



BUCKS CHARITY NEWS

Weekly bulletin from Community Impact Bucks

9th December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam,

Read the Charity Commission's updated safeguarding advice for voluntary sector organisations (Running your organisation) and find out how to book on our next Volunteer Managers' Network in January where we will be discussing the latest DBS guidance and when a DBS is needed for volunteers (Involving Volunteers).

RUNNING YOUR ORGANISATION



Meet the Funder: The Rothschild Foundation

If your not-for-profit organisation benefits Buckinghamshire communities, and you are looking to apply for support from the Rothschild Foundation's Community Fund, join us for our next FREE Meet the Funder event on 10th February 2022 (10 – 11.30am).

We will be joined by Leona Forsyth, Senior Grants Manager for the Rothschild Foundation, who will provide further information about the Community Fund and give you some key hints and tips about how you can make the most of your application. For more information and to book your place visit our [Training & Events webpage](#).

Safeguarding for charities and trustees

The Charity Commission has recently updated its guidance on safeguarding for voluntary sector organisations. This update was the latest topic to be added to its series 5 Minute Guides for Trustees with other guides covering the areas of Purpose, Finance, Conflict of Interest, Decision Making and Support. Find out about your responsibilities to keep everyone who encounters your charity safe from harm by visiting [gov.uk](#).

Bridging the access gap for people with disabilities

A new initiative to encourage more voluntary groups, charities, and volunteers to take up sign language as an extra language and skill, is now available locally. The Signs4Life scheme aims to help people to communicate and engage with vulnerable service users, members of the public, and colleagues who may be hard of hearing.

Signs4Life is leading efforts towards a society in which people with disabilities have full access and are working to raise the public and political awareness of disability provision. For more details on the Winter community programs visit [Signs4Life](#).

First multi-retailer gift card for charity shops launches

Social enterprise Gift Card CIC has partnered with the Charity Retail Association (CRA) to create the first multi-retailer gift card for its members. So far four charity shop chains are involved in the scheme and the founders hope that The Charity Shop Gift Card will soon be accepted in most charity shops across the country. To find out more, read the full article on [Civil Society News](#).

INVOLVING VOLUNTEERS



Volunteer Managers' Network: Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) and Volunteering

One of the ways volunteer managers can keep people safe is by carrying out Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) checks. With this in mind, the next Volunteer Managers' Network event on 20th January 2022 (10 -11.30am) will provide an overview of the latest DBS guidance including when it is needed, and a chance to hear how a local Bucks group working with vulnerable people use DBS checks and have adapted their services during the pandemic. For more information and to book your place visit our [Training & Events webpage](#).

Volunteering guidelines during the pandemic

The government's guidance for volunteers in light of the COVID-19 Omicron variant is expected imminently – we will share it with you as soon as it is published.

NCVO has published its report, Volunteering in England During Covid-19: The Policy Response and its Impact, which looks at how 'confusing' public health guidance during the pandemic put a strain on volunteer management. The research explored the experiences of those working with volunteers and identifies a number of key learnings – read the [NCVO blog highlighting the key messages and findings](#).

STRENGTHENING COMMUNITIES



The Big Young People's Survey

The Big Young People's Survey has been created by YoungMinds, the UK's leading youth mental health charity, in partnership with Wagamama's to ensure that every young person gets the mental health support they need, when they need it. You can share or take part in the survey by [clicking here](#).

Buckinghamshire Council courses and workshops

Buckinghamshire Council is offering a series of courses and workshops that will be starting in January 2022. They cover a range of topics around wellbeing and employability skills, and are funded for adults (19 years+) who meet UK residency requirements and who otherwise might not be able to afford to attend adult learning courses. This includes those who are on low incomes, jobseekers and others referred by community partner organisations. The courses on offer can be found on Buckinghamshire Council's [Outreach noticeboard](#).

There are also online and face-to-face courses on improving [English and Maths](#) as well as [distance learning provision](#).

FUNDING ALERTS



New funds are opened up regularly; to keep up-to-date with the latest announcements and for support on all aspects of funding, visit our [Funding pages](#), including [Current Funding Opportunities](#). New funds are highlighted below:

Funding to support suicide prevention not-for-profit organisations: The Department of Health and Social Care (DHSC) has opened a £4 million grant fund to support suicide prevention Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise

(VCSE) organisations in 2021 to 2022. A portion of the grant fund is ring-fenced specifically to help support small community-led and user-led groups and organisations.

This grant fund will support services to help meet increased demand resulting from the pandemic and will particularly focus on organisations supporting individuals from some of the groups considered to be at higher risk of suicide. The application portal opened on Thursday 2nd December 2021 and will close on Thursday 16th January 2022. For more information and to apply visit [gov.uk](#).

Development funding for Black and minoritised-led women's and girls' organisations: The Rise Fund is offering two-year grants of up to £40,000 to Black and minoritised-led women's and girls' organisations for organisational development work relating to areas such as strategy, governance, leadership, alliances and partnerships, funding, demonstrating impact and systems and processes. The deadline for applications is 10th January 2022 (5pm). For more information and to apply visit the [ROSA website](#).

LOCAL SECTOR SPOTLIGHT



Wheelpower raises £2000 at Seasonal Shopping Evening

On Thursday 25th November local charity WheelPower hosted its annual Seasonal Shopping Evening at Stoke Mandeville Stadium, the birthplace of the Paralympic Movement. There were over 20 stallholders present on the day selling a variety of unique Christmas gifts,

alongside the WheelPower cake stall and tombola, with the event raising over £2000 for the charity.

As the national charity for wheelchair sport, they help disabled people to lead healthier and more active lives through their online resources, spinal unit programme and in person events. If you would like to find out more about WheelPower and the physical activity opportunities they provide for people with disabilities, visit their [website](#).

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