



Effective funders, thriving communities

## London Funders e-bulletin January 2012

### Editorial

Dear Colleague

#### **New Year, new challenges?**

Welcome to our first e-bulletin of 2012. The two of us at London Funders' secretariat wish you well. Those of us with a commitment to London cannot help but be somewhat fearful of the coming months, especially the benefits changes and further service cuts affecting the most vulnerable and raising demand for voluntary and community services, coupled with further squeezing of the various funds available to the VCS either through public sector cuts or low interest rates and uncertain markets.

London Funders will continue to plan services and activities that help funders learn and think together and foster funders' most effective practice. We will be listening hard to our members and sharing, reflectively, what we hear. See the next page for our initial plans.

#### **New Year, new website**

For the last couple of months, we have been working on a new, improved website for London Funders and the great unveiling happened on 9 January. Please take time to have look at it ([www.londonfunders.org.uk](http://www.londonfunders.org.uk) just as before) and feed your comments, criticisms and suggestions back to us (to [catherine@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:catherine@londonfunders.org.uk)).

We hope you will find it easy to navigate, offering resources that you will draw on for your work. We have great plans for expanding the material available on it. For the secretariat the new site is much easier to populate and update. We will keep members posted as we add new features and sections. We will also be chasing you for your reports, research, programmes, etc. to include in it!

Please continue to share your news with fellow funders through the e-bulletin. Our February edition will be published by about 7 February and the copy deadline is Tuesday, 31 January. Send material or links to [Catherine@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:Catherine@londonfunders.org.uk) – news, events, new publications, research topics and so on.

With every good wish. We hope to see you soon at one of our meetings,

Gaynor Humphreys and Catherine McLoughlin  
London Funders Secretariat



Don't forget to follow us on Twitter

## Contents

News and events at London Funders	page 2
Member focus: London Councils' consultation on its next grants programme	page 3
Member news	page 4
Climate change	page 6
Policy watch	page 6
Mapping the VCS	page 6
New funding	page 6
Hot topics	page 7
Other news and publications	page 8
London news	page 8
Other news	page 8
Publications	page 9
Consultation	page 10
External events and training	page 11
Recruitment	page 12

## News and events at London Funders

### Our events

#### 18 January

THE FUNDING LANDSCAPE: Second in a series of meetings to review and analyse changes in the funding of the voluntary and community sector in London. This time, the topic is

#### London's advice services

1.15 – 5.20 pm (registration and buffet lunch from 1.15 pm). Mazars, Tower Hill. A half day meeting to help funders

- understand the implications of changes in benefits, including housing benefit and the consequent pressures on generalist and specialist advice services
- be fully informed about the changes in funding for advice services, especially in relation to legal aid and other key resources
- share examples, experience and ideas about how best to identify and sustain crucial services

Alison Garnham, Chief Executive of Child Poverty Action Group will set the scene in relation to Universal Credit, housing benefit and how changes will affect London in particular. Matthew Smerdon (Baring Foundation), and others will talk about some of the specific problems affecting advice services' funding and describe constructive approaches to their. Helen Macfarlane will offer LB Camden's recent experience of reviewing local advice services and developing a new funding strategy.

Free for members. Non-member funders £100. Enquiries and bookings to [catherine@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:catherine@londonfunders.org.uk)

#### 7 February

Learning from Funders:

3-5 pm (tea/coffee from 2.45 pm). Buzzacott LLP, St. Paul's.

Save the date, topic to be confirmed soon.

#### 27 February

Research and Evaluation project group meeting:

10 am-12 noon (tea/coffee from 9.45 am). London Funder's offices, Euston.

As well as the usual updates from members, this session will include presentations from Stephen Miller, UnLtd on the use of quasi-experimental approach and Ann Wynne, LB of Camden on her borough's current research.

**Our events are for funders - staff and trustees/members of governing bodies. Meetings are free for members and associates of London Funders and we welcome enquiries from non-member funders. To book or to find out more, contact [catherine@londonfunders.org.uk](mailto:catherine@londonfunders.org.uk), 020 7255 4488.**

Please also note:

#### The future of migrant and refugee community organisations

31 January, 10 am – 1.40 pm (plus lunch)

Funders are cordially invited to attend. Fuller details page 11

### Our new publications

**The context for refugees and migrants:** report of a meeting for funders on 5 December which updated funders on policy and practice in relation to migrants and refugees in London and the implications for funding of frontline services and support organisations. Report [here](#).

See a full report [here](#) along with speakers' presentations from our members' meeting on changes in the funding of **children's and young people's services** in London.

**Impact measurement:** a report on a discussion between funders, led by Big Lottery Fund and New Philanthropy Capital: looking at the different stages of grantmaking and considering what role funders can play in requiring, supporting, signposting or funding impact measurement – particularly for smaller organisations struggling to know what to do. Full report available [here](#).

## Member focus



### Consultation on London Boroughs Grants Scheme 2013-15

This is an important invitation to funders to contribute to London Councils' consultation as it prepares for further reductions in its grants programme.

**Background** Through London Councils, all 32 London boroughs and the City of London Corporation, contribute to a grants programme, commissioning work from the voluntary and community sector. Two-thirds of the 33 bodies need to approve the proposed overall level of funding for grants, and other costs incurred in making grants. The level of funding that each borough contributes to the Grants Scheme is in proportion to its population. Grants are made through commissions for fixed periods for services to improve the lives of vulnerable people in London. This programme has been an opportunity for the boroughs, jointly, to support London-wide services best provided strategically across London.

During 2010 a combination of factors, including a desire to control costs at a time of severe public sector cuts, led the London Councils' Leaders' Committee to review the grants programme and agree which services would no longer be commissioned at a London strategic level. Consultation and review resulted in decisions to define the joint grantmaking as covering pan-London front line services including

- infrastructure support to service providers
- capacity building for service providers
- voice and representation services
- services where the mobility of clients is key to delivery (domestic violence, homelessness, etc.)
- services that are particularly specialist.

Priorities were also set: homelessness; domestic violence; poverty; high impact crime; specialist services; generic second tier; services that voice needs; and health (specialist conditions).

### Issues for consultation

At present there are 105 commissions funded by London Councils up to different points in 2012-13 (subject to the continued availability of funds). London Councils has agreed its budget for 2012-13 including £12.5 million for the Grants Scheme (inclusive of £1 million ESF income). (The equivalent figure in 2011-12 is £20.77 million.) The proposed 2012-13 figure would cover the current grant commitments up to the end of their fixed term current funding agreements (£5.3 million) and could fund around 80% of these after the end of their fixed term agreements and until the end of the 2012-13 financial year.

The Grants Committee now has an indicative budget of nearer £8 million for 2013-14 and is consulting on the following:

- which of the 105 current commissions should be funded beyond the end of their fixed funding agreements and until the end of the 2012-13 financial year?
- what principles and priorities will be applied in selecting commissions to start from 1 April 2013?

A list of the current commissions can be seen at [www.grants.londoncouncils.gov.uk](http://www.grants.londoncouncils.gov.uk) (including the date when current individual agreements to provide services and grants will end).

With such a considerable proposed change in the level of funding, London Councils will need to reshape the grants programme and in May 2012 will consider the case for new principles and priorities, giving time for any new commissioning over the summer for work starting in April 2013. They are also likely to be making two-year grants, with an option to extend for a further two years.

This consultation includes an invitation to comment on London Councils' initial assessment of the equalities effects of change and provides information about the outcomes of current commissions and trends in the key issues affecting Londoners. The decision-making process will start in May 2012.

[Read more about the consultation process](#), or [take part in the consultation](#)

Deadline: 5 pm on Friday, **23 March**

## Member news



### Consultation on Building Capabilities programme

Government has made £30 million available for a "final" national investment in local infrastructure (i.e. following the closure of Capacitybuilders and the ending of the Big Lottery Fund's Basis programme). BIG has made a commitment to provide at least £20 million to complement this. They have formulated some principles on which they are requesting views before they shape their future investment (comments on this [discussion paper](#) invited by **15 March**). They comment, "We want to be more purposeful in our investment and help leave a legacy that demonstrates measurable impact of this form of investment and to help organisations to be able to do this as well". The paper says the programme will not be a traditional grants programme for use any single solution to the diverse needs of front-line organisations: it particularly promotes ideas that enable front-line organisations "to get the support they need" by receiving resources to purchase this rather than the more traditional model of supporting second tier organisations. There has already been a response from generalist second tier organisations pointing out the broad role that they occupy in voice, advocacy and local development as well as direct services.

See also a joint consultation on where groups get advice and support electronically – by the Fund and Office for Civil Society (page 10).

### Big Society Investment Fund

Just before the New Year, Minister for Civil Society Nick Hurd announced that £3.1 million from dormant bank accounts is to be invested in four new projects through the [Big Society Investment Fund](#) run by the Big Fund (the non-Lottery funding operation of Big Lottery Fund) pending the creation of Big Society Capital:

- £1 million to FranchisingWorks to help long-term unemployed people set up their own franchise business
- £500,000 to Triodos Bank to set up a new payment by results initiative to help improve educational, training and work outcomes for vulnerable young people in Merseyside
- £750,000 to the Community Generation Fund run by Finance South East create community owned social enterprises within deprived communities which offer affordable, green energy and reinvest profits in the neighbourhood
- £850,000 to set up the Social Stock Exchange, a first in the world, to improve access to capital for social entrepreneurs.

### The London Community Foundation

The Capital Community Foundation has unveiled its new name - The London Community Foundation (LCF) - reflecting the merger in 2011 with Thames Community Foundation (TCF). The newly formed entity will continue to address the ever growing needs of the disadvantaged population with programmes such as [Surviving Winter](#).



In early December 2011, London Councils' Leaders Committee decided to cut the London Councils' European Social Fund programme in half, from £4 million (gross) to £2 million and not to proceed with a technical assistance programme. The ESF programme focuses on improving the employability and skills of the most excluded unemployed and economically inactive Londoners and the decision takes account of the existence of the government's Work Programme. The options paper considered by the Committee can be found [here](#); and a swift, critical response from London Voluntary Service Council [here](#).

See also page 10 for an introduction and link to London Councils' consultation on its next round of commissioning of work from the VCS.



The Trust is offering free media support for London community groups. [Media Matching](#) offers communities, charities and the people running these voluntary organisations free access to professional high-quality media and communications services, advice and support. See more [here](#).



Six months ago, Rosa, the UK fund for women and girls awarded grants from its Challenge Fund, to Fawcett and the Women's Budget Group, to consult women across the UK to discover the everyday impact of government cuts on women's lives, and producing toolkits to enable challenge and change; UK Feminista to support grassroots activism which will bring about a transformative impact on UK attitudes towards women and girls; and Southall Black Sisters to develop and launch a UK-wide strategy that tackles violence against black and minority ethnic women and girls.

While Rosa's trustees are pleased with the success of these groups, they note that 271 project proposals were put forward to the Fund, of which they could only support these three. They were struck by the breadth and depth of the issues raised in the applications. The increased prevalence and impact of women's and girls' objectification in popular culture emerged strongly as an area of concern, particularly its effect on girls' and young women's aspirations and vulnerability to abuse. Over a third of the applications were for work with girls and young women. Rosa will therefore be focussing on this work for the next two years, and is launching a Girls and Young Women's Fund. Read more [here](#).



The [Social Action Fund](#) is a grant fund of over £20 million, managed by Social Investment Business on behalf of the Office for Civil Society. The Fund's second "window" opened on 9 January and will close at noon on 3 February 2012. The Fund aims to inspire organisations to create new social action opportunities through contributions of time, money, assets, knowledge and skills. Eligible themes are: encouraging people to come together in their locality to support each other (SIB is looking for plans to scale up proven models to regional or national levels, or replicate them in other localities); and focusing on the different life stages of volunteering. Applicants can be civil society organisations, public sector bodies and businesses with a track record of delivering social action programmes. There is an eligibility test before the application itself.



In 2008, Trust for London pledged £850,000 to promote the living wage for London workers through campaign work and independent research on the benefits of adopting a living wage. A grant of nearly £700,000 was awarded to London Citizens to extend the campaign and has been instrumental in establishing the Living Wage Foundation which is responsible for awarding the Living Wage Employer mark. To date, over 140 employers from every sector have committed to paying a living wage which has helped lift 10,000 families out of poverty. In London, the living wage is calculated annually by the GLA and represents the level of wages, above the national minimum wage, needed to meet a reasonable standard of living for a worker and their dependants. It currently stands at £8.30/hour.

The Trust is inviting interested funders to come and find out more about this campaign and why funders should consider becoming living wage employers. They are holding a seminar on **10 February, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm** at their offices near Barbican. The seminar will provide an opportunity to hear about:

- the London Living Wage campaign led by London Citizens and funded by Trust for London
- the momentum and gains that have been achieved in getting employers to sign up as living wage employers in London and nationally
- the Trust's commitment to the living wage and in promoting it to the wider VCS
- how funders can become involved in the Living Wage campaign.

To book a place or find out more contact [Austin Taylor-Laybourn](#), Grants Manager, Trust for London, 020 7606 6145.

## Climate change

### Local Energy Assessment Fund

This is a new £10 million fund to help local communities develop energy projects. It is managed by a number of community networks and administered by the Energy Saving Trust. Parish councils, voluntary associations, development trusts and faith groups are all eligible to apply for grants of around £50,000 to help assess the potential for energy efficiency and local renewable energy generation and get things started in local communities. This is a short term scheme where work will need to be completed by the end of March 2012. The first round ran in December and round 2 will close to applications at noon on **20 January** with successful communities notified at the end January. See more [here](#).

### Green Investment Bank

Business Secretary Vince Cable has published the criteria for deciding where the Bank will be based and what the Bank's first priorities will be until 2016. The Bank is designed to accelerate private sector investment in the UK's transition to a green economy and its priority sectors will be offshore wind power generation, commercial and industrial waste processing and recycling, energy from waste generation, non-domestic energy efficiency and support for the Green Deal, all subject to approval by the European Commission. While the Bank is being established, additional staff are being taken on by BIS to "drive investment in the UK's green infrastructure". The formal recruitment process for appointments to the Green Investment Bank board and senior management team will begin at the start of 2012, with the appointment of the Chair in spring 2012. Read more [here](#).

## Policy watch

### Mapping the VCS

#### The arts

An [Arts Index](#) has been launched by the National Campaign for the Arts to plot trends in tickets sales, corporate sponsorship, philanthropy and public sector funding, as well as other measures of the health of the sector, such as attendance levels for adults and young people, satisfaction levels and the number of people volunteering in the arts.

### UK Giving 2011

The latest annual survey from NCVO and Charities Aid Foundation for research on individuals' giving to charity - how much is given, who the donors are, where the donations go and the trends over time.

[Download the UK Giving 2011 summary](#)

[Download the UK Giving 2011 full report](#)

## New funding

### Ending Gang and Youth Violence

Funding has been allocated as follows by the Home Office to London boroughs (out of a total of £10 million), based on their population of 10-24 year-olds and to be used in early intervention work in 2012-13 to support up to 30 areas "most affected by gangs and youth violence".

<b>Borough</b>	<b>£</b>
Brent	238,979
Croydon	344,454
Ealing	284,772
Enfield	288,624
Greenwich	230,906
Hackney	211,351
Haringey	199,074
Islington	195,703
Lambeth	242,047
Lewisham	248,529
Newham	277,289
Southwark	275,736
Tower Hamlets	258,697
Waltham Forest	226,945
Wandsworth	217,254
Westminster	225,657

### **The Mutual Support Programme**

Francis Maude, Minister for the Cabinet Office, has announced this £10 million funding programme to support the establishment of mutuals led by public sector staff by providing business and professional services to groups of staff or existing mutual organisations. PA Consulting will lead a consortium of "experts in employee ownership", managing the programme to purchase HR, legal, financial, tax and business planning services to develop the most promising new mutuals. Website [here](#), telephone hotline: 0845 5390543

See also the Transition Institute's first publication, *Social value ethos* which looks at ways social value is currently embedded in public service spin-outs.

### **Tackling troubled families**

In mid-December the Prime Minister and Communities Secretary announced plans for radical transformation in the lives of "the country's most troubled families", a cross-government drive aimed at 120,000 families. The problems of these families are analysed in the cost to public services – child protection, response to crime and anti-social behaviour, etc. There is a new Troubled Families Team in the Department for Communities and Local Government, headed by Louise Casey, to coordinate activity in Whitehall. £450 million has been identified for this work of which some 40% will be offered to local authorities on a payment-by-results basis when they and their partners achieve success with families. Success will be measured on the following criteria: children back into school; reduced criminal and anti-social behaviour; parents "on the road back to work"; and reduced costs to the taxpayer and local authorities. Government proposes a national network of Troubled Family 'Trouble-Shooters' appointed by local councils, and making sure the intended families are targeted with right type of help, sanctions are in place when needed, and positive results being achieved. See CLG press release [here](#).

The evaluation report, *Monitoring and Evaluation of Family Intervention Projects And Services*, by the National Centre for Social Research, analyses the experience and effectiveness of such projects from 2007-11.

### **Hot topics**

#### **Private rent watch**

This report by Shelter looks at private rents across the country and the proportion of average take home pay required to afford them. Both sets of figures are higher in London than in other regions. In the majority of London boroughs over 50% of average take home pay is needed to afford private sector rents, demonstrating how unaffordable such rents are to the average Londoner. They also demonstrate the disproportionate impact housing benefit cuts and a benefit cap will have on those claiming benefits and living in private rented accommodation in London.

[Private rent watch](#)

#### **Riots aftermath: London response to government**

The London Assembly's Economy, Culture and Sport Committee wrote in December to Secretary of State Eric Pickles to urge the government to provide revenue funding alongside capital support to ensure that post-riots regeneration can deliver social as well as physical improvements in the affected areas. The committee confirmed a broad range of support, including London boroughs, for long-term resources for schemes to tackle high levels of deprivation and worklessness. Read the committee's letter [here](#).

See also [London Councils' response to the Riots Communities and Victims panel](#) and [London Recovers website](#) (news from London Councils, GLA and Metropolitan Police)

## Other news and publications

### London news

#### London's Economy Today

The December issue of this source of economic data notes that amidst the many gloomy economic indicators there were some items in the Chancellor's 29 November statement which could benefit London – among them the commissioning of work on how public sector pay can be more responsive to local labour markets; Business Finance Partnership funding for SMEs; the proposed Northern Line Battersea extension and a possible new Enterprise Zone in Battersea; and some extra schools funding for the authorities with greatest pressure on school places. For the full analysis see: [London's Economy Today issue 112](#).

### Other news

#### Jargonbusters

Charities Evaluation Services' revised website of plain English definitions of terms used by funders and others in relation to performance management, project evaluation, etc. [www.jargonbusters.org.uk](http://www.jargonbusters.org.uk)

#### Social Impact Bonds: The One Service. One Year On

Social Finance, November 2011

The six year Peterborough project has now come to the end of its first year. The key question as to whether the service is reducing reoffending sufficiently to generate a return to investors will only be answered in Year 4. This first report shows over 500 individuals now in the community and voluntarily part of the service. There is still much enthusiasm for the project from criminal justice experts and practitioners. Peterborough Prison has begun to align some of its services for prisoners with the programme. Read the report [here](#).

A conference organised by Social Market Foundation in mid-December, *Risk and Reward: Can social impact bonds breathe new life into public services?*, looked at the scope for and interest in broadening the number of social impact bonds and payment by results ventures. It included a healthy level of questioning and scepticism and identified the strengths and limitations of the approach. Clare Thomas of City Bridge Trust talked about her Trust's, and the City of London's, considerable interest in exploring and promoting new approaches to effective work – for example in health and social care, especially to improve services to older people (e.g. improved hospital discharge or reductions in the number of falls for over-75s).

See [SMF's website](#) for conference speeches by Ian Duncan Smith and Danny Alexander, and in due course, a full podcast of the event.

Also available: *Investor Perspectives on Social Enterprise Financing*, a report prepared for the City of London Corporation, City Bridge Trust, and the Big Lottery Fund and *Making Good in Social Impact Investment* from Social Investment Business and TheCityUK

#### Social Impact Analysts Association

The SIAA was launched in December as a new professional body connecting and supporting social impact analysts worldwide. Plans for 2012 include: a directory of members; wiki-style resource centre and space for peer review; communicating the benefits and limitations of social impact analysis; agreeing a common language and sets of principles to guide social impact analysis. For more information, videos of the launch event and information on membership see the [SIAA website](#) or email [hello@siaassociation.org](mailto:hello@siaassociation.org).

#### Big Society Capital

The long-awaited wholesale investor, financed in part from the proceeds of dormant bank accounts, has been given clearance from the European Commission, confirming that its structure does not give unfair financial advantage to businesses (under state aid rules) and does not distort competition. The Big Fund has been holding funds on an interim basis (see Big Lottery Fund item on page 4 for more news). Nick O'Donohoe, chief executive of Big Society Capital, believes that the new organisation should be ready to open by the end of March. Nick Hurd, Minister for Civil Society, confirms that the dormant accounts funding could be as much as £400 million. Read more [here](#).

#### Prism The Gift Fund

This organisation promotes tax-efficient giving, especially through donor advised funds (minimum £10,000). They have promoted share-giving as a highly tax-effective approach and from time to time offer opportunities for debate on philanthropy, such as a lively recent debate, *Social investment: a contradiction in terms?*

They are particular promoters of Big Issue Invest which has a £10 million target for its Social Enterprise Investment Appeal. A recent announcement that HSBC Bank is investing £4 million leaves Big Issue Invest looking for the remaining £2 million of capital by March so that it can provide structured, medium-term growth capital to social enterprises that have the potential to have a significant social impact, and provide a financial return target of more than 5% to investors. Among other significant investors are Esmée Fairbairn Foundation and NESTA. Read more [here](#).

Donor advised funds (DAFs) such as Prism promotes are much better known in the US where they are a major source of philanthropic funding. A new report from the National Philanthropic Trust, *2011 Donor-Advised Fund Report* analyses information from over 450 charitable organizations that administer DAFs and shows nearly \$30 billion in total assets managed by DAFs in 2010 (25% up on the previous year) with grantmaking of over \$6 billion.

## **Publications**

*London Funders new website integrates information on publications with other resources under topic headings grouped as Resources for Funders.*

### **An approach to economic evaluation in social care**

SCIE report 52, published December 2011

SCIE's newly launched approach to economic evaluation in social care considers what economic evaluation in social care is and why it is important for policy-making. The report also explains some of the features of social care that require a distinct approach to the application of economic evaluation methods, and what those methods should be.

### **Arts sector survey**

Fourth survey of the impact of the global recession on the UK arts sector

Arts Quarter's latest survey of 452 UK arts organisations (of varying scale, all regions and art forms) finds among other issues, that an increase in the number of organisations competing for private sector support is leading to "fundraising bottlenecks"; that the majority of respondents believe they will be unlikely to recover losses in public sector funding from other sources until at least 2015; and a declining faith in the 2012 Olympics and Cultural Olympiad's capacity to generate much needed additional revenue and create a long term legacy of greater arts attendance after 2012.

### **Developing a rich and vibrant JSNA**

Local Government Improvement and Development

This is an overview of work that took place as part of the asset based pilot process within the Wakefield district. The process and key learning points offer insights into developing joint strategic needs assessments that reflect community assets and strengths as well as their needs and "deficits".

### **Diminishing dollars for social justice philanthropy**

Foundation Center and Cricket Island Foundation, USA

This report finds that social justice grantmakers in the US have been disproportionately affected by the global financial crisis and remain vulnerable to economic shocks. It notes that foundations with less than \$50 million in assets are struggling the most to recover from the economic downturn, that social justice non-profits are having difficulty finding new funders, and that some foundations are slowly, though unintentionally, depleting their assets, which could mean further reduction in social justice grantmaking.

### **Family Foundation Giving Trends 2011**

Cathy Pharoah with Charles Keidan and Jillian Gordon, November 2011

This year's report updates league tables of the largest UK family foundations measured by annual charitable spending, and sets out examples of the influences, motivation and strategies of large and small family foundations, based on interviews with philanthropists and funders.

### **IVAR's recent publications**

Two reports from the Institute for Voluntary Action Research aimed at the staff and trustees of organisations contemplating merger and form a companion to Thinking about Merger.

Story of a merger and Merger as strategy are based on feedback from staff and trustees involved in the respective mergers as well as our own perspective as facilitators and advisers on the mergers. The reports provide an insight into the planning, discussions and challenges of merger, as well as some of the critical success factors.

### **Little Big Societies: micro-mapping of organisations operating below the radar**

Dr Andri Soteri-Proctor, Third Sector Research Centre Working and Briefing Paper 71

The report of a study of two very small areas in depth is a reminder of how many community organisations are very small and informal. The researchers found 58 community groups operating in and around 11 streets – groups not on regulators' lists and generally missing from more standard VCS analysis, yet delivering diverse services and activities for specific interests and target communities. The researchers found innovation and flexibility (especially in resource acquisition) and highlight the importance of shared space, enabling groups to draw on broader help and resources. They note the unlikelihood of these groups getting involved in public service delivery.

### **Monitoring poverty and social exclusion 2011**

Hannah Aldridge, Anushree Parekh, Tom MacInnes and Peter Kenway

The annual report on the state of poverty and social exclusion in the UK, from the Joseph Rowntree Foundation and the New Policy Institute, is built around a set of 50 indicators and uses official government data. The analysis looks at low income, worklessness and debt, ill-health, poor education and problems in communities, among other issues. This report presents the legacy that was left to the coalition government by its predecessor, and examines the current Government's priorities for action.

### **Prototyping in Public Services**

A new guide from NESTA outlining methodology that can help providers and commissioners better meet the needs of their communities – especially to help develop new and innovative services by testing ideas out early in the development cycle.

### **Tough Times**

Audit Commission, November 2011

Analysis of local authorities' responses to the challenging financial climate, summarising the extent of cuts, the immediate impact (e.g. separating out reduced volume of services, increased fees and charges, reduced standards and eligibility restrictions) and risk factors. It finds that most councils are managing well in the face of unprecedented reductions to their income, but that some councils (especially where there are managerial as well as financial issues) will struggle to balance their books.

### **What does the voluntary sector workforce look like?**

NCVO, Skills-Third Sector and Third Sector Research Centre

How the sector's workforce changed between 2001 and 2010. Key findings include, more than half (57%) of the voluntary sector workforce being employed in "health and social work", equating to 437,000 people.

## **Consultation**

### **Joint Government and Big Lottery Fund survey**

The Office for Civil Society and the Big Lottery Fund are running a joint survey to ask how civil society organisations are using websites and social media to access advice and support, funding information and networking opportunities. The survey is open until **20 January**.

Complete the OCS-BLF survey [here](#)

### **Big Lottery Fund consultation on Building Capabilities programme**

Discussion paper [here](#)

Deadline **15 March**

For more detail, see page 4 of this e-bulletin

### **Consultation on London Boroughs Grants Scheme 2013-15**

[Read more about the consultation process](#), or [take part in the consultation](#)

Deadline: **23 March**

For more detail, see page 3 of this e-bulletin.

## External events and training

### **Migrant and student employment and labour market opportunities for less skilled people: insights from one local labour market**

18 January, 1 - 2 pm (with buffet lunch from 12.45)

London School of Economics, Holborn

First in a series of Welfare Policy and Analysis Seminars, from the Centre for Analysis of Social Exclusion (CASE), designed to provide a forum for academics and policymakers to meet and discuss high-quality research in social policy and applied economics. All welcome. Refreshments provided. Note also: **14 March**, *The changing architecture of the UK welfare state*. For further information contact: [Ruth Lupton](#) (020 7849 4910) and [Ludovica Gambaro](#) (020 7955 6683).

### **The public health implications of extreme weather**

19 January, 1.30 – 4 pm

London Councils

The effects of climate change include more frequent and more extreme weather events in London, from heatwaves to cold snaps, which have serious implications for public health and the most vulnerable people. Local authorities are about to assume new public health responsibilities, and climate change will be one of the competing priorities they need to address. This workshop will explore the risks to public health from extreme weather and the impact of climate change, and how preparation may reduce their cost. Speakers are experts involved in initiatives to reduce environmental threats and protect the health and wellbeing of Londoners.

To book, click [here](#).

### **The Environmental Funders Network Annual Retreat**

19 and 20 January

Trafford Hall

This event will include the launch of the *Where the Green Grants Went 5*, which shows that the level of UK environmental philanthropy has reached a plateau at around £75 million per year, following previous strong growth. New funders have entered the field, but giving by existing environmental funders has declined slightly. Environmental philanthropy still represents less than 3% of total UK philanthropy.

To attend, click [here](#).

### **How do faith-based organisations differ from other kinds of voluntary and community organisations?**

25 January, 5.30 – 7 pm

BIVAR seminar

Speakers: Helen Cameron, on a five year research project, Action Research-Church and Society; Terry Connor, Board Director at the Children & Family Court Advisory & Support Service on dilemmas for faith-based organisations. Chair: Sara Llewellyn, Chief Executive of the Barrow Cadbury Trust.

To book, email [Diana Wray](#) at IVAR.

### **The future of migrant and refugee community organisations**

31 January, 10 am – 1.40 pm (plus lunch)

City Hall

London's Migrant and Refugee Forums are particularly inviting funders to attend this event to hear the views and experience of migrant and refugee community organisations (MRCOs). The event will explore options for joint working and fostering partnerships; sharing MRCOs knowledge and experience; and building networks. Organised by Islington Refugee Forum, Hackney Refugee Forum, Lewisham Refugee and Migrant Network, Evelyn Oldfield Unit, Refugee Council and Voluntary Action Islington in co-operation with Greater London Authority, Islington Council and London Funders.

To book, email Micheline Safi Ngongo at: [info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org](mailto:info@islingtonrefugeeforum.org)

### **The living wage - invitation to funders**

10 February, 10.30 am - 12.30 pm at the offices of Trust for London

Trust for London and London Citizens invite funders to an informal gathering of funders with an interest in championing the Living Wage and in becoming Living Wage Employers. In London, the living wage is calculated annually by the GLA and represents the level of wages, above the national minimum wage, needed to meet a reasonable standard of living for a worker and their dependants. It currently stands at £8.30/hour.

To book a place or find out more contact [Austin Taylor-Laybourn](#), Grants Manager, Trust for London, 020 7606 6145.

### **Shaping the future: race and racism in 21<sup>st</sup> century Britain**

Seminar series organised by ROTA (Race on the Agenda) and local partners

Is there an elephant in the room? If we live in a post-racial society, why do certain ethnic groups continue

to experience disadvantage? This seminar series, launched in November 2011 to coincide with the retrial on the murder of Stephen Lawrence, will debate these questions and seek to identify solutions to persistent and emerging inequalities faced by BAME children, young people and their families.

Seminars will be held in:

- Camden, 6.30–8.30 pm, 8 February. [To book a place click here.](#)
- Tower Hamlets, 4–7 pm, 22 February. [To find out more and to book a place click here.](#)
- Hackney, 2–5 pm, 28 February. This seminar will be followed by ROTA's AGM. [To find out more and to book a place click here.](#)
- Haringey, 4–7 pm, 29 February. This event will focus on youth employment. [To find out more and to book a place click here.](#)
- Islington, pm (exact time to be confirmed), 1 March. Further information will be available soon.

For details of all the seminars and confirmed speakers see [www.rota.org.uk](http://www.rota.org.uk)

## Recruitment

### Cripplegate Foundation

**Office Manager** (£23,230 - £27,270 a year) for a very busy and friendly office of eight people. The role is diverse, including responsibility for information systems, efficient office management, publicity and events and being first point of contact with applicants. A day could range from hanging art in the boardroom to organising events for 200 people and talking to applicants about how to apply for a grant: there is no typical day. The postholder will have the opportunity to meet the groups the Foundation funds and develop the role and their own professional skills.

Find out more and download an application form at [www.cripplegate.org](http://www.cripplegate.org)

Closing date: midday 16 January; interviews: 30 January.

### Homeless Link

**Homelessness Transition Fund Administrator** (£21,146 - £22,889 per annum (including inner London weighting, plus a generous package of benefits)).

Homeless Link is the national charity supporting and representing organisations working directly with homeless people and has been awarded responsibility for the £20 million Homelessness Transition Fund to help end rough sleeping in England. The Administrator will work within a small team led by the Director of Homelessness Transition Fund, responsible for managing all the day-to-day administrative aspects of the Fund, including liaison with internal and external customers, applicants and grantees, ensuring that all receive a responsive, efficient and professional service at all times. The candidate needs some knowledge of grant-making processes, to be highly organised and have excellent IT skills.

Apply via the jobs board on the [website](#).

Closing date: midnight 22 January; interviews probably on 1 February and tests on 3 February.

London Funders, Central House, 14 Upper Woburn Place, London WC1H 0AE

Tel 020 7255 4488 Fax 020 7255 4496

[www.londonfunders.org.uk](http://www.londonfunders.org.uk)

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