

eastside

Newsletter



June 2006

Welcome to the June newsletter which contains a list of funding alerts and headlines in the sector. We also profile the launch of Business Link's Access 2 Finance

Funding Alerts:

- Community Investment Fund: deadline June 8th
- Civil Society Challenge Fund: deadline June 15th
- Biffaward Flagship grants: deadline June 16th
- Big Lottery Capacity Building Programme: deadline June 30th
- Big Lottery Young People's Fund: deadline July 14th
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: September 4th
- Futurebuilders: now open

Headlines:

- Social enterprise worth £27bn to the economy
- Charity Commission help line launches
- Co-op tops Corporate Responsibility Index
- Guide published on eco-days out
- DSC Fundraising conference: July 10-12th
- Community Interest Company event: July 10th

NEWS FROM THE EASTSIDE

Business support for social enterprise

Business Link for London, the citizen's advice bureau for SMEs, has re-opened a scheme called Access To Finance which enables small business to receive professional support at subsidized rates.

The scheme is open to small businesses in London including social enterprises (although not charities). Qualifying enterprises are entitled to a subsidy covering up to 75% of their professional support fees. The subsidy can be used to pay for a range of finance-raising advice such as identifying suitable funders, preparing a business plan or loan document and negotiating with investors.

One of the key objectives of the scheme is to increase the number of small businesses in London that actually secure funding. While this is a worthy priority it means that providers will tend to work only with enterprises that are already well-prepared. Consequently, the scheme may not be suitable for enterprises that are in need of extensive investment-readiness support.

Eastside is one of fourteen registered service providers across London, so if you would like to find out more about the scheme then please contact the office or visit the Business Link for London website.

www.businesslink4london.com/

Funding Alerts

Community Investment Fund: deadline June 8th

Department for Social Development provides core funding grants of up to £80,000 for organisations providing community development services which tackle disadvantage

http://www.dsdni.gov.uk/index/voluntary_and_community/funding_programmes/community_investment_fund.htm

Civil Society Challenge Fund: deadline June 15th

Grants of up to £500,000 are available to not-for-profit UK based organisations working in partnership with organisations in the developing world to support the strengthening of civil society.

<http://www.dfid.gov.uk/funding/civilsocietycf.asp>

Biffaward Flagship grants: deadline June 16th

Royal Society of Wildlife Trust provides grants of £150,000 to £500,000 for large community regeneration or biodiversity projects

<http://www.biffaward.org/projects/flagship.php>

Big Lottery Capacity Building Programme: deadline June 30th

Grants of £10,000 - £500,000 are available for organisations that provide capacity building services to the sector.

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/programmes/basis/index.htm>

Big Lottery Young People's Fund: deadline July 14th

Financial assistance is available to support national charities in carrying out projects aimed at helping young people in England.

<http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/programmes/lypf/index.htm>

Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust: September 4th

Grants are available for projects that will encourage corporate responsibility, accountability, openness and responsiveness on a national level

<http://www.jrct.org.uk/>

Futurebuilders: now open for applications

The government-backed fund for charitable organizations that deliver public services will be open for applications from May 2006. Funding is mainly loan finance.

<http://www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk>

Headlines

Social enterprise worth £27bn to the economy

According to the Government's Annual Small Business Survey 2005, there are at least 55,000 social enterprises in the UK with a combined turnover of £27 billion per year.

<http://www.sbs.gov.uk/sbsgov/action/detail?type=RESOURCES&itemId=7000027837>

Charity Commission help line launches

The regulator has launched Charity Commission Direct - one-stop shop for charity enquiries. The new service also includes a dedicated helpline for trustee enquiries

<http://www.publictechnology.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=4996>

Co-op tops Corporate Responsibility Index

BITC has published its Corporate Responsibility Index, which benchmarks performance in the complex corporate responsibility agenda. The Co-Op remains in pole position, followed by BAA and Barclays.

http://www.bitc.org.uk/press_office/press_releases/crindex2006resul.html

Guide published on eco-days out

Centres of Inspiration provides info on eco-days across the UK, from wind turbine tours to wildflower trails, from the Eden Project to the London Wetland Centre. The guide is published by Green Futures.

http://www.forumforthefuture.org.uk/news/ecodays_page372.aspx

DSC Fundraising Convention: July 10-12th

A major event in the fundraising calendar and across 3 days offers 150 workshops aimed at funding for a broad range of charities, trusts and associations.

<http://www.nationalconvention.org.uk>

Community Interest Company event: July 10th

Event for anyone interested in this new legal form for social enterprise. Meet the CIC regulator, legal and financial experts and hear from CIC's who are already up and running about their experiences.

Info available from: cics@socialentreprisemag.co.uk

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