

Governance and Leadership April Newsletter

News from NCVO



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Dear Ruth

Welcome to this month's NCVO Governance and Leadership email briefing. It's a quick roundup of the latest news, events and publications from NCVO to help you keep up with governance and leadership developments.

This month, we are pleased to announce that small infrastructure organisations can apply for up to £500 to improve their governance through NCVO's Cracking the Code scheme. Also, the date for the 2009 NCVO Onboard Trustee Conference has been announced, so put 12th October in your diaries and make sure you don't miss out on the most influential Trustee Conference of the year.

We always like to know what you think of the briefing, so please email your comments to governanceandleadership@ncvo-vol.org.uk.

Best wishes,

Anne Moynihan
Head of Governance and Leadership
NCVO

NCVO News

Good Governance Code Steering Group Chair Announced

The Steering Group for Good Governance: a Code for the Voluntary and Community Sector (the Code), has announced the appointment of its new chair, Lindsay Driscoll. Lindsay, who has worked in charity law and governance for over 30 years, will chair the group for three years and is tasked with championing the principles in the Code and making sure that the Code continues to be developed in a way that is responsive to the needs of the Sector. Lindsay Driscoll said: "I am delighted to join the Code Steering Group at this exciting time when we are developing the Code to further reflect the diversity of the sector and the increasing need for strong and accountable governance."

Please [visit our website](#) to find out more about the Good Governance Code.

Sign up to Good Governance: a Code for the Voluntary and Community Sector

If you would like to sign up to say that your organisation is compliant with the Code, is taking steps to improve governance based on the Code, or supports the Code's principles please email governanceandleadership@ncvo-vol.org.uk. For a list of organisations already signed up, [click here](#)

Cracking the Code Bursary Scheme

The first round of the Cracking the Code bursary scheme, funded by Capacitybuilders, opened on the 1st April and provides up to £500 for small infrastructure organisations to improve their governance based on all or any of the principles of Good Governance: A Code for the Voluntary and Community Sector. The Code sets out the principles to achieve excellence in governance. To find out more about the scheme, check your eligibility and make an application go to www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/crackingthecode

Governance and Leadership Consultancy Services

The Governance and Leadership team offers a consultancy and training service. From comprehensive governance reviews to board away days, we can support you. The consultancy is a customised service, and can be tailored to your organisation's needs. [Click here](#) for more information or contact [Emma Kirk](#) or on 0207 520 2509.

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Events

NCVO Third Sector Foresight Exchange for the Future 2009

DISCOUNTED PLACES FOR TRUSTEES

Tuesday 19 May 2009
NCVO, London

Trustees are involved in guiding an organisation's direction and ensuring it has a strong future. But we don't think you get enough chances to come to events! So if you're a **trustee** of an organisation you can get a **discounted place of £60** at the Foresight conference.

It offers unparalleled networking and unique access to experts from the worlds of the voluntary sector and Foresight, as well as the chance to discuss external factors that can influence the risk management process, including market volatility and market forecasts.

Make sure you tell your fellow trustees about this great opportunity to learn about the trends shaping the future of the voluntary sector, whilst trying out innovative ways of networking and new media.

Please contact [Kathryn Cook](#) to apply.

For more [visit Third Sector Foresight's website](#)

Thriving in tough times - Securing a diverse and sustainable income base

Sustainable Funding Project Annual Gathering 2009
17 June 2009, London

Speakers include Rachel Lomax, Chair of NCVO's Funding Commission (former Deputy Governor of Bank of England) and Sophi Tranchell MBE, Managing Director of Divine Chocolate.

Read the full programme at www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/SFP09

NCVO OnBoard BWB Trustee Conference 2009

Monday 12 October 2009
Kings Place, London

Hold the date in your diary for the most important annual event for all those who work with trustee boards. This year you can expect inspiring keynote speakers, influential and topical debate and plenty of networking opportunities. As well as the essential legal and regulatory updates, interactive workshops will include:

- Governing in a downturn
- Campaigning – how far can you go?
- Inspirational Governance
- Trustee Recruitment
- And much more...

To pre-register your place [visit our website](#)

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Tools and Information

BoardsCount Governance Benchmarking

This initiative helps your organisation to review its own governance and benchmark this by anonymous comparison with other organisations within the sector. Governance best practice is also shared.

[Click here](#) to find out more and register.

Reporting and Accounting Thresholds Changes from 01 April 2009

As of 01 April 2009, changes to reporting and accounting thresholds came into force. These changes are:

- * the threshold for requiring accounts to be externally examined is raised from £10,000 to £25,000
- * the threshold for the preparation by non-company charities of accruals accounts is raised from £100,000 to £250,000
- * the assets element of the audit threshold is raised from £2.8 million to £3.26 million
- * the lower income trigger for this is raised from £100,000 to £250,000
- * the threshold for registered charities to submit their annual accounts and Trustees Annual Reports to the Commission is raised from £10,000 to £25,000

The revised thresholds will apply to financial years ending on or after 1 April 2009.

Further information can be found at the [Charity Commission website](#).

Trustee Responsibility for Health and Safety

Trustees are responsible for ensuring adherence to a wide range of specific health and safety regulations. Trustees should therefore take steps to check their obligations and ensure compliance with requirements specific to their charity. For further information, see www.iod.com/hsguide. The [Health and Safety Executive](#) have 'businesses' and 'leadership' sections of their website setting out information about the board's responsibilities in relation to managing health and safety.

[Click here](#) for more information.

Funding Commission consultation

In February 2009, NCVO launched a Funding Commission to respond to the Sector's concerns and uncertainty about funding over the next ten years and to take responsibility for setting a new funding agenda. We would like to hear your views on the issues the Commission should be considering and any ideas or solutions to funding problems. Closing date is 13 May.

For more and to submit your views visit www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/fundingcommission

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Marketplace

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For more details or to reserve a space email governanceandleadership@ncvo-vol.org.uk

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About this email

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<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/>

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