



**Wales Council for
Voluntary Action**

**Issue date:
6 May 2013**

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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.

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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Funding

Extra funds and delivery time for Supporting Sustainable Living projects!

Environment Wales has been awarded an extra £100,000 for the SSL grant scheme to help groups deliver more climate-friendly living. The fund has been increased to almost £400,000 for projects that can run until 30 June 2014. Grants of up to £50,000 are available for projects that will help bring about long-term changes in behaviour and lifestyle that will reduce Wales' greenhouse gas emissions and help businesses, organisations and communities to adapt to the impacts of climate change. Organisations from all sectors can apply to the fund but cross-sector partnership applications are particularly encouraged. The SSL scheme is run by Environment Wales with the support of the Welsh Government People and Environment division. More information is available at www.environment-wales.org under Grants or from the Environment Wales office on 029 2043 1727 / info@environment-wales.org.

Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund

The Centre for Social Action Innovation Fund is a £14 million fund run by the innovation charity National Endowment for Science Technology and the Arts (NESTA), working in partnership with the Cabinet Office. The first round runs from April until October 2013, and

will support innovative ventures and programmes that use social action to achieve impact in the following areas: ageing well; long-term health; young people; impact volunteering. Charities, social enterprises, public services and for-profit businesses can apply for grants of between £50,000 and £500,000 to support projects that deliver public benefit.

Applications can be made at any time via an Expression of Interest form.

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 29/4/13)

The Clothworkers' Foundation

[The Clothworkers' Foundation](#) wants more applications for grants from charities that tackle domestic and sexual violence and alcohol and substance use and from those that work with disadvantaged minority communities, including refugees, asylum seekers, ethnic minorities and the LGBT community. The foundation funds only capital projects and does not cover core costs.

(Source: Third Sector Online, 23/4/13)

[HLF - Heritage Enterprise Fund](#)

Grants of between £100,000 and £5 million are available for heritage projects that have the potential to unlock a heritage asset in need of investment and utilise it as a stimulus for economic growth. It is anticipated that in most instances this will involve the repair and adaptation of a historic building or a coherent group of historic buildings for an end-use that generates a sustainable commercial income. Priority will be given to projects that are located within areas of the UK experiencing economic disadvantage. Applications may be submitted at any time.

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 24/4/13)

The Pilgrim Trust

The Trust's aim is to preserve and promote Britain's historical and intellectual assets and to provide assistance to vulnerable members of society. The Trust has two principal areas of interest: preservation and scholarships; and social welfare. Grants are made via two schemes: the main grant fund (above £5,000) and the small grant fund (£5,000 or less). Applications are accepted at any time during the year and are assessed as part of a rolling programme. Further details are available from www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk.

(Source: The Fundraiser, April 13)

Variety the Children's Charity

The charity aims to help sick, disabled and disadvantaged children and young people up to and including the age of 18 years, who are resident in the UK. Applications can be made from non-profit making groups and organisations working with children up to, and including, the physical age of 18 years. These include statutory bodies (schools and hospitals) and registered charities. Grants are also available for individuals. There are separate application forms for individuals and organisations, which are downloadable from the charity's website - www.varietyclub.org.uk. For more information, please contact the Variety youth clubs and grants manager, Julie Thomas on 020 7428 8120 or email grants@variety.org.uk.

(Source: The Fundraiser, April 13)

Awards

[Dylan Thomas Prize](#)

The Dylan Thomas Prize is an annual competitive award provided in partnership by the Dylan Thomas Centre and the University of Wales to recognise and reward literary talent in young authors. The prize will be awarded to the single author who has written the best:

Literary Work or Performance Work. Entry is open to all authors or performers of any nationality who are aged between 18 and 30. The deadline for receipt of entries is 28 June 2013.

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 30/4/13)

[Guardian Healthcare Innovation Awards](#)

The Guardian Healthcare Innovation Awards are an opportunity to celebrate and share best practice across different areas of the healthcare sector - both inside and outside of the NHS. The Awards aim to showcase ideas or services which significantly improve the quality of management of care for patients, and share them with the rest of the sector. The Awards are open to private, voluntary and community bodies as well as public sector organisations. The deadline for entries is Friday 28 June 2013.

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 30/4/13)

Scholarships

[Queen Elizabeth Scholarship Trust](#)

Covering a wide range of modern and traditional crafts, the Queen Elizabeth Scholarships are worth between £1,000 and £18,000. The scholarships can be used to fund further study, training and practical experience for the improvement of craft and trade skills. Eligible applicants are craftsmen and craftswomen of all ages who live and work permanently in the UK. Applications for the summer 2013 funding round are now open with a deadline for submission of 17 May 2013.

(Source: Grantfinder Weekly Update Bulletin, 24/4/13)

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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.

Charities need to prepare for end of old Gift Aid system

A number of sector bodies, including Charity Finance Group and NCVO, have jointly produced a short guide on the Charities Online service from HM Revenue and Customs which went live on 22 April. Visit <http://preview.tinyurl.com/cg8zbmo>. They have also issued a joint call to the estimated 100,000 charities who currently claim Gift Aid to review their systems ahead of the old system coming to an end in September,

<http://preview.tinyurl.com/d7cp9sh>

(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 564)

Fire safety video

Recently the tenants, volunteers and staff of Innovate Trust produced a Fire Safety Video to promote Fire Safety at home. It is available in various formats on you tube, you are welcome to use it free of charge and pass it on round your network, there is no copyright as we want this to save lives.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KxbDf4YL48>
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZO-65pyZzUw>
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eZfCz_lbiP0

English Version
British Sign Language
Audio Version

[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v= YyYUUzNyoE](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YyYUUzNyoE)
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w7pqGnvfclU>

Welsh Version
10 minute version

If you would like more information then please contact Steve (steve.williams@innovate-trust.org.uk) or Lisa (lisa.applewhite@innovate-trust.org.uk) at Innovate Trust.

Minimum wage increases

The national minimum wage will rise by 12p an hour to £6.31 for adults and by 5p to £5.03 for 18 to 20 year olds from October, the government has announced. NMW rates can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/national-minimum-wage-rates>
(Source: VolResource Newsletter No. 564)

NHS Wales National Delivery Group

Appointment of Independent Members (x2)

The National Delivery Group (NDG) is chaired by the Health and Social Services Director General/Chief Executive NHS Wales (the 'Director General'), and is responsible for providing the Director General with input on matters determined by the Director General as important to take forward the strategic leadership and management of the NHS. The NDG's responsibilities include:

- overseeing the delivery of key strategic objectives as set out in *Together for Health* and the relevant commitments outlined in the Programme for Government;
- advising on the policy direction and implementation in the Department for Health and Social Services; and
- supporting the management of NHS Wales by monitoring the financial and performance management of NHS Wales organisations.

Independent Members will contribute to discussions at meetings of the NDG, which are expected to take place quarterly, contribute to the Group's recommendations for improvements to policy and delivery and help to monitor the work and performance of the health boards in Wales.

Further details are available from [here](#). The closing date for receipt of applications is **10 May 2013**.

Welsh government proposes business rate relief cut for charity shops

Charity Retail Association warns of potential 'serious damage' as Edwina Hart, Welsh business minister, unveils plans to cut relief from 80 to 50 per cent. The Welsh Government has unveiled proposals to reduce the business rate relief for charity shops in Wales from 80 to 50 per cent from 2022. In a statement to the assembly's chamber, Edwina Hart, the Welsh business minister, announced that a [consultation](#) would be held on business rate relief for charities, social enterprises and credit unions. The consultation document contains ten recommendations made by a review group led by Brian Morgan, professor of entrepreneurship at Cardiff Metropolitan University.

[The Charity Retail Association](#) said the recommendations, if adopted, would be a 'new tax on charities' and could 'seriously damage charities in Wales'. An emergency summit would be held with Welsh member charities to discuss the impact of the proposals on the charity sector, the CRA said. The association called on Hart to attend the meeting to hear directly from charities.

(Source: Third Sector Online, 24/4/13)

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Green news

[Green News and Policy](#)

[Green Funding](#)

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@cynnalcymru.com or check out their latest news at <http://www.communityenergywales.org.uk>

Wales News

Get Walking Week

Starts on the 4 May and will include the Big Welsh Walk and a celebratory event in Kidwelly. It's being organised by the Ramblers charity and is their short walks festival designed to help the nation discover the wonder of walking. [Get Walking Week](#) is part of the Britain on Foot campaign which is a year-long call to action to get the British public fitter, healthier and happier in the great outdoors. Ramblers groups will be leading a variety of short walks of five miles or less for all to enjoy, taking in the countryside, cities and the coast across Britain.

Flood Awareness Wales helps to prepare communities at risk of flooding and provides them with the tools and knowledge needed to respond appropriately during a flooding incident. Read 'Your community flood news' [here](#) for flood news and information from communities around Wales.

Reports and publications

Behaviour change needed to reach energy consumption goal

In 2010, European households consumed almost 13% more energy than two decades ago and generated 25% of energy-related greenhouse gas emissions. This is a trend that must be reversed for the EU to reach its goal of reducing primary energy consumption by 20% by 2020. The European Environment Agency (EEA) have recently published a report which

investigated what it will take to achieve energy savings through changing consumer behaviour and have launched an online survey to find out more about public views.

The EEA [report](#), which is called 'Achieving Energy Efficiency Through Behaviour Change' reviews recent studies on behaviour change and energy use. It shows that up to 20% of the energy we currently consume across Europe can be saved by changing behaviour.

The size of the UK's Carbon Footprint is worryingly large according to the latest report from the Committee on Climate Change

Reductions of around 20% in production emissions over the last two decades have limited growth in the UK's carbon footprint. However, the 'Reducing the UK's Carbon Footprint and Managing Competitiveness Risks' [report](#) also estimates that the carbon footprint has increased by 10% or more. This is due to increased imports as incomes have grown and manufacturing has shifted to other countries as part of the broader globalisation process.

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Funding

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

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.

New publications and blogs w/c 22 April 2013

[Households below a minimum income standard: 2008/9 to 2010/11](#)

How many households do not have an adequate standard of living?

Research by Matt Padley and Donald Hirsch

[JRF consultation response to the Home Affairs Committee Inquiry into Asylum](#)

Read our response to the Home Affairs Committee Inquiry into Asylum.

[Recession pushes more young single people below minimum income standard](#)

Living standards are being squeezed - and single people without children are the group to be worried about, says Katie Schmuecker.

JRF Newsletter - April 2013

Council tax benefits changes hit poorer households

Changes to council tax benefits will [affect poorer households and create inconsistencies in neighbouring areas](#), a new JRF study found this month. Multiple schemes will add complexity and reduce transparency.

The replacement of Council Tax Benefit (CTB) with Council Tax Support (CTS) marks a historic move from a nationally devised system to one of 326 different local schemes in England. This restructuring, along with a 10 per cent cut in funding, will create considerable challenges for local authorities, advice services and benefit recipients.

Sabrina Bushe, Researcher at NPI, said: ‘Over two million households previously deemed [too poor to pay council tax](#) will find hefty bills landing on their doormats. Hitting only the poorest and most vulnerable, this tax increase - which won’t raise much more money than it costs - is both unjust and unwise.’

These council tax changes are part of the reforms to the welfare system coming in this year. JRF and JRHT think our current welfare system doesn’t work: but are concerned about the impact of welfare changes on people living in poverty. You can read [more about our position on welfare reform](#).

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Local Government Advisory Bulletin

This information is provided for WCVA members using the ‘Green Book’ terms and conditions. They are supplied by the Local Government Association.

Employment Circular 24/4/13 is available on the following [website](#).

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Policy

Consultations

WCVA Consultation bulletin

Please visit our website [here](#) to download our latest edition of our weekly Consultation Bulletin for your information in both English and Welsh.

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Training

[WCVA training](#)

[WCVA Wales Charity Law Conference](#)

[Other training](#)

WCVA training

Price bands

A WCVA members

B Voluntary and community organisations

C Public/Private

[Customer service for managers](#)

New

Wednesday 5 June 2013 - Cardiff

This course is for all managers who have a responsibility for customer relationships and want to put the customer at the heart of what they do.

This is a one-day course for managers that will help you develop an effective customer service strategy, develop and implement systems that focus on meeting the needs of your customers and give you the skills you need to benchmark your services against your competitors.

By the end of the course participants will be able to:

- Develop a set of clear customer service goals and objectives
- Write and implement a customer service strategy
- Understand how customer service can help you meet your wider business objectives
- Develop a customer service action plan
- Set customer service standards and targets
- Empower and motivate your staff to make a real difference
- Measure success (and failure)

Fees: **A** £125 **B** £155 **C** £185

***** Places still available - book now *****

[Designing and running effective surveys](#)

9 May - Cardiff

Planning and managing a survey can sound simple. There are so many tools freely available to help, so why do surveys go so wrong? There is more to conducting an effective survey than creating a quick on-line questionnaire. This course aims to go through the process step by step to give participants the information they need to get it right.

[Introduction to storytelling in organisations](#)

14 May - Conwy

Many organisations are seeing the benefit of gathering 'real-life' stories from service users, staff and volunteers to help improve their service delivery. This session explores the range of methodology being used to collect and share stories and offers some practical exercises to get you thinking about how you might approach story gathering in your work.

[Introduction to e-participation and new social media](#)

23 May - Deeside

Participants will explore the use of social media as tools for citizen, community and service user engagement. This course will enable participants to explore and identify opportunities for using e-participation and social networking technology within their area of work. Participants will evaluate methods of e-participation and social networking; identifying opportunities and limitations.

With a focus on current technologies and relevance within Wales, this participative course will draw on participant's experiences, case studies and examples where social media have been used in engagement and participation activities.

[What do funders want?](#) - Big Lottery

4 June - Rhyl

In Wales, Big Lottery Fund gives out over £100,000 each day through a range of grant programmes, both small and large, that are open to the third sector.

If you want to know what the fund looks for in an application, how to increase your chances of getting funding and how to increase the chances of succeeding with your project, then this master class is for you.

Aimed at experienced bid writers you'll hear tips on what makes a successful project, tools that you can use in planning your project and key pieces of information that funders want to know.

To book a place [Contact us](#) on 0800 288 8329 or training@wcva.org.uk
Book online on [WCVA's website](#) or [Download a booking form](#)

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WCVA Wales Charity Law Conference 2013

Which way now? Guiding you through a maze of regulatory challenges

Cardiff City Stadium, Tuesday 21 May 2013

Supported by [Geldards](#) law firm

It's all too easy for voluntary organisations to get lost in a maze of legal requirements, and no map, compass or even sat-nav will help. But the Wales Charity Law Conference 2013 can help your organisation avoid getting lost among its legal obligations.

Our expert speakers, such as Dorothy Dalton of *Governance* magazine and Giselle Davies of Geldards, will be there to guide you through the legislative jungle. Dorothy will speak on avoiding common governance pitfalls and making boards more effective, while Giselle will pose the question - can you really be both a charity and a social enterprise?

There will be plenty of invaluable workshops too, including:

- **WCVA Criminal Records Unit** on the new Disclosure and Barring Service
- **Geldards** on the most recent and forthcoming changes to employment law
- **The Charity Commission** on risk and regulation
- **Brewin Dolphin** on managing investment risk in a low interest rate environment

You can [read the full programme and book your place here](#), and make sure your organisation keeps travelling in the right direction.

Attending will qualify for up to four hours/four points CPD as an accredited course for Law Society requirement.

Financial support from Geldards has enabled us to offer a small number of subsidised places for groups who may otherwise be unable to attend. See page 2 of the conference programme for more details.

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Other training

NewLink Wales' training courses

Introduction to trainer skills - 15 & 16 May

This course is a City & Guilds accredited course for those individuals who are new to teaching and group facilitation. The course aims to give learners an introduction into the skills and practices needed as a trainer.

What's new? New and emerging trends - 13 June

Substance misuse awareness - 20 & 21 June

This course is aimed at people with little or no knowledge of substance misuse. It aims to bring a broad understanding about substance misuse and the impact that it has on individuals.

Motivational interviewing - 8 & 9 July

Working with prisoners families' - 18 July

Advanced substance misuse awareness - 12 & 13 September

This course is aimed at people who have completed NewLink Wales' substance misuse awareness course and it may also be suitable for people who have some knowledge of substance misuse already.

Further details are available from NewLink Wales, tel 029 2052 9002, email training@newlinkwales.org.uk or visit www.newlinkwales.org.uk.

Introduction to benefits

7 May 2013, Aberystwyth

10 May 2013, Cardiff

With so many changes to our current benefit system, are you and your staff confident with your knowledge of the current benefits available and qualifying criteria for each. Do you understand all the changes that have taken place? The course aims to introduce the welfare benefits system with simplicity, particularly the distinctions between means-tested, non-means tested, contributory and universal benefits. Further details are available from <http://trainonthetracks.com/cardiff-courses/open-courses/welfare-benefits-training/introduction-to-benefits-2011>

Person centred thinking skills

14 & 15 May 2013, Cardiff

This course will help you work towards delivering personalised services by using a one page profile and a person centred essential lifestyle plan as the beginning and foundations of a support plan. The two day course addresses each of the person centred thinking skills tools, with an opportunity to explore and practice them with other participants through group exercises and discussion. Further details are available from Inacia Rodrigues, Learning Disability Wales, tel 029 2068 1174 or email Inacia.rodrigues@learningdisabilitywales.org.uk.

Changing lives: tackling poverty - the impact of adult learning

Tuesday 21 May 2013, Holiday Inn, Cardiff City Centre

Adult Learners' Week is a celebration of the impact that adult learning makes in Wales and serves as a powerful reminder of the contribution it can make in developing confident, vibrant and successful communities. The campaign also provides an opportunity to ask questions about who is participating in learning, how we are providing opportunities to develop the confidence and skills of our communities and what we could be doing differently. Those attending will have the opportunity to feed into the Welsh Government Tackling Poverty Action Plan, to hear about the Development Plans of Communities First Clusters, listen to the learning stories of individuals, participate in workshops and discuss ideas for new ways of working.

The Bevan Foundation is supporting this event and will have information about the Wales Education and Poverty Network, which aims to bring together people and organisations committed to breaking the influence of poverty on educational participation and achievement in Wales. Further details are available from NIACE Dysgu Cymru, tel 029 2037 0900, email wendy@niacedc.org.uk.

What would Mrs Pankhurst do?

Friday 14 June 2013, University of Wales, Newport

A conference to identify, discuss and develop actions to challenge the effects of 21st Century welfare changes on women in Wales. The conference will be opened with a Ministerial address, and you'll hear from expert speakers from: The Fawcett Society, The Bevan Foundation, Wales Co-op Centre, Shelter Cymru, WEN Wales, Bron Afon Community Housing.

Current changes to the welfare system pose a significant threat to women's independence that could see their financial independence eroded, ability to remain in work undermined and dependence on partners increased. This is your opportunity to ensure that together we develop the best response possible to minimise the regressive impact on welfare reform. To book your place, go to: <http://mrspankhurst.eventbrite.co.uk/>. For further information, visit www.chwaraeteg.com or call 029 2047 8900.

Women's Equality Network Wales Annual Conference

21 June 2013, Cardiff

Join WEN Wales in exploring CEDAW and equality for women in Wales and across the UK. Come and discuss the tools available to work towards true equality for women. Speakers include Welsh Ministers, Dr Marsha Scott, Zarin Hainsworth OBE, Jan Grasty, President of UN Women UK, Emma Ritch. The day event will run from 9.30am to 4.30pm with the AGM starting at 4.30pm. To book a place at this free event, follow this link: [Book your place now](#)

Understanding drug and alcohol use - an employer's guide

[5 September](#) and [5 December](#) - Cardiff

The misuse of alcohol or drugs by employees can be damaging not only to themselves but also to their employers, with effects ranging from sickness absence to inappropriate behaviour at work, lost productivity and even serious accidents. Tackling the problem is difficult, both in terms of identifying the misuse and in terms of addressing it appropriately, and raises a number of legal and management issues.

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End of e-briefing

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