

Real Help for Communities:
Volunteers, Charities and
Social Enterprises



Real help now

Office of the Third Sector

- In Cabinet Office – created in May 2006
- Minister for the Third Sector, Kevin Brennan, & Minister for the Cabinet Office, Liam Byrne

Our overarching aim is to:

Develop and support an environment which enables the third sector to thrive, growing it's contribution to Britain's society, economy and environment

Context

- Third Sector is facing increasing demand for services at the same time as decreasing income
- Government is acting to provide real help now so the third sector can deliver the extra help that people need, when and where they need it
- The Office of the Third Sector worked closely with third sector organisations to produce a package of support that will help organisations meet the needs of individuals and communities

Why is this important the to West Midlands?

- 12,366 general charities (2005/06, NCVO Almanac 2008)
- 29% people formally volunteer at least once a month (2005 Citizenship Survey)
- 44% people formally volunteer at least once in last 12 months (2005 Citizenship Survey)
- 45,000 people employed in the third sector in 2005 (UK Voluntary Sector Workforce Almanac, 2007)

5 Principles of *Real Help for Communities*

- Helps achieve **economic growth, equality** and **social mobility**
- Delivers real **help now and in the future** for individuals, families and communities
- Ensures as many **resources** as possible are directed into **frontline services**
- Encourages third sector organisations to **work together** to provide help now & in the future
- Provides a **rapid response** to current and emerging needs

Key Measures

Up to **£42.5m package** of measures to provide **real help now to communities**, by supporting volunteering, charities and social enterprises.

1. **Up to £10m Volunteer Brokerage Scheme**
2. **£15.5m Targeted Support Fund**
3. **£0.5m investment in the School for Social Entrepreneurs**
4. **£16.5m modernisation fund**

1 – Up to £10m Volunteer Brokerage Scheme

Why is the measure important?

- Improving skills and employability
- Providing supported opportunities for volunteering

What will the measure achieve?

- 40,000 jobseekers will have access to work-focussed volunteering opportunities
- Help jobseekers to get back to work
- Available to jobseekers who have been unemployed for at least six months

2- £15.5m Targeted Support Fund

Why is the measure important?

- Increasing demand for certain third sector services at community level e.g. employment, legal and financial advice
- Targeted at small/medium third sector service providers

What will the measure achieve?

- Investment in services that support people and communities affected by the recession
- Targeted grants programme for small/medium providers
- Focus on 50 local areas that are at risk of deprivation

3- £16.5m Modernisation Fund

Why is the measure important?

- Idea driven by the third sector (NCVO Summit, Nov 08)
- Organisations need to adapt to meet current challenges
- Benefits of collaboration
- The costs of investing in change can be prohibitive

What will the measure achieve?

- Access to specialist advice for organisations to become more efficient, effective and sustainable
- Facilitate collaboration within the sector
- England-wide but targeted at organisations working with deprived communities

www.modernisationfund.org.uk

4 - £0.5m to the School for Social Entrepreneurs

Why is the measure important?

- The social enterprise sector is growing
- Help create jobs and volunteering opportunities

What will the measure achieve?

- Expand the SSE's network and double the number of social entrepreneurs supported.
- Support the establishment of social enterprises that drive social change, create jobs and contribute to the economy.
- Targeted at deprived communities

Other measures (1/2):

- Awareness Raising Campaign: Government Commitment to Pay Invoices within 10 days
- Government support for businesses includes third sector businesses: www.businesslink.gov.uk/realhelp
- Review of incentives for investment in Social Enterprise by NESTA
- Refreshing the Compact – focus on improving commissioning practice
- New Funding Information Web Services – help for the sector to identify sources of funding

Other measures (2/2):

- Providing information on impact of pensions schemes – helping third sector organisations respond to pensions deficits
- 3 month task-force bringing together private and third sector
- DWP Pilot Accreditation Process and Independent Ombudsman for Code of Conduct – to support third sector providers of welfare to work services

Stop Press..... Budget 2009

- Hardship Fund announced on Wednesday 22nd April in the Budget 2009. New £16m fund targeted at front line services hit by the recession
- Further details will be available on our website.
www.cabinet-office.gov.uk/thirdsector

Roadshow programme

We know you have lots of questions.....

You'll have lots of opportunities to ask them

- in your workshops
 - at any clinic appointments that you've arranged
- and
- at the Q&A session later
 - www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector