

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 in the London Region?

21,956 general charities (2005/06, NCVO Almanac 2008)

42% people formally volunteer at least once in last 12 months (2005 Citizenship Survey)

95,000 people employed in the third sector in 2005 (UK Voluntary Sector Workforce Almanac, 2007)

Contribution of over £3 billion to London's GDP (NCVO 2002)

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

CommunityBuilders

- Workshops today will also cover the CLG's £70m CommunityBuilders programme
- Not part of the *Real Help for Communities* Action Plan but of relevance as a significant programme of funding for third sector organisations

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.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/thirdsector