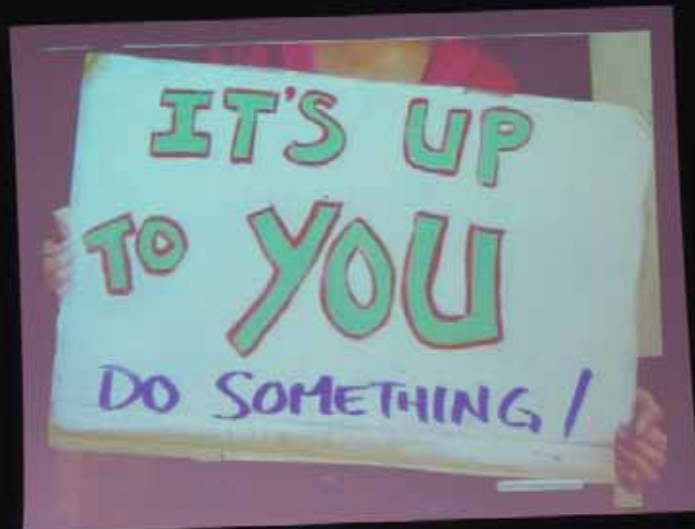


Summer 2011



Collaboration was a topic of discussion at the BIG Event 2011

Considering collaboration

This is a time of great uncertainty for many. For some, unfortunately, this has been a time of funding cuts and the reality is that many voluntary and community groups are faced with needing to make changes.

At a national event recently, speakers from the Government, the National Lottery, and national voluntary sector organisations talked about how important it is for groups to work together, including sharing resources, to face this time of greater austerity.

Collaborative working is a term used to describe the many ways two or more organisations can work together. This could mean joint delivery of projects or even full merger. Interest in collaborative working between voluntary groups is increasing. This is partly because many funders seek tenders that involve joint bids, and collaborating to bid for contracts also means community groups can offer savings whilst delivering services needed in the communities within which they operate.

The need for greater collaborative working is being supported by 3VA in a number of ways, including forthcoming training courses (see page 4 for details) and in work with specific organisations to make new or to strengthen existing partnership arrangements.

Please contact 3VA if you want to develop stronger or new collaborative working via email to collaborativeworking@3va.org.uk. Ultimately 3VA want to help groups to be sustainable, so if collaboration is not for your group let 3VA know how they can help you.

Useful resources

- The [Getting Ready for Collaboration](#) guide looks at how to prepare to work with others and gives examples. [Benefiting everyone – commissioning, community organisations and collaboration](#) looks at how community groups can add value to public service design and delivery and help commissioners meet objectives. Both are available on Bassac's website: www.bassac.org.uk
- If looking for a partner with whom to collaborate, the [Partner Zone](#) at www.fundingcentral.org.uk enables groups to search for potential partners by location or focus of activities

Dear readers,

We have just completed our end-of-year monitoring and we wanted to share some of the headlines with you...

In total, we supported 389 groups including 158 organisations in Eastbourne, 96 organisations in the Lewes District, and 135 groups in Wealden

As a membership organisation we now have over 540 members across Eastbourne, Lewes District and Wealden which reinforces our mandate to work on behalf of the sector

We developed a number of events and projects to meet emerging needs, including Lewes' Fume Free Friday, the Voluntary Organisations Supporting Older People (VOSOP) group in Lewes and Wealden, and our work on Eastbourne's neighbourhood management project

We were joint-leads for the countywide Economic Value Assessment project of the voluntary and community sector for which 1,373 organisations supplied information (more detail on pages 6-7)

Our meeting rooms in Eastbourne and Lewes were hired out over 1,300 times – primarily for training and meetings by community groups

We have supported groups to raise £463,150 in Wealden alone

3View, our new-look hardcopy newsletter, now goes out to over 900 contacts and our new-look eNewsletter now goes out to over 1,200 contacts

As an organisation we dealt with 4,600 enquiries in the last year

We put on 36 training courses attended by 112 groups on topics such as Covering Your Costs

We helped 16 new organisations get started in the last year

We organised 60 events – ranging from training to networking, and conferences to funding fairs. For instance, Wealden Funding Fair attracted 108 people from 71 groups (see page 11 for the upcoming Lewes District Funding Fair)

We supported Newhaven Town Council in becoming – we believe – the first town council Compact signatory in the country

Thank you to all our staff, volunteers, trustees, members and partners for supporting us to have such a successful year,



Adam Chugg,
3VA Chief Executive

Introduction



Chairs' Lunches are always popular



Fume Free Friday was well supported

Contents

In this newsletter you will find a special Budget article (opposite), information on training (page 4), funding (5), a feature on the impact of the VCS in East Sussex (6-7), the latest from the countywide projects hosted by 3VA (8 and 9), details of our community networks (10), a vetting and barring article (11) and a news round-up (12).

We would also like to thank all our members who responded to our annual 'membership refresh' request. We will feedback the results to you in the next newsletter and use these results in planning our future work.

Accountant Nick Brown considers the implications of this year's Budget for voluntary and community groups

Following a difficult start to the year, the 2011 Budget announcements were a pleasant surprise to those working in the charitable and voluntary sector. Charity matters played a prominent role in Chancellor George Osborne's speech, and a number of major new initiatives affecting charities were unveiled. Osborne described the changes as "the most radical and most generous reforms to charitable giving for more than 20 years". The implications for charities are explained in this article.

Gift Aid will be automatically applied to donations of up to £10

Gift Aid is a scheme that allows charities to increase the value of gifts of money from UK taxpayers by claiming back the basic rate tax paid by the donor. Up to now, in order for a charity to claim tax relief on a donation, it has been required to obtain a Gift Aid declaration from the donor to confirm that he/she is a UK tax payer. From April 2013 this will not be necessary for donations of ten pounds or less, and will apply to the first £5,000 of small donations per charity per annum. This less formal method is predicted to benefit 100,000 charities and create additional income of £240 million for the sector.

A new online filing system is also set to be introduced by 2013 for charities to make Gift Aid claims electronically. This will save charities time and money when claiming Gift Aid and help reduce the £750 million that goes unclaimed each year.

The Gift Aid donor benefit limit, which sets the value of items or services that a charity may give to a donor in return for a donation, has also been increased. To encourage individuals and companies to make larger donations, the annual benefit limit was increased from £500 to £2,500 from 1 April (companies) and 6 April (individuals). To benefit from this change the donation to the charity will need to be a minimum of £10,000. Otherwise, the existing rule still applies that the benefit must not exceed 5 per cent of the gift.

Tax break for charitable legacies

It was announced that a reduced rate of Inheritance Tax will apply where 10 per cent or more of a deceased person's estate (net of IHT exemptions,

reliefs and the nil rate band) is left to charity. Rather than 40 per cent, the tax rate will be reduced to 36 per cent. This will apply where death occurs on or after 6 April 2012. The change is predicted to raise £300 million for the sector. Long term it is the Government's objective to increase philanthropy in the UK and the good news is that this is likely to be reflected in future tax policy.

Increase in mileage allowance

With effect from 6 April, the mileage allowance for an individual using their own car for business use has been increased from 40p to 45p per mile for the first 10,000 miles, and is then 25p per mile thereafter. It is also possible to claim an extra 5p per mile if carrying passengers, and this has now been extended to volunteers travelling in charity vehicles as well as employees. In cases where individuals claim expenses which they then Gift Aid back to the charity, the increase in mileage allowance will result in higher Gift Aid claims.

'Tainted' charitable donations

New rules will replace the existing substantial donor rules for donations made on or after 1 April. Tax relief will be denied on charitable donations where one of the main purposes of the donation is to receive an advantage for the donor or a connected person directly or indirectly from the charity. These donations will be known as 'tainted donations' and there is no monetary limit on the amount of the donation which may be caught by these rules. This new provision looks set to shift the compliance burden from the charity to the donor.

Nick Brown is a partner at Plummer Parsons, a firm of charity accountants providing VCS groups with a range of services, including financial advice. This article was written on 24 April and does not give a full statement of the Budget. It is intended for guidance only, and is not a substitute for professional advice. No responsibility for loss occasioned as a result of any person acting or refraining from acting can be accepted by the authors or Plummer Parsons.

■ Nick Brown nick.brown@plummer-parsons.co.uk or call 01323 431200.

Would you like to see an article exploring a particular issue affecting the voluntary and community sector? If so suggest it to us and we may get one of our team or an outside expert to write a feature on that subject. Please send suggestions for articles to info@3va.org.uk and we'll see what we can do.

Training news

To book a place on any course listed below, or if there is a course you would like included in future 3VA training provision, please visit www.3va.org.uk or contact 3VA's Training Officer Julia Fowler by email to julia.fowler@3va.org.uk or call 01273 483832.

Courses Coming Soon – Book Now

Legal Masterclass: Partnership in Practice

Date: Thursday 19 May, 9.30am to 4pm

Location: WRVS Russell Centre, Eastbourne

Details: Collaboration is an option many groups are considering as funders emphasise its importance and groups themselves look to develop services.

This one-day legal masterclass course will provide expert guidance to assist organisations in deciding whether collaboration is an option for them, and what it will involve. With an emphasis on helping to steer organisations through the legal minefield of partnership working, it is a course not to be missed.

Target Audience: For organisations interested in working in partnership and that want to find out more about the practicalities of what to consider.

Cost: VCS £85; Other £100

Covering your Costs

with Maureen Anstey and Lyn Faulkner-Leppard

Date: Tuesday 24 May, 9.30am – 4pm (Note: date may be subject to change, contact Julia Fowler for more details via julia.fowler@3va.org.uk)

Location: WRVS Russell Centre, Eastbourne

Details: Worried about covering your overheads?

Unsure where to start costing a project? This session focuses on improving understanding of how to cost so that projects and services are sustainable in the future. The course will look at:

preparing and using budgets; the difference between project and core costs; understanding the language involved and how to cover all project costs. The afternoon session will look at identifying and calculating project and core costs, focusing on hidden costs.

Target Audience: Anyone wishing to understand how to cover all their project costs.

Cost: VCS £50 (subsidised by the Big Lottery); Others £65

112
The number of voluntary and community organisations who benefitted from a total of 36 training courses organised by 3VA throughout the last last year

A Treasurer's Handbook

Date: Tuesday 31 May, 9.30am to 2pm

Location: Yarrow Room, Town Hall, Lewes

Details: This session will help you: understand the role of the treasurer, including: tasks and responsibilities; financial controls; the legal aspect, to include monetary thresholds and end of year requirements; reporting to the Committee (management reports) and understanding accounts.

Cost: FREE (supported by Big Lottery)

Grow Your Own Income

Date: Wednesday 8 June, 9.30am to 4pm

Location: Lewes

Details: Looking to build more sources of funding? Curious about social enterprise but not sure what it involves? This session will provide a clear and comprehensive introduction to social enterprises.

Target Audience: For anyone interested in finding out about the social enterprise business model.

Cost: VCS £40 (subsidised by the Big Lottery); Others £60

Lone Working

Date: Tuesday 21 June, 9.30am to 1.30pm

Location: Yarrow Room, Town Hall, Lewes

Details: This course will help identify personal safety risks, allow participants to review and improve existing lone working procedures and will include advice on diffusing difficult situations.

Target Audience: Staff and volunteers who operate alone as part of their role.

Cost: VCS £40; Others £50

Funding latest

Great source of funding info

Active Sussex coordinate and facilitate the delivery of sport and physical activity initiatives across Sussex. Though not a funding body, Active Sussex signpost voluntary and community groups to relevant national, regional and local sources of funding.

For more information visit the website:
www.activesussex.org.

Where to find funding

Sussex Community Foundation bridges the gap between local people and companies who want to give, and local communities.

New funds currently open for applications are:

■ **The Brenda Ford Fund** supports women suffering from or at risk of domestic abuse in Sussex. Grants are up to £5,000 and the next application deadline is **15 July**.

■ **The Westdene Trust** is aimed at helping young people who have exceptional musical talent and limited financial means.

The next deadline is **15 July**.

For more information call 01273 409440 or visit the website www.sussexgiving.org.uk.

Seedcorn Fund

The final round of the Seedcorn Fund, a small grants scheme made available by East Sussex County Council through the Community Partnership Finance (CPF) Programme has been announced.

Bids are invited from voluntary organisations and community groups across East Sussex wanting to pilot either innovative service delivery, new approaches to user involvement or delivering to a wider geographical area.

The next deadline for bids is **Tuesday 21 June**.

More information is available by calling 01424 444010 or through the website www.hastingsvoluntaryaction.org.

£490

Secured by Wishing Well to purchase cooking equipment for Beat Sports Youth Club to run a healthy eating programme for young people and develop a community café for local residents

Essential guides

3VA understands how challenging securing funding can be and we have specialist funding advice on hand to support your group (contact details at bottom of page).

As part of this work we publish a range of Essential Guides – covering topics such as:

- Proving The Need
- Covering Your Costs
- Funding Strategies
- Successful Applications

Concise but comprehensive, these guides are packed with information and advice to help steer your group in the right direction.

Date for your diary

3VA Funding Fair in Lewes

Date: Monday 13 June, 4.30pm to 8pm

Location: Priory School, Mountfield Road, Lewes

Details: This event will include free training courses, one-to-one appointments with specialist funding advisors and the opportunity to meet a range of funders. For further details and a booking form please visit www.3va.org.uk

Need help applying for funding?

We offer specialised funding advice to VCS groups – contact (Eastbourne) Maureen Anstey 01323 419788; (Lewes District) Lorna Stagg 01273 483832; (Wealden) Karl Parks 01825 765136

Feature The value of the Voluntary

Economic Value Assessment

Last year, 3VA worked with HVA and RVA in conducting an Economic Value Assessment survey with our combined membership. This research project aimed to take a snapshot of the unique value and contribution that the sector makes to the local area. The results are based on information from our combined membership of over 1,300 organisations.

The final report, due to be published in May, will be hugely influential in terms of:

- Showcasing the value of the sector to local funders and commissioners
- Encouraging organisations to value, respect and work with the sector
- Promoting an awareness and understanding of the local sector
- Supporting groups to get the support they need
- Celebrating the work that the sector does

Structures

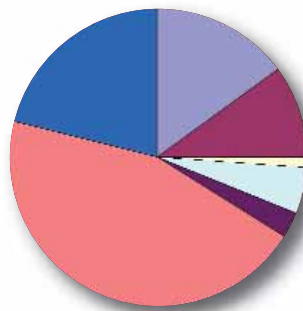
The most common structure for voluntary and community groups in East Sussex is a registered charity. However, more than 31 per cent are not formally registered – being smaller or more informal groups

Areas of work

The top 5 areas of work are:

1. Children and families
2. Advice/information/advocacy
3. Older people
4. Education/training/learning
5. Health

Chart of voluntary group structures



Groups that are a Registered Charity

Community Org with governing document

Both Registered Charity and Limited Co

Informal Group

Registered Social Landlord

Registered Co/ Social Enterprise/ CIC

Other

Volunteering

60,130

As a county, East Sussex enjoys a significant level of volunteering with 60,130 individuals regularly contributing their time as volunteers to our member groups

£80,000,000

These volunteers give more than 130,000 hours of their time every year. Using the average wage for East Sussex, it is possible to calculate that the hours donated by volunteers are equal to £1.5 million every week.

This is worth £80 million per year to the East Sussex Economy

& Community Sector in East Sussex

Income

£476 million

59% of respondents had an annual income of less than £20,000, emphasising that the majority of voluntary and community groups are very small, with little or no funding, and many are entirely volunteer-run with no paid staff.

In total, we were able to estimate the combined income for the voluntary and community sector in East Sussex was £476 Million.

Funding

The top five sources of funding for groups were:

1. Own fundraising activities
2. Private donations
3. One-off small grants
4. Earned income/trading
5. Charitable trusts

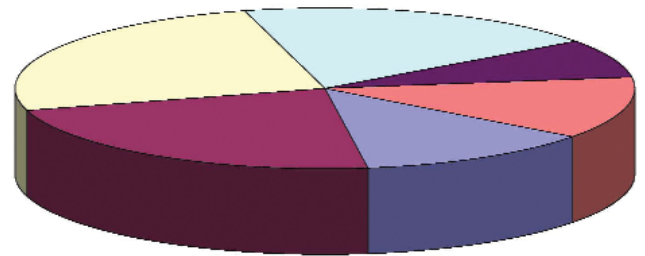
Findings

Our research has led us to the following conclusions about the Voluntary and Community Sector in East Sussex:

- We work across all areas of the community – whatever it is, we are involved
- We are a sector of predominantly small organisations with low incomes and few, if any, paid staff
- We have a huge competitive advantage in what we can offer over other sectors, particularly in social capital
- We are low-cost, high-impact – investing in the sector can provide a huge return
- We are unique, and this needs to be respected, valued and protected
- We need to shout louder about what we do and what we can offer
- We are “Big Society” in action
- We make a significant contribution to the local economy
- We are a very independent sector in terms of sourcing our funding
- We enjoy a tremendous level of support from individuals giving their time and expertise from volunteers.

We want to thank all our members who took the time to complete the survey, this research could not have been completed without your invaluable contributions. Please visit www.3va.org.uk for the full report, due for release in May 2011.

Chart of group incomes



Groups with annual income less than £500

£500 – £5,000

£5,000 – £20,000

£20,000 – £100,000

£100,000 – £250,000

Over £250,000

BIG Event is a HUGE success...

SpeakUp is very proud to have organised the Big Event 2011 on 7 March. Over 200 participants came to the Winter Gardens in Eastbourne and the feedback received was overwhelmingly positive. Groups said they: "met likeminded organisations"; "developed new ideas"; and "met groups they would not normally come across". Many plan to follow up on the ideas and links initiated at the event.

The Advice Fair and networking opportunities were judged as the two most useful parts of the day. The Fair had over 20 stalls on offer with information on free and low-cost services available for local organisations, including funding advice, training, IT support, collaboration and representation support.

Groups also valued the opportunity to learn about the impact of changes at central and local level on the Voluntary Sector. SpeakUp was delighted to welcome Ralph Mitchell, Head of Policy at ACEVO (Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations) as a speaker, and have the day opened by Councillor Bob Tidy, ESCC Cabinet Member for Community Service.

The event finished with a robust Collaboration Round Table Discussion. Many participants met potential future partners and were able to learn more about what collaboration may mean for their organisation. SpeakUp also gathered information to help demonstrate the benefits of collaboration for local groups and highlight potential next steps and future needs. SpeakUp plans to analyse the results and try to provide appropriate support.

SpeakUp has put versions of the handouts and other relevant information online, which is available via the website: www.askcasper.org.uk. Alternatively you may contact Miriam Miklaszewska via speakup@3va.org.uk for more details.

SpeakUp would like to thank all who attended and the partners and volunteers involved in the event.

What's going on?

SpeakUp Forum is working with Adult Social Care on the Commissioning Grants Prospectus for Health, Social Care and Wellbeing and is working towards stronger representation for the Voluntary and Community Sector in the emerging Health Structures like the PCT Cluster, GP Consortia and HealthWatch. Email speakup@3va.org.uk for details.



The largest VCS event in East Sussex



Senior national and local speakers



Twenty advice stalls

Images on this page and front cover
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Celebrate Volunteers' Week

National Volunteers' Week takes place every year between 1 and 7 June and is an opportunity for us to recognise the invaluable contribution that volunteers make to our communities.

This year, Volunteer Centre East Sussex will be celebrating the thousands of volunteers across our region with an event on Saturday 4 June at the De La Warr Pavilion in Bexhill (pictured right). Volunteers and organisations from across East Sussex are invited to come and meet one another and listen to guest speakers before the event is opened to members of the public. Volunteer-involving organisations are also invited to host stalls and take the opportunity to publicise the work of their groups and meet potential new volunteers face to face! This is a free event and will be widely promoted across the county. We are keen to represent groups of all shapes and sizes from right across East Sussex, so if your organisation would be interested in having a stall, please contact Sarah Hodgetts by 20 May (details below). Please bear in mind spaces are limited and have to be allocated by district.

The Volunteer Centre will also be working in partnership with the Library and Information Service to deliver a drop-in brokerage service for members of the public who use the mobile libraries during the first week of June. The libraries visit many of the more rural locations throughout the county and are an opportunity for more isolated residents to access library services. A member of the VCES staff team will be available on the libraries throughout Volunteers' Week to talk to individuals interested in finding out more about volunteering in their local area and to help them find an opportunity that matches their interests.

If you would like more information about any of these activities or would like to host a stall on 4 June, please contact Sarah Hodgetts via sarah.hodgetts@vces.org.uk or call 01323 301757.



Year One in numbers...

Volunteer Centre East Sussex

- 774 volunteering opportunities added to the Do-It database
- 908 enquiries about volunteering dealt with by the team
- 8 Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forums held across the five districts of the county with an average of 10 participants
- 40 events attended to promote the service
- 99 face to face support sessions held with volunteer-involving organisations
- 80% of groups rated the VCES promotion of their opportunities as very good
- 90% of groups rated the advice received from VCES on volunteer management issues as very good
- 84% of groups rated their experience of one-to-one support sessions as very good
- 86% of groups rated their experience of Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forums as very good

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service Community Volunteer Service (managed by VCES)

- 4 new volunteers recruited to the Service
- 394 hours of volunteering activity
- 12 events attended
- 34 Home Safety Visits generated for the Fire Service
- Launch of the expansion of the Service beyond Wealden to cover the whole of East Sussex

Community Networks

3VA runs local community networks in Eastbourne, Lewes District and Wealden. Each works in a slightly different way, but all aim to provide information and networking opportunities for local groups

Join a Community Network...

- Network meetings are a great way of learning about topical issues, meeting organisations with similar interests, learning from the experience of others and sharing knowledge
- Events are normally free (occasionally there is a fee for lunch) and are open to all local community groups. They take place in Lewes District, Wealden and Eastbourne. Come to the next one in your area to find out more (details below)



Contact Jenny: 01323 419788
or jenny.watson@3va.org.uk

Jenny Watson has joined 3VA as Senior Community Development Officer responsible for networks and representation work. She will work closely with Amanda Steer in Eastbourne, but be concentrating on networks in Lewes District and Wealden, running existing ones, looking at what news ones are needed and where duplication may exist. Jenny is also working to ensure the full range of activity and work carried out by voluntary groups is recognised, represented and included in planning and policy decisions at a local level.

“What a fantastic idea. Everyone here is so needed in the community and we can all help each other if we know of each others’ existence.”

Previous participant at a Community Network Event

Dates for your diary

Wealden

Wealden Community Network:

‘Survive and Thrive’,

Thursday 23 June, 10.30am to 3.30pm

Mayfield Memorial Hall

Lewes District

Lewes Community Network:

‘Survive and Thrive’

Tuesday 5 July, 10.30am to 3.30pm

Lewes Town Hall

These meetings will identify the effect the economic downturn is having on voluntary and community groups and activities and look at how they need to adapt in order to survive and thrive. Topics covered will include:

- The effect of the downturn on supporters and fundraising
- Ensuring that staff and trustees have the necessary skills to cope
- Making the best use of resources

Speakers will include a fundraiser with 30 years’ experience of helping small and medium-sized charities with their fundraising and finance and a trustee of a Sussex grant-giving trust.

For further information or to book a place contact Jenny Watson on 01323 419788 or email jenny.watson@3va.org.uk.

Eastbourne

Eastbourne Managers’ and Coordinators’ Lunches

Next meeting topic: Surviving these difficult times, talk by the Samaritans

Wednesday 18 May, 12.30pm to 2pm

Next date for your diary: Wednesday 13 July, 12.30pm to 2pm

These popular lunches provide an important opportunity for local groups to share information, expertise and experience on a variety of issues. They are free and open to any local group.

Please contact Amanda Steer via email to amanda.steer@3va.org.uk or call 01323 419788 to book a place.

Hot Topic: Vetting and Barring

The Government has scaled back the **Vetting and Barring Scheme** to more common sense levels. **Sarah Hodgetts** looks at the implications

In February the Government outlined its new vision for a single, simplified arrangement which combines the work of the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA). The requirement to register with the VBS has been cancelled and individuals now receive portable CRB checks that can be continuously updated and which, where relevant, will provide employers with information about whether a person is barred from working in 'regulated activity' with children and vulnerable adults.

The new arrangements mean CRB certificates will only be issued to applicants, and they will have an opportunity to review and challenge the information in the certificate before it is shown to an employer. However employers will be able to check online to ensure certificates are valid and up-to-date. In addition, the Government has also changed the definition of 'regulated activity' so that fewer posts will be subject to vetting and barring, and fewer people will be checked.

Concerns raised

The NSPCC has stated that although it broadly agrees with many of the Government's proposals, it has the following serious concerns about some specific aspects of the proposed arrangements:

- The new definition of 'regulated activity' excludes many people who are supervised while working with children. The new definition no longer includes "any supervised teaching, training or instruction of children or the provision of any care or supervision of children by a person who is being supervised by another" unless such activities take place by a paid person in specified places such as a school or children's centres. Since volunteers will be exempt, NSPCC feel there is a risk individuals wishing to exploit relationships with children may find it easier to do so by becoming volunteers rather than as paid employees. They feel voluntary groups working in these areas must exercise extra caution in who they recruit for such roles.

- The Government has also stated that barring information will only be revealed in checks for people working in, or wishing to work in 'regulated activity'. However any activity that is provided for, or related to, children aged 16 or 17 is to be excluded from 'regulated activity', except for the provision of health, personal or certain types of social care. This means people working in education, sport and faith settings with 16 and 17 year olds will not be covered by barring arrangements. Meanwhile enhanced CRB checks will be provided for people working with children not in 'regulated activity', but these will not reveal if a person is on one of the barred lists.

The implications of this change are that although an individual may display behaviour that could be sufficient for a bar against working with children outside of a 'regulated activity' (e.g. as a volunteer at a Sunday School), this information would not trigger a referral to the ISA or subsequent bar because the person was not engaged in 'regulated activity'. Similarly, a person might be barred from 'regulated activity', but would then be able to move into non-regulated activity with children without their employers necessarily being alerted to the risk they pose. For example, someone barred from teaching because of an inappropriate relationship with young people could become a voluntary teaching assistant. Under these proposals, an employer could conduct an enhanced CRB check, but this would only show criminal history and not barring information.

These proposals have not yet been finalised and further details are expected soon, but it is important to be aware of the implications in the meantime.

County Volunteering Development Coordinator Sarah Hodgetts represents the voluntary sector on the ISA Implementation Group in East Sussex.

- Sarah Hodgetts sarah.hodgetts@vces.org.uk or call 01323 301757

Further Information

The cost of an Enhanced CRB check increased by £8 in April. All other fees remain unchanged. To keep up to date with the changes to the CRB process please visit www.crb.homeoffice.gov.uk

New legal structure for charities to be launched

The Charity Commission has published the first part of its guidance for anyone interested in setting up a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO).

A CIO will be an incorporated form of a charity which is not a company. CIOs will only register with the Charity Commission and not Companies House and will only be created once registered by the Commission. A CIO will be

able to enter into contracts in its own right and its trustees will normally have limited or no liability for the debts of the CIO.

Sam Younger, Chief Executive of the Charity Commission said: "There is the opportunity for people to look more closely at whether the CIO structure is the right one for their needs."

For further information visit: www.charity-commission.gov.uk.

Lewes Office Space

Following our Lewes office move we are all too aware of the scarcity of affordable, good quality space in central Lewes. We want to hear from groups looking for new premises either for expansion, contraction, cost-saving or for space that is simply better suited to your needs. Please send details of your organisation, what you're looking for and contact details to katherine.perrin@3va.org.uk.

Hall For Hire Again

After a lengthy closure and following essential building works by Eastbourne Borough Council, the hall, kitchen and storage area of the Community Centre in Etchingam Road, Langney, are available for hire.

Over the coming months 3VA will be working with Eastbourne Borough Council to help establish a new community organisation to manage the building on behalf of the local community. A consultation process is underway to give local residents the chance to say how they would like the building used and about additional work to modernise and equip the kitchen and refurbish the former social club at the rear of the building. To find out more about the consultation or to make an enquiry about hiring the community centre please contact Pat Taylor by email to pat.taylor@eastbourne.gov.uk or by phone on 01323 415909.

New 3VA Website Coming Soon!

3VA have been hard at work designing a brand new website for our new organisation. The new website will provide comprehensive and accessible information for our members, partners and local communities. It will feature regular news updates, our directory of members, our training programmes, event details and much more.

We will launch in May/June so watch this space and visit www.3va.org.uk

Notices of publications, events and services do not necessarily carry an endorsement by 3VA, nor do they represent the view of 3VA

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3View is also available through
the website: www.3va.org.uk.

