

ANGUS FUNDING NEWS

Issue 63

November 2009

*A monthly funding bulletin produced by Angus Council External Funding Team
in collaboration with Angus Association of Voluntary Organisation*

Welcome to this month's issue.

Remember to take a look at the "Miscellaneous" section as well as your main area of interest, as this contains funders who may give to a variety of causes. For example this month we feature The Pilgrim Trust which gives to heritage and social welfare. It also has information about the Third Sector Resilience Fund which could be a lifeline for struggling charities.

EXTERNAL FUNDING TEAM NEWS

Sports Funding Event

24 people attended our event in Forfar on 4 November to hear presentations on four funds – the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme, 2014 Communities, Awards for All and Girls on the Move. If you could not make it, but wish more information you will be able to find the presentations on www.angus4community.com under the Local Support section, or contact the External Funding Team.

European web pages

As well as administering the Angus Council Community Grant Scheme, producing the Angus Funding News and giving funding advice, the team has a European remit, in relation to funding and passing on news from the EU that we feel is of interest to Angus.

We now have a European section on Angus Council's website, which gives general information on how the European Union works and what it does. We will also provide details of forthcoming and proposed legislation and policy that could impact on your work or life. There are also links to useful information, websites and events. You will find it at www.angus.gov.uk/externalfunding/eu

www.angus4community.com

The most recent copies of Angus Funding News are available on the homepage of www.angus4community.com and copies from 2008 and 2009 are on <http://www.angus.gov.uk/externalfunding/newsletter/default.html>

The statistics we receive from the www.angus4community.com site operator tell us that the Local Support section is really well used. If you have ideas of other useful items you'd like to see on the section, let us know and we will see what we can do. We are planning to put presentations from recent funding events on the site – see above under Sports funding event.

NEWS FROM THE FUNDERS

ANGUS COUNCIL COMMUNITY GRANT SCHEME

A revised application form, guidance notes, and monitoring form are now available for use on www.angus.gov.uk/communitygrant If you fill the application form in on line you can expand boxes more easily, and e-mail the form to externalfunding@angus.gov.uk

Don't forget to read the new guidance notes before completing your application form.

There is still money available in this year's grant allocation, and you can apply at anytime for up to £5,000.

AWARDS FOR ALL

The application form no longer asks for details of an independent referee to be included. While the requirement has not been removed completely - they may still ask some groups for a referee once the application has been checked by AFA staff – it will make the initial application process quicker and easier for all. Some other slight changes to the application form and guidance have been made and a new guide has been produced which fully explains the requirements once a group have received a conditional offer of grant. The version of the application form including this page is still valid for submission and applicants who have already filled the rest of the form in can just leave this section blank.

LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATION FOR SCOTLAND

A high-level meeting was held between LTSB Foundation for Scotland and Lloyds Bank in London on Friday 6 November, but unfortunately neither was unwilling to accept the others' proposals for the way forward. The Foundation does not consider that the Bank's proposals are in its best long term interest.

Their message to supporters is as follows -

"The Foundation remains extremely heartened by the extensive support of charities and others who have urged us to continue to stand up for what is right. Clearly Trustees will now be considering all the options available to the Foundation going forward."

You will find progress, or the lack of it – reported on their website at <http://www.ltsbfoundationforscotland.org.uk>

SUPPORT LLOYDS TSB FOUNDATION FOR SCOTLAND

We have received the following email, as some of you may have done, asking for support for the LTSB Foundation for Scotland.

"As you know we are in the middle of major fight with Lloyds Banking Group for our survival. A number of petitions are emerging which have been set up by others to assist our cause and if you think that you, your colleagues or friends are able to help us by registering on the petition below, I would be extremely grateful."

To sign up go to <http://petitions.number10.gov.uk/LloydsFoundation/> It will be available for signing until April 2010.

RURAL TAYSIDE LEADER PROGRAMME

The new Rural Tayside LEADER website is now live. You will find it at www.ruraltaysideleader.com

ANGLO-GERMAN FOUNDATION

The Anglo-German Foundation, which for more than 35 years has been making project grants to improve mutual understanding and knowledge between the UK and Germany, is to close down on 4 December 2009. The view of the trustees is that the Foundation has achieved its goals.

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS	COMMUNITY	ENVIRONMENT	FINANCE
HERITAGE	INDIVIDUAL	LIFELONG LEARNING	MISCELLANEOUS
SCHOOLS	SOCIAL ENTERPRISE	VOLUNTEERING	YOUTH

BUSINESS

BRIGHT BUSINESS IDEA COMPETITION

The scheme - Sponsored by Business Gateway, the Bright Business Idea Competition is open to any entrepreneur registered to attend the New Start Scotland exhibition at the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre in Glasgow in March 2010.

On each day of the exhibition, up to six entrants will be selected to pitch their ideas in four separate heats, with the winners in each heat progressing to the grand final and getting the chance to convince the judges their idea is worth the prize package

Amount - Entrants will get to pitch their business ideas to a panel of judges, with the overall winner receiving £5,000 in start-up capital and a prize package including:

- £2,500 worth of online advertising on the New Start Scotland website
- £1,500 worth of print advertising in New Start Magazine
- Three months worth of free office or workshop space, to the value of £3,500
- Two years of free business banking and one-to-one start-up advice from Barclays
- £2,000 worth of small business software from Mamut
- A day of media training worth £2,500

Contact - For further information about the Bright Business Ideas Competition, visit

http://www.newstartscotland.com/exhibition/competition/more_info.html

Deadline – 19–20 March 2010.

THE HEALTH WORK AND WELLBEING CHALLENGE FUND

NEW

The scheme - offers SMEs and local partnerships of trade unions, third sector groups, and public sector bodies cash to carry out new initiatives to boost staff health and welfare. Run by the Department for Work and Pensions, the Great Britain-wide programme is open to applications from businesses that have been trading for under two

years and employ fewer than 250 staff. Bids are also welcome from local partnerships comprising trade unions, public sector bodies and third sector groups.

Funding may be given for -

- Reducing stress and improving other mental health conditions
- Providing healthy activities
- Ensuring work-life balance
- Supportive management

Amount - the two-year scheme will give out grants ranging between £1,000 and £50,000

Contact - <http://www.workingforhealth.gov.uk/initiatives/ChallengeFund/default.aspx>

Deadline - organisations are asked to submit an expression of interest as soon as possible to determine eligibility – they will then have until 31 December to complete a full application. There is expected to be a second funding round next September for grants during the 2011-12 financial year.

THE HOSPITALITY INDUSTRY TRUST – EMERGING TALENT SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

The scheme – To help leisure, hospitality, travel, catering and tourism businesses in the recession. Scholarships are available to 200 individuals, recognising and rewarding those ready to take the next step in their career and have a commitment to driving aspirations in Scottish hospitality. Businesses such as bars, restaurants, travel operators and visitor attractions are being encouraged to apply.

Amount - £100,000 is available in the scheme.

Contact - <http://www.scotlandfoodanddrink.org/60352> for details and <http://www.hitscotland.co.uk/> to apply

Deadline – 11 December 2009

INVEST IN AN APPRENTICE SCHEMES

NEW

The schemes -

- £2,000 for SMEs in manufacturing, textiles, food and drink and energy sectors to take on a new apprentice. Funding is available from 1 November 2009 – 31 March 2010
- £2,000 for businesses with fewer than ten employees, who take on a new or existing member of staff as a management apprentice.
- £75 per week for SMEs in the construction, engineering and manufacturing sectors to 'Safeguard an Apprentice' and retain those at risk of losing their jobs.

The schemes are being supported by the European Social Fund (total support for these schemes is £1.03m of which 45% comes from ESF, with the remainder from the Scottish Government). They are also part of ScotAction, the Scottish Government's integrated package of measures to help individuals and businesses through the recession.

Contact - Skills Development Scotland, Scotland's national skills agency, will play a leading role in taking forward the delivery of the initiatives. Further information is available on the Modern Apprentice section of their website at <http://www.skillsdevelopmentscotland.co.uk/>

Deadline – 31 March 2010

COMMUNITY

THE ROYAL BANK OF SCOTLAND COMMUNITY CASH AWARDS

The scheme - Young people are being given the chance to claim a share of £1 million to help tackle the dangers of drugs, crime and play a positive role in their community. £1 million of grants will be distributed by The Prince's Trust to young people who want to run community projects in some of Britain's poorest areas. Grants are available to disadvantaged 14 to 25-year-olds who want to transform their area and learn practical skills. Projects could range from improving local youth facilities to sex education workshops in schools. Projects must be run and managed by people between the ages of 14 and 25; clearly benefit the local community and benefit the people running the project

Amount – up to £1,000 for 14-16's and up to £5,000 for 16-25's

Contact - http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/need_help/grants/community_cash_awards.aspx

Deadline – none given

PEOPLE'S POSTCODE TRUST

The scheme - Applications are invited from small organisations, community groups and registered charities to the People's Postcode Trust. The intention is not to support running costs, but to fund projects where a significant benefit can be shown within three months of getting the grant.

All projects should relate to one or more of the following areas:

- The prevention of poverty, sickness and distress for the benefit of the public
- To promote, maintain, improve and advance health
- To advance citizenship or community development;
- To advance public participation in sport;
- To promote, improve and advance human rights, conflict resolution or reconciliation;
- To promote and advance environmental protection or improvement.

Projects that can use the grant as seed money to attract more funding from other donors are given preferential treatment.

Amount - Grants can be given for 3-month long projects where the need is for anything between £500 and £10,000. Only registered charities can apply for funding over £2,000.

Contact - Information, and access to the relevant application forms, is available at www.postcodetrust.org.uk/apply.php. You can also call 0131 555 7288.

Deadline - Applications are invited on a quarterly basis and the current round opened on 1 November 2009 and will close on 18 January 2010.

SECRET MILLIONAIRE

The scheme - The Secret Millionaire Fund is a joint venture by the Big Lottery Fund and Channel 4 that gives viewers a chance to act on the charitable inspiration fuelled by the series.

Amount - Lottery funding worth £1 million is available across the UK in grants of £300 - £10,000 from the Fund.

Contact - the Secret Millionaire Fund website at http://secretmillionaire.channel4.com/funds_info/ You can also use the site to nominate a local good cause which could benefit from the funding.

Deadline – 21 December 2009

ENVIRONMENT

ESMEE FAIRBAIRN FOUNDATION BIODIVERSITY GRANTS

The scheme - The Esmee Fairbairn Foundation has announced that it has changed the funding criteria for its Biodiversity funding scheme. Grants will be available for projects that develop a greater knowledge and understanding of certain habitats and their associated species. The Foundation will consider applications from research organisations, practical conservation charities and voluntary nature societies.

Priority will be given to proposals that include the following criteria as their focus:

- Habitats that exist on the margins between land and sea water – tidal areas, lagoons, channels, estuaries, dunes, coastal cliffs.
- Freshwater wetland habitats – fens, floodplains, swamps, and bogs with their associated pools and ditches.
- Groups of species within these habitats that may be considered uncharismatic by the general public but are of particular conservation interest.
- Projects that incorporate field research, primary data collection, and improve identification skills.
- Work on multiple sites, or across major landscape features.
- Work that has a legacy through wider policy impacts or building towards future funding opportunities from other sources.

Amount - Under the Biodiversity strand a total of £3 million will be available in grants until December 2010. Under the first phase, grants ranged from £17,000 to £195,000.

Contact - <http://www.esmeefairbairn.org.uk/funding/biodiversity.html>

Deadline - Applications can be submitted at any time.

THE MARK LEONARD TRUST

The scheme - Not for profit organisations and organisations with a charitable purpose can apply for funding from this trust which focuses on

- environmental education in the UK, particularly projects finding practical ways of involving children and young adults; sustainable agriculture and bio-diversity; and sustainable transport, energy efficiency and renewable energy
- Youth work that supports the rehabilitation of young people involved in anti-social or criminal activities, and helps remove the barriers to social inclusion

Contact - http://www.sfct.org.uk/mark_leonard.html

Deadline - Applications to the Trust can be submitted at any time.

FINANCE

THE MSE CHARITY

The scheme – funding is available to support individuals and organisations that are carrying out work to improve people's knowledge about consumer debt, personal money management and financial literacy in general. There are two grant options.

1. Grants to individuals aged over 18 can be used to pay for accredited courses that will help improve financial or consumer literacy for people who would otherwise not be able to afford to attend one. The Grant Approval Panel meets three times a year.
2. Grants to organisations can be made to any not for profit organisation or charity. Self-help groups can apply too. Money can be spent on any type of innovative project that will educate people about money/debt/consumer issues. Projects need to meet the following criteria:
 - They must assist people to improve their quality of life through knowledge and understanding of how to manage and take control of their own financial situation.
 - Applicants will need to show how they have researched and assessed the need for the project.
 - Applicants must show that the project will make a significant difference and that the outputs are achievable and deliverable within the budget and timeframe.
 - Projects must provide outcomes that will benefit the wider community.
 - Full Cost Recovery is fine, but the costs must relate to the project itself, not your organisation's core funding.
 - Projects must show value for money.
 - Where the project already exists, a grant will only be given where you can show that the money will be used to extend its activities, the number of beneficiaries and/or the time the project can run for.
 - Groups applying for less than £900 can apply at any time. You can also ask for your application to be fast tracked.

Amount- Individuals can get grants to go on courses, and organisations can apply for grants of up to £5,000 to run local projects.

Contact - There is an initial Group Application Form that can be filled in online, and if your idea meets with initial approval you will get a call back. Full details are at www.msecharity.com/index.html?pid=21 For more details you can e-mail stuart@msecharity.com

Deadline - The next closing date for organisation applications is 30 November 2009. The next closing date for individuals is 15 December 2009.

HERITAGE

HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND - SKILLS FOR THE FUTURE FUNDING

The scheme - for projects which provide paid training placements to meet a skills gap in the heritage sector, and fully support trainees to learn practical skills. It will fund traditional conservation training and also the skills needed to engage people with heritage.

Amount - The fund will award grants between £100,000 and £1million. There is only one opportunity to apply to Skills for the Future.

Contact - <http://www.hlf.org.uk/English/HowToApply/OurGrantGivingProgrammes/skills.htm> for further details

Deadline - The closing date is 19 March 2010. A pre-application workshop will take place in Edinburgh on 11 December 2009. To register your interest in the programme or to sign up for a pre-application workshop, please email your full contact details to skills@hlf.org.uk.

INDIVIDUALS

CRAIGCROOK MORTIFICATION

The scheme – the fund provides pensions for poor men and women born in or who have resided in Scotland for not less than 10 years.

Amount - £30,000 is available for distribution each year. At present there are 23 pensioners who each receive between £1,000 and £1,500 per annum payable in half-yearly instalments.

Contact - To apply, complete and return the application form from http://www.scott-moncrieff.com/pdfs/Craigcrook_SCO01648 and send Fiona Watson or Mrs Janice Couper, Scott-Moncrieff, 17 Melville Street, Edinburgh, EH3 7PH

THE CROSS TRUST

The scheme - To qualify as an **individual** applicant you must:

- Be born in Scotland (or at least one of your parents must have been born in Scotland)
- Be aged 18-30
- Be in genuine financial need
- Demonstrate your academic merit

The Trust will support:

- Some University and College Courses
- Vacation Studies in the Arts
- Medical Elective Studies Abroad
- Horticultural Studies
- Miscellaneous/Other

Organisations must be based in Scotland and the purpose of the application must be to benefit Scottish people.

There are two categories of awards:

- The promotion amongst the youth of Scotland of a love of nature and Scottish scenery
- The promotion of drama, opera and similar works

Contact - For more information go to www.thecrosstrust.org.uk

Deadline - The Trustees generally meet four times each year. The next deadline for applications is 20 November 2009.

LIFELONG LEARNING

LEONARDO DA VINCI

The scheme - The European Commission has announced that its Leonardo Da Vinci will re-open for applications towards the end of 2009 with an application deadline of early 2010. Leonardo Da Vinci is part of the EU's Lifelong Learning Programme and provides funding for European vocational education and training projects. The programme is open to educational and training organisations from the private, public and third sector. The type of funding that organisations can apply for include;

work placements in another European country;

participating in a European partnership to share expertise and experiences;

Contact - <http://www.leonardo.org.uk/>

Deadline – various dates from 5 – 26 February 2010 depending on the strand you apply for – see website for details. Deadline for preparatory visits funding is 11 December.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE CHARITY EMPLOYEES BENEVOLENT FUND

NEW

The scheme - Low wages and few benefits make people working for charities, and their families, vulnerable to serious financial hardship in times of illness, disability, bereavement and other unexpected disaster. The Charity Employees Benevolent Fund will provide assistance for people in these situations, bringing provision for charity employees in line with that for the rest of the UK workforce.

The CEBF is currently offering limited financial support through grants for specific purposes.

Once sufficient money has been raised they aim to extend the service to include:

Welfare support and advice on benefits

A friendship network and a caring community

Contact - <http://www.cebf.org.uk/index.html>

COMIC RELIEF

The scheme – Funding is available for the following issues –

- Mental Health
- Domestic and Sexual Abuse
- Refugee and Asylum Seeking Women
- Sport for Change
- Young People aged 11-25
- Sexually Exploited and Trafficked Young People

- Young People and Alcohol
- Young People with Mental Health Problems
- Local Communities

You can apply for money towards running costs for the above services

Amount - grants on average vary between £25,000 and £40,000 per year.

Contact - http://www.comicrelief.com/apply_for_a_grant/uk Application forms will be online from 14 November.

Deadline – 11 January 2010, 21 May 2010.

PILGRIM TRUST

The scheme - The Pilgrim Trust concentrates its funding into two areas - Preservation & Scholarship and Social Welfare. The Trust will consider applications for:

- Preservation of and repairs to historic buildings and architectural features;
- Conservation of monuments or structures that are important to their surrounding, including buildings designed for public performance;
- Conservation of works of art, books, manuscripts, photographs and documents, museum objects and records associated with archaeology, historic buildings and the landscape;

Promotion of knowledge through academic research and its dissemination, including cataloguing within museums, galleries, libraries and archives, and institutions where historic, scientific or archaeological records are preserved. Arts and drama projects will be considered under their Social Welfare programme, if you can demonstrate that they are linked to clear educational goals for prisoners or those with drug or alcohol problems.

Amount - The Main Grant Fund is for applications over £5,000 (this accounts for 90% of their output) and the Small Grant Fund is for applications under £5,000.

Contact - For more information please visit www.thepilgrimtrust.org.uk or tel: 0207 222 4723.

Deadline – none

THE THIRD SECTOR RESILIENCE FUND

The scheme - The Third Sector Resilience Fund, which has the potential to mitigate the twin impacts of recession on some organisations of increased demand for their services and cash flow difficulties, is now open and will provide immediate help to third sector organisations. Match funding is not required, and it can be used for running costs, such as staffing, rent and utilities.

Amount - Grants of between £10,000 and £100,000 will potentially be available to Third Sector organisations which can demonstrate how the recession has led to increased demand or significantly undermined their services.

Contact - <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/People/15300/funding/ResilienceFundStrategy1>

Deadline - apply as soon as possible. Money will be allocated in January 2010 and must be drawn down by 31 March 2010.

SCHOOLS

GREEN SCHOOL AWARDS (UK)

The scheme - Schools that are currently undertaking environmental projects within the UK are being invited to enter the Green School Awards. The awards aim to assist education and understanding about environmental issues and target the 5-11 age group. Any work primary school children are already doing on the environment at your school is likely to be eligible for entry to the Green School Awards. The Awards can be entered by groups of up to 30 young people, aged 5-11. (Groups of over 30 young people will be allowed to enter provided that they are in the same class). Groups can be classes, school clubs or teams created for the purpose of entering the TOTAL Green School Awards. There is no limit to the number of entries a school can submit.

Amount – prizes of £500 - £5,000 are available

Contact - <http://tgsa.ypte.org.uk/>

Deadline - Entries must be received for judging by 7 May 2010.

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

BILL & MELINDA GATES FOUNDATION SOCIAL INVESTMENT FUND

The scheme - The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation launched a \$400m (£252m) social investment fund that will provide loan financing, underwriting and equity investments for not-for-profit organisations and businesses with a social purpose. The foundation, the world's largest philanthropic trust, wants to maximise the effectiveness of its money in the light of a reduction in the value of equity markets, which is thought to have reduced the value of its endowment by about 20 per cent. Investments made would be in areas that supported the foundation's goals,

including investing in businesses and charities providing health and development services, and offering support to small businesses in the developing world. UK charities will be eligible to receive money from the programme. The foundation will run a two-to-three-year pilot, after which time it might expand the amount of money available.

Contact - <http://www.gatesfoundation.org>

VOLUNTEERING

CHANGEIT AWARDS NOMINATIONS (UK)

The scheme - Nominations are currently being invited for the CHANGEit awards. The CHANGEit awards are a collaboration between Common Purpose, an organisation dedicated to improving the quality of leadership in the UK, Common Purpose International and Deutsche Bank. The awards recognise, support and reward the achievements and ambitions of young campaigners between the ages of 11-18 who want to speak out and create positive change to their community.

There are three categories in the CHANGEit awards. These are:

- “Innovation” for people who have an idea to improve their community but need training or support to get started;
- Performance - to celebrate the achievements of young people who have already taken positive action in their local areas;
- Photography - young people’s photos that capture campaigning in action or images that illustrate the change they see in the world around them.

Contact - For more information see the CHANGEit website at www.changeit.org.uk.

Deadline – 11 December 2009

YOUTH

YOUTH IN ACTION

The scheme - The programme supports youth partnership activities at European level and funds 50% of eligible costs. The general objectives of the ‘Youth in Action’ Programme are to

- develop solidarity and promote tolerance among young people, in particular in order to reinforce social cohesion in the European Union;
- foster mutual understanding between young people in different countries;
- contribute to developing the quality of support systems for youth activities and the capabilities of civil society organisations in the youth sector;
- promote European cooperation in the youth sector.

There are four separate elements to the programme:

- **Transnational Youth Exchange** – for groups of young people from different countries to meet and learn about each other’s cultures. Involves two or more partners
- **Youth Initiative** – a project initiated, set up and carried out by young people. It can take place in your own country or involve young people from other countries
- **European Voluntary Service** – young people aged 18-30 can carry out voluntary service in another country
- **Training and Networking** – trans-national activities for those involved in youth work

Amount – up to 100,000 euros per project.

Eligibility – applicants should be a local or regional public body, or a non-profit body active at European level in the youth field (ENGO) which has member organisations in at least eight Programme Countries of the ‘Youth in Action’ Programme. With the exception of National Youth Initiatives where no partners are required, projects must involve partners from at least two different Programme Countries (including the applicant organisation),

Contact – further information and application forms are available at

http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/funding/2009/call_action_4_6_en.php

Deadline - 1 December 2009

FUNDING SUPPORT

FUNDING SEARCHES

Turn2us - a charity that helps people access money available to them – through welfare benefits, grants and other help. There is a free, accessible website which has been designed to help you find appropriate sources of financial

support, quickly and easily, based on your particular needs and circumstances. Turn2us is part of the Elizabeth Finn Care family and can be accessed at <http://www.turn2us.org.uk/default.aspx>

VOLUNTARY SECTOR NEWS

The latest report on charitable giving in the UK has been launched by CAF and NCVO. The report indicates that charitable giving has fallen by £1.3 billion mainly due to smaller amounts being donated but there has been only a two percent fall in the actual number of donors.

Triodos Bank has increased lending to charities and social enterprises by 33 per cent in the first half of 2009, taking its total lending and commitments to the sector to £150m.

WEBSITES

The Centre for Charitable Giving and Philanthropy which is CGAP is a consortium of British research institutions with strong links into the charity sector which has set up a website at <http://www.cgap.org.uk/>

WATER RATES

Small charitable organisations are set to benefit from improvements to the Government's Water Services Charges Exemption Scheme.

Cabinet Secretary for Finance and Sustainable Growth, John Swinney, announced the changes to the Exemption Scheme which will ensure that registered charities with a small income will continue to be eligible for exemption from water and sewerage charges from 2010 to 2015.

Key changes to the scheme will include:

Any registered charity that moves premises from 1 April 2010, that continues to meet all other criteria, will retain its exemption. Any registered charity that has moved premises since 1 April 2006, and as a result lost its exemption, will, from 1 April 2010, be able to reapply for exemption.

Any registered charity that receives a permanent liquor licence from 1 April 2010 will continue to be eligible for exemption. Any registered charity that received a permanent liquor licence from 1 September 2009 will, from 1 April 2010, be able to reapply for exemption.

The maximum income criteria will be increased from 1 April 2010 from £50,000 to £60,000, and will increase by £1500 per annum thereafter.

For further details see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/News/Releases/2009/10/16112707>

INTERNATIONAL LINKS

If you are involved in a UK community group that has a link with a group in a developing country, the British Council would like to hear from you.

From September – December 2009 they are running a survey to find out how many community groups in the UK are already in touch with a community group in another country, and what activities they do in their link. A link might be a charitable project with a community in a developing country, an exchange programme or visits to a particular community, or a wide-reaching community partnership, or something different. Further details are available at <http://www.dfid.gov.uk/Working-with-DFID/Funding-Schemes/DCLP/>

FREE AND MONEY SAVING OFFERS

Please note that Angus Council is not endorsing individual companies or projects mentioned.

Charity Technology Exchange (CTX) enables eligible charities to gain access to donations of the latest technology from major companies including Microsoft, Cisco and Symantec. To see the full range of donors, available products and how to apply for a donation, go to www.ctxchange.org.

Student Gems - Charities need expertise in various areas of work but often cannot afford prices that professionals charge; students need to gain work experience to enhance their chances of getting a permanent job.

Student Gems exists to match requirements to skills.

Until 30 November you can post jobs and upgrade for under £10. You will also be entered into a free prize draw to win a whole year's free membership worth £179.

The site has thousands of students with skills in areas such as marketing, public relations, data entry, leafleting, photography and website development. Their top-quality professional work is delivered to you at a fraction of the normal price.

<http://www.studentgems.com/>

Sourcing Innovative Solutions - How to generate new funding and other ideas, changing your organisation for the better, is available FREE to download from <http://tinyurl.com/yb5yqdb>

Getting the Message Across - Practical strategies to help charities to change the way stakeholders see them
This can also be downloaded for FREE from <http://tinyurl.com/ykzg2et>

FORTHCOMING DEADLINES

November 23 [Made in Scotland](#) – (Edinburgh Fringe)
November 30 [BBC Children in Need](#)
[Vital Spark Awards](#) (Scottish Arts Council)
Mitchell Trust (Tel 01334 653777)
December 1 [Girls on the Move](#)
[Youth in Action](#) (Europe)
December 21 [Youth Music](#)
December 31 [Community Chest](#)
Angus College Training Fund - contact scott.petrie@angus.ac.uk.

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Economic Development and Environmental & Consumer Protection Division,
Infrastructure Services Department,
County Buildings, Market St, Forfar, DD8 3WD
Tel 01307 473221/2 E-mail externalfunding@angus.gov.uk*