



SUFFOLKACRE
...making life better



June 2011

Suffolk ACRE Funding Newsletter - June 2011

The aim of this newsletter is to keep Community groups informed about funding or grants and we hope this will be helpful for any new projects you are planning. If you would prefer not to receive this communication in future or if it should go to someone else in your group, please let us know on 01473 345300.

For more detailed funding advice Suffolk ACRE offers a Funding Advice Service to help identify funders for the projects you are planning, for further information on the service or to have a funding search completed please contact 01473 345300 or email fundingadvice@suffolkacre.org.uk.

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Suffolk ACRE Training [[back to top](#)]

Fully funded courses are available for participants based in Suffolk within the social enterprise, voluntary and community sectors (while funds last). The courses will be held at Brightspace in the coming months and include:

- **Surviving Frontline Money Management** course is a survival guide for those new to or requiring clarification on, the pressures of managing money and budgets. The course will provide you with simple, practical tools and templates to help you survive frontline money management and is aimed at individuals that have little or no prior experience of managing finances within an organisation. The course will run on **9th June 2011**.
- **Exploring Your Idea** Are you thinking of setting up your own organisation with social aims and need to know more? Not sure if you should be a charity, social enterprise or community group? Exploring Your Idea is a 1-day introductory course designed to offer you help and advice to get your ideas off the ground. The course will run from 10am-4pm on the **14th September 2011**.
- **Understanding & Starting a Social Enterprise** is a one-day course designed to focus on participants social enterprise ideas and provide practical advice on how to get it set up. Whether you are thinking of setting up a new organisation or taking an existing one to the next level, the course will enable you to understand your current situation and examine ways to turn your ideas into a fully functioning social enterprise. **5th October 2011**.
- **Social Enterprise Legal Structures**. This course is aimed at individuals or organisations who want to find out more about social enterprise legal structures. It is particularly useful for people

wanting to set up their own social enterprise, but is also appropriate for existing organisations looking at becoming a social enterprise. The course will take place on **9th November 2011**

All of the above courses will take place at Brightspace, Ipswich and will run from 10am – 4pm. For participants outside Suffolk or not eligible for the bursary support the course fee is £85 + VAT for each of the one day courses and £195 + VAT for the three day Business Plans course. The courses will be delivered by The Guild a leading provider of business support, training and consultancy to the social enterprise, voluntary and community sectors.

For further details or a booking form please contact 01473 345311 or email elizabeth.storer@suffolkacre.org.uk

To commemorate Viridor Credits 10 year anniversary three highly deserving projects will be awarded up to £1 million each under the Community, Environmental or Heritage categories. [[back to top](#)]

Viridor Credits is keen to receive applications from community groups, organisations, and projects that might find it difficult to obtain funding from other grant schemes. In particular, we look for projects that provide wide community use and therefore give best value for the funds we have available. Please call Viridor Credits to receive more information on this Commemorative Award.

Projects submitted before the closing date of 30th June 2011 may be visited and the results of such visits will be taken into consideration. A shortlist of projects will be drawn up after the closing date and successful applicants will be contacted.

The categories include:

Community – If your project lies within ten miles of a Viridor landfill site and provides, maintains or improves a public amenity, including village halls, parks and community centres we would like to hear from you

Environment- If your project provides, conserves, restores or enhances a natural habitat, or maintains or recovers a species from its habitat on land or in water within 10 miles of any landfill site we would like to hear from you.

Heritage – If your project repairs, maintains or restores a place of architectural or historical importance, within ten miles of a Viridor landfill site then we would like to hear from you.

Criteria for success will include: Sustainability, value for money, community involvement and volunteering opportunities.

Successful applicants must also demonstrate that they are a not for profit organisation, are able to deliver the project within 12 months and have an independent third party contributor.

To find out more:

Call 01823 624656

Email enquiries@viridor-credits.co.uk

www.viridor-credits.co.uk

Applications will be accepted shortly for the general grant scheme based on the above criteria. The three Viridor landfill sites in Suffolk are at Wangford, Foxhall and Great Blakenham but please confirm your distance from the site and eligibility with Viridor prior to applying.

Community and Voluntary Groups [\[back to top\]](#)

The Suffolk Foundation currently has funds to award from the following funds to Suffolk's community and voluntary groups.

Transforming Suffolk: This is a new fund with grants of up to £4,000 available for groups who want to carry out projects that meet one of the four themes of this fund. Details are on the Foundation's website. All closing dates on the Foundation's website.

The Improve and Prove Fund: A brand new fund to be launched in late January gives grants of up to £5,000 for groups who want to carry out projects that will help towards self sustainability of the group. There is an Award element of this fund and groups could be awarded £10,000 if they can show some outstanding outcomes. Specific details are to be published on our website in mid January, and the first panel sits early April. Further closing dates through the year.

Healthy Ambitions Suffolk Fund is also seeking applications, for which a grant of £4,000 can be given for projects that are working towards creating better health and wellbeing for Suffolk people. From April onwards this Fund will be seeking applications that support heart health. The decision making panels will sit three times in 2011, the first being April or May.

Suffolk Voluntary Sector Training Fund also has grant funding available with grants of up to £2,000 for groups who wish to train staff or volunteers. These applications are considered on a first come first served basis.

Creating the Greenest County Fund is an exciting initiative delivered by the Suffolk Foundation on behalf of Suffolk County Council and is seeking applications. If your community group wants to run a project to decrease carbon emissions, then you can apply for 25% of your project costs up to a value of £25,000. The panel will meet twice more in 2011.

You can find all details including application forms, guidelines and closing dates on The Suffolk Foundation's website www.suffolkfoundation.org.uk or you can phone Sue Wright on 01473 734127 to discuss your application or talk about your ideas.

Community Grants Available from WREN [\[back to top\]](#)

WREN receives the majority of its funding from the landfill tax levied by [Waste Recycling Group](#)

If you are thinking of applying to WREN for funding please take time to download and read WREN's funding policies and check your [Area eligibility](#) on the website as projects generally need to be situated within 10 miles of a Waste Recycling Group landfill site. The nearest sites to Suffolk are at Aldeby in Norfolk which is north of Beccles and Feltwell which is north of Lakenheath.

[Small Grant Scheme](#)

Funding applications between £2,000 and £15,000 will be considered with the total project cost under

£50,000.

The Small Grant Scheme is designed to assist applicants looking for funding on small projects that can make a real difference to their local communities.

Criteria

To apply under the Small Grant scheme your project should:

- Apply for funding of between £2,000 and £15,000 with a total project cost of under £50,000
- Be completed within 12 months of the funding decision
- Provided all information required at the point of application
- Be situated within 10 miles of a Waste Recycling Group landfill site

In addition, only the following types of projects can be considered for the Small Grant Scheme

- Village Halls
- Community Centres
- Public Parks
- Skate Parks
- Multi-Use Games Areas
- Country Parks
- Cycleways
- Bridleways
- Museums
- Recreation Grounds
- Nature Reserves
- Village Greens
- Public Footpaths/Towpaths
- Multi-Purpose Sports Clubs (not members only)
- Playgrounds (not on school grounds)

If your project does not fulfil the above criteria you may still be able to apply for funding under the other grant schemes mentioned below.

[Biodiversity Action Fund](#)

The WREN Biodiversity Action Fund provides funding of between £75,000 and £250,000 to deliver biodiversity improvement projects under Object DA.

[More](#)

[Main Grant Scheme](#)

The Main Grant Scheme offers funding of between £15,001 and £50,000 to projects which fall within WREN policy and the Landfill Communities Fund.

[More](#)

Further information can be found on their website www.wren.org.uk or by calling 01953 717165

Launch of Places People Play - Protecting Playing Fields Scheme [[back to top](#)]

Sport England has launched the Places People Play programme to create a legacy of participation for the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games, investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in

community sports projects over three years from 2011-2014.

The Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) scheme will fund capital projects to establish, develop and improve playing fields for community and sporting use.

Grants of £20,000 to £50,000 are available and match funding is required for all applications.

Eligible organisations are those entitled to receive public funding, including the following:

The deadline for receipt of applications for the first round is 6 July 2011. www.sportengland.org/

Big Lottery Fund Launches New Fund for Financial Inclusion [[back to top](#)]

The Big Lottery Fund has launched a new scheme to help people who lack access to basic financial services develop their confidence and capabilities.

The Improving Financial Confidence scheme will target residents in social housing and has three objectives which projects must achieve at least one of:

Grants of £500,000 to £1 million are available to projects lasting between three and five years.

This scheme is open to partnerships of organisations delivering housing and financial services. Partnerships must be led by a voluntary sector organisation and must include at least one non-profit housing association.

Applications will only be accepted from organisations from within a set of local authority areas in England which have been identified as having the most financially excluded residents.

To view the list of applicable areas and other information click [here](#) (opens in new window).

The deadline for outline proposal forms is midday on 16 September 2011.

www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/

Big Venture Challenge - Launch of New Competition [[back to top](#)]

The Big Venture Challenge is a new competition to find the 25 most ambitious social entrepreneurs in England. The competition is being operated by UnLtd, with funding from the Big Lottery Fund and the Millennium Awards Trust. It is designed to help the most ambitious social entrepreneurs successfully scale up their ventures.

Winners of the Big Venture Challenge will receive an initial £25,000 and the chance to access up to £150,000 of seed investment if matched by loans or equity from co-investors. Winners will also receive access to three years of one-to-one business support and mentoring and networking opportunities, designed to keep pace with high growth social entrepreneurs.

Eligible applicants are those who are:

The competition is now open with a deadline for receipt of applications of 30 June 2011.

www.bigventurechallenge.com/

Transition Fund for Audience Development - Reminder of Imminent Deadline [\[back to top\]](#)

The Transition Fund for Audience Development, launched by the British Film Institute, aims to ensure that audience development for specialised and British film across the UK continues to grow. The Fund is specifically geared to those organisations active in this area that have received regular public funding which has now been reduced because of overall funding cuts.

The programme aims are to:

Funded activities are limited to audience development for films between 1 June 2011 and 31 March 2012 which has been put at risk as a consequence of the reduction in public funding for film in the current financial year.

A total of £2 million has been allocated to the Fund. Applicants may request a maximum of 90% of the associated project costs or 90% of the overall reduction in regular annual funding, whichever is the lower. The minimum amount that can be requested is £1,000. There are no stipulated maximum levels.

Funding can be used for, but is not limited to, audience development related costs in the following areas:

Organisations eligible to apply are film organisations, including those that support audience development in schools, cinemas or film societies and those whose core function is the development of UK audiences for specialised and British film.

Further details can be found by visiting www.bfi.org.uk/

The deadline for receipt of applications is 6 June 2011 (6pm).

Doors open for rural micro enterprises [\[back to top\]](#)

Introduction

The LandSkills East training programme (which is funded through the Rural Development Programme for England) has previously focused its training on farming and land-based businesses. Through a review of its priorities the programme is pleased to announce the inclusion of micro enterprises as eligible for training and has ring fenced approximately £300,000 of grant funding for these rural businesses.

What does the funding cover?

The funding is available to cover up to 75% of the costs of courses and training which will improve the economic performance of micro enterprises.

Which businesses are eligible?

Small rural businesses (with a staff of less than 10 full time equivalent people and a turnover or net worth of below €2 million) located in a rural part of the East of England which fit one of the following business descriptions (full guidance on eligibility can be found on the programme website):

Public house

Food retail (with a regional food focus)

Specialty food businesses (with a regional focus)

Adding value businesses which focus on farm produce (non food)

Garages

Post offices

Tradesmen (builders, plumbers, electricians) who focus on servicing farming and other rural businesses

Vets

Conservation and land managers organisations

Small scale tourism attractions

Green technology companies

What training is available?

There is a great array of training available, which includes customer care, technical skills to allow businesses to develop new products, and management training and coaching. New courses are put on the website, but if you are unable to find a course which fits your need then LandSkills East will do all they can to get a partner to develop the course around your requirements.

For more information, or to book a course, please contact LandSkills East by phone on: 01603 748844 (Ext 4) or by email at: landskills@easton.ac.uk

Alternatively, you can visit: www.landskillseast.co.uk or Twitter: <http://twitter.com/LandSkillsEast> or Facebook: www.facebook.com/LandSkills.East

Energysare grant fund recently launched - Up to £500,000 available for community renewable energy projects. [\[back to top\]](#)

Energysare is a 100% renewable energy community giving everyone in the UK the opportunity to get involved in sourcing, using, and generating your own renewable energy.

Energysares founding partners, River Cottage and British Gas, are committed to finding more funding. As a start, British Gas is distributing a further £3m to communities for renewable energy projects through the energysare fund over the next three years.

Go to the website to register your communitys interest. Here you can download the information pack, which includes frequently asked questions and the registration form.

There are lots of other features on the website for households and communities, including case studies of community projects like Woolserly Community Hall who have cut their running costs by 90%.

The fund deadline is 30 June.

For more information and to register your interest, please visit: www.energyshare.com or email: info@energyshare.com

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Web: www.suffolkacre.org.uk

Email: info@suffolkacre.org.uk, Fax: 01473 345330

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