



**Wales Council for
Voluntary Action**

**Issue date:
3 September 2012**

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Are you looking for funding?

If you are looking for funding for your organisation or project, WCVA can carry out a funding search for its members on Grantfinder. Contact the Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, help@wcva.org.uk or complete a funding enquiry form online [here](#).

If you are a local organisation your county voluntary council (CVC) can provide funding advice. If you need contact details for your CVC, click [here](#).

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Contracts & tenders

To promote your organisation to public sector purchasers and to get free email alerts of relevant tenders and contracts, register with Sell2Wales - www.sell2wales.co.uk.

Official name and address of contracting authority

Organisation: Welsh Government on behalf of the Welsh Ministers

For the attention of: Lisa Davies, WG DSJLG - Communities, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1UZ.
<https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>.

Object of the contract

Administration of the Social Fund in Wales

The Welsh Government on behalf of the Welsh Ministers wishes to invite interested parties to bid to establish and administer a replacement grants based scheme for the discretionary elements of the Social Fund in Wales from 1 April 2013.

The Welsh Government, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, will be conducting this procurement exercise through the etenderwales portal <https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>. Tender documents and other information must be downloaded from and returned through this portal. If you require any further assistance the BravoSolution helpdesk is available on: 0800 368 4850, email help@bravosolution.co.uk.

Reference number: C56/20012/13

Deadline date: 28 September 2012 (14:00)

Additional information

The Authority reserves the right to consider variant bids.

The Authority reserves the right to split the requirement into lots.

The Authority is committed to contributing to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the wider community. Accordingly, while the requirement to do so will not be mandatory, the successful contractor will be expected to consider opportunities to recruit and train long term economically inactive persons as part of the workforce delivering this project.

The Contract will have an option to extend the duration up to a period of a further 24 months.

You may find it helpful to contact your regional business advisory network to seek general advice and guidance if you are considering tendering for this and future public sector contracts. Potential bidders in Wales can access services at <http://www.fs4b.wales.gov.uk/supplierdevelopmentsservice>.

Official name and address of contracting authority

Organisation: Children in Wales

For the attention of: Graham Roddis, 25 Windsor Place, Cardiff CF10 3BZ. Tel 029 2034 2434, email finance@childreninwales.org.uk, www.childreninwales.org.uk.

Object of the contract

Delivery of work under the Youth Expert Programme

One contract will be awarded to develop and deliver a programme with young people aged 16-18 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) or are at risk of being NEET in the future.

Reference number: RTHCIW-001

Deadline date: 14 September 2012

Resources

[Specification](#) (184 Kb)

[Questionnaire](#) (529 Kb)

[Finance Form](#) (41 Kb)

[CIW Safeguarding Children Policy](#) (232 Kb)

[FAQ's](#) (41 Kb)

[Anti Bribery](#) (74 Kb)

Official name and address of contracting authority

Organisation: Welsh Government on behalf of the Welsh Ministers

For the attention of: Laura Evans, Communities Division, Communities First Unit, Welsh Government, WG - DSJLG - Communities Division, Rhydycar, Business Park, Merthyr Tydfil CF48 1UZ. Tel 0300 062 8622, <https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>.

Object of the contract

Communities First National Support Contract

Communities First (CF) was launched in 2001 as the flagship Welsh Government Programme to tackle poverty in the most disadvantaged communities in Wales.

The current Minister for Local Government and Communities, Carl Sargeant AM, announced in November 2011 that from April 2012, CF will be a Community Focussed Tackling Poverty Programme and will support the Welsh Government's Tackling Poverty Agenda. The delivery of improved outcomes for families living in poverty (through the new CF Outcomes Framework) will focus on three strategic aims: Prosperous Communities, Learning Communities and Healthier Communities.

The Welsh Government on behalf of the Welsh Ministers wishes to let the following contracts:

Lot 1: Training and Support

This element of the contract will provide a flexible and responsive support and training to CF clusters, in order to support the new CF programme:

- The training and support element will need to be clearly focused around enabling Clusters to achieve the aims of the new programme set out by the Welsh Government.
- The training provision will need to take account of the workforce development element to ensure that training provided directly by the programme does not duplicate other provision but addresses the specific needs of CF.
- The support will remain flexible to meet a variety of needs but will include some support for Regional Programme Boards and Community Involvement.

Lot 2: Workforce Development

This element will ensure continued development of a framework to develop the CF workforce as well as the Welsh community development workforce more widely. This will include working with HE & FE providers to develop and sustain accredited training for the programme, ensuring that the National Occupational Standards for Community Development are implemented consistently, and maintaining an overview of the training needs of the programme.

The Welsh Government, on behalf of the Welsh Ministers, will be conducting this procurement exercise through the [etenderwales portal](https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk) <https://etenderwales.bravosolution.co.uk>. Tender documents and other information must be downloaded from and returned through this portal. If you require any further assistance the BravoSolution helpdesk is available on: 0800 368 4850, email help@bravosolution.co.uk.

Reference number: C26-2012/2013

Deadline date: 28 September 2012 (14:00)

Additional information

The Authority reserves the right to consider variant bids.

The Authority reserves the right to split the requirement into lots.

The Authority is committed to contributing to the social, economic and environmental well-being of the wider community. Accordingly, while the requirement to do so will not be mandatory, the successful contractor will be expected to consider opportunities to recruit

and train long term economically inactive persons as part of the workforce delivering this project.

The Contract will have an option to extend the duration up to a period of a further 12 months.

You may find it helpful to contact your regional business advisory network to seek general advice and guidance if you are considering tendering for this and future public sector contracts. Potential bidders in Wales can access services at <http://www.fs4b.wales.gov.uk/supplierdevelopmentsservice>.

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Funding

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[First Light: young film fund pilot and studio grants](#)

First Light, which supports young people aged up to 25 across the UK to develop their potential via creative digital film and media projects, is inviting applications to its Young Film Fund (generally for work with young people aged 5-19). The emphasis is on supporting organisations that have not received a grant in the past. The next application closing date is 18 October 2012 at the latest. If sufficient applications have been received before then the closing date will be sooner.

(Source: fundinginformation.org, 22/8/12)

[Inter Faith Week 2012](#)

The [Inter Faith Youth Trust](#) is inviting applications to its Small Grants Programme for events organised by and for young people focussed on Inter Faith Week 2012. Grants are awarded for proposals for inter-faith activities by children and young people from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Sikh and other faiths and those of no formal faith in understanding and co-operation. Projects should cover young people aged 11-25. Closing date: 14 September 2012.

(Source: fundinginformation.org, 15/8/12)

[LandAid](#)

LandAid is now seeking to establish new partnerships which will form the focus of its grant giving and other types of support over the next three years. Funding is available for the refurbishment, conversion, extension or new build of facilities for disadvantaged young people (16 to 25 year olds). Projects should provide or improve buildings or spaces within a building to support young people, such as, providing them with accommodation, independent living skills, educational or employment opportunities. The deadline date for applications is 1 October 2012.

(Source: Grantfinder Weekly Update Bulletin, 29/8/12)

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Awards

Nominate a group in the sector's top award scheme

The Third Sector Awards Cymru, supported by [Class Telecommunications](#), celebrates the inspiring work of voluntary organisations from all over Wales. This year the number of categories has risen from four to six - the Class award for best communications; the Green award; the Health, social care and wellbeing award; the Most admired organisation and, new for 2012, the award for good governance and the award for innovative fundraising. Winners will receive their awards at a gala dinner in Cardiff in January 2013.

[You can find the nomination form here.](#)

Forms should be returned to news@wcva.org.uk. The deadline for nominations is 16 November 2012.

[Bell Foundation Awards](#)

The Bell Foundation is seeking applications for two grants of up to £3,000 each for projects that deliver innovative work improving language education for children for whom English is not the first language, or for organisations working with prisoners with English literacy and language needs. Closing date: 28 October 2012.

(Source: fundinginformation.org, 15/8/12)

Core funding and free training for health charities - 2013 GSK IMPACT Awards

GSK's IMPACT Awards are designed to reward charities that are doing excellent work to improve people's health. Organisations must be at least three years old, working in a health-related field in the UK with income between £10,000 and £1.5 million. Up to **20 awards** will be made ranging from **£3,000 to £40,000** plus free training valued at **£4,000**.

To apply go to: www.kingsfund.org.uk/gskimpactawards. Closing date **Friday 21 September 2012**

[Epic Awards](#)

Provided by Voluntary Arts Network, the development agency for arts participation, the Epic Awards are designed to draw attention to work taking place within the voluntary and amateur arts sector. The awards aim to provide these groups with the opportunity to raise their profile and to win a package of prizes including training, equipment and publicity. The deadline for entries is 30 November 2012.

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 15/8/12)

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Fellowships

[BBC Performing Arts Fund: Music Fellowships](#)

The BBC Performing Arts Fund is seeking applications from music companies, organisations, venues and festivals throughout the UK who want to host a Music Fellowship and support individuals through the early stages of their musical career, helping them to establish themselves in the professional world, in any music genre, through bespoke placements. The key cut-off dates in making an application are 21 September and 15 October 2012 at the latest.

(Source: fundinginformation.org, 20/8/12)

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General

Network Jobs

WCVA's latest edition of Network Jobs is available [here](#). If you would like to sign up to receive future copies please email help@wcva.org.uk or call the Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329.

Prime office space available in Cardiff Bay

Prime location office space in Cardiff will shortly become available for organisations within the public or voluntary sectors. There is 1470 square feet of office space available for tenancy within Baltic House on Mount Stuart Square, which is centrally located in Cardiff Bay.

Baltic House, opposite Cardiff's Coal Exchange, is currently occupied by a number of national organisations and is easily accessible from Junction 33 of the M4. The Bay also provides great travel links to the city centre and surrounding areas via bus and train.

Tenant organisations at the building benefit from centralised reception, cleaning and facilities services while being within close proximity of all amenities and leisure opportunities within Cardiff Bay. Any organisations from outside the private sector interested in further information should contact Julie Cull, Senior Facilities Adviser at Baltic House on 020 2943 1735 or email jcull@wcva.org.uk.

How good is your governance?

Anna Lewis, Legal Services Officer at WCVA, explains how WCVA's governance health check can help you to find out

There won't be many people who haven't noticed the increased amount of media attention in recent months on whether voluntary organisations are being run as they should be. This may have shaken public confidence in the third sector a little, but it is important that people appreciate that instances of bad practice are rare rather than the norm.

At WCVA we appreciate that it is the trustees running Wales' 30,000+ voluntary organisations that are now under increased pressure to show that their organisation is well run and working towards the purpose for which it was established. We know that the majority of organisations in the third sector are doing a fantastic job, and we want to help trustees ensure that they are working in the best possible way, as this will help to reassure funders, stakeholders and the public at large.

WCVA's governance health check is a self-assessment tool which has been designed in accordance with the principles set out in [Good governance: a code for the third sector in Wales](#). While the primary purpose of completing this self-assessment is to assist trustee boards to work towards adhering to the principles of the above code, it should also help boards of any size to demonstrate their good governance practices to regulators, funders, beneficiaries and stakeholders.

At the moment we are piloting the health check, and we would encourage all trustee boards to complete it and then feedback to us how they found the process. While it is to be completed as a self assessment exercise, WCVA and your local County Voluntary Council or Volunteer Centre will be on hand to help with any governance points that the health check may have shown that you need to address.

So what are you waiting for?! [Download your copy](#) of the governance health check now.

Citizen Panels for Social Services in Wales

The Welsh Government is proposing lots of changes to social services in Wales. They are [setting up panels](#) across Wales for people to tell them how the services they receive can be improved.

Participation Cymru have been asked to set up the panels and support panel members. We are inviting people who use social services, carers of those who use social services and other people who have an interest in social services in Wales, to apply to be members of these panels. There will be young people's panels for people who are aged up to 18, and an adult's panel, based in North, South East and South West Wales.

The Citizen Panels will give the Welsh Government a way to check how they are doing. It will make sure that people who use social services are at the heart of deciding how these services should change. The Panels will give their comments and opinions at a really important level where they can make real changes. They will help to measure if policies and plans are making services better and will help to show where the services are not working as well as they should.

Panel members will need to reflect the wider views of social service users and carers. They will look at services that are delivered all over Wales. They will say what they think as service users and carers, and also say what they think are the most important things to deal with.

If you are interested in applying and need help to do so or if you have any questions about it then please [get in touch](#) with us and we will be happy to help. Email participationcymru@wcva.org.uk or call 029 2043 1757. We ask that you send us your application form by 5pm on the 21 September 2012. Written, video or audio applications are welcome.

[Ban on display of tobacco](#)

Earlier this year, regulations were passed meaning large shops and supermarkets will have to remove cigarettes and other tobacco products from display from December this year. Smaller shops must comply by April 2015.

Portal supports children and young people's voices in Wales

A [Participation Hub](#) has been launched which will help children and young people seek support and have their say in decisions that affect them.

(Source: Public Health News, August 2012)

Welsh Art Auctions

Shelter Cymru have launched their [Annual Welsh Art Auctions](#) to be held at the end of September. All the work can be viewed by clicking here which will take you through to their new [Art Auction website](#) which has kindly been donated by [Core Web Design](#). If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact them by [email](#) or by telephoning 01792 469400.

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Green news

[Green Events](#)

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Events

Emergence Summit 2012

From 1-9 September CAT will host Emergence Summit 2012: Creating the Future, a major international arts and sustainability event presented by Volcano Theatre and the Centre for Alternative Technology at CAT's site in Machynlleth, mid-Wales. The Summit comprises two parts: an international weekend conference of leaders, thinkers and visionaries; and a five-day Land Journey on foot through Wales culminating at the conference. Individuals can register via the Emergence website. www.cat.org.uk/emergence-2012

NEA Annual Conference 2012 - 10-12 September 2012

National Energy Action (NEA) is hosting their annual conference at the Mercure Manchester Piccadilly Hotel on the 10, 11 & 12 September. The NEA Conference is the only UK conference solely focused on fuel poverty and attracts an audience of around 300 participants drawn from local government and the energy efficiency industry, as well as other key stakeholders from the voluntary sector and other statutory organisations. For more information, [please visit the NEA website.](#)

Tidy Wales Week - 17-23 September 2012

This September, Keep Wales Tidy is asking the people of Wales to take part in a week-long, nationwide, cleanup of littered black spots in towns, villages and the countryside. Sponsored by the Welsh Government, [Tidy Wales Week will take place from 17 to 23 September.](#) Last year over 20,000 people did their bit to clean up their neighbourhoods and thousands of bags of litter were recovered by volunteers.

Have a Wild Weekend for Wales 26 -28 October 2012

Do something wonderful for wildlife this Autumn and have a Wild Weekend for Wales! Apply for **Free Homebase vouchers** up to **£200** to create a new wildlife habitat in your community. Have a **Wild Weekend for Wales** aims to improve biodiversity by helping people to undertake small projects to benefit native species and create new wildlife havens. You can help improve the biodiversity of Wales doing something simple such as planting trees and flowers or building a bug box. To get a copy of the application form and for lots more information about Wild Weekend, go to our [website](#) or contact us on 029 2025 6767 or wild@keepwalestidy.org

News and Policy

Link to WCVA [Climate Change Information](#)

Read the latest blog from [Environment Wales](#)

Read the latest newsletter from [Cynnal Cymru - Sustain Wales](#)

Read the quarterly newsletter from [Planning Aid Wales](#)

Read the latest from the [Energy Savings Trust](#) & sign up for the monthly E bulletin.

Read the latest from the [Carbon Trust](#) & sign up for E newsletters.

Read the latest newsletter from [Keep Wales Tidy](#)

Read the minutes from the last [Climate Change Commission](#) meeting

Contact Rita Singh to sign up to receive the new e newsletter from Community Energy Wales - rita@cynnalcywru.com or check out their latest news at <http://www.communityenergywales.org.uk>

Wales News

[New natural resource body: have your say on its future powers and functions](#)

Environment Minister, John Griffiths is keen to hear views on how the new body that will manage Wales' natural resources should operate and exactly what powers and duties it should have. The Minister has launched an eight week consultation which invites further views on specific aspects of the powers and functions of the new body that is due to become fully operational on 1 April 2013. **Consultation closes 5 October 2012.**

UK News

[Government-sponsored research finds support for national rollout, but only half of householders are aware of smart meters](#)

New research shows almost half of bill payers in UK households have heard of smart meters, offering a welcome fillip to companies looking to capitalise on government plans for a nationwide rollout of the devices. Energy companies have consistently warned the programme of [replacing 53 million gas and electricity meters](#) between 2014 and 2019 [could be in jeopardy without clearer communication](#) of the benefits of new smart meter devices.

The [report](#) published yesterday, which is based on just under 2,400 face-to-face interviews conducted by Ipsos MORI for the government, finds consumers are much more likely to want a smart meter installed once they know more about them.

Reports and publications

[Cutting carbon emissions in Welsh homes](#)

Targeting home improvements at the poorest quality houses in Wales would slash energy bills, cut fuel poverty by 40%, reduce our impact on climate change and create thousands of jobs, according to a new report commissioned by WWF Cymru.

Climate change and transport in Wales

The Climate Change Commission for Wales has produced this [report](#) which sets out the Commission's assessment and recommendations on climate change and transport, and is intended to inform both Government policy and the actions of others.

[State of the Environment, 2012](#)

The latest National Statistics on the State of the Environment produced by the Welsh Government have just been released according to the arrangements approved by the UK Statistics Authority.

Green sector now a major player in Welsh economy

A new report reveals that the green economy is now a major factor in delivering jobs and investment into Wales and holds the key to economic recovery, according to conservation body WWF Cymru. The report, [UK Success Story](#) by environmental think tank Green Alliance, shows that the UK's green economy has shown true recession resilience, growing

healthily since the banking crisis. It predicts that the general economy will only return to 2007 levels by 2014 at the earliest, but the green economy will grow by 40% in that same period.

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Funding

Please [click here](#) to see our Funding Resources for Climate Change Projects Information Sheet.

[Renewable Heat Premium Payment - Phase 2](#)

The £8 million Renewable Heat Premium Payment (RHPP) Community Scheme has been launched by DECC. It will support communities to deliver clusters of domestic renewable heating systems such as air and ground source heat pumps, solar hot water panels and biomass systems. Applications opened 24 July and will run until 7 September. The RHPP community scheme aims to provide communities with the opportunity to cost-effectively organise local buying groups for renewable heating systems, potentially accessing bulk discounts and facilitating easier deployment for installers. The scheme is targeted at off gas areas. The Renew Wales programme, funded by BIG, is able to provide some free mentoring support to groups in Wales who wish to apply - please contact Robert Proctor, Project Director on robertproctor@renewwales.org.uk.

[Arbed - £45 million available for energy efficiency projects](#)

The Welsh Government has launched a new phase of its Arbed investment scheme with an additional £45 million, setting out how Welsh businesses can benefit. The scheme is designed to support home energy efficiency and renewable energy retrofit projects for low income, fuel-poor households in deprived communities in Wales. In addition to reducing the carbon footprint and delivering economic, environmental and standard of living benefits to disadvantaged communities in Wales, the programme will generate jobs, attract investment and stimulate growth in Welsh energy efficiency and renewable energy businesses.

[Ashden Awards for Sustainable Energy](#)

The call for expressions of interest to the 2013 Ashden Awards has now opened. The aim of the Awards is to promote the widespread use of local, sustainable energy because of the environmental, social and economic benefits which it can provide. The 2013 Awards are broken down into two areas: International Awards and UK Awards. The International Awards offer a Gold Award of £40,000 and four Awards of £20,000; and the UK Awards offer a Gold Award of £20,000 and three individual prizes of £10,000. The deadline for expressions of interest to the UK Awards is 30 October 2012.

[Eurostar Ashden Award for Sustainable Travel - applications for 2013 open](#)

Eurostar, the high-speed passenger rail service, is funding the second round of the Eurostar Ashden Award for Sustainable Travel, a programme designed to showcase local, sustainable travel initiatives in three European countries. The programme will promote sustainable travel initiatives in the UK, France and Belgium where Eurostar operates. It will recognise projects that are innovative, clear, measurable and proven. The award will include a prize fund worth £30,000 and a host of benefits aimed at raising awareness of the winning programme. The deadline for receipt of applications by expressions of interest is 30 October 2012.

[Millennium Stadium Charitable Trust \(Wales\) - regional scheme open to applications](#)

Grants of up to £7,500 are available for not-for-profit organisations with a remit to cover a region or local authority-wide area of Wales, ie Powys or North East Wales. Funding is available for projects in the following four areas:

- **The Environment** - The Trust encourages applications relating to recycling, developing green spaces, the development and promotion of green practices and the promotion of public transport schemes. Projects that improve the quality of Wales' environment, protect and create a vibrant countryside, and develop and promote sustainable land use planning will be a priority for support. The Trust aims to fund programmes that protect and enhance Wales' natural heritage and promote its sustainable use and enjoyment in a way which contributes to local economic prosperity and social inclusion.
- **Sport**
- **The Arts**
- **The Community**

The deadline for applications is 10 September 2012 (12 noon).

[LIFE+ 2012 Call for Proposals Launched](#)

The LIFE+ 2012 Call for Proposals has now been published. The following LIFE+ themes are covered by this call:

- LIFE+ Nature and Biodiversity
- LIFE+ Environment Policy and Governance
- LIFE+ Information and Communication

The total budget available for this call is €276.7 million, of which €21,648,405 has been allocated to the UK. At least 50 per cent of the available funding will be allocated to support the conservation of nature and biodiversity. A maximum of 50 per cent of eligible costs is available for projects, or exceptionally up to 75 per cent for proposals which target priority habitats/species of the Birds and Habitats Directives.

The Commission has introduced an eProposal tool which must be used to submit proposals in 2012. Project proposals should be validated and submitted to the national authority, via the new eProposal tool, by 26 September 2012.

If you would like to include anything in the next edition of 'green news' please contact Jessica McQuade at WCVA: jmcquade@wcva.org.uk.

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JRF Blogs & Publications

The following blogs and publications have been added to the Joseph Rowntree Foundation (JRF) website.

Week beginning 20 August 2012

[Local variations in youth drinking cultures](#)

Does local area affect young people's drinking?
Research by Marion Roberts et al

[Are binge drinkers really happier?](#)

Despite reports from the UK that binge drinking college students are happier, young people in the UK prefer to have a good time in moderation.

Blog post by Marion Roberts

[Should we sell off social housing to build new homes?](#)

What to make of Policy Exchange's housing report released yesterday? Its core idea is that when a valuable social housing property becomes vacant, it should be sold off and the money used to build cheaper social housing.

Blog post by Gordon Hector

[Montague review: Not the holy grail of housing investment?](#)

Has the Montague Review, a Government-commissioned report into barriers to institutional investment, made the most of its remit?

Blog post by Kathleen Kelly

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Policy

[WCVA News](#)
[Consultations](#)

WCVA News

WCVA's third sector policy events

10 October 2012, Glamorgan Archives, Cardiff

11 October 2012, Ivy Bush Royal Hotel, Carmarthen

17 October 2012, the Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells

18 October 2012, Morfa Hall, Rhyl

Coming together: environment matters

A look at community led environmental regeneration. Litter, graffiti and vandalism can have a major impact on community and personal wellbeing. New research from the Carnegie UK Trust highlights the benefits of a community-led approach to dealing with these problems which also bring significant benefits to the local residents. This event will share the research and showcase local projects which have achieved success.

Influencing equalities at a local level

We'll look at the new public sector equalities duties, in particular the impact on local service delivery. The Equalities and Human Rights Commission will provide an interactive session outlining the duties and exploring how organisations can engage with them to influence change.

[You can view the full programme and book your place here.](#)

Delegates can attend one or both sessions, and a buffet lunch will be served. See the booking form for costs.

Welsh Government Budget 2013-14 - have your say!

The Welsh Government will publish the draft budget for 2013-14 on 2 October 2012. This will set out how it proposes to spend money in each of the Ministerial portfolio areas over the coming financial year, and give indications of spend for the two subsequent years. Third sector organisations will want to pay close attention to the funding allocated to the areas that they work in. The draft budget does not offer detailed information on spending but organisations may wish to liaise with Welsh Government contacts to discuss how any funding streams they are interested in may be affected.

The draft budget will be scrutinised by the National Assembly for Wales - this will involve the various subject committees (Health & Social Services; Children & Young People; Environment & Sustainability; Enterprise & Business; Communities, Equality & Local Government) each undertaking scrutiny of their own area of the budget. They will then feed this into the Finance Committee who will undertake general budget scrutiny, take account of the other Committees' reports and publish their own report (by 8 November). The Welsh Government will then have to take account of this before publishing its final budget for 2013-14 which will need to pass a vote in the Senedd. This is due to happen towards the end of November 2012.

Committees will be keen to hear from a range of organisations to help inform their budget scrutiny process and this is an excellent opportunity for you to have your say if you feel that a decision in the budget may negatively affect your organisation or the people you work with. However, due to the timescales there is only a very short window of opportunity in October for you to feed in your views. Organisations should be prepared to get their heads around the budget figures in early October and submit comments to the relevant committees as soon as possible within the first two weeks of October. You can find information about all of the Assembly Committees and their work on the committee webpages [here](#).

However, there is also an opportunity to have your say about this right now. In anticipation of the tight timescales in October the Finance Committee is asking organisations to look at the indicative budget allocations for 2013-14 (which can be found in the final budget documentation for 2012-13 [here](#)) and submit any views or concerns to them. You can submit comments about specific budget areas or overarching/strategic comments. This is an opportunity to make your case for what you think needs to be included and prioritised in the Welsh Government's next budget. The deadline for responses is 14 September, further details including the full consultation letter from the committee with a list of suggested questions can be found [here](#).

To help with all of this WCVA has produced a briefing paper outlining how the Welsh Government budget is put together and the budget scrutiny process. You can find the briefing paper [here](#).

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Consultations

[Consultation on options for the future of the Community Facilities and Activities Programme \(CFAP\)](#)

WCVA will be submitting a response to this consultation. If you have any comments that you would like us to include in our response please email them to scarroll@wcva.org.uk

The Community Facilities and Activities Programme is a successful and popular Welsh Government programme which has helped to create and renew over 860 community facilities in every part of Wales since it began in 2002. Much has changed in that time and

a review of the programme is now needed to ensure that it continues to meet the needs of Welsh communities and delivers the best possible value for public money. The deadline date for responses is **31 October 2012**.

[Changes to Jobcentre Plus vacancies statistics](#)

In late autumn 2012 there will be fundamental changes in Jobcentre Plus handling of employer vacancies and services in support of job search. The existing source of administrative data is being decommissioned. This means that existing National Statistics on Jobcentre Plus vacancies will cease. There will be no further releases on Nomis.

A new service will be introduced to provide job search services to all jobseekers. New internet-based statistics from this system will be available to all users. This will provide wider coverage with timely and frequent updates. However, definitions will not be consistent with the existing statistics.

These changes are largely driven by the need to improve the service to job search customers. However, there are substantial benefits for statistical users too, as well as some changes to the structure of the series. The deadline date for responses is **14 November 2012**.

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Training

[WCVA training](#)

[Volunteering in a digital age](#)

[WCVA's Funding Conference](#)

[Other training](#)

WCVA training

Price bands

A WCVA members

B Voluntary and community organisations

C Others

[Training skills](#)

Agored Cymru accredited course leading to six credits at level three

2 & 3 October & 18 October 2012, St John Cymru, Cardiff

Trainer: Angela Tillcock

Aims: To provide learners with the knowledge, skills and confidence to plan, prepare and deliver training sessions.

This three day course will give you an overview of learning theory, improve your knowledge of planning tools for delivering and evaluating training, and help you develop your confidence in designing and delivering training sessions.

To gain the accreditation you will need to commit some time to complete the written assessment and to prepare a training session, a section of which you will deliver in front of other course participants on the third day.

This is one of our most popular courses, which we have reviewed and updated this year. It is delivered by our in-house trainers who will provide support for you during the assessment process - book early to secure your place.

Who is this course for?

This course is for those who are new to training and/or may have taken on the role of trainer in their organisation for the first time.

You will need to commit to:

- the full 3-day course
- completing the written assessments
- applying your new skills to a real training project at work

Fees: A £375 B £435 C £495

Fees include the costs of Agored Cymru registration and assessment fees

[Getting publicity for your EU funded project](#)

Tuesday 16 October 2012, Rhyl

Trainer: Angela Tillcock

Duration: 1 day

Format: Training course

Aims: This course aims to improve your knowledge and understanding of publicity tools and techniques. It will help you to plan and deliver an effective publicity campaign for your EU funded project.

The job of a project manager means you have to juggle a range of tasks, including that of raising the profile of your project, including publicity.

This course will help you to plan a publicity campaign for your project, target key stakeholders and communicate the impact your project has in an engaging and creative way, whilst adhering to the rules and regulations that govern publicising European Funding.

We will examine how to identify stories within your project and sustain publicity for your activities through the use of a range of marketing tools, focusing on real life case studies from successful projects.

Who is this course for?

This course assumes no knowledge or experience of marketing and is aimed at workers with responsibility for generating publicity within the context of ESF and ERDF funded projects.

Free for third sector EU funded projects (sponsors or contractors). However if you are not involved in the development and/or delivery of European funded projects, please see price band below:

Fees: A £125 B £155 C £185

*****Spaces still available - book now avoid disappointment*****

Structuring and writing competitive tenders

[Wednesday 19 September 2012](#) - Newport

Competitive Tender Presentations

[Wednesday 19 September 2012](#) - Newport

Introduction to storytelling in organisations

[Thursday 11th October 2012](#) - Swansea

Writing effective surveys

[Wednesday 17th October 2012](#) - Plas Pentwyn, Wrexham

To book on line please click on the course title or complete a [booking form](#) returning to training@wcva.org.uk or telephone the WCVA helpdesk on 0800 2888 329.

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Cyber conference will help sector secure more volunteers in Wales

An event that will show how technology and digital inclusion are currently influencing, and shaping the future of, volunteering in Wales is almost upon us. The [Volunteering in a Digital Age Conference](#) is aimed at those that work with volunteers, are involved in digital inclusion activities or even volunteer themselves.

Developments in digital technologies are fast transforming the ways in which we live and work. The world of volunteering is no different. The potential for volunteers, volunteering programmes and organisations in all sectors, around digital technologies, is far-reaching. Over two days, Volunteering in a Digital Age will help equip you with the skills, knowledge and confidence to develop new volunteering opportunities in your organisation or community, that will help people get the most out of the web, help sustain important community and organisational activities and help make the experience of being a volunteer a more meaningful and rewarding one.

Jointly hosted by [WCVA](#) and [Communities 2.0](#), Volunteering in a Digital Age will be held on the 26 and 27 September, at the Richard Ley Conference Centre in Swansea. For more details and to book your place [visit the event website](#) or e-mail eventsadmin@wcva.org.uk

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WCVA's Funding Conference - a head start in the race for funding

Tuesday 9 October 2012, Venue Cymru, Llandudno

Olympic fever has inspired us to ensure that this year's funding conference is worthy of a gold medal. *First off the blocks: how to get ahead in funding your future* will showcase the very best in Welsh fundraising. It will guide you through key funding trends and funder policy - and make your group a front runner in the race for success.

Our expert speakers include:

- Angela Hughes, Chief Executive of Wales Air Ambulance
- Michael Hearty of Strategic Planning, Finance and Performance at Welsh Government
- Sir Adrian Webb, Wales Chair of the Big Lottery Fund

Split across seven streams there are 23 workshops to choose from. Delegates are free to move across the streams throughout the day. Network with other delegates at our breakfast session or book a slot at our funding surgeries to discuss your project idea with representatives from Esmée Fairbairn, the Pilgrim Trust and Capital Grants.

[Take a look at the full programme](#) and [book your place here](#).

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Other training

Benefits and work for disabled people

17 September 2012, Cardiff

25 September 2012, Llandudno

This course offers you an introduction to the subject matter and will focus on: current entitlements for disabled people who are in work and may be entitled to claim benefits; those who may be able to claim more benefits; those who are in receipt of benefits but may wish/need to consider moving into work; those in work but may need to move to benefit income only. It will also briefly cover forthcoming changes in the benefits system (including DLA/PIP and Universal credit). Further details are available from Jenny Brock, tel 029 2068 1160, email Jennifer.brock@learningdisabilitywales.org.uk.

Healthier Wales: Introducing Action Learning

18 September 2012, YMCA Newport

Free shared learning event organised by WCVA and the county voluntary councils of South Wales.

The NHS is there for us from the moment we are born. It takes care of us when we need it most. Everyone in Wales deserves to have the support they need to enable them to have the best possible health and wellbeing wherever they live.

(Our Healthy Future - Welsh Government 2009)

People who live in rural or remote communities can sometimes face challenges when trying to access public services. Equally, those providing services can face challenges in reaching those communities. Come along and help us tackle some of those challenges - join us for some Action Learning and find out how to participate in a funded Action Learning Set. Further details are available from Fiona Harris, email fharris@wcva.org.uk.

Afasic Cymru celebrates its 10th Anniversary

Monday 24 September 2012, Pierhead Building, Cardiff Bay

Event sponsored by Health & Social Services Minister, Lesley Griffiths

Afasic is a UK wide organisation formed in 1968; Afasic Cymru was launched in response to devolution in 2002, hence we are celebrating our 10th Anniversary this year. As an organisation we represent children & young people with Speech, Language & Communication Needs (SLCN) across Wales. The Deputy Minister of Education, Jeff Cuthbert will also be in attendance and both Ministers will open the event. If you wish to join the celebration then please contact Jeannette@afasiccymru.org.uk 029 2046 5854.

Employment Tribunal Skills and Discrimination Law

October 2012, Cardiff & Bangor

Free course for first tier advisers - Citizens Advice Bureaux, trade union representatives and advice providers within the voluntary sector. One day a month for six months during business hours. The course will increase your knowledge of: employment law; Equality Act 2010; preparation of employment tribunal case; workings of the employment tribunal. To register your interest or find out more details contact Kerry Wakefield on 029 2044 7725, email kerry.wakefield@equalityhumanrights.com.

Employability: support and practical skills

12 October 2012, the Marriot Hotel, Swansea

With welfare reform placing significant pressure on individuals who aren't in work there is an increasing effort from the housing and support sector to support service users into employment. If your organisation is providing support to people who want to secure employment then this one day event will be invaluable. Cymorth Cymru and i2i are working in partnership to deliver this event which will equip organisations in the sector to deliver excellent support to people who want to move into employment. Further details are available from Mike Vigar, email mikevigar@cymorthcymru.org.uk, tel 029 2055 3687.

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End of e-briefing

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