localism Bill\*):**

To assist community organisations who wish to purchase assets of community value. Open until 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/righttobuyconsultation>

### **Proposals to introduce Community Right to Challenge (Localism Bill\*):**

Enabling civil society organisations to express an interest in running a (public) service. Open until 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2011.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/righttochallengeconsultation>

### **Draft code of recommended practice for Local Government Data Transparency\*\***

To set out the requirement to make data accessible to the public; proposes this should cover salaries, voluntary funding, licensing and contracts. Open until 14<sup>th</sup> March 2011.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/codepracticeladataconsult>

\* The Department has published a plain English guide to the Localism Bill. The bill aims to give new rights and powers to communities including three key areas:

- The right to bid - community groups will have time to develop a bid and raise the money to buy community assets when they come on the open market
- The right to build - groups of local people will be given the power to bring forward small developments including new homes, businesses and shops
- The right to challenge - groups will have the right to express their interest in taking over the running of a local service

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localismplainenglishguide>

\*\* A letter has gone to council leaders telling them that the Government will expect local councils to publish all grants and payments, as well as copies of contracts and tenders, that they make to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector. This is part of the policy of increasing transparency, opening up services locally and dispersing power more widely.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1836142>.

## Financial Inclusion Fund

**Source:** FINE

After announcing in January that the Financial Inclusion Fund, which has funded the Face-to-Face debt advice programme since April 2006, would close on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2011, the Government has now committed £27m funding for the next year.

This will secure the future of the programme for 2011/12 and will ensure debt advice can continue to be provided by the Citizens Advice Bureaux and other independent advice agencies across England and Wales.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/content/Detail.aspx?ReleaseID=417968&NewsAreaID=2>

## Free copy of performance management guide

**Source:** Charities Evaluation Service / FINE

Charities Evaluation Service are offering offering a free copy of their guide 'performance improvement: a handbook for mentors'. Worth £70, this comprehensive manual gives an overview of performance management. It includes a dedicated section packed with practical tools to help support organisations, and information on useful resources.

To claim, send a label with your address, and stamps totalling £7, to Julia Essame, 4 Coldbath Square, London EC1R 5HL. For further information please contact Julia Essame on [julia@ces-vol.org.uk](mailto:julia@ces-vol.org.uk) / 020 7713 5722.

## Funding the Future

**Source:** NCVO / FINE

This latest - and last - report from the Funding Commission takes an explicit look at how charities can bolster their resilience in face of dwindling resources and high demand for services. It offers an overview of sector trends and sustainable funding recommendations. Download it for free at

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/funding/new-report-explores-how-sustain-increase-charity-funding-future>

## Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) consultation

**Source:** FINE

HLF have launched a consultation on their strategic framework for 2013-2019, called "Shaping the future – for heritage, for everyone". They have set out proposals on a range of issues, based on analysis of the emerging funding environment for heritage in the next few years, research and evaluation of the impact of our funding, and discussions with other organisations, partners and funders across the heritage sector. They are asking how they should respond to the challenges and opportunities that the sector will face in the future:

- what they should continue doing
- what they may need to do differently
- what new initiatives could have the greatest impact

The consultation is open from 31<sup>st</sup> January 2011 to 26<sup>th</sup> April 2011.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/aboutus/whatwedo/Pages/Consultationonourstrategicframeworkfor20132019.aspx>

## Outcome and outcome indicator banks – research report

**Source:** Charities Evaluation Service / FINE

This research, published by Charities Evaluation Service, investigates Outcome Indicator Banks - the bringing together of a range of methods already used to demonstrate outcomes.

In 2007 Homeless Link researched the use of shared outcomes measurement systems within housing and homelessness organisations. In the same year, the new economics foundation (nef) published a think piece discussing the feasibility of sharing outcomes across the sector. Both reports found that organisations were struggling to identify and measure the outcomes of their work. nef concluded that indicator banks could help this by bringing together a range of methods already used in accessible locations. nef also suggested that shared outcome indicators could enhance the effectiveness of funders and the organisations they support by providing common measures, allowing better comparison between projects.

This research explores four questions:

- What outcome and outcome indicator banks exist. How are they being used?
- What were the drivers behind the development of these banks?
- What direction might these banks take in the future?
- What else is under development that could be used as an outcome or outcome indicator bank?

[http://www.ces-vol.org.uk/index.cfm?pg=740&dm\\_i=6FP,CJQG,12IE39,10HYB,1](http://www.ces-vol.org.uk/index.cfm?pg=740&dm_i=6FP,CJQG,12IE39,10HYB,1)

## People's Postcode Trust

**Source:** SYFAB / FINE

The People's Postcode Trust has announced that because of a shortage of funds, applications for £2,000 or under in England and Wales will be reverting to quarterly decisions for the time being.

This will take effect immediately, and any applications received for the February decision meeting will be transferred to the next quarterly Trustee meeting.

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

## Transition Fund

**Source:** Third Sector / FINE

The government has today awarded a total of £1.7m from its £100m Transition Fund to 18 charities. The largest award made was to the Bede House Association London for £198,899. In the North East the awards were:

- Building Futures East, Newcastle upon Tyne £151,000
- Middlesbrough Environment City Trust Limited, Middlesbrough £15,130

The Fund, which closed on 21<sup>st</sup> January, aims to help civil society organisations delivering high quality public services adapt to a different funding environment during a period when they are at risk from reductions in taxpayer funded income.

[http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/8342/government\\_awards\\_first\\_million\\_from\\_100m\\_transition\\_fund](http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/news/content/8342/government_awards_first_million_from_100m_transition_fund)

## Events and Training

### Selling to the NHS

**When:** 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011, 9:45am – 3:15pm

**Where:** Middlesbrough Football Club

**Cost:** Free

This event from Middlesbrough Council in partnership with BiP Solutions, is for companies in Tees Valley and Middlesbrough interested in supplying the NHS.

“Selling to the NHS” contains two elements focusing on the national and regional levels within the NHS:

- The national element will address the recent structural changes in procurement, such as the disbanding of the NHS Purchasing and Supply Agency, and will explore the options going forward following the Government's recent White Paper on health. There will also be an update on EU procurement which suppliers must understand
- The regional element of the event will look at how Collaborative Procurement Hubs and Trusts operate and their plans for the future

The event is presented by specialist NHS consultants and current NHS procurement personnel. It will provide a general update, an explanation of tendering procedures and a description of how procurement operates within the locality.

For further information and online booking, please visit

<http://www.procurementevents.com/s2nhs.html> or contact BiP Solutions events helpline on 0845 270 7095.

### Value of Infrastructure Programme package

The Value of Infrastructure Programme (VIP) is a partnership between NCVO and Triangle Consulting that has been working with a range of infrastructure organisations to pin down the common differences they make. They have created tools to help organisations evidence and learn from their impact. The tools are available as part of a package with accompanying training courses.

The VIP package includes:

- a place on two training courses: 'Evidencing Impact' and 'VIP Online'
- free online access to the VIP Impact Tools until June 2014
- 10% discount on future VIP training and events
- priority access to VIP Reports on the impact of infrastructure
- opportunities to learn from other similar organisations about their impact

For the first 200 organisations to register the costs are:

- £180 for NCVO member organisations
- £257.15 for non-member organisations

Five free bursary places are available for NCVO member organisations with an annual income under £100,000.

The training courses are:

### **Evidencing Impact**

This course will give a practical understanding of the VIP Impact Tools. Dates still available at time of writing:

- London, 15<sup>th</sup> March 2011
- Birmingham, 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2011
- Manchester, 6<sup>th</sup> April 2011

### **VIP Online**

The VIP Impact Tools will be hosted online enabling organisations to store, track and compare impact information. This course will focus on how to use these online functions. A basic understanding of the VIP Impact Tools will be required for this course. Dates still available at time of writing:

- Sheffield, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2011
- Exeter, 25<sup>th</sup> May 2011
- London, 7<sup>th</sup> June 2011
- Birmingham, 14<sup>th</sup> June 2011
- Manchester, 21<sup>st</sup> June 2011

For more information on signing up for the package and on then attending the events visit <http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/vip-package>

## Closing dates

2011

|        |   |         |
|--------|---|---------|
| Feb 28 | Green Fund<br><a href="http://www.edfenergy.com/products-services/for-your-home/our-services/green-energy-fund.shtml#">http://www.edfenergy.com/products-services/for-your-home/our-services/green-energy-fund.shtml#</a>   | 4/2011  |
| Mar 04 | Comic Relief: Community Cash<br><a href="http://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/connect/funds/comic-relief">http://www.communityfoundation.org.uk/connect/funds/comic-relief</a>   | 4/2011  |
| Mar 10 | Tender opportunity: Quotation for a Befriending Service<br><a href="https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/form_opportunity?openForm&amp;contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8EBMUN&amp;search_id=&amp;org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FDAN&amp;from=supplier_home">https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/form_opportunity?openForm&amp;contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8EBMUN&amp;search_id=&amp;org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FDAN&amp;from=supplier_home</a>                          | 5/2011  |
| Mar 14 | Tender opportunity: Provision of an independent mental capacity advocacy service<br><a href="https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/form_opportunity?openForm&amp;contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8DQF7B&amp;search_id=&amp;org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FD2F&amp;from=supplier_home">https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/form_opportunity?openForm&amp;contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-8DQF7B&amp;search_id=&amp;org_id=ORG-QTLE-75FD2F&amp;from=supplier_home</a> | 5/2011  |
| Mar 25 | Society for the Assistance of Ladies in Reduced Circumstances<br><a href="http://www.salrc.org/">http://www.salrc.org/</a>  | 24/2010 |
| Mar 29 | Laura Ashley Foundation<br><a href="http://www.lauraashleyfoundation.org.uk/">http://www.lauraashleyfoundation.org.uk/</a>  | 4/2011  |
| Mar 31 | Community Trees Fund<br><a href="http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=node/24">http://www.treecouncil.org.uk/?q=node/24</a>   | 24/2010 |
| Apr 08 | County Durham Environmental Trust Ltd [CDENT]<br><a href="http://www.cdent.co.uk">www.cdent.co.uk</a>   | 5/2011  |
| Apr 30 | On Organ Fund<br><a href="http://www.onorganfund.org.uk/">http://www.onorganfund.org.uk/</a>  | 24/2010 |
| Jun 10 | County Durham Environmental Trust Ltd [CDENT]<br><a href="http://www.cdent.co.uk">www.cdent.co.uk</a>   | 5/2011  |
| Jun 30 | Educational Bursaries<br><a href="http://www.teesvalleyfoundation.org/">http://www.teesvalleyfoundation.org/</a>  | 5/2011  |