



Working together to strengthen London's voluntary and community sector

London Funders e-bulletin June 2010

Editorial

Dear Colleague

This e-bulletin is being prepared as the London Funders' Secretariat gets ready for the **AGM** to be held on Tuesday, 15 June. We expect a record number of member organisations represented and a good throng of members and friends coming to hear an exceptional commentator and analyst of London, **Tony Travers**. With the Coalition Government comes radical change in approach to service delivery and relations with the voluntary and community sector, as well as a commitment to considerable public expenditure cuts: our discussion at the AGM will help funders identify the opportunities and challenges in all this change. We will look too at the implications for London of change already under way – the abolition of the Government Office for London by the end of the year, and the decision not to appoint a Minister for London.

Save the date: we are planning a day event to follow up our conference on the recession last year. It will be at Mercers' Hall on **Monday, 13 September**. London Funders will be inviting members to come together to review the state of London's voluntary and community sector funding from the funders' perspective, and share with key third sector organisations their analysis of the impact of the downturn and its aftermath on London's communities. Full details to follow.

London Funders to join the Mayor's London Strategic Migration Partnership. We have received an invitation from Deputy Mayor of London Richard Barnes for London Funders to have a Board place on the Mayor's London Strategic Migration Partnership. We are pleased that Mubin Haq, Director of Policy and Grants, City Parochial Foundation, and a member of London Funders' Executive Committee, will be our representative on this Board. Mubin is hoping that a few other funders with an interest in this field will support him by acting as an informal "reference group", thus ensuring that in his contributions to LSMP meetings he can reflect the experience and views of a broad range of funders. Please contact the Secretariat if you would be interested in supporting Mubin in this way.

Homelessness – and especially single homelessness in inner London. Our colleagues in our newest member, The Westminster Foundation, want to deepen their understanding of these issues and ensure the most effective response. They are in touch with a number of the agencies working with homeless people in London, and would be very interested to talk to other funders currently supporting this field, or considering doing so. How well do we understand the issues? What does funders' experience identify as effective support and solutions? Which service delivery organisations should we consult? Please contact gaynor@londonfunders.org.uk if you would be interested in sharing your knowledge and experience, to raise specific questions, or to meet other funders in an exploratory discussion.

A new feature in the e-bulletin – **member focus**: we hope that you are pleased that we are now featuring in each e-bulletin a short interview with our new members and highlighting in a special feature some current work amongst our longer-standing members. In this issue we welcome three new members and also share the achievements and plans of the Mayor's Fund for London as it publishes its first annual report. Feedback and further ideas for this section would be especially welcome.

We hope you will find this issue of the e-bulletin useful. As you dip into it, please note in particular:

- Two sub-regional meetings we are holding in conjunction with MiNet to bring funders and BAME organisations together to explore funding issues in what we hope will be open and constructive discussions. For details see page 2.
- An invitation from the Baring Foundation to a seminar on the programmes they have been funding in the field of climate change: there is a lot to learn from this group of projects and any funders interested in how to support better environmental practice and higher awareness of the issues are invited to this event on 16 June. See page 21 for details.

With all best wishes

Gaynor Humphreys and Yvonne Schwartz

Contents

What's going on in London Funders?	page 2
Member focus	
• Community Development Foundation	page 4
• Tellus Mater	page 5
• The Westminster Foundation	page 6
• The Mayor's Fund for London	page 7
Member news	
• bassac	page 8
• Big Lottery Fund	page 8
• Capital Community Foundation	page 9
• Charity Bank	page 9
• Community Development Foundation	page 9
• Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales	page 9
• London Catalyst and Church Urban Fund	page 9
• London Councils	page 10
• London Development Agency	page 10
• Media Trust	page 10
• New Philanthropy Capital	page 10
• Pilotlight	page 10
• UnLtd	page 11
Recession response	page 12
External news	
• Government news	page 13
• Sector news	page 13
• Resources	page 14
• New sector appointments	page 15
Publications and resources	page 16
Research and consultations	page 19
Recruitment	page 21
External events and training	page 21

What's going on in London Funders?

BAME organisations and the recession

East London sub-regional discussion

29 June, 2-5 pm

Gloucester Room, Central Library, Clements Road, Ilford

North London sub-regional discussion

15 July, 2-5 pm

Haringey Council Chamber, Civic Centre, High Road, London N22

London Funders and MiNet would like to invite funders to join a small group for some informed and frank discussion to look at specific and immediate issues around the recession for local authorities, other funders and the BAME third sector. We will explore some of the emerging problems as a result of changes in public spending and drill down to some of the specific areas where particular groups are at risk. We very much hope that funders interested in specific areas of London will be part of these discussions.

To book, email 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.

Unless otherwise stated, all meetings are from 10 am to 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

10 September

Main topic: Volunteering

Further date

Wednesday, 24 November

Research and evaluation

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

27 September

Speakers: Steve Browning, Evaluation and Research Analyst, Big Lottery Fund; and Billy Dann, UK Mental Health Grants Programme Manager, Comic Relief

Further date

Tuesday, 14 December

Other meetings

London Funders: AGM and members meeting

Tuesday, 15 June, 2.15 pm (lunch from 1.30 pm)

City Marketing Suite, London EC2

Our AGM is coming up and alongside the formal business we plan a discussion on the impact of the elections on funders and the third sector in London. We are very fortunate to have as our main contributor to this discussion Tony Travers, Director of LSE London. He will share his take on the implications of the recent elections (local and national) for London's funders and for the voluntary and community sector. There will be plenty of time to debate these with funder colleagues before we conclude the afternoon with a drinks reception. Booking essential (find the form on www.londonfunders.org.uk): all members welcome and we have a few places left.

For more information/to make sure you are on mailing lists please contact: yvonne@londonfunders.org.uk, or ring: 020 7255 4488.

New material on London Funders' website

External reports

London Funders has begun storing the publications featured in our e-bulletin into a new external reports section of the website. Publications are sorted by topic area with most recent reports listed first. Please bookmark: [London Funders/External reports](#) for future reference.

Snapshot of how the recession is affecting funders and their funded groups

The results of a short electronic survey of London Funders' members reflect the diversity of funders. Public sector funders assume resources will decrease considerably over the next few years, though still uncertain about the scale of cuts. Other funders are more confident about keeping or increasing their resources but many are coping with higher demand and tough choices on how best to distribute funds.

The report covers:

- funders' expectations of their own resources in the short term
- their take on the pressures on the sector, including rising demand for services, risks to vulnerable and marginalised groups, the impact of uncertainty on funding and staffing
- their strategies in dealing with these and assisting the VCS to cope.

Examples, quotes and tactics are included. London Funders is committed to keeping this updated and sharing with funders the best practice we find, as our members look for ways of best supporting the VCS. We hope to draw some case studies out of this material and will be pleased to hear from any members wanting to add to its findings: please email [Gaynor](#) or ring 020 7255 4489.

Download: [*The recession - A snapshot of responses from funders*](#)

Member focus

This month we bring you a packed member focus feature with interviews from three new members: the Community Development Foundation, Tellus Mater and The Westminster Foundation. We also take a look at funding delivered by the Mayor's Fund for London.

Community Development Foundation – meeting community need in turbulent economic times

The Community Development Foundation (CDF) is a leading source of intelligence, guidance and delivery on community development in England and throughout the UK. Their vision is for an inclusive and just society and they work to lead community development analysis and strategy in order to empower people to influence decisions that affect their lives. CDF is a non-departmental public body (NDPB) and a registered charity supported by Communities and Local Government. We spoke to Deputy Chief Executive, Debbie Ladds, about making a difference to communities through grassroots funding, funding "smarter" in the current economic climate and the community development approach to grantmaking.

London Funders (LF): Welcome to London Funders, Debbie. Please tell us what makes CDF unique as an organisation / NDPB?

Debbie: CDF are leaders in community development strategy and delivery. We manage programmes that fund projects in our communities, carry out research into what works, and use that to improve policy and practice. As a charity and a public body, we have a unique partnership with both government and those making change on the ground. We strengthen local voices, help shape communities and change lives. We have enabled people to influence the decisions that affect their lives for over 40 years. Our work focuses on creating engaged, cohesive and strong communities.

LF: As Deputy Chief Executive what do you enjoy most about your role?

Debbie: The chance to help make a real difference in communities, on issues that matter to them through our influencing and delivery roles. For example, through the development of our programmes or advice to central government about policy initiatives, I have the opportunity to make a difference to how community development is seen by key decision makers.

LF: Is there one particular project you have supported in recent years that stands out for you?

Debbie: There isn't one specific project because we have funded so many groups but in our Grassroots Grants programme, funded by the Office for Civil Society, data from the programme show that 39% of groups supported had never had grant funding before, and 78% had no paid workers at all. Giving a small grant to these "under the radar" groups makes a real difference to life in their community – 75% of these recipients exist to meet a specific need in their local community, and 76% of all groups reported that the modest grants had made a "very large" difference to their activities (and a further 19% said "large").

LF: What are your key challenges in the funding work that you do?

Debbie: As an organisation that manages Government funding programmes, we are fully aware of the economic downturn, with less grant funding available to voluntary and community groups. This challenge actually creates an even greater need to engage and empower individuals and communities, helping them to limit the impacts of the recession and to ensure efficient and fair distribution of resources. We encourage communities and the public sector to work together to identify solutions to meet community needs – it's more vital than ever that community development is resourced, so that those communities have a voice and the ability to shape their own lives.

LF: What are your primary reasons for joining London Funders and what do you hope to get out of your membership?

Debbie: We are happy to support local funders, to share best practice, evidence and networks. Via our programmes, we have a wealth of experience, research and evidence that we are happy to share, and via London Funders we are keen to hear from others about their approaches and work.

LF: Finally, what can CDF offer to other members?

Debbie: We champion what we call a "community development approach to grant giving", something that we are keen for other funders and trusts to embrace along with us. It's a deceptively simple phrase which at its most basic means that the programme meets real needs in communities, the funding is truly accessible to its target audience, provides a positive and supportive experience for those applying, and the funded projects are evaluated in a way that helps all involved learn from the evaluation. It needs an acknowledgment that the effort spent encouraging applications from a wide range of organisations, and extra support throughout, will achieve broader reach and impact and bring much better outcomes. We recently produced a book called *Funding communities, adding value* which gives practical advice for third sector and statutory funders designing and delivering grants. You can buy it or download it free from [our website](#).

Tellus Mater – sowing the seeds for a low carbon future



This month we had the pleasure of speaking to Jessica Brown, Director of one of London Funders' newest members, [Tellus Mater](#). Tellus Mater (Latin for Mother Nature) is a small grantmaking charitable trust based in New Bond Street that supports the set up and delivery of cutting edge environmental projects working for a low carbon future. Jessica has a background in social and environmental finance and previously worked at the [New Economics Foundation](#) where she was Head of Access to Finance. She joined Tellus Mater in October 2008 where her first task was to support its founder James Arbib in the design and development of a strategic grant programme. She is responsible for management of Tellus Mater's grant portfolio, and works in partnership with grant recipients to meet objectives for innovative and high impact projects.

London Funders (LF): Welcome Jessica. Please tell us a little about Tellus Mater's history including how and when it was established?

Jessica: City financier and philanthropist James Arbib established Tellus Mater ten years ago. Initially the foundation concentrated on offering sustainable support to young people and in 2008 it underwent a comprehensive strategic review that led to a refocus to environmental issues. Today, the Foundation supports high impact leadership projects that work towards a low carbon future and makes grants totalling around £500,000 per annum.

LF: The Foundation funds strategically - am I right in thinking you approach organisations and individuals rather than their approaching you? Please talk us through this process.

Jessica: Yes we keep our PR and marketing to a minimum and approach projects that we are interested in supporting through grants or fellowships and build relationships with beneficiaries. Projects are supported from seed funding stage right through to delivery until they reach a point of sustainability. We often participate on project steering groups and offer continuing support. This active engagement lends itself to a transparent and open funder/beneficiary relationship.

LF: What are your key challenges as a funder?

Jessica: To make our funding go as far as it can to meet urgent environment challenge. To do this we fund on a step-change basis, in a scalable way. Another challenge is how best to share best practice and learning gleaned from the cutting edge projects we work with. We are hoping to start producing case studies to share learning but in the interim we hold annual gatherings so that our beneficiaries can meet and share information and make connections.

LF: Is there one particular project you have supported in recent years that stands out for you?

Jessica: An environmental learning project called [Envision](#). This London-based "Dragon's Den" type project worked with secondary school children to encourage environmental innovation at a community level. The project was so successful, it was scaled up and rolled out to other cities in the UK, gaining impressive corporate sponsorship and mentoring support along the way.

LF: What one thing could other funders do to better support the environment?

Jessica: Ideally more funding would be spent on environmental philanthropy. There needs to be an assertive move away from funding "old style" conservation to new support which addresses systemic factors that drive unsustainable societies and economies in order to make a difference.

LF: What was your primary reason for joining London Funders? What do you hope to get out of your membership?

Jessica: We are interested in learning from others and in potential collaborative funding opportunities. As we are interested in funding high-risk projects at their start up stage, there is potential for other funders (who don't wish to fund at this level) to pass interesting projects along to us.

LF: What can Tellus Mater offer to other members?

Jessica: We are already part of the [Environmental Funders network](#) and the [European Foundation Centre](#) and are exceptionally open to information sharing and communication.

The Westminster Foundation – the 6th Duke of Westminster's living legacy

Our third new member interview is with Jane Sandars, Director of the Westminster Foundation, established in 1974. It represents the charitable giving of the Grosvenor family and business interests, supporting work tackling social, educational, environmental and military welfare issues in communities local to the business activities of the Grosvenor Estate (in their London work, in W1 and SW1 postcodes). The Foundation also provides rental support to charities occupying designated offices, mainly in Victoria. The Duke of Westminster is Chairman of Trustees and is active in the work of the Foundation.



Photo: Gardening Leave

LF: Please tell us about the Foundation's funding in London. What is the approximate value of grants made each year and how is this allocated against your key funding areas?

Jane: In 2009 the foundation gave grants totalling £2.1 million. Officially £200,000 of grants were made to London-based organisations, though this figure is slightly misleading for two reasons: many grants made outside London were to national charities which disseminate funding within London as part of their remit; and additional support is given within London in the form of rental grants which equates to an extra £380,000 a year. The division of funding tends to be split two thirds between social and educational causes with the remaining third divided 50/50 between environmental and military welfare.

LF: What do you love best about your job?

Jane: I love the ability to influence decisions and be part of the change that funding can make. I like giving good news to great projects and also developing working relationships particularly with smaller organisations, helping them to grow. I've worked with the Grosvenor Estate for 20 years and was delighted when the opportunity came my way to work directly for the Foundation.

LF: Is there one particular project you have supported in recent years that stands out for you?

Jane: It's too hard to narrow it down to just one but three London-based projects stand out for me as really fantastic: [Gardening Leave](#), a project which helps rehabilitate former servicemen and women through horticultural therapy and which has a new project at the Royal Hospital Chelsea; [The Connection at St Martin-in-the-Fields](#) which helps homeless people by providing specialist services including a day and night centre; and [Streetwise Opera](#), an organisation that uses music as a tool to help people who have experienced homelessness move forward in their lives. I recently attended an open-mic event organised by Streetwise and The Connection where homeless people performed their own songs and contributions on stage – an incredibly enjoyable and moving evening.

LF: Please complete the sentence: funding in London is uniquely challenging because...?

Jane: ... of the misconception that Central London is incredibly affluent when in fact this is counter-balanced by loneliness, poverty and deprivation for many. Also due to the transient nature of London's population, being effective in solving problems such as homelessness can be challenging.

LF: What was your primary reason for joining London Funders and what do you hope to get out of your membership?

Jane: Primarily, my colleague Virginia Parish and I would like to share learning and understanding with other grantmakers in the capital. We are also delighted to meet funders outside the foundation funding world, such as statutory funders, to get a different perspective on local needs and issues.

LF: What does The Westminster Foundation hope to offer to other London Funders' members?

Jane: We are keen to look at ways of working collaboratively with other funders, both through knowledge sharing and potentially through funding partnerships. We are also interested in helping funded projects link up to work together more effectively.

The Mayor's Fund – working to fight child poverty in the heart of the city



Despite being one of the world's most prosperous cities, London is a place where 40% of children still live below the poverty line. The Mayor's Fund was launched in April 2009 to improve life chances and aspirations for disadvantaged children, young people and their families in the Capital. Through a strategic funding programme based around the principles of partnership, connectivity, evidence and implementation, the Fund aims to provide children, young people and their families in London with a better start in life, a better educational experience, better things to do and ultimately a better job. Investment

into the charity is predominantly from partners and other donations and delivery is made through key services for children and young people in four strands:

- London Growing (-9 months to 4 years): An early years strand focuses on parenting support, child health and childcare
- London Learning (5-16 years): building the educational capital of poorer children, especially in terms of core employability skills
- London Safe (all ages): keeping children safe from abuse, accident, crime and involvement in crime
- London Working (16 to 25 years): developing employable skills and routes to work with an emphasis on training for specific jobs - working back from the needs of employers.

The first year of activity has concentrated on Shoreditch as a pilot area (11 wards in Hackney, Islington, Tower Hamlets and the City). As the Fund releases its first annual report, we spoke to Chris Robinson, CEO, (crobinson@mayorsfundforlondon.org.uk) about the Fund's strategies and learning.

London Funders: In choosing Shoreditch, what factors other than economic need influenced the decision?

Chris: It's a densely populated area with rich diversity. Service providers often work across borough boundaries and so our delivery area reflects this. Part of the area falls within the City of London and as £7 million of our initial investment came from corporations and businesses based in the Square Mile, we were keen to recognise this in the area we chose. Also, traditionally this area has been a portal for poor people arriving in the country (as documented as far back as the 19th century on Charles Booth's poverty maps).

LF: Approximately how many children and families have benefited from the Fund so far?

Chris: We estimate that around 6,500 children have benefited, and with the knock on effect on their families this figure increases. But it's important to state that quality rather than quantity is a key feature of the programme as the projects we support undertake very intensive work with families.

LF: As the Mayor's Fund does not currently accept unsolicited applications for funding, how do you identify the delivery bodies you wish to support?

Chris: They are chosen through a rigorous tendering process with input from both a tender panel including senior fund staff and external partners. We take into consideration past delivery in the area and are open to all sizes of delivery body. (We are keen not to discriminate against smaller providers). We only invest in delivery partners that meet local priorities and make a real difference in the fight against child poverty.

LF: Which project funded best exemplifies what you are trying to achieve?

Chris: Our trustees recently visited a school in Bethnal Green and were able to see the delivery in practice of our 'Unlocking Potential' project to a family (for whom English was not their first language) to help them with numeracy and literacy. This type of project brings delivery partners together and makes a tangible difference to the families it supports.

LF: Are you planning to share your learning from the pilot?

Chris: Yes, evaluation is a key element of our work. New Philanthropy Capital is helping us undertake a real time evaluation of the first 18 months and we are keen to share findings as soon as they are ready.

LF: Have you experienced any major barriers in your first year?

Chris: In terms of delivery barriers, no. All the families we've worked with have been very keen to participate. In a way we have created our own challenge by creating a programme that has very strict strategic approach and which has a complex issue to solve (child poverty). We could have picked an easier issue but we wouldn't be able to make such a difference.

LF: Do you know where your second target area is likely to be?

Chris: We are going to be making recommendations to our Board in September. We plan that our second area will roll out in 2011 and a third area in 2013.

LF: How have other funders supported you?

We raise a key percentage of the funding we distribute through partnership with other investors: Cripplegate Foundation, The Private Equity Foundation and the Big Lottery Fund are a few of the funds we engage with. We would be delighted to discuss partnership opportunities with other funders.

Member news

bassac



Climate change toolkits

The Shared Energy Toolkit is an innovative product from bassac to get organisations and communities talking about climate change. The free toolkit contains games, discussion topics and a quiz to raise awareness and promote thinking about the possible effects of climate change and ways to counteract them at an accessible level.

Download: [The Shared Energy toolkit](#), or email [Joanna at bassac](#) for a free hard copy.

Inspiring democracy

Taking advantage of the change in UK leadership as an opportunity to form new alliances and re-energise groups, bassac's [Inspiring Democracy Project](#) encourages members and community anchor organisations to forge communication links with local councillors in order to empower local people.

bassac's leaflet; *Ward councillors and communities*, presents practical ideas on strengthening links as well as information on how groups can get involved with the Inspiring Democracy Project at a local level.

Download: [Ward councillors and communities](#) or email [Joanna at bassac](#) for a free printed copy

Big Lottery Fund

New look London regional team

Big Lottery Fund is bidding a fond farewell to Head of London region, Debbie Pippard, following an impressive seven and a half years of service within the London regional team. Debbie, who is also Vice Chair of London Funders, has joined Barrow Cadbury Trust as Head of Programmes in a role that will focus on policy and grantmaking in the areas of criminal justice, poverty and inclusion.

Of her time at BIG, Debbie says, "The highlight had to be BIG's lead for London – the most exciting city in the country, with all its challenges and diversity. As Head of Region I've been privileged to be part of funding some fantastic groups, as well as trying to make sure our funding is available to as many groups as possible. I've met some inspiring people from all sorts of backgrounds and have enjoyed being part of significant networks such as London Funders. I'm sad to be leaving, but am looking forward very much to using the experience I've gained to support BCT and those it funds."

Alison Rowe formerly Head of the South East region at BIG will take over the London Region steer, aided by an eight strong London regional team. Together they will be responsible for representing BIG at a regional and local level in the capital, meeting and communicating with stakeholders, providing support to local grant holders, and offering funding advice and guidance.

The new look London regional team – in full

- Alison Rowe (Head of London region from June 2010)
- Russell Darbon (Regional Policy and Partnership Manager)
- Viv Whittingham (Regional Policy and Partnership Manager)
- Rosalie Woods (Regional Policy and Partnership Officer)
- Jane Sterland (Regional Policy and Partnership Officer)
- Veronika Karailieva (Regional Policy and Partnership Officer)
- Hannah Davies (Regional Communications Manager)
- Katie Timms (Regional Communications Officer)
- Phill Craik (Administration Assistant)

£ ⇒ New BIG programme

The newest programme is *Community Wildlife*, supporting projects that get people involved in improving or protecting the natural environment by raising awareness of threatened wildlife and places. The programme is now open to voluntary and community organisations, schools, town councils, and statutory health authorities. Grants of between £300 and £10,000 are available for projects that improve rural or urban environments for people to enjoy or that get people more active and healthy. The programme is running in partnership with the BBC's Go Wild campaign. There are three application deadlines, the first 21st July. BIG's London team are keen to have London projects represented in this programme.

For further details: www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/communitywildlife

Big Lunch

Sunday 18 July will be the second annual day for community celebration with "The Big Lunch". Supported by the Big Lottery Fund and corporate donors, it aims to foster community spirit, fundraising and fun through local communities coming together to share lunch, a picnic, or a full-blown street party. [The Big Lunch website](#) has information and tools to help with planning, or contact the Big Lunch team on 0845 850 8181 or info@thebiglunch.com.

Capital Community Foundation

We are delighted to announce that Victoria Warne has been promoted to Deputy Director. Victoria was previously Head of Grants within the Foundation.

Charity Bank

Record results in turbulent times



Charity Bank announced its 2009 results last month with a year of record growth. Loans to charities, social enterprises and community projects grew by 31% to £35.8 million, a seven-fold increase since Charity Bank launched in 2002. The Bank expects that the level of drawn loans, which currently stand at £37.9 million, will break through £40 million for the first time, in July. Deposits grew by 25% to £44 million and more than 500 deposit accounts were opened by new customers.

Chief Executive of Charity Bank, Malcolm Hayday notes that this has all happened at the same time that “the stumbling economy has begun to strike charities hard. Income has fallen, while at the same time demand for their services has increased. At this critical time, with the help of our depositors and investors, we have been able to increase our funding to charities and social enterprises. We have ambitious plans to increase our support to charities and other social profit organisations that address society’s needs. With inevitable public spending cuts to come, we will continue maximise our support to enterprises that are making a real difference to the communities and people they serve.”

Charity Bank’s first impact report highlights that 88% of borrowers found that a Charity Bank loan made a major or significant contribution to the achievement of their mission and 69% secured additional sources of funding as a result of the Charity Bank loan.

Download: [Charity Bank’s Impact report](#)

New Charity Bank Chair

Charity Bank has appointed former financier and community advocate George Blunden as its new Chairman.

Download: [an in depth Philanthropy UK interview with George Blunden](#)

Community Development Foundation



CDF has put together a new, free guidance paper to help community groups and organisations communicate to local government the vital importance of community development work in achieving public sector objectives.

CDF said: “We want to help keep community development alive by proving its impact in a language that will resonate with those in charge of local authority decision making. We know the government agenda will change but we anticipate that the focus in this guide on the core themes of satisfaction, inspection and value for money will remain largely the same.

Download: [Making the case for community development](#)

Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales

The Foundation has published its latest annual report describing its £20.6 million of investment in disadvantaged people and communities in 2009. The independent foundation, which delivers funding across England and Wales, supported over 900 small to medium charities last year and over 1,800 jobs and 6,900 volunteering opportunities in the last three years.

Over the last five years, the Lloyds TSB Foundation for England and Wales has received over £120 million from Lloyds Banking Group. An agreement announced between the two organisations in December 2009 guarantees that the Foundation will receive an annual sum of £25.2 million until 2013.

Download: [Lloyds TSB’s annual report year ending 31 December 2009](#)

London Catalyst and Church Urban Fund

A further round of the collaborative grants programme **Health and Belief** includes a third funding partner, The Wakefield and Tetley Trust. This programme offers grants of up to £10,000 to small faith-based organisations (under £150,000 annual income) for community projects that tackle poverty. Deadline for applications 30 June. For full details <http://www.cuf.org.uk/health-and-belief-grants>

London Councils

With significant change in the political leadership of many London boroughs, there are also changes in key roles at London Councils. The directly elected Mayor of Hackney, Jules Pipe, has been elected as the new Chair of London Councils. Councillor Claire Kober (Haringey) was elected as Deputy Chair. Councillor Sean Brennan (Sutton), Councillor Edward Lister (Wandsworth), and Stuart Fraser (City of London) were elected as Vice Chairs.

London Development Agency

The LDA has published its Investment Strategy setting out the new strategic direction it will take in investing in London's economic development over the next three years, 2010-13. The Strategy is driven by the priorities of the Mayor's Economic Development Strategy as well as the new strategic direction of the LDA Board. It focuses on six inter-connecting areas: international promotion; business support; climate change; sustained employment; regeneration; and Olympic legacy. Its new approach includes moving towards commissioning, the basis for which is outlined, including the expectation of fewer, larger projects and a commitment to "seek better methods for commissioning activities to achieve our goals". For each key area, the Strategy sets out primary aims and approach, proposed interventions, how the LDA expects to tackle the issue and what it will measure.

Download: <http://www.lda.gov.uk/publications-and-media/publications/investment-strategy.aspx>

Media Trust

Funders may be interested to pass on to funded groups seeking to raise their public profile and garner more support for their work that the Community Channel wants to hear stories from voluntary and community groups, to be featured on its digital broadcast channel.

The Community Channel, an initiative of the Media Trust, is now available 24 hours a day on Freeview and on Sky 539, Virgin TV 233 and Freeview 87 from 6-9 am. [Groups can email the Community Channel](#), or telephone 020 7217 3642, for further details of how to book a slot.

New Philanthropy Capital

Numeracy report

A fifth of adults in England do not have the basic numeracy skills needed for everyday life. NPC's latest report, *Count me in*, looks at approaches to dealing with poor numeracy among children and adults in England, calling for funders and charities to build a new National Numeracy Trust to lobby government and take on the challenge of changing attitudes towards numbers.

Download: [Count me in](#)

Reporting to commissioners

NPC's report, *Well-informed*, focuses on how charities communicate their results to commissioners and how commissioners use this information. The report highlights how better understanding of results reporting on both sides can help charities improve their funding applications and reporting, and help commissioners make more appropriate demands for results information and improve their use of it.

Download: [Well-informed](#)

Social Return on Investment (SROI)

In May NPC published a position paper on SROI, a type of economic analysis closely related to cost-benefit analysis. It focuses on listening to stakeholders and identifying the outcomes that are important to them, and then putting a financial value on those outcomes. NPC's paper suggests that SROI could be useful for understanding and increasing charity effectiveness, but that its potential is nowhere near being realised.

Download: [NPC's Social Return on Investment position paper](#)

Pilotlight

Pilotlight's core purpose is to provide support to small, ambitious charities and social enterprises. They do this by "Pilotlighting", ie creating teams of senior business executives to coach charities through the process of building measurably more sustainable and efficient organisations. Pilotlight has now launched the *Pilotlight Mark Initiative*, an award for charities and social enterprises that have successfully written a strategic plan as part of the Pilotlight process. The Mark is intended to help them prove that they are operating with a sound business strategy and can provide real social return for the funding they receive.

[Pilotlight](#) is always interested to hear from London organisations that could benefit from working with them. Contact Pilotlight's London Chief Executive, [Deborah Xavier](#) for information.

UnLtd

£ ⇒ Live UnLtd is a new five-year project from UnLtd, providing funding and support to young UK social entrepreneurs. Launched last April, the programme aims to support over 20,000 young people to change the world around them through creating entrepreneurial solutions to social issues. UnLtd hope the project will bring with it a new culture of social leadership where young people are recognised as the solution to social problems rather than the cause. Live UnLtd will share learning gained from the initiative through a series of Best Practice Guides. [More information](#)

£ ⇒ UnLtd 4iP is a digital media innovation fund created by Channel 4 that supports ideas for websites, games and mobile services which resonate with Channel 4's core audiences. Two new funding strands have recently been established. Body Image provides funding for websites, applications or games which help people understand how they feel about their body. Crowd/Sauce is looking for high-impact digital products or services that tap into "crowd wisdom" and help change individuals' food habits. Up to £5,000 available to successful applicants. [More information](#)

£ ⇒ Guinness Bring It To Life Awards, based on collaboration between UnLtd and Rathbone to recognise the community regeneration ideas of young people aged 25-35. Six development awards of up to £15,000 and 13 catalyst awards of up to £2,220 are available alongside access to training and volunteering opportunities. The Awards honour Arthur Guinness' commitment to supporting local communities. Deadline for applications, 23 July and details on [the awards website](#).

£ ⇒ Big Challenge is a youth project led by a group of 16-25 year olds from across the UK, which offers a share of a £65,000 prize fund for innovative ideas which improve society. Run by UnLtd and Changemakers and funded by v and the Vodafone Foundation, the project encourages young people to focus and act on topical social challenges with a different issue as the focus each year. The focus for 2010 is *Imagine, Involve, Inspire*. Entry is open until 6 July 2010. [More information](#)

Recession response

Better banking

London Funders is one of over 300 supporters (including 40 MPs), backing the Better Banking Campaign, a drive to address financial exclusion. The Campaign defines exclusion as the lack of fair access to financial services and credit to those who warrant it. This exclusion particularly penalises low-income individuals and families, third sector organisations and small businesses and is a root cause of UK poverty. The campaign which is run by a coalition between a number of key sector players including ACEVO, Urban Forum, Development Trusts Association and CCLA is calling for:

- all banks to publicly disclose where they are lending and providing services – how much and to whom – including lending to small businesses
- obligations for banks to serve social responsibilities, along the lines of the US Community Reinvestment Act
- capping the amount that can be legally charged for credit
- reinvestment of 1% of banks' profits for public benefit.

To find out more or add your support see www.betterbanking.org.uk/ or email [Lucy Marples](mailto:Lucy.Marples@betterbanking.org.uk)



Feeling the pinch – second Big Squeeze report documents sector struggles

Increasing unemployment levels, rising workloads, and a greater number of social challenges to meet, including a rise in mental health problems: these are some of the less than rosy third sector findings reported by London Voluntary Service Council (LVSC) in its second Big Squeeze report.

The study of the impact of the recession on London polled 60 organisations to measure the effect of the recession on them and the communities they serve. Over 90% report that they have taken some form of preventative action, such as generating more income, in order to survive the downturn. 97% say that the recession had a detrimental effect on their communities and that the groups worst affected are those already at high risk of marginalisation - disabled people, BME communities and the young.

LVSC chief executive Peter Lewis says: "Sadly, much of the anecdotal evidence we picked up from our first survey last year has now turned into hard data. Whilst the latest indications show that the UK economy is no longer in recession, the social challenges are still rising - and this is in the face of huge predicted cuts in public spending."

Recommendations from the report include:

- ensuring any cuts to public services do not hit those already most marginalised
- discussing any cuts in advance with the appropriate VCS organisations
- engaging the London Skills and Employment Board to address increasing employment rates of deaf, disabled and BAME (black, Asian, minority ethnic) Londoners, and ensure delivery partners have sufficient resources to tackle increasing worklessness levels
- encouraging the Mayor to prioritise the delivery of his health inequalities strategy to help minimise the impact of the recession on London's poorest communities.

Download: [The Big Squeeze 2010](#)

External news

Government matters

London's political leadership

Following the local elections in May, Labour now control 17 boroughs, Conservatives 11, Liberal Democrats two and there is no overall control in two boroughs. A full listing of the 2010 London local election results can be found on [London Councils' Election 2010 website](#)

New ministerial list

If like us you are still getting to grips with who's who in the new government line-up you may find this [reference page](#) useful, listing the appointments.

Key people in relation to the voluntary and community sector include:

Bob Neill is Local Government Minister; Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society; Nat Wei, as Lord Wei of Shoreditch will advise the government on taking forward the Big Society; Tessa Jowell is Shadow Minister for the Cabinet Office with responsibility for third sector issues. There is no longer a Minister for London, though it seems to be understood that Stephen Hammond, MP for Wimbledon, will lead informally on London issues.

Spending Review

The Chancellor has published details of the process and principles that will underpin the Spending Review, which will report in the autumn and set spending plans for the whole of this Parliament. The Government has said that reducing the deficit is the most urgent issue facing Britain today. The document which sets out the government's plans for the Spending Review and the steps it will take to deliver it can be found at: http://www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/d/spending_review_framework_080610.pdf

NCVO's post-election briefing

NCVO has published a useful briefing setting out what it envisages as the initial priorities for the sector under the new government. The briefing, which will be updated as new policy develops, states: "it is imperative that the sector works together to create an environment in which voluntary and community organisations can flourish and can play the fullest possible part in civil society, not because of who they are but because of the real difference we make to the lives of individuals and communities." The following areas have been covered so far: the Big Society, funding, local government and public service.

Download: [NCVO's post election briefing](#)

See also [NCVO's letter to David Cameron](#), in which Chief Executive, Stuart Etherington, took the opportunity offered by the change of Government to write to the new Prime Minister to stress key points such as the vital role the sector plays, its potential in helping the economy through the tough times ahead, and the need for sensitivity when approaching voluntary and community sector funding cuts.

Sector news

Monitoring and children's play

This is a short summary of a recent day conference that looked at the challenges and benefits of monitoring children's play, in response to questions and concerns from local projects in London. Discussion emphasised the value of monitoring but only if it is kept practical and realistic. There are messages for funders, researchers, monitoring officers and project leaders – and they are of relevance to all kinds of projects, not just play activities. We are grateful to Vivienne Whittingham of Big Lottery Fund for writing up this concise note for London Funders.

Download: [Monitoring - it's child's play](#)

Next steps in ROTA's Female Voice in Violence project

Race on the Agenda (ROTA) is developing its work to support women caught up in gangs who become victims of sexual abuse and violence. In the last edition of the e-bulletin we featured a piece on ROTA's [The Female Voice in Violence](#) research report, highlighting concerns about the lack of appropriate services and policies available in London. Work in London has now been expanded and it is being rolled out to look at the impact of gangs and youth violence in Birmingham, Liverpool and Manchester.

In addition, ROTA has formed a national [Female Voice in Violence Coalition](#) with women's charities [Imkaan](#) and [the nia project](#) to take forward research recommendations. The Coalition will review progress annually at local, regional and national levels. ROTA is inviting groups and charities working with young women to share best practice in targeting violence against women. Funders are encouraged to signpost this information to relevant groups and can find out more by visiting [the project pages on ROTA's website](#) or by contacting [Carlene Firmin](#).

Equality Act 2010 receives Royal Assent

The Act is due to come into force in October and represents the biggest shake-up of discrimination laws in the UK since the 1970s. It will bring together existing equality provision into one comprehensive statute. There will be a single public sector duty covering race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity and gender reassignment. The Act replaces nine major pieces of legislation and numerous statutory instruments and other guidance and has been welcomed in many quarters, not least ROTA. There are many implications for voluntary organisations and those that fund them and London Funders hopes to be working with The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) to plan an opportunity to help members get up to speed on the changes

Alarm bells have been rung by the Charity Law Association which fears that section 93 of the new Act might catch charities whose objectives relate to restricted groups – for example, refugees and migrants. The Association has urgently requested EHRC (in its work on draft codes of practice and guidance on implementation of the Act) and the Charity Commission to address the issues which relate to organisations legitimately working with specific disadvantaged groups.

Download: [The Equality Act 2010](#)

London Health Inequalities Strategy

New plans released by the Mayor, in his Health Inequalities Strategy for London, detail five core objectives for improving London's health care system and make London fairer, more effective and more accessible in terms of the health care it provides. The strategy, which is the first of its kind in the capital and a statutory requirement of the 2007 GLA Act, aims to:

- empower individuals and communities to improve health and well-being
- improve access to high quality health and social care services particularly for Londoners who have poor health outcomes
- reduce income inequality and the negative consequences of relative poverty
- increase the opportunities for people to access the potential benefits of good work and other meaningful activity
- develop and promote London as a healthy place for all.

As part of scrutiny to ensure the strategy delivers against its target aims, the GLA will be producing a series of rolling delivery plans. The first will run until 2012 and will focus on a mix of long-term campaigns and initiatives to tackle the causes of health inequalities, alongside specific initiatives on key health challenges, such as obesity and mental health.

Download: [London Health Inequalities Strategy](#)

Giving to sector benevolent fund on the increase

Launched in September 2009, [The Charity Employees Benevolent Fund](#) is steadily gaining backing through payroll giving and in-kind support. Key supporters include: Civil Society Media, Barclays and the Co-operative Bank and several of big national charities. NCVO, whose Chief Executive, Stuart Etherington, is president of the Fund, has pledged £3,000 a year and has promised to match any staff donations made through payroll giving. For more information [email the fund](#) or telephone 020 7415 7004.

Satisfied Londoners?

Four fifths of Londoners are satisfied with London as a city to live in, three quarters feel safe when walking outside alone in their neighbourhood in the evening and two thirds are happy with the standard of policing in their area. Two thirds of Londoners now feel that the Olympic and Paralympic Games will be good for London (compared with just over half a year ago). These pleasingly upbeat results come from this year's Annual London Survey (the tenth) conducted early in 2010 with over 1,500 Greater London residents. On the less rosy side, those surveyed still saw the need for improvement in safety and policing (but seeing burglary as more of a threat to safety than street violence). Tackling traffic congestion was also seen as an urgent issue with almost half of those interviewed suggesting more drastic intervention is needed to reduce it.

Download: [Annual London Survey 2010 Topline Results](#)

Download: [Survey findings in full](#)

Resources

£ ⇒ Bursaries for social entrepreneurs at top business school



[Cranfield University's Business Growth Programme](#) is offering bursaries to up to five ambitious social entrepreneurs starting in September 2010. Candidates need to show a successful track record of delivery as well as drive and talent and involvement in a worthwhile enterprise. The course offered (over four, two-day Friday and Saturday sessions) focuses on growth strategy, and offers individual mentoring. Previous graduates include Uday Thakkar, CEO of Red Ochre and Karan Bilimoria, Founder and CEO of Cobra Beer. Cranfield is running a series of free briefing events in June, in London and at the School to introduce the programme. For more detail, see [the programme webpages](#).

£ ⇒ Closing the gap



The Health Foundation's 'Closing the Gap' scheme is an annual award programme to improve the dynamic of healthcare in the UK, bridging the gap between best practice and routine delivery of care through tangible improvements in knowledge, skills and new approaches. This year's selection process is underway with applicants required to get their submissions in by 12 noon on 13 July 2010. Eight, £400,000 awards are available for teams (preferably partnerships) interested in the dynamic between communities and the wider healthcare system, the person using services and the wider healthcare system or the person using services and those who work in health provision. To assist applicants, there are information calls scheduled later in June, after which there is screening for eligibility to apply. Interviews and assessment of shortlisted teams will take place in September 2010. For more information see The Health Foundation's [Closing the Gap microsite](#).

Pro bono support: iT4Communities

Funders may be interested to refer funded organisations to this pro bono programme where IT professionals give their time to voluntary and community groups needing IT help and advice, building third sector technical infrastructure and capacity and making significant cost savings.

This is a programme of the IT Charity AbilityNet and has been running for about eight years. At the moment they have a lot of skilled volunteers looking for opportunities to help voluntary groups – the team say they are adding 20-30 volunteers a week, including consultants, web developers, database experts and network engineers. Case studies of the work of the volunteers are online at: <http://www.it4communities.org.uk/it4c/home/casestudies.jsp>.

To take advantage of this, charities, community groups and social enterprises need to pay an annual fee of £85 (and at least one funder offers to pay this for its grant recipients). The iT4C team supports applicants wanting volunteer time right through the process from the first stage of defining what help they need. www.it4communities.org.uk

Advertise meeting or office space

Funded by BIG, London Councils and Capacitybuilders, [MyCommunitySpace](#) is a new free website and information service for community and voluntary organisations with space for rent or hire. The site is fully searchable and will include facilities ranging from a small meeting room to an entire office block. Interested parties should read the FAQ first on [setting up an account](#) before [registering online](#) to start advertising their space. Any further queries should be directed to Jacqueline Manu on 020 7837 7887.

New sector appointments

CES appoints new chief executive



Andy Gregg will be leaving [Lasa](#) in August, after six years in post, to take up the role of Chief Executive with [Charities Evaluation Services](#). Andy says "I have really enjoyed the last six years at Lasa. The voluntary sector as a whole is entering a very difficult period and I look forward to working with CES to develop ways of demonstrating the value of the sector and the effectiveness of voluntary organisations in making a positive impact."

Change at ROTA

Dr Elizabeth Henry has been appointed Interim Chief Executive at [Race on the Agenda](#) (ROTA) taking over from Theo Gavrielides who has returned to his portfolio and academic career, and to spend more time with the youth-led charity he founded, Independent Academic Research Studies. Elizabeth, who is Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Selby Trust, has a background in health having worked previously for Enfield and Haringey Health Authority as their Assistant Director/Public Health Specialist and as the Director of Public Health with the Fort Bend Family Health Centre in Texas. She also works part-time as a self-employed consultant delivering equality and diversity programmes within the sector.

Green Alliance appoints new director



Matthew Spencer has joined [Green Alliance](#) as their new director replacing Stephen Hale who, after four years as CEO, has left to take up a senior post with Oxfam International in Geneva. Matthew has a solid background in environmental affairs having previously held senior posts at the Carbon Trust, Regen SW (the renewable energy agency) and Greenpeace. Matthew says: "The fear is that this is the last parliament in which we have any realistic prospect of avoiding runaway climate change, but that politicians will be too focused on the public deficit to respond with the urgency we need. At Green Alliance we will use our insights and influence to identify the political solutions needed, and lead coalitions from business, politics and NGOs to create support for implementation."

Publications and resources

Benevolence Today and Tomorrow

Benevolence Today is a coalition of 35 charitable funders working in co-operation with their membership body, the Association of Charity Officers. Members include the Actors Benevolent Fund, the Charity Employees Benevolent Fund and the Officers Association. This report gives an overview of the organisations that form the coalition, giving a sense of their scale, their beneficiaries, and how they maximise their effectiveness. Although many benevolent societies are specialised in the work that they do, the report highlights a strong commitment to collaboration and shares lessons to enable benevolent funds to work more effectively including advice on positioning to target audiences, capacity building and outreach work. This is the first step towards mapping the benevolent sector, its capacity, its stakeholder groups and communication potential. Benevolence Today hopes that this work will bring the benevolent sector closer to the charity and social sectors and away from its relative isolation.

Download the report: [Benevolence Today and Tomorrow](#)

Big Society: how could it work?

PACES (Public Agency and Community Empowerment Strategies) has published a paper looking at some of the individual components of the Big Society idea from a critical-friendly perspective suggesting tweaks and changes for successful implementation. Big Society has a key part in the new Coalition government's policy. In this paper, authors Gabriel Chanan and Colin Miller see it as an essential evolution of the sector regardless of political endorsement. A key criticism they make is that the media have oversimplified the Big Society message, especially in suggesting wholesale community management of public services as the way forward. They advocate more collaborative community-public sector approaches.

Download: [The Big Society: how could it work?](#)



Defining the green economy

In the item below on the Outer London Commission, there is a reference to the value of research in defining "green industries". GLA Economics has just published a report which sets out to map what is meant by "green jobs" and "green technology", to look at the scale of these in London, and identify the gaps in data and how these might be plugged.

Download: [Current Issues Note 25: How big is London's green sector?](#)

Economic evidence base

This research, published in May, by GLA Economics provides an economic evidence base to support three recently revised Mayoral strategies - the London Plan, the Economic Development Strategy and the Transport Strategy. The *Economic Evidence Base* gives an excellent overview of the socio-economic issues facing the capital whilst evaluating the risks for London's future growth.

Download: [Economic Evidence Base](#)

Involving users in commissioning local services



1. the involvement of service users in shaping local services is still in its infancy
2. the definition of "user involvement" varies from one-off consultations to equal partnerships
3. there are more good practice examples of user involvement in social care than in health.

These are three key findings raised by a recent Age Concern London study published by Joseph Rowntree Foundation, that brought commissioners and service users together to discuss how service users can be better involved in shaping local services. This report highlights service users' experience and views of their involvement in shaping services alongside the experiences and views of commissioners when involving users. The research provides a concise summary of what is currently happening and what might be possible in the future shape of commissioning.

Download: [Involving users in commissioning local services](#)

Download: [Summary version](#)

Older people, technology and community

A report published on Silver Surfer's Day (21 May) by Independent Age, the charity that provides lifelong support to older people in need, stresses the importance of helping older people engage with new technology to prevent isolation and loneliness. Funded by the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation, it makes helpful suggestions for breaking down barriers and dispelling the myths that can surround IT by providing older people with the initial know-how to get online and to get support (three out of four over 65 year olds have never been online). Ideas include a new scheme, Learn to Help, to provide older people with one-to-

one technology support and networking opportunities. Andrew Barnett, UK Director of the Foundation said "Public, private and voluntary sectors now need to follow the recommendations in this report and rethink how to roll out and strengthen IT schemes for the benefit of older people and our communities."

Download: [Older people technology and community](#)

Outer London Commission

The *Pre Publication Report* from the Mayor's Commission was issued in May. Reviewing issues affecting the outer London boroughs was an early commitment of the current Mayor, especially in relation to unrealised potential in these boroughs to contribute to London's economic development. The Commission's work has been an opportunity to benchmark facts and figures about these areas and create measures against which to test future growth. The Commission's work has also been part of a growing awareness of localised concentrations of chronic deprivation in outer London, and considering approaches to targeting need. The Commission accepts that current financial constraints will limit infrastructure investment but there are many recommendations that blow away cobwebs in proposing new approaches to planning and development to support sustainable communities and lively economic development. Further research is recommended, eg in defining "knowledge-based" and "green" industries. A continuing forum for outer London is recommended.

Download: [Pre Publication Report](#)

Perpetuity or spend out?

There are some high profile foundations (such as The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund and Atlantic Philanthropies) which have decided to use their assets in a short time frame, rather than invest for long term grantmaking. The [Institute for Philanthropy](#) has recently published a research paper which seeks to explain and support the principle of spending out. *The Power of Now* uses the experience of a group of foundations currently in the process of using their assets in a designated time frame and tackles some of the practical issues which this entails.

Download: [The Power of Now](#)

Personalisation: a rough guide

[The Social Care Institute for Excellence](#) (SCIE) has produced an updated version of its comprehensive 2008 guide on personalisation. This latest guide is aimed at front-line practitioners and first-line managers in statutory and independent sector social care services and makes recommendations for transforming social care through public service reform, with six key points:

- SCIE has a special role to play in transforming adult social care services identifying and transferring knowledge about good practice
- person-centred planning and self-directed support will need to become mainstream
- universal services such as transport, housing and education should be accessible to all citizens
- the personalised system needs to be cost-effective and sustainable in the long term
- approaches to early intervention and prevention need to develop further so that people are encouraged to stay healthy and independent
- the social care workforce will need to acquire new skills.

Download: [Personalisation: a rough guide](#)

Download: [London Funders meeting paper on personalisation](#)

Poverty, worklessness and welfare dependency in the UK

Almost one in ten people live in persistent poverty, and there are 800,000 more working age adults in poverty than in 1998-9. Health inequalities are higher now than they were in the 1970s and 1.4 million people in the UK have been on out-of-work benefits for nine or more of the last ten years. These are some of the startling statistics produced by [The Department for Work and Pensions](#) in their comprehensive assessment of UK poverty in 2010. The report will be used by the new coalition government to guide policy decisions on minimising inequality gaps in UK society.

Download: [State of the nation report: poverty, worklessness and welfare dependency in the UK](#)

Preventing violent extremism programme

On 30 March, the [Communities and Local Government Select Committee](#) of the House of Commons released its report on *Preventing Violent Extremism* which makes recommendations for a different approach to tackle violent extremism, based on improved information sharing between local partners and recommends that the government does not get involved in "theological matters". In the report the Committee states that the Government's Preventing Violent Extremism programme is "a complex and sensitive agenda which has met with widely varying perceptions as to what the programme stands for and what it aims to deliver on the ground"; and that its inquiry "has shown that the current overall approach to Prevent is contentious and unlikely ever to be fully accepted in its existing form by those it is most

important to engage.”

Download: [Prevent Report](#)

Download: [A background note on Prevent from the Interfaith Faith Network website](#)

Voluntary sector gen

The tenth edition of NCVO's Almanac has been published and is available to [purchase from NCVO](#) at £125 (£30 for NCVO members). The guide explains complex statistics simply, using diagrams and easily understandable charts. It also draws together trends, facts and information from NCVO's research programme, plus the latest available data from government surveys, academic research, and research by voluntary organisations. Headline findings include: 36% of the voluntary sector's funding comes from statutory sources with 23,000 voluntary organisations receiving more than half of their income from the state; charitable donations fell 11% per cent in the last year.

What's the right relationship between philanthropy and government?

This is a question that GrantCraft is asking of US grantmaking foundations and we look forward to informing e-bulletin readers of the report they should produce soon to summarise their evidence and conclusions. As a taster, there is a four page report based on the ideas of eight foundation leaders on the current state of foundation/government collaboration. With radical change promised in UK government-civil society relationships, this paper might provide an opportunity to stand outside our familiar territory and use these comments to reflect on our own experience.

Download: [GrantCraft's government survey](#)

Research and consultations

Cultural Strategy

The Mayor of London has published his draft Cultural Strategy for public consultation. The closing date for comments is 6 September. Results of the consultation will be published in late 2010. The Strategy sets out the Mayor's vision, priorities and recommendations on strengthening the cultural life of Londoners. It recognises the significance of the cultural and creative sectors in making London a successful city, and puts forward a case for its continued support and investment – particularly in the run up to the 2012 Olympics. To review the draft Cultural Strategy, use the links below:

[Draft Cultural Strategy](#)

[Draft Cultural Strategy Executive Summary](#)

To give feedback complete and submit the [web-based questionnaire](#) or fill out a response by hand by printing the survey and returning it by post to Cultural Strategy Consultation, Post Point 19, Freepost LON15799, City Hall, The Queen's Walk, London SE1 2AA.

GLA Gender Equality and Race Equality schemes

The Greater London Authority currently has consultations open on both its Gender Equality and Race Equality schemes. Consultation documents are available from [the consultation section](#) of the GLA website along with a web-based questionnaire for each scheme. The consultation deadline for both schemes is 11 August 2010. To request hard copies of the schemes and/or the questionnaire(s), email: formats.scheme@london.gov.uk

To accompany each consultation the GLA will be running a series of public meetings at City Hall:

Gender Equality Scheme

Thursday 8 July at 2 pm or Tuesday 13 July at 10 am

Download [Registration information](#)

Race Equality Scheme

Thursday 10 June at 2 pm or Thursday 22 July at 10 am

Download [Registration information](#)

The GLA's draft Disability Equality Scheme will be available for consultation at the end of June.

Consultation on the share-out of National Lottery proceeds

A consultation on the division of Lottery funds between good causes has opened and will run until August 2010 on [The Department for Culture, Media and Sport website](#). The consultation suggests the gradual realignment of funding distributed by the Big Lottery Fund and arts, heritage and sports good causes, with the Fund reducing its lottery share over the next two year to 40 per cent. The change is proposed in two stages:

- on 1 April 2011, increase the share apportionment for arts, heritage and sport to 18% each and reduce the Big Lottery Fund to 46%
- then on 1 April 2012, increase the shares for arts, heritage and sport to 20% each of the Lottery and reduce the apportionment share for the Big Lottery Fund to 40%.

Ensuring funding to community-level sports

The Big Opportunity is undertaking some desk research on the positive impact of community-based healthy living and physical activity programmes. They want to make sure that there is a body of evidence to encourage funders (especially in the run-up to the Olympics) to keep a good balance between supporting the most proficient sportspeople through the sports' governing bodies and encouraging those with low levels of physical activity – and low incomes – to raise their participation. Big Opportunity Programme Manager, Paul Bower (paul@londoncivicforum.org.uk) would be interested in case studies, examples or suggested links. Original authors and organisations will be credited and permission sought from copyright holders before any publication of results.

Has barter become voluntary sector currency?

Caroline Beaumont, a 2010 Clore Social Fellow, is conducting research on the role of non-financial resources in the funding mix. She is interested to hear about new or creative examples where resources are "bartered" and wants to develop some case studies to identify the conditions for successful use of this method in a sustainable funding mix. Ideas are being collated by graham.collins@ncvo-vol.org.uk (NCVO's Sustainable Funding Project) by 30 June.

Building knowledge of collaboration – a request for help

NCVO's Funding Commission is seeking case studies to exemplify experience of collaboration or merger. They are interested in negative stories as well as positive ones. London Funders encourages members and other e-bulletin readers to consider examples you are involved in or perhaps have supported financially to share knowledge of how collaboration is being used across the sector and increase understanding of the issues and challenges.

NCVO is particularly interested in examples of:

- national organisations working with local organisations
- local infrastructure organisations working together
- groups working in the equalities area
- local social enterprise
- small organisations working together
- examples of federations or affiliated organisations where the lead body has supported their members in collaboration or merger
- organisations using collaboration or merger to become more sustainable or in order to adapt to the new financial environment and become more resilient.

Contribute examples either by completing a structured online questionnaire or by participating in a short telephone interview with Esther Ridsdale on 020 7520 3151 or Sue Beckett on 020 7520 2440. The deadline for responses is 30 June 2010.

Recruitment

The Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund

Grants Officer, Refugee and Asylum Seekers Initiative, £28,000 - 32,000 pa

Location: London

12 month contract, full time, (four day week considered for an exceptional candidate)

A grants officer is sought for The Fund's Refugee and Asylum Seeker Initiative (RASI). RASI works in the UK to ensure that all refugees and people seeking asylum are treated fairly, humanely and in accordance with international law, and that children seeking asylum are treated first and foremost as children. The successful candidate will take responsibility for managing part of the RASI grant portfolio, including related administration, and assist with developing grant applications, monitoring grants and undertaking project visits. Closing date: 12 noon, 15 June with interviews to take place at the Fund on 23 June.

Download: [Further information](#)

Jack Petchey Foundation



Grants Team Manager, £35,000 – 40,000 pa

Location: London

Full time

The Jack Petchey Foundation aims to raise young people's aspirations and create opportunities for them to achieve within London and Essex. The Foundation requires a Grants Manager to manage the Grants Team and ensure efficient/effective management of its grantmaking. Full details can be found on their [website](#). Closing date: 24 June 2010

External events and training

Launch of the results of the Baring Foundation's Special Initiative on Climate Change and the Third Sector

16 June, 2-5 pm, Baring Foundation, London Wall

The Baring Foundation is a generalist funder and, in the past, has not had any particular focus on the environment. However, the stark conclusion of the Stern Report that "climate change presents very serious global risks and it demands an urgent global response" prompted the trustees to explore what the Foundation could contribute. This event will provide an opportunity for independent funders and key voluntary sector infrastructure bodies to hear from four projects funded by the Foundation. All four projects will discuss their work and present toolkits and other material developed:

- the Climate Outreach and Information Network worked with refugee organisations
- Community Development Foundation, bassac, New Economics Foundation and Groundwork worked with community anchor organisations
- national Children's Bureau and the Institute of Development Studies worked with children and youth organisations
- NCVO, Global Action Plan and Green Alliance worked with organisations that support vulnerable communities, including the British Red Cross and RNIB.

Clare Thomas of The City Bridge Trust will put this work in its wider context by discussing the experience and outcomes of the joint Ministerial-third sector task force on climate change, the environment and sustainable development.

To book, email baring.foundation.events@uk.ing.com or contact Valerie Cadoret on 020 7767 1402

2010: A Changing Europe – Combating poverty, supporting enterprise

23-25 June, London

The annual conference of the Community Development Finance Association (CDFA)

Aimed at providers of micro-finance and community development finance institutions which especially support entrepreneurs, social enterprises and individuals overlooked by banks.

For information see www.cdfa.org.uk

The State of London Debate

24 June, 6 pm

[Limited tickets available](#) / [participate online](#) or listen to the debate live on LBC 97.3FM

This year's debate offers an opportunity to question the Mayor of London on his annual report and spending in the capital. The event will focus on four key areas: the economy, environment, policing and transport. Opinions on these topics are welcomed before the event and can be posted online [here](#).

Solving economic development and housing needs

Community land trusts 2010
29 June, Savoy Place, London
Fee: from £149 + VAT

What could the government's idea of a Big Society mean in practice? Community land trusts are one example of citizens taking control of their own future and providing for their own needs, in partnership with local government and public bodies. This event will explore how community land trusts can be a sustainable solution in a wide range of settings - encompassing housing, economic development and community empowerment.

Download: [Full programme information](#)

Workshops on innovative leadership and management

29, 30 June, Conway Hall, Holborn, London

Sessions led by Annette Zera on how to use valuable group and team meetings to bring out the very best in staff. Participants will discuss significant management issues whilst trying out innovative group leadership methods. These include Knowledge Café, an alternative way to share information, and the Open Space process that brings new energy and commitment to agendas.

Download: [Further information and booking form](#)

Infrastructure over the next decade (and the state we are in)

30 June, 12–3 pm, Manchester
£15 (£10 for ACEVO members)

This event supported by [Capacitybuilders](#) and organised by [ACEVO](#) will focus on the new political, social and economic context in which infrastructure bodies will operate over the next ten years. One of the agenda highlights will be a debate entitled "Infrastructure is a 20th century relic in an innovative 21st century third sector". Outcomes from the meeting will inform the planning of a series of regional events to provide a space for infrastructure leaders to steer the discussion on the future of infrastructure and support providers.

The London follow up event will take place on 9 September 2010, 9:30 am - 2:30 pm

Download: [Further details and booking information](#)

Has the Equality Act 2010 changed charity law?



Bates Wells & Braithwaite
SOLICITORS

6 July, 8.30-9.30 am, 2-6 Cannon Street, London EC4

This free seminar will help with understanding of the implications of the Equality Act for charitable objects, restricted gifts and the provision of services. The seminar is aimed at charity personnel involved in finance, fundraising and management who require an overview of the Act but do not have day to day responsibility for equality and diversity issues.

For further information, RSVP to Mona Rahman quoting reference "Equality Act seminar" at seminars@bwblp.com. Alternatively, [click here](#)

Challenges and benefits of using external support: how PCTs can use support more effectively

The King's Fund

13 July, 9.15 am – 1 pm, London

Fee: from £85 + VAT

With the world class commissioning assurance scores due to be released in late June, attention will turn to the effectiveness of PCT commissioning. PCTs have been developing their commercial, market management and data analysis skills to improve commissioning, often with the help of external organisations. With increased financial constraints it is important that PCTs understand how to use external support in a way that offers both value for money and improved commissioning outcomes. This half-day conference will examine how to make the best use of external support. Key speaker: Gary Belfield, Acting Director General, Commissioning and System Management Directorate, Department of Health.

Download: [further information and to book a place](#)

Can local strategic commissioning and Total Place survive and deliver in the challenges ahead?



NCVO's Public Service Delivery Network

13 July, 2-4.30 pm, NCVO Conference Suite, London N1

Cost: £35 members; £50 non-members

Public services aren't simply facing deep and dramatic cuts – they are being called on to reform through ever-greater efficiencies and delivering the Coalition's core Localism agenda. This seminar reviews national evidence and best practice stimulating the voluntary sector to deliver public sector efficiencies, cross-sector partnership, and locally responsive services. Speakers include: Robert Beard, Improving Local Partnerships Advisor, NAVCA, leading discussion on Total Place efficiencies and transformative partnerships and Miia Chambers, Social Investment and Strategy Manager, London Borough of Camden on strategic innovations through an outcomes-based commissioning approach.

For details and booking www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/PSD-Challenges

Gift Aid: Inform or Reform

EAPG London Roundtable

14 July, 5.00 for 5.30–7.00 pm, Cass Business School, 106 Bunhill Row, London EC1

Discussion will be led by expert speakers including Clive Cutbill, Consultant Withers LLP and Helen Donoghue, Director, Charity Tax Group

Non-members are welcome to attend one roundtable in order to assess the value of EAPG's events first-hand. To attend this EAPG roundtable, Sue Summers at sue@eapg.org.uk

Welfare Reform under a new Government

Child Poverty Action Group's Annual Rights Conference 2010

9 September, 10 am - 4.30 pm. The Resource Centre, 356 Holloway Road, London N7

Fee: Lawyers/statutory organisations £110, voluntary organisations £95

The new government has stated it intends to create a "welfare system that is fit for the 21st Century ... simple, more efficient and one that helps to restore the social mobility that should be at the heart of British society". This conference will examine in detail what exactly this will mean for claimants, the future direction of welfare reform and the goal of eradicating child poverty, and consider what changes are likely to be made in the short term. Keynote speaker will be Maria Miller, Parliamentary Under Secretary of State (Work and Pensions).

Download [booking form](#)

For further information, contact [Judy Allen](#)

Responsible Credit UK Convention

19–20 October, Thistle Marble Arch, London

Fee: From £110 (discount for bookings before 3 September)

A convention for those involved nationally and locally in the design and delivery of services responding to debt problems and financial exclusion. Supported by the Local Government Association, Money Advice Trust, Community Development Finance Association and the Resolution Foundation, it will cover: lessons of the crisis for credit regulation, tackling over-indebtedness and dealing with debt; perspectives and best practice in financial education; and crediting local communities: what's working, how can we improve?

Download: [further information and booking details](#)