



Winter 2012

CAVOS

consultation pages

Big Lottery discussion paper

The Government has made £30 million available for a final national investment in local infrastructure through a Transforming Local Infrastructure Fund. BIG previously indicated that they would make complementary investments to this funding in distinct and additional ways. They allocated at least £20 million for complementary investment - £6 million of which has been set aside for 'Assist' which is an initiative to help local support providers become more effective with help from national experts and peer-to-peer support.

To help BIG in further developing their funding approach they have formulated a set of principles bringing about further questions on which they would now welcome views ahead of finalising details in 2012.

The Big Lottery discussion paper sets out BIG's approach to 'Building capabilities within voluntary organisations,' and gives an opportunity for voluntary organisations to comment on this approach. It is intended to encourage debate and thinking and to help shape, influence and inform future thinking and investment.

The paper is for voluntary and community organisation and social enterprise managers working in both frontline and infrastructure support and development organisations. It includes a number of questions, which can be answered through the online survey at the bottom of their webpage.

Visit www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/building_capabilities for more details or to complete the survey.

Alternatively, for any queries contact the BIG advice line: 0845 4102030.

Respondents have until 15th March 2012.

Source: Direct / FINE

If you have any queries relating to this newsletter, or would like an article published in the next issue please contact us:

Tel: 01388 811115 Fax: 01388 817772

Email: enquiries@cavos.org.uk www.cavos.org.uk



CAVOS Stakeholder Event 2011 - feedback

On 21st November 2011, CAVOS held its 4th annual Stakeholder Event at St Paul's Centre in Spennymoor. The event was accompanied by the official launch of the South Durham Halls website (*see page 3 of our main Newsletter for more details*).

In previous years, part of the event was focussed on gaining views, concerns, issues and general feedback from our stakeholders. However, for this particular Stakeholder event we looked back at the work and support provided by CAVOS during the past 4 years of our Big Lottery funded Development Project and how stakeholders felt this had impacted on them. Thank you everyone who attended the event and input into the discussions and feedback.

Question 1:

How have you and your group worked with CAVOS over the last 4 years?

We asked this question because we understand that organisations approach CAVOS for support and advice in a number of different areas and it's important to show the diverse range of services we offer that organisations have been able to use over the years.

Some of the examples of feedback received on this question include:

- ⇒ Pointing organisation towards potential funders
- ⇒ Help understanding local problems/issues
- ⇒ Developing work with groups of community centres to extend the range of opportunities and new ways of doing things
- ⇒ GAMP Small grants fund, support to voluntary & community groups within Aycliffe. Valuable support to GAMP at board level
- ⇒ Help with training and guidance
- ⇒ Gave excellent relevant training

Question 2:

How has CAVOS support benefited you?

We wanted to know about how organisations actually felt about the support they'd received from CAVOS and how it had benefitted them to highlight the impact CAVOS has had on them.

By understanding how what we do affects the community, we can better inform future funders of why it is important that they continue to fund our good work.

Some of the examples of feedback received on this question include:

- ⇒ Effective, efficient, way of connecting groups/way of getting new ideas tested
- ⇒ Operations plan - excellent
- ⇒ Having the ability to listen and respond
- ⇒ By including us in the website "project" the end result is excellent – so much information and potential networking opportunities
- ⇒ The "Information File" has been of great help – particularly inclusion of various templates
- ⇒ Great catalyst for voluntary community sector becoming proactive
- ⇒ Meeting with the group to help us develop
- ⇒ Good support and performance by CAVOS to the group
- ⇒ They have encouraged our efforts when no one else has
- ⇒ Assistance with grant funding, Organisational File

Question 3:

What services and support do you feel are most important to continue in the future?

CAVOS recognises the ongoing importance of this subject and we want to ensure that we are fully aware of how best we can continue to support you. By finding out exactly what you feel are the most important services and support, we can endeavour to provide our services in line with your current needs.

Some of the examples of feedback received on this question include:

- ⇒ Training for new volunteers joining voluntary and community groups
- ⇒ Many orgs at stage where they know they need help – needs to be met “locally”
- ⇒ Other orgs now at brokerage function stage where are able to work together but need mechanism to do it
- ⇒ Training for voluntary and community groups to “Work Smarter” not just work harder
- ⇒ Funding know how and general info collection
- ⇒ Training, funding awareness and support
- ⇒ CAVOS know and understand community and voluntary needs - they listen and work with you - important to continue



CAVOS always takes the feedback that we receive very seriously. This feedback is especially important as it provides evidence of how beneficial the work CAVOS has given over the last few years really is. This is not only vital to us but also to the funders who provide us with the money to implement what we do.

If you were unable to attend our Stakeholder event but would like to offer your feedback and comments, please contact CAVOS on 01388 811115 or email enquiries@cavos.org.uk

Contribute to new disability strategy

In December 2011, the government announced a discussion with disabled people to gather suggestions for a new cross-government disability strategy. The Government's ambition is to enable disabled people to fulfil their potential and have opportunities to play a full role in society. To realise this, the Office for Disability Justice (ODJ) want to tackle barriers to realising aspirations and individual control, as well as change attitudes and behaviour towards disabled people.

This new strategy will build on previous discussions with disabled people, including the Roadmap, the Independent Living Strategy and the UK's report to the UN on implementation of the Convention on the Rights of Disabled People. ODJ has worked with disability organisations to create a discussion document which is available to download.

They would like to hear from disabled people, and the people and organisations that support them. Deadline for responses is **5pm, 9th March 2012**.

You can submit answers to the discussion questions using an online form via the shortened link tinyurl.com/7sbfqzb, email fulfilling.potential@dwp.gsi.gov.uk or post your response to: Office for Disability Issues (Disability Strategy Team), Ground Floor, Caxton House, 6-12 Tothill, Street, London, SW1H 9NA or contact 020 7340 4000 with any queries.

Have Your Say on the Future Plans of County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service has launched its public consultation on the Service's Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP). Integrated Risk Management Planning is about allocating resources in the most effective way to improve public safety, reduce the number of fire incidents and save lives. The Service has made significant progress over recent years in improving the safety of residents and businesses across County Durham and Darlington. Their aim is to continue to protect local communities during a period of sustained cuts in public spending.

The consultation process gives everyone the opportunity to have their say about the changes being proposed and will involve staff, residents, businesses, partner organisations and representative bodies. The Service specifically seeks to engage with particular groups as their research shows that certain groups can be more vulnerable, at greater risk or require more support. For this reason the Service has asked for the help of Age UK County Durham in reaching people they communicate with so that they can more effectively receive your feedback. Feedback from the consultation process will be used to inform future plans. The full Integrated Risk Management Plan is available at www.ddfire.gov.uk. However, they have summarised their consultation proposals in an online questionnaire and this can be accessed via this shortened link tinyurl.com/86b67ug.

For any queries call 0845 305 8383 or email ServiceHQ@ddfire.gov.uk.

The closing date for consultation is 2nd March 2012

Survey highlights lack of public understanding about the role of trustees

More than half of British adults do not know what a charity trustee is, according to new research from the charity Getting on Board. The charity, which supports and encourages board-level volunteering, surveyed 2,012 people in October 2011 to mark Trustees Week. 51% said they did not know what a charity trustee was. The survey also found that 21% of the respondents would like to sit on the board of a charity. However, when asked whether they would like to be a charity trustee, only 12% said yes. There was also a difference of thoughts between the age bands with 28% of respondents aged between 18 - 34 saying they were interested in joining the board of a charity, compared with only 15% of those aged over 55. Sarah Hodgkinson, chief executive of Getting on Board, said: "Charities need to work together to ensure the wider public have a better understanding of what a trustee is, to help take advantage of the broad range of valuable skills available." *

Source: Third Sector

*** Check out our 'How to be a Brilliant Organisation' course detailed in the CAVOS training pull out - this is essential training that can help with understanding trustee roles.**

