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NOW AVAILABLE! North East Guide to Grants for Voluntary Organisations, 12th Edition (2013-2014)

Featuring more than 100 charitable trusts and foundations with a significant grant-making presence in the North East. Over 20 national and local trusts new for this edition. Fully revised and updated entries covering more than £60 million available annually to North East voluntary & community groups and social enterprises.

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Opportunities

European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) (Grant – North East)

For VCSE (see text). Minimum £500,000 (i.e. £1m total eligible project cost, assuming a 50% ERDF grant rate). Deadline 1st September 2013.

The ERDF Programme is aimed at economic regeneration projects promoted primarily by the public sector. The Programme is aimed at intermediary bodies that will use ERDF investment to work with existing businesses or potential entrepreneurs to promote economic growth. Eligible applicants are therefore likely to be local authorities, public organisations, voluntary and community bodies and some private sector organisations (subject to State Aid compliance). Organisations must be legally constituted and able to enter into binding contracts.

The North East ERDF Local Management Committee is currently inviting the submission of applications under two calls:

- proposals for capital and/or revenue investment under priority 1: enhancing and exploiting innovation
- proposals for capital and/or revenue investment under priority 2: business growth and enterprise

Through these calls the Programme Executive Group aims to strengthen the Programme project pipeline by selecting new projects for inclusion and by increasing ERDF investment in existing projects to extend activity either in full, in part or in a slightly modified form.

These calls will operate as open calls and project proposals will be considered on a rolling basis, rather than being considered as a group at the end of the call.

This will be the final opportunity to make applications to the North East ERDF Programme.
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Source: FINE

LEAF (Grant – Tyne & Wear / Northumberland)

£1,000 - £20,000 for VCSE (income £30,000 or less). Deadline 1st May 2013.

LEAF (Local Environmental Action Fund) supports projects that address environmental issues through actions at a local level. Applications from projects able to demonstrate the following outcomes are encouraged:

- Encouraging communities to get involved in environmental activities
- Changing behaviours leading to more local environmental action
- Having a positive impact on the environment
- Sharing learning about the environment with others

Projects should have social and community benefits along with environmental outcomes. LEAF Committee are particularly keen in 2013, to receive applications focused on the following key issues:

- Biodiversity & habitat preservation
- Litter/rubbish reduction
- Carbon capture and climate change adaptation
- Marine and coastal projects
- Flood mitigation/adaption
- Waste and reducing landfill
- Feasibility studies for environmental projects
- Creating/developing green spaces

Please note the fund is no longer likely to support allotment / food growing projects unless they can demonstrate significant innovation or sharing of best practice.
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Source: Direct / FINE

Peer-to-Peer learning competition (Prize – England)

First prize of £3,000 / two runner-up prizes of £1,000. For VCSE (turnover £50,000 - £200,000). Deadline 30th April 2013

Locality has launched a competition to find the best examples of peer-to-peer learning – formal and informal – between smaller organisations. Judging criteria will include the following:

- The learning that was shared

- Innovation
- Impact on participating organisations
- Impact on service delivery
- Impact on users
- Replicability

The outcomes will influence the shape of BIG's Learning for Impact programme which is due to be launched early in 2014.
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Source: Direct / FINE

Priority Health (Grant - County Durham / Darlington)

Up to £10,000 for VCSE projects lasting up to 12 months. Deadline 26th April 2013

Projects will be considered that address the following three priority issues:

- Mental health resilience / wellbeing – front-line organisations addressing depression, stress-related problems and prevention of suicide
- Obesity in children of primary school age - projects that support and work with families, provide after school education and cookery and healthy eating clubs
- Alcohol awareness – emphasis on awareness-raising, especially with teenagers, although consideration will also be given to supporting cessation groups

Organisations must also

- have in-depth knowledge of the issue, and evidence to confirm this, including how the organisation links in with the public health agenda
- provide evidence of any links with the relevant Health and Wellbeing Partnership
- have at least 12 months experience of running a health-related project

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Source: Direct / FINE

Sanofi Patient Group Bursary (Award – UK)

Bursary x 3 (£10,000 / £15,000 / £25,000) for patient groups (see text). Deadline 1st May 2013

Applications will be considered that demonstrate improving and promoting patient empowerment and information in 2013.

Applications are welcome from organisations that are non-profit making, independently constituted from any national umbrella organisation and that propose to use the grant to finance a new project or existing project to improve and promote patient empowerment and information in 2013. Organisations should be principally concerned with broad healthcare work and be able to demonstrate the specific work they do that brings benefit to patients.

The judges will score applications specifically on the extent to which they:

- are partnership-based programmes
- mobilise the local community / community groups
- empower patients
- address a need unmet or a need that is not sufficiently catered for
- are new projects or the continuation of existing projects that would not be possible without the Bursary funding
- demonstrate a wide reach or significant impact amongst specific smaller groups
- demonstrate a clear, measurable impact

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Source: Direct / FINE

Successful Coastal Communities Fund: Round 2 (Grant – UK)

For VCSE. Over £50,000 for projects lasting up to 2 years. Capital / revenue. Deadline 13th May 2013.

English seaside towns now have a second chance to apply to the multi-million pound Coastal Communities Fund (CCF). The fund will encourage the economic development of UK coastal communities by giving them funding to create sustainable economic growth and jobs.

The Big Lottery Fund is delivering the CCF on behalf of Government, operating under the name Big Fund. This year's pot for England is £21.7 million. Particularly welcome are applications focused on the following priorities:

- Training and skills development, linked directly to the employment opportunities, to enable local people to secure jobs in local industry growth sectors

Economic diversification to create jobs in knowledge economy and high value sectors including marine and maritime, creative arts, offshore energy, fishing and aquaculture
- Support for small and medium enterprises through modern business premises, improvements to infrastructure and targeted incubation support
- Addressing seasonality by creating new patterns of demand for tourism; establishing unique selling points and distinctive market niches across a greater proportion of the year
- Improvements to public places to increase the number of visitors, creating indirect employment opportunities, and retain and attract people seeking a positive work/life balance in order to address the demographic imbalance in many coastal communities
- Replication of projects which have proven successful in securing sustainable economic development in one coastal community to other areas

Eligible areas:
"Any coastal settlement within a local authority whose boundaries include UK foreshore, including local authorities whose boundaries only include estuarine foreshore…….Coastal settlements include seaside towns, ports and other areas which have a clear connection to the coastal economy".
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Source: Direct / FINE

Tees Valley Community Foundation Small Grants

Up to £1,000 for VCSE (Middlesbrough, Stockton, Hartlepool, Redcar & Cleveland). Rolling programme (weekly decisions)

Tees Valley Community Foundation is delighted to announce the launch of its new small grant fund which will provide support to grassroots community organisations from across the area.

The new fund is made to be simple to apply for and can be used for a wide range of purposes including core running costs.
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Source: FINE

Play Activities for Children 8 - 10 Years. Hendon Ward and BME Citywide (Contract – Sunderland)

Sunderland City Council. Respond by 8th April 2013

The contract will provide activities and informal education opportunities for activities for young people aged 8–10 years (Lot 1) in the Hendon Ward and for Citywide BME children. There is one lot for the 8–10 age group and within this lot, two sub lots - one for Hendon ward and one for Citywide BME services. This is a framework agreement lasting two years with the opportunity to further extend at the discretion of the Council for a further two periods of up to twelve months each.
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Source: NEPO / FINE

Information & Resources

Big Society Capital (BSC)

BSC to focus on unsecured lending for charity sector and helping communities take over assets

Nick O'Donohoe, chief executive of BSC, has said that while it had made good progress in building the social investment market, there were still issues it needed to address. O'Donohoe said it needed to look at how to get unsecured lending to the charity sector.

BSC has recommended that any new tax relief for social investment focuses on regulated social sector organisations.

O'Donohoe also said that BSC wanted to support communities taking ownership of assets and that changes to government policy (such as the changes to the delivery of probation services, the mutual agenda and reform of the NHS) would mean that social enterprises would need capital to participate.
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Source: Civil Society / FINE

Events & Training

How to Grow a Successful Environmental Social Enterprise

2nd May 2013, 12-2pm. Teesside University Darlington Campus. Free

Delegates will hear from Karen Lowthrop, MBE and CEO of Hill Holt Wood, who will share her story of how she turned a heritage woodland into a social enterprise and how, in a highly competitive arena, a social enterprise earns income through training.

Hill Holt Wood is a community-owned business which illustrates how to use woodland resources to affect rural regeneration and create a sustainable local economy.
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Market Consultation Event for Foster Care in the Tees Valley

22nd April 2013, 1pm. Education Development Centre, Hartlepool. Hartlepool Borough Council. Deadline to respond 15th April 2013.

The five Tees Valley local authorities would like to invite organisations to a market engagement event to discuss the forthcoming Foster Care tender. The event will also be an opportunity for interested parties to meet stakeholders.
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Social Value Conference

26th April 2013, North East

The North East Social Enterprise Partnership, in conjunction with The Federation of Small Businesses North East, is holding an event to explore and debate issues surrounding The Public Services (Social Value) Act. The conference will host a range of speakers and organisations interested in discussing the act and sharing their experiences/understanding of it.

To get involved email **socialvalue.conference@gmail.com**
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