



Funding Bulletin

Winter 2011/12

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Introduction

Welcome to AVOW’s Funding Bulletin for charities, social enterprises, and not-for-profit voluntary and community groups in Wrexham. Here you will find the latest news on Charitable Trusts, European Funding, Statutory Funding, General Charity and Company Matters, and Local News. If you no longer wish to receive further Funding Bulletins or if you know of other people who may be interested in receiving this bulletin in the future then please e-mail Heather Hicks, Funding Advice Officer at heather.hicks@avow.org

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AVOW Events

Arts Council Advice Surgery

AVOW has arranged to hold an advice surgery in conjunction with the Arts Council Wales, at Ty AVOW, on **Thursday 2nd February 2012** from 9.30 am.

The Arts Council Wales gives grants to both organisations and individuals, towards projects of high artistic quality. Their priorities are supporting the creation of great art, and encouraging more people to enjoy and take part in the arts. Grants range from £250 – £50,000.

This surgery will give organisations and individuals the opportunity to discuss funding for arts projects. Carys Wynne Williams, Arts Development Office with responsibility for Wrexham County, and Heather Hicks, Funding Advice Officer at AVOW and will be in attendance to offer help, advice and support for all your funding queries.

Appointments will be for 45 minutes each and therefore booking will be essential.

For more information or to make an appointment, please contact Heather Hicks on **01978 312556**, or e-mail: heather.hicks@avow.org .

Funding & Governance Surgery

15th March 2012, 1.30pm- 6.00pm

Venue to be confirmed

AVOW is holding a Governance and Funding Surgery, where community and voluntary groups can access free advice on governance and funding matters. Although Funding advice and governance are separate issues – they are normally inextricably linked, as governance issues almost always impact on the ability to attract funding.

This surgery is an ideal opportunity to either get support with a specific issue, or to take a holistic look at your organisation and get all-round advice.

Thirty minute surgery slots will be allocated, booking is necessary.

For further details and to book a surgery slot, please contact David Walker on **01978 312556** or visit the AVOW website: www.avow.org .

Engagement Gateway Employability Skills Fair

Wednesday 1st February 2012, 10am—4pm

Wrexham Memorial Hall

Are you unemployed or unable to work? Interested in learning new skills and having support in returning to work or volunteering? The Engagement Gateway projects may be for you. Come along for an informal chat to find out if you could benefit from these excellent projects.

Eligibility: Aged 16+ with a National Insurance number and either unemployed or unable to work.

Charitable Trusts

The Mackintosh Foundation

This Charitable foundation, founded by Sir Cameron Mackintosh the Theatre Producer, gives grants to charities and constituted voluntary organisations, within the following fields:

- *Theatre and performing arts.* – particularly to promote and develop the arts of theatre, music and drama
- *HIV* – to relieve suffering, and to promote research into the causes of, and treatment of aids
- *Homelessness* – relief for the homeless and poverty stricken
- *Medical research* – particularly research into cures and treatments for cancer, and improving the lives of sufferers and their families
- *Environment* – conservation, protection and enhancement of nature in the UK
- *Education* – making grants to education in the UK by funding school core costs and helping disadvantaged children
- *Community based projects*

There are no specified grant amounts, but in 2011 grants varied in size up to £15,000. Individuals are excluded from applying, and grants are not awarded for religious and/or political purposes.

Application is by letter, with a basic outline of the applicant organisation, the project and a breakdown of the costs involved. Supporting documents should be kept to a minimum, and a stamped addressed envelope enclosed if these are required to be returned.

The Mackintosh Foundation has no website. For further information or to apply, contact:
Mr R Knibb, 1 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3RB
Tel: **020 7637 8866**

Royal Wedding Gift Fund

The Duke and Duchess of Cambridge created a charitable gift fund for those who very generously donated to charity to help the couple celebrate their wedding. The couple have instructed the Community Foundation in Wales to make grants to support carer's projects in North Wales from the proceeds of the fund. The closing date for the grants round is Monday **30th January 2012**.

The guidelines and application form are available to download from the Community Foundation in Wales' website: <http://www.cfiw.org.uk/grants.html#Royal>

Comic Relief - Managing Money Better

Comic Relief has launched a new grants programme: Managing Money Better. The programme is particularly focused on addressing the many ways in which people over 65 are often disadvantaged due to complexities in understanding financial matters, are often exposed to the dangers of financial abuse, and the difficulties involved in making ends meet while coping with rising prices. The programme will be open for applications from 16 January 2012, with a closing date of **17 February**. There will also be a second cycle in April 2012.

If you would like to discuss the programme, please contact anyone in the Older People grants team on **0207 820 2000** or visit www.comicrelief.com, or click [here](#)

(Source: WCVA e-briefing)

The Leigh Trust

This is an independent charitable trust providing grants to UK registered charities within these specified categories:

- Drug & alcohol rehabilitation
- Criminal Justice
- Asylum seekers
- Racial equality
- Education – children and young people

Grants range between £500 and £10,000; however, the trustees prefer to support organisations which they believe to be in the greatest need.

There is no set application form. Applicants should provide:

- A (concise) request for a grant, preferably summarised on one side of A4 paper
- A registered charity number
- The most recent audited accounts
- A cash flow statement for the next twelve months
- A stamped addressed envelope

For further information or to apply, contact: Begbies Chettle Agar, Epworth House, 25 City Road, London EC1Y 1AR. Tel: **020 7628 5801**

People's Postcode Trust

The People's Postcode Trust is the grant giving independent charitable trust of People's Postcode Lottery. They distribute funds to small organisations, for 3-month projects with one or more of the following aims:

- To prevent poverty
- To promote, maintain, improve and advance health
- To advance citizenship or community development
- To advance public participation in sport
- To promote, improve and advance human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation
- To promote and advance environmental protection or improvement

Grants range from £500 to £5,000 in Wales (but up to £10,000 in England and Scotland). Community groups, and constituted voluntary organisations can apply for grants of up to £2,000, but applicants for higher amounts must be registered charities. Core costs and salaries are excluded. Click [here](#) for details of other exclusions. Applications must be for projects with a clear and charitable purpose, and must be able to show visible benefit within 3 months of the commencement of their project. Grants must be spent within six months of being awarded.

Applications are assessed on a quarterly basis. The 2012 Funding rounds are:

Open Date	Close Date
Monday 9th January	Friday 24th February
Monday 9th April	Friday 25th May
Monday 9th July	Friday 24th August
Monday 8th October	Friday 9th November

For more information about People's Postcode Trust, call the Trust Helpdesk on **0131 555 7287** or email: info@postcodetrust.org.uk. Website: www.postcodetrust.org.uk/

The Parthenon Trust

The Parthenon Trust provides grants to registered charities, both in the UK and abroad. Most grants are awarded for general purposes, however, they focus on:

- Medical research
- Assistance to the disadvantaged
- International aid organisations
- Medical treatment and care
- Cultural and heritage purposes, and
- Education

During 2010, grants totaling £1,416,382 were awarded, of which, the largest proportion went towards medical research, and assistance to the disadvantaged. There is no formal application procedure, but potential applicants are advised to consult the Secretary before applying. Unfortunately they do not appear to have either a website or email.

Contact: Mr John Whittaker, Saint-Nicolas 9, 2000 Neuchatel, Switzerland
Tel: 0041 32 724 8130

Comic Relief Local Communities Grant Programme

The Community Foundation in Wales is administering grants for Comic Relief, under their Local Communities category. Comic Relief supports work where there is clear evidence of beneficial impact on people and communities who are excluded or disadvantaged through low income, rural or social isolation, age, disabilities, race, sexuality or gender.

Half of the available funds are aimed at projects that increase access to sport and exercise for people who face social exclusion and isolation, or are experiencing difficulties in their lives. The remaining grants will be awarded to projects that increase local services, build skills of local people, increase community cohesion, respond to local economic needs.

Applicants can apply for between £1000 and £10,000 to support revenue and/or capital projects. Grants are only allocated once a year under this programme and the closing date for applications is Wednesday **15th February 2012**.

Visit the Community Foundation in Wales' website to download the criteria and application form. Applications can be submitted online. www.cfiw.org.uk

Awards

Civil Society - Charity Awards

The **Charity Awards** recognise and celebrate excellence in the leadership and management of charities across the UK. UK charities of any size are eligible to apply under a number of broad categories of activity, as follows:

- advice, support and advocacy;
- arts, culture and heritage;
- children and youth;
- disability;
- education and training;
- environment and conservation;
- grantmaking and funding;
- healthcare and medical research;
- international aid and development;
- Social care and welfare.

The Charity Awards are free to enter, however there are no financial prizes. Winners will receive a place on the Leadership Trust's 'Leadership in Management' or its 'Leading with Impact' programmes; plus get an invaluable amount of good publicity, which will raise their profile and make them much more attractive to potential funders.

The deadline for applications is **9 March 2012**.

Website: <http://www.civilsociety.co.uk/charityawards/nominations>

(Source: Grantfinder Newsflash, 5/12/11)

Statutory Funds

Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI)

The Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) is a new Government initiative providing finance to non-domestic renewable heat generators and producers of bio-methane in Great Britain. Designed to revolutionise the way heat is generated and used, this is the first financial support scheme for renewable heat of its kind. Under the scheme's terms, organisations may apply for assistance and, if successful, receive payments on a quarterly basis for heat generated over 20 years. £860 million has been made available from central Government funding to support the RHI over the period 2011-2015. The following technologies are included in the scheme:

- Biomass boilers (including CHP biomass boilers)
- Solar Thermal
- Ground Source Heat Pumps
- Water Source Heat Pumps
- On-site Biogas combustion
- Deep Geothermal
- Energy from Municipal Solid Waste
- Injection of bio-methane into the grid

The scheme is being introduced in two phases. In the first phase, long-term tariff support is targeted within the non-domestic sectors, focusing on high energy consumers, including the industrial, business and public sectors. These energy users contribute 38% of the UK's carbon emissions. Under this phase there is also support of approximately £15 million for households through the Renewable Heat Premium Payment.

The second phase of the RHI will see the scheme expanded to include more technologies as well as support for households. Details about the introduction of Phase 2 are expected to be announced in early 2012.

Generators of heat and producers of bio-methane that are based in Great Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) may apply to the RHI, providing they meet the eligibility criteria, at any time. The RHI is being administered by Ofgem E-Serve. More information about the administration of the RHI can be found on the Ofgem E-Serve **Renewable Heat Incentive** website. Further details are also available by contacting Ofgem on **0845 200 2122** between 8.30am and 5pm Monday to Thursday, and from 8.30am until 4.30pm on Fridays. Alternatively, interested parties may send an email to **RHI.Enquiry@Ofgem.gov.uk**.

(Source WCVa e-briefing)

Wales Africa Community Links grants

The winter 2012 grants round is open, with an application deadline of **27 January 2012**.

- **Link Development Grants** of £1,000 (start-up & learning), £2,000 (partnership building) or £3,000 (project development); funded by the Welsh Government Wales for Africa scheme.
- **Forestry Project Grants** of up to £4,000 specifically for tree conservation activities, funded by the Waterloo Foundation as part of the **'Size of Wales'** initiative.

This is the last funding round for the 2011-12 financial year, and as WACL are awaiting confirmation of funding levels for next year, links are *strongly* encouraged to submit applications to this grant round.

(Source: WCVA e-briefing)

Wales4Africa Health Links grant scheme

The Welsh Government is pleased to offer grant funding for health links with sub-Saharan Africa during 2012-13 and 2012-15.

The purpose of the scheme is to support the professional development of staff through their participation in health links with a sub-Saharan African territory. For NHS staff this can be part of their Continuing Professional Development. This grant scheme can support either a work to develop a new link or work being taken forward by an ongoing health link. Applications to the Wales4Africa health links grant scheme are open from 12 December 2011 to **5 March 2012**.

For more information and to apply, follow this link:

<http://wales.gov.uk/topics/sustainabledevelopment/intdevelopment/walesforafrica/wafricagrantscheme/?lang=en>

For more information on successfully applying for a grant, please see the presentation **'Wales4Africa Health Links grant scheme'** which was presented at the Sharing Learning Event on the 9th December 2011.

General Charity & Company Matters

IoF updates its code of practice on handling cash

The **Institute of Fundraising** has published ***Handling of Cash and Other Financial Donations Code of Fundraising Practice***, to help protect organisations from fraud, theft or embezzlement. The code is an updated version of the Handling of Cash Donations code. It includes guidance on different types of donations and gives details on tax-effective giving and processing donations using tills.

A statement from the IoF said the code would help to "protect the organisation from fraud, theft or embezzlement, protect staff or volunteers from accusations of dishonesty or the temptation to commit fraud, and assure donors that their donations and gifts are used for the purpose for which they were given". **Read more**

(Source: Third Sector)

Third Sector Knowledge Portal launching in Wales

It is an accepted fact that funders look to fund things which are needed. Therefore, if you can provide evidence that your project is needed, your application will have a much better chance of success. Gathering such evidence of need can be very time consuming and often totally unrealistic for most organisations who barely have time to do anything other than their main activities. So, where to start getting hold of research which can be used as evidence to back up a funding proposal? It may well be that someone else has already conducted studies into this subject, but until now, sourcing such information has been very difficult.

The Third Sector Research Centre, the British Library, and the Big Lottery Fund are pleased to announce this targeted Welsh launch of the new Third Sector Knowledge Portal. The Portal is a new destination site for research and information bringing together reports from voluntary and community sector organisations, academic analysis, and government studies in an easy to use online catalogue of links and downloads. If you have produced publications, the Portal could help your organisation's publications reach a wider audience. If you are looking for information to endorse your proposed actions, then this would be a very good place to start.

Access the Portal and read more information by following this link:

<http://www.tsrc.ac.uk/Research/KnowledgePortal/tabid/840/Default.aspx>

Please get in touch if you have relevant research or recommendations for inclusion.

Email: knowledgeportal@tsrc.ac.uk, Twitter @3rdSectorPortal.

New free 'how-to-tender' guide for charity trustees

Navca and the Local Government Association have launched a free guide for charity trustees about commissioning and tendering for public services. The guide 'At your Bidding' outlines all the key issues that trustees of local charities should be aware of when deciding whether to embark on public service delivery.

It is not a 'how-to-tender manual' but provides information to help trustees understand the potential implications and impact of commissioning on their charity. It also contains information to help them bid for service contracts, and ensure their organisation is ready for the tendering process and able to deliver the contract.

Click [here](#) to download the (pdf) guide for free.

(Source: Civil Society Governance, 3 November 2011)

Institute launches fundraising videos

The Institute of Fundraising has launched a series of five-minute online videos designed to give small charities a primer on fundraising issues, structures and techniques.

The '**Five Minute Fundraiser**' videos, produced in association with the Office of Civil Society and part of the Institute's work as strategic partner to deliver training to small charities, run a gamut of fundraising subjects. Aimed at the lower end of the market, the videos touch on subjects from 'what is fundraising' to the 'internal fundraising environment'.

Website: www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/

(Source: Civil Society)

Free community trees to celebrate Diamond Jubilee

To celebrate the anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II's historic 2012 Diamond Jubilee, the Woodland Trust is helping millions of people across the UK to come together to plant 6 million trees. Neighbours, communities, schools and families are encouraged to come together to plant thousands of individual trees in their community gardens, playgrounds and community spaces, each taking the chance to mark this special moment in history in a way that will stay with them forever.

Schools and community groups can apply for free tree packs to help local people get involved in the celebration. Community groups can apply for trees to be delivered in February, March or November 2012. For more information, please visit the **Woodland Trust website**.

(Source: WCVA e-briefing)

Jargonbusters

Charities Evaluation Services has launched the 'jargonbusters' website to provide simple and clear definitions for unclear or technical language surrounding charity performance and evaluation. Andy Gregg, chief executive of Charities Evaluation Services (CES) announced the new website at the launch of the Inspiring Impact Group, a coalition of charities, including CES, which plan to improve impact measurement over the coming decade.

Jargonbusters is produced and managed by Charities Evaluation Services with the support of the Jargonbusters Group. The group comprises an informal partnership of organisations who will work to reach agreement about the use of terms in voluntary sector management and procurement. **Read more**

(Source: Civil Society)

Do you need guidance or training on VAT issues?

WCVA are keen to know whether there is a need within the sector for extra guidance or training on VAT issues and if so what specific areas we may need to address. We would love to hear from you with feedback on this, so if you have any comments to make regarding this please contact us by emailing alewis@wcva.org.uk, noting any specific areas that you would like to know more about.

(Source: WCVA Trustee News)

Community Business Loan Fund (CBLF)

The Royal Bank of Scotland (RBS) has launched the Community Business Loan Fund (CBLF) to help potential and existing social entrepreneurs who are unable to access finance through normal mainstream channels. The £5 million Fund offers financial support for the purpose of starting or expanding a community-based business. RBS expects to support in the region of 1,000 businesses through the scheme.

Eligible businesses can apply for loans of between £30,000 and £500,000. Community Development Finance Institutions, which allocate funds to other firms, may apply for loans of between £200,000 and £1 million. The loans can be tailored to the applicant's individual requirements and are offered on flexible loans. Charities, social enterprises, co-operatives and community interest companies operating in the UK may apply. To be eligible for funding, the organisation must have clear social or environmental objectives and reinvest profits for a social purpose. Applications may be submitted at any time.

Website: <http://www.rbs.co.uk/business/banking/g3/community-business-loan-fund.ashx#tabs=section3>

(Source: WCVA e-briefing)

Training

Introduction to payroll giving

Thursday 2 February 2012 - full day

Venue: Morfa Hall, Rhyl

Cost: £25 for voluntary and community organisations operating in Wales

This is a brand new course, for details click [here](#).

To book a place, please complete a [booking form](#) (pdf) returning to training@wcva.org.uk or telephone the WCVA helpdesk on **0800 2888 329**

Working with the Media and Community Fundraising

21 February, 9.30a.m – 12 noon

Venue: Gales of Llangollen, Bridge Street, Llangollen LL20 8PF

Cost: £15 for Institute of Fundraising Cymru members, and £20 for non members

Arfon Haines-Davies, Broadcaster with over 30 years of experience working in both the media and with the Third Sector will explain how to get the best out of your relationship with the media.

Pam Dodd, Institute of Fundraising Cymru Wales' National Manager will be providing a broad overview of fundraising and the challenges faced, covering various aspects of this most important area of fundraising.

Click [here](#) for more information and booking details, or visit the Institute of Fundraising Cymru website: <http://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/groupsandnetworking>

Charity Trading: know the ropes

Rhyl - Wed 29 Feb 2012, 12pm - 5pm

Cost: £10 per seminar, including lunch

If you're having trouble untangling your concerns about charity trading, the latest in WCVA's exciting programme of third sector seminars will really help you out. Titled '[Charity trading: know the ropes](#)' this seminar – run by [Geldards law firm](#)– will guide you through the maze of charity trading concerns. The day will be split into two sessions:

- the first session will cover the basics of what constitutes trading, when trading income would be taxable in the hands of a charity, and generally why you might set up a trading subsidiary, and,
- The second session will then look at how to set up a subsidiary, the provision of working capital and use of other charity resources, and the practical issues you will need to deal with.

This is a challenging subject but practical examples and simple case studies will be used during the seminar to help both Charity Trustees and staff, get to grips with it. There will also be the chance to book a one-on-one appointment with a Geldards expert to discuss your particular charity trading concerns, and you'll get to hear all about [3to3](#), the third sector's online marketplace.

To register your interest in attending this seminar, email eventsadmin@wcva.org.uk, stating the title of the seminar as the subject of the email. Alternatively, click the link for a [booking form](#) (pdf). Spaces will be limited so don't delay!

Bullying and harassment at work

16 February 2012, 9.30am – 1pm

Cost: £114 per person

Venue: Wrexham – t.b.a.

This ACAS course gives in depth guidance on dealing with bullying and harassment in the workplace, and will cover: Legislation, Defining bullying and harassment, Tackling incidents of unacceptable behaviour, Handling complaints, and Policy Development

For more course information, click [here](#). To book a place, call Acas on **08457 383736** or email events@acas.org.uk

North Wales Skills Building Day

8 May 2011, 10am – 3pm

Venue: Conwy Business Centre, Junction Way, Llandudno Junction LL31 9XX

Cost: £40 for Institute of Fundraising Cymru members, £50 for non-members

An opportunity to enhance your fundraising skills with a full day of sessions from experienced practitioners in the field. There will be presentations and workshops with a Q&A session.

Click [here](#) for more information and booking details, or visit the Institute of Fundraising Cymru website: <http://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/groupsandnetworking>

AVOW Training Courses

AVOW provides a range of courses and services for the voluntary and community sector. For further details please view the AVOW website www.avow.org or contact the training team on **01978 312556** or email: communitycourses@avow.org.uk

Food Hygiene- Level 2 (CIEH)

15th February 2012, 9.30-4.30pm (9.20am registration and refreshments)

Venue: AVOW, 21 Egerton Street, Wrexham

Cost: £45 per person*

This course aims to provide participants with:

- A firm grasp of the importance of food safety and knowledge of the systems, techniques and procedures involved

- An understanding of how to control food safety risks (personal hygiene, food storage, cooking and handling)
- Confidence and expertise to safely deliver quality food to customers

CIEH accreditation will be awarded to successful candidates (assessment optional)

Charity Accounting

21st February 2012, 9.30am-4.30pm (9.20am registration and refreshments)

Venue: AVOW, 21 Egerton Street, Wrexham LL11 1ND

Cost: £25 per person*

By the end of this course, participants will understand:

- The definition of 'Charity Activity'
- Annual accounting requirements
- Guidelines concerning charities and trading
- Tax matters and recent changes to Gift Aid and VAT
- Book Keeping processes

** AVOW members will benefit from 10% discount off each training course. To become a member please contact AVOW on **01978 312556***

Local News

GwirVol Youth Led Grants

Wrexham Volunteer Centre has funding of up to £1000 available through the GwirVol Youth Led Volunteering Grants Scheme to young people aged 16 - 25, who are interested in organising a youth led volunteering project which will benefit their local community. Applications can be made either by individuals or groups. Previously we have funded 6 youth led projects ranging from Christmas Parties for local elderly residents to football training sessions for people with disabilities.

For further information please contact: Lynsey Edwards, AVOW Youth Volunteering Officer on **01978 312556** or email: lynsey.edwards@avow.org, or follow this link to the [website](#)

Rural Environmental Grant Scheme

I am pleased to announce that the Rural Environmental Grant Scheme is now open for applications.

Capital Grants will be available up to the value of £10,000 for projects that meet with one of the following aims of the project.

- Help reduce the amount of energy consumed in the county borough
- Produce renewable energy
- Raise awareness of climate change and the above issues
- Promote access to the countryside

The Rural Environmental Grant Scheme is offering grants up to 80% of a projects total value with the remaining 20% to be match funded with money from the applicant. Projects must be based in Rural Wrexham and provide a benefit to the local community.

If you would like to discuss ideas for a project or have any questions about the Grant Scheme please do not hesitate to contact: Dave Gittins, Rural Environmental Project Officer, Northern Marches Cymru, Bersham Enterprise Park, Rhostyllen, Wrexham LL14 4EG. Tel: **01978 298391**. Website:

www.northernmarchescymru.co.uk/?page_id=663

WREN

Good news for community projects in Wrexham. WREN has just announced a further £68,000 allocated to community projects in the Wrexham area.

Projects to receive funding include £25,000 towards a new play area at Solway Banks Recreation Ground, Southsea; £14,415 towards new windows and doors at The Oliver Jones Memorial Hall in Dolwern; £3,715 towards green area improvements at Barter Road, Offa; and a further £25,000 towards improvements to the main hall at the Llay Royal British Legion.

WREN distributes funding through the Landfill Communities fund on behalf of landfill operator Waster Recycling Group. Meleri Jones, Grant Manager for WREN said "the funding will make a real difference to many projects in the Wrexham area especially in the current economic climate when money is tight. WREN have allocated a total of almost £275,000 in 2011 and there is more available in 2012" she added, "We have increased our maximum grant to £75,000 and we are encouraging more community groups to come forward with applications in 2012"

Wren provides funding for projects that provide improvements to community amenities, for example - Community halls, children's play equipment and skate parks, village greens and public parks, community gardens, woodland improvements, cycle paths and nature reserves. The next application deadline is **29th February** and there are other deadlines in May and August.

Organisations and community groups requiring funding for beneficial projects should visit www.wren.org.uk or contact WREN on **01953 717165**

Tip of the Month

There are a number of tips and techniques to help your application stand out and hopefully, improve your overall chances of success. This month's tip is:

Consider value for money

The vast majority of grant funds are over-subscribed and competition can be intense. When faced with more applications than money, grants panels are increasingly looking to fund those which are the best value for money. So, bearing that in mind, it is worth considering, before submitting your application, whether you are asking for a realistic amount or being a bit ambitious. Are you asking for something 'top of the range' when a more moderately priced item will be just as good? However, if you really do need that expensive model, give good reasons why, or just ask for a proportion (i.e. contribute some of your own funds) – or risk being passed over for better value bids.

FINALLY, we would like to hear your success stories. If you have successfully obtained grant funding following advice received from AVOW, or from information in these Funding Bulletins please let us know. We will not feature individual cases unless organisations particularly wish to share their successes.

NOTE: AVOW fully supports the distribution of the information within this newsletter to charities, voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises, but requests that any organisation using this information please acknowledge AVOW as the source of the information.

The information within this bulletin is gathered from a number of sources and is intended for guidance only. The information has been researched as far as possible, and is believed to be correct at time of publication. Products and services featured are not endorsed by AVOW.