



Working together to strengthen London's voluntary and community sector

London Funders e-bulletin June 2009

Editorial

London Funders – news and activity

Welcome to our early summer e-bulletin. June has been a busy month for London Funders, not least because of our AGM. That is always a great point for review as it asks us to look both back at recent activities and achievements and forward to plans and ambitions for the rest of the year.

We have been delighted to welcome three new members, London Diocese, North West London Community Foundation and the Young Foundation, into London Funders – we are at an all-time high of 91 funders in membership. Our meetings have been growing, as have all our mailing lists. We are pleased that more and more people in each of our member organisations have been signing up to receive our information and invitations to meetings too. While that tells us we must be getting some things right, we are also, of course, always pleased to have feedback and ideas about members' concerns and interests so that we can adapt our programme and plans to be increasingly responsive and relevant.

We want to thank a few people in particular: two of the project groups have new people in the chair. We must thank the two outgoing chairs for a great job done in developing and maintaining strong groups and an interesting programme of meetings. Bharat Mehta (City Parochial Foundation) has left the chair of our Olympics and Paralympics group, though he remains a group member and Stewart Goshawk (The City Bridge Trust) has taken over. Kate Hinds (The King's Fund) will soon hand over the chair of our Research & Evaluation group to Andrew Cooper (The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund). Kate has also stepped down from the Executive Committee and all its members have paid tribute to her thoughtful contribution to their work.

The first half of 2009 was characterised inevitably by London Funders' response to the recession, with our conference in February - *We're all in it together* – and our new recession response website. This focus will continue as long as funders need support and inspiration in tackling these challenging times. Added into the mix in the rest of the year is some in-house improvement as we plan to install a brand new database, not only to make the Secretariat's service to members more efficient, but to get us started on some detailed mapping of our members' funding policies and programmes.

See the next section for meeting plans, a short report on our AGM and other news.

There's a lot of important news in this issue but we would draw London Funders' members' attention to three items in particular:

- Climate change, the environment and sustainable development: a meeting for interested funders on 10 July convened by Clare Thomas (see page 13)
- City Parochial Foundation's London Poverty Profile (see page 5), and
- Up to our neck in it – a report on debt and debt advice in London presented at the London Debt Summit this week (see page 12)

With every good wish,

Gaynor Humphreys and Yvonne Schwartz

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What's going on in London Funders?

AGM

At London Funders' annual meeting on 15 June the business included a report to members on activities and finances in 2008 and members accepted the formal report and accounts (which can be found on our website).

Following a nomination process for five vacancies on the Executive Committee (the Board), four former members were reappointed and we have one new member. The four serving a second three-year term are: Sara Llewellyn, Debbie Pippard, Ian Redding and Alastair Wilson. Our new recruit is Jill Andrews and she received a very warm welcome. Read about her below.

Congratulations to Andrew Budd of GrantScape on winning the iPod Nano which CCLA donated as a prize for the first completed evaluation form/CCLA response form drawn from a very large hat a week after the AGM. Many thanks to CCLA for this way of encouraging feedback.

Jill Andrews has been Operations Director of the Safer London Foundation for the past four years, having previously worked in the City where she successfully managed large complex facilities management contracts in the City and Canary Wharf. As Operations Director she oversees the Foundation's operational management function including grant funding, project management, community engagement and volunteers as well as deputising for the CEO.

Jill is Chair of the Clean and Safe working group on the London 2012 Changing Places Programme. For the past four years she has been Deputy Chair of the Metropolitan Police Service Safer London Problem Solving Awards Committee.

Jill says "I am very pleased to have been invited to join the London Funders Executive Committee. As a grant funder I am particularly interested in the difficulties faced by smaller organisations competing with larger organisations for funding. At Safer London Foundation we are considering new and innovative ways of enabling smaller organisations to compete for funding using new technology".

Jill is the Foundation's lead on monitoring and evaluation and says "I am very keen to look at ways in which the SLF evaluation processes can be made more user friendly whilst still maintaining their effectiveness".

Forthcoming meetings and events 2009

Project Groups

These meetings always include a chance for members to share ideas and updates on the broad topics, and usually include a speaker on an agreed subject as well.

Olympics/Paralympics

Thursday, 27 August starting at 9.30 am, Stratford

Visit to the Olympic stadium and tour of the site. We are very lucky to have been allocated a chance to take a busload of our members on this morning tour as we understand further visits are not being planned. Members of the Olympics Group had the first chance to book and we still have some places. Anyone else interested should email yvonne@londonfunders.org.uk to book a place.

Good Practice in Grantmaking

Wednesday, 2 September, 10 am - 12 noon at London Funders

The meeting will explore aspects of commissioning including the difference between commissioning for good value services and lowest cost ones.

Asylum, Refugee and Migration

Monday, 7 September, 3 - 5 pm at London Funders

The group will review recent work relating to irregular (ie undocumented) migrants. We also hope to catch up with the Greater London Authority's development of migration policy for London.

Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Development

Thursday, 10 September, 2-4 pm at London Funders

Research & Evaluation

Monday, 14 September, 2-4 pm at London Funders

The meeting will include consultation by Jean Ellis, Charities Evaluation Services, as part of her preparation of CES' guidance for funders on monitoring and evaluation of funded groups.

Members' meetings (dates to be confirmed)

September: briefing on developments in the **personalisation** agenda. What do funders need to know about the shift to personal budgets for social care, plans for broader self-directed care, personally-adapted service provision and the whole range of changes that come under the "personalisation" heading? What are the implications for resource allocation and for service providers of all kinds?

November: funders' perspective on **climate change**. The energy consumption of London's communities and businesses is the make or break factor in whether the UK can meet its energy reduction targets. Is there a role for funders in funding for awareness or changed practice in the voluntary and community sector?

The Secretariat would be pleased to hear from members with a particular interest in either of these who would like to help with planning or hosting a meeting.

Other meetings are planned on

- * City Parochial Foundation's recent publication – London's Poverty Profile
- * Big Lottery Fund's evaluation of the impact of its small grants programme: Tuesday, 13 October at Big Lottery Fund's London Regional office, WC1, 9.30-11 am (starting with coffee and buns at 9)
- * Tackling fraud – practical issues raised by members
- * Grassroots Grants: the organisations delivering Grassroots Grants in London will be meeting on Friday, 25 September at 2.30 pm

More information/to make sure you are on mailing lists: yvonne@londonfunders.org.uk, or 020 7255 4488.

The Funding Jigsaw: funding for children and young people in London

Many members helped us with the first edition of this publication last year and it continues to be in demand. Judy Goldsmith has volunteered to bring it right up to date and every Wednesday she is working on this at the Secretariat office. Judy will be pleased to put in it any funding programmes that include or are directed specifically at supporting work by or for children and young people. We hope to publish in mid-July so please contact Judy soon on judy@londonfunders.org.uk with information or questions or ring Yvonne on 020 7255 4488.

To see the old edition click [here](#)

Mapping our members

We also have a volunteer planning to work with us for the whole of August. Doreen Neumann, a graduate looking for job experience to build up her CV, will be with us full-time from 4 August and will be contacting members to build up our information on the scale and nature of their support for the VCS in London and building that into a directory that funders can share.

Member news

Special member feature: City Parochial Foundation

Comprehensive, independent London poverty database

In May, City Parochial Foundation (CPF) and New Policy Institute (NPI) launched a comprehensive, independent and sobering report to illuminate poverty in London. They are providing free access to their online library on poverty, inequality and social exclusion and are keen to see the data widely used.

Bharat Mehta, CPF's chief executive, noted at the launch that the child poverty figures in outer London were "going in the wrong direction" and cast doubt on the government's scope to halve child poverty by 2010 and eliminate it altogether by 2020. "If we do not address London we are not going to address national targets," he said and, "This will be a way for Londoners to hold their representative members to account on what they are doing about poverty."

Although London, viewed as a whole, is one of the nation's wealthiest areas, the report provides evidence of the extent of poverty and the detail of often hidden inequality. It looks at how London compares with other English regions and cities, and the differences between London boroughs. We give below some examples of links to data tables, each with helpful explanations and information on their source and a flavour of the accessibility of the data offered.

For example, the report uses the most up-to-date official statistics to demonstrate:

- London is the most unequal region in England and income is more concentrated at the top than elsewhere. It has the highest proportion of households in the top tenth of incomes nationally, and the highest proportion in the bottom tenth.
- London has the highest rate of income poverty of any region in England. Inner London in particular has the highest rates for all age groups (children, working-age adults and pensioners) after housing costs are taken into account.
- The proportion and number of children in poverty who live in a household where at least one adult works, has risen since the late 1990s. In-work poverty now accounts for almost half of all child poverty in London.
- Rates of poverty vary considerably between London's ethnic groups. Bangladeshi households are three times as likely to be in poverty as Indian or White households. Work rates vary substantially not only by ethnicity, but also (within ethnic groups) by country of birth.

The authors are happy to share good news when they find it - eg

- Educational attainment at both ages 11 and 16 has significantly improved in London since the late 1990s. At age 16 Outer London now has a lower proportion of pupils not attaining five GCSEs than any English region.

But at the launch, even experienced practitioners from the public and voluntary sectors were surprised and shocked by some of the findings

- Although Inner London is worse than any English region on many indicators, it has seen improvements in recent years. However, Outer London has experienced a significant deterioration across a number of indicators since the late 1990s, including child poverty and working-age poverty. More of the capital's low-income population now live in Outer London than Inner London.
- Boroughs in the Inner East & South of the capital fare worse across a range of indicators in comparison with London's other boroughs. This is particularly noticeable for worklessness and ill health. The difference between Inner and Outer London therefore masks a stronger contrast between the Inner East & South and the rest of London.
- The unemployment rate among young adults in both Inner and Outer London was about 20% in the middle years of this decade, more than any other region. Inner London's higher rate has been falling whereas Outer London's slightly lower rate has been rising.
- The proportion of homeless households in London living in temporary accommodation is ten times higher than the national average and five times higher than the English city with the next highest rate.
- The proportion of men who die before the age of 65 is much higher in Inner London than in any other region of England.

The data are available on www.londonpovertyprofile.org.uk where they will be updated and news shared. This website includes an introduction to London and its unique population (Click here for more detail). There is

a set of indicators chosen to test how well London is tackling poverty and inequality: each indicator is a measure of a particular issue related to poverty, against which to measure progress (or deterioration) over time (Click here for more detail). There are also case studies on poverty in London and news updates as the site evolves to incorporate more information.

London's Poverty Profile is available as a printed report.

Arts Council



Arts Council England is delivering a substantial recession hardship fund for the arts.

A £40 million grants programme is offered by the Arts Council for artists and arts organisations struggling as a result of the recession. The Arts Council will be “radically reducing” its Lottery reserves to fund this “Sustain” programme, to which all arts organisations will be able to apply for two-year grants ranging between £75,000 and £3 million. The scheme is designed as a “rapid response” programme and aims to fund successful applicants within six weeks of application.

In addition to this special hardship funding, the Arts Council has received a £4 million increase of Lottery funding for its general grants, so the budget will rise to £56 million in 2010-11.

Responding further to the impact of recession, the Council also released £500,000 into the Town Centres Initiative in which abandoned retail spaces are given over to artists and arts organisations for creative activities. Dame Liz Forgan, chair of the Council, recognises the years of creative and financial investment that go into building successful arts projects and sees its strengthening of Arts Council funding as an essential strategy in maintaining these.

BBC Children in Need

This funder has announced the launch of a new grants programme totalling £3 million, Fun and Friendship, which will focus on disabled young people aged 12-18 years old living in the UK. This is in addition to BBC Children in Need’s general grants.

It was set up following commissioned research revealing a significant lack of opportunity for independent socialising for disabled young people, often leading to feelings of loneliness and isolation. BBC Children in Need is targeting organisations that can provide these opportunities for friendship, and identify and address the barriers disabled young people face as teenagers growing up. They anticipate awarding up to 12 three-year grants of up to £300,000 each to organisations with the infrastructure and experience to support the participation and leadership of disabled young people, and those who are willing to engage and share with the network of Fun and Friendship projects and others in the field of disability.

The deadline for applications is 31 July 2009 for grants from February 2010. Projects can apply online at: www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml

For more information, go to www.bbc.co.uk/pudsey/grants/funandfriendship.shtml or email pudsey@bbc.co.uk

Big Lottery Fund: news of a series of grants programmes

Awards for All

The first grants have been made in London from the new look Awards for All. The programme changed its format on 1 April 2009 so that each lottery distributor could run separate small grants programmes.

Three examples show the range of projects that can be supported through this fund:

- Ahoy Sailing Centre in Greenwich has been awarded £4,176 to run 12 taster days so that people with disabilities have the opportunity to take part in water sports.
- The New Soca Society based in Hammersmith and Fulham will use their grant of £3,480 to hold an event to celebrate carnival history, arts and Caribbean culture.
- Islington group Positively Women received £7,578 to establish specialist support groups targeting women living with HIV who are either parents, lesbian or bisexual, or Caribbean.

Applications for grants between £300 and £10,000 can be accepted at any time from London organisations for projects of community benefit. The programme retains broad eligibility and a straightforward application process. It covers a very wide variety of projects, focusing on four outcomes:

- People have better chances in life, with better access to training and development to improve their life skills
- Stronger communities, with more active citizens, working together to tackle their problems
- Improved rural and urban environments, which communities are better able to enjoy
- Healthier and more active people and communities.

Projects with a specific arts, sport or heritage outcome should be directed to other Lottery funders' small grants programmes: Arts Council England, Sport England or Heritage Lottery Fund.

Changing Spaces

1 Local Food

This £50 million programme is run by the Royal Society of Wildlife Trusts and demand has been so great that after 21 August no new first stage applications will be accepted.

If funders know of any groups interested in this programme, please urge them to react quickly. The deadline for First Stage Applications will be 21 August 2009, which the Society hopes will allow time for well prepared applications to be submitted.

For information, contact the Changing Spaces Advice Line on 0845 367 1671 or email localfood@rswt.org.

2 Ecominds

The Ecominds grant scheme run by mental health charity, Mind, is encouraging applications for small grants (up to £20,000).

3 Access to Nature

There has been disappointing take-up of this programme in London and other funders are encouraged to publicise it. The Abney Park Trust is the first London-based organisation to be awarded a grant. They have over £96,000 for a project called Engaging with Nature in Abney Park, a programme of healthy outdoor activities in the beautiful and historic setting of Abney Park Cemetery, Hackney.

Access to Nature is open to applications until spring 2010 for funding for projects that will inspire Londoners to enjoy and value the wealth of nature and natural spaces in the city.

The scheme is awarding grants of £50,000 to £500,000 and its priority is to fund projects that make a lasting change to communities experiencing social or economic disadvantage or projects that will help people who currently have little contact with nature.

4 Community Spaces

This programme, run by Groundwork UK, has awarded its first round of grants in London, including just under £50,000 to improve community facilities, biodiversity and security in a local park in Tottenham and £20,000 to improve an existing community garden in Shepherds Bush so that local people can better use the space. The programme remains open to community groups that need grants from £10,000 to £49,999 to re-vamp or create a green open space in their neighbourhood.

Other Big Lottery Fund open programmes

As well as Changing Spaces and Awards for All, BIG's Reaching Communities programme remains open. For more information about all BIG programmes visit www.biglotteryfund.org.uk or call 0845 410 2030.

BIG's funding strategy, 2009-15

Big Lottery Fund's new strategy has been unveiled this week, following the Big Thinking consultation in which many funders, other key agencies and members of the public took part. The new Strategic Framework will see an increase in the budgets of some of its most popular funding programmes by around £45 million, including an extra £20 million for the Reaching Communities scheme in England, £7 million for the Basis programme, to increase capacity in the sector, and £5 million for small grants through Awards for All. There is also a pledge to give at least 80 per cent of funds to voluntary and community groups rather than the current 60-70 per cent.

An additional £43 million is to be invested across the UK, including London, to tackle the longer-term effects of the recession on charities and communities. BIG is working closely with stakeholders to determine what form the support will take, but it could include targeted funding for specific services such as debt advice and support to help train increasing numbers of volunteers.

Capacitybuilders

Modernisation Fund

From 1 June to 17 July, frontline organisations with an annual turnover of between £150,000 and £750,000 are invited to apply online for a £1,000 bursary from the Government's Modernisation Fund Grants Programme which is being delivered by Capacitybuilders.

The funding is focused on helping frontline third sector organisations to increase their impact and become more resilient through working more closely with others. It is targeted at third sector organisations engaged in providing services that meet the needs of people and communities affected by the recession.

The £1,000 bursaries available under Phase One of the programme are intended to allow organisations to buy at least two days of advice and support to explore how they can become more resilient and work more closely with others, including through collaboration or merger.

From the autumn, £10,000 grants will be available for organisations which have gone through Phase One of the programme and would like to take further significant steps towards collaboration or merger.

For more information, online applications, and access to other resources and support including an online self assessment tool: <http://capacitybuilders.createsend3.com/t/r/l/tudutk/shkita/r>

CCLA

CCLA Investment Management's short term deposit fund for charities (the Charities Deposit Fund) has seen its balance increase by 10 per cent in the past year to more than £2.5 billion. Its managers say it is successful because it has beaten the Bank of England's official bank rate and offered depositors the security of holding money with a large number of banks.

In the past year, several other social finance organisations, including CAF Bank, Unity Trust Bank and Triodos Bank have also reported large increases in deposits because of a 'flight to safety' and competitive interest rates.

The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund

Winner of Charity Award 2009

The Fund's successful work to support the global cluster munitions campaign resulted in a new international treaty, the Convention on Cluster Munitions, signed by 94 countries in Oslo in December 2008, to ban the use, production and stockpiling of cluster munitions and set new benchmarks for the protection of civilians during and after conflict.

The *Lethal Litter* strategy has won the 2009 Charity Award for grantmaking, with judges describing the Fund's work as "risky and edgy" and "an ambitious project to solve an international problem, which achieved an impressive amount."

Samantha Rennie, Head of Partnerships at the Fund, says "We are delighted to have received this award. It is recognition that ambitious goals and a tactical approach can make a huge difference. And it's a tribute to the hundreds of campaigners who worked closely and cleverly together to ban these weapons. The results will now prevent thousands of people from losing their lives, limbs and livelihoods for generations to come."

For more information about the Fund's work towards the campaign to ban cluster munitions, download a copy of *Local Voices, Global Ban: How small grants to campaigners can contribute to global change*.

See www.charityawards.co.uk/home/index.php for details of other winners at the 2009 Charity Awards.

Insider Knowledge

8 July, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm (followed by a light lunch), at the Fund's office in Waterloo

Jenny Talbot will discuss how the Prison Reform Trust established a comprehensive mapping exercise which reviewed existing responses to the needs of people with learning disabilities caught up in the criminal justice system and resulted in partnership working, with a range of stakeholders including Mencap and KeyRing Living Support Networks, to develop clear proposals for reform.

Places are limited - to reserve a place contact Emily Wilson
[Click here for more information](#)

This is one of a series of talks and discussions through which the Fund disseminates the learning from funded projects and other funders are welcome to attend. They have also published a series of *Insider Knowledge Talk Reports*, which provide a summary of past talks and include vodcasts of current and past grant recipients speaking at the Fund about their work.

To see the talk reports [click here](#)

Futurebuilders England

Social Enterprise Investment Fund 2009-10

Social enterprises which improve the quality of health and social care for local communities can now apply for loans and grants from the Department of Health's Social Enterprise Investment Fund. There is more than £70 million available for new and existing social enterprises over the next three years. Application information from www.dh.gov.uk/seif or 0191 269 2276. The funding application process takes about six weeks.

The fund is being managed by Futurebuilders England and Partnerships UK on behalf of the Department of Health. The two organisations will work closely with the Department of Health's Social Enterprise Unit to support and assess applications. Futurebuilders is offering additional support to applicants to assist with improving management and use of funding.

Other new services

Merge-maker is an online match-making service for voluntary organisations considering working together through merger, collaboration or forming consortia. Interested organisations will be displayed on their website.

There is also a pilot consortium to bring together a range of voluntary organisations to share core services such as bid writing, financial modelling, contract negotiation and performance management around bidding for public sector contracts in the fields of welfare reform, education and training, and health and social care. They are still looking for organisations with interest and expertise in contracting and service delivery to join the management and delivery arm of this consortium.

Greater London Authority

The London Strategic Migration Partnership (LSMP) has been constituted under the chairmanship of Deputy Mayor, Richard Barnes. It is the successor to the Board for Refugee Integration in London (BRIL), which was established in 2006. LSMP extends the Mayor's work on refugee integration to all migrants, in agreement with the United Kingdom Border Agency. It offers an opportunity to better co-ordinate services for all of London's migrants. It also allows London to put forward its strategic migration needs to national government.

The LSMP membership has been extended to include representatives from business and trade unions. The extension offers London the opportunity to develop co-ordinated views and action on the city's migrant needs. The Migrant and Refugee Advisory Panel (MRAP) has also been formed as a panel of 22 members from refugee, migrant and asylum seeking communities.

London Borough of Sutton

Independent Advice Services Consultation

Tuesday, 30 June, 12.30 - 3.30 pm, Upper Hall in the Salvation Army, Benhill Road.

Sutton Council is holding this timely consultation event to explore the future of independent advice services in the borough, looking at the range of advice currently available in Sutton and any gaps in provision. They have invited national agencies to discuss the national factors including drive towards "gateway services", officers from across the council to feed into discussion on local authority provision and service users to give an insight into their experience. Charlene Quinn and Karen Peck invite other interested funders to share their experience at this event - charlene.quinn@sutton.gov.uk or karen.peck@sutton.gov.uk or 0208 770 5157/ 4330.

London Councils

A "whizzy" new Grants Directory covers all of London Councils' grants and services commissioned from the voluntary sector, representing £28 million a year of investment from the boroughs which fund over 300 voluntary organisations for multi-borough work. The directory is accessible and easy to browse, eg

- by commissioning themes - grants are awarded for 69 priority areas (services) across 12 commissioning themes, eg Children & Young People, Crime Reduction.
- by borough - details of the organisations funded by name of the London borough.

There is also a facility to use a search engine to produce individual reports.

The directory is available on their website at www.grants.londoncouncils.gov.uk/

New Philanthropy Capital

NPC's most recent research reports are:

Board matters, which has generated a lot of interest within the sector, and has been featured in the Financial Times and The Guardian. The report questions the strength of trustee boards in the charity sector, and argues that recruitment, training and evaluation of board members is frequently neglected because charities and funders do not make governance a priority. The report highlights a number of improvements that could help to strengthen trusteeship, including better recruitment and more emphasis on diversity among board members; better trustee induction and increased opportunities for trustees to learn from each other; and a stronger focus on boards evaluating their own performance.

What place for mergers between charities? argues that by bringing together organisations with similar missions, mergers can improve existing services, create benefit and save money. But they are also risky - if not done well they can destroy value. Among points made in the report is the suggestion that mergers are not very common, particularly among larger organisations, as "merger" is a taboo subject in the charitable sector, implying aggressive and predatory behaviour. Most mergers between charities still seem to occur in response to crisis rather than an explicit desire to further charitable purposes - this is ascribed to the culture, structure of control, and personal passion invested in charities by their staff which all tend to favour the status quo. NPC argues that better information and analysis would help trustees and managers to make better decisions and also that it should be part of a trustee's role to consider whether a merger is a way to fulfil charitable purposes more effectively.

Rosa UK, City Parochial Foundation and Esmée Fairbairn Foundation

A new collaborative initiative has been announced by these three organisations to strengthen community-based prevention work on female genital mutilation (FGM) in the UK. Funding will be available for up to three years to develop work within communities which practise FGM. All three funders agree that one of the most effective ways of tackling FGM in the UK is by investing in community organisations based within practising

communities, in particular, women's organisations. Applications are therefore invited to develop a programme of work with young people, parents, faith leaders, and/or the wider community to raise awareness about this harmful practice and to empower communities to refuse the practice of FGM.

Detailed information about this initiative from the three funders' websites:

City Parochial Foundation
Esmée Fairbairn Foundation
Rosa UK

Safer London Foundation

The Safer London Foundation Volunteer Award has been created to recognise an outstanding volunteer in the fields of reducing or preventing crime or fear of crime, or supporting victims of crime. The winner of the inaugural award, Janis Wharton from Spires Streetlink, was announced at an event in early June. For more information: www.saferlondonfoundation.org/index.php?p=volaward.

Sport England

Two new funds

The Innovation Fund to support ground-breaking projects that will increase sporting opportunities and participation. Around £5 million will be available to local sports clubs, community groups, local authorities and social enterprises, which can each bid for up to £500,000. Applications to be submitted by 10 August 2009.

Sustainable Facilities Fund, aimed to back partnership projects that will produce modern, new facilities which generate long-term benefit. Round 1 closes on 30 June 2009 but a second round will be run this year.

For more information [click here](#)

Recession response

London Funders website section on recession response

This is a dedicated section of our website to assist funders in developing their own strategies to cope with the current challenges and to offer resources that could be useful for funded organisations and applicants. Please take a look (click on the clouds icon on www.londonfunders.org.uk) and give us feedback and make any suggestions about ways we can keep the site useful: comments and material to Yvonne@londonfunders.org.uk or 020 7255 4488.

London Debt Summit

This event at City Hall on 22 June, led by Capitalise, the alliance led by Toynbee Hall of 17 independent advice services around London, was an opportunity to share up to date information on the increasing severity and urgency of debt among families, individuals and small businesses in London, and to understand the pressures on debt advice services. London Funders will share a report of the event soon but meanwhile we are pleased to share the very good news that the Greater London Authority made a commitment at the Summit to coordinate key agencies over the next 18 months to develop a London Debt Strategy.

The Capitalise agencies and Citizens Advice collaborated to produce, for the first time, combined data on the demand for their services around London and *Up to our neck in it* is a mine of information on the nature of current debt problems, including borough breakdowns, and a sense of the increasing complexity of debt, the increasing harshness of debt collection processes and the extent of financial exclusion in London. To see the report click [here](#)

Campaign for Community Reinvestment

Urban Forum is calling for community reinvestment, a new system of banking with a clear social purpose, and a Community Reinvestment Act to tackle discrimination in financial services and provide resources to benefit communities. Their argument is that this will ensure that public money invested in the banking sector will work for public benefit.

For more details and find out about their campaign: [Urban Forum website](#).

Impact of the recession on the BAME third sector

MiNet has recently received funding to ensure that the findings from its *Impact of the Recession* project are used to inform and influence London's BAME infrastructure organisations and other third sector organisations, London's funders, policymakers and decision-makers. MiNet is offering an event on 30 June (see the events page in this e-bulletin) to raise awareness of the recession on London's BAME organisations. For more information on MiNet's work contact Anthony@rota.org.uk.

www.navca.org.uk/recession is a set of dedicated web pages for local infrastructure organisations to be better prepared to support their local third sector avoid the worst aspects of the recession. The pages include a collection of the best available resources from a range of sources. The site also directs people to the support NAVCA is providing, such as Support Grants and assistance to produce Local Resilience Action Plans.

External news

Climate change, the environment and sustainable development - new third sector task force

Environment Secretary Hilary Benn recently announced a 16-member task force to develop a vision for third sector action on climate change that will enable rapid acceleration of activity to meet the urgent challenge. Stephen Hale of Green Alliance, the voluntary sector chair of the task force, says "a dramatic increase in the quality and quantity of activity is needed if we are to succeed in shifting attitudes and commitment in the longer term".

Green Alliance and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) are acting as the secretariat for the task force and it includes high level representation of DEFRA, DECC and the Office of the Third Sector. At its second meeting, on 15 June, the task force agreed to examine issues including green procurement and environmentally friendly service delivery.

The task force is being asked to hold six meetings and to report in October. Clare Thomas, Chief Grants Officer of The City Bridge Trust is one of the members. Clare says: "The funding community is uniquely positioned to advance this agenda, by raising awareness in the sector and by influencing the scale, breadth and quality of the third sector's work on climate change, and embrace social and environmental justice as intrinsic to its core mission."

Clare is organising a meeting for interested funders, on **10 July from 2–4 pm, at the Guildhall**. For more information and an invitation, contact Claire Borthwick.

More information on the NCVO Task Force web page or contact Belinda Pratten, Head of Policy, NCVO, belinda.pratten@ncvo-vol.org.uk or 020 7520 2558.

Future Jobs Fund

This Fund worth £1 billion opened in May. Local authorities and voluntary organisations are invited to bid (partnership bids preferred) to create around 150,000 new jobs for young people and jobseekers in deprived communities. For details click [here](#).

The overall cost of each bid should not exceed £6,500 per job created (including any administrative costs) but this can be supplemented by funding from other sources. Preferred bids will demonstrate the potential to lead to sustainable employment; include proposals for training to develop an individual's skills; contribute to the creation of a significant number of new green jobs; and provide value for money and/or include additional funding from other sources.

The bidding process has opened and initial bids are expected later in the summer. DWP assumes that funding will be awarded from this autumn on a rolling basis until spring 2011. For more information, email future.jobsfund@dwp.gsi.gov.uk and keep checking the DWP website at www.dwp.gov.uk/futurejobsfund where regular updates are promised.

Barclays to match Modernisation Fund lending

Barclays Commercial Bank is committing £9.5 million to match the allocation of the government's Modernisation Fund being delivered through Futurebuilders England. The Fund was set up by government to help voluntary sector organisations better withstand the recession and be able to continue to provide services to those people worst affected by it. The £16.5 million fund, comprising loans and grants, was announced as part of the government's £42.5 million sector action plan published in February. Delivery of the fund is being shared between Capacitybuilders and Futurebuilders, with the former handling grants to smaller organisations and Futurebuilders administering loans for larger bodies.

Barclays will work with Futurebuilders, on a case-by-case basis, to provide additional loans where charities require more than the Modernisation Fund's £500,000 loan limit. The bank will also offer professional support on how best to structure finances.

For more information see www.modernisationfund.org.uk or call 0191 269 2277.

Developments in Skills -Third Sector

Jane Slowey, chief executive of the Foyer Federation, has been named as chair of the new cross-sector skills body for voluntary organisations, taking over from interim chair Dame Mary Marsh in July. Its Interim Project Director is Janet Fleming, formerly responsible for NCVO's Workforce Hub.

There was a lot of pressure for a long time in the third sector for coordinated workforce development. This skills sector body will identify and address skills gaps and shortages for the whole range of third sector organisations. It will pull together the work of relevant sector skills councils to open up learning opportunities for third sector paid and voluntary staff and will have a role on behalf of the sector in the design and development of National Occupational Standards, Design Apprenticeship Frameworks and Sector Qualification Strategies.

It is funded by the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills and the Office of the Third Sector at £2.5 million for its first three years. For more information see: www.focusonskills.co.uk/about-us.asp

Compact Awards 2009

Nominations are invited for the following categories in the annual search for good practice in use of the Compact at both local and national level:

- Local Compact of the Year
- Compact Champion of the Year
- Compact Award for Innovation
- Compact Award for Excellence at a National Level
- The Commissioner's Award

The closing date for entries is Friday, 21 August.

The Compact has been in existence for ten years and sets out shared commitments and guidelines for working between government and the voluntary and community sector. The Awards are organised by the Commission for the Compact in partnership with Compact Voice and the Office of the Third Sector. An online entry form can be found on the Compact Awards website.

Finalists will be notified in early October and the winners will be announced at an awards ceremony in London on 3 November during Compact Week.

Compact Awards specifically for London will also be run again this year – look out for announcements soon.

The Big Lunch

The Eden Project is promoting local events all over the country to encourage community-building and neighbourliness and promote ideas around eating home-grown or locally produced food as well as creating street music, art and theatre and storytelling.

They are encouraging organisers to come forward to plan a lunch party on Sunday, 19 July where people will sit down to lunch with their neighbours, in the middle of their street or small locality.

It is backed by MasterCard, EDF, Royal Mail (currently all postmarks are promoting the event), and the Post Office. For more information, see The Big Lunch website, or email lizzie.jeans@thebiglunch.com

Publications and resources

An earned regularisation of irregular migrants to the UK?

The Mayor has helped to keep the position of irregular migrants (a term that covers a variety of undocumented migrants) in the public eye and encourage a positive debate about the value of regularising a proportion of the assumed 442,000 living in London. GLA Economics commissioned the London School of Economics to research the potential economic impact of allowing those with an irregular status to become regularised based on two criteria – residency in the UK of at least five years and no serious criminal record – and the report has now been published.

The findings of the study show that regularisation, by enabling a greater proportion of irregular residents to work and to make better use of their human capital, brings potential benefits of an additional £3 billion per annum to GDP. Furthermore the UK could receive £846 million per annum in additional tax revenue. For London this could be additional tax revenue of around £596 million.

This can be compared with a possible increase in public service costs of £410 million per annum. If the regularisation scheme enabled access to welfare benefits and housing then costs could be around £1 billion per annum. The figures for London on a similar basis are around £240 million for public service costs; £713 million when including welfare costs. There would also be a one-off cost of the regularisation scheme and administration of £300 million. The exact costs and benefits will vary depending on the final design of the scheme and the report usefully summarises the experiences of other countries' regularisation programme design and impacts.

To download the full report click [here](#)

To download the summary of the report click [here](#)

For further information contact GLA Economics

This research is a very helpful contribution to a complex subject and interested funders are encouraged to come to the next Asylum, Refugee and Migration project group meeting (7 September, see page 3).

Migrants Rights Network launched their briefing paper *Irregular Migrants: the urgent need for a new approach* at the House of Commons on 2 June. The briefing was written by Migration Work and Migrants Rights Network, and funded by City Parochial Foundation. The launch event was hosted by Jon Cruddas MP and included speakers from Kanlungan (a Filipino Migrant organisation) and Nicola Smith from the TUC.

To download the summary click [here](#)

To download the full booklet click [here](#)

Guide to Social Return on Investment (SROI)

The guide advises organisations how to illustrate their impact to procurers, service users and investors, as well as government and the wider public, beyond the financial bottom line. Work on the guide was led by the SROI Network and is being delivered by a consortium of organisations that includes the New Economics Foundation, Charities Evaluation Services, NCVO and New Philanthropy Capital. The guide is part of a three-year programme, *Measuring Social Value*, funded by the Office of the Third Sector. It aims to standardise the approach to SROI and encourage its wider use by making it more accessible and more cost effective for organisations and more attractive to investors, funders and commissioners.

To download the guide click [here](#)

For further information see their website

Making the most of the Comprehensive Area Assessment

The Office of the Third Sector has published a short briefing on the key elements of the Comprehensive Area Assessment and its relevance to the third sector. Comprehensive Area Assessment: Briefing for the third sector sets out how the third sector can engage with the process locally and use the CAA to hold local government to account).

See also the OTS press release that accompanied its publication

NI 7 and National Survey of Third Sector Organisations

The new performance framework for local government includes National Indicator 7 (NI 7) which measures the environment for a thriving third sector in local authority areas. The Office of the Third Sector has published the results of its National Survey of Third Sector Organisations intended to provide baseline information from which to judge the performance of all local authorities and their partners in relation to NI 7. It confirms that only through joint work with voluntary and community organisations will local authorities see improvements in this indicator.

The headline results from the survey are at www.nstso.com/results/ and detailed analysis can be found at www.nstso.com/analysis/

For more information on the local government performance framework see Communities and Local Government's website www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/performanceframeworkpartnerships/

Communicating for Impact

This new GrantCraft guide, available by download, looks at how communications add impact to grantmaking and how grantmaking staff can use communications strategies to support their grant recipients. It is written for a US audience but could be a good source of ideas for UK funders.

This guide draws on experience in a wide range of foundations and programmes and also from communications professionals and it is aimed both at strengthening existing practice and encouraging those who may be still timid about the topic of communications and related technology.

The publication includes:

- integrating a communications lens into grantmaking strategy
- new media and bottom-up communications
- using the funder's voice.

To register for a free copy click [here](#)

For more information see www.grantcraft.org

Foundation diversity policies and practices toolkit

California Endowment is a health foundation that provides grants to community-based organisations throughout California. They published this toolkit in May. It is a collection of policies and documents of their own and from other foundations, to show how foundations aim to enhance their engagement with issues of diversity, equity, and social justice through policy statements, governance and workforce, grantmaking, contracting with consultants, and investments. Worth a look to spark ideas:

www.calendow.org/uploadedFiles/Publications/Other/Philanthropy/Online%20Diversity%20Toolkit.pdf

Predicting birth rates

London's birth rates are influenced by several factors and notoriously hard to predict when planning services such as properly resourced nursery, primary and secondary education, wider children's services, or making the case for changed funding allocation. Many London children have already felt the impact of school closure programmes, based on unsatisfactory figures and poor forecasting.

London has always seen very sharp changes in trends of births, and correspondingly large swings in the number of births. In 2006 120,600 babies were born – 46 per cent higher than 30 years before. The London Health Observatory (LHO) says that if the trend since 2001 continues, there could be 4,000 more babies every year in London – an average increase of 2.9 per cent over ten years. It is unclear, however, what the impact of the current economic climate will have on people's decisions about when - or if - to have children, including the effect of many migrants returning home as work dries up in London. The London boroughs have a serious challenge ahead in making sense of this and the LHO is arguing the importance of getting a better picture of birth patterns borough-by-borough if local authorities are to put resources where they are really needed, and for the NHS to commission health care to meet local needs. This needs a system of better data and birth trends, and regular review of assumptions.

[For the executive summary click here](#)
[For the technical report click here](#)
[For further information click here](#)

Ethnicity and child poverty

This report by the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) aims to develop the evidence base on ethnicity and child poverty and draws on a range of data sources to present a variety of poverty-related indicators - including income poverty, poverty persistence, material deprivation, and worklessness - for children and families from different ethnic groups. The child poverty rates observed for most ethnic minority groups are higher than the national average; the report uses regression analysis techniques to examine whether this is due to increased levels of poverty risk factors amongst families from these groups, or whether it requires further explanation.

The research was carried out by Lucinda Platt of the Institute for Social and Economic Research, University of Essex. It uses data from the Family Resources Survey and Households Below Average Income dataset, the Millennium Cohort Study, the Office for National Statistics Longitudinal Study, and the Labour Force Survey. A feasibility study is being published alongside the report as a DWP working paper (DWP Working paper No. 69, Ethnicity and Child Poverty Feasibility Study) which provides additional detail on the data sources used and the rationale for the research.

To download the report see [click here](#)
For more information www.dwp.gov.uk or 0203 267 5130

Report published on central government spending on the voluntary and community sector

The Government has published a report on central government departments' spending on the voluntary and community sector during 2004-5 and 2005-6.

The report is the latest in a long standing series carried out by the Charities Aid Foundation. The estimates are based on responses to surveys of central and local government departments, and are the best available estimates of government expenditure on the sector. The report indicates that Central government spending on voluntary and community organisations other than housing association increased in both 2004-5 and 2005-6.

The findings include:

- Overall, central government spending on the VCS remained unchanged in 2004-5, but increased substantially in 2005-6, from £4,998 million to £5,408 million (including housing associations).
- Central government spending on voluntary and community organisations other than housing association increased in both 2004-5 and 2005-6.
- In both 2004-5 and 2005-6, there were differences in the reported spending per capita among the various standard regions in England, with greater spending in London and less in South West England.

To download a full copy of the report [click here](#)

Valuing Performance: Making the case for investing in performance management

Based on research carried out with local infrastructure organisations during winter 2008-9, this publication is designed to make the case for investment in performance management. Included are a number of short case studies or articles to illustrate their views and commitment to performance management.

To download the publication [click here](#)

The Association of Nonprofit Analysts

Valuing impact: Building an Association of Nonprofit Analysts: in May, New Philanthropy Capital and the Bertelsmann Foundation held this conference in London. The event brought together professionals from a range of fields to discuss the subject of nonprofit analysis and explore the possibility of creating an Association

of Nonprofit Analysts as an international organisation made up of individuals and organisations interested in the analysis of nonprofits, including grantmakers, venture philanthropists, philanthropic advisors, social impact consultants and academics. Benefits debated were that it would help to promote nonprofit analysis as a legitimate and recognised activity and improve the sector, by encouraging better standards and frameworks about the performance of nonprofits.

To see the full report click [here](#)

New Philanthropy Capital

For NPC's recently launched research reports on charity governance and on mergers in the charity sector, see the members section of this e-bulletin.

Keeping it Legal

The latest edition of Social Enterprise Coalition's guide to legal forms for social enterprise (second edition) is co-authored by Bates Wells and Braithwaite and supported by Social Enterprise London. It covers the necessary issues for setting the rules and regulations to govern a social enterprise. Written for readers with little knowledge of legal forms, it aims to cover the major questions likely to arise as an organisation is developed and it gives information on all the legal forms available to social enterprises.

For a copy to download click [here](#)

For more information and to buy a hard copy click [here](#)

Recruitment

School for Social Entrepreneurs

- 1) PA to CEO/Office Administrator, full time, salary: £23,750 p.a.
 - 2) Programme Officer, full time, salary: £25,722 p.a.
 - 3) Sustainability Officer, full time, salary: £29,288 p.a.
- All London based and all salaries offer 5% pension contribution

Job description/person specification: www.sse.org.uk or from 020 8981 0300 or sse.admin@sse.org.uk

Closing date for applications: Thursday, 16 July 2009, 5 pm

Interviews: Thursday 23 July and Friday 24 July

External events and training

London's BAME Third Sector: Managing the Economic Downturn

30 June 2009, 09:30 - 16:30, NCVO, All Saints Street, N1

MiNet will present the findings and recommendations from its research on the impact the economic downturn is having, and the different methods London's BAME VCS have adopted to manage the changing environment. The event is aimed at funders, decision-makers, policymakers, BAME infrastructure organisations and mainstream infrastructure bodies to come together to hear and discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by the recession. Speakers include Lisa Greensill, Communities and Third Sector Team Leader, Government Office for London and Ian Redding, Head of Grants, London Councils. Workshop facilitators will be Sona Mahtani, Chief Executive Selby Trust and Terrence Simmons, Project Manager, Croydon BME Forum.

To register for a place: www.rota.org.uk/pages/ROTAEvents.aspx.

This event is free for VCS; £55 for public and private sector. For more information: anthony@rota.org.uk.

Allowed to Remain! but... Allowed to Belong?

Wednesday, 1 July, 9.30 - 3.30, Ealing Town Hall

This conference organised by REAP will bring individual refugees together to discuss how they feel about their daily lives and how they see their future chances to rebuild fulfilling lives in the UK, linking that to the political social economic environment they live in and looking directly at what refugees/REAP/others can actually do to create situations that mean refugees feel a growing sense of belonging.

For further information to book contact sarah@reap.org.uk

Access to Islamic Finance

13 July 2009, British Library Conference Centre, London WC1

Conference, organised by the Institute of Islamic Banking & Insurance, GK Partners, and the British Library, to look at improving Islamic financial investment in UK businesses including ethical and social enterprises. Case studies on business access to Islamic finance Discussion and seminars to include the challenges of investing in small and medium enterprises; legal structures of Islamic equity and debt finance; requirements of Shariah-compliant business plans; how to help clients access funds from Islamic finance institutions; and models for improving Islamic investment in the UK social economy.

£430 plus VAT for the public and commercial sectors; £345 plus VAT for the charity and voluntary sectors
For more information: A2IF website or contact bookings@a2if.org, dmorris@gkpartners.co.uk or dmaalo@gkpartners.co.uk