

Welcome

P 1-2

Objective 2 Update

P 3-4

Objective 3 Round 7

P 5-7

Objective 3 Priority 5

Measure 2 Underspend

P 8

Objective 3 Success

Story

P 9-10

Home Office Review:

State of the Sector

P 11-12

MV Award Celebrations

P 13-14

NW Volunteering Forum:

Research Project

P 15

Other European

Funding

P 16-24

Consultations

P 25-27

Partner Search

P28-29

Non European

Funding

P 30-33

Training & Events

P 34-39

Publications

P 40-43

Noticeboard

P 44-45

ISSUE NO. 45

March 2003

Welcome

Welcome to this the 45th edition of the NWN newsletter.

This Newsletter brings you the most up to date information regarding Structural Funds, and of course all the other usual sections.

The NWN website was formally launched on the 13th December 2002 following extensive development, if you have not yet seen the new site, please spare five minutes to log on to www.nwnetwork.org.uk, we value your thoughts and comments on our site, so please feel free to contact jane@nwnetwork.org.uk with any feedback.

The start of the year has been busy with an Objective 3 bidding round which has already taken place. For information on the bidding round and a full round up, please see the article on page 5.

There is also a reported underspend Objective 3 Priority 5 Measure 2, full details of this can be found on page 8.

The newsletter also provides you with other sections that so many of you find extremely informative, i.e Non European Funding, these section can be found from page 30 onwards. Should you wish to submit information for inclusion within this

newsletter, please contact me, Jane Stanistreet at NWN.

As featured in previous issues of our newsletter, I am pleased to print the Staff Profile for Emile Pinel, Chief Executive.

Staff Profile **Emile Pinel** **Chief Executive**

My name is Emile Pinel, I'm Chief Executive of North West Network and I've been with the charity since 2000. Before joining North West Network I spent four years as a Project Manager with Firmstart in Hulme, working on economic regeneration projects. The early part of my career was spent as an insurance underwriter following a brief flirtation with business studies at a southern university.

I am a keen follower of most sports, particularly rugby, which I played locally until my late 20s. I have been known to enjoy a drink or two; preferably Stella which I think is a coincidence rather than an unhealthy interest in things that come from Brussels (such as European Structural Funds).

My time with North West Network has been very enjoyable and challenging. I have learned a great deal as we have developed new

projects, VDA - Volunteer Development Agency which has emerged out of our work with Millennium Volunteers and the support we have given to the emerging North West Volunteering Forum; also the emerging regional black and minority ethnic voluntary sector network, which, with support from the Home Office should meet several needs for its client group at the regional level. And of course the development of our role in the Objective 2 and Objective 3 European Structural Funds, where the sector has gone from strength to strength thanks to the dedication and vision of the European Team.

For me the next three years will be just as challenging as volunteer and BME projects emerge as significant regional vehicles, whilst the European Team must contend with co-financing and the 2nd half of the Objective 2 Programme and a new set of action plans where we hope to develop much more local capacity building activity in Neighbourhood Renewal areas through Priority 2 Measure 5 and Community Empowerment Funds; there is also the issue of post 2006... but I'll come back to that in another issue of the newsletter.

In the meantime I'll continue supporting Sale Sharks, they're bound to win the league by 2006 and I am assured that the Metropolitan in Didsbury (my local) isn't going anywhere so there are some things I can guarantee.

If you would like to know more about North West Network and its plans, don't hesitate to ring Jane, sorry I mean ring me and I'll be happy to share the little bit I know.

Emile Pinel
Chief Executive
emile@nwnetwork.org.uk

Objective 2 Update

Objective 2 - ERDF

Decommittment or, in non Euro-speak, giving ERDF back to the European Commission should the region not spend it as profiled, won't be far away from the thoughts of the Objective 2 team at Government Office North West. If the Objective 2 Programme is to meet its financial targets and avoid decommitment, then the first test of this is in December 2003, when success will be measured utilising the n + 2 rule. To explain; n stands for the year in which the money was allocated to Government Office North West, the +2 is the 2 years in which the money has to be spent, if it is not then the money goes back to the European Commission and is redistributed to regions that are spending. This is clearly causing concern at Government Office North West and has prompted changes in the management of the Programme and the Action Plans.

The present position is as follows: the region needs to spend and claim £132 million by 31st December 2003. Present evidence suggests that Partners believe that £136 million could be spent by 31st December 2003 on projects already in receipt of offers and those approved in principle (although there is little to suggest that the risk of failure of some projects has been taken into account). Viewed against the

background of sluggish claims performance (£20 million approximately to date) the target looks difficult to achieve. Unhindered progress of projects on the ground needs to be matched by claims of around £8.5 million per month if the region is to hit the target as compared with the current performance of £6.5 million per quarter.

It was determined at committee level that there are several absolute pre-requisites to address the issue;

Better Management Information

The region is well advanced with its interactive application / grant claim package which is to be introduced early in 2003. This enables greater visibility of both the Programme as a whole and individual projects, and, linked to proper risk management it will enable identification of problems earlier, establish who is best placed to deal with them and trigger appropriate responses.

Project, Programme and Risk Management Capacity and Skills

Consideration will be given towards a move away from administering the Programme towards actively managing it. Consideration will also be given towards providing the European Programme Secretariat and the Action Plan Partner staff

with the relevant skill sets needs to be taken. Good projects need to be commissioned and carefully managed through development, implementation and completion.

Vehicles / Funds for drawing down resources

Venture Capital vehicles and other funds sometimes provide an opportunity to draw down large amounts of resource on their establishment. Opportunities yet to be exploited exist around the Business Support and Learning and Skills Councils Pilots and the Communities Plan as well as venture capital funds.

Under-performance / New Deliverable Projects

The region cannot allow resources to remain locked up in under-performing action plans. The Government Office has drawn up a framework for identifying the circumstances in which resources can be:

- (a) withdrawn from Action Plans; and
- (b) allocated to new, robust, deliverable schemes.

Claims

This is the Achilles heel of the whole process. It is clear that the submission of claims is being seriously delayed and that they lag far behind project progress on the ground and defrayment of

expenditure. Experience in closing the 1994 - 1999 Programme suggests that without a sea change in approach to claims, failure is inevitable. A system is being introduced which could result in the withdrawal of the grant offer.

That said, where there is a will there is a way and, given a coherent response from within the partnership, the target of £132 million is unachievable. The Government Office will pursue its part with vigour alongside the North West Development Agency but will look to Action Plan Partnerships to more actively manage their Plans, bring forward good projects quickly, ensure more effective project implementation and claim ERDF due without delay.

It is also intended to commission further consultancy work to build capacity in the wider partnership, sharpen risk and project and Programme management skills and help the region design practical solutions.

If you are interested finding out more or in applying for ERDF please contact a member of the European Team. North West Network are happy to help with your project and application development.

Objective 3 Round 7

ESF Round 7

At the beginning of December 2002 Government Office North West launched a restricted bidding round for priorities and measures where there had been an under spend. Applications were invited under all Priorities and Measures except Priority 2 Measure 2 (Equal Opportunities and Social Exclusion) and Priority 4 Measure 3 (Adaptability and Entrepreneurship). Applications were invited for those projects that could run for a maximum of 12 months from the 1st of January 2003 to the 31st December 2003. The deadline for applications to sector representatives was the 24th January 2003, with the scoring panel convening on the week commencing the 17th of February 2003 to score applications. The Programme Advisory Group sat on the 4th of March to approve applications and contracts were issued to successful applicants shortly afterwards. A total of £8,086,000 ESF was available under this round.

North West Network received 35 voluntary sector applications, applying for a total of £2,115,823 in ESF grant. Across all sectors 99 applications were submitted, applying for a total of £7,545,574. Of the total number of applications

submitted those from the voluntary sector represented 35.35%. Conversely the ESF applied for from the voluntary sector represented 28.04% of the total applied for.

Training

In the run up to the deadline North West Network delivered four 'Application Process seminars', one in each of the counties. A total of 31 organisations registered to attend these seminars. In addition to this North West Network ran bid improvement and advice surgeries, assisting 39 organisations.

Successful Applications

All applicants who scored over the 65 threshold successfully secured ESF funding in this round. Of the 35 voluntary sector applications submitted under this round, 23 secured funding. Of the 99 applications that were submitted across all sectors, 70 were successful. The percentage of these which were from the voluntary sector represents 32.9%. The voluntary sector accessed £1,336,008 ESF in this round. Across all sectors £7,545,574 was accessed. Therefore the voluntary sector percentage of ESF accessed in this round represented 17.7%.

The following two tables show the breakdown of voluntary sector applications received by county with the amounts applied for and also the county break down of applications by priority and measure.

Voluntary Sector Applications Submitted by County and ESF Applied for

	Rcvd	% Rcvd	ESF Applied For	% ESF
Greater Manchester	20	57.15	1,094,431	51.7
Cheshire	2	5.71	48,639	2.3
Lancashire	9	25.71	690,095	32.6
Cumbria	1	2.86	30,300	1.4
Regional	3	8.57	252,358	11.9
Total	35	100	2,115,823	100

Summary of Voluntary Sector Applications by County, Priority and Measure

	1.1	1.2	2.1	2.3	3.1	3.2	4.1	4.2	5.1	5.2	Total
Greater Manchester	1	3	2	0	6	2	2	0	3	1	20
Cheshire	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Lancashire	0	5	0	0	4	0	0	0	0	0	9
Cumbria	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
Regional	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	3
Total	1	8	5	1	11	2	3	0	3	1	35
%	2.9	22.9	14.3	2.9	31.4	5.7	8.6	0	8.6	2.9	100

The table following provides a comparison between submission and accession to ESF from a voluntary sector perspective.

P/M	Total Applications Submitted (All Sectors)	Total Applications Successful (All Sectors)	Total Applications Submitted (Vol Sec)	Total Applications Successful (Vol Sec)	ESF Available	Total ESF Applied For (All Sectors)	Total ESF Applied For (Vol Sec)	Total ESF Secured (All Sectors)	Total ESF Secured (Vol Sec)	% of Vol Sec Accession to ESF
1.1	2	1	1	0	400,000	50,243	33,443	50,243	0	0
1.2	14	10	7	5	604,000	1,633,681	825,658	1,633,681	628,734	38.49
2.1	12	8	6	4	1,400,000	797,676	156,354	797,676	97,443	12.22
2.3	2	1	1	1	252,000	87,915	21,265	87,915	21,265	24.19
3.1	36	26	11	8	1,400,000	2,065,445	494,092	2,065,445	277,835	13.45
3.2	10	6	2	0	899,000	1,498,525	168,708	1,498,525	0	0
4.1	4	3	3	2	295,000	207,753	188,180	207,753	157,880	75.99
4.2	3	2	0	0	413,000	291,655	0	291,655	0	0
5.1	10	9	3	3	823,000	644,843	152,851	644,843	152,851	23.70
5.2	6	4	1	0	1,600,000	267,838	75,272	267,838	0	0
Total	99	70	35	23	8,086,000	7,545,574	2,115,823	7,545,574	1,336,008	17.7

Objective 3 P5 M2 Underspend

ESF Priority 5 Measure 2

As reported in the September 2002 Newsletter (Issue 44), there are still ESF funds available under Priority 5 Measure 2. To address this Government Office for the North West, in conjunction with the North West Development Agency will be holding a workshop on Thursday 10th of April at Government Office North West offices in Manchester for organisations interested in undertaking project activity under Priority 5 'Improving Women's Participation in the Labour Market' Measure 2 'To research into issues related to gender discrimination in employment such as recruitment, pay segregation and progression'.

Priority 5 Measure 2

This measure provides support to research into issues related to gender discrimination in employment. This could cover issues such as recruitment, pay and progression. This measure seeks to support 18 research projects where the types of project action could include;

- Researching and developing practical recommendations to fight occupational isolation, gender

stereotyping, and discrimination in institutions on recruitment, pay progression and other aspects of employment

- Activities to put into place the recommendations arising from the research

If you have any potential project ideas that you would like to discuss, you are looking for project ideas under this measure, or you are interested in progressing gender equality in the region then please contact Dianna Clarke on 01942 776944 or e-mail Diana.Clarke@nwra.gov.uk

Alternatively should you just require information about European Funding please contact a member of the European Team on 0161 236 6493 or e-mail ruth@nwnetwork.org.uk

Objective 3 Success Story

NWN is pleased to print the experience of applying for ESF from a successful applicant.

The idea for my organisation, CSV Media North Millennium Volunteers, to put an ESF bid in came from Emile Pinel, Director of North West Network, who I had met on the CSV Volunteurope conference in Lisbon. After some gentle persuasion from Emile, and a few glasses of Port, I convinced myself that I could write an ESF bid. When the port wore off and the sunshine of Lisbon was replaced by the cloudy skies of Manchester the reality of the commitment I had made hit home. Me, put an ESF bid in? What was I thinking? I had never put any bid forward, least of all an ESF bid. I told some colleagues within CSV Media North what I intended to do and that the deadline was just over a month away, their reactions ranged from out right laughter to deep concern. What had I done?

Somewhat nervously I contacted Ruth Osborn, the contact Emile had given me at NWN, along with added words of encouragement to ease my growing concerns 'don't worry we are here to help, that's what we are here for'. I was not convinced. Still somewhat sceptical I made the call and arranged a meeting with Ruth. Within 10 minutes of meeting I was

beginning to realise my fears were unfounded. I had the basic idea, I needed to relate it to the needs of the region and the group we wanted to work with and Ruth and North West Network would give me all the help and support I needed 'anything your not sure of give me a ring', you'll regret that I thought, ill be on the phone every day.

It wasn't quite every day but it was close. I began writing the bid in earnest; to match fund our existing Millennium Volunteers contract with a new Media project to get 50 unemployed young people 16 to 24 into media related volunteering. The groups, split into three main areas across the North West, Manchester, Preston and Lancaster and Morecambe, would be trained in video and radio production to make community video and radio features around subjects of their choice and also to provide promotional videos for community organisations.

With the first draft of the bid complete I sent it across to Ruth to look over. It wasn't right and it needed changes, a lot of changes, but the changes were identified clearly with recommendations about what and where I needed to look to find the information that was missing, mainly around unemployment statistics, and, most importantly,

the web site where I could find them. What a wonderful tool the internet is, within an hour I had all the up-to-date information I needed and the bid was beginning to look, well, like a real bid. The bid then went back and forth to Ruth a few times, she'll be regretting the offer of help I thought, if she was, she didn't show it. Finally, after one or two minor last minute changes it was complete and on time as well. The bid went in front of the panel and I nervously awaited a call to tell me it had sunk without a trace. The call came, from Jane at North West Network, but it hadn't sunk it had flown, scoring 96 and had been recommended to proceed.

At this point have a confession to make; CSV Media North is part of national charity CSV. Our head office is in London and we have a European office to help with bids and I had additional support available. However, with no disrespect to my colleagues at CSV, the biggest factor in the success of this bid was having someone at local level with the local knowledge of what is needed, without them I know it simply wouldn't have been possible.

Once the volunteers have been recruited and the project is up and running my sense of pride will increase immeasurably but for me the biggest thing at the moment is knowing that I- I really mean we- did it, that sure, its not easy, but its not unachievable and, most importantly, help and support exists in the shape of NWN. For any group out there, large or small, who are

thinking about putting an ESF bid in but have reservations and are thinking its beyond them or they haven't the time pick up the phone and give North West Network a call. It can be done, it's not impossible and remember you're not alone!

Steve Egan
CSV Media

Home Office Review: State of the Sector

State of the Sector Panel

What it is:

The Home Office is establishing a major new research initiative, the State of the Sector Panel. Over the next three years the Home Office will survey the Panel on a regular basis in order to monitor progress in increasing voluntary and community sector activity in England, as set out in its Public Service Agreement 8 ("to increase voluntary and community sector activity, including increasing community participation, by 5% by 2006"). They will also explore additional matters of concern to voluntary and community organisations - sustainable funding (particularly full recovery of core costs on service contracts); multi-agency partnerships; the implementation of the Compact; support for infrastructure organisations; recruitment and training of staff and volunteers; and information technology.

The State of the Sector Panel is the first of its kind and organisations are invited to participate. The panel will reflect the range of organisations in the population of voluntary and community organisations in England and pay particular attention to organisations which provide key public services.

It will provide robust information on:

- working together/partnerships
- implementation of the Compact
- increasing capacity
- effective service delivery
- learning and skills
- support for infrastructure
- funding
- access to technology

Home Secretary David Blunkett said: "This ground-breaking research is a major initiative which will enable us to monitor the impact of the measures we are putting in place to improve the voluntary and community sector. This will help us make sure what we are doing is working and identify any other areas in need of improvement."

The Home Office are keen to involve smaller and community-based organisations.

When will it operate and how it will work?

The Panel will work over the three financial years, 2003/04, 2004/05 and 2005/06. Those selected to be on the panel will be expected to complete one postal survey and up to four telephone surveys per year for three years starting summer 2003.

What organisations can do:

The Home Office is issuing an open invitation to interested organisations - large and small, working in all regions of England, and providing all types of services - to register for the Panel. Members and alternates will be selected in accordance with the Panel design from organisations which have registered.

Home Office
Room 503
Allington Towers
19 Allington St
London
SW1E 5EB

Registration closes Friday April 25th,
2003.

Why participate?

The Home Office is listening. This is an excellent opportunity for organisations to make their voices heard on the key issues facing them and the sector as a whole.

Conclusion and contact details

This is an excellent opportunity for your organisation to comment on the government's work with and support for voluntary and community organisations.

To find out more visit the Panel's website at:

<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/osp.html>

Or e-mail the Panel's mailbox at:
stateofthesectorreg@homeoffice.gov.uk

Or call Rebecca Hardy on 020 7035 5503

Address:
State of the Sector Panel
RDS

MV Awards Celebrations

Tameside Volunteers give a 'knock out' performance

NWN Millennium Volunteers Host Project Tameside Information Shop for Young People held their 2nd annual Awards evening on 7th March at Ashton-u-Lyne Town Hall. The event featured a feast of Music, Film and Dance created and performed by Tameside's hottest young talent to help celebrate the outstanding achievements of 182 Millennium Volunteers that have 'built on what they're into' while helping out in their local communities. Young journalist Jayne Howard fills us in on the action:

It's dark and raining outside. So hundreds of Millennium Volunteers and their friends and families collect inside the Ashton Town Hall. Except me. Who waits outside in the cold for my friends to arrive. Thankfully I'm not left waiting long.

I'm here to receive a 200-hour award at the 2nd annual MV Awards evening, organized by The Information Shop (supported by North West Network) and Millennium Volunteers. The rest of my group is here to watch.

Inside and upstairs we go. It's quite a turn out. All the tables are filled and still people are arriving. The members of the 'Untamed' DJ

Collective and the Haughton Green dancers are taking the stage.

Half past seven is here and the doors close. Steve Blackman, previously the person in charge of Millennium Volunteers at The Information Shop, takes the stage. Followed by our celebrity guests of the evening. WBU **World** Welter Weight Champion Boxer Ricky Hatton and Radio 1's Mark and Lard.

It would be that I'm in the first group, Young Journalist's, to take to the stage. Polite handshakes with the celebrity's on stage (and comments about my hair!) and then off the stage and to the side to receive two awards and a goody bag. Could it get any better folks? There is one award for completing 100 hours and one for completing 200 hours. The goody bag consists of an MV t-shirt, an MV mug, an MV pen and an MV pin badge and, of course, the bag itself.

There are 9 groups here this evening to receive awards. And well done to them all. No matter what you hear, volunteering IS hard work.

- Group 1- The Young Journalists.
- Group 2- For work in Charity Shops / The Information Shop / GAF.
- Group 3- DJ Project
- Group 4- Tameside General Hospital

Group 5- Creative Forces / Camera Shy Film Project

Group 6- Conservation / Community Work

Group 7- Mentoring

Group 8- Dancers

Group 9- Commonwealth Games

A Buffet Dinner and more from the 'Untamed' DJ Collective followed the awards. 8.30 - 8.40 is filled by the Kaotic Dance from Blocksages Youth Centre. Next is the comedian of the evening, Liam Day as Billy Connolly - very crude, very Billy Connolly.

At 8.55 it is the World premier of the film "Flying High" A film about heroin written by young people, starring young actors from Creative Forces and filmed by students from Tameside College. The original idea came from a Millennium Volunteer's direct experience of heroin use and was intended to give a realistic approach to drug use and not to be too 'preachy' or moralistic. Next we have more from the Dancers and the comedian.

Finally, at 10pm the moment we (well I can only speak for my group and myself) had all been waiting for, the live band. The uprising Manchester punk band, Circus. It's a shame that most of the crowd had left by this point, because these guys are good. Needless to say that those who did stay were very impressed.

And so, a good night was had by all. Well done and thank you to all those involved. See you all next year.

Jayne Howard

North West Volunteering Forum: Research Project

COMPACT - *getting it right together*

Volunteering: a Code of Good Practice

With support from North West Network (NWN), North West Volunteering Forum (NWVF) has been successful in obtaining funding from the European Social Fund to embark on a research project. NWN has chaired the forum, acted as secretariat and will now be the accountable body for the ESF.

The steering group of NWVF has a broad range of geographical and interest based representatives and will direct the delivery of the research project.

The research aims to identify the awareness, knowledge and effectiveness of the Volunteering Code of Good Practice amongst organisations that involve volunteers in the North West.

The Volunteering Code of Good Practice is one of five codes developed under the Compact on Relations between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector in England. The research will also identify if and how the Code is being implemented, what impact it has had on the volunteering sector across the North West region and how it is

being used to support socially excluded groups.

The research project is to be completed by the end of December 2003. The project will be collecting information in a number of ways including hosting a seminar in the Autumn. A final report will be produced and widely disseminated within the region and nationally.

If you are a volunteer involving organisation working in the North West, the project would like to involve you in the research.

For further information about North West Volunteering Forum or the research project, please contact Cathy Jackson on 0161 236 6493 or email cathy@nwnetwork.org.uk.

For further information on the Compact and the Codes of Practice please visit www.thecompact.org.uk

Other European Funding

CONSUMER AFFAIRS

European Young Consumer Competition

This year's European Young Consumer competition will focus on the themes of better labelling and promoting a healthy lifestyle through a balanced diet. Open to primary and secondary school children from across the European Union, the competition aims to encourage young people to become more responsible and informed consumers. Projects must first be submitted to a national jury, which will select a national winner to go on to the European final. There are two age groups for the competition - under 14 year olds and those aged 14 and over. A competition entry should be composed of,

- Documentation of the project. This can be a website, video, online magazine, animation, electronic document or anything in a digital format. More than one format can be used
- A document describing and reflecting on the process through which their project was realised and how it has been presented

to other young people and adults. This document is an important part of the entry and represents the pedagogical added-value

A sum of Euro 2,500 will be awarded for each national winner, with a grand prize for the overall European winner. The total prize money available is Euro 180,000.

Further details on the competition are available at,

<http://youngconsumer.eun.org>

Or alternatively, e-mail,
chris.coakley@eun.org
or angela.andersson@eun.org

The deadline for entries is 9 May 2003.

CULTURE

Grants for Cultural Projects

The European Cultural Foundation, an independent non-profit making organisation that promotes cultural co-operation in Europe, has announced its grants programme for 2003. This year, it will give priority to projects in the following areas,

Encouraging Intercultural Dialogue

Enabling people from different cultural communities to meet, create and innovate. Two types of grants will be awarded, action grants, for projects involving teams from different cultural backgrounds and information grants, aimed at encouraging cultural organisations with experience of intercultural work to communicate the results of their work to others in Europe and beyond.

Stimulating Social Participation Through the Arts

By supporting artists who work with people in the community to build self esteem and positive change in the community. The ECF will award action grants to independent cultural organisations which develop projects in which professional artists work with people in the community in areas such as photography, dance and music. Information grants will be awarded to non-governmental organisations (NGOs) to help them disseminate the results of their work.

Strengthening the Cultural Sector

The ECF will support the development of cultural policy frameworks and infrastructure for European cultural co-operation. Action grants will be awarded to projects based on new and innovative partnerships for cultural policy development, particularly between policymakers and the independent sector. Information grants will be

awarded to independent cultural organisations that have been gathering useful information on or experimenting with new management and policy approaches and who wish to disseminate their ideas.

Grants will not normally exceed Euro 40,000 and priority will be given to projects which have a balanced range of sources of information. The ECF will support up to 70% of project costs.

The closing date for projects starting from July 2003 has now passed. However there is a further deadline of **15 September 2003** for projects starting from December 2003.

In addition, the ECF is making a number of grants available for artists and cultural managers travelling to and from the EU, the accession countries and the countries that are not part of the first wave of accession. The STEP beyond (Supporting Travel for European Projects) Programme will support initiatives that help prepare cross border projects in culture and the arts.

Further information is available on the ECF website located at,

<http://www.eurocult.org>

EDUCATION

Asian Links for Learning

Applications are invited for funding from the Asia-Link Programme, which supports co-operation between higher institutions in the European Union and South East Asia and China. Applications should be submitted by a partnership of at least four higher education institutions from at least two different EU Member States and two different Asian countries.

For further information, please log on at,

<http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl>

(You will be required to search for this call on the left hand menu, please select ALA from the drop down menu, and tick open, grants, Asia and submit query. The Programme details will appear on the right hand of the screen.)

Alternatively, any questions regarding this call should be sent by Fax: +32-2-299.10.62.

The deadline for completed applications is 7 May and 25 September 2003.

EU-Asia University Networks

A further call for proposals for the development of university network programmes between the EU and South East Asia has been announced

by the Commission. The EU-ASEAN Programme aims to promote mutual awareness and understanding and exchange of experience and knowledge between the two regions.

The maximum project duration will be 24 months. The minimum grant for a project will be Euro 100,000, the maximum grant for a project will be Euro 200,000. The maximum proportion of project costs to be covered by funding will be 80%. As a minimum requirement, the partnerships must involve four higher education institutions from at least two different Member States of the European Union and two different eligible ASEAN countries.

For further information, please log on at,

www.europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/projects/aunp/information_en.htm

The deadline for completed applications is 19 June 2003.

EC/Japan Co-operation Programme

The European Commission has issued a preliminary announcement of the forthcoming call for proposals for the EC/Japan Co-operation Programme in the field of higher education. A formal call is expected shortly and the anticipated deadline is likely to be at the end of May 2003. For further information at this time, please download the report located at,

www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/japan/guidelines_en.pdf

ENLARGEMENT

Phare Small Projects Programme

Local and regional authorities and non-profit making organisations are invited to apply for funding from the EU Phare Small Projects Programme. The Programme aims to raise awareness of the EU in the accession countries of Central and Eastern Europe and to support their efforts to join the EU. Events such as conferences, seminars, symposiums, fairs or workshops related to the enlargement of the European Union and more particularly to the Accession criteria will be considered for funding.

Projects should be within European Union territory or within one of the ten countries eligible for projects funded by the Phare Programme, i.e. Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia.

The maximum project duration will be 12 months. All projects should take place between the period 31 July 2003 to 31 July 2004. The minimum grant for a project will be Euro 15,000 and the maximum grant for a project will be Euro 50,000. The maximum proportion of project costs to be covered by Community funding will be 80% of the total eligible costs.

Detailed information on this call can be located at,

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/index_en.htm

Any questions regarding this call for proposals should be sent in writing or preferably by e-mail to

E-Mail:
benedicte.bronchart@cec.eu.int or

Fax: +32.2.295.95.40

www.europa.eu.int/comm/europeaid/cgi/frame12.pl

(You will be required to search for this call on the left hand menu, please select PHARE from the drop down menu, and tick open, grants, ALL and submit query. The Programme details will appear on the right hand of the screen.)

The deadline for completed applications is 25 April 2003.

ENVIRONMENT

LIFE Projects

LIFE is the only funding stream from the Commission that is specifically for the environment, and LIFE-Environment provides funds for innovative and demonstration projects in the following areas,

Integration of specific environmental considerations into land use development and planning in urban and coastal areas

The promotion of sustainable management of ground and surface water

The minimisation of the environmental impact of economic activities

The prevention, recycling and sound management of waste streams

The reduction of the environmental impact of products

Funding from LIFE covers up to 50% of project costs and lasts for between 18 and 36 months. Projects costs are normally in the Euro 1M to Euro 5M range. The European Commission will issue a call this Spring for projects to be submitted to DEFRA in the Autumn of 2003. Funds are limited and there is a rigorous selection process at the Commission to choose projects that are important from a European perspective. Further information and a formal call will be announced shortly. To keep up to date, please log on at,

www.europa.eu.int/comm/environment/life/funding/index.htm

EU-Asia Environmental Co-operation

The EU Asia Pro Eco Programme is designed to improve environmental performance and understanding between Europe and Asia and the European Commission has issued a call for proposals. Applicants must be national or regional authorities,

public sector operators or non-profit making organisations from private sector or civil society (such as research institutes, universities, professional associations, federations, Chambers of Commerce, NGOs). An applicant together with a minimum of two partners may submit a proposal,

If the applicant derives from an Asian participant country/territory, the applicant must have two partners from two different EU Member States

If the applicant derives from an EU Member State, the applicant must have one partner from an Asian participant country or territory and one from a different EU Member State

Any questions regarding this call should be sent by e-mail to, europaaid-asia-pro-eco@cec.eu.int

For further information, please log on at,

http://europa.eu.int/comm/europaaid/projects/asia-pro-eco/index_en.htm

The deadline for completed applications is 17 September 2003.

Environment Contracts

The European Commission Environment Directorate General has announced details of its

forthcoming study contracts for 2003. In brief, these comprise,

Sustainable Development

- Overview of Member States implementation practices - Euro 100,000 budget, with a call expected in June/July
- Review of environmental reporting - Euro 100,000 budget, with a call expected around August/September
- Economic support for the implementation of the water framework Directive - Euro 100,000 budget, with a call expected in June/July

Sustainable Resources

- Integrated product policy, three projects worth Euro 93,500, 100,000 and 200,000, with calls expected in June/July
- Two studies on the sustainable use of resources - Euro 100,000 each, with calls expected in April/May
- Economic impact of market oriented recycling schemes, Euro 200,000 budget, with a call expected in April

- Impact assessment of the draft Directive on biological waste - Euro 80,000 budget, with a call expected in March/April
- Implementation of the packaging Directive - Euro 150,000 budget, with a call expected in May

Environmental Governance

- Two studies into non-criminal sanctions for breaches of EU environmental law in Member States and candidate countries - Euro 150,000 and 100,000, with a call expected in April/May

Water, Marine Environment and Soil

- Implementation of the drinking water Directive (three years) - Euro 90,000 per year, with a call expected in May
- Development of the EU soil strategy (three years) - Euro 100,000 per year, with a call expected in June
- Development of the EU marine strategy (three years) - Euro 100,000, with a call expected in September

Nature and Biodiversity

- A programme of initiatives to promote good practice in managing Natura 2000 sites and raising awareness (three years) – Euro 200,000, with a call expected in April

Air and Noise

- Assessment of EU air quality policies – Euro 250,000, with a call expected in March
- Cost effectiveness of technology to reduce air pollution emissions – Euro 250,000, with a call expected in April/May
- Environmental impact of transport policy – Euro 150,000, with a call expected in April

Further information on these calls for tender is available from,

European Commission
Environment DG
Unit ENV.F.2 'Budget and Finance'
BU-5 00/169
200 Rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels
Belgium

E-mail: env-tenders@cec.eu.int
Tel: 00 32 2 296 00 08
Fax: 00 32 2 299 44 49

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

Funding to Fight Discrimination

A call for proposals has gone out for projects involving European non-governmental organisations involved in fighting discrimination. The funding comes from the EU 2001-06 Action Programme to Combat Discrimination and to be eligible, organisations should work to fight any discrimination, whether racial, ethnic, gender, age, religious belief or sexual orientation.

Only European level organisations made up of five national organisations who are themselves nationally-organised non-profit organisations established in the Member States of the European Union are eligible under this call.

For further information, please log on at,

www.europa.eu.int/comm/employment_social/fundamental_rights/prog/calls_en.htm

The deadline for completed applications is 5 May 2003.

Anti-Racism Award

A new award for work in combating racism and discrimination has been announced by the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC). The Jean Kahn Award will be given to individuals or organisations for good and innovative projects directed at

fighting racism, xenophobia and anti-Semitism. Activities must have a European impact and bring about significant and lasting change. The first call for nominees will be announced shortly and the winner selected in November.

Further information is available from the EUMC website at,

<http://eumc.eu.int/>

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Science and Technology Research

The European Commission has published the first call for proposals for research into new and emerging science and technology (NEST). Part of the 2003-06 Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Development, the Euro 215 million NEST Programme enables the EU to fund research at the cutting edge of knowledge, in areas suggested by the researchers themselves.

For further information, please log on at,

www.cordis.lu/fp6/nest.htm

Any questions concerning this call may be sent to the European Commission's Infodesk for this area.

E-mail: rtd-nest@cec.eu.int

The National Contact Point for the UK for enquiries and support is,

Department of Trade and Industry
Office of Science and Technology
1 Victoria Street
UK-SW1H0ET
London
Tel: +44-20-72156429
Fax: +44-20-72156448
www.ost.gov.uk
E-mail: simon.bright@dti.gsi.gov.uk

The deadline for completed applications is 14 May and 22 October 2003.

Research Calls

Three further calls for proposals have been issued for the Sixth Framework Programme for Research and Development. All relate to the specific programme on structuring the European Research Area and cover,

Research and innovation to step up economic and technological intelligence (call identifier FP6-2003-INNOV-1_)

This has a budget of Euro 20 million.

The closing date for completed applications is 29 April 2003.

Further information is available from,

www.cordis.lu/sme

E-mail: research-sme@cec.eu.int

Science and society: deepening the understanding of ethical problems (call identifier FP6-2003-Science and society-4)

This has a budget of Euro 5 million.

The deadline for completed applications is 5 June 2003.

Further information is available from,

www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/science-society

E-mail:

rtd-sciencesociety@cec.eu.int

Science and society; European Science Education Initiative (call identifier FP6-2003-Science and society-5)

This has a budget of Euro 7 million.

The deadline for completed applications is 8 October 2003.

Further information is available from,

www.cordis.lu/rtd2002/science-society

E-mail:

rtd-sciencesociety@cec.eu.int

Collaborative Research Projects

The European Commission is inviting proposals for the 2003 Descartes Prize. The award, named after one of Europe's greatest

mathematicians, natural scientists and philosophers, is presented for outstanding scientific research through transnational collaboration. The prize is open to all fields of scientific research. Applicants' collaboration must have involved at least two mutually independent organisations in two different Member or associated states. These collaborations may also include teams from outside the European Union. The candidate who submits the proposal must be a resident of a Member or associate state.

For further information visit,

www.cordis.lu/descartes/home.htm

Or contact,

Joao Pereira de Faria
Descartes Prize
Commission Research DG
E-mail: joao.pereira-de-faria@cec.eu.int
Fax: 00 32 2 295 8220

The deadline is 13 May 2003.

Consultations

Consultation on EU Structural Funds After 2006

Deadline: 4 July 2003

The Government has launched a consultation on the UK position on the reform of the Structural Funds after 2006. The Government's proposals are set out in the report entitled 'A Modern Regional Policy for the United Kingdom' which was published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, the Treasury and Department for Trade and Industry on 6 March 2003. (available on the NWN website!)

The paper proposes that an EU Framework for Devolved Regional Policy should form the basis for a UK position on reform of the Funds. Under this framework, Member States would agree common principles, but delivery would take place at the most appropriate level, and offer greater flexibility to Member States and regions. EU support would be refocused on those poorest Member States that would benefit most from direct EU involvement.

The consultation paper can be downloaded from the website which also provides details of where the form should be returned.

www.dti.gov.uk/europe/consultation.pdf

In addition, the ESF Division is seeking organisations involved specifically in ESF to comment on the proposals in the consultation paper, particularly on the employment and skills dimension of the reform of the Structural Funds. They ask that any responses should be forwarded to them by 4 July 2003 either by,

email:
structuralfunds.consultation@dfes.gov.uk

or by post,

David Oatley
Future Consultation
ESF Division
Room N2
Moorfoot
Sheffield
S1 4PQ

You can view the message from the ESF Division by logging on at,

www.esfnews.org.uk/consultation/future/index.shtml

Regional Development and Cohesion in the European Union **Deadline: Open Period**

The future of European cohesion policy is an issue that directly concerns the lives of a large number

of European citizens. With this policy, the European Union helps promote the adjustment of regions whose development is lagging behind, the conversion of areas facing structural difficulties, the diversification of rural areas affected by agricultural decline and the regeneration of urban areas in decline.

But are the results really worth the amounts invested? Should there really be solidarity measures at European level? Should it be stepped up in an enlarged Union? What priorities should be set? What do you think? Participate in the debate by submitting your opinion online at,

www.europa.eu.int/comm/regional_policy/consultation/index_en.htm

Youth Consultation

Deadline: Open Period

The UK government is consulting on suggestions made in the EU White Paper on youth to encourage young people to participate in public life, inform them about European issues and promote voluntary work. The White Paper was published last November and its proposals form part of the European Commission's overhaul of European governance. The government is carrying out its consultation via an online questionnaire, available on the Children and Young People's Unit website at, www.cypu.gov.uk/eurozone/consult.cfm

Your Voice in Europe

Your Voice in Europe is the European Commission's 'single access point' to a wide variety of consultations, discussions and other tools which enable you to play an active role in the European policy-making process.

If you want to give your opinion on EU policies and influence their direction, or take part in shaping European policy by responding to a consultation in one of many activity areas, please log on at,

www.europa.eu.int/yourvoice/index_en.htm

The Consortium on Opportunities for Volunteering

The National Centre for Volunteering

Volunteer Development England Stakeholder Consultation

Deadline: End of April 2003

In September 2002 the Consortium on Opportunities for Volunteering, the National Centre for Volunteering and Volunteer Development England began a consultation on a proposal to create a new integrated volunteering development organisation for England. Positive feedback to this proposal has been received by all three organisations. In March 2003 the members of both the Consortium on Opportunities for Volunteering and Volunteer Development England make their decision about involvement in the proposed new agency. The Joint

Steering Group hope that these decisions will be positive, and in the expectation of this are now publishing more detailed proposals about the next steps for the proposed new organisation. This consultation is part of the Joint Steering Group's commitment to accountability in its decision making process. The Joint Steering Group is suggesting that the proposed new organisation is called Volunteering England, and wish to hear comment on this from stakeholders.

If you wish to comment on any of the consultation papers, please send your thoughts by e-mail to,

- Ruth Johnson
ruth@covfunding.org.uk

- Chris Penberthy
chris.penberthy@vde.org.uk

- Christopher Spence
Christopher.Spence@tcentre.org.uk

The deadline for responses is by the end of April 2003.

For further information and to download the consultation documents, please log on at,

www.volunteering.org.uk/centre/consultation.htm

Partner Search

Reintegration of Marginalised Young People

A youth organisation in Linz, Austria is looking for European partners to work on a project on the reintegration of marginalised young people into the job market. The organisation is aimed at unemployed young people with a low level of educational achievement. The project focuses on traditional crafts such as woodwork, metalwork, textiles and clay but also runs a multimedia and painting workshop. The workshops and classes are aimed at motivating young people into gaining placements within a college or in apprenticeship.

Contact: Verein 4YOUgend, Regionalstelle EU Programm JUGEND, Pfarrplatz 1, 4020 Linz, Austria. Tel: 00 43 732 7710 3012, Fax: 00 43 732 7710 304, www.4yougend.at

Prevention of Violence Against Children, Adolescents and Women

The 'Kinderschutzbund' Agency in Ulm, Germany is seeking a partner for a Daphne project investigating violence in schools. The project aims to provide information and discuss with parents the dimensions and dynamics of violence, as well as providing training for teachers and

raising discussion between parents, schools and those responsible for youth aid.

Contact: Lothar Steurer, Kinderschutzbund Ulm/Neue-Ulm, Wielandstr 52, D-89073 Ulm, Germany. Tel: 00 49 731 28 042, E-mail: kinderschutz.Ulm@t-online.de

Drug Addiction in Rural Areas

A Portuguese organisation is looking for partners from other countries to take part in a multicultural exchange about the problem of drug addiction in rural areas as part of an EU Youth Project. A workshop will take place between 30 August to 7 September 2003 in Portugal. The participants in the exchange will be between 18-25 years old.

Contact: José Amoreira, Associação Juvenil de Valverde, Largo Espírito Santo nº 5, P-6230- 804 Valverde, Portugal. Tel: 00 351 275 771 860, E-mail: ajuval@iol.pt or sells@iol.pt

Photography, Media and Journalism Project

A youth group in Berlin, Germany is seeking partners for a photography project. The group is interested in media and journalism projects, as well as photography and marketing. The aim is to set up a seminar focusing on photography, marketing,

media projects and youth policy.

Contact: Katrin Hünemörder, German
Youth Press, Stuttgarter-Straße 54,
12059 Berlin, Germany.
Tel: 00 49 30 68 22 96 40, E-mail:
kaddi@jmmv.de

Non European Funding

Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund UK

The theme for the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund UK Funding Programme for 2003 to 2005 remains 'The Transition to Adulthood and Independence'. Funding is for work with young people between the ages of 12 and 25 within three broad categories,

Those at risk of developing, or who have, mental health problems

Refugees and asylum seekers

Those who are part of a prisoner's family

There are further priorities within these categories and grants are only for work of national significance.

The next deadline for applications is 18 July 2003.

For more information, contact the Fund on, 020 7902 5500 or log on at,

www.theworkcontinues.org.uk

Sport Relief UK

Sport Relief's UK Grants Programme aims to support projects that use sport, activities and games to work with young people up to the age of

25 to tackle tensions and divisions within their local communities. The Programme wants to support projects run and managed by the local community. Projects - which should be using sport as a way of making change, rather than as an end in itself - will need to identify the tension that exists in the local community and show how the work they are doing will help to tackle this. Projects should demonstrate how they will consult and involve young people in the work. The programme will fund voluntary organisations and self-help groups throughout all parts of the UK. It especially welcomes applications from small, grass-roots projects.

For further information, please log on at,

www.comicrelief.com/sportreliefgrants/

Alternatively please contact,

UK Grants Team, Sport Relief
Comic Relief, 5th Floor
89 Albert Embankment
London SE1 7TP

Tel: 020 7820 5555

Fax: 020 7820 5500

Minicom: 020 7820 5579

E-mail: ukgrants@comicrelief.org.uk

AOL Innovation in the Community Awards

The AOL Innovation in the Community Awards have been set up to enable community groups to enjoy the benefits of the online medium. The 15 awards of £2,000 can be used for any project with this aim - whether it is for a toaster to enable pre-school homework clubs to feed the children they support or security for an online project. AOL would encourage you to be creative and innovative in your application. Entry is open to community groups in the UK including,

- Groups such as residents associations and regeneration projects
- Disability, Elderly, Ethnic, Environmental, Sports, Women's, Men's, Parents groups
- Any UK registered charity
- School-related groups such as homework clubs and pre and after school clubs

For details of how to enter, who's eligible and other terms and conditions, please download 'AOL Innovation in the Community Awards Application Form' from the following website,

www.aol.co.uk/innovation/index.html

Alternatively, please contact the Hotline on, 0207 348 8390 or

Email: innovation2003@aol.com

The deadline for applications is 6 June 2003.

UnLtd - The Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs Investing in Individuals, Changing Communities

In 2002 UnLtd were awarded the Millennium Commission's £100 million Legacy Endowment Fund to set up and run the UnLtd Millennium Awards Scheme. This is a permanent source of grants for individuals and small informal groups throughout the United Kingdom. UnLtd support people who want to develop their own skills and talents and who want to make a positive change in their communities. These people are called Social Entrepreneurs because of their interest in their community or society (social) and ability to make things happen (entrepreneur).

UnLtd was formed through a unique partnership between seven leading non-profit organisations that work with social entrepreneurs across the UK. The partners are, Ashoka (UK) Trust; Changemakers; Comic Relief; Community Action Network; School for Social Entrepreneurs; Social Enterprise Network Scotland (SENSCOT); and The Scarman Trust.

UnLtd Millennium Awards are cash awards plus support, to help Award Winners turn their ideas into reality.

UnLtd will provide advice, training, mentoring and other support services

for all award winners, to give their projects the best chance of success.

They also aim to measure the effect of their work and that of others through a research institute.

The Awards Scheme has two levels:

Level 1 Awards from **£500 to £5,000**, to help make new ideas into real projects. Most awards at Level 1 are likely to be around £2,000.

Level 2 Awards from **£5,000 to £15,000**, to support projects that are already developed or pay part of the living expenses of award winners. Most awards at Level 2 are likely to be around £10,000.

For more information, an informal chat about eligibility or an application pack, please call,

Nickala Torkington
Awards Administrator for the North of England
Tel: 01274 728525

Alternatively please visit their website located at, www.unltd.org.uk

NOF's Childcare Programme

As part of its third round, the New Opportunities Fund has a further £198.5m for childcare projects in the UK. Part of this will go towards extending the out-of-school hours childcare programme, so that grants of longer duration can be offered in areas of particular disadvantage. The aim is to fund the provision of good

quality, affordable and accessible out-of-school hours childcare in a range of settings that may involve the public, private and voluntary sectors. £20 million of this money is available for integrated childcare and learning schemes, which will link into both educational and childcare needs.

Around 865,000 children across the UK will benefit from this Childcare Grant Programme. The Programme was due to close in February/March 2003. However, to build on the success of what has been achieved so far, two additional rounds have been added this year, **with new closing dates of 15th April and 15th June 2003.**

Full details of the New Opportunities Fund Programmes and Grant Awards are available on the NOF website located at,

www.nof.org.uk

Alternatively please contact,

Tel: 0845 0000 121
Textphone: 0845 6021 659

The CAF Fast Track Fund

The CAF Fast Track Fund aims to support organisations seeking immediate funding for specific training needs. The focus of this training must be on strengthening your organisation - particularly its structure. CAF will fund training for financial management, fundraising or governance issues. This could include training for staff, volunteers or management committee members.

Priority is given to immediate training needs. Applicants will need to have identified the training course and/or training agency. CAF will fund training costs to attend specified courses and costs to cover training provided by a consultant.

Applications will be considered from any organisation in the UK that is set up for exclusively charitable purposes and that has an annual income of no more than £1.5 million. However, priority for 100 per cent funding will be given to organisations with an income of £50,000 or less per year. CAF will assess your financial position when prioritising applications. Grants are up to £600.

There are no deadlines.

If you are interested in applying to this fund, contact CAF on 01732 520334 or via e-mail at, IDemas@CAFonline.org

Alternatively, please log on at, www.cafonline.org/grants/g_ftfund.cfm

Nationwide Awards for Top Volunteers

The Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour are designed to recognise people and groups who have made an outstanding contribution to the local community. In particular, they aim to make awards to those who have added value to the causes they support - whether it's raising funds for a charity or providing help and assistance to others. The scheme works by seeking nominations from

the public proposing people and groups for an award in one of the following four categories,

- Young people under the age of 18 - Individual
- Adults - Individual
- Young people under the age of 18 - Groups
- Adults - Groups

Entries will be judged in 10 regions around the UK. Four finalists (one in each category) from each region will receive gifts to the value of £250 for themselves and £500 to give to their chosen charity. From the 40 finalists, four national winners will be chosen, one in each category. The national winners will receive gifts to the value of £500, plus a trophy, together with a cheque for £2,500 to give to their choice of charity or cause.

Developed by the Nationwide Building Society and supported by NCVO, the scheme is now in its sixth year.

The closing date for nominations is 30th April 2003.

The national finalists will be announced in September, followed by the national winners in October. For further information, log on at, www.nationwide.co.uk/newsinformation/CommRelations/VEdefault.htm

Alternatively please contact,
The Nationwide Awards for Voluntary Endeavour
Community Affairs Department
FREEPOST SCE7682
Swindon, SN38 9BX.

Training & Events

Compact BME National Conference 15th April 2003 Manchester 10.30 - 3.30 (free)

Manchester City Council is to host the free for all second annual conference on the Black and Minority Ethnic Organisations Code. Local BME codes and how Race Relations Amendments Act Local Authority Schemes cover partnership working will also be addressed. You don't have to be a BME group to join in. All are welcome at this free event.

Contact

For further information contact
Carole Osbourne on
Tel: 0207 520 2454

Social Capital and the Rural Voluntary Sector NCVO Conference Suite, London 16th June 12.00 - 4.00 (cost to be confirmed)

This event starts with a networking lunch, followed by a seminar to launch NCVO's report on 'the voluntary sector's contribution to the development of social capital in rural areas'. This will include a presentation on NCVL's research on social capital amongst the voluntary sector in rural areas in the South West of England.

Speakers to be confirmed

Contact

Further details are available from
Deborah Turton on
Tel: 0207 520 2487

Applying for grants from charitable trusts 17th & 18th March 2003 Liverpool; 30th June & 14th July London 25th & 26th September 2003 Leeds 21st November & 5th December London (£180 - voluntary or charitable organisations; £260 statutory and commercial organisations)

This masterclass aims to build on existing experience, afford participants an opportunity to step outside the day-to-day pressures of meeting application deadlines, and allow them to reflect on their practice with others working in the same field. It aims to provide a network which those attending may wish to draw upon after the course has ended. Although facilitated by trainers experienced in both grant-making and grant-seeking, it aims to utilise to the full the expertise of all participants.

Contact

Trusts Masterclass
Training Dept.
DSC

24 Stephenson Way
London NW1 2DP
Tel: 0207 209 4949
Fax: 0207 391 4808
Email: training@dsc.org.uk

Promoting Racial Equality
15th May 2003 Manchester Town
Hall (£80 + vat)

Organised by Manchester City Council to give participants insight into promoting racial equality through employment practices. You will hear about how good practice developed in recruiting, developing and retaining staff from Black and Minority Ethnic communities has impacted positively on service delivery and developed innovation in areas of our practice as an employer. There will be 3 workshops on the day:

- The role of Black Staff Groups in Manchester City Council
- Management Development
- Monitoring the workforce composition and target setting

Contact

Booking forms are available from Katrina Keane on
Tel: 0161 234 1822 or
Email:
race.equality@notes.manchester.gov.uk

Making High Scoring Applications to The Community Fund
24th April & 9th September 2003
Manchester

These workshops concentrate on devising and presenting projects that will score highly against the specific criteria for the Community Fund grants programmes. They will keep you up-to-date with new developments, give detailed information on the assessment and scoring systems, provide solutions to potential difficulties.

Contact

For further information and a booking form, please contact,
Tel: 0207 209 4949 or visit
Web:
www.dsc.org.uk/charitytraining/national-lottery-intro.html

Effective Corporate Fundraising
2nd May 2003 York 1.30 - 4.30
8th May 2003 Sheffield 1.30 - 4.30
(£59 for a single place, or £50 for booking of 2 or more places)

This course will help anyone with a remit or desire to raise funds from corporates for their organisation to enhance their results. It will show you how to stand out from the crowd and develop new ideas to maximise your fundraising from corporates.

Whatever the size of organisation or experience of fundraising, this course is designed to improve and support all your corporate partnerships and help you develop

new links. The course includes the following:

- Effective planning and research
- Charity of the Year – how to stand out from the crowd
- Maximising Sponsorship and Gifts in Kind
- Boosting employee involvement – how to build support at all levels of an organisation
- Developing new corporate fundraising event ideas
- Cause related marketing for all sizes of organisations

Foundations of Trust Fundraising

13th May 2003 York 1.30 – 4.30

19th May 2003 Sheffield 1.30 – 4.30

**21st May 2003 Bolton 1.30 – 4.30
(59 for a single place, or £50 for 2 or more places)**

This course is presented by Howard Rose and will be covering:

- Selling your project to charitable trusts and establishing need
- Researching suitable trusts
- Matching funding criteria
- Making application and networking
- Where many fundraisers go wrong

Contact

For more details and registration forms for both courses please contact
Gareth Edwards

Company Solutions (UK) Ltd

Farplace

Sidehead

Westgate

Co Durham DL13 1LE

Tel: 01388 517 397

Email: gareth@companysolutions.biz

Web: www.companysolutions.biz

Services for people with challenging behaviour and severe mental illness

14th April 2003 York

Forensic Aspects of Mental Health

15th April 2003 York

Personality Disorders and Mental Illness

16th April 2003 York

The Centre for Continuing Professional Development is organising these Multi-disciplinary Conferences to update the Current Developments in Intensive Care Services, Forensic Aspects of Mental Health and Personality disorders. The objective of these conferences is to debate current developments and to exchange information on providing good quality service. These conferences are aimed at professionals and staff working in Health, Social Services and Probation establishments. They are also aimed at carers, voluntary organisations and others interested in planning and providing services.

Contact

CCPD

Tel: 01484 532 102

Fax: 01484 425 699

Email: worldforum@aol.com

Understanding mental illness in a Chinese context
22nd & 23rd April 2003 Manchester

Two days training for Chinese Community Workers/Professionals. The theme of the training is understanding key symptoms in western medicine and with a view to promoting information about a wider range of Chinese Health Information Centre.

Contact

Shirley Lam
Chinese Health Information Centre
Tel: 0161 288 0138
Fax: 0161 288 3082

How to do Effective Counselling
6th May 2003 Manchester

There has never been a greater need for effective counselling and psychotherapy. But Many practitioners are not as effective as they could be because of the limited models they were trained in. Joe Griffin brings new insights from skills-based research and brain science that can help you reverse this situation and make your work both more satisfying and more useful.

Contact

Mindfields College
Tel: 01323 811 440
Fax: 01323 811 486
Email: info@mindfields.org.uk
Web: www.mindfields.org.uk

Electronic sources of European Union Information

15th May 2003 London 9.45 - 4.45
(£205.63 VAT included - EIA members; £264.38 VAT included - Non members)

This one day seminar is an ideal opportunity to get an overview of a wide range of electronic sources, from both EU institutions and commercial publishers, which can help you find the EU information you need.

At the end of this course you will know:

- The key EU internet sites and databases
- What they cover
- How to access them
- What is available free
- How to decide what to use
- The latest in new web products

Contact

Catherine Webb
EIA
Central Library
St Peter's Square
Manchester
M2 5PD
Tel: 0161 228 3691
Fax: 0161 236 6547
Email:
eia@libraries.manchester.gov.uk
Web: www.eia.org.uk

Accessing EU Documents:
9th June 2003 London 9.30 - 4.30
(£85 + VAT - EIA members;
£135 + VAT - Non members)

This seminar will cover the latest developments in how the EU Institutions originate and disseminate information. It will also provide a forum for discussion of the unique problems the EU presents in terms of information retrieval.

It is aimed at all information professionals and librarians with a responsibility for location and disseminating information from national Parliaments and government agencies.

Contact

Catherine Webb
EIA Manager
Tel: 0161 228 3691
Email:
cwebb@libraries.manchester.gov.uk

Entry To Employment E2E
15th April 2003 Stoke-on-Trent
3rd July 2003 Leeds
9th July 2003 Liverpool
(free)

Workshops will take place in the morning and afternoon and will include at least two of the following topics:

- Promotion of E2E and raising of awareness
- Initial assessment - learner access and recruitment
- Learner guidance and support

- Curriculum offer planning and provision
- Delivery of learning
- Management of work placements and vocational tasters
- Learner progress and progression
- Links with wider interests including employers, social agencies and providers of placements and next stages of learning

Contact

For registration form please contact the Sales & Marketing Team by:
Email: registrations@LSDA.org.uk
Web: www.llda.org.uk

Inclusion through learning convention

29th April 2003 10.00 - 7.00
30th April 9.30 - 3.00
Britannia Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
Public sector 1 day £245 + VAT;
2 days £295 + VAT
Voluntary sector 1 day £145 +
VAT; 2 days £195 + VAT

The convention is aimed at people who offer learners help and support. It will help you to pick up ideas, and have your say about whether the policies that are in place are working. It offers the opportunity to share good practice with your colleagues and even influence policy.

Contact

For further information please contact
Chris Brace
Tel: 0207 582 7221

Email: chris.brace@cesi.org.uk

Web: www.uuy.org.uk/ten/

**Learning and Skills Development
Agency Summer Conference 2003
10th & 11th June 2003 London**

The LSDA Summer Conference provides an important opportunity to develop understanding of, and make an impact on learning and skills policy with a chance to hear from and network with leading individuals from across the sector and to engage in informed discussion on the key issues of the day.

Contact

Please visit

www.neilstewartassociates.com/jd115/booking.htm for a price guide.

For any other information including a conference brochure request please contact

Debbie Young

Tel: 0207 324 4364

Email:

Debbie.young@neilstewartassociates.co.uk

**Introduction to Management in the
Voluntary Sector**

21st, 22nd & 23rd May 2003

Manchester

19th, 20th & 21st November 2003

Birmingham

**(Prices vary depending on the
nature of organization**

£210/£260/£350)

This three-day course is aimed at people who either have been in a management position for less than

two years or are about to move from a supervisory role to a management position. It will provide participants with a framework for underpinning knowledge of theories, concepts and models of good practice. It will enable them to explore and apply the ideas to their own situation and it will also provide the tools to assess their strengths and weaknesses in order to identify the need for further training and development.

Managing Projects

10th June 2003 Birmingham

8th October 2003 Liverpool

18th November 2003 Manchester

**(£90/£110/£150 depending on
status of organization)**

Increasingly voluntary agencies are having to set up fixed-term projects that will only have a limited lifespan. Managing and working on such projects can be frustrating. This course will provide strategies for each stage of a project and define techniques for planning and managing short term projects

Contact

For further information about booking on the above courses please visit:

www.dsc.org.uk/charitytraining/management.html

Publications

Directory of CVS

The Directory of CVS is published annually with up to three updates per year. The Directory is also available online. Listing contact details for nearly 300 members and associates, as well as regional voluntary sector networks and other national voluntary organisations, it is a useful tool for CVS to contact their counterparts across England. It is also a good source of information for other organisations who wish to get a picture of the CVS network or contact CVS. It is ordered by region and contains helpful maps, with a full geographical and national organisational name index.

£8.00

ISBN: 0 9539940 2 3

**For further information contact
NACVS**

**177 Arundel Street
Sheffield S1 2NU
Tel: 0114 278 6636
Fax: 0114 278 7004
Email: nacvs@nacvs.org.uk**

The Complete Fundraising Handbook

The new edition of this ever-popular title has been completely updated

and also reorganised. It is now divided into three parts, covering:

- Fundraising principles and strategies
- Sources of funding including individual donors, grant-making trusts, companies, central and local government
- Fundraising techniques from house-to-house collections and challenge events, to direct mail and capital appeals

Illustrated with case studies throughout, the book provides a wealth of practical advice on every aspect of fundraising for charity.

£16.95 excluding VAT (15% discount for Institute of Fundraising members)

ISBN: 1 900360 84 5

A Guide to Funding from Government Departments & Agencies

This user-friendly guide provides a unique overview of funding available to the voluntary sector in England from government departments and agencies. It tracks £1.7 billion of funding from 200 sources, covering:

- Grant programmes open only to the voluntary sector, and those open to all sectors
- Departmental initiatives to pilot new approaches
- Annual grant-in-aid to individual voluntary organisations

Programme entries provide details on policy and total annual funding, plus independent analysis of grantmaking. To clarify departmental structures, programmes are shown within departmental divisions and units, and cross-referenced via an extensive subject index.

£18.95 (excluding VAT)

ISBN: 1 900360 79 9

The above publications can be purchased online on www.dsc.org.uk/acatalog/fundraising_handbooks.html

Community Fund North West Pre application support information

Community Fund North West Regional Office offers a pre-application support meeting service for applicants applying for a grant. The service will be open to all applicants. However, to make sure you get the best out of the service there are six checks that your organisation must meet before you can make an appointment.

Further details and booking information can be downloaded from:

www.community-fund.org.uk/about-us/our-publications/north-west/north-west-pre-application-support-information.html

Curriculum Leadership in Adult Learning

This guide is for managers and curriculum leaders who need to take a strategic approach to the curriculum and build internal organisation and partnerships. It looks at the part curriculum leadership can play in developing and delivering high quality learning programmes which match the needs and interests of local adults, engage the excluded, and provide pathways for progression. The guide includes a section on techniques for effective curriculum leadership.

Written by Pauline Nashashibi and Kate Watters

Equality and diversity in adult and community learning

This practical guide for ACL managers explains how to address equality and diversity issues in the context of the Learning and Skills Council remit and the Common Inspection Framework. It outlines new legislative and reporting requirements for local authority adult education. Case studies highlight good practice - from equal opportunities information packs to staff training days with a dramatic twist. To help managers and co-

ordinators evaluate and improve their provision, the booklet concludes with a self-audit tool.

Written by Anna Reisenberger and Stella Dadzie

Self - assessment and development planning for adult and community learning providers

Adult and community learning (ACL) services need to meet the challenges of the post-16 learning sector. New requirements from the Learning and Skills Council and Adult Learning Inspectorate mean they must produce an annual self-assessment of the quality of their provision and a development plan to show how they will improve. This guide sets out the steps needed for successful completion of a self-assessment report and development plan. It is designed to inform senior managers, curriculum leaders and administrators and can also be used to support staff training and to help design internal documents and procedures

The above publications can be downloaded from:
www.lsda.org.uk/pubs/ then search by title

The Campaigning Handbook

Essential reading for those who want to influence social change. Written for pressure groups, charities and social activists, this

book covers the skills of modern campaigning:

- Communications
- Organisation
- Direct action
- Lobbying
- Using the law

In this second edition there are new sections on the Human Rights Act and on campaigning and the Internet. It also contains at-a-glance diagrams to show how the major power structures in society work and where they are most vulnerable to pressure.

ISBN: 1 900360 63 2
£15.95 Excluding VAT

The DIY Guide to Charity Newsletters

This practical guide will help organisations on a tight budget produce effective newsletters to keep in touch with supporters and donors. It provides advice on: writing skills and what makes a good editor

- Design - typography, graphics and unity
- Newsletter reader surveys
- Selling advertising space

ISBN 1 873860 11 0
£10.95 Excluding VAT

Both publications can be purchased at:
www.dsc.org.uk/acatalog/communication.html

The Complete Guide to Creating & Managing New Projects

If you are intending to provide new services or activities, creating a new project is often the most effective way forward and is likely to appeal to funders. This practical guide offers invaluable advice on how to both create and manage a voluntary sector project. The new edition has been fully revised, updated and expanded to include new material on project management and on monitoring and evaluation.

- Suitable for use within existing organisations or for independent projects
- Covers design, development, testing and establishment of new projects
- Shows ways to tackle common problems
- Features case studies, checklists and exercises to help with feasibility planning

ISBN 1 903991 15 3
£12.50 Excluding VAT

The Voluntary Agencies Directory

The 22nd edition of this annual directory contains information on over 2000 organisations, including concise descriptions of the aims and objectives of each, together with contact details. There is a subject index and a further addresses section with details of over 200 relevant organisations outside – but of interest to – the sector.

ISBN: 0 7199 1608 9
£30.00 Excluding VAT

Achieve Personal Effectiveness in the Not-for-profit Sector

This is the first personal development title published by DSC and aims to fill a gap in current resources for voluntary sector managers. The book is aimed at not-for-profit managers who are under pressure, juggling multiple priorities, want to achieve more of their life goals and want to function at a consistently high level without burning out. It gives the reader a toolkit of seven key behaviours that will impact directly on their level of personal success. These cover:

- Clarity
- Focus
- Structure
- Influence
- Creativity
- Deliver
- Nurture

Each chapter includes exercises, charts and case studies and together comprise an integrated programme to achieve personal success.

ISBN: 1 903991 23 4
£12.95
Available in April 2003

For further information on the above publications and an order form please email:
books@dsc.org.uk

Noticeboard

Community Media Festival 2003 8th May - 10th May 2003 Sheffield

CMA is celebrating its 20th birthday. Planned events include:

- 3 days of screenings of work produced with support from the Commedia Millennium Awards scheme
- Workshops and training sessions
- Debate on hot topics in the sector
- Lots of opportunities for socialising and networking
- Exhibition of up to date equipment and services to the sector

For further information please email:
nicky@commedia.org.uk

Celebrating Positive Mental Health 29th April 2003 Brighton

The launch event for the South East Development Centre and an opportunity to share positive practice - presentations from successful innovative schemes in the statutory and non-statutory sectors - video by service users on what positive mental health means to them. Speakers include Professor Louis Appleby, Director of the Centre Richard Ford and Directorate of Health and Social

Care, user, carer and provider NHS Trust representatives.

Please contact:

Alison Hood

Tel: 01256 376 394

Email: Alison.hood@sedc.nhs.uk

Consultation on the future of the EU Structural Funds launched

The Government published 'A Modern Regional Policy for the United Kingdom' on 6 March 2003. This paper launches a consultation on the UK position on the future of the Structural Funds after 2006. For further information please go to:

www.esf.gov.uk/consultation/future/index.shtml

New National Awards Scheme launched by AOL

AOL has launched a new national awards scheme - the AOL Innovation in the Community Awards - to help local community groups make the most of the Internet. They teamed up with the national charity Citizens Online to offer 15 Awards of £2000 each, plus a year's free subscription to AOL, and are inviting written applications from community groups across the UK.

Groups working in areas such as children, disability, the elderly,

regeneration, and social activities can apply for the £2000 award to support online projects, whether they are already using the Internet or want to get online for the first time.

Closing date is 6th June 2003

For further information please visit:
www.aol.co.uk/innovation

Do you have an event which you would like us to print for you in the next issue of the NWN Newsletter? The next issue will be brought to you in June, please contact Jane Stanistreet on 0161 236 6493, or email me on jane@nwnetwork.org.uk.