



# COMMUNITY SECTOR NEWS

*AMBER VALLEY CVS EXISTS TO DEVELOP AND BE PART OF A VIBRANT VOLUNTARY SECTOR* AUTUMN 2012

## Amber Valley CVS Celebrated National Volunteer Week

**The theme for the Volunteer Celebration 2012 was... a Jubilee one, naturally!**

Our volunteers were entertained by a local choir "Musical Dimensions" who sang a wide variety of songs from well known musical shows. Volunteers enjoyed a locally sourced buffet and participated in Jubilee themed games created by Amber Valley CVS staff.

All volunteers were presented with their Certificate of Volunteering for the contributions they made to Amber Valley CVS volunteering opportunities, such as Phone Buddy, Befriending and Home from Hospital and from Derbyshire LINK's team of volunteers.

The table decorations were made by 3 of our staff and reflected the red, white and blue theme around the room.



If you would like to join our volunteers, and be involved in the local community, please contact Amber Valley CVS on 01773 512076.

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### CIRCULATION LIST (Please tick)

- CHAIR [ ]
- MANAGER [ ]
- TREASURER [ ]
- SECRETARY [ ]
- ..... [ ]
- ..... [ ]
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# FUNDING

## Funding success for Amber Valley groups

Congratulations to Amber Valley voluntary and community groups on your successful funding applications throughout last year.



Name of Group	Funding Body	Amount	Project Awarded
Crich Careline	Derbyshire Community Foundation	£500.00	To start a new a Phone Line project for isolated people.
Belper Stroke Club	Derbyshire Community Foundation	£220.00	Towards transport cost for stroke affected people.
Belper Ladies Hockey	Sports Action Grant	£845.00	Equipment for the club.
Belper Ladies Hockey	Derbyshire Community Foundation	£500.00	Equipment for the club.
Alfreton Cricket Club	Sports Action Grant	£800.00	Equipment for the Club.
Crich Pre School	Community Action Grant	£1000.00	Improve Physical Activities within the community.
Home Start Amber Valley	Community Action Grant	£500.00	Healthy Eating Project for under 5's.

## Coalfield Regeneration Trust



CRT is actively encouraging small voluntary and community groups to come forward with their ideas for funding under its

Level 1 grant scheme.

The scheme allows for capital or revenue funding up to a maximum of £5,000 for projects in eligible coalfield areas with high levels of deprivation.

The fund is currently undersubscribed and the regional office will gladly assist applicants to determine if they have a project that fits with CRT criteria.

So far in the current funding round, projects like Bulwell Boxing Club, Newton Methodist Church, Clipstone Youth Centre Playscheme,

and Fifth Word Theatre have all benefited from grant awards that enable them to provide improved services and projects for their communities.

CRT cannot fund salaries under this scheme but it can support the use of Sessional workers to deliver projects that provide local community benefits. It can support training for volunteers and host groups, and can also support purchasing of equipment and small refurbishment projects.

To discuss your own project with the Trust please telephone 01246 820970 to get the ball rolling.

**“What have you got to lose?”**

# Health & Social Care Forum

## Southern Derbyshire Health & Social Care Forum



### Next Forum Meeting

Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October

10.00am – 1pm

Church Gresley  
Methodist Church

York Road  
Church Gresley  
Swadlincote  
DE11 9QQ

The main agenda item will be a briefing on the recently published white paper and draft bill which are open for consultation until 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012:

### **'Caring for our future: reforming care and support'**

We will also have a short workshop on:

### **'Understanding and Influencing Parliament'**

Helping to ensure that we are all able to lobby and campaign effectively

**To book a place or for more information please contact Angela Quinn at Amber Valley CVS on 01773 512076 or email [angelaquinn@avcvs.org](mailto:angelaquinn@avcvs.org)**



# VOLUNTEERING

## Volunteering Update

**We successfully placed 39 people in April to June this year.**

**Their roles included:** Administrative Assistant, Adviser, Appropriate Adult, Authorised Representative, Befrienders in one to one and group settings through a Careline and a Residential Home, Café Assistant, Communication Support Volunteer, Credit Union Volunteer, Drivers/Escorts, Fundraising and Support Volunteers, Grounds Maintenance, Independent Monitoring Board Members, IT Assistive Technology Advisers, Local Events Helpers, Mentors, Minibus Driver, Practical Conservation Work, Retail Assistants, Saturday and Holiday Volunteers, Children's Group Volunteer and a co-operative type of Shared Interest Society.

These are but a few of our 133 opportunities currently displayed. As always we can usually find something to interest anyone who wishes to volunteer.

You only have to ask!

## Befriending Report

36 People receive a weekly call from the Phone Buddy Service and currently our Befrienders are supporting a further 35 People with a weekly visit for company and conversation. We are in the process of training 6 more volunteers.

A client of the Befriending service said "I would like to continue with the service as it has changed my life".

The waiting list to receive the service continues to expand and more Volunteers in ALL AREAS are much needed.

If you know anyone who enjoys talking to elderly people, please point them in our direction to join our Team at Amber Valley CVS!

## Current Opportunities

### Medical Loans Delivery Service – Driver

Our service provides a valuable short term loan of medical equipment to vulnerable people. We currently need volunteers to drive our van and deliver and collect wheelchairs to people at home. This will involve collecting chairs from one of our bases and delivering them to clients and demonstrating their use. Equipment is collected at the end of the loan period and cleaned. You will also be required to do some simple admin and deal with small donations. Training and support will be provided.

### Crich Careline – Phonenumber Befriender



Crich Careline is a Telephone Befriending Service. We are a group of volunteers that keep in touch with the elderly and disabled in our local villages, making sure they do not become lonely or socially isolated. We are a friend at the end of the phone.

**For further information please contact Elaine Broadhurst on 01773 512076.**

# VOLUNTEERING

## Current Opportunities

### Heanor Festival - Secretary

A volunteer is needed to record the minutes and ensure meetings are arranged when required and to act as right hand person to the Chair.

If you have good communication skills, particularly in writing letters and record keeping, it could be the ideal opportunity for you to make new friends with similar interests and help plan for future festival events.



### The Autumn Club – Treasurer

Treasurer to collect money for tea, raffles and trips out.

Keeping records of all monies and keeping bank records etc.

Person needs to be organised, methodical, accurate and reliable.

We need a social person who can relate to elderly people and have empathy, together with understanding and a good sense of humour.

### Alfreton's Party in the Park – Fundraising and Events Helper



Alfreton's Party in the Park is a yearly event.

We are looking for people of all ages who like meeting, socialising and helping all kinds of people to organise different kinds of fundraising events throughout the year to support and promote Alfreton's Party in the Park.

No experience or qualifications are necessary, although we are looking for people with experience of minute taking.

Helpers are always needed on the day before and after the event to help set up and clear away the site.

### Amber Valley Resource Centre - Get Fit for Life

We need someone qualified and experienced in supporting people with mental health problems to become more physically fit and active. This could include blood pressure monitoring, smoking cessation, weight management and dietary advice.

NVQ or equivalent in fitness and leisure required.

### So what does Amber Valley Volunteer Centre have to offer?

Whether you are an individual seeking a volunteering place to give your time and skills to or an Organisation seeking new recruits, the Volunteering team will help to find the right match for you! We offer continuing support through informal or formal training and development.

**For further information please contact Elaine Broadhurst on 01773 512076.**

# AMBER VALLEY CVS

## What we can offer

Are you looking to start a new **Voluntary Community Self Help Group**, but don't know which way to turn?



### Amber Valley CVS

Market Place, Ripley, Derbyshire,  
DE5 3HA



01773 512076



admin@avcvs.org



www.avcvs.org



twitter.com/avcvs



ambervalleycvs.wordpress.com



facebook.com/avcvs

### Amber Valley CVS Can offer

- **Help** - to identify your needs
- **Support** - Volunteer recruitment, HR & Health & Safety
- **Guidance** - Volunteer management and accessing funding
- **Training** - identify needs and assistance accessing these
- **Advice & Information** - Formulating constitutions and policies
- **Development** - Organisational 'Health checks', CRB Disclosure service

# TRAINING

## Safeguarding & Befriending

Congratulations to the 9 people who attended and completed the one day course, that raises the awareness of Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults and how to alert others if abuse is suspected.



Below are comments received from learner evaluation forms:

“Will widen my skills and understanding so that it will help me get a job”

“Very interesting and interactive”

“Really enjoyed the course”



### Befriending Congratulations

6 new volunteers have completed the Befriending training that has recently taken place. They will join our existing team of volunteers dedicated to Befriending isolated individuals in Amber Valley Communities.

## Do you or Your Community Group Need Training?

If so, we can provide specialised training tailored to your group's needs in a suitable venue. We have previously offered the following courses:

- ◆ Attracting and Recruiting Volunteers
- ◆ Basic Book-Keeping
- ◆ Befriending
- ◆ Benefits of Volunteering
- ◆ Committee Skills
- ◆ Communication Skills
- ◆ Confidence in Meetings
- ◆ Event Planning
- ◆ Funding & Making Applications
- ◆ Health & Safety
- ◆ Managing a Mixed Team
- ◆ Managing Difficult Volunteer Situations
- ◆ Minute Taking
- ◆ Presentation Skills
- ◆ Risk Management
- ◆ Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
- ◆ Support & Supervision
- ◆ Sustainable Funding
- ◆ Time Management
- ◆ Volunteer Management
- ◆ Volunteers & the Law

For more information please call 01773 512076 or e-mail [training@avcvcs.org](mailto:training@avcvcs.org)

# VCI PASSPORT SCHEME

## VCI (Voluntary Community Independent) Passport Scheme



The VCI Passport Scheme is aimed towards volunteers who are working or thinking of working with children and younger people. i.e. children's centre, sports clubs etc.

**FREE** Quality Standard Training for Volunteers in the Amber Valley Area.

All you need to do to receive your passport is:

### Complete the following.....

- 5 x ½ day training sessions
- Safeguarding
- Health & Safety
- First Aid Introduction
- Involving and Consulting Children & Young People
- Equal Opportunities

### Sample VCI Passport



“Volunteers are important! They make up a large part of the VCI children and young people’s workforce and they deserve to receive the support that they need to help them continue to develop their skills, knowledge and abilities so that they can improve the service they give to children and young people”. Mandy Mangold. SNAP Development Project

Following completion of the requirements, the volunteer will be awarded with a certificate and a badge which allows him/her to identify themselves as an accredited volunteer for Derbyshire’s Children’s Trust. Badges will not be issued until we have proof of a current CRB check.

For more information please contact Angela Quinn at Amber Valley CVS on 01773 512076 or Matt Ford on 07917053400



# MEMBER NEWS

## Green Hillocks

Amber Valley CVS nominated one of our member groups, Green Hillocks for the Olympic Torch relay.

The group were asked if they would like to join the relay in Matlock and perform a dance. The members of Green Hillocks were delighted and accepted the offer.

They started the challenging task of working with a dance choreographer to perform a dance sequence on Friday 29th June. On the day they performed their routine in Matlock with great success.



## Marlpool Lunch Club

We were pleased to be invited to a Jubilee Celebration at Marlpool Lunch Club which is run every Wednesday at the United Reformed Church, Marlpool. The club provides meals for the over 60's that are cooked using local fresh vegetables and meat from a local butcher. This gives members the opportunity to eat a well balanced meal in a congenial atmosphere and also includes a hearty pudding and tea and coffee. The meal is normally followed by great activities such as guest speakers, games and quizzes, plus lots of time for a good old "catch-up" and chat.

The Lunch Club was set up in September 2010 at the Marlpool URC Community Hall, with just a few attendees who have built it up to having over 30 members every week. The oldest member of the club is 99 and the youngest is 66. The group is run and organised by Volunteers who carry out the catering and collect members of the group from their homes so they can attend.

At the Jubilee celebration they had a memorabilia table with memories of the Queen's Coronation and Silver Jubilee. The Celebration meal was excellent, lots of tasty sandwiches with fresh salad, followed by cakes and freshly made tea and coffee. Afterwards there was a Coronation quiz, alas Amber Valley CVS did not win..... however we joined in with a good old enthusiastic rendition of "God Save the Queen".

If you are interested in attending the weekly Lunch Club, then contact 01773 512076 for more information.



# MEMBER NEWS

## Community Directory Derbyshire

Over 4000 Community groups  
at your fingertips



Community  
Directory  
Derbyshire

**For the first time all of these groups, in their rich diversity, are available in one place**

**[www.communitydirectoryderbyshire.org.uk](http://www.communitydirectoryderbyshire.org.uk)**

- Find out about the wide range of services available from community and voluntary groups in Derby and Derbyshire.
- Search for services by area, interest or type of support

For more information about  
Community Directory Derbyshire  
contact Community Action Derby:

Email: [info@vcldata.org.uk](mailto:info@vcldata.org.uk)  
or call 01332 227719



Community Directory Derbyshire is maintained and contributed to by a network of infrastructure organisations across Derbyshire and Derby City.

# MEMBER NEWS

## Are you caring for someone who has, or might have dementia?

Alzheimer's Society, through funding from Derbyshire County Council and the NHS, is beginning a six week Carer Information programme at Amber Valley CVS, Ripley, starting on Friday August 31<sup>st</sup>, then 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> September, the final session will take place on 5<sup>th</sup> October.



“This is great news for the people living in the Amber Valley area” said Stephen Tomlinson, Alzheimer's Society group facilitator. “The big message we wish to express is that those affected by dementia are not alone, we are there, willing and able to provide information and support.”

Each information session will run from 10.30am until 1.00pm, covering different topics such as “What is dementia”, legal information, welfare and benefits information, other agencies that may help and tips on coping as a carer. There will also be opportunities to meet our Support Workers and learn how our services have changed and how much more active we are in the community.

Tea/coffee and biscuits will be provided.

For information about this or any of our services, or to receive information over the phone or email contact: Alzheimer's Society on 01332 208845 or email: [derby@alzheimers.org.uk](mailto:derby@alzheimers.org.uk)

- ◆ One in three people over 65 will die with dementia.
- ◆ Alzheimer's Society research shows that 800,000 people in the UK have a form of dementia, more than half of which have Alzheimer's disease. By 2021 a million people will be living with dementia. This will soar to 1.7 million people by 2051.
- ◆ Alzheimer's Society champions the rights of people living with dementia and the millions of people who care for them.
- ◆ Alzheimer's Society works in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- ◆ Alzheimer's Society supports people to live well with dementia today and funds research to find a cure for tomorrow. We rely on voluntary donations to continue our vital work. You can donate now by calling 0845 306 0898 or visiting [www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk)
- ◆ Alzheimer's Society provides a National Dementia Helpline, the number is 0845 300 0336 or visit [www.alzheimers.org.uk](http://www.alzheimers.org.uk)



Founded in 1979 as the Alzheimer's Disease Society. Royal Patron: HRH Princess Alexandra, The Hon Lady Ogilvy KG GCVO, President Emeritus: Sir Jonathan Miller CBE, Chair: Alastair Bath CB, Vice Chair: Eileen Winston, Honorary Treasurer: John Groveson FCA CPA, Chief Executive: Jeremy Hughes. Registered office: Devon House, 58 St Katharine's Way, London E1W 1LB. Registered charity no. 296645. A company limited by guarantee and registered in England no. 2115499.

# MEMBER NEWS

## Would you like to share your news with us?

In 2012 we would like to dedicate a section of our newsletter to hearing about **You**.

Do you have any Good News Stories that you would like to share? Are you currently commemorating any special events? We would love to hear from any of our Member Groups. To include your stories in one of our newsletters please email your information to Vicki Ilic at [vickiilic@avcvs.org](mailto:vickiilic@avcvs.org) or call Vicki on 01773 512076.

## Amber Valley CVS - Social Media

You can now keep up to date with all our latest news and information by visiting us at:



Website: <http://www.avcvs.org/>



Amber Valley CVS Blog: <http://ambervalleycvs.wordpress.com/>



Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/avcvs>



Twitter: <http://twitter.com/avcvs>



E-Bulletin: <http://www.avcvs.org/bulletin.htm>

## Amber Valley CVS Services

### AVEDASS

Advice and support for adults or children who have witnessed or experienced domestic abuse.

### Befriending

A support service for the elderly and isolated people of Amber Valley using trained volunteers.

### CRB Disclosures

Groups or individuals requiring a CRB Check.

### Community Group Support

Advice support and guidance on funding, constitution, H&S and HR.

### Derbyshire LINK

Raise issues of concerns to do with health and social care from a local community or individual.

### Funding

Guidance, support and information on funding and funding applications.

### Help at Home

A domestic and gardening service for those that are elderly or disabled, helping to maintain their independence in their homes.

### Home from Hospital

Free short term befriending service to those over 50, who have just been discharged from hospital.

### Membership Services

Support for community groups requiring membership services, i.e. room hire, equipment hire, photocopying.

### Training

Free training opportunities and courses for community groups and volunteers.

### Volunteering

Information and guidance for individuals looking to volunteer in the Amber Valley area.



# GOOD NEWS STORY

## Amber Valley CVS Befriending Scheme



Amber Valley CVS have been successfully running the Befriending Service since 1998, with the aim of providing a friendly trained volunteer to visit isolated and vulnerable people living in their own homes to offer companionship and support.

One lady who has found the service to be very beneficial is Mary aged 84 years.

Mary first received the Home from Hospital service from Amber Valley CVS when she came out of hospital in February 2010. Home from Hospital is a short term support service that enables clients to adjust to being back at home. After having the service for six weeks it was agreed both with Mary and the Befriender that both parties wanted to continue the weekly visits. Mary and her Befriender Joan, a retired teacher, have been together ever since. Mary has unfortunately been back into hospital and when she came out she moved to a new flat. This was all a bit strange at first but everyone worked really hard to get her new flat comfortable. Mary feels very happy in her new place and is very glad that Joan can come and visit her there.

Mary is very lucky to have a supportive family who visit regularly as she finds it very difficult to get out and about, but having another person outside the family also has its appeal, "We talk non-stop and I like to find out about what Joan has been up to" Mary said. Two years on and Mary still says "it makes my day, I look forward to Joan coming, and don't you dare think of taking her away from me as I would miss it if it didn't happen".

So why become a Befriender? Well for Joan her experience is: - "It's about giving something back and I like to think that I can make a difference to someone's life. I can't believe that I have been coming so long, it doesn't feel like over two years and we still have lots to talk about".

**Amber Valley CVS** are urgently looking for volunteers to act as Befrienders to visit someone once a week for a chat and to help brighten a client's day. As little as one hour of your time could make all the difference. We have a number of people in the Amber Valley area who are waiting for someone to talk to. If you would like to know more about this service and how you can help, please ring 01773 512076 or call in to Amber Valley CVS, Market Place, Ripley.





## **Blend Youth Project Report**

A 'Report of Youth Engagement/Consultation Project' has been produced by the Blend Youth Project situated in Amber Valley.

Commissioned by Derbyshire LINK, the report sets out to complete a consultation of young people's views, experiences and suggestions surrounding health services.

The report included comments and recommendations from young people about their experiences of visiting GP surgeries. It is now available to view on the Derbyshire LINK website, alternatively call LINK to request a free copy to be sent by post.

## **Derbyshire Schools Workshops**

In addition to the report, LINK Community Involvement Worker, Helen Hart, has recently held workshops at a number of schools across Derbyshire including Ormiston Enterprise Academy in Ilkeston and Tibshelf Community School in Bolsover. In doing so Helen has been able to inform pupils of the role of Derbyshire LINK and how they can use it as a mechanism to improve their service from Health and Social Care. Helen was also able to gain an insight into the pupils' views on these services which she will use to formulate a report to be sent to providers and commissioners of the relevant services.

## **District Nurses in Erewash**

Over the past two years Derbyshire LINK has gathered a range of comments regarding services provided by District Nurses within Erewash. Comments, such as patients being unaware of a District Nurse making a home visit, highlighted cause for concern and were passed on to Derbyshire Community Health

Services (DCHS) to enable them to address these concerns.

A detailed response was received from the Head of Patient Experience and Partnerships for DCHS stating their concern of the highlighted issues and their willingness to work to resolve them. The response identified improved communication with GPs as one way of improving the service. It also stated several changes to the service to improve quality and experience such as, 'full electronic records which the GPs have access to so they are fully informed of the care the patient is receiving within the community.'

## **Nottingham University Hospitals**

A response has been received from the Head and Neck Directorate of Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust regarding a collective concern raised by Erewash Visually Impaired Group about the size of font used in appointment letters. Letters had been sent from the eye clinic of Queens Medical Centre, Nottingham in font size 11, as reported in the Summer Edition of the Amber Valley CVS Newsletter.

The response states, 'I am very pleased to confirm that now all out-patient letters to ophthalmology patients are printed in font size 14 as standard.'

Derbyshire LINK now have a place on the Sensory Impairment Patients and Public Involvement Group for Nottingham University Hospitals. If you have any comments regarding sensory impairment please get in touch and we will feed your comments into the group anonymously.

# AVEDASS

The AVEDASS team are currently supporting 24 young people who have witnessed or experienced Domestic Abuse.

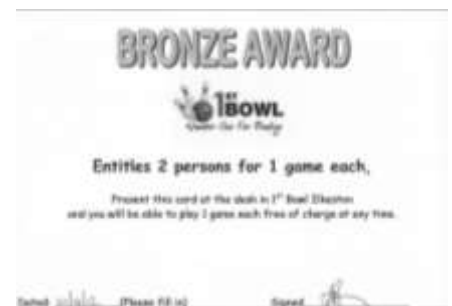
What we can offer at AVEDASS

- ◆ One to one support (Confidential) - A chance for you to talk about your worries.
- ◆ A source of advice - A listening ear, we can meet at school, home or in a café.
- ◆ A plan to keep you safe - Help build your confidence and self-esteem.
- ◆ Introduce you to other services and help you join local leisure activities.

To contact a member of the AVEDASS team please call 01773 512076

We continue to deliver the Domestic Abuse schools awareness programme throughout the Amber Valley and Erewash area. Once the programme has been completed the students are asked to design a poster of what they have learned from the Domestic Abuse Awareness lesson.

Working in partnership with Kirk Hallam MAT (Multi Agency Team), the team were able to donate 3 bowling tickets for free entry to Ilkeston Bowl with a complimentary drink and meal. The winning posters are below, they will also be displayed on our event boards around the county. The winning posters were designed by pupils at Kirk Hallam Secondary School.



1st



2nd



3rd

# HELP AT HOME NEWS



As part of measuring the success and quality of the Help at Home project, the team like to gain feedback from the clients. This ensures that we are delivering a high quality service which meets the needs of its users to enable them to live independently in their own home.

This feedback can form “good news stories” or “testimonials” which will help the promotion of the service and also allow the clients to give their views.

Here are a selection of the quotes gained:

- ◆ “All the workers are very nice and kind and I don’t know what I would do without them. Teresa in particular is very good; as a slightly more mature lady herself she really seems to understand what I need. I am very grateful for all you do as I am on my own with no family. Everyone is very kind and I am very pleased with the service.”
- ◆ “The girls who come to me are wonderful, and they all look after me so well. I can’t get out anymore unless someone comes and takes me out in my wheelchair, so it is lovely for me to have help around the house and some nice company.”
- ◆ “I am very pleased with the service from Help at Home. Catherine has established a very good relationship with my mother and mum looks forward to seeing her.”
- ◆ “My mother-in-law has been very reluctant to accept any kind of help around the house from us or anyone, and won’t have anyone in her house. The fact that she lets Anne in is a major step forward for us. Anne shops for her each week and because of this we know that she is now eating properly.”
- ◆ “Karen has been a god send – I don’t know how I managed before she started coming to me. I don’t think of her as my cleaner - I consider her to be a very helpful friend who has come to visit me”.
- ◆ “We really appreciate all that Cathy does for my Aunt, she always treats my Aunt with the utmost respect and she has a lovely caring nature”.

Since the start of 2012, Amber Valley CVS have successfully recruited an additional 7 Domestic Support Workers and 2 Gardening Support Workers.

All of the Help at Home workers are Police Checked, and receive a comprehensive induction programme and access to ongoing training throughout their employment.

This ensures that the project delivers a high quality service which is tailored to the clients needs.



**If you know of someone who is elderly or disabled and may benefit from the Help at Home service please contact the team on 01773 512076 for more information.**



# ADMINISTRATION

## Amber Valley CVS CRB Service

Amber Valley CVS offer a quick, efficient and affordable CRB Service to voluntary groups & charitable organisations who work with children and/or vulnerable adults.

If you are a voluntary organisation and would like to join our CRB Service contact Emma Rodgers on 01773 512076 or e-mail [CRB@avcvs.org](mailto:CRB@avcvs.org)

### New Changes to CRB Identity Checking

These changes will affect how you carry out your ID checking and may involve an additional cost.

Please view the guidance document, which can be found on our website: [www.avcvs.org/documents/CRB ID Guidance 2012.pdf](http://www.avcvs.org/documents/CRB_ID_Guidance_2012.pdf) so that you are fully prepared for the changes.

From 1st August 2012 we ceased accepting any CRB forms without a fully completed insert sheet. This insert is available to download from our website: [www.avcvs.org/documents/CRB New Insert 2012.pdf](http://www.avcvs.org/documents/CRB_New_Insert_2012.pdf)

If an External ID Validation Check is required, Amber Valley CVS will carry this out on your behalf, with our supplier. There will be a £10 charge for this service.

If you require Training for this new ID checking process, please contact us on 01773 512076 or email [CRB@avcvs.org](mailto:CRB@avcvs.org)

### CRB's are Changing

From the 10th September these changes will affect EVERYONE applying for a CRB check.

It is VITAL that you are aware of these changes, and take time to read and understand the information.

If you are a member of Amber Valley CVS CRB Service, we are offering Free Information Sessions.

If you would like more information or to book a place on any forthcoming information sessions please contact Emma Rodgers on 01773 512076 or email [CRB@avcvs.org](mailto:CRB@avcvs.org)

# SOCIAL VALUE

## Changing the way services are commissioned

Chris White MP was successful in getting a Private Members Bill passed by Parliament. The new Act will mean, for the first time, public bodies will have a duty to consider social value ahead of a procurement. Here he outlines the next steps and how NAVCA members can help.



“As I write this the results of this year’s ballot for Private Member’s Bill has been announced. Unfortunately, I haven’t been able to strike lucky again this year but this is a good time to reflect on the passage of the Social Value Act and what it means for voluntary and community organisations.

I believe that the Social Value Act has the potential to generate significant benefits for our communities – not only in improving the quality of our public services but also by helping more civil society organisations to deliver the services that we all use.

At present, it seems likely that the Act will be put into effect at the start of 2013.

This gives both government and civil society the opportunity to prepare the ground for the introduction of social value in public sector commissioning.

The Act is not prescriptive, but empowering. It relies on civil society organisations to take the initiative and use the potential of the Act to change the way that we commission services.

One of the key provisions of the Act is to ask public bodies to consider consultation when seeking to define what social value could be in the contracts they are designing. I hope all public bodies will see this as a duty to consult and civil society organisations should lobby hard to ensure that public bodies use the expertise and knowledge of the third sector when putting the Bill into action.

But there are a number of ways that NAVCA and its members will be able to play their role in the months ahead in championing this Act and I want to talk about three: information, education and communication.

### **Information**

Although the Social Value Act has become law and the passage of the Act has begun to trickle down to commissioners, there is still a lot more work to do to raise the profile of this new law and to inform all parts of the public sector that they need to start developing strategies to implement the Act’s principles.

There is a role for organisations on the ground. They need to raise this with their partners in local and central government and ensure that they understand the provisions of the Act.

We also need to spread the word amongst civil society organisations so that they are aware of the Act, so that they begin preparing to show how they maximise social value through delivering public services and are able to put pressure on public sector commissioners to use social value in designing contracts.

This information has been taken from NAVCA’s Newsletter - Circulation Issue 425

# SOCIAL VALUE

## Changing the way services are commissioned

The more information that we can get into the public sphere on the Act, the more impact that it can make and the more communities we can change.

### Education

Social value is not something new but many commissioners and civil society organisations may be unfamiliar with the approach. If we are going to a wider appreciation of social, economic and environmental value in designing public service contracts, then commissioners and civil society organisations need to be educated on how they can achieve this and what are the best methods.

My Act did not seek to detail what social value was or how it should be measured – I believe that needs to be done on a case by case basis depending on local circumstances. However we need to educate commissioners about the techniques they can use, how they should consult with civil society and how they can structure contracts to get the maximum benefit out of them.

NAVCA and other organisations need to help create the framework for that education through seminars and training courses, so that we can get civil society organisations and commissioners working together and fully signed up to implementing social value across the public sector.

### Communication

One of the most effective ways that we can promote the social value approach is through best practice examples. If commissioners and civil society organisations can see this approach working in practice, then I believe that this will inspire greater use of social value and help to get the most of this legislation.

NAVCA and its members need to keep the lines of communication open, sharing success stories and spreading good news. NAVCA also needs to work with partners such as ACEVO, NCVO and Social Enterprise UK to ensure that we mobilise the all of civil society and get as many examples shared across the sector.

For many years, civil society organisations have been calling on the Government to change procurement policy to reflect social, economic and environmental benefits. Now we have managed to get that change. But it is up to organisations on the ground and the organisations that represent them to drive that culture change across the public sector.

I am confident, however, that if we work together that we can open up more public service contracts to the civil society and with it change our communities for the better.”

Visit Circulation Extra and find information and briefings on social value from NAVCA’s Local Commissioning and Procurement team, including a case study from East Sussex of social value in practice.

**[www.navca.org.uk/circulation](http://www.navca.org.uk/circulation)**

This information has been taken from NAVCA’s Newsletter - Circulation Issue 425

# ADMINISTRATION

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