



East Cornwall CVS

The Signpost Enews Update

Your bi-monthly Enews update from East Cornwall CVS

East Cornwall CVS celebrating 20 years of supporting voluntary & community organisations throughout Cornwall

Welcome to the October Enews Update, which contains snippets of information that has deadlines that miss the next edition of the Signpost newsletter. The news update is longer than usual with lots of events coming up between now and December. If you would like to include articles for either the updates or the main Signpost newsletter contact: Carol on 01208 832763. **(The next deadline for the Signpost is the 21st October)** We hope you find some of the articles useful.

Local & Regional News

Penwith Community Development Trust (PCDT) is 10 years old- come help us celebrate!

Come and celebrate PCDT's 10th Anniversary and find out what our charity can do for you!

Friday 16th October 2009, 10.30am–3.30pm, Acorn Theatre, Penzance

Pop in and have some tea and cake with us and find out what amazing things we can do for you!

- ☺ Interesting and fun courses!
- ☺ Lots of community group help!
- ☺ Back to work support!
- ☺ Meet some of the people we've helped!

Contact: 01736 330988 Website: www.pcdt.org

Help South West Ambulance Service to help you

Do you have views on how the South West's ambulance service is run? Have you got comments to make about your own experiences, or those of your family or friends, of using emergency, urgent care or patient transport services?

South Western Ambulance Service NHS Trust (SWAST) is seeking your opinions on its plans to become an NHS Foundation Trust, in a public consultation which was launched on Monday 14 September and runs until Sunday 6 December 2009. During this time, it is your chance to engage in a full and frank debate about what it will mean for SWAST to become a Foundation Trust. Taking part in the consultation means you can have your say on SWAST's proposed governance arrangements – in other words, how they make sure that high performance and clinical quality standards continue to be met, patients and staff are kept safe, and best use is made of taxpayers' money. All your comments are welcome.

As part of the NHS Foundation Trust application process, SWAST is also aiming to recruit 15,000 members who are representative of the communities they serve. This is a further opportunity for people to support SWAST's life-saving work and get involved with service development. For more information about NHS Foundation Trusts and membership, or the various ways to get involved in the public consultation, you can visit www.swast.nhs.uk/ft or contact Consultation Coordinator Lynne Paramor on 01392 261509.

Alternatively, you can attend your nearest public meeting day, when a presentation will be given every 2 hours:

5th October 2009, 9:00am to 9:00pm - Guildhall, Plymouth City Council, Plymouth

9th November 2009, 9:00am to 9:00pm - Truro Town Hall, Municipal Buildings, Boscawen Street Truro

AGM with a difference!

Arts for Health warmly invited you to their 2009 Annual General Meeting on 16th October. Go along to meet them, learn about the impact of their work over the last year and see artworks and films from their projects. There will be live music, refreshments and networking. 3pm at the Zed Shed, Jubilee Wharf, Penryn. Please RSVP by phoning our office on 01326 377772 or e mail: gill@artsforhealthcornwall.org.uk

Cornwall County Playing Fields AGM

Cornwall County Playing Field Association invite you to their Annual General Meeting which will be held on **Tuesday 10th November 2009 at 7pm** at the **Lakeview Country Club, Old Coach Road, Lanivet, Bodmin**. Refreshments will be provided. Please RSVP to CCPFA, 14 Chapel Street, Camborne, TR14 8ED Tel: 01209 614950 Email: sharon.davey@cornwallrcc.co.uk **by Friday 30 October 2009**

Graduates – Cornwall needs YOU!

Opening doors and unleashing ideas, Unlocking Cornish Potential (UCP) presents unlimited possibilities...

UCP matches talented graduates with progressive Cornish companies to fuel innovation, growth, creativity, competitiveness and economic prosperity in Cornwall.

Graduates gain invaluable experience, new professional skills and a competitive salary. Businesses gain an employee with fresh ideas, enthusiasm, and access to expert industry knowledge and training opportunities. UCP can make a real, measurable difference, for more information on how to register for both graduates and employers go to: www.cornwall.ac.uk/ucp/index.php?page=_Home

Cornwall Waste Action AGM

The Cornwall Waste Action (CWA) AGM is on Monday 26th October at 4pm in the CWA office at the address below. All Network members are very welcome. Please let us know if you would like to attend. Tea and cakes will be served!

Lally Henty - Administration and Finance Worker, Cornwall Waste Action

63 West End, Redruth TR15 2SQ, Cornwall

Tel: 01209 210883 Email: lally@wasteaction.org.uk Website: www.wasteaction.org.uk

Mapping exercise to see the full range of services in the county for Carers – PLEASE HELP!

I would love to hear from organisations that support Carers. This support can take a variety of forms, such as direct interaction with Carers and their families or perhaps more arms length support such as benefits advice over the phone. It does not matter what form it is I would be really interested to hear from you.

The reason for this is two fold. Firstly I am carrying out a mapping exercise to see the full range of services in the county for Carers and to then see if there are any gaps that need filling. Secondly I am in the process of helping to form a Carers Forum, which it is hoped that as many organisations as possible that provide services for Carers will attend to network, share best practice as well as giving a greater 'voice' to Carer Organisations in Cornwall.

Contact: Dave Hocking, Capacity Building Manager, email: dave.hocking@cornwallrcc.co.uk

Cornwall Rural Community Council (CRCC), ClayTAWC, The Old School, Fore St, St Dennis, PL26 8AF. Telephone: 01726 821974 Mob: 07973 757718 Web: www.cornwallrcc.co.uk

East Cornwall CVS AGM

ECCVS will be holding their AGM on **Monday 16th November at 11.30am** and would like to invite anyone with an interest in our work. All the staff will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about the projects we are currently delivering. Lunch will be served at 12.30pm.

Please contact Carol Jones by **30th October if you wish to attend** to enable us to cater refreshments for you. Email: c.jones@eccvs.org.uk

Foster Hall Charitable Trust - AGM

SHIRE HOUSE SUITE, BODMIN

WEDNESDAY 4TH NOVEMBER 2009 AT 6.30 PM for 7.00 PM

FOSTER HALL AS AN AMENITIES CENTRE

To be presented at the meeting:

- Plans, artist's impression, costings
- Restaurant, bar, café, shops and rentable offices
- Foster Hall revived
- The role of the amenities centre in the community

You will find that Foster Hall revival is a realistic aim and your attendance will help to support the project. Hope to see you there. Gil Patrick, will be in the Chair and will make the presentations.

RSVP – please let me know if you will be attending and any comments you have. Gil Patrick, Roundhouse Barn, Fenton Pits, Bodmin, PL30 5HT. Mob: 07831 533 785 Home: 01208 831 041

Fraudster's cold calling, claiming to be Windows XP service providers!

Cornwall Council Information Services has received reports of a telephone fraud being attempted within the county.

The fraudsters are cold calling people claiming to be Windows XP service providers and then advising that they have detected that the person's computer has problems (slow running, Trojan viruses etc.) This statement is false. They won't have had access to the computer to identify any problem.

This claim is made with the intent to scare people into paying money to have their PC's remotely 'fixed'. They have also been known to infect computers with viruses once attached to prove their 'repair' has worked. They call from UK based numbers but all calls to these numbers appear to end up in India. All reports we have had so far involve people with Indian accents.

They appear to go under a number of names Supportonclick, logmein123 and Systemrecre.

- As an additional warning. Random website adverts claiming to have found viruses on your computer are equally suspect and no attempt should be made to install any software offered by them.

This warning applies equally to your computers at home. Please ensure your computers at home have their security systems up-to-date, are fully patched and have a firewall in place.

Regards

Anthony Waters, Senior ICT Support Officer, Information Services, Cornwall Council. Tel: 01872 323202

Funding & Opportunities

Funding body revamps online

Futurebuilders England has now launched its improved web site, with a new resources section with videos and audio as well as written material, go to: www.futurebuilders-england.org.uk. Future Builders England has also recently introduced flexible interest rates on loans.

South West Loans Fund

A £10 million investment fund to help South West businesses has announced the appointment of new Fund Managers.

The South West Loans Fund, which was set up by the South West RDA (Regional Development Agency) in April, has named SWIG (South West Investment Group) Services and Finance Cornwall Fund Managers Ltd as its permanent Fund Managers.

The appointments follow an interim six-month arrangement which saw the Fund managed by YFM Group. The new contracts will last until December 2015. SWIG Services will manage small loans of up to £50,000, and Finance Cornwall Fund Managers will manage loans from £50,000 up to £250,000, under the brand name Ascendant Ventures.

Stephen Peacock, Executive Director of Enterprise and Innovation at the South West RDA, said: "We're delighted to have appointed such experienced regional fund managers to help viable businesses access investment through the South West Loans Fund. Securing growth finance is still an issue for many businesses and we hope that having two fund managers will accelerate the pace of investment."

The South West Loans Fund is overseen by South West Investment Group (Capital) Ltd whose Executive Director John Berry said: "The fund continues to see strong demand with over £1m of investment now approved for a range of businesses across the South West. I would like to thank YFM Group for their excellent work in getting everything up and running so well."

The South West Loans Fund is funded by the RDA (£3.75m) and the European Regional Development Fund through the ERDF Convergence Programme in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (£3.75m) and the ERDF Competitiveness Programme for the rest of the region (£2.5m). It delivers two of the government-funded Solutions for Business products: 'Small Loans for Business' and 'Finance for Business' loans for the whole of the South West of England.

Carleen Kelemen, director of the Convergence Partnership Office, said: "These are unprecedented and challenging economic climates. In today's post credit crunch economy, the availability and cost of credit are very different since 2008. Financial instruments play a key role in economic regeneration and this loan fund is one of a number of business support Convergence products to assist higher value growth businesses."

Peter Casey, Managing Director of SWIG Services said: "SWIG Services has an unparalleled track record in delivering gap loan finance to firms in the South West. We are keenly aware of the market demand for this Fund which will secure the package many local firms need for growth and I am delighted that we will be able to help fulfil that demand going forward."

Robert Seymour, Managing Director of Finance Cornwall Fund Managers said: "The South West Loans Fund is an important initiative to support growth-oriented SMEs in the South West and full credit must be given to South West RDA and South West Investment Group (Capital) in establishing this valuable source of funding for SMEs. I am delighted that Finance Cornwall Fund Managers has been selected as fund manager and look forward to delivering our part of the fund as Ascendant Ventures in partnership with Business Link and other delivery agencies."

Since it was launched the South West Loans Fund has received more than 270 enquires and over 80 applications have or are being progressed.

Community Grants Programme

Cornwall Development Company, Cornwall Community Foundation and the Cornwall Rural Community Council are pleased to announce that the Community grants programme is fully open for applications in Cornwall & the Isles of Scilly.

The programme, which is funded by the Learning and Skills Council, through the European Social Fund, is aimed at supporting projects that:

"Assist the disadvantaged or excluded to move closer to the labour market by improving their access to mainstream provision/ESF and domestic employment and skills provision". The people who can benefit from the programme must therefore be unemployed or employed for less than 16 hours per week.

The programme is aimed at supporting voluntary and community organisations with charitable aims, to deliver projects that will achieve some of the following outcomes for the beneficiaries:

Confidence building; mentoring/support; help with basic skills and life skills; training advice and first contact engagement activities and providing learning or training opportunities which seek to increase skills.

Effectively the outcomes from funding should be a job, improved skills e.g. confidence or volunteering (or a combination). Priority will be given to projects that target one of the following groups; individuals with disability & health issues, lone parents, 50+ years, ethnic minorities and females.

Total project costs and the maximum grant available is £12,000 per year (max possible in 12 months). Applicants can apply for 100% of project costs and projects longer than 12 months can be considered. There will be calls for applications for each round of the programme which will end in October 2010. These will need to be submitted before the closing date for each round to enable applications to be appraised and go to the funding panel for a decision.

Please contact Cornwall Community Foundation for an application pack. Guidance Notes and FAQ's are available on their website on www.cornwallfoundation.com or alternatively phone 01566 779333 for further information.

South East Cornwall Health Promotions Grants

We at the Community Health Development Team recognise that the community is able to achieve a great deal itself, if given the opportunity and support needed. The Small Grants Scheme is a way for the Community Health Development Team to give the communities of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly the opportunity to effectively deal with their own identified needs. Therefore, we want to support applications coming from the community and not for the community, highlighting how they will be able to make a difference to the improvement of health of their community.

We also want to be able to support projects which can wholly be achieved through the Small Grants Scheme (does not need any additional funding), provide an opportunity to try out something new, maybe looking at problems and issues creatively, and encourages more people to take responsibility for their own health and that of their community. We need to be sure that the project will NOT be able to go ahead without the Small Grant.

We are looking to ensure that this fund is able to support a wide number of groups within Cornwall and therefore we wish to support projects that promote social inclusion through projects which:

- ♥ Support community health development through community involvement and participation
- ♥ Support community involvement in active recreation and environmental projects
- ♥ Promote arts for health within the community (all forms)

You can e-mail your application to Diane.Warren@ciospct.cornwall.nhs.uk before the deadline.

If you require any assistance to complete the application form, or on developing your project, please contact: **Diane Warren on 01209 313419** or by email as above. **Closing Date Deadline: 30th October 2009**

Hilton in the Community Foundation

Organisations that work with young people have the opportunity to apply for grants of up to £50,000 per year through the Hilton Foundation. During 2006, the Foundation made grants totalling over £1.3m to numerous organisations including registered charities and schools for activities and projects that meet one of the Foundation's three chosen areas of focus; Young People - Education; Young People - Health; and Disaster Relief and International Fund.

Previously supported projects by the Foundation have included the Palmer Junior School, which received a grant of £2,740 to help send 11 young people on a school field trip, who could otherwise not afford it and

the Red Gates School, which received a grant of £750 for specialist equipment at the school. The next closing date for applications is the 20th October 2009. Go to: www.hilton-foundation.org.uk/home.htm

£10m for 20 best low carbon communities

The Government has launched a search for local authorities, charities and social enterprises to take up the challenge to help communities fight climate change. Communities can apply for a share of a £10million fund as part of the Low Carbon Communities Challenge to build on existing low carbon schemes. Around a quarter of the UK's greenhouse gas emissions come from heating, lighting and powering electrical appliances in homes. By 2050 this needs to be almost zero if the UK is to cut its emissions by 80% highlighting the importance of local action. This challenge offers the chance to be in the forefront of moving to a low carbon economy. The twenty successful communities will each receive support to pay for real measures selected by the local residents themselves. These could range from a local biomass plant to retrofitting homes to electric car charge points. Got to:

www.decc.gov.uk/en/content/cms/what_we_do/consumers/lc_communities/lc_communities.aspx

Training, Conferences & Seminars

Caradon Sustainability Forum Event

ATTRACTING & KEEPING VOLUNTEERS:

Thursday 8th October, with the Volunteer Cornwall team.

Brush up you recruitment techniques and learn how to manage volunteers

Agenda:

9.30am	Teas & Coffees available
10am	Start: Key Note Speaker(s) presentation and discussion
(11am	A chance to work on your problems and challenges with peers)
12noon	Lunch and Networking
1pm	End

Only Groups working in the Caradon Area are eligible to be part of this Forum.

Other events will be planned after October, with your input!

This initiative was set up as a result of early findings from the research into the needs of the Voluntary and Community Sector in Caradon, carried out by ECCVS. The final report was launched in March 2009.

The event is free, but you need to book so that we can arrange lunch for you. Booking and failing to show up will incur a £20 charge to cover costs. Call Tom Jane on 01208 832 763 or email: t.jane@eccvs.org.uk for more details.

Young Carers Roadshows

Come along and find out about young carers and meet them yourselves over lunch.

Thursday 22nd October @ Lakeview Country Club, Lanivet, Bodmin

Thursday 5th November @ China Fleet Country Club, Saltash

Wednesday 25th November @ Chacewater Village Hall, Chacewater, Truro

From: 12.30 p.m.—3.30 p.m. at all venues

Cost per delegate £10.00 - Includes light lunch. **Limited places BOOK EARLY!**

For more information or to book a place please go to:

www.cornwallcyp.org.uk/media/pdf/5/4/Young_Carers_Roadshow.PDF

Latest bookings by Friday 12th Oct. 2009

Inter-Link events in your area – Dates for your Diary

Launceston Inter-Link Meeting – 13th October 2009 from 10.00am-12.00noon: Dingley Hall ****Come and find out more about Cornwall Community Foundation Funding!****

Liskeard Inter-Link Meeting – 27th October 2009 from 10.00am-12.30pm: Liskeard Public Rooms, Liskeard

Saltash Inter-Link Meeting – 28th October 2009 from 7.00pm-9.00pm: Ashtor Rock, Waterside Community Centre (Under the Tamar Bridge) ****Come and meet YOUR Community Network Manager – Simon Swale****

For more information contact Mary Groves: m.groves@eccvs.org.uk or 01208 832763

Childrens' Trust: Improving outcomes for children and young people

Stakeholder Advisory Group - Lunch Time Seminar

Date: 21st October 2009

Venue: Saltash Football Club, Kimberley Stadium, Callington Road, Saltash, PL12 6DX

Time: 12noon – 2pm

LUNCH PROVIDED

Purpose of the event:

Details: This session is for:

- To introduce the 2009 Revision of the Children & Young People's Plan 2008-11 and Kernow Matters (Children's Trust Needs Assessment)
- To review performance data for the CYP Plan so far
What are the issues?
- To look at the communication channels for the Children's Trust
Are they the right ones?
- To kick off the development of a case study database of good practice and innovation

This session is for:

Anyone who feels they can contribute to improving communication, would like an update on the work of the CYP Plan, or just has an interest in the work of the Trust. Basically - anyone who wants to come!

For more information or to book a place contact: jwherry@cornwall.gov.uk by 14th October 2009.

East Cornwall CVS Training events

FREE Training – East Cornwall CVS

Under the Capacity Building Works Programme (Convergence and Learning Skills Council)

East Cornwall CVS has a training budget that will enable voluntary and community sector organisations to receive Free Vocational Staff Training, as long as your organisation can fit the following criteria:

Is your organisation a Voluntary or Community Sector Organisation?

Are your organisations employees over 16 years old, live in Cornwall and work for you for 8 hours or more a week? Then you could be eligible for FREE vocational training through ECCVS.

If your organisations fits the above criteria and would like to attend any of the Training Course in this programme, or would like to attend other training courses in Cornwall, give ECCVS a call on 01208 832763 and ask for Dave Phillips who will gladly explain what training is available Free of charge, and how you can access it. **Email:** d.phillips@eccvs.org.uk **Tel:** 01208 832763

The courses marked Free are for volunteers and employees from community groups, voluntary organisations and smaller charities. For more information contact: Vicki Horner v.horner@eccvs.org.uk or Tel: 01208 832763.

October Courses:

8th Thurs

CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety

8th Thurs	*NEW*	Effective Meeting Workshop (Council Chamber, Callington Town Hall) FREE
15th Weds		CIEH Level 2 Principles of Risk Assessment
19th Mon	*NEW*	Effective Bid Writing - (Afternoon at Luxstowe House, Liskeard) FREE
19th Tues	*NEW*	Introduction to Fundraising (1/2 day) - PM (ECCVS Training Centre, Bodmin)
21st Weds	*NEW*	Introduction to Fundraising (1/2 day) - AM (ECCVS Training Centre, Bodmin)
22nd Thurs		Conflict Resolution (1/2 day) - AM
22nd Thurs		CIEH Certificate in Stress Awareness (1/2 day) - PM
28th Weds	*NEW*	First Aid at Work (3 day course - Day 1)
29th Thurs	*NEW*	First Aid at Work (3 day course - Day 2)
29th Thurs	*NEW*	Getting Active in your Community - build your confidence! (1pm – 4pm, Council Chamber, Callington Town Hall) FREE
30th Weds	*NEW*	First Aid at Work (3 day course - Day 3)

November course:

3rd Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 1
4th Weds		Project Management
5th Thurs		CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety
6th Friday	*NEW*	Grant Making Course - Day 1
10th Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 2
11th Weds	*NEW*	Committee Skills FREE
12th Thurs		CIEH Level 2 Award in Health & Safety in the Workplace FULL
17th Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 3
19th Thurs		Conflict Resolution (1/2 day) - AM
19th Thurs		Stress Management (1/2 day) - PM
19th Thurs	*NEW*	Presentation Skills Workshop - giving short presentations (1pm – 4pm, Council Chamber, Callington Town Hall) FREE
20th Friday	*NEW*	Grant Making Course - Day 2
24th Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 4
25th Weds	*NEW*	Data Protection (Full day)
26th Tues	*NEW*	CIEH Level 2 Principles of Risk Assessment
26th Thurs	*NEW*	Understanding partnerships (1pm – 4pm, Council Chamber, Callington Town Hall) FREE

December Course:

1st Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 5
2nd Weds	*NEW*	Governance Training
3rd Thurs		CIEH Level 2 Award in Food Safety
3rd Thurs	*NEW*	Report Writing Skills 1pm – 4pm, Council Chamber, Callington Town Hall) FREE
4th Friday	*NEW*	Big Lottery Training Day (A Practical Approach)
7th Mon		CIEH Presentation Skills (3 day course) Day 1
8th Tues		CIEH Presentation Skills (3 day course) Day 2
8th Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 6
9th Weds		Committee Skills
11th Friday		CIEH Presentation Skills (3 day course) Day 3
15th Tues	*NEW*	Complete Fundraiser Course (7 week accredited course) - Week 7
16th Weds	*NEW*	Presentation Skills

Equality in Religion or Belief

Monday 2nd November

The Taunton Conference Centre, Somerset College, Wellington Road, Taunton, TA1 5AU

The aim of the day is to examine equality in religion or belief, how do issues of religion or belief interact with equality legislation and vice versa. This event has been organised by the newly emerging Religion or Belief Regional Equality Network supported by Equality South West and Faithnetsouthwest. The event will also celebrate the official launch of the network, to find out more about joining the network please see the event documents below.

The event will consider the potential areas for discrimination in relation to religion or belief and how can we best promote better understanding to prevent such discrimination particularly in relation to public policy.

It is a full day event on **Monday 2nd November 2009** and will be held at **The Taunton Conference Centre**. An initial programme and booking form are available below, places are free for Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations and places for Public and Private Sector representatives are available at a cost of £60 per person.

For more information contact: Jack Horwood - Apprentice Project Assistant, Equality South West
T: 01823 250816 (Please prefix with 18001 to use the typetalk relay service if you are a text phone user)
E: Jack.Horwood@equalitysouthwest.org.uk

Fuel Poverty Conference: New opportunities for a better future

Plymouth CAB has begun taking reservations now for delegates and exhibitors wishing to attend Plymouth's first-ever fuel poverty conference, which is taking place at Future Inns Plymouth, on November 4th this year.

An event not to be missed, it will bring together in Plymouth, all of the top people nationally in the world of fuel poverty to update us all.

Contact: martin@plymouthcab.org.uk for a brochure, to book a place.

IDT Training and Education

Effective Appraisal Skills (a 1 day course)

Venue: Seymour House, Plymouth

Date: 21st October 2009 (Cost £94.00 + vat per person)

What the training covers

Effective Appraisal Skills aims to raise awareness, hone skills and update the practice of line managers involved in supervision and appraisal. The major areas addressed are...

- **Connecting** the regular work of supervision with the broader perspective of appraisal
- **Reviewing** how work tasks and objectives have been managed during the past period
- **Identifying** training needs and potential areas for improvement of performance
- **Examining** how the organisation's future plans impact the appraisee's role
- **Setting** personal and work objectives in the context of the organisation's direction
- **Seeking** valuable insights from the appraisee that can inform the organisation's future development

Contact: Denny Pete on 01803 299049 or email: mail@idttraining.com

Power from the People – How to Generate Renewable Energy

Venue: The Gaia Centre, Good Energy Wind Farm, Delabole, North Cornwall

Date: Saturday 31st October 2009 1.30pm-8.00pm

Cost: Tickets cost £20, which includes afternoon tea and evening reception.

Good Energy, the 100% renewable electricity supplier, is launching the first in a series of special masterclasses to help landowners, smallholders and homeowners plan and successfully complete a renewable energy project.

The series, 'Power from the People: How to Generate Renewable Energy', will provide a range of workshops to advise you on various aspects of your renewable project - from how to select the right technology to how you can get paid for your energy.

The workshops will be led by a whole host of renewable experts, including the Good Energy team, our partners, and experienced generators. The workshops are aimed at both microgenerators wishing to provide energy on a domestic or small commercial scale, and at commercial generators who want to generate and export electricity and earn an income to underpin their business or community.

There'll also be an opportunity to visit the UK's first commercial wind farm, get inside the turbines and learn more about our repowering project. Afterwards you can mingle with the experts and enjoy some delicious, local organic food and wine.

Email: goodenergy@rem-events.com or call 0870 043 3929 to book your tickets. The event is kindly supported by The Soil Association, Co-operative Financial Services, Countrywide and Duchy College.

Put Your Training on the Map

An event for Deliverers of Training, Training Organisations, **Funders** of Training, **Commissioners** and **Procurers** of Training in Cornwall

We've already got nearly 40 attendees! Don't miss out!

Come to our event and:

- Find out the results from our recent training needs survey of the Voluntary and Community Sector: What do they want? How do they want it? What should be funded? (Funded by ECCVS & PCDT).
- Promote your training to funders, procurers and commissioners and understand what they need.
- Help Cornwall to better understand what potential is out there and what's already going on.
- Start looking at a more coordinated future – gaps, aligning funds, central databases, promotion, a Voluntary Sector Workforce Development Strategy...

If you haven't already, and you wish to do so, contact Carol Jones a.s.a.p. to secure a place. Contact Carol on 01208 832763 or email: c.jones@eccvs.org.uk

Risky Play Conference

Play England – South West and Play England – South East are jointly hosting a conference looking at the risky play. This will be held in Swindon on 10th December 2009. To register your interest, please contact Tracy Woodward at: play-se@ncb.org.uk.

Highly popular one day, Microsoft Access 2003 workshop

Venue: Marine Skills Centre, Bridon Marine Building, Falmouth Docks on the 23rd November 2009.

The workshop content is shown below and is aimed at people who want an introduction to, or to improve their existing skills and efficiency, in their use of Microsoft Access.

The cost per delegate is £90, payable in advance, to include all training materials, lunch, tea & coffee.

If you or any other members of your organisation are interested in attending the workshop then please email to: admin@logical-solutions-cornwall.co.uk so that a booking form can be sent.

INTRODUCTION TO ACCESS DATABASES

- What is a relational Database
- What are Access Objects
- Database design concepts
- Relationships between tables

- How to navigate through records
- How to enter, edit and delete records
- How to format tables
- Filtering data in tables

WORKING WITH AN ACCESS TABLE

- What are fields and records

DESIGNING ACCESS TABLES

- Using design view
- Adding and naming fields

- Assigning Field types
- Assigning Field Properties
- Creating Key Fields
- Creating relationships

DESIGNING ACCESS QUERIES

- Using And and Or statements
- Parameter Queries
- Autolookup Queries
- Designing Forms

WHAT ARE ACCESS FORMS

- Designing a Form using the Wizard
- Formatting forms
- Adding controls

ACCESS REPORT DESIGN

- Creating a report using the Wizard
- Formatting Reports

For more details contact:

Laurence Smith - Project Management Consultant, Logical Solutions Cornwall.

Tel: 07971 844441 Email: laurie@logical-solution.co.uk

Volunteer Cornwall – Autumn/Winter Courses

Volunteer Cornwall has produced its autumn / winter courses. All courses at a cost of £75.00 plus VAT per person, unless otherwise stated:

12th October – CIEH Level 2 Conflict Resolution & Personal Safety in Camborne

15th October – CIEH Level 2 Conflict Resolution & Personal Safety in St Austell

20th October – CIEH Level 2 Food Safety in Bodmin

22nd October – Emergency First Aid in Liskeard. (Cost £55 plus VAT per person.)

26th October – CIEH Level 2 Health & Safety in the Workplace in Bodmin

2nd November – CIEH Level 2 Food Safety in Camborne

5th November – CIEH Level 2 Conflict Resolution & Personal Safety in Liskeard

9th November – CIEH Level 2 Award in the Principles of Manual Handling in Fraddon

16th November – CIEH Level 2 Food Safety in Liskeard

18th November – CIEH Level 2 Risk Assessment in Camborne

23rd November – Emergency First Aid* in Bodmin

24th November & 3rd December – Paediatric First Aid in Bodmin

30th November – CIEH Level 2 Health & Safety in the Workplace in Camborne

2nd December – CIEH Level 2 Food Safety in Truro

7th December – CIEH Level 2 Risk Assessment in Bodmin

To book a place on any of these courses contact Sarah Soar on 01872 271691 or email:

training@volunteercornwall.org.uk.

Useful Information

CRB Checks – Tools to spread the word

The Government have created a series of downloadable posters, inserts and email templates, as well as instructions on how to use them. They are very easy to use. Simply choose your audience, for example **Groups not used to CRB checking/registering**. Then choose the file or files that are best suited to targeting that group and follow the instructions.

They have also included two extra files: **Approved text** and **Am I affected?** The Approved text file contains copy for you to cut and paste into any of your communications. The Am I affected? document is a step-by-step guide that helps people work out if they are affected by these changes and, if so, what they need to do. To download leaflets go to: www.isa-gov.org.uk/toolkit/

Company law changes from October 2009

From 1st October, a number of company law changes will impact on charitable companies, trading subsidiaries owned by charities and community interest companies. This includes forms from Companies House, new filing requirements and changes around company constitutions. WCVA Trustee News says that Bates Wells and Braithwaite solicitors have produced an excellent summary of changes, but its not specifically written for charitable companies, at: www.bwbllp.com/Updates/Detail.aspx?UpdateID=243&Location=1&ID=0.

Simple guide to Reserves Policies

Specialist sector accountants Sayer Vincent have produced a short 'Reserves policies made simple' with Charity Finance Directors' Group. In pdf, 98KB, <http://preview.tinyurl.com/loyfzc>

Revised charitable company registration documents

The Charity Commission has released a new model Memorandum and Articles of Association (GD1) for charitable companies, revised to meet requirements of the Companies Act 2006 for registrations from 1st October. Some background information at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/registration/gd1new.asp, or go to the Model Governing Documents page at: www.charitycommission.gov.uk/registration/mgds.asp.

Charging for policing of community events

Recent guidance from the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO) sets out the basis on which community and other non-commercial events can be charged for the costs of policing. The guidance is within a larger document setting out policy, 'A Guide to Income Generation in England and Wales', available at: www.acpo.police.uk/policies.asp. (Source: *Voluntary Arts England newsletter*)

Citizen influence on delivery of local services

'WeCan!' is a quarterly magazine for people interested in getting involved in and influencing the delivery of services in their local area, produced by Communities and Local Government Department. It "shows how government is working with organisations and networks at national, local and regional levels to support initiatives that help citizens shape the places they live in, and they services they use and enjoy." September issue at: www.communities.gov.uk/publications/communities/wecansep2009.

Volunteers News

More employment connected to volunteering

A new government-supported scheme to get more people volunteering during the recession has been launched by the Prime Minister. The National Talent Bank will target businesses which are releasing employees for a fixed period, reducing the working week, deferring the start dates for new recruits, but still paying them, or retaining staff whose posts have been made redundant. It will support existing volunteering programmes and initially run for twelve months. News item at <http://preview.tinyurl.com/lnor6g>.

CVS Make a Difference Day

Kit yourself out for kindness by taking part in *Make a Difference Day* - the UK's largest day of volunteering. It is coordinated by the charity CVS and takes place on **31st October** (with activities happening from 24th October - 7th November). The theme for this year's activities is kindness. You will be given 'kindness kits' to help you with ideas! To find out more info about the day visit the CVS website at: www.csv.org.uk/campaigns/make+a+difference+day/

ICVolunteers

ICVolunteers is an international non-profit organization specialized in the field of communications, in particular languages, communication technologies and conference support. Development, exchange of information and service to the society at large are the key elements shared by the communities or organizations involved and

by the individuals volunteering through its network. Through volunteer effort, we cooperate with organizations in the humanitarian, social, environmental and medical fields to implement projects and conferences at local, national and international levels.

We work with volunteers to implement social and educational programs in order to help populations and local communities to develop. In addition, ICVolunteers promotes volunteerism and its recognition, by enhancing civic commitment and involvement, and by providing leadership and links between organizations, individuals and communities.

For more information go to: www.icvolunteers.org/

I.T. & E-Resources

Getting the right group name on social networking sites

From Nonprofit Tech 2.0 web site: "Like clockwork, every couple of weeks I receive an email from a panicked nonprofit or university asking how they should handle a situation where someone has squatted their URL/username on a social networking site. Sometimes these squatters actually have the audacity to ask for money." Some advice at: <http://nonprofitorgs.wordpress.com/2009/09/13/socialmediasquatters/>.

Web resources to sharpen critical thinking skills

Nonprofit Online News suggests that some of the resources identified in this 'Mission to Learn' item would be really fun staff or board exercises, but are worth a few minutes browse time anyway to brush up on your own critical thinking skills: www.missiontolearn.com/2009/09/sharpen-critical-thinking-skills/.

Social Enterprise

Supporting cultural leaders at the School for Social Entrepreneurs

The Cultural Leadership Programme is supporting students at the School for Social Entrepreneurs to set up or grow their cultural or creative organisations. Those wanting to study in Cornwall, Yorkshire and Humber, London, Devon and Liverpool can find out more and apply for a Cultural Leadership Programme-funded place by going to the relevant school pages at: www.sse.org.uk.

'Good Deals 2009: The Social Investment Almanack'

Launched at a recent Social Investment Conference by Minister for the Third Sector Angela Smith, she also presented 'Good Deals 2009: The Social Investment Almanack'. This new publication showcases different types of social investment and includes the first comprehensive directory of social investors, finance providers and support organisations in the UK. It can be downloaded as an odd size pdf, 6.48MB, from: <http://preview.tinyurl.com/pdbqjh>.

Association for Community Interest Companies invites members

Organisations which have used the Community Interest Company model to establish themselves have been invited to join the CIC Association. It hopes that CICs will be able to learn from each other, share resources and build consortia, and the association will also lobby on behalf of CICs. Web site at www.cicassociation.org.uk, or see Social Enterprise mag news item at: <http://preview.tinyurl.com/lhvdnu>.

Get snapping for Social Enterprises

This year, 19th November is **Social Enterprise Day**: a national day to celebrate and promote social enterprise. The Social Enterprise Coalition are delighted to launch the second annual Social Enterprise Day photography competition for England, and this year, we want to show how social enterprise is more than just

business as usual.

They are in search of the best photograph that shows how social enterprise is using business to make positive change. Maybe you work for a social enterprise or maybe you or someone you know has received exceptional service or goods from one; take a photo and show us what makes social enterprise great.

For more information about how to enter click here

www.socialenterprise.org.uk/pages/national_photography_competition_2009.html

Children & Young People

Are you ready to look, listen and change?

The Look, Listen Change consortium is developing a brand new programme and is on the look out for young advisors to help them build it! We are looking for young people who have experienced life challenges aged 13-19 (or disabled young people up to the age of 25) who are passionate, dedicated and want to make a difference.

- **You will influence the design and content of a new microsite**
- **Run a big event in March**
- **Make sure the programme works for young people**

This is a brilliant chance to meet new people, develop new skills and have fun! For more information please contact Nick Snow, Participation Officer, on nick.snow@byc.org.uk or 020 7022 1971.

Deadline for applications: Wednesday 14th October by 5pm

Please note that if you are already taking part in the Youth4U – Young Inspectors programme, unfortunately you will not be able to take up this opportunity.

Call for new approach to young adults in the criminal justice system

The Transitions to Adulthood (T2A) Alliance is a coalition of voluntary and community organisations calling for a new approach to working with 18 to 25yr olds in the criminal justice system. T2A is consulting on the recommendations outlined in its 'A New Start: Young Adults in the Criminal Justice System'. Closes 9th October, www.t2a.org.uk/consultation.

Help inform Play England's future plans

As Play England approaches the final year of our original 5-year plan, we are asking for your views on the work so far and the direction our future plans might take.

Play England has commissioned NCB's research and evaluation department, to consult widely on our emerging priorities. We invite all our constituents, stakeholders, colleagues and associates – whether or not members of Play England – to respond to our survey, so that our plans are as informed as possible by the concerns, views and aspirations of the whole sector.

The findings of this survey will help the development of Play England's strategic plans for 2010 - 2015, as well as contributing to the ongoing evaluation of our impact. To complete the Play England stakeholder survey, please visit: www.playengland.org.uk/news

Anti-Bullying Week 2009

Anti-Bullying Week 2009 is 16-20 November. It's the sixth Anti-Bullying Week the Anti-Bullying Alliance (ABA), based at NCB, has run, and the theme is cyberbullying, with the slogan 'Stay safe in cyberspace'.

The campaign aims to help children and young people stay safe from cyberbullying, and to encourage parents, teachers and the wider community to learn the tools they need to help the children and young people around them stay safe and happy. To find out about the events taking place throughout the country during Anti-Bullying Week, or for information on how you can get involved visit www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk or email: aba@ncb.org.uk

Animation Competitions Announced – Open for entries

NEW! Screen Out Loud, is open for entries to all independent animators (over 18) in the British Isles, Deadline 23rd October 2009. Best of the West is open for entries to all animation students and graduates from the South West of England and South Wales* Deadline 23rd October 2009.

ExAnimation is open for entries to all animators under 18's in the South West of England by the 27th November 2009. All films must be 8 minutes or under and made since October 2008. Please see our website for film submission forms. For more information go to: www.animatedexeter.co.uk

Feelings Count

New Philanthropy Capital, in partnership with the Children's Society, has developed a questionnaire to enable charities and funders to measure the impact they have on 11 year olds to 16 year olds' well-being. <http://bit.ly/feelingscount> or www.philanthropycapital.org

Shadow a Government Minister

Would you like to see for yourself what life is like amongst the most powerful people in the country? The Youth of Today is giving away 480 free Ministerial shadowing opportunities for young people aged 13-19. You will get the opportunity to spend the day with a Government Minister, and learn at first hand how government departments work and see what it takes to be a leader.

Feeling excited already? Go to The Youth of Today Website to download an application form, and to read more about this scheme: www.theyouthoftoday.org/shadow-government-minister?dm_i=6JL,1XQJ,MZLII,6781,1

The Seen and Heard Awards

The Seen and Heard awards want to hear stories about inspiring young people who've used their speaking and listening skills to achieve something positive, and to make a real difference to the lives of others.

BT, in partnership with the UK Youth Parliament organise the Seen and Heard awards as part of the **Better World Campaign** aimed at providing young people with the skills to effect real social change. To enter, go to: www.btbetterworld.com/giving_young_people_a_voice/seen_and_heard_awards?dm_i=6JL,1XQJ,MZLII,67ET,1 The closing date for entries is **6th November 2009**, so get nominating now!

Government Initiatives & Information

Simplifying charity legislation

A consultation has started on consolidating existing charity law for England and Wales into one place, promised when the Charities Act 2006 was going through parliament. The draft Charities Consolidation Bill brings together provisions of the Recreational Charities Act 1958, Charities Act 1993 and most of the 2006 Act into a single piece of legislation. The aim is to make the legislation simpler, better structured, and more accessible to the lay person. Consultation closes 4th December, documents etc. at: <http://preview.tinyurl.com/o2xjbv>.

Compact Refresh – Compact on relations between Government and the Third Sector in England

Have your say on the next 10 years! A 'refreshed' version of the Compact is now out for **consultation from 20th July to 12th October**. A shorter, more up-to-date Compact is due to be launched in Compact Week, 2nd – 8th November and this is your chance to influence the document. The consultation document has been drafted with extensive input from across government and the voluntary sector but we still need more views to ensure it works for the whole sector. Find out more at: www.compactvoice.org.uk/consultation and send any comments to refresh@compactvoice.org.uk

Social Investment Bank

The Government has launched a consultation into the design and functions of a Social Investment Wholesale Bank. If the response is positive this consultation could result in a new breed of financial institution - a bank with the primary purpose of investing in society, the environment and the economy. This unique bank would be a world first as it would invest against a triple bottom line of economic growth, social cohesion and sustainable development. **The consultation runs until 7th October.** <http://bit.ly/socialinvestmentbank> or www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk

Duty to promote democracy, Equality impact assessment

This document provides an overview of how the duty to promote democracy will impact on key equalities groups. It builds on the issues identified during screening and discussions with stakeholders. The Government has committed to take action in response to the Councillors Commission report, 'Representing the Future', in order to:

- remove the barriers and widen the incentives to a more diverse range of people standing as councillors
- support and retain them once they are there.

Subject to Parliamentary approval, we are introducing a new statutory duty on local authorities to promote democracy through the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill (LDEDC Bill) which will require them to take a range of actions to promote understanding of the democratic process at the local level.

This will include promoting understanding of the local authority's own functions and how local people may get involved in its decision-making arrangements, as well as the role of councillors and how to become one. It will also include a duty to promote understanding of the functions and democratic arrangements of local public bodies ('connected authorities') where local people can get involved, as well as explaining about specific civic roles, such as lay justices, and the opportunities to take them up.

These duties are in response to the Councillors Commission's recommendation number 1 which was arrived at after consideration of extensive evidence. This impact assessment sets out how the duty will impact on key equalities groups. To see the report: www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/1306186.pdf

Diversity & Equality

Equality Means Quality

Friday 16th October - The Taunton Conference Centre, Somerset College, Wellington Road, Taunton, TA1 5AX

This event is primarily for the Voluntary and Community Sector in the South West and is **free** to delegates from VCS organisations. It will provide an opportunity to learn about some of the key ways to influence public bodies to deliver Equality and Diversity for your community. The day will include practical sessions and a chance to action plan around your local issues using information and tools provided.

It is a full day event on **Friday 16th October 2009** and will be held at **The Taunton Conference Centre (Somerset College)**. For more information or to book a place contact:

Jack.Horwood@equalitysouthwest.org.uk

Disability Committee work plan to tackle key issues for disabled people

Commission publishes disability work programme

The Commission Disability Committee today publishes its strategic priorities, setting out how it will use its powers and responsibilities to tackle some of the major issues faced by disabled people. The strategy is working towards the Committee's vision of creating a society where disabled people participate fully and contribute to society as equal citizens.

The work plan tackles legislative developments, including how the Equality Bill will affect disabled people and how to put into practice the United Nations Convention on the Rights of People with Disabilities. It will also

deal with other key issues for disabled people. These include employment and skills; choice in public services; goods, facilities and services; safety and security; and empowering those who are 'hard to reach'.

In order to achieve these priorities, the Committee will initiate a series of projects, act as a source of expert advice for all of the Commission's work, and consider how to use the Commission's regulatory powers to get results.

The Committee's membership of disabled people ensures that the rights of disabled people are part of everything it does and every decision it takes. Its wide-ranging powers were set out in the Equality Act 2006 by Parliament, along with its duties to promote equality, human rights and good relations in respect of 'disability matters'.

To view the programme go to:

www.equalityhumanrights.com/uploaded_files/disability_committee_work_programme_2009_10.pdf

HEALTH MATTERS

The Big Care Debate!

With more of us living longer, more people with disabilities and fewer working people to fund services, the care system is struggling to cope with demand.

The Government wants to create a National Care Service that is fair, simple and affordable. The new service would start in 2014.

A green paper, **Shaping the Future of Care Together**, spells out the options for reform – how a new system could be organised and paid for.

But how do we pay for this and should there be any local flexibility? This issue affects all of us. Now is your chance to join the Big Care Debate and tell the Government what you think.

Find out more and join the national online consultation via Cornwall Council's website:

www.cornwall.gov.uk/bigcaredebate or if you prefer to put your views in writing, you can get a copy of the government's Big Care Debate leaflet and questionnaire from the Adult Care and Support information team: telephone 01872 323640.

The consultation closes on 13th November 2009. Please help us raise awareness of the Big Care Debate in Cornwall by forwarding this message to your networks and contacts.

Better commissioning for carers

A guide which will serve as a blueprint for better commissioning for carers has been jointly published by a number of care charities and official bodies. 'Commissioning for carers' can be found at:

www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=13255730

Contingency planning for flu

NCVO has brought together a range of useful links giving information around contingency planning for swine flu. How would your organisation cope in the absence of key individuals or a high percentage of frontline staff? www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/about/index.asp?id=14012. Personnel professionals body CIPD has also further updated its introductory guidance on how employers should respond at:

www.cipd.co.uk/subjects/health/general/birdflu.htm.

LINK in Cornwall Theme Group Event and Annual General Meeting

LINK in Cornwall is holding its next Theme Group Event and Annual General meeting on Thursday **15th October 2009, 10:30 – 13:30 at the Trelawney Bar at the Hall for Cornwall** in Truro and would be delighted if you or a representative of your organisation could attend. There will be a workshop at this event

run by the Zebra Cooperative and will look at Solutions Focused Communication. This will run between 11:00 – 13:00. If you wish to attend a workshop you will need to RSVP as there are limited places available.

LINK is the independent voice of all people in Cornwall – existing to inform, develop and improve health and social care services. LINK is made up of individuals, Community Groups and Voluntary Organisations working together to find out about peoples views and experiences of local services and to work with the people who plan and run them to help make them more effective and improve delivery.

If you are interested in attending this event, please contact the LINK team direct on 01872-243533 or email: linkincornwall@cornwallrcc.co.uk. Further information about LINK in Cornwall can also be found by visiting www.linkincornwall.org.uk

Stop Hate UK

Stop Hate UK has developed a poster and leaflet to raise awareness of how people with Mental Health problems can be victims of Hate Crime. Service users were involved in this campaign from the very beginning to help create effective resources.

“People often aren’t aware that they have experienced a Hate Crime, or that they can report it. This campaign is to inform and encourage people to report such incidents” said Rose Simkins (Chief Executive, Stop Hate UK). Copies of Mental Health Hate Crime posters and leaflets can be obtained from Stop Hate UK.

Email: info@stophateuk.org Main office: 0113 293 5100 Main office (Text Direct): 18001 0113 293 5100
Fax: 0113 341 0396 Web: www.stophateuk.org

CAPACITYBUILDERS

Capacitybuilders is a non-departmental public body (NDPB)

Set up in 2006 to take over the management of the ChangeUp programme and to work with other funders to build the capacity of the Third Sector. We exist to create a more effective third sector and we do this by improving support for third sector organisations.

Our strategy

Our strategy has been put together as a result of the consultation programme Capacitybuilders ran from December 2006 to March 2007.

Moving forward

It takes full account of the various views expressed and is designed to indicate the way forward for Capacitybuilders in relation to the ChangeUp programme as a whole.



Responding to change

No sensible strategy is set in concrete. We have to be both focused on achieving specific objectives and flexible in responding to changing circumstances. We provide a flavour of our current approach to building the strength of the third sector and ask for your support.

(Source: Capacitybuilders website: <http://capacitybuilders.org.uk/content/Home.aspx>)

Mapping of third sector support organisations

Capacitybuilders has commissioned research into the mapping of third sector support organisations across the country.

The research, which was conducted Janice Needham and Ros Oakley, involved a review of previous mapping exercises and developing a methodology through consultation with a range of strategic stakeholders. The methodology was also tested and reviewed through pilots at both a thematic (disability groups) and geographic level.

Capacitybuilders is currently considering how to take this important piece of research forward. Go to: <http://preview.tinyurl.com/n9od5d>

CONVERGENCE

LPCo Convergence 'Surgery' – Weds 7th October

Whilst we have Operation Group meetings for all our projects and LPCo Contract Managers visit Partners for monitoring we appreciate there are times when partners have wanted to raise queries with us which don't fit into the time scale of either of these.

There has been a suggestion that we could hold 'Surgeries' when LPCo staff would be available to answer questions that a Partner may have. We have decided to pilot one of these on Wed 7th Oct.

The idea is that if you want to discuss something then you book a time on the doodle below – and make a comment as to whom you wish to see and the subject. The meeting would have to be at the LPCo offices in Redruth. All the LPCo Contract Managers and Project Administrators will be available – so if the LPCo contract manager was not sure of the answer to the question then they would 'know a man who can' (or more likely woman!). Often questions have relevance to more than one project so having all the LPCo staff available will hopefully help. The questions could either be specific to a project or more general about Convergence/future etc.

So if you want to take this up – then enter your name on the following doodle indicating the time you wish to visit. Then go to the bottom and where it says 'Add comment' so what the query is about and how you would like to meet. www.doodle.com/bdtxbdq7rcaft5hu

The Convergence Programme

Convergence is the new European economic regeneration programme for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly that runs until 2013. The Convergence mission is to establish the momentum for transforming the economy that will make a long-term difference to the people of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly.

Convergence is investing in activities that will have a long-term impact on the economy of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. It will help to build a stronger more diverse economy by supporting businesses and helping people into employment and those in work gain new and up to date skills. This will include work with higher education to promote business friendly research and innovation.

Convergence consists of two funds European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and European Social Fund (ESF) and the details of these are found in the contracts with Europe – the Operational Programmes. In the case of ESF this has been further developed into a framework for delivery.

ESF Convergence Investments Contracted

This information is taken from the Convergence monthly newsletter 60, the information will help explain the progression of the Convergence Programmes for Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. The newsletters will contain the most up to date information about Convergence as it evolves over the coming months. To see the full newsletter or back issues go to: www.convergencecornwall.com/what-is-convergence/newsletters.php
These Investments are managed by the Learning and Skills Council. The Learning and Skills Council's ESF Convergence investments to date are as follows:

Workforce Investments

FLAG (Families Learning and Growing)

FLAG offers opportunities for parents and children to learn together, improving literacy, numeracy and IT skills, building self confidence and motivation for further learning.

Higher Education Interventions

This investment will provide working people with opportunities to gain higher level qualifications. It will widen access to higher level skills training and provide progression pathways, thereby raising workforce skills.

Rural Land Based

This project focuses on the rural land based industries and aims to widen participation in relevant vocational, management and leadership qualifications.

Cornwall Clusters

This project aims to develop sustainable cluster groups that are responsive to local circumstances, promote the benefits of training to employers and upskill the workforce. It is particularly focussed on Penwith; Camborne, Pool and Redruth; St Austell and the Clay Country; North Cornwall/Caradon; and Newquay.

Workforce Cornwall

Workforce Cornwall is designed to improve the knowledge and skills of people working with children and young people in Cornwall to help transform services and working practices, and improve outcomes for children and young people.

Embark

This investment focuses on raising aspirations and participation levels among employees in Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly, who, as members of minority groups, face multiple barriers to education and employment opportunities. It also aims to increase employers' awareness of the needs of the target groups.

Key Sectors

This partnership project works with 13 sector organisations, the Skills Brokerage Service and providers to engage businesses in workforce development activity.

Capacity Building Works

This investment is being made to enhance the ability of voluntary/community sector organisations and social enterprises to contribute to the Convergence Programme. It will carry out organisational 'health checks', encourage employees to gain skills for life qualifications and promote volunteering.

The Progressive Isles

The Progressive Isles investment focuses on enabling individuals, organisations and businesses to fulfil their ambitions and potential on the Isles of Scilly by offering Level 2, Level 3 and Basic Skills qualifications.

Workforce led Programme

Eleven partners will combine to address the development of individuals within the workforce. Through raising aspirations, widening access to training and empowering individuals to contribute at higher levels, employees will be more productive and have the skills to contribute to workforce success.

Skills for Work

The programme will deliver Continuing Professional Development training to the Skills for Life workforce. It also aims to encourage more people to take Skills for Life qualifications.

More detailed information about Convergence, links to key organisations and websites can be found on our website: www.convergencecornwall.com Freephone helpline 0800 028 0120

The information about Convergence is sourced either from the website or the Convergence Newsletter. If you would like to be included on a mailing list to receive regular updates on Convergence, please contact: Sarah Corbett - Communications Researcher. Tel: 01872 241379 Fax: 01872 241388
Email: scorbett@cornwall.gov.uk

This is a FREE service and we welcome any comments. Please pass this item on to other interested parties. If you have received this from a source other than ECCVS and wish to be added to our distribution list then please contact us.

If you would like to include information in our **Signpost Newsletter** or the E-News Updates, please contact: Carol Jones – Administration Manager, Tel: 01208 832763 / 832765 or email: c.jones@eccvs.org.uk or write to:
East Cornwall CVS, Unit 3, St. Ingungur Country Offices, Lanivet, nr. Bodmin, PL30 5HS

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