

fine online

Funding and finance opportunities for North East voluntary and community organisations and social enterprises

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Opportunities:

British Ecological Society Outreach Grants (UK)
British Mountaineering Council (BMC) Grants (UK)
Capacity Building Fund 2013-14 (Grant - Gateshead)
GeoVation Challenge (Grant - UK)
Google Global Impact Challenge (Grant - UK)
Learning Working Earning (Grant - County Durham / Darlington)
Nectar Business Small Business Awards (Prize - UK)
Santander Community Plus Fund (Grant - UK)
Science and Technology Facilities Council: School Grants Scheme (UK)
Strategic Legal Fund for Refugee Children and Young People (Grant - England)

Provision of Parent Partnership Service (Contract - Gateshead)
Visionary North East (Contract - North East)

Information & Resources:

BIG Lottery Fund announces multiple and complex issues investment
Budget 2013
Carnegie Challenge
Handling deficits
No Stone Unturned
WikiVOIS

Events & Training:

Foundation for Social Improvement (FSI) Roadshow Series
South East Northumberland Funding Fayre
Volunteering in 2013: Regulation, Infrastructure, Promotion & Funding

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Funding Information North East

Opportunities

British Ecological Society Outreach Grants (UK)

Up to £2,000 for individuals/VCSE/other. Deadline 17th September 2013

Individuals and organisations such as schools, museums, libraries and community groups can apply to the British Ecological Society for grants to promote ecological science to a wide audience.

The funding is available for projects that

- increase public understanding of, and engagement with ecology
- stimulate discussion about ecology and its implications for society
- inspire and enthuse people of all ages about the science of ecology, especially those not previously interested
- develop skills in communicating the science of ecology

Applications will not be considered for:

- staff salaries
- purchase of apparatus, including computers, cameras etc., unless these are integral to the application
- projects aimed solely at delivering curriculum to school children

<http://www.britishecologicalsociety.org/grants/outreach/index.php>

Source: Grants Online / FINE

British Mountaineering Council (BMC) Grants (UK)

For BMC affiliated clubs. Deadline 10th May 2013

BMC affiliated clubs can apply for financial support to help develop communications, buy equipment and provide instructor support to members.

£21,000 is available to allocate this year as follows:

- Category A - to develop club websites & newsletters
- Category B - to purchase club equipment
- Category C - for instructor support for clubs

Clubs can apply for one, two or three funding categories.

<http://www.thebmc.co.uk/funding-grants-for-bmc-clubs>

Source: Grants Online / FINE

Capacity Building Fund 2013-14 (Grant – Gateshead)

For VCSE (non profit). Deadline 3rd May 2013. Opens 1st/2nd April (information expected on website then). Previous awards ranged between £1,000 and £20,000

The Fund aims to support, develop and build capacity and sustainability in the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead and to help strengthen local communities. The Fund will support organisations to build their capacity and sustainability as well as small grassroots community groups to help the Council achieve the priorities identified within Council Plan 2012-2017:

- Giving children the best start in life
- Improving health and wellbeing
- Culture, creativity and high impact events
- Green Gateshead
- Creating capacity through volunteering
- Creating the conditions for economic growth

The Capacity Building Fund is an open, competitive application process for new and existing groups and organisations based or working in Gateshead. During 2013/14 the Council would particularly like to support

- communities and organisations to mitigate the impact of the Council's budget decisions and deliver Council Plan priorities
- organisations to become commission ready and able to compete for and deliver contracts
- youth organisations, community centres and community libraries
- small, medium sized organisations and BME communities
- small grassroots organisations
- projects which help achieve the aims of the Gateshead Council Volunteer Plan to increase the number of volunteers in Gateshead, in particular around sport, the Olympic legacy, digital inclusion, students and businesses
- projects within neighbourhoods and communities which add value to and enhance local service provision

<http://www.gateshead.gov.uk/People%20and%20Living/Grants/home.aspx>

Source: Direct / FINE

GeoVation Challenge (Grant – UK)

Total fund of £100,000 for entrepreneurs, developers, community groups, innovators. Deadline 1st May 2013.

In the GeoVation Challenge process entrants review the challenge problem statements and think of an idea that may help address the current Challenge question of “How can we help British business improve environmental performance?”. The problems are grouped into 8 main themes:

- Theme 1: From duty to opportunity
- Theme 2: Good process management
- Theme 3: Compliance
- Theme 4: Awareness, knowledge & communication
- Theme 5: Return on investment
- Theme 6: Business priorities
- Theme 7: Working with others
- Theme 8: Organisational behaviour and culture

Entrants post their ideas on the website and those with the best ideas (finalists) will be invited to GeoVation Camp. Finalists pitch for a chance to win the innovation funding.

<http://www.geovation.org.uk/geovationchallenge/>

Source: FINE

Google Global Impact Challenge (Grant – UK)

£500,000 each for four UK charities. Deadline 17th April 2013

Google is offering a share of £2m to the four UK charities that come up with the most innovative technology-based ideas to improve society and transform lives.

Google staff will review applications and announce 10 finalists in May. The public will be able to learn more about the finalists, vote for their favourite and donate to any project they wish.

<http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/news/1175884/Google-launches-2m-Global-Impact-Challenge-charities/>

Source: Third Sector / FINE

Learning Working Earning (Grant – County Durham / Darlington)

Up to £5,000. Deadline not specified.

Through the initiative, County Durham Community Foundation will reduce the financial barriers that unemployed individuals are experiencing by giving them the opportunity to access grant funding to support them with an apprenticeship or work-based learning. This initiative gives recipients the opportunity to take up an apprenticeship or work-based learning, where the employer has given a minimum of a year's commitment.

Employees - to be eligible, employees must

- be unemployed
- live in County Durham or Darlington
- have an offer of employment linked to accredited work-based training with a minimum of a one-year contract at 30 hours per week
- experience financial barriers to taking up the offer

Employers - to be eligible, employers must

- be considering taking on an apprentice / work-based learning employee
- experience financial barriers to taking on an apprentice / work-based employee
- have explored all other funding opportunities

A maximum combined (employer/employee) award of £5,000 is available to eligible applicants. This may include a contribution to the following costs:

- Specialist equipment or clothing
- Training
- Transport
- Up to 50% of salary costs (employer)

In order to apply, the applicant employee, the employer and a mentor / advisor must complete the Application Form. Each party must sign the form agreeing to the information provided. Send the completed application form along with a job description for the proposed employment. Examples of Mentors / Advisors:

- Business advisors located in the main colleges
- Training providers
- Support organisations
- Employability managers within the Local Authorities

<http://www.cdcf.org.uk/apply-for-a-grant/grants-for-individuals/learning-working-earning>

Source: Direct / FINE

Nectar Business Small Business Awards (Prize – UK)

£2,000 cash prize for small business and social enterprises. Free to enter. Deadline 30th April 2013

The Nectar Business Small Business Awards 2013 are free to enter and open to all UK small businesses and social enterprises.

The awards celebrate small business success by acknowledging best practice and celebrating great ideas as well as outstanding achievements. The Categories:

- Small Business of the Year
- Start Up of the Year
- Innovation of the Year
- Contribution to the Community
- Entrepreneur of the Year
- Tradesperson of the Year

Businesses can enter under one of the five award categories. The winning small business from each category will receive £2,000 in cash, 50,000 Nectar points and free media publicity.

<http://www.nectar.com/dynamic/smallbusiness>

Source: Funding Insight / FINE

Santander Community Plus Fund (Grant - UK)

Up to £5,000 for registered charities. No deadline

The Santander Foundation has launched a new £1.23m Community Plus fund to support charities helping local disadvantaged people across the UK.

The funding must be for a specific project that helps disadvantaged people. The applicant must be a local charity or local project of a larger charity.

<http://www.santanderfoundation.org.uk/community-plus.aspx>

Source: Grants Online / FINE

Science and Technology Facilities Council: School Grants Scheme (UK)

Up to £500 for schools / colleges (students aged 5-19). Deadline 1st June 2013

The Science and Technology Facilities Council, the Institution of Engineering and Technology and the Institute of Physics run a small grants scheme designed specifically for schools and colleges. The scheme provides schools with grants for projects or events linked to the teaching or promotion of physics or engineering.

Grants can be used to support a range of projects. Projects linked to astronomy, space and particle physics are particularly encouraged, as are those relating to engineering in areas such as energy, transport, information and communications, design and production and the built environment.

http://www.iop.org/about/grants/school/page_38824.html

Source: Grants Online / FINE

Strategic Legal Fund for Refugee Children and Young People (Grant - England)

Up to £30,000 for non profit. Deadline 22nd April 2013.

The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, Trust for London and Migration Work CIC have announced a new 12 month pilot fund to support strategic legal work.

The Strategic Legal Fund for Vulnerable Young Migrants (SLF) is a fund to support legal work that goes beyond securing justice for an individual and makes a significant contribution to law, practice and procedures to uphold and promote the rights of vulnerable migrant children and young people more generally.

The SLF aims to tackle injustices and inconsistencies in law and practice that disadvantage or discriminate against vulnerable young migrants as a result of their migration status. This is done by making grants to organisations to

- undertake pre-litigation research, or
- make third party interventions to ensure that the key legal points are made in existing cases

Eligible providers of specialist legal services can apply to undertake a non-profit piece of work which doesn't qualify for public funding. Initially, cases in areas of law relevant to refugee children (including asylum, immigration, human rights, community care, housing, education, discrimination and health) may be supported.

<http://www.migrationwork.org/strategic-legal-fund>

Source: Funding Insight / FINE

Provision of Parent Partnership Service (Contract - Gateshead)

Gateshead Council. Respond by 3rd April 2013 (Expression of Interest – Tender submission deadline 10th)

The aim of this contract is to promote and support effective partnerships between parents of children with special educational needs and the Council.

The provider will work with parents to provide a flexible range of services including access to an Independent Parental Supporter, offering practical support and accurate, impartial information on their rights, roles and responsibilities within the Special Educational Needs process and signposting to other agencies.

The Parent Partnership service will be dedicated to the inclusion of children and young people with Special Educational Needs in education and community settings.

https://www.qtegov.com/procontract/supplier.nsf/frm_opportunity?openForm&contract_id=CONTRACT-QTLE-94EF2K&opp_id=OPP-HIS-QTLE-95XMR5&search_id=&org_id=ORG-QTLE-75EJUA&from=supplier_home

Source: NEPO / FINE

Visionary North East (Contract – North East)

From Visionary North East. Respond by 17th April 2013

Visionary North East (VNE) is a membership group of local societies working with visually impaired people in the North East. VNE, nationally, is an umbrella organisation supporting service based local societies for the blind across the UK. VNE are inviting expressions of interest from suitable individuals/organisations to

- explore new ways of working to benefit local visually impaired people
- undertake a mapping exercise relating it to 'Seeing It My Way' (RNIB)
- explore ways of filling the gaps
- explore opportunities for economies of scale
- build on trust and formalize partnership working
- look at mutual support amongst and between members

The total amount payable will be circa £8,000 one or two years. VNE will require the organisation/people interested in this work to make a short presentation to Visionary North East, and further to support that organisation in a final Review and Report to Visionary UK at the end of the process. Proposals should be emailed or delivered to Sue Taylor, CEO Gateshead and South Tyneside Sight Service, Sight Service, Bensham Hospital, Saltwell Road, Gateshead. NE8 4YL

Sue.taylor@sightservice.co.uk

Source: Direct / FINE

Information & Resources

BIG Lottery Fund announces multiple and complex issues investment

10 successful areas to share £100m

BIG has announced the 10 successful areas in England now on their way to receiving a share of £100m to support people with multiple problems like homelessness, mental ill health, addiction and reoffending.

BIG is awarding £50,000 to each partnership to help submit business plans on how they will improve and better coordinate services to tackle the needs of people living chaotic lives in order to receive up to £10m each.

The successful areas and lead organisations are:

- Birmingham: Birmingham Voluntary Service Council
- Blackpool: Addaction
- Brighton & Hove, Eastbourne & Hastings: Brighton Housing Trust and Hastings
- Bristol: Second Step Housing Association Ltd
- Camden & Islington, London: Single Homeless Project
- Lambeth, London: Resolving Chaos
- Liverpool: Plus Dane Group
- **Newcastle / Gateshead: The Cyrenians Ltd**
- Nottingham Framework: Housing Association
- Stoke on Trent: Brighter Futures

http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/global-content/press-releases/england/260313_nat_mcn_multiple-and-complex-issues

Source: FINE

Budget 2013

Some key points relevant to the sector and links to further reading

- A new employment allowance will take the first £2,000 off the employer national insurance bill of every company
- Government will consult on proposals to make it easier to claim Gift Aid through a range of digital giving channels
- Government will introduce a new tax relief to encourage social investment; formal consultations are expected by summer 2013 and the relief will be introduced in the Finance Bill 2014
- Current advice for volunteers who run events will be improved and published in a single document

Further reading:

- Budget documents
http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/budget2013_documents.htm
- Third Sector round-up
http://www.thirdsector.co.uk/go/budget_2013_roundup/
- Guardian round-up of Sector's response
<http://www.guardian.co.uk/voluntary-sector-network/2013/mar/20/charity-leaders-react-budget-statement>
- Civil Society round-up of reactions online
http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/finance/blogs/content/14727/budget_2013_the_reaction_online
- NCVO response
<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/news/politics/budget-2013-ncvo%E2%80%99s-response>
- NAVCA response
<http://www.navca.org.uk/news/view-article/navca-budget-statement>
- DSC response
http://www.dsc.org.uk/PolicyandResearch/News/WhatpoppedoutofGeorgesredbox?dm_i=6S7,1DFBP,RKJG4,4NL4Q,1#.UVLDgTe4qbI and analysis
http://www.dsc.org.uk/PolicyandResearch/News/Budget2013Chancellorfailstoacknowledgeourgrowingsocialdebts?dm_i=6S7,1DFBP,RKJG4,4NL4Q,1#.UVLDITe4qbI

Source: FINE

Carnegie Challenge

Correction from previous bulletin.

There is one remaining deadline for applications relating to events in 2013 – this is 21st June 2013.

<http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/changing-minds/carnegie-challenge>

Handling deficits

FINE speaks to the funders about applications from organisations in deficit

As the recession continues to bite, many North East organisations are using reserves to cover their operating costs. Last week, at one of our regular meetings with North East trust funders, FINE asked funders how they have been responding to applications from organisations in deficit.

Funders were sympathetic to organisations in these circumstances, recognising the external pressures involved. They will consider applications on their merits but the following factors may influence their decision:

- Is there a realistic plan for how the organisation will get out of the deficit?
- Does the plan show a reasonable chance of survival if the organisation takes identified steps?
- Is the organisation going to be viable for the period of the proposed grant?
- Do the trustees of the organisation know about the deficit and proposed plan? Are they involved in the planning?
- Does the organisation have a track record with the funder? (Some funders may be more sympathetic to organisations with whom they have a strong or longstanding relationship)
- Some funders want to see better management accounts, including cash flows
- Funders noted that some organisations operating at a loss may also have a strong balance sheet and may still be viable

Funders also highlighted concerns that they are seeing organisations which are not properly accounting for reserves in their accounts. Some organisations had failed to identify legal liabilities, others had claimed high levels of reserves which later turned out to include assets such as buildings. Explanatory notes in the accounts may clarify such issues.

Source: FINE

No Stone Unturned

Growth plan report has received Government backing

A plan to boost jobs devised by Tory peer Lord Heseltine has received government backing. Lord Heseltine called for the Government to slash red tape and hand back decision-making powers to Britain's major cities giving them greater say over matters including transport, housing, and vocational training. The Government is accepting 81 of Lord Heseltine's 89 recommendations in part or in full.

The recommendations directly benefit England's 39 business-led Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), delivering them an immediate funding boost worth £500,000 over the next two years to be spent on drafting plans on how best to create economic growth.

The Government has also backed Lord Heseltine's suggestions for closer working between councils, civil servants, business leaders, schools and universities.

Read the report here: <http://www.bis.gov.uk/assets/biscore/corporate/docs/n/12-1213-no-stone-untuned-in-pursuit-of-growth>
www.standard.co.uk/news/politics/government-backs-michael-heseltines-growth-plan-8538405.html

Source: Evening Standard / FINE

WikiVOIS

Impact measurement database

WikiVOIS works in conjunction with the Social Return on Investment (SROI) Network. It is a free database of outcomes, indicators and valuations for stakeholders.

Organisations can upload data regarding projects that they have completed or forecasted. It is also a great resource for organisations to look at how others have measured their impact.

www.wikivois.org

Source: Direct / FINE

Events & Training

Foundation for Social Improvement (FSI) Roadshow Series

The CastleGate, Newcastle. 16th -17th May 2013, 10 – 16:30pm. Free to not-for-profits with turnover less than £1.5m (£50 deposit will be refunded within 5 working days of attending the training)

This is an opportunity for smaller charities and voluntary/community organisations in the region to update their fundraising skills and network with other charities in the area. The Roadshow will offer training sessions covering a wide range of fundraising skills and techniques.

Courses:

Thursday 16th May 2013

- Developing Corporate Relationships
- Plan & Deliver Successful Events
- Develop your Fundraising Strategy
- Introduction to Major Donor Fundraising

Friday 17th May 2013

- Trusts & Foundations
- Demonstrating Your Impact
- Building your Core Case for Support

Courses last all day - delegates can only attend one session per day, but can choose to attend a single day or both days. Delegates from the same organisation may not attend the same course as each other and there is a limit of four delegate places for each organisation at the Roadshow events.

<http://www.thefsi.org/training/near-you/newcastle/>

South East Northumberland Funding Fayre

23rd April 2013. Isabella Centre, Blyth. Free

Event for South East Northumberland groups run by CVA Blyth Valley and Wansbeck CVS. This event will have 14 funders in attendance to meet with groups and fundraising training will be provided with a focus on sustainable funding.

funding@wansbeckcvs.org.uk

Volunteering in 2013: Regulation, Infrastructure, Promotion & Funding

8th May 2013, 11am-3:30pm (inc lunch). Central Manchester. Cost: £225/£175 for 2+ places. VCS Discount: £150 per place with code VCS2013

Participants at this Westminster Briefing will be briefed about the latest regulation affecting VCS organisations, examine what is being done to strengthen volunteering infrastructure, identify the best ways to attract volunteers and discuss different sources of funding and new opportunities.

Sessions include:

- Regulating volunteering
- Building infrastructure
- Promoting volunteering and attracting volunteers
- Sources of funding and new opportunities

Each session will begin with briefing presentations and leave time for questions and discussion with the expert panel.

<http://www.westminster-briefing.com/home/event-detail/newsarticle/volunteering-in-2013-regulation-infrastructure-promotion-funding-manchester/>

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