



Working together to strengthen London's voluntary and community sector

London Funders e-bulletin February 2010

Editorial

London Funders – news and activity

Dear Colleague

Welcome to the latest edition of our e-bulletin. There is a lot going on!

We have just announced the date of our next members meeting:

The funders' footprint, in the afternoon of Monday 22 March at Mazars, Tower Hill.

This is a chance to share experience of encouraging and assisting voluntary and community groups to make action on climate change and environmental issues an intrinsic part of their activity – and consider funders' own responses to these issues too. With expert speakers, including eco-auditor and broadcaster Donnachadh McCarthy, Clare Thomas of City Bridge Trust and Stephen Hale, Green Alliance – this is an event which should offer information and inspiration. We are delighted to be hosted by Mazars LLP in their excellent meeting facilities overlooking the Tower of London.

Please fill in your [booking form](#) soon and email it back to [Yvonne](#). Further details on our [website](#).

All funders are welcome – attendance is free to anyone in an organisation that is a member of London Funders; others at a fee of £100.

We have started reminding members to renew their subscriptions for 2010. We hope members will want to display a "member of London Funders" logo – please email [Yvonne](#) for this.

We are delighted to announce a new member: the Financial Services Authority. As well as their well known regulatory function, they have a section dedicated to education in financial matters, not only in improving children and young people's financial literacy, but providing material, for example, to assist people with special needs in managing their money, or coping with direct payments for social care, or facing a crisis such as divorce or separation. They work direct with the public and through statutory bodies and voluntary organisations in delivering these services. We will offer a fuller profile in our next issue of the e-bulletin.

We have short reports of a couple of interesting meetings held late last year. In November a group of funders met people from BAME organisations – some local and some London-wide, and from both front-line and second tier/support services. They had a frank discussion about the obstacles to funding black and minority ethnic organisations – the obstacles for funders and applicants. They explored how far the recession is causing problems and which issues are longer-term and could be around after the recession. Read the key questions and conclusions [here](#).

Another vital area under discussion has been infrastructure organisations – the support services for voluntary and community organisations. Again we held an event which brought interested funders around the table with both specialist and generalist London second tier organisations. How can these organisations present better evidence of their value to the sector? What is it that will encourage funders to maintain support for the supporters as against – or as well as – the front-line? On the day, participants drew up a [one page list](#) of key points from discussion and this will be followed soon by a fuller report.

We have also published a new edition of our *Funding Jigsaw* which is now available online. This is a listing of funds available for work by and for children and young people, offered by London Funders' members.

Please note – there is a new icon used in this issue: where funders might be interested to publicise new resources to their networks or the organisations they fund, we have added £ ⇒. Of course, we hope the items will be informative for funders too!

It was great to have the help of Belinda Dervish in editing this issue of our e-bulletin. Belinda will look forward to feedback and new material for the next issue (copy deadline 1 April) on ebulletin@londonfunders.org.uk

Gaynor Humphreys and Yvonne Schwartz

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What's going on in London Funders

Members meeting - The funders' footprint

22 March, 2 pm - Mazars LLP, Tower Hill, London

For further details on this meeting please see our [website](#). Please fill in your [booking form](#) soon and email it back to [Yvonne](#).

Project group meetings

Staff and board/committee members of London Funders members and associates are most welcome at these events. To book or to find out more, **contact Yvonne** at yvonne@londonfunders.org.uk or ring 020 7255 4488.

All meetings are from 10 am – 12 noon and take place at London Funders' office. Meetings always include time for sharing of members' news and ideas as well as planned agenda topics.

Olympics/Paralympics

Chair: Stewart Goshawk, The City Bridge Trust

16 February

Main topic: The work of The Big Opportunity and its impact both for LOCOG and around securing a community legacy with the five host boroughs - Paul Bower, London Civic Forum.

We will also hear from Dominic Cotton about the DCMS Legacy Action Plan which highlights Media Trust's vision for young people in the run up to the Olympic Games.

Further dates

Tuesday, 11 May

Thursday, 2 September

Wednesday, 24 November

Good practice in grantmaking

Chair: Ian Redding, London Councils

25 February

Clare Fitzboyden, Football Foundation, will talk about the Foundation's move from an open application process to specific windows and a new two-stage process.

Jennifer Layne, LB Haringey, will make a short presentation to share some of the practice which led the Borough to winning the Commissioner's Award 2008 for their Compact Proofing Toolkit.

Further dates

Thursday, 27 May

Friday, 17 September

Friday, 3 December

Voluntary sector infrastructure development

Chair: Debbie Pippard, Big Lottery Fund

1 March

Jill Walsh of Capacitybuilders London Region will look at the impact of Capacitybuilders' support in London and especially the take-up of recent recession-responsive funding.

Robin Boles will introduce the services of In Kind Direct and lead discussion on how funders can encourage third sector organisations to make good use of their support.

Further dates

Thursday, 3 June

Wednesday, 22 September

Wednesday, 8 December

Research and evaluation

Chair: Andrew Cooper, The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund

8 March

Duncan Jones, Football Foundation, will share the development so far of a Programme Management/Monitoring and Evaluation Tool and invite the group's constructive criticism. The Foundation is aiming to develop a tool to understand progress in its own strategic objectives and those of its funding partners, and to help grant recipients manage their projects and delivery of outputs and outcomes. Duncan would also like to explore whether other funders would be interested in sharing the tool (at very low cost).

Ruth Child, Greater London Authority, will talk about the GLA's progress with Project Oracle which is addressing serious youth violence.

Further dates

Tuesday, 8 June

Monday, 27 September

Tuesday, 14 December

Member news

Arts Council

£ ⇒

Well London is a three year programme which works with local people across London to transform their health. As part of the creative strand of the programme, Arts Council England manages *Be Creative, Be Well*, a project that commissions arts and creative activities with Super Output Area (SOA) communities and individuals to improve health and environment and increase community cohesion. Funded projects have included a dance project for older people in Haringey, refurbishment of the Handcroft Road Resource Centre in Croydon and a family fun day in Star Park (Newham).

Arts Council England is commissioning projects for the last round of *Be Creative, Be Well* in 12 London boroughs. Applications are being assessed for a share of a £370,000 fund which is to be allocated as follows: Barking and Dagenham (total commission fund: £32,000), Brent (£34,000), Camden (£24,000), Ealing (£32,000), Enfield (£38,000), Greenwich (£32,000), Haringey (£37,100), Kensington and Chelsea (£26,500), Lewisham (£22,000), Southwark (£29,000), Waltham Forest (£32,000) and Westminster (£33,000).

Enquiries on the following Well London areas: Barking and Dagenham, Ealing, Enfield, Greenwich, Hackney, Haringey, Lambeth, Lewisham, Southwark, Tower Hamlets and Westminster SOAs, contact Lucy Clark at lucy.clark@artscouncil.org.uk or 020 7608 4116.

Other Well London areas: Brent, Camden, Croydon, Hammersmith and Fulham, Hounslow, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, Newham and Waltham Forest SOAs, contact Karen Taylor at karen.taylor@artscouncil.org.uk or 020 7608 4170.

bassac

Stand and Deliver: people, power and politics - bassac Annual Conference, 3-4 March 2010

Future cuts in public spending will make it important for councillors, communities and local authorities to find new ways of working together. This event will look at how leaders and trustees of community and voluntary organisations can work better with local authorities.

For more details and booking visit the [bassac conference website](#)

BBC Children in Need

£ ⇒



BBC Children in Need has launched a new small grants programme (grants of £10,000 or less per year for a maximum of three years) designed to encourage those who would not otherwise consider applying, to send in an application. The Fund's experience has shown that significant and valuable work can be achieved even with the smallest grants and often these projects are the most imaginative and meaningful. David Ramsden, Chief Executive of BBC Children in Need says: 'The

small grants programme is an especially important part of our grantmaking; it helps us to connect with organisations which are at the heart of local communities and ensures our grants reach as many projects as possible.'

Big Lottery Fund

£ ⇒

National Lottery Awards

Now in its seventh year, the National Lottery Awards scheme celebrates the difference that Lottery-funded projects make to local communities across the UK. The Awards have seven categories, each reflecting an area of Lottery funding: sport; heritage; arts; environment; voluntary/charity; health and education. Projects will compete in two rounds of public voting and the shortlisted projects will go through to the finals where the winning projects in each category will be announced on a BBC1 TV show later this year.

Nominations are encouraged for London: call 0845 070 0112 or visit [the Good Causes website](#). All Lottery-funded projects, large or small, can be nominated by the public or can enter themselves. The deadline for entries is 5pm, 19 February 2010.

Closing date approaching for mental health grants

Ecominds is a funding scheme run by Mind that awards grants to projects that link mental health with gardening, recycling or other green activities. Owing to the large number of applications received to date, the closing date for Small Grants has been brought forward to 12 noon, Friday, 30 April 2010. The amount of funding currently available for Small Grants is limited and prospective applicants are encouraged to consider carefully before applying.

[Find out more.](#)

Reaching Communities open for applications

The Big Lottery Fund's Reaching Communities programme awards grants between £10,000 and £500,000 to projects that offer people better life chances, build stronger communities, develop improved rural and urban environments and improve health and well being.

[Find out more.](#)

Research digest

The first edition of the [Big Lottery Fund Research digest](#) was published in January 2010. See the publications section for more detail. The Big Lottery Fund regularly publishes evaluation and research reports which are free to download from [their website](#).

Capacitybuilders

£ ⇒



The second round of Capacitybuilders' Capital Investment Programme is giving over £2.27 million to local community buildings to improve the vital facilities they provide. [12 London charities, voluntary organisations and social enterprises](#) (in a total of 96 organisations nationwide) will each receive up to £30,000. Improvements will overhaul the quality and accessibility of accommodation or facilities provided by organisations; add additional meeting rooms; improve technology; or provide better access to resources such as a shared library.

Last year nearly £1.4 million was awarded nationally in the first round of grants, with 61 local resource centres benefiting from improvements to their premises. The Capital Investment Programme is worth up to £7 million overall. It is made up of three streams allowing a wide range of frontline organisations in England better access to high quality and affordable shared facilities and shared services within their local area. The Capital Investment Programme is supplementary to the package of measures announced in the Government's [Real Help for Communities Action Plan](#). Jill Walsh, Capacitybuilders, says: 'The need for adequate premises has been a recurrent theme among London's third sector. This investment can make a real difference to these groups and the communities they serve.'

[Visit Capacitybuilders' Capital Investment Programme website to find out more.](#)

Capital Community Foundation

£ ⇒

Community Cash - Sport Relief



Capital Community Foundation, in partnership with other community foundations in London, is distributing a £62,500 Community Cash fund raised through Sport Relief to communities across the city. Grants of £500-£1,000 are available to small organisations in all 33 London boroughs that are doing great work to help local people living in areas of disadvantage. Groups must:

- have an income of less than £50,000
- be working in a deprived or disadvantaged area of London
- be constituted
- have a sustained beneficial impact on those they work with.

Deadline: 5 March 2010, for more information [click here](#).

City of London

£ ⇒

The City of London is to give £400,000 towards ten new projects in the Square Mile to provide careers support, advice and training to local young people. The programme, which will run from autumn 2010 until March 2011, will grant almost 1,500 beneficiaries access to 'City-type' jobs and training opportunities.

Community Foundation Network

Last year, Community Foundation Network reports, while most funders and funded organisations around the world feared the worst about the flow of money in the sector, an extra £33.5 million was given by private philanthropists all over the UK to support local communities. Money from central and local government, business and others meant that in total £56 million was made available to support grassroots organisations.

The number of individual donors setting up charitable funds to support local groups rose by 60% over the course of the year, with 1,765 charitable funds now managed by community foundations, with an average value of just under £80,000.

All of this is seen as evidence of the resilience of community-based philanthropy. Ten of the fifty-seven UK community foundations now work with individual donors who have committed at least £1 million in the past few years. Between them the UK community foundations made about 17,000 grants in the last year.

Equality and Human Rights Commission

A new EHRC report, *Cohesion and equality: guidance for funders* provides a carefully written addition to the equality and cohesion debate. Written primarily for public sector funders but with relevance to others, the report provides analysis and ideas on tackling disadvantage and promoting equality alongside work on cohesion. Advice on equality issues for funding single-issue groups is also comprehensively covered.

London Borough of Barking and Dagenham



Barking and Dagenham chief executive Rob Whiteman has been appointed the new managing director of the Improvement & Development Agency (IDeA) after a successful career in local government. Rob said: 'I am passionate about promoting devolution to local government and ensuring we build on the track record of self improvement as public policy moves from top down prescription and regulation and develops tools to achieve excellence and value for money.' Mr Whiteman will take up his appointment after the local elections in May.

London Borough of Brent



Brent's first Green Festival will take place from 5 - 8.30 pm at Brent Town Hall on Thursday, 25 February in partnership with Brent's Sustainability Forum. Using a 'speed networking' format, stall holders will have five minutes each to promote their projects followed by opportunities to get advice from the Forum on topics such as funding, business planning and sustainability. The event will culminate with a review of the Forum's six current projects to assess their viability and consider new projects.

The Brent Sustainability Forum is a network of 100+ members comprising individuals, organisations and community groups that engage in a diverse programme of activities including workshops, seminars and training. The Forum is currently developing six specific environmental projects within the borough including a local business resource efficiency project and a climate change partnership.

For more information and for bookings contact Ines Carvalho on 020 8937 5326 or email Ines.Carvalho@brent.gov.uk by 15 February 2010.

London Borough of Greenwich

Greenwich has been selected to participate in a programme to help improve third sector commissioning alongside nine other UK districts as part of the £15.5 million Targeted Support Fund programme funded by Office of the Third Sector and Department of Health.

£500,000 has been allocated to improve commissioning from third sector organisations in areas identified as at most risk of increased deprivation. Grants of up to £25,000 will be allocated to allow local public bodies and third sector organisations to focus on unblocking specific barriers to successful third sector commissioning in their locality and aims to produce learning which can be widely disseminated to improve practice across the country.

The programme will be delivered by IDeA and its partners as part of the second phase of the National Programme for Third Sector Commissioning. The nine other districts are: Bradford, Calderdale, Darlington, Dudley, North East Lincolnshire, St Helens, Wakefield, Walsall and Wigan. In each of the selected areas, local partnerships of public bodies and the third sector will take part in a facilitated local diagnostic session to uncover key barriers to develop a local improvement plan and design a local project.

London Borough of Lambeth

Lambeth has been trying out participatory budgeting. Last year, over a six week period, residents were invited to choose between 12 projects (divided into three bands of £125,000, £75,000 and £50,000).

Over 3,000 people voted for their favourite in each band and the Council funded the winner in each category. This year's round will see £500,000 allocated this way.

London Borough of Wandsworth

Small Grants Fund

Wandsworth's small grants fund has helped older people record their memories through film-making and use of new media such as social networking. The partnership project, involving Age Concern Wandsworth, NHS Wandsworth and two artists, brought together older people to learn valuable new skills in a social setting. Films were screened to friends and family last December.

History project nets lottery cash

The council has recently been awarded £10,000 by the Heritage Lottery Fund to help set up an interactive local history project. 'Personal Heritage Postcards' is a local history venture by artist Holly Gramazio working with Wandsworth libraries and arts teams.

London Councils



The Manifesto for Londoners sets out London Councils' case for devolution of powers from government and quangos to London boroughs to enable them to meet the economic and social challenge of doing more, and better, with less. It argues that London is uniquely suited for devolution, citing examples that have already successfully been put in place, and makes recommendations for eleven areas where this would improve services and reduce costs:

- Health and social care
- Worklessness
- Adult skills
- Local policing
- Community justice and offender management
- Child safety and achievement
- Transport
- Housing and investment
- Climate change and retrofitting
- Public places and public behaviour
- The deal for devolution

[Read a short summary of proposals in each of these policy areas on the 'manifesto in summary' page](#)

[Read about how the manifesto was developed](#)

[Read the manifesto in full](#)

Media Trust

£ ⇒

Community Voices is an England-wide programme funded by the Department for Communities and Local Government and the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and delivered by Media Trust. It aims to engage, inspire and empower communities that feel disadvantaged or isolated with the confidence, skills, and access to resources and funding that will enable them to find their voice and make it heard, using digital media. The forthcoming funding round closes for applications on 28 February 2010. The Trust will select 26 community projects from the applications to receive funding of £1,500, £7,000 or £14,000, combined with support from a digital mentor to help them make a difference to their communities.



For more information email communityvoices@mediatrust.org or visit the [Community Voices website](#).

New Philanthropy Capital

NPC's *The little blue book* is a guide to analysing charity performance for funders and the voluntary sector. At a time when many charities are forced to make tough decisions, this guide can help them to assess their own performance, to identify successes and failures, and to understand how they can improve. *The little blue book* could also help funders better understand charities' strengths and opportunities for development, and work out how best to support them.

It contains practical examples and explains NPC's charity analysis framework based on six key areas: activities; results; leadership; people and resources; finances; and ambition. Detailed analyses of charities applying this framework can be found on [NPC's revamped website](#).

Available from [NPC's website](#); to buy a printed copy contact Jo Watson on 020 7785 6300.

NPC Research and Reports

Funders can also download all NPC's research reports free from the [NPC website](#). Recent reports include *Getting back on track*, which focuses on supporting young people not in employment, education or training (NEETS), and *Rights of passage* which looks at how charities are helping young people with disabilities to lead more independent lives. NPC has also just published its [2008-09 annual report](#).

Philanthropy steering group

NPC is currently developing its work with philanthropy advisers and exploring ways to stimulate the provision and take-up of philanthropy advice. As part of this, they are launching a steering group of some of the UK's leading private client bankers and philanthropy experts. More details about this collaboration will be released in March 2010 alongside the launch of NPC's report, *The business of philanthropy*.

Rosa UK



Jackie Mendoza has been appointed as the new Executive Director of Rosa UK. Jackie was previously Interim Development Director at the Fund and ran her own fundraising consultancy. Her remit will be to move Rosa through the next stage of development focusing on income generation, raising awareness of Rosa's work, and promoting the vital need for funding of the UK women's sector.

Congratulations to Rosa's Chair, Maggie Baxter, who was awarded an OBE in the New Year's Honours List in recognition of her services to the voluntary sector. Maggie's career, which has spanned nearly 40 years, has included executive roles at WOMANKIND Worldwide, the Dame Colet House Settlement in East London and at Comic Relief, where she was seconded to set up the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund. Maggie has also worked as London adviser to the Baring Foundation and holds a number of trusteeships.

Jackie Mendoza says: 'We are very pleased that Maggie has been recognised for her long-term commitment and dedication to the voluntary sector. Not only has she held senior positions in a variety of voluntary organisations, but she has also devoted her personal life to supporting others - from chairing governors of local primary schools to sitting on numerous trustee boards and being ever present for a large and varied family. It's hardly surprising that her amazing vision, dedication, warmth and great sense of humour are an inspiration to many women.'

School for Social Entrepreneurs



Next courses ("no lectures, no books, no homework") begin in April 2010 (deadline to apply: Monday, 15 February 2010).

An application pack is available on [SSE's London webpage](#) or contact Cynthia Quek for more information: cynthia.quek@sse.org.uk

In January, SSE expanded its action learning franchise for social entrepreneurs with the launch of a new school based at the Dartington Hall Trust in Totnes, South Devon. [SSE Devon](#) was set up with the help of a £500,000 investment from The Office of the Third Sector in its bid to fund enterprises that benefit communities worst affected by the recession. SSE hopes to treble fellow numbers to 1,200 over the next few years with SSE Totnes joining the portfolio of schools in Aston, Cornwall, East Midlands, Fife, Ireland, Liverpool, London, Hampshire, Yorkshire and Australia.

The Social Investment Business

£ ⇒

The Department of Health's Social Enterprise Investment Fund gives capital grants from £100,000 to £450,000 to social enterprises working in health and social care. Grants are available through the Social Investment Business. The current funding round closes on 19 February 2010. [Find out more.](#)

Recession-proofing

The social impact of recession

CabinetOffice

A new Social Exclusion Task Force report, *Learning from the Past: Tackling Worklessness and the social impacts of the recession*, details how knowledge from previous recessions can provide a head start in tackling the social impact of the economic downturn more effectively this time around despite steeper falls in GDP.

[Download the Tacking Worklessness report.](#)

In response to the continuing challenges of the recession, the Government has introduced a further package of measures to tackle the 'social wave' of recession including: a new White Paper, *Building Britain's Recovery: Achieving Full Employment*, setting out a vision for the future and an additional £40 million for the 61 Working Neighbourhoods Fund hotspot areas.

[Download Building Britain's Recovery.](#)

LVSC's Big Squeeze survey



London's broadest survey into the effects of the recession on London's voluntary and community sector returns for 2010.

Last year over 100 organisations responded to the Big Squeeze call for evidence on how the recession affected London's voluntary and community sector (VCS). Survey findings helped the VCS demonstrate a strong increase in demand for services, and showed not only a great deal of uncertainty for the future but also many positive steps which groups were taking to help ride out difficult financial times.

This year's survey revisits last year's themes but seeks additionally to map changes in public expenditure and the effect on the sector's ability to help the most marginalised and vulnerable Londoners through the recession.

Organisations completing the survey will help LVSC:

- collect common evidence to help ensure London's VCS is better-placed to cope with the recession
- provide staff and resources for recession-related newsletters, briefings, meetings and events
- highlight the recession's impact on organisations and beneficiaries
- commission case studies – the Big Squeeze needs illuminating evidence to help make the sector's case for the strong role it can play in the recession.

[The online survey](#) should take no more than ten minutes to complete and will close at the end of February. For further information [contact LVSC](#). Funders are encouraged to share this with their networks and funded organisations.

New facts on unemployment and debt in London



In the wake of the financial and economic crisis, London's free debt advice services have seen the demand for their help soar to unprecedented levels since 2008 as more and more people face unemployment and difficulties in accessing credit or dealing with their existing debt and creditors.

Based on the London Debt Summit last summer and the report *Up to our neck in it*, the London Debt Strategy Group was established by Toynbee Hall and London's Deputy Mayor Richard Barnes to consider strategic and practical solutions to the problems facing Londoners in debt. The group's quarterly meetings are an opportunity for combining knowledge and awareness of the realities for many Londoners and the pressures on free debt advice services.

The data which the Debt Strategy Group can draw on are the product of a unique collaboration by London's biggest providers of free debt advice, including Capitalise, the Citizens Advice Bureaux, the Legal Services Commission and Community Links. This provides the most up-to-date and comprehensive analysis available.

The Group has recently focused on the impact of rising unemployment on debt advice service clients and the results will be of concern to anyone interested in Londoners' well-being.

Key facts to note:

- Legal Services Commission has seen a 20% increase in new debt cases that they have funded in London over the last year
- The advice sector as a whole has seen an increase of 22% in new debt advice cases in London from April 08 to April 09
- Despite increasing unemployment, and unemployment being a significant trigger of debt management problems, London's Debt Advice Partnership, Capitalise has not seen a significant increase in the ratio of unemployed clients accessing services
- Interestingly Capitalise is now seeing significantly fewer financially excluded clients (as measured against the Government definition) than 12 months ago. This continues the trend of a changing caseload for Capitalise made up of increasing numbers of low waged homeowners accessing services and a consequential reduction in the number of non-working social tenants accessing services – the crowding out phenomenon highlighted at the Debt Summit in June.

[For further details click here.](#)

One of the key questions now is to try and find out what has happened to this traditional client base. Capitalise would be pleased to hear from anyone with additional data or experience to share: 020 7392 2953 or email: capitalise@toynbeehall.org.uk.

Additionally, Gaynor Humphreys is a member of the London Debt Strategy Group and would be happy to help share material further between funders or add funders' concerns to the Group's quarterly agenda. Contact Gaynor at: gaynor@londonfunders.org.uk

External news

Policy

The "refreshed" Compact

As featured in our last bulletin, a new discussion on partnership working between government and the third sector opened in December with the publication of the *refreshed national Compact*. This sets out shared commitments and guidelines for effective partnership working in England and is accompanied by a smaller publication entitled *An introduction to the Compact* aimed at those unfamiliar with the document.

Survey of community action on poverty, jobs and the environment

The Institute for Public Policy Research (ippr) is launching a new project looking at local-level work to tackle poverty, discrimination and disadvantage, improve job opportunities and protect the environment. As part of the project, they want to find out more about the work currently being done by local organisations across the UK. They are keen to hear from all types of organisations, including trade unions, local authorities, charities, social enterprises, campaign groups and service providers – anyone who is involved in these areas at a local level. The survey can be accessed [here](#).

Funding

East London Bond

The East London Bond is an innovative venture to spark renewal in East London. Investors in the Bond can support some of the most deprived communities in England while securing the return of their initial investment after five years. The yield from the Bond will go to the Bromley by Bow Centre and Community Links and help reach those hardest hit by the recession enabling local people to benefit from the significant investment coming to the area through major regeneration initiatives and the Olympics. Each Bond costs £1,000.

16-19 Education Investment Strategy 2010-11

Transition arrangements and the dissolution of the Learning and Skills Council

November 2009 saw The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act receive Royal Assent with the result that from April 2010, responsibility for securing sufficient education and training provision for all young people, including those aged 16-19, (19-25 for those with a learning difficulty and/or disability) will pass from the Learning and Skills Council (LSC) to local authorities. These changes form part of the Government's overhaul of education which aims to extend education and training provision for all young people up to the age of 18 by 2015.

There will be two new bodies involved overseeing the Act:

1. for young people there will be a new national Non Departmental Public Body, the Young People's Learning Agency (YPLA), which will support local authorities to budget for, commission and fund education and training provision for 14-19 year olds with some regional capacity.
2. for adults there will be a new Skills Funding Agency (SFA), again with some regional capacity, which will oversee the distribution of sector funds and manage the performance of further education colleges. The SFA will also house the National Apprenticeship Service, the National Employer Service, and the Adult Careers and Advancement Agency. The Train to Gain brokerage service transferred to Regional Development Agencies (RDA) in April 2009.

A regional Planning Group will be formed in each region to consider and agree the overall commissioning plan for the region for 16-19 provision. The groups will have no legal or statutory powers and will be jointly co-chaired by a local authority and the RDA. Membership will be decided by each region but the Government expects that as a minimum it will include members from Government Office, Regional Development Agency, local authority and the Learning and Skills Council (or the YPLA from April 2010). Regional Planning Groups will provide peer support and challenge to local authorities and their Sub Regional Groupings. The expectation is that in September each year Regional Planning Groups will produce a 'regional statement of priorities' to inform sub-regional and local commissioning. As part of the review of plans the Regional Planning Group will aggregate demand for apprenticeships and communicate this to the National Apprenticeship Service.

London's 14-19 Regional Planning Group (RPG) is the first region to set up an RPG. It will assume commissioning powers for 16-19 year olds in education from April 2010. The Group will be based at London Councils and chaired by London Councils' newly appointed executive member for children and young people, Councillor Nick Stanton. The 33 London borough leaders have agreed the group's constitution and membership. Three councillors from each of the main political parties will be appointed as

members, as well as two directors of children's services, a chief executive and one regional planning group director. Employers and education providers will also be represented.

As well as leading the way in establishing the first RPG, London's boroughs have committed to providing 2,000 apprenticeships across a range of local authority services to improve outcomes and widen opportunities for all of London's young people.

Nominations open for Beacon Prize for philanthropy

The prestigious Beacon Prize recognises individuals who have made a significant philanthropic contribution by donating time, money or skills to a specific cause. Awards are made to groups or individuals in seven categories: community builder; leadership; new initiatives; young philanthropist/activist; effective giving; family business philanthropist and philanthropy advocate. Awards will be presented at a Gala dinner in November 2010 with the overall winner receiving a £30,000 prize to be invested in an innovative way in the charity of their choice



Beacon is a charitable organisation managed by the [Community Foundation Network](#) (CFN) and has been set up to encourage individual contributions to charitable and social causes. Beacon believes that by highlighting the achievements of prizewinners and showcasing innovation and best practice in philanthropy, others will be inspired and encouraged to make their own contribution. Previous prizewinners include Sir Bob Geldof, Dame Stephanie Shirley, and Jamie Oliver.

Nominations for the 2010 Awards can be made via the [Beacon Fellowship website](#) and close on 16 April.

Charity Awards 2010

Charity Awards, which recognise excellence in the leadership and management of charities, have opened their nomination window for 2010. Any kind of project or initiative can be entered but successful entries will demonstrate achievement in one or more of the [Hallmarks of Excellence](#).

Nominations are invited under ten broad areas of charitable activity: arts, culture and heritage, children and youth, disability, education and training, grantmaking (won in 2009 by The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund), healthcare and medical research, international aid and development, research, advice and support, social care and welfare. The closing date for entries is Friday, 12 March.

[The Charity Awards 2010](#)

[Download an entry form.](#)

Family intervention projects

£ ⇒

Since April 2009 all local authorities have received increased funding to support the introduction of Family Intervention Projects and Parenting Early Intervention programmes designed to provide evidence-based support to families experiencing problems. Last month the Government announced that a further 88 Family Intervention Projects will be introduced around the country to help another 1,200 families each year. An additional £2.6 million will be made available for local authorities to start or expand Family Intervention Projects in their region.

Children and Families Minister Dawn Primarolo said: 'Family Intervention Projects challenge, confront and support parents and children to help them change their behaviour for the benefit of the whole family and wider community.' To find out more about funding for Family Intervention Projects, see the [DSCF website](#).

Getting care providers connected

£ ⇒



Get Connected is a new capital grant scheme for the registered providers of adult social care in England and independent sector organisations supporting personalisation in adult social care. Grants will enable them to improve access for users, carers, visitors and staff to information and communications technology

(ICT) so they can use the power of the internet to communicate, learn and train. The funding is from the Department of Health, routed through SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence).

Many of the 22,000 independent sector registered social care services for adults in England are small, private sector or voluntary organisations without access to high-quality internet or digital technology. This means their users and staff are at a disadvantage in terms of access to training and development, knowledge-gathering and full participation in the support networks available online. So grants are intended, for example, to enable people who use care services to keep in touch with their communities (eg

supporting residents of care homes to surf the internet or send emails); for staff in adult social care the grants could improve their skills and knowledge (eg by giving them access to online resources or keeping them up to date with the latest developments in policy and practice).

£12 million will be distributed over the whole project, in four funding cycles. Each individual investment will be up to £20,000. The first priority is registered providers of adult social care services, with other organisations supporting personalisation in adult social care eligible to bid from cycle 2. Expressions of interest under cycle 1 can be made through the SCIE website up to 19 February 2010. [Details on how to apply for funding in Investment cycle 1.](#)

SCIE selected [Lasa](#) and [Charity Technology Trust](#) to provide support to the programme, Lasa bringing technical advice and resources to the project, and CTT managing the grantmaking.

New volunteering fund for health and social care

£ ⇒



The Department of Health Volunteering Fund for Health and Social Care (the 'Volunteering Fund') was launched in December 2009. [The Fund](#) provides a combination of grants and other support to third sector organisations through:

- A local level fund which makes small awards to applicants tied to local level commissioners, and
- A national scheme with larger awards for the delivery of more substantial awards for strategic or developmental volunteering programmes.

Applicants for either scheme can apply for up to three years of funding per application. A maximum of 55 local project grants and 12 national portfolio grants are expected to benefit from the fund in the first year, through a mixture of grants and business support.

Local authority services

Oneplace - holding public services to account

The Audit Commission has joined forces with five other independent public inspectorates (Care Quality Commission, Ofsted, and Her Majesty's Inspectorates of Constabulary, Prisons and Probation) to measure how well local services work to meet both their own priorities and government indicators as part of a new streamlined audit initiative called 'Oneplace'.

[The Oneplace website](#), launched on 9 December, uses a flag system to rate how well UK regions are tackling local priorities such as counteracting the recession, dealing with obesity in schoolchildren, crime prevention, care for the elderly, and the quality of local fire and rescue services. The site also provides assessments of environmental performance, services for children and young people, school standards (links are provided to Ofsted services) and adult social care.

The intention of Oneplace – for providers and users of local services - is “21st century accountability, based on expert assessments of what services do for people, not how they are organised. It paints a picture of places, their agreed local priorities, challenges and their public service performance. The website offers a way of checking the effectiveness of public spending and helps people hold those who provide publicly funded services to account for their decisions.”

Oneplace will be available through the [Directgov website](#) as well as via each inspectorate's site.

Comprehensive Area Assessment results



The first Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) results have been released by the Audit Commission. CAA scores councils out of four on how their authority is run and awards green flags for examples of good practice in partnership working. In London, six boroughs have the highest overall score of four, with 24 boroughs awarded a score of three. Eighteen London boroughs received a total of 22 green flags for work around issues including recycling, crime and community safety, climate change, arts and culture, and looked after children.

[Read London Councils' press release for further details.](#)

Children's services performance

Eight of the country's ten best performing local authority children's services are in London according to new figures issued by Ofsted. The ratings look at the performance of local authorities and provide a wide-ranging assessment of all the children's services a council is responsible for, either alone or in partnership with other agencies, and the differences they are making to children's lives.

[Read London Councils' press release for further details.](#)

Publications and resources

Social issues

Monitoring poverty and social exclusion 2009



Another essential resource for policy-makers and those wanting to better understand the challenges ahead in these turbulent finance times. [This annual report](#) and accompanying [concise summary](#) on the state of poverty and social exclusion in the United Kingdom by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the New Policy Institute, cover a wide range of issues, ranging from low income, worklessness and debt, to ill-health, poor education and problems in communities.

The report shows that several key indicators, particularly regarding low income, unemployment and debt, were already getting worse, well before the recession began. Conversely, many indicators have improved, notably in health and education. The report is complemented by [a comprehensive website](#) which provides updates to graphs, more analyses and links to other relevant sites.

Windmill 2009



Published by The King's Fund *Windmill 2009: NHS response to the financial storm*, considers how the NHS can best cope with the approaching period of resource constraint, rising costs and increasing demand fuelled by an ageing population and increasing patient expectations. The findings come from a two-day simulation event, which involved 60 policy-makers, regulators, commissioners, managers, clinicians and patient representatives. The report identifies key themes and recommendations for action in each of these.

Scenario planning to cope with 'the perfect storm' in health services, ie:

- Ageing population
 - Technological advances
 - Government's determination to tackle health inequalities
 - Impact of recession on physical and mental health
 - Rising expectations about standards of health care
 - Size of staffing bill and increases in salaries at the same time as the need for cuts in overall expenditure.
- Recommendations include better grasping of opportunities to work with the private and third sectors.

The report can be downloaded free from the [King's Fund website](#) where hard copies can also be purchased.

Society Now



The periodical 'Society Now' is published three times a year and features articles on topical research undertaken by the UK's leading social scientists with the aim of contributing to better policymaking and, ultimately, a better society.

Archives are available on the [Society Now website](#).

Of particular note, [the summer 2009 edition](#) features a supplement dedicated to the new ESRC Strategic Plan, setting out research challenges ahead over the next five years whilst [the autumn 2009 edition](#) focuses on the December UN Climate Change conference which took place Copenhagen.

Research Digest

The first edition of the Big Lottery Fund's research digest was published in January 2010 and contains a large collection of social policy research from a myriad of funders, government departments and third sector bodies. All reports have been published within the last six months and feature a wide range of topics from supporting disabled young people to shaping wellbeing and resilience through public policy.

[Download the digest.](#)

Environmental issues



Green Up!



Community Development Foundation (CDF) has launched *Green Up! Five ways of working with your council on sustainability: a practical guide for community and voluntary groups*.

Green Up! is a useful resource for community groups which want to work with (or ginger up) their council on issues such as sustainability, energy and the environment. It contains hands-on

examples from groups such as transition towns, civic societies and faith communities and also has tips from community group members successfully working with their council. Green Up! sets out what frameworks councils are currently using, such as Local Area Agreements and Sustainable Community Strategies, and how local groups can link to those, and most importantly, get their own work supported financially and in other ways. It also contains a jargon buster.

Refugees and migrants

Strategy for Refugee Integration

LONDON In December 2009, the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, published *London Enriched*, his long-awaited Strategy for Refugee Integration. It sets out to define and implement a vision for refugee integration in London where refugees live in security and dignity, sharing the same chances as all Londoners for a decent quality of life and the opportunity to contribute to London and its development. The strategy will guide the implementation of this vision over the three-year period from 2009-12.

Migration and community cohesion: community development responses

A new [briefing](#) from the Community Development Foundation outlines the interim findings of work with community development practitioners exploring approaches to building cohesion in areas affected by migration. The briefing highlights the role played by community development workers in responding to tension in communities and also the practice challenges that they face.

Issues examined include:

- How community cohesion can be built in areas with transitory migrant populations
- How community development approaches can bridge language barriers
- The difficulties involved in gaining access to migrants in isolated areas
- The ongoing issue of responding to tensions triggered by negative and inaccurate media reporting
- The effects of the recession on migration and community cohesion.

Policymakers unfamiliar with community development approaches may find this briefing a handy primer on key issues in this challenging area.

Young undocumented migrants

No right to dream is a report commissioned by the Paul Hamlyn Foundation which looks at the social and economic lives of young undocumented migrants in Britain, exploring the ways in which their undocumented status impacts on their life choices.

The research was led by Alice Bloch (Department of Sociology, City University London) and Nando Sigona and Roger Zetter (Refugee Studies Centre, University of Oxford) and provides a window on the social worlds and economic livelihoods of British-based young undocumented migrants from China, Turkey (Kurds), Brazil, Zimbabwe and Ukraine. The report seeks to explore and understand the lives of undocumented migrants and also addresses concerns for those who experience prejudice and harm early in their lives and struggle to realise their potential as a result. It is hoped this research will stimulate debate on how society should respond, and encourage a wide range of organisations to explore ways of helping them. The study was based on in-depth interviews with 75 young people in London, the North West and the Midlands, conducted in late 2008.

Equalities

Cohesion and equality: guidance for funders



A new Equality and Human Rights Commission report, *Cohesion and equality: guidance for funders* provides a carefully written addition to the equality and cohesion debate. Written primarily for public sector funders but with wider relevance, the report provides analysis and ideas on tackling disadvantage and promoting equality alongside work on cohesion. Advice on equality issues for funding single-issue groups is also comprehensively covered.

Unequal Britain

In late January the media headlines were full of statistics about how unequal Britain is, especially compared with other industrialised countries, and with Britain 30 years ago. This was triggered by the latest product of the National Equalities Panel. The [full report](#) (at 500 pages) and even the [main summary](#) (56 pages) may be too detailed for most funders but more digestible is the [six page synopsis](#) by the National Equality Panel. This looks in summary at gender, age, ethnicity and other specific equalities factors, as well as broad aggregates of households.

Collaboration and partnership

New routes to better outcomes

IDEA's Partnerships team has produced a guide evaluating the delivery of public services through local partnerships, eg thinking on the prospects for the current national performance framework following a general election. The guide is in two parts: [Part one](#) looks at progress made since 2004 and makes a case for further central government reform to consolidate the framework around Local Area Agreements (LAAs) and strengthened Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs). [Part two](#), a practitioners' handbook accompanies the publication with information on 20 different approaches and methodologies currently being used by local partnerships in the UK for achieving LAA targets and developing LSP capacity. The handbook will be of particular value to LSP managers and policy or performance leads, and all those at the front line of LAA delivery.

Why and how funders work together



[A new comprehensive guide](#) from GrantCraft, a New York based project of the Ford Foundation, offers insight from US foundation leaders on the advantages and challenges of funder collaboration, for funders and recipients. In depth analysis examines how to start joint ventures and make them succeed, using three examples of funder collaboration. Further, the guide gives recommendations on building strong relationships, including how to structure collaboration to fit its purpose, and how to assess it to ensure its effectiveness.

Clustering Resources

i-Social Entrepreneurs, with support from the Office of the Third Sector, have developed a free workbook on collaboration, *Building your cluster*. The workbook aims to help third sector organisations deliver public sector services and has been designed to help organisations to collaborate, partner, build consortia and work together to deliver public sector contracts.

Commissioning and procurement

A series of publications from ACEVO

- *An Introduction to Commissioning and Tendering*

[This fact sheet](#) from ACEVO is the first publication from the ACEVO Procurement and Commissioning support service which is funded by Big Lottery Fund's BASIS Programme. It serves as a basic introduction to the issues raised by the governmental procurement processes and what this means for the third sector.

- *Really Intelligent Commissioning*

[A second factsheet](#) was written by Hilary Barnard for participants in the Leadership Enhancement Programme for Integrated Youth Support Services. Although the audience was youth services, the key points being made apply equally to other service areas where local authorities and other public bodies commission the third sector.

- *Involving small groups in public service delivery and engaging with procurement and commissioning opportunities*

Completing the trio, [this third factsheet](#) from ACEVO examines the barriers, which make it difficult for smaller third sector organisations to win contracts and get involved in public service delivery. It looks at what actions smaller groups can take to overcome barriers whilst making the most of the opportunities that are open to them.

Pathways through the maze

A joint publication from NAVCA and NCVO, *Pathways through the Maze*, is the first comprehensive guide to procurement regulations written for infrastructure organisations that work with commissioning, procurement and public services; voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises interest or involved in delivering public services and public sector commissioners wanting to improve their engagement with third sector organisations.

Finance and funding

On the Money



This executive report and [discussion guide](#) from US grantmaking membership organisation Grantmakers for Effective Organizations ([GEO](#)) highlights the financial challenges nonprofits face and the ways in which grantmakers are both improving the situation and perpetuating problems.

State Aid in public services

How the State Aid rules impact upon funding for the delivery of Public Services including Services of General Economic Interest, was published in October 2009 by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills and gives useful guidance on the impact of EC legislation on the delivery of public services.

Supportive to the Core

This is the name of a new report from the Institute for Philanthropy subtitled *Why unrestricted funding matters*. Core funding has traditionally been a tricky issue for funders and voluntary organisations alike. Some funders are reluctant to support core costs, seeing project funding as providing more direct benefit whilst some voluntary organisations find it difficult to communicate their core needs. On both sides there can be reluctance against funding, or admitting to, 'overheads' even when these represent essential basics like HR, IT and accounting costs. The report looks at how core support can increase grant potential, addressing the rationale and methodology of good core support. Case studies are offered from the perspective of funder and beneficiary.

Evaluation and monitoring

Emerging trend in evaluation



Breakthroughs in Shared Measurement and Social Impact is a series of reports on nonprofit organisations measuring their performance on common indicators and shared evaluation platforms using web-based systems. Breakthroughs include shared measurement platforms (an agreed-upon set of benchmarks developed by funding organisations and their grantees), comparative performance systems (ways to compare results of between different grantee organizations) and adaptive learning systems (using the leverage of both of those systems to develop strategies and coordinate resources between multiple foundations and grantees).

The reports, which were produced with the support of The William and Flora Hewlett Foundation, highlight 20 examples of social enterprises using these systems and can be downloaded from [the FSG Social Impact Advisors Site](#).

Evaluation in philanthropy: perspectives from the field



A stimulating six-page executive summary from US donor association Grantmakers for Effective Organizations, GEO, on how funders, and their funded organisations, can use evaluation as a learning tool, not simply for accountability.

Access to the executive summary is free but GEO membership is required for the full report. All examples illustrated are US ones but the material is accessibly written and includes pithy examples around specific themes such as:

- How evaluation can achieve continuing improvement and not just evidence of outcomes
- How it can help explain change, beyond describing success and failure
- How evaluation can involve a range of actors and share learning widely
- What the funder can learn, not just from one grant but a cluster or a whole programme
- How failure can be worked hard to provide lessons.

Please note that the topics contained in this report are also much discussed by London Funders' Research and Evaluation Project Group. Obstacles to funder-led learning were a subject of our September 2008 meeting where Kate Hinds' paper to an international conference; 'From performance monitoring to learning management - the identity struggles of a health care funder', was discussed by the group. The project group is always interested in receiving feedback from members on performance monitoring and other evaluation issues, to comment please contact the secretariat.

Recruitment

Promote your vacancy with London Funders – now with added impact

London Funders now has a dedicated section to advertise member vacancies on its website. Email a link for your vacancy to Belinda Dervish at ebulletin@londonfunders.org.uk and it will not only be published in the next available edition of the e-bulletin (subject to vacancy closing dates) but it will also be featured on our homepage. The London Funders e-bulletin currently has over 1,000 sector subscribers and our webpages receive over 800 visits per month.

Association of Charitable Foundations/Philanthropy UK



Information and Membership Communications Officer - £26,000 pa

A key role within ACF which will support communication with their 300+ members by extending the use of a new CRM database and developing the functionality of their three websites. The IMCO will also manage members' enquiries, write and edit contributions for member publications and work with the Deputy Chief Executive to implement ACF's strategy for communication with members.

[Further information and application details](#)

Closing date: 18 February 2010; interview date: 26 February

Content Producer - £26,000 - £28,000 pa

ACF are seeking a Content Producer to generate their wide range of high calibre online and offline publications to the required quality and keep the content and imagery of their websites up to date. Reporting to the Head of Communication and Publications, this role offers the opportunity to work in a stimulating environment in an area of work which has achieved a significant growth in profile and public awareness in recent years.

[Further information and application details](#)

Closing date: 18 February 2010; interview date: 24 February

London Catalyst

Administrator, London - £9,363 pa (part time - permanent)

Reporting to the Director, the candidate will develop and maintain the office systems and management and support the work of the Director and the Board of Trustees as well as dealing with enquiries from potential grant applicants and fulfilling requests for information.

The candidate will assist in a range of activities supporting the Director in routine administration with a focus on keeping accurate records, preparing papers for committees, administering the Charity's annual appeal, and assisting the recording and research of grant applications.

Applications online via <https://www.peabody.org.uk/working-for-peabody/vacancies.aspx>

Closing date: Monday, 1 March 2010.

External events and training

MAD (Make a Difference) Investment Club



Making
Innovation
Flourish

17 February 2010

6 – 8 pm

NESTA, 1 Plough Place, London EC4

The MAD (Make a Difference) Investment Club, a collaboration between Addidi, Big Issue Invest and Bethechange Consulting, will be launched this month. The objective of the Investment Club is to 'leverage member resources to invest in philanthropic investments delivering social and financial returns and art/cultural projects that feed the soul and add to quality of life.' The keynote speaker for this first meeting is Nigel Kershaw OBE of Big Issue Invest.

[Reserve your place.](#)

Europe Enriched: towards a shared vision for migrant integration in European cities, the IV Integrating Cities Conference 2010



22 February 2010

City Hall, London

This conference which will be hosted by the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson, and organised in cooperation with EUROCITIES and the European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security,

will bring together senior politicians, service providers, academics, refugee and migrant community groups and private sector organisations from across Europe to debate the integration of immigrants in urban areas.

The conference is part of the Diversity and Equality in European Cities project co-financed by the European Commission, DG Justice, Freedom and Security through the European Integration Fund. During the conference the European City Charter promoting equalities and integration of migrants will be signed by European Mayors.

[Download a draft programme](#)

Contact to [Integrating cities](#) to request a registration form.

Roma Support Group Conference - Exclusion or Engagement?

25 February 2010

10 am – 5 pm

Stratford Town Hall

A conference to explore best practice in public service provision by and for the Roma refugee and migrant community. The Roma Support Group, working with the Roma community since 1998, will share models of good practice and explore the Roma community's role in shaping and delivering services. This London Empowerment Partnership supported event is free.

For bookings contact: dada@romasupportgroup.org.uk

Stand and Deliver: people, power and politics - bassac Annual Conference

3-4 March 2010

Marriott Renaissance Hotel, Manchester



Future cuts in public spending will make it important for councillors, communities and local authorities to find new ways of working together. This event will look at how leaders and trustees of community and voluntary organisations can work better with local authorities. Visit [bassac's conference page](#) for more details and to book.

How to reach older LGBT communities across London

5 March 2010

9.30 am – 2 pm

King's Cross, London



An Age Concern conference presenting evaluation of the last year of *Opening Doors in Central London*, a project to provide services for older lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals and communities across Camden, Hackney, Islington, Kensington and Chelsea, and Westminster. The success of the project to date has led Age Concern London to commit to working with service users and key stakeholders in developing the model to reach older LGBT people across the whole of the capital.

Keynote speakers include: Jeffrey Weeks, Professor Emeritus of Sociology at London South Bank University, and author of many books on sexuality and LGBT history; and Baroness Barker, Lib Dem spokesperson on health and social care. Workshops will look at current service provision and the gaps across London, review best service delivery methods, and look at who are the key stakeholders and potential funders and commissioners for these services.

Participants welcome from London's voluntary and community sector, potential funders, service users, academics and statutory sector stakeholders. For a booking form and further details, contact Corinna Hyman, phone 020 7837 3777 or email c.hyman@ageconcerncamden.org.uk. Deadline for booking, 19 February.

King's Fund Event on health equality

11 March 2010

9.30 am - 4.15 pm

The King's Fund, London W1

This low-cost conference will focus on measuring and commissioning for equitable health care services. The conference will offer an update on how policy on inequalities and equity is being brought together, and

feature practical examples of how to use routine data to measure inequalities and commission services that are fair and accessible. [Click here for further information and booking details.](#)

London Voluntary Service Council Employment Conference



16 March 2010
9.30 am - 4 pm
The Window, 13 Windsor Street, Islington, London N1 8QG

An event to help trustees, management committee members, chief executives, managers, development workers and advisers implement better HR practice in the voluntary and community sector. [Further information and booking details.](#)

Monitoring – it's child's play

Looking at good practice, best value and approaches to monitoring and evaluation

17 March 2010

9.30 am – 3 pm

Hosted by London Borough of Tower Hamlets in partnership with London Play, with participation from Big Lottery Fund and London Councils. Places are limited and booking fast. To book email events@londonplay.org.uk

2010 London Local Elections Hustings

24 March 2010

2 – 5 pm

Human Rights Action Centre, Amnesty International, EC2

Women's Resource Centre, HEAR (London's network of equalities organisations) and Voluntary Sector Forum are hosting this event as an opportunity for voluntary and community sector organisations (frontline and second tier) to ask questions of representatives of the three main parties and get their voices heard. There will be questions, focused locally, regionally and nationally on the following areas:

- General voluntary and community sector and pan-London issues
- The equalities sectors
- The women's sector

The panellists will be: Cllr Lynne Hillan (Conservative, Barnet); Cllr Nilgun Canver, (Labour, Haringey); Cllr Stephen Knight (Liberal Democrat, Richmond) and the Chair is Emma Scott (Director, Rights of Women)

To book RSVP to ellen@wrc.org.uk (or 020 7324 3047) giving details of any dietary and access requirements. There may be a waiting list so confirmation of a place is essential. If you would like to submit a question to ask the panel, send this with your RSVP.

Open City pre-election hustings

Spring 2010

[Please contact Open House for more details](#)

[Open House](#) is best known for the annual Open House London weekend. Supported by almost all London's boroughs, the event gives nearly 500,000 people first-hand experience of interesting London buildings. Another strand of Open House's work is 'My City Too' which aims to involve young people all over London in the places where they live through greater awareness of how architecture and design influences a sense of ownership and safer communities.

To raise awareness of this broader work Open House will be shortly changing its name to Open City and holding a series of events, including a pre-election 'hustings' with Minister Margaret Hodge and Shadow Ed Vaizey.

Funders and others interested in finding out more can contact Anna Cassidy, opencity@openhouse.org.uk for more details and an invitation to this and other Open City events.