

Buckinghamshire External Funding

FUNDING INSIGHT NEWSLETTER

11th May 2009

New Funding Opportunities

General - Equality And Human Rights Commission Announces £10 Million Funding Programme (England, Scotland & Wales)

The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has announced a new £10.2 million Strategic Funding Programme, providing multi-year funding of up to £450,000 for community and voluntary sector organisations for up to three years. Funding priorities for the new programme have been developed from the Commission's three year strategy and will cover:

- **Priority One** – Providing guidance, advice and advocacy services; Infrastructure development and capacity building
- **Priority Two** – Good Relations; which not only combines the reduction of prejudice and segregation, but also the establishment of positive, supportive engagement between groups and individuals where previously this did not exist.

A third priority, **legal casework**, will be launched later in the summer of 2009.

To be eligible for Commission funding, all applicants must:

- Be a UK registered charity, charitable body, not-for-profit or community-interest organisation (which may include properly constituted but unincorporated groups, Industrial and Provident Society, Registered Friendly Society, companies limited by guarantee, community interest companies, social enterprises etc.)
- Deliver work exclusively in England, Wales or Scotland.
- (Have unrestricted income of less than £6.5 million in the most recent year for which signed-off accounts are available, i.e. 2007/08.
- Propose work that does not fall under the statutory remit of public bodies, unless as part of a consortium / partnership where the public / statutory body is a key partner and majority funder.
- Only be lead party to one application (This means that you can be the lead applicant in relation to either a consortium bid OR a single organisation bid. In addition, you can be a member of other partnership (consortium) bids.)
- Only apply for funding under one of the two priority areas.

- Not request more than £150,000 per year from EHRC, e.g. if your project runs over a 3-year period then you cannot apply for more than £450,000 from EHRC.
- There is a two stage application process and stage one applications need to be submitted by 5 pm on the 12th June 2009.

<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/en/aboutus/grants/pages/grantsandfunding.aspx>

General - Government has Launched the Targeted Support Fund (England)

The government has announced that its new £15 million Real Help for Communities: Targeted Support Fund is now open to applications. Through this fund grants are available to small, local third sector service providers who have experienced increased demand as a result of the recession. The fund is seeking to support those who are providing key, recession focussed services under one of the following themes:

- Information, advice and guidance (housing, financial, debt and legal advice and support)
- Employment and employability (training and support related to finding employment)
- Health and wellbeing (mental health, relationship breakdown, counselling, domestic violence & substance abuse).

The funding is available to local services with an annual income of £30,000 to £250,000 in the 50 areas most at risk from the recession. Grants available are of between £10,000 and £40,000.

http://www.cdf.org.uk/bfora/systems/xmlviewer/default.asp?arg=DS_CDF_TECHART_23/page.xsl/27&xsl_argx=5

General - E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund (England, Scotland & Wales)

E.ON the power and gas generating and distributing company has announced the launch of a new Sustainable Energy Fund. The E.ON Sustainable Energy Fund offers grants of up to £20,000 to community groups and not for profit organisations who wish to consider and implement sustainable energy projects in their buildings. Projects that can be considered include;

- the purchase and installation of one or more renewable energy technologies (e.g. wind, solar thermal, PV, wood etc);
- the renovation of existing facilities to incorporate micro-generation technology (e.g. the reinstatement of a watermill and the purchase of a turbine to produce hydro-electricity);
- an energy efficiency makeover for your building that could demonstrate significant energy savings and also behavioural change amongst users;

- and the use of new or innovative technology to deliver either energy savings or micro-generation capacity. To be eligible organisations must benefit specific community groups namely: Young people; Elderly people; and People in fuel poverty.

The next closing date for applications is the June 12th 2009.

<http://www.eon-uk.com/about/sustainableenergyfund.aspx>

General - Launch of New £6 Million Safer Homes Fund (England)

The Home Office has announced that community and voluntary sector organisations can now apply to a new £6 million fund for community-led initiatives and programmes which will reduce burglary and improve neighbourhood security. The Safer Homes Fund is available for one year and will offer around 300 grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 to key frontline community organisations. Successful organisations will develop safety programmes and support new, locally-run social enterprises, which together will build connections within communities, particularly in areas of high crime. The fund will provide grants covering four main areas of activity:

- Funding for individual workers and small collectives to offer vulnerable people and residents free/low cost handy work, including strengthening security arrangements, windows, locks etc. It will also include the training of local handy people
- Initiatives that bring communities together through leisure, arts, social activities
- Projects that aim to bring individuals together, encourage befriending and mentoring as a means of increasing confidence, particularly for the vulnerable, isolated and/or house-bound
- Supporting new, locally run social businesses around community safety, crime prevention and home security.

The closing date for receipt of applications is 12pm Friday 31 July 2009.

There will be an additional £500,000 available for Neighbourhood Watch programmes to receive grants of between £1,000 and £50, 000. Details of this fund will be released during May 2009.

<http://www.grantsadmin.co.uk/saferhomes/index.html>

General - Call for Proposals – Town Twinning Citizens Meetings (UK)

Under the Town Twinning Initiative, which is part of the new Active Citizens for Europe Programme (2007 -2013) grants of between €2,000 and €20,000 are available to support Town Twinning citizens meetings. Town twinning citizens' meetings consist in bringing together a wide range of citizens and citizens' groups from towns already twinned to:

- Further develop strong, informal and personal relations between their citizens, to reinforce the participants' commitment to European integration
- To contribute to the development of an active European citizenship.

To be eligible the applicant needs to be the municipality or its twinning association in which the meeting will take place. The deadline for applications is the 1st June 2009.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/funding/2009/call_action1_11_2009_en.php

General - Funding for UK-Based Organisations Helping Disadvantaged Overseas (UK)

Zurich Community Trust provides support for disadvantaged people to help them achieve an independent future. Zurich Community Trust is seeking applications from UK-based voluntary organisations helping disadvantaged people overseas. They are aiming to support projects that show some or all the following:

- A high degree of training and skills transfer; innovation
- An holistic approach to development; cost effective and effective solutions
- Clear objectives and outcomes which can be measured and evaluated within a reasonable timescale.

They are no minimum or maximum grants. Applications are accepted between January and May every year. The application deadline is the 29th May.

<https://www.zurich.co.uk/zurichcares/areyoueligible/organisationsfordisadvantaged/overseas.htm>

General - Social Entrepreneurs Fund (UK)

Bridges Charitable Trust provides investment through the Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund to address the funding gap often faced by fast growing social enterprises looking to scale. Launched in November 2008, the fund has so far raised £4.25m for investment in scalable social enterprises delivering high social impacts and operating sustainable business models. The Bridges Social Entrepreneurs Fund invests in social enterprises that have:

- A clear social mission (protected in their legal structure)
- A robust business model
- The ability to grow to scale and increase their social impact
- A financially sustainable model
- The ability to generate surpluses to repay financing
- A strong management team.

Each investment made by the fund will be; up to £1million; structured as a flexible and tailored investment, usually in the form of quasi-equity; and repayable, with an appropriate return, through the social enterprise's trading activities. In addition, the social enterprises that the

Fund invest in have the opportunity to benefit from consulting advice from Monitor Group to help them reach scale. Bridges Ventures also works closely with UnLtd, the Foundation for Social Entrepreneurs, to help social entrepreneurs seeking funding to become investment-ready. The fund is currently open for investment.

<http://www.bridgesventures.com/social-entrepreneurs-fund>

General - Support for European Cooperation in Education and Training (UK)

The European Commission has issued a new call for proposals under the Lifelong Learning Programme to support European cooperation in education and training. This call for proposals is divided into two parts:

- Part A aims to support actions that raise national awareness of lifelong learning strategies and of European cooperation in education and training.
- Part B supports projects that support transnational cooperation in the development and implementation of national and regional lifelong learning strategies.

This call for proposals is open to national ministries in charge of education and training, other public bodies and stakeholders' organisations such as regional, national or European associations or other private bodies — active in the field of lifelong learning (pre-primary, schools, Vocational Training, higher education and adult learning). The total budget available to support this call for proposals is €2.8 million and the maximum grant available per project is €120,000 for Part A and €200,000 for Part B. The closing date for applications is the 14th August 2009.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/lfp/funding/2009/call_nlls_2009.html

General - Church and Community Fund (England)

Under the Church and Community Fund grants of up to £15,000 are available to community projects run by parish churches, deaneries, dioceses and other bodies connected to or working in partnership with the Church of England. Projects supported must promote, aid and further the work of the Church of England. This does not exclude Anglican projects in partnership with ecumenical or other-faith partners, which are warmly welcomed, but it does exclude projects run by secular bodies which have little or no connection to the Church of England, overseas projects and projects in which an Anglican body is not a key player at a local level. Last year the Fund supported 123 projects with grants totalling £586,000.

Typical projects supported by the CCF might include:

- Employing a youth worker
- Renovating an old church hall for use as a community centre
- Providing hot meals for the homeless in a church room.

The next application deadline is the 17th August 2009.

http://www.churchandcommunityfund.org.uk/about_us.html

General - Tesco Charity Trust Community Awards (UK)

The Tesco Charity Trust has announced that it is now accepting applications for grants to support children's education and welfare projects. The funding is available to community and voluntary groups who can apply for grants of between £500 and £4,000. Previous projects supported have included:

- Sensory garden or room projects
- Outdoor classrooms
- Breakfast and after school clubs
- Holiday play-schemes
- Part funding to purchase minibuses.

The closing date for applications is the 30th June 2009. The Tesco Charity Trust has been in existence since 1987 and aims to provide approximately £600,000 in grants each year. In addition the Trust also provides grants to groups working with and supporting elderly people and/or adults and children with disabilities. This funding stream is due to reopen for applications on the 1st August with an application deadline of the 30th September 2009.

http://www.tescopl.com/plc/corporate_responsibility/local_communities/community_investment/charitable_giving/tesco_charity_trust/

General - Call for Proposals - The Thematic Networking of Twinned Towns (UK)

The European Commission has issued a call for proposals for the thematic networking of Twinned Towns. This call for proposals which is part of the European Commission's Town Twinning Initiative provides grants for towns with existing town twinning links to come together in thematic networks that address issues of common concern. This Programme provides financial support for conferences and workshops that address specific themes, involving at least three towns, developed within the framework of existing town twinning agreements. These events should be the starting point for future joint initiatives between the twinned towns. Only the following types of organisations are eligible to submit an application:

- Municipalities and twinning committees
- Local and regional governments
- Associations representing local authorities.

The closing date for applications is the 1st September 2009.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/citizenship/funding/2009/call_action1_12_2009_en.php

General - Association for Industrial Archaeology Grants (UK)

The Association for Industrial Archaeology (AIA) has announced that it can now make available Restoration Grants for range of historic and industrial archaeology purposes. To be eligible to make an application the project must be for:

- The restoration of historically, technically, architecturally, and/or archaeologically important industrial buildings, structures, machinery, vehicles and vessels within the UK
- The heritage asset must be covered by a Conservation Policy and/or Statement
- The heritage asset must be sustainably managed, displayed and interpreted for the public.

The maximum grant available is £15,000 and must be for capital expenditure. The closing date for applications is the 1st June 2009.

<http://www.industrial-archaeology.org.uk/arestore.htm>

General - Party Conference Bursary Scheme (England)

The National Council for Voluntary Organisation (NCVO) has announced the launch of its Party Conference Bursary scheme for 2009 which will allow 7 smaller organisations to attend each party conference and have their voices heard at a national level. Successful organisations will receive a two-day pass to the Labour, Conservative or Liberal Democrat Party Conference, 1 night's accommodation and travel to and from the party conference. In addition NCVO parliamentary staff will be on hand to support successful organisations with a programme of meetings for the conferences, including a roundtable discussion with a Senior MP or Minister. Only NCVO members and registered charities with an income of less than £500,000 can apply. The application deadline is 5 pm on the 5th June 2009.

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/whatwedo/parliamentary?id=4946>

General - Call for Proposals for Actions to Develop and Implement the European Qualifications Framework (UK)

The European Commission, has issued a call for proposals for actions to implement the European Qualifications Framework (EQF) including as an overarching framework to facilitate mobility and lifelong learning. The EQF is a key initiative in achieving mutual recognition of qualifications levels of different countries and different education and training systems and thereby facilitating European citizens' mobility for work and study across the European Union. The total budget earmarked for the co-financing of projects under this call amounts to € 2 million and the Agency will award grants of between €200 000 and €300 000 per project. This

call is open to consortia of organisations drawn from at least 7 countries and should include national, regional and sectoral organisations, including, for example, ministries, qualifications authorities, sectoral associations, social partners and other key stakeholders with an interest and role in qualifications systems. Applicants should also be sufficiently representative in terms of the sector, labour market or education and training system (s) that their project is intended to benefit. The Deadline for applications is the 14 August 2009.

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2009/call_eqf_2009.html

General - Real World Documentary Scheme 2009 (South East)

Screen South and Pathways of Women's Empowerment have announced that they are now open to applications through the Real World Documentary Scheme 2009. Real World aims to support the talent, skills and innovation of the region's new and existing filmmaking talent, to influence the next generation of documentary filmmakers and to give filmmakers access to new research that can help bring about positive social change. Screen South and Pathways of Women's Empowerment will enable an innovative documentary filmmaker to make a 20 minute short documentary film, along with a three minute and a thirty second version. This call is open to directors and producers based in the Screen South Region. The application deadline is the 5th June 2009.

<http://www.screensouth.org/newsarticle.aspx?newsid=1236>

Other Funding News

General - New Investment Fund to Back British Business (UK)

The Department for Business Enterprise & Regulatory Reform (BERR) has announced a £750 million strategic investment fund for backing businesses to come out stronger from the downturn. The new fund to back "New Industry, New Jobs" will support businesses in Britain build their strengths in innovation, R&D and skills. It's a fund to equip Britain to win as a low carbon, knowledge economy. The fund will be available over two years, (£400 million 2009/10 and £350 million 2010/11) to meet immediate business needs. It will include:

- £250 million to invest in low carbon business opportunities and innovation. This will include initiatives on low carbon vehicles, as well as the nuclear and renewable energy industries
- £50 million extra for the Technology Strategy Board to significantly expand its work with business, fostering innovation and new technologies
- £10 million extra for UK Trade and Investment to help exporters.

<http://nds.coi.gov.uk/environment/fullDetail.asp?ReleaseID=399327&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=True>

General - New Initiatives to Help Arts Organisations During the Economic Downturn (England)

Arts Council England has announced that they will be investing an extra £44.5 million in artists and arts organisations over the next two years to help during the economic downturn.

The initiatives include:

- Sustain - a new £40 million scheme for arts organisations that need extra support due to the recession. Sustain will offer one-off grants of between £75,000 and £3 million to cover the two year period. Applications can be made from the 1st June 2009. There will be no closing deadline.
- £500,000 support for the Town Centres Initiative to enable more artistic activities to take place in empty retail spaces
- A £4 million increase in the Grants for the arts budget over the next two years.

http://www.artscouncil.org.uk/aboutus/project_detail.php?rid=0&sid=&browse=recent&id=1128

General - Extra Funding to Guarantee a Place for Post-16 Learning (England)

£655 million extra Funding has been announced by the Government to tackle youth unemployment and ensure continued investment skills through the downturn. This extra funding will guarantee a place in education and training for every 16 and 17-year-old. There will be additional investment of £251 million in 2009-10 and £404 million in 2010-11 to allow 54,400 more young people to take up a guaranteed place at school or college or with a training provider in 2009 and 2010. The funding will take the total number of young people able to take a place of their choice to more than 1,550,000. In addition to the £655 million, a further £80 million will be prioritised from the Department for Children, Schools and Families capital budgets over the next two years to support college capital projects which benefit 16 to 19 year olds.

http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2009_0077

Funding Reminders

General - Ecominds (England)

Mind, the national mental health charity in England and Wales has announced that it has made its first awards and awarded a total of over £1 million in funding to nine projects. Through the Ecominds programme, Mind will fund a range of groups (including schools and colleges) who want to encourage people with experience of mental distress to get involved in environmental projects, such as improving open spaces and wildlife habitats, designing public art and recycling. Successful applicants include;

- Hart Voluntary Action who received funding for the provision of an intergenerational community garden project where Mental Health Service Users are part of a team that undertakes gardening for vulnerable adults in the community of Hart.
- The Wildwood Trust, which received a grants from Ecomind to bring together the skills of mental health service providers, charities and the Wildwood Trust, to create a project of woodland management, rare species and animal care, and provide mental health service users with environmental skills that promote mental and physical wellbeing.
- Rushmoor Voluntary Services, which received funding to improve the quality of life of mental health service users by providing support and training to become involved in a range of local horticultural, gardening and environmental activities

Over the next five years Ecominds will have £7.5 million to distribute to around 125 new and existing projects. To be eligible for funding projects must have:

- Both a mental health and environmental perspective
- Involve people with direct experience of mental distress
- Encourage community access, collaboration, and improve the environment and environmental sustainability
- Have a budget of under £250,000.

Applications can be made at any time.

<http://www.mind.org.uk/ecominds/>

General - Biffawards Flagship Programme (UK)

Biffawards, which awards grants to community and environmental projects through monies raised from landfill tax credits donated by Biffa Waste Services has announced, that it's "Flagship" Programme is now open for applications.

Through its "Flagship" Programme, Biffawards will be looking to support regionally or nationally significant voluntary sector led regeneration or biodiversity projects. In 2009 the

themes supported through the programme will be rebuilding biodiversity and cultural facilities. Flagship projects involve the community working together with a variety of partner organisations to have a major impact on quality of life and/or the environment. Suitably qualified organisations can apply for grants of between £150,000 and £500,000. Projects must be site-based, within 25 miles of a Biffa operation and ten miles of an active landfill site. The organisation making the application must be eligible to enrol with ENTRUST as an Environmental Body.

In addition Biffawards makes grants of up to £50,000 through its Community and Biodiversity main grants programme as well as grants of up to £5,000 through its small grants programme. Applicants have until the 1st July 2009 to submit their stage 1 Expression of Interest forms.

<http://www.biffaward.org/about/foverview>

General - Futurebuilders Cashflow Fund (England)

Futurebuilders England, which is a government-backed fund offering investment and support to third sector organisations to develop their capacity for delivering public services, has announced the launch of a new £4 million Cashflow Fund. The aim of the fund is to provide short-term loans (up to two years) to community and voluntary organisations to cover short term cashflow needs or development capital (the money needed to support an organisation through the early stages of a scheme, before it can generate income) needed to bid for, win and deliver public sector contracts. The Cashflow Fund comes in a number of formats. These include:

- Bridging Loans to help with short term funding gaps
- Reserves covers to help organisations keep a minimum level of reserves on your balance sheet and Overdraft Guarentees.

The minimum loan amount that organisations can apply for is £50,000. Applications can be made at any time via Futurebuilder online enquiry form or by phoning Futurebuilders enquiry line on 0191 261 5200.

<http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk/our-products/our-products/cashflow-fund/>

General - Landscape Partnerships (UK)

The Landscape Partnerships grant programme aims to support schemes of between £250,000 and £2million led by partnerships of local, regional and national interests which aim to conserve areas of distinctive landscape character throughout the United Kingdom. Each scheme is based round a portfolio of smaller projects, which together provide a varied package of benefits to an area, its communities and visitors. The aims of the programme are:

- to conserve or restore the built and natural features that create the historic landscape character; increase community participation in local heritage
- increase access to and learning about the landscape area and its heritage
- increase training opportunities in local heritage skills.

There is a two stage application process. First stage applications are only considered by HLF's Board of Trustees in a single annual meeting to be held in April of each year. Applicants should therefore make sure that their first round application reaches their regional or country office by the 30 November in any one year.

<http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/LandscapePartnerships/>

General - The Links Foundation (England, Scotland and Wales)

The Links Foundation, which was formed by 'Working Links', an organisation that delivers services to tackle social exclusion and poverty by helping disadvantaged individuals and communities, provides grants to disadvantaged communities. Since its launch in 2003 it has distributed over £3 million in grants to over 40 projects. The type of activities that the Foundation seeks to support include projects that;

- advance people's education;
- reduce significant disadvantage;
- assist those in conditions of poverty, need or distress ;
- and provide for recreational or other leisure time occupation.

The Foundation can fund new or existing projects and can help meet costs such as salary, rent and stationery as well as capital costs. The average grant per project is about £20,000. Previously funded activities include arts, crafts and drama facilities for residents on a deprived estate; funding part-time caseworker to support vulnerable and disadvantaged young people; and supporting people with disabilities to become self-employed.

The Board meets every four months. The closing date for applications is four weeks before the Board meeting.

<http://www.eco-schools.org.uk/>

General - Arts Council's Artists Taking the Lead (UK)

Through Artists taking the lead, the most ambitious wide ranging art prize in the UK, being developed by Arts Council England, in partnership with London 2012 and the arts councils of Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, artist of all kinds across the UK are being challenged to use the nation as a blank canvas for twelve inspirational commissions that will reflect the

UK's artistic vision and become a creative celebration of the London 2012 Games. Up to £500,000 will be awarded to create these twelve new commissions of art across the country, one for each region of England, and in the nations of Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. The deadline for submissions is the 29th May 2009. Ideas for the commissions can be submitted online.

<http://www.artiststakingthelead.org.uk/>