

WEST
SUSSEX

VOLG

POLICY BRIEFINGS

West Sussex Voluntary Organisations' Liaison Group
Ground Floor, Parbrook House, Natts Lane,
Billingshurst, West Sussex RH14 9EY

☎ 01403 787940 📠 01403 787941

What is *future builders*?

A £125 million fund, over 3 years, for strategic investment in the voluntary & community sector, allowing organisations to modernise so that the scale & scope of the sector's contribution to service delivery will be increased.

The [consultation document](#) (see below), chapter 4 discusses what the fund might buy: Buildings; ICT; research/learning/development/training; testing new ideas/services... by way of a grant or various kinds of loans.

If you provide anything related to the priority areas & examples below this is a consultation you need to pay attention to.

▶▶ background

future builders follows HM Treasury's 2002 Spending Review which set out 4 principles for public service reform:

1. clear long term goals;
2. independent audit and inspection;
3. maximum local flexibility and discretion to innovate; and
4. transparency.

The voluntary & community sector is a key part of the government's vision for improving public services. This also responds to some of the findings from the Cross Cutting Review.

▶▶ priority areas

future builders will contribute to 4 key government public service priorities and, within these 4 priorities, where voluntary & community organisations:

- have a clear role to play in delivering public services;
- could potentially play a greater role but do not do so at present; and
- have no part to play in service delivery (& this will continue to be the case)

priority areas

potential for increased input

1. health & social care

- improved access to health services & increased service capacity
- improved life outcomes of adults & children with mental health problems
- improved quality of life & independence of older people
- improved life chances for children
- increased participation of drug users in treatment programmes & increased completion of the programmes

examples:

- home from hospital schemes
- services to prevent admission to hospital
- hospice at home care
- provision of aids to daily living
- falls prevention work with older people
- support for carers
- information & advice services
- helping people live well with long term health problems

2. crime & social cohesion

- reducing crime & the fear of crime
 - improving public confidence in the criminal justice system
 - protecting the public & reducing reoffending
 - reducing the harm caused by drugs
 - measurable improvements in race equality & community cohesion
-

- examples:**
- specialist drug treatment schemes, family support, sharing & applying learning
 - work with offenders in prisons & on probation
 - sustaining local involvement in crime reduction programmes
 - victim support services
 - refugee integration & inclusion - particularly mental health, trauma services & children's services
 - helping communities to solve problems & strengthen links

3. education & learning

- sustaining improvements in primary education
- transforming secondary education
- pupil inclusion
- raising attainment at 14-19
- improving the skills of young people & adults & raising participation & quality in post-16 learning provision
- tackling the adult skills deficit

specific areas

- raising participation in schools, colleges & higher education & helping the DfES to reach all communities
- supporting youth work & informal education
- working with schools/colleges to deliver citizenship & an alt. curriculum for young people at risk of dropping out
- adult learning & basic skills

4. support for children & young people

Children & Young People's Unit (CYPU) has 4 strategic aims:

- ✓ influence policy in the interests of children & young people
- ✓ promote prevention rather than reaction
- ✓ develop expertise on what works
- ✓ promote child & youth participation & engagement

examples of CYPU led work:

- Children's Fund, children at risk aged 5-13
- Local Network Fund – children & young people in poverty aged 0-19
- Local preventative Strategies – co-ordinating planning & delivery of services for children at risk
- Supporting improved delivery in access to play/leisure/ sport/culture, child & adolescent mental health services, family support services & youth services

►► **consultation: deadline Monday 21st July 2003**

The consultation document has been drawn up in accordance with the principles set out in the COMPACT (relations between the government & the sector, launched Nov '98).

The document presents proposals for:

- principles to guide the use of the fund;
- ways in which the fund could be targeted at public services;
- the way in which the fund could be set up; and
- invites responses to these proposals.

►► **future builders: Proposals for Consultation**

You can get this document from:

www.hm-treasury.gov.uk (download) or email public.enquiries@hm-treasury.gov.uk or write to: Public Enquiry Unit, HM Treasury, 1 Horse Guards Road, London SW1A 2HQ or phone: 020 7270 4558 or fax: 020 7270 4574