

inform

The magazine for voluntary and community organisations in Newcastle
winter 2011

Newcastle Council
of Voluntary Service



Search Project: reaching out to older people

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the funding pages p11

your voice in Newcastle p18

health and social care p20

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About ncvs inform

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Formats

This newsletter is also available on
our website at www.cvsnewcastle.
org.uk. Please tell us if you need it
in a different format and we will try
to help you.

Comments and complaints

We welcome your feedback –
please contact Stephanie Cole on
0191 235 7016 or stephanie.cole@
cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Next issue

The next edition of ncvs inform will
be published in March 2012.

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Wishing and hoping and thinking

It's that time of year again, when many organisations are waiting to hear if their grant applications are successful. Most need to know by the end of December so any redundancy notices can be sent out in good time to make sure there are no overspends in the next financial year.

This is the second year of this rollercoaster ride and nearly 200 bids worth over £15m have been made to the Newcastle Fund, which has just over £4m for the next three years (just over £1m a year). At the time of writing, Newcastle PCT has not yet agreed its grant mechanism for next year.

Last December, Newcastle CVS produced its *State of the Sector* survey to research and highlight the position many organisations found themselves in. I'm often asked how many organisations have actually closed – the response is “not many”. What I see is a mixture of resilience, redundancies, reorganisations and the use of reserves. But this combination can only be used for so long until pressures really start to show. I believe we will see some VCOs closing in the next year.

I seem to spend a lot of time talking about money – the economic impact of our sector, not just its social one; talking to local funders (statutory and voluntary) on how we can maximise resources; and the need for any decisions to be made as quickly as possible. Here at Newcastle CVS we have updated some of our briefing sheets – particularly on organisations being more resilient and also what to do about closure. Please talk to our staff if your organisation is facing problems.

In this issue of *Inform*, as well as giving you up to date information, we've looked back at 'Big Society', a year after the original letter from Nick Hurd MP, and a few weeks after he wrote to the sector again. In most cases, the key policy shifts haven't really worked their way through the system yet, but the Work Programme is where there have been major shifts and we are interested in the local impact.

Key legislation that has an impact on our sector - the Localism Act, the Health and Social Care Bill, the commissioning of public services and others - will be passed in the next few months and this will bring further changes.

We had a good turnout at our AGM at the beginning of November and Barry Knight, our keynote speaker, focussed on poverty and threw us a number of challenges. What would a Good Society really look like, what are its ingredients, what really makes it work, what are the factors?

Newcastle CVS has always tried to provide a social policy perspective as well as delivering services, and our small studies and pieces of research help us achieve this. Our summer report on personalisation led to positive discussions with Rachel Baillie at Newcastle City Council and a programme of workshops and events. We are currently looking at community development activity locally, the impact of GP commissioning and will be starting some work on women's organisations and the impact of changes on smaller organisations. It really helps us if you can respond to our surveys or take part in interviews so that we can capture as many views as possible.

So, as we approach 2012, what do I see? Well more change, the pace getting faster than before, organisations continually reshaping, a few closures but also some takeovers/mergers. Again the focus should be on people, communities and services and not organisational existence. Sadly I think it will get worse before it gets better. So we all need to focus on those questions I highlighted earlier; what is a Good Society and what can we do to make it work?



Sally

Working together to support our sector

Newcastle CVS is working in partnership with other local support and development organisations to improve the support we give to voluntary and community organisations in Newcastle.

In August, the government announced £30m of funding over 18 months to transform local infrastructure services to enable them to offer more consistent services, reduce duplication and be more sustainable in the future. The deadline for submitting bids was October.

In Newcastle, 47 organisations initially expressed an interest in being involved in the bid. There were two open meetings and five organisations were identified as core partners, with over 15 others interested in overall delivery.

In Newcastle, Newcastle CVS is leading the bid and the four other core partners are Volunteer Centre Newcastle, SkillsBridge (North East Enterprise Bond), Riverside Community Health Project and the East End Community Development Alliance.

We held lots of meetings, looked at the current research, asked other groups what they wanted, ran some specific research and came up with a proposal to improve infrastructure support in Newcastle.

The four key elements in the Newcastle bid are

- ✓ Single agreed needs assessment process for organisations to be delivered by community workers. All staff involved will have reached a specific level of skill. This will save time and more work can be delivered through community projects and make sure local organisations get the support they need
- ✓ Shared database and website to give instant directories of organisations and more information available electronically
- ✓ Access to professional services delivered by the wider group of partners and others. These are technical and professional skills and access to specific networks not held by the core partners
- ✓ Better access to volunteers – including more appropriate placements for volunteers and access to pro-bono professional services and support

We will know by February if we are successful, with the programme due to start in April 2012. If we are not successful, we will continue to work together to see how we can realistically support each other and improve our services to local voluntary and community groups.

Coming soon...your space

We know that it can be difficult for some of our members to get access to a computer, the internet and other resources...this is where **your space** comes in. **your space** is a free resource within our office that members can pre-book to use for up to two hours to

- ✓ use our resource library which has a range of books and publications covering topics such as: setting up organisations, charity law, fundraising, bid writing, strategic planning, employing people, governance, managing projects

- ✓ use our computers and with internet access to do your own research
- ✓ use our space as a work area or as a change of scene away from your usual work area to focus on work such as planning

your space will be available from December so if you'd like to use it, get in touch.

askNCVS 0191 235 7037
askncvs@cvsnewcastle.org.uk

So what happened to the Big Society?

It's over a year since the government announced its ideas and plans for Big Society, so now is a good time to ask what has happened since.

There are three key parts to the Big Society agenda

✓ Community empowerment - giving local councils and neighbourhoods more power to take decisions and shape their area

✓ Opening up public services - public service reforms will enable charities, social enterprises, private companies and employee-owned co-operatives to compete to offer people high quality services

✓ Social action - encouraging and enabling people to play a more active part in society

Big Society Bank

This is now known as Big Society Capital. It is a "financial institution that aims to develop a market for investment made on the basis of positive social impact as well as financial returns. In so doing it will boost the ability of

social enterprises, voluntary and community organisations to deal with social issues."

Some of the initial funding has come from dormant bank accounts, and many voluntary and community organisations initially believed this could be used to grant aid the sector. It is now clear that Big Society Capital will offer social investment, loans and new products including social impact bonds. Big Society Capital is currently in the process of being set up and is not yet open for business.

www.bigsocietycapital.com

National Citizens Service

This summer, the initial 12 pilots provided 16 year olds with around 11,000 placements to work outdoors and help their communities. Nick Hurd told parliament in October that almost a quarter of the offered placements had not been filled. Next year the scheme will be expanded to cover 30,000 young people. It will run for three weeks full-time, including two weeks away from home. After that, there will be another 30-hours on a part-time basis. Young people will also get the

opportunity to design and deliver their own project in their local community.

Despite its roll out, the scheme hasn't been evaluated yet. Critics have also pointed out that the cost of putting just half of 16 year olds through the course is more than the entire budget spent by local authorities on youth services before the recent government cuts.

Support for co-operatives and mutuals

Twelve public sector pathfinder mutuals were set up in August 2010 and another nine have been set up since then. These pathfinders took control of their own services under the mentorship of larger organisations to help the government establish what support and structures will be necessary for the mutuals system to work. The Cabinet Office launched the Mutuals Information Service last year and the Mutual Support Programme is due to be launched this autumn.

www.mutuals.org.uk

Community First Fund

Community First is an £80m government funded programme. It aims to help communities come together through new and existing community groups, to identify their strengths and local priorities, plan for their future and become more resilient. The fund replaced the former Grassroots Grant Fund and is being delivered by the Community Development Foundation. It is funded until March 2015 and is now open for applications.

Community First has two elements to it:

1. A £30m small grant programme for some of the most deprived areas in the country. The three eligible Newcastle wards are Byker, Elswick and Walkergate.

2. A national endowment match challenge. The aim of this is to encourage local and national giving to raise money for longer term sustainable funding for communities, which the government will match with £50m of investment.

www.cdf.org.uk

Community organisers

Around 5,000 community organisers will be trained over the lifetime of this parliament. The intention is for community organisers to build and

mobilise local networks and leadership to drive the change needed within communities. The contract to support this programme was won by Locality. The first 47 community organisers have been recruited by host organisations from 11 communities. These 11 Kickstarter hosts were selected by Locality to be part of the pilot stage of the programme. There are none in the north east.

The first community organisers took up post at the beginning of October. They began a 12 month training programme based in the 11 host areas.

www.cocollaborative.org.uk
www.locality.org.uk

Support for capacity building

A consultation on infrastructure support ended in January 2011, but hasn't reported back yet. The Transforming Local Infrastructure Fund (worth £30m over 18 months) was launched in August this year and there is information on the Newcastle bid on page 5.

Public services reform

The Compact was refreshed last year, and there has been a flurry of bills and white papers on public service reform. There has been a major consultation on the

Open Public Services White Paper, which highlights opportunities for the voluntary and community sector in delivering and influencing public services. The Modernising Commissioning paper and the Localism Bill extend these further and organisations are urged to look at these carefully and the potential implications for their organisations. See page 23 for an article on the Work Programme.

Red Tape Task Force

In May, Lord Hodgson reported back from the red tape task force in its *Unshackling Good Neighbours* report. This complements Lord Young's review of health and safety regulation and the changes to the CRB and vetting and barring process.

In addition to these initiatives, there has been a report on giving with the emphasis on philanthropy; the launch of the Social Action Fund, Innovation in Giving Fund, and the Community Action against Crime Innovation Fund. The Transition Fund distributed £107m to organisations going through major changes and experiencing loss of funding.

For more about these initiatives, ask Martin Gollan or Sally Young at Newcastle CVS

Advocacy gets the quality stamp

Newcastle Advocacy Centre has been awarded the Action for Advocacy Quality Performance Mark.

This award is the only national advocacy specific quality assessment system which applies to all forms of one to one advocacy. Only 50 of the 800 advocacy organisations nationally have successfully achieved the award. The award means that Newcastle Advocacy Centre has demonstrated its commitment and ability in providing high quality independent advocacy.

Jacqui Jobson, Newcastle Advocacy Centre manager, said "We are delighted to receive this award as it reflects the hard work done by the staff and our volunteers. We hope that we will be able to continue to provide our services in the future, as we know there is real need for high quality, independent advocacy."



Jacqui Jobson, Newcastle Advocacy Centre manager, receiving the award from Martin Coyle, Deputy Chief Executive of Action for Advocacy

Are you in?

In November we launched the Newcastle VCS online database. You can now search for voluntary and community organisations working in Newcastle by name, the services they provide, the area of Newcastle they work in and the client groups they work



with. It is easy to add your organisation to the database, just become a Newcastle CVS member!

We think it will be a great benefit to our members, to the public and to other organisations working with voluntary and community organisations such as commissioners. We think it will

- ✓ help people in Newcastle find VCOs to support by giving time and/or money
- ✓ help people in Newcastle find local VCOs to help them

- ✓ help you find other VCOs near you or doing similar work so you can work together
- ✓ help public sector and other organisations to find VCOs to work with or commission to deliver services

And, soon, we'll be adding two new features to the online database – searches for venues and meeting rooms, and voluntary and community sector support.

www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Image by photostock at freedigitalphoto.net & Stephanie Cole at Newcastle CVS

News in brief

At your bidding

This free publication from NAVCA and the Local Government Association is a guide for charity trustees about commissioning and tendering for public services. It gives information to allow trustees to understand the potential implications and impact of commissioning on their charity. It also gives information to trustees to help them bid for service contracts and make sure their organisation is 'tender and contract ready'.

www.navca.org.uk/publications/atyourbidding

An award for Kevin Curley

Kevin Curley, chief executive of NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action), has been awarded the Luke FitzHerbert Lifetime Achievement Award at the Third Sector Excellence Awards. We are really pleased that Kevin has received this award in recognition of his 40-year career in the voluntary sector, including his work as chief executive of NAVCA.

In July, Kevin announced he will retire from NAVCA in 2012. Kevin has played an instrumental part in the VCS and we wish him well for his future.

New rights for communities?

In November, the localism bill finally became the Localism Act 2011 which will according to government ministers trigger 'the biggest transfer of power in a generation'. Greg Clark, Minister for Decentralisation said it will 'reverse a hundred years of centralisation' and has described it as 'the essence of the big society'

The Act introduces a new set of rights for communities to make it easier for them, should they want to, to take over running public services and local assets. Communities will also be able to produce their own local development plans. Along with these new rights, the Act includes new 'freedoms and flexibilities' for local authorities, changes to planning regulations and social housing reform. Many of the measures in the Act are expected to be in place by April 2012.

In October Newcastle CVS and Urban Forum hosted a workshop about the Localism Bill for voluntary and community groups. It was an opportunity to find out more about the Bill and in particular the community rights. The workshop was supported by VONNE and the Third Sector Capacity Fund. The notes from the workshop are on our website via <http://web.digbig.com/5bfcmc>.

The reaction to the Bill from workshop participants and to what opportunities it offers to the voluntary and community sector was one of strong scepticism. This was underpinned by concern that the community rights will in fact open up public services and assets to private sector firms.

On its passage through Parliament the Bill was subject to a large number of amendments, some of which were made by Government itself. For example Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government dropped a key provision to make local authorities hold referendums on receipt of a petition from 5% of the local population.

Abandoning this provision was widely reported as a victory for the political parties who were concerned that it would make it more difficult for councillors to push through difficult decisions in the face of well organised local campaigns; the essence of big society indeed.

Contact Martin Gollan at Newcastle CVS

www.urbanforum.org.uk

Search Project

We spoke to Maggy Crane at Search...

Tell us about Search and what you do

Search is a community based charity which aims to support and empower older people and their carers to improve their quality of life. We are based in the heart of Benwell and serve the five inner west wards. Search was set up in the 1970s and has built up enormous grass roots support over the years. There are several strands to Search's work which fit well together and help us provide a 'holistic' service.

Welfare rights, advice and information

Our income maximisation and advice work enables us to claim over £500,000 a year in unclaimed benefits for local older people. This work is carried out at our four mornings a week drop-in on Adelaide Terrace, by telephone and home visits where appropriate. We also hold outreach sessions at local accessible venues.

Community health work

We provide a wide range of community health and leisure activities including walking groups, arts and crafts sessions, complementary therapies, three local history groups, access to computers. These are provided at our base in Benwell and also in various community venues

in the inner west area such as sheltered housing community rooms.

Through our work we reach out to older people, including those who are frail, isolated and disadvantaged and enable them to get out, meet others, stay healthy and have fun! As well as providing social opportunities, our users receive peer support, companionship and opportunities to contribute to social and community life.

Search volunteers

We are extremely fortunate in having a team of 24 volunteers, who are mainly local older people themselves. They provide a range of services and activities including running 'Knit and Natter' and other craft groups, leading walking groups, reception cover, driving minibuses and lots more. Their hard work and commitment enable us to reach out to more older people in the community – they make a huge difference.

What have you done this year?

We started last year with major concerns and uncertainty about the future of Search because several funding streams were coming to an end. We were therefore delighted to find that our application to the Big Lottery Reaching Communities Fund had been successful and we



were awarded funding for a welfare rights worker and part time community activities support worker.

How did we help and what difference did it make?

Louise provided funding advice for our Big Lottery application. We met with her several times during the lengthy process and found her support and experience invaluable. So, a big 'thank you' to Newcastle CVS, and Louise in particular.

www.searchproject.co.uk

Images by the Search Project

the funding pages

the funding pages give an A-Z of current funding opportunities plus articles on other ways of bringing in income including contracting and legacies. You can also find out about funding by signing up to our weekly email bulletin, *ncvs e-inform*.

Help for Newcastle groups

Newcastle CVS provides a funding advice service, information and training to help voluntary and community groups to find the funding and resources they need to run their organisations. It includes planning for successful fundraising; identifying possible sources of funding; preparing fundable applications; developing and discussing funding strategies; commenting on and helping with draft applications; identifying and monitoring outcomes in a straightforward way; and sustainability. We offer this support either at a face to face meeting, by phone and by email.

If you'd like help please contact Louise McGlen by email louise.mcglen@cvsnewcastle.org.uk or phone 0191 235 7033.

a - z of funders

BBC Children in Need

This funding stream has Small and Main grant schemes.

The Small grants scheme offers grants of up to £10,000 a year, for up to three years, to projects working with children and young people where a relatively small grant can make a big difference.

The Main grants scheme has no upper limit but very few grants are made over £100,000, and most grants are for much less. Requests for larger grants are very competitive but grants can be awarded for up to three years.

www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/
T 020 8576 7788
E pudsey@bbc.co.uk

Cash4Clubs

Cash4Clubs offers grants of £250 to £1,000 to support grassroots sports clubs. No preference is given to types of sport or the age range accessing the activity. However clubs should play an active role in the community, encourage social interaction and fitness, and be registered with their sport's national governing body.

www.cash-4-clubs.com

Information for this section comes from a variety of sources including: Fit for Funding, SYFAB, FINE, direct from the funders, DSC Trustfunding, NAVCA LINX, UK Fundraising and Newcastle CVS research

Co-operative Community Fund

This fund awards grants between £100 and £2,000 to community, voluntary and self-help groups.

www.co-operative.coop/membership/local-communities/community-fund/funding-selection-criteria/
E membership@co-operative.co.uk
T 0800 023 4708

Nationwide Foundation

The foundation makes grants to registered UK charities that offer financial and/or housing related support to survivors of domestic abuse and/or older people. Grants of between £500 and £5,000 are available. The funding aims to tackle financial exclusion affecting older people across the UK.

www.nationwidefoundation.org.uk/default.asp

Newcastle City Council Ward Committee Funding

Did you know that every Ward Committee in Newcastle has funding available for projects that benefit the local community? To apply you must be a properly set up and managed 'not for profit' organisation and work with residents in the ward(s) being applied to. The decision to approve or decline your application is made by the three Ward Councillors who make up the Ward



Committee. All eligible applications are discussed at a Ward Committee meeting. Someone from your organisation will be invited to attend this meeting to explain more about your application and answer any questions. Detailed guidance, application form and a full list of what they won't fund is available on the website and in hardcopy format.

www.newcastle.gov.uk/wardcommitteefunding

**Nadine Curbison, funding officer
Community Engagement and
Empowerment, Room 248,
Civic Centre, Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 8PR**

T 0191 277 3584
E nadine.curbison@newcastle.gov.uk

Newcastle Fund update

199 applications were received and applicants will be advised of the decisions sometime after the Cabinet meeting on 7 December (probably around the time you receive this issue of *Inform*).

Northern Rock Foundation

The foundation has refocused their grant making to focus on sustainability in all grant programmes. They will encourage work to consolidate organisations and to increase collaboration including reviewing organisational focus or restructuring. The foundation will concentrate on organisations it currently has a relationship with. If you have not applied to the foundation previously please contact them before applying. There are a number of useful resources on the foundation's website

www.nr-foundation.org.uk/apply/
T 0191 284 8412
E generaloffice@nr-foundation.org.uk

Focus on: Comic Relief current UK programmes

Each programme has specific guidance and you must read all guidance about the application process and specific deadlines first.

Cycle 8 of the current grants strategy opens on 10 April 2012 and closes on 29 June for all programmes, except the Older People and Sport for Change programmes, which close on 8 June. This is the last funding cycle under their current grants strategy. The new strategy will launch in spring 2013 with grant making resuming in summer 2013.

www.comicrelief.com
E info@comicrelief.com
T 020 7820 2000

Sexually exploited and trafficked young people funds projects that will reduce harm to young people aged 11-25 through sexual exploitation and/or trafficking.

Domestic and sexual abuse young people funds work to support young survivors of domestic and sexual abuse aged 11-25.

Young people and mental health specifically targets funding at work benefiting young people with current mental health problems such as depression, obsessive compulsive disorder, hearing voices, self harm, eating disorders or suicidal feelings. It is very oversubscribed.

Young people and alcohol funds a range of work with young people aged 11-25 who are misusing alcohol or drinking excessively.

Refugee and asylum-seeking women funds work with the most vulnerable refugee and asylum-seeking women who have experienced rape, torture or other forms of violence in their home countries.

Older people supporting older people so they can bring positive change to their communities

supports projects with clear evidence of older people being engaged in developing, planning and delivering work through their role as mentors, peer supporters and advocates.

Mental health aims to ensure people with mental health problems get access to the services they need, their rights are respected, and their voices heard. It also aims to reduce the stigma and discrimination surrounding mental health.

Sport for change funds work exploring how sport can play a part in delivering positive change within the lives of individuals and communities. Also to understand how sport can be used to tackle identified social issues as part of a broader programme to achieve a measurable social change.

Local Communities programme
 The Community Foundation for Tyne & Wear and Northumberland is the local delivery partner for this programme which will run for two years offering grants of between £1,000 and £10,000. The programme aims to empower local people, enabling them to create lasting change in their communities. Projects should be run by people directly affected by the issues they are dealing with and priority will be given to small, locally based groups or organisations in areas of disadvantage that have a clear understanding of the needs of their community.

www.communityfoundation.org.uk/connect/funds/comic-relief-local-communities-programme
T 0191 222 0945

Rayne Foundation

This foundation awards grants within the areas of the arts, education, health and medicine, and social welfare and development. The average grant awarded last year was £14,000.

www.raynefoundation.org.uk

Reviving the Heart of the West End

Grants of up to £1,000 (including small grants up to £100) are available for groups to run projects that will make a difference by directly targeting one or more of the following priorities and linking into the priorities of Reviving the Heart of the West End - training, education and enterprise.

Projects that contribute towards community participation, community engagement, community development and community cohesion are particularly welcomed.

T 0191 226 7300
E info@rhwe.org

Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust Ltd

This is not a charitable trust and only provides grants for non-charitable, political and campaigning activities. The trust does not have defined grants programmes, but maintains a long-standing interest in promoting democratic

reform and defending civil liberties. Details of recent grants made by the Joseph Rowntree Reform Trust Ltd can be found on the grants page of their website.

Applications for grants of over £5,000 are considered by the directors at quarterly meetings. The deadline is approximately four or five weeks prior to the meeting.

Applications for grants of £5,000 and under can be submitted at any time and they aim to inform applicants of the decision within two weeks of receiving a proposal.

www.jrrt.org.uk/index.php?page=apply-for-grant
T 0190 462 5744
E info@jrrt.org.uk

SITA Trust Enhancing Communities Core Fund

This fund provides grants of up to £60,000 for capital improvements to community facilities. Eligible projects must cost no more than £250,000. In England funding zones fall within three miles of a qualifying SITA waste processing site. There is a postcode checker on the SITA website. The next deadline for applications is 19 March.

www.sitatrust.org.uk/community-funding
T 01454 262910
E info@sitatrust.org.uk

Newcastle CVS funding information sheets

Our useful funding information sheets will help you...

- ✓ Are you ready to fundraise?
- ✓ How to complete application forms
- ✓ How to write an application letter

- ✓ How to fundraise from trusts and foundations
- ✓ How to prepare a budget

www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Focus on: BIG Lottery - Reaching Communities

Although there has been a lot in the press about the increased amount of money available, please remember this fund (offering between £100,000 and £500,000 to support communities in need) is still very oversubscribed and the application process is highly competitive. Before making an application it is essential to take time to

- ✓ research the need
- ✓ appraise local provision
- ✓ build links with other organisations
- ✓ establish local support for what you plan to do
- ✓ research local and national policies and agendas that your work can support
- ✓ consider the impact your project can realistically have over the period of funding

The evidence of need and planned project should fulfill BIG's outcomes which are

- ✓ People having better chances in life, with better access to training and development to improve their life skills
- ✓ Stronger communities, with more active citizens working together to tackle their problems

- ✓ Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to access and enjoy
- ✓ Healthier and more active people and communities

Fund for buildings

This part of Reaching Communities, offers between £100,000 and £500,000 for large capital projects. It has had poorer than expected take up and those applications that have been received have often failed to sufficiently demonstrate how they will achieve the BIG outcomes in the years after the build and have focused too much on the building stage of the project instead. Again it is essential to spend time researching need etc as above and focus your answers on why you need to improve your facility – what will you then be able to offer your beneficiaries?

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/prog_reaching_communities
T BIG advice line 0845 4 10 20 30

Did you know that if you are thinking about planning a Lottery bid or any other funding bid you can get support and advice before and during the process from Louise McGlen at Newcastle CVS, email fundadvice@cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Steel Charitable Trust

This trust makes grants to registered charities working in the areas of arts and culture; education; environment; disadvantage; and health. Grants are generally made as single payments between £1,000 and £25,000.

www.steelcharitabletrust.org.uk
E administrator@steelcharitabletrust.org.uk

True Colours Trust Small Grants

This trust offers small grants of up to £10,000, usually for one-off purposes, to help smaller organisations develop and deliver programmes for children, their siblings and families.

www.truecolourstrust.org.uk
T 0207 410 0330

Streamlining to survive

Many organisations are finding it hard to make ends meet. Are you finding it hard too? Have you looked at how your organisation works, examined your budget, and looked for potential savings? Are you cost effective and value for money?

Is it practical to strip back your organisation so you can continue to deliver your objectives? Many businesses and the public sector do this on a regular basis.

Funding decisions are often made by commissioners who have been through restructuring, redeveloping or reorganising themselves, and they will want to see evidence that your organisation has considered similar options. The funding landscape has changed dramatically and funders (whether commissioners or grant-makers) will want to see realistic costs. Are you fit and healthy to face the future?

What to look at?

Staff Administration costs should account for less than 20% of your overall budget. Funders examine costs carefully. Your overall management costs could look non-competitive. Could you share an administrator/finance officer with another organisation? Is everyone being used to their full potential? Could any work be delivered on a sessional basis or would this affect the

quality? Some organisations buy in specialist and technical support rather than employing staff in areas like training, HR, financial management and health and safety, either from another voluntary organisation or an independent consultant.

Are paid members of staff getting drawn into doing work that should be done by trustees or management committee members?

What support systems are in place to enable people to work effectively? Does this impact upon your costs (eg management/external supervision)?

Premises Are they used to their full capacity? Could you rent out desk space? Is the rent reasonable - look at other options? Are you paying for space you don't need on a daily basis? Could you share premises with another organisation? Do you really need your own premises to deliver the work?

Telephone/IT support/ internet provider/ insurance/other utilities Do you stay with who you know or shop around? It is always worth checking whether your current providers still meet your needs in terms of cost and service

Financial support Do you do your own payroll, day to day financial management, use up to date systems? It might be more cost and time effective to contract this out.

Can you justify your unit costs? Funders making difficult decisions will examine these. Check them and be ready to specify any extra expenditure needed to work with a hard to reach or especially disadvantaged group. Funders will be tempted by the organisation with the lowest unit cost as a way of helping more people unless they can understand benefits of paying more to support specific marginalised groups

Habits Does all your work contribute towards the aims and objectives of your organisation or have you slipped doing things of habit, the comfort zone, or because it was funded previously? Reduced resources means focussing back on your aims

Do you know what your bottom line is? What is the minimum income you need in order to be able to provide some support to your beneficiaries? Would they consider this to be okay if it meant that they did not lose the service?

Spend time looking at what a streamlined version of your organisation would look like - your beneficiaries should be the main focus - is it viable or strategic to rethink the way they are supported?

If you need help to do this, just ask Louise McGlen at Newcastle CVS

Cashflow - how healthy is yours?

Did you know that most organisations in financial difficulty have problems with cash flow? It is not a lack of business or grants but the problem of cash flowing into bank accounts not keeping up with cash flowing out. It is easy to forget this when thinking about the big picture but you must keep on top of when money comes in and goes out of your account.

As trustees and management committee members, you must have enough information to know that your organisation has enough money over the year to keep running and to pay all your bills.

The best way to do this is to produce a cashflow forecast.

What is a cashflow forecast?

A cashflow forecast looks at the future and predicts when money will come in to and go out of your organisation.

Isn't that the same as a budget?

No. A budget plans which sources of income and costs will fall into which period. Often money does not change hands at exactly the same time as a piece of work is done. A cashflow forecast will map when the money actually changes hands or is expected to change hands.

Why is it important?

Your budget may show that your project or organisation is viable (ie planned income is more than or equal to expenditure). But what if you receive a grant late, will you be able to pay your staff? This could cause serious problems for your organisation. Looking at the timing of money going in and out is vital.

How do I start?

NCVO has a good model cashflow template, see www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/advice-support/funding-finance/model-cash-flow-forecast

Help from Ellison Services

Ellison Services, Newcastle CVS's community accounting project, can also help you. The team can work with you to produce a cashflow statement helping you to understand how you can keep control of your cash, a key requirement of any organisation. For a reasonable charge they can help you develop a useful tool which can easily be updated. To find out more contact Graeme Lyall on 0191 235 7020 or email graeme.lyall@ellisonservices.co.uk

Other resources to help you

The Charity Treasurer's Handbook by Gareth G Morgan £9.95

A Practical Guide to Charity Accounting edited by Kate Sayer £18.95

A Practical Guide to Financial Management - For Charities and Voluntary Organisations by Kate Sayer £18.95

You can buy these from www.dsc.org.uk or look at them in the library in your space (see page 5).



Images by creativodocfoto at freedigitalphotos.net

Your voice in Newcastle's partnerships



Partnership working in Newcastle is changing. Here we tell you about the new Wellbeing for Life Board; how involving the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Safe Newcastle is evolving; and, an update from the Wellbeing and Health Open Forum.

On 1 November Nick Forbes, leader of Newcastle City Council, wrote to Newcastle Partnership members about replacing the local strategic partnership (LSP) with the soon to be set up Wellbeing for Life Board. This is hardly a surprise because since the coalition government came into power in 2010 it has abolished the duty to set up and work through LSPs. And the health and social care bill outlined a strong role for statutory wellbeing and health boards, which local authorities have a duty to set up.

The new Wellbeing for Life Board, Newcastle's statutory wellbeing and health board, will have a wider remit than is required by law. It will also work to address the wider social and economic forces that affect health and wellbeing, as proposed by the Marmot review.

Having taken on this wider remit, and to avoid duplication and confusion, the council will work with partners to evaluate, improve and strengthen existing partnerships including Safe Newcastle, the Children's Trust, housing, the environment and economy.

A commitment is given to hold forum meetings every six months to review progress with key partners with an option of setting up task and finish groups if needed. An annual State of the City event will offer the chance for a wider public involvement.

What the effect of this will be for VCS participation and representation is difficult to judge. Under LSP guidance the VCS had to be treated as an equal partner on a par with other sectors. Whilst it was clear that those with financial resources or statutory duties always held the dominant

influence, LSPs did offer some opportunities for the VCS, not least the right to be heard.

Whether this opportunity will continue under new partnership arrangements will only become clear over time. The new Wellbeing for Life board is going to be an important force in Newcastle but it will include VCS representation. How effectively VCS representatives are able to work with partners and influence the plans and decisions the Board makes will give a good indication of how much value will be placed on partnership working and the contribution of the VCS in future.

To find out more about partnership working in Newcastle, contact Martin Gollan or Pam Jobbins, policy officers at Newcastle CVS

Image by digitalart at freedigitalphotos.net

Safe Newcastle Stakeholder Forum

The Safe Newcastle Stakeholder Forum was set up in 2010 to provide a way for VCS organisations and other stakeholders to be involved in the Safe Newcastle Partnership. Because the Partnership considered the involvement of VCS groups particularly important, Newcastle CVS jointly undertook to run the forum with the Safe Newcastle Unit.

Five Stakeholder Forum meetings were held across Newcastle during 2010. Three forum meetings were aimed at local groups to give them a chance to highlight community safety issues and the role of the VCS in addressing them. The remaining two made the same offer to larger VCS organisations and stakeholders working across the city.

The five meetings highlighted certain common themes, notably better communication is required from Safe Newcastle. However attendance at each was poor. The forum as a result was falling short of its purpose to provide a platform for stakeholder involvement.

The lack of interest in the Stakeholder Forum was in

marked contrast to the high attendance by VCS groups in specialist forums such as the Domestic Violence Stakeholder Forum, or at one off events such as the Learning Disability and Hate Crime event, organised by ARCH and Newcastle CVS earlier this year.

Rather than persist with a failing model, a report was made to the Safe Newcastle Board in September asking it to discontinue the Stakeholder Forum and replace it with an alternative that would seek to make use of existing forums and networks that have greater VCS involvement.

The Safe Newcastle Board agreed and Newcastle CVS and Safe Newcastle will be carrying out a mapping exercise in December. This should establish how many forums and network in Newcastle can be used to engage and inform VCOs and other stakeholders about Safe Newcastle and its priorities. The new approach will require agreement with network and forum hosts about how Safe Newcastle will be involved but it's hoped the new stakeholder arrangements will be up and running in early 2012.

Wellbeing and Health Open Forum

The Open Forum meets three times a year and, at its last gathering in October, it heard about the Newcastle Future Needs Assessment (NFNA).

The NFNA is Newcastle council's new way of identifying policy priorities, underpinning decision making and targeting resources. It is not intended to be a tool for only the council to use; it is for all other sectors too. The council's NFNA presentation gave a clear message that the VCS will be involved and it will benefit from the NFNA. The first version of the NFNA is expected spring 2012. We hope this will give VCOs time to be involved and make sure the process works well for the sector.

The Open Forum was understandably keen to understand how VCS organisations will be a part of the NFNA especially given the constant murmur of criticism from voluntary and community organisations about the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, which provides the model for the NFNA.

Health and social care bill...after the pause

The Health and Social Care Bill is now progressing through the Lords after a pause for the listening exercise. The government made changes to the bill following the listening exercise and the Future Forum report in the summer. There are increasing concerns over the role of the private sector in both commissioning and providing services. There is still discussion about what will be the Secretary of State's responsibility for the NHS. Here is an overview of the main parts of the bill.

Monitor, the independent regulator of NHS foundation trusts, will have a core duty to protect and promote patients' interests, and competition will be on quality not price. The power to 'promote' competition which caused much concern is removed. Monitor will also have a duty to carry out patient and public involvement.

The **GP Commissioning Consortia** will be called Clinical Commissioning Groups and will involve two lay members, a secondary care doctor, one nurse, and other health and care professionals in commissioning local health services. The Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) will meet in public and publish their minutes, and there is to be an emphasis on the duty to reduce inequalities. Newcastle Bridges and Tyne Health are the CCGs in Newcastle and both are now pathfinders.

Primary care trusts will not exist from April 2013, but the CCGs will not be authorised until they are ready and willing; if they are not ready, the NHS Commissioning Board will commission local health services through 'local arms' that will reflect the primary care cluster arrangements being formed. In the north east there will be a Commissioning Support Unit with local hubs.

Health and Wellbeing Boards will have a new duty to involve the public and users, and a stronger role in joint commissioning and promoting integrated provision for health, public health and adult social care. There will be an 'enhanced' JSNA and a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy will be produced. In Newcastle the Board will be known as the Wellbeing for Life Board and the sector reps will be drawn from those on the Children's Trust Board and what was the Wellbeing and Health Partnership Executive.

Both **HealthWatch England** and **Local HealthWatch** will be set up from October 2012. Local HealthWatch will be involved in CCGs and Health and Wellbeing Boards and take on the functions of PALs work. Local authorities and Local HealthWatch will take formal responsibility for commissioning NHS complaints advocacy from April 2013.

Patient choice for Any Qualified Provider (renamed from 'any willing provider') will start from April 2012 in areas such as community services, but it is recognised that in some areas such as A&E and critical care, Any Qualified Provider will never be practicable or in the patient interest.

There is still no reference to the involvement of the voluntary and community sector itself in the new structures, which will lead to patchy involvement across the country.

Bill revised Impact Assessment

The Department of Health published the revised Impact Assessment and Equality Analysis for the Health and Social Care Bill in September. The message is that the cost of modernising and re-structuring the NHS is a fraction of the savings that will result; that administrative spend is being cut by a third and re-invested in patient care; that the listening exercise strengthened the plans; that the NHS will always be free at the point of use, based on need and not ability to pay.

The document includes a figure for NHS admin or 'core costs' that are not for front line services of £4,500m, reduced from the £5,000m (January

calculation), based on spending for PCTs, Strategic Health Authorities and Department of Health.

www.dh.gov.uk/health/2011/09/impact-assessment-published/

Bills before parliament

This government website lists all of the bills before parliament and tracks their progress in the Houses of Commons and Lords along with explanatory notes and bill documents. For instance the last reading of the Health and Social Care Bill was in the Lords on 14 November.

<http://services.parliament.uk/bills/>

Interested in health, social care and wellbeing?

The Newcastle Health and Wellbeing Open Forum is for you.

What is it?

The Open Forum is a way for voluntary and community organisations providing adult health, wellbeing and social care services and activities in Newcastle to come together, get involved and stay informed.

Contact Pam Jobbins at Newcastle CVS or visit www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Personalisation in Newcastle

One of the Newcastle Wellbeing and Health Open Forum priorities was personalisation, which led to a task and finish group that met five times. Newcastle CVS produced a report of the discussion.

The recommendations, endorsed by the Wellbeing and Health Open Forum, concern continuing the dialogue with Newcastle council's Adult and Culture

Services started at the Commissioning information event in June 2011, developing the market, communication, the service directories, and assessing how the new system suits people with mental health conditions.

After discussions with the Adult and Culture Services Directorate, there are plans to substantially build on the work with events twice a

year for the sector to engage with Adult and Culture Services, and developmental workshops.

You can download the report from www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk > adult, wellbeing and social care

askNCVS...your questions answered

How do we write a social media policy?

If your organisation and your staff, volunteers and trustees/management committee members use social media, it is useful to have a social media policy, even a basic one. The policy should set out how your organisation uses social media, the expectations you have of staff, any restrictions you have and how it links to other policies.

These resources will help you

- ✓ Acas guidance on social media in the workplace www.acas.org.uk/socialnetworking – includes guidance on developing a policy

plus practical tips on how to manage the impact of social networking on managing performance, recruitment, discipline and grievances, bullying, plus defamation, data protection and privacy

- ✓ ICT Champions social media guidelines www.ictchampions.org.uk - Newcastle CVS used these guidelines to develop our social media policy. Please askNCVS if you would like a copy



Stress management from Ellison Services!

Worried about board reports, payroll not working out as planned? Contact Ellison Services who are here to help you. We've been helping organisations with a variety of accounting and payroll services for many years taking away the dread of double entry and the pain of PAYE. We have a mix of free and charged-for services.

Our services include

- ✓ Financial health checks (free!)
- ✓ Crisis consultations (free!)
- ✓ Advice and support on book keeping, charity accounting, budgeting and cash flow forecasting and financial monitoring (free!)
- ✓ Independent examination of charity accounts
- ✓ Preparing statutory accounts for charities, CICs, limited companies
- ✓ Management accounts

- ✓ Book keeping and complete management of finances including making and receiving payments
- ✓ Payroll services for organisations, and for individuals in receipt of direct payments
- ✓ Help setting up financial systems and installing SAGE accounts

Don't reach for the aspirin...telephone Graeme Lyall at Ellison Services on 0191 235 7020 or email graeme.lyall@ellisonservices.co.uk and let us manage your stress.

Ellison Services is Newcastle CVS's community accounting service

'Ellison services have prepared our payroll for years. Recently they have supported us in reviewing our financial systems, making them more efficient and helping us to produce more meaningful papers for our board. We love them, they're great.' Huffy (West End Women and Girls)

The work programme... is it working?

The government has launched a new scheme to help the long-term unemployed back into work – the Work Programme. This has replaced all existing welfare to work programmes.

There have been reports published by ACEVO, LVSC, NCVO and Locality that highlight the multiple barriers voluntary and community organisations face in successfully delivering services under the Work Programme. Newcastle CVS will be holding its own focus group with local organisations soon – we'll tell you more about it in *ncvs e-inform* or contact Martin Gollan to be kept up to date.

There are two main areas in which the voluntary and community sector could become involved in the Work Programme – as regional prime contractors, or as subcontractors providing the employment support services. Of the 40 prime contracts offered by the Department of Work and Pensions, only three were awarded to voluntary organisations; leaving 88% going to private sector organisations. Locally, the prime providers are Avanta and Ingeus. Ingeus is still setting up services.

However even at the subcontractor level, it was originally assumed that 35-40% of the value of the contracts would go the 'civil society sector'; however

recent statistics show that the sector provides just under 20% of supporting organisations. There will be no performance data available for at least eighteen months.

In *Pushed to the edge*, Locality's recent report on the work programme, they have found that because of the prime contractor model and payment by results approach the government has adopted, many community organisations with a long track record of helping people back into work will have to close down.

The ACEVO research found that many organisations they spoke to were anxious about how successful the work programme will be with only 8% being confident that the work programme will hit its targets.

Talking to local voluntary organisations, our impression is that their involvement in the field of welfare to work has diminished. There had been an expansion of this support under the Working Neighbourhood Fund; that was closed in March this year. There are a number of local organisations with a good track record in supporting some of the most disenfranchised people back into work. Several are getting little or no work passed to them. At a time of high unemployment, particularly youth unemployment, this needs to be addressed.

Special interest group for sub-contractors

NCVO set up a special interest group for voluntary and community organisations involved in the government's new welfare-to-work initiative. The group enables sub-contractors to share their experiences; provides them with information and advice; and enables NCVO to feed their concerns to the government.

The group is free and open to all voluntary and community organisations who act as sub-contractors in the work programme. Membership currently stands at over 100 civil society organisations and growing. To find out more contact Paul Winyard at NCVO at paul.winyard@ncvo-vol.org.uk

The group published a short report in October - *The work programme: initial concerns from civil society organisations*. It highlighted issues around TUPE, price v quality, and the size and complexity of contracts making it hard for VCOs to get involved.

To find out more visit

www.locality.org.uk
www.lvsc.org.uk
www.acevo.org.uk
www.ncvo-vol.org.uk

Thinking about Newcastle's key issues



Lets Talk Newcastle is Newcastle City Council's new approach to engagement. It was launched earlier this year and is the council's way of having 'a new conversation' with Newcastle. Under the banner of *Lets Talk*, there are four types of activity, *Talkabout*, *Walkabout*, *Decideabout* and *Thinkabout*, each designed to have different sorts of conversation with local communities and stakeholders.

With *Thinkabout* the council wants to gather information and advice about strategic issues facing Newcastle. *Thinkabout* doubles as the monthly policy meeting for the council's cabinet members, (their other monthly meeting being a business one). Topics that have been 'thought about' to date are the harmful effects of alcohol, welfare reform and promoting active ageing. Future topics include domestic violence, increasing financial inclusion and creating a fairer city.

In practice *Thinkabout* is an hour long 'town hall' style meeting chaired by Councillor Nick Forbes, the leader of the council. Other cabinet members are

there to introduce and contribute to the debate, as are senior council officers. The conversation however, is primarily between the politicians and the public, which for *Thinkabout* has been largely public, private and voluntary and community sector organisations.

So far *Thinkabout* has offered a good opportunity for informed debate with contributions from a wide range of interested parties. The session about the harmful effects of alcohol heard from bar managers and other representatives from the licensing trade as well as contributions from health, police, the council and the voluntary sector. In this case *Thinkabout* engaged the private sector in a strategic debate in a better way than Newcastle Partnership, the local strategic partnership, has managed to do for some time.

What does *Thinkabout* offer for the voluntary and community sector? Any group with an interest can go along to a meeting, though you do have to tell them in advance.

Evidence can be submitted before the meeting and it is a chance to speak directly to local politicians (the decision makers!) about the work your organisation does or more generally what the VCS contributes.

What is less clear at the moment is quite how the information given, and points made, will influence the council's planning and service delivery. It can be assumed that *Thinkabout* will feed into the Newcastle Future Needs Assessment, the council's new strategic planning and commissioning tool, but that too is in its very early stages. In the meantime if the council is thinking about a subject important to your organisation you might want to seriously consider joining in the 'new conversation'.

For more information about Thinkabout and the Lets Talk Newcastle programme visit www.newcastle.gov.uk/your-council/community-engagement

What is the Newcastle LINK doing?

Newcastle LINK has been busy over the past few months looking at community issues, researching a number of priorities and holding extra Board meetings to discuss how HealthWatch will develop in Newcastle.

The Executive Board discussed official LINK reports at the last meeting, and these are available on the LINK's website. The Board has recently received a presentation from Newcastle City Council's Transformation

Manager on the development of HealthWatch locally and the connection with the shadow Newcastle well-being and health board and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA).

Newcastle LINK has also responded to various consultation documents including how HealthWatch will be funded, choices of services to be considered for Any Qualified Provider status and views on what integrated services will look like.



Newcastle LINK
www.newcastlelink.org.uk
T 0800 756 9528 for free
(ask for Newcastle LINK Support Team)
E findoutmore@newcastlelink.org.uk
write to 'FREEPOST NEWCASTLE LINK'

Science City community engagement

Newcastle City Council and Newcastle University continue to be committed to Newcastle Science City. They will be investing up to £500k each year for the next three years while recognising the ongoing importance of engaging Newcastle's communities in the world class science and research in Newcastle.

The Science Central site will continue to grow, as £6m from the Regional Growth Fund matches £16m already committed by the university and council.

Over the summer, the Community Engagement Project completed the commissioning of 12 collaborative projects which

are being delivered in partnership between Newcastle VCOs and science institutions. You can see more on the Newcastle Community Science website.

Newcastle CVS will be working to promote relationships beyond those funded, and are busy investigating a range of opportunities. As part of this, an exciting event will take place in December, opening a dialogue between the VCS and Newcastle University around ageing. Dialogues for a Changing Age will take place on 8 December at Central Square.



To book a place, discuss this event or talk about collaborative working, please contact Alex Robson at Newcastle CVS.

www.newcastlecommunityscience.co.uk



Our news

Our trustees: all change!

At our AGM in November, we were very pleased to welcome Andrew White from Skillsbridge as a trustee, and Ruth Abrahams from Disability North agreed to stay as a co-opted trustee. Three trustees stepped down – Harriette Boyden, Janet Hunter and Geoff Miller – and we'd like to thank them for all their hard work over the years. All our trustees play a huge role in the success of Newcastle CVS.

Spring/summer 2012 training

Our spring summer 2012 training programme is now open for bookings. We've listened to what our members have told us so the new programme includes some old favourites (minute taking and supporting and supervising staff); shorter funding-related sessions; free short, snappy workshops; and new courses. Our training and events up to March are on the back page.

The free bite-sized sessions are only an hour long on key issues for voluntary and community organisations – where to get support, roles of committee members, getting started with fundraising, working together, using volunteers and managing money. We hope they'll act as an introduction to people new to the VCS.

Our new courses include time management, how to do market research and three volunteering sessions delivered in partnership with Volunteer Centre Newcastle. We've also introduced Need, outcomes, monitoring and impact designed to help you meet the needs of funders around measuring your work. If you're applying for funding, this is a must-attend event for you.

Let us know if you've got other training needs because we can also deliver our courses just for your organisation or design something especially for you.

Jaz Nagra
training@cvsnewcastle.org.uk
0191 235 7011



Leader of the council, Cllr Nick Forbes, speaking to Newcastle voluntary and community organisations at the VCS network event on 16 November 2011. A report of the event is on our website at www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Our new volunteer

We're delighted to welcome Alex Cowan as information and communications volunteer. Alex is helping us to keep the website up to date and to get our messages out via Twitter – both important tasks to help us tell you what we're up to and how we can help. We're really grateful for Alex's hard work.

Our Christmas hours

Our office will close for Christmas and new year at 2.00pm on Friday 23 December. We will be back at work on Tuesday 3 January 2012.

We hope you all have a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Who's joined Newcastle CVS recently?

Al Raza Islamic Educational Welfare Trust

Brunswick Village Community Association
 0191 217 0079

Café Culture North East
cafeculturenortheast.org.uk
 0191 285 2516

Cruse Bereavement Care
crusetyneside.co.uk
 0191 276 5533

Farne Friendship Club
 0191 271 1697

First Step
firststepne.org.uk
 0191 226 1213

Friends Action North East
friendsaction.co.uk
 0191 231 4327

GemArts
gemarts.org
 0191 440 4124

MEA Trust
meahouse.org.uk
 0191 232 7783

Millfield House Foundation
mhfdn.org.uk

Mobex North East
mobexnortheast.org.uk
 0191 230 2830

Moorside Allotments Association
moorsideallotments.co.uk
 0191 284 0774

Newcastle Westgate Junior Football Club
clubwebsite.co.uk/westgatejuniors
 0191 241 4021

North East Autism Society
ne-as.org.uk
 0191 515 4640

North East Circus Development Trust
circuscentral.co.uk
 0191 246 2836

North East Pre-retirement Association
 01670 860 312

Northumberland Cricket Board Ltd
 0191 241 0212

Ouseburn Farm Charity Ltd
ouseburnfarm.org.uk
 0191 232 3698

St James' Heritage And Environment Group
 0191 252 8675

Scotswood Village Nursery
 0191 275 0314

Spital Tongues Beacon Community Association

StreetGames North East
streetgames.org
 0191 277 3071

SCAN: Student Community Action Newcastle
scan.ncl.ac.uk
 0191 239 3928

Success 4 All CIC
success4all.org.uk
 0191 272 5115

Taxaid UK
taxaid.org.uk
 0207 803 4950

The Lit and Phil
litandphil.org.uk
 0191 232 0192

Tyneside Society of Model and Experimental Engineers

Violet: The Well-being Care and support Agency

Not a member? Then join us

Over 400 voluntary, community or not for profit organisations in Newcastle have joined Newcastle CVS. It is free to join! Our membership includes access to our free services, free magazine and email

bulletin, discounts on our training and access to forums and networks plus much. You'll also be added to the Newcastle VCS online database.

Join us to help strengthen the voice of the VCS in Newcastle.

askNCVS
T 0191 235 7037
www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk
E askncvs@cvsnewcastle.org.uk

Newcastle CVS events and training diary

December

- 1 December Navigating the system: How to access statutory mental health services on behalf of your service users [Newcastle Advocacy Centre](#)
- 8 December Dialogues for a changing age: VCS opportunities created by an ageing society [Science City Community Engagement Project](#)
- 9 December Raising participation age action planning [CHYP IN workshop](#)
- 7 December Getting your voice heard! A campaigning workshop [Representing and Influencing](#)

January

- 12 January NHS reform: how will it affect your organisation? [Wellbeing and Health Open Forum focus group](#)
- 17 January Newcastle LINK Executive Board meetings (open to the public) [Newcastle LINK](#)
- 17 January NHS reform: how will it affect your organisation? [CHYP IN focus group](#)
- 18-19 January PEANUT training [Training](#)
date tbc Social marketing workshop [CHYP IN](#)

February

- 8 February Volunteering and the law [Training](#)
- 16 February Are you getting the support you need? [Free bite-size session](#)
- 21 February Need, outcomes, monitoring and impact [Training](#)
- 23 February Time management [Training](#)
date tbc NHS changes [Wellbeing and Health Open Forum](#)
date tbc Business planning workshop (with NAVCA) [Training](#)
date tbc Wellbeing and Health open forum meeting [Wellbeing and Health Open Forum](#)
date tbc Safeguarding children and young people session (with Safe Network) [CHYP IN](#)

March

- 13 March Supporting and supervising staff [Training](#)
- 13 March Your role as a management committee member [Free bite-size session](#)
- 15 March Minute taking skills [Training](#)
- 20 March Newcastle LINK Executive Board meetings (open to the public) [Newcastle LINK](#)
- 28 March Writing better funding applications [Training](#)
date tbc CHYP IN network open forum meeting [CHYP IN](#)

To find out more or to book...

www.cvsnewcastle.org.uk ➔ training and events
E training@cvsnewcastle.org.uk
T 0191 235 7011