

## Keeping You Informed – COVID 19(2)

### Latest information for groups

1.04.2020

#### **Funding for Voluntary Groups – one stop shop.**

There has been so much information circulated in the past couple of weeks about the financial support available for voluntary organisations who are being affected by Covid 19, particularly those who deliver front line services. To make it easier to find out about the funds available the Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA) has gathered all this information in one place – the **Funding Wales** website, which is continually being updated. Click here to access the website <https://funding.cymru/pages/coronavirus-latest/>, you will need to register on the site, which only takes a few minutes.

#### **Charities Aid Foundation Emergency Fund**

CAF has launched this rapid response Fund to help smaller charitable organisations affected by the impact of Covid-19. Grants of up to £10,000 will help them to continue to deliver much needed support to our communities across the UK. You can apply for unrestricted funding for core costs, staffing, volunteer costs, supplies and equipment, communications or other critical charitable areas. You must be able to describe how an emergency grant will improve the situation for your organisation and community.

This is intended as a rapid response fund, and they aim to make payments to selected organisations within 14 days of application.

<https://www.cafonline.org/charities/grantmaking/caf-coronavirus-emergency-fund>

#### **Corona Virus Resilience Fund**

Administered by Community Foundation Wales, this fund has been established to assist groups and organisations providing services and support to individuals and families, whether singly or collectively, affected by the Coronavirus pandemic.

Primarily, they will provide support for the following (this is not an exhaustive list):

- activities that help vulnerable people who are self-isolating (the elderly, people with pre-existing medical conditions etc)
- ongoing needs of vulnerable people to ensure that their health and wellbeing are maintained
- support for foodbanks and organisations working to combat hardship caused by the pandemic including child hunger
- community response coordination
- volunteer costs for those responding to the effects of the pandemic
- additional costs of working remotely and adapting services delivered in the wider community
- additional help as required for emotional and mental health needs and bereavement support

Secondarily, and if funds allow, we will provide support to:

- counter the loss of contract income and fundraising for organisations providing support for vulnerable groups

### WHAT GRANTS ARE AVAILABLE?

- Grants of between £500 and £2,000 are available for groups with an annual income of up to £200,000

### WHO CAN APPLY?

Charities, constituted community groups and social enterprises running activities to support the community through the impact of the Coronavirus pandemic in Wales.

Grants will only be made to groups and organisations that can evidence that they are working safely and adhering to government guidance regarding the virus.

<https://communityfoundationwales.org.uk/grants/wales-coronavirus-resilience-fund/#>

### Funder Responses

Many organisations will be in process of delivering a funded project which has stopped due to the virus. Here is a link to the statements from many of the major funders. They are committed to supporting their grant recipients by being flexible with grants and reporting deadlines and listening to the needs of their recipients. We suggest that you contact your funder directly to discuss your project.

<https://wcva.cymru/funder-responses-in-light-of-the-covid-19-virus/>

### European Funded Projects

For those of you who are delivering European funded projects, WEFO have issued an FAQ document for project managers for the European Structural Funds programme on the impact of coronavirus. The document is available [here](#)

### WCVA Bulletin

Providing an update with the latest information for the voluntary sector in Wales, which includes a link to sign up for a daily e- bulletin with updates on issues affecting the sector.

<https://wcva.cymru/coronavirus-statement/>

These are some of the links from recent bulletins:

- **Charity Tax Group** has created [a hub of advice and guidance for charities](#).
- **Welsh Government** has announced [£24m in funding to support the voluntary sector](#).
- The **ICO** [has written a blog](#) to clarify some of the basics of data protection to help groups apply the laws during the Covid-19 pandemic.
- In case you missed it: last week we released [this guidance for NHS staff who manage volunteers](#).

## **Charity Commission**

Updated guidance from the Charity Commission on Covid-19  
[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) guidance for the charity sector](#)

Guidance from the Charity SORP on Covid-19

- <https://www.charitySORP.org/media/648486/sorp-covid-19.pdf>

## **Pembrokeshire Response**

A one stop shop for information on how to access help or volunteer to help others during the coronavirus pandemic has gone live in Pembrokeshire.

The Community Coordination Hub (<https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus-covid-19-community-information/community-hub>) The website – which will continue to be updated - features information for those who need help, those who wish to volunteer and links to community coronavirus support groups. The Hub can also be contacted on 01437 776301 or emailing [communitycovid19@pembrokeshire.gov.uk](mailto:communitycovid19@pembrokeshire.gov.uk)

PCC is working alongside PAVS to identify the groups and networks that are developing and to build trusted relationships so that the Hub can refer people in the confidence that they will be supported to remain safe and well in their home.

At present the Hub's working hours are Monday to Friday, 9am – 5pm, but these will be reviewed to manage demand and provide a timely response. Any calls or emails that are received by the County Council Contact Centre will be referred through to the Hub.

PAVS is also developing guidance to support community led groups and volunteers with some practical issues such as:

- Safeguarding and DBS checks
- Volunteer identification
- Handling of cash
- Publicity
- Compliance with Public Health guidance

Updates on the coronavirus situation in Pembrokeshire are at <https://www.pembrokeshire.gov.uk/coronavirus>

## **Do you need more Volunteers?**

Volunteering Wales now has a new search category for COVID-19, so if you are specifically looking for volunteers to help out during this time you can find it in the drop down menu in 'Main Category'. You can adapt an existing role (for example if your current role is for volunteer drivers and you need more drivers you can just go in and change the category), or copy an existing role and make any necessary changes.

Other ways for volunteers to find COVID-19 related opportunities includes using key words like; **covid, virus, corona, or pandemic**, or add the words as **TAGS** to the opportunity.

If you need any support with the Volunteering Wales website please do not hesitate to contact us [volunteering@pavs.org.uk](mailto:volunteering@pavs.org.uk), if you include your contact number we can call you back to talk you through any issues you are having.

### **Employers Guidance – update**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-to-employers-and-businesses-about-covid-19>

- it includes information on the :

[The Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme](#)

[Self-employment Income Support Scheme](#)

### **Coronavirus & Your Charity – Key Legal Issues to Consider**

- The NCVO and Bates & Wells solicitors have produced a free webinar available on demand. [Bates & Wells Legal Issues Briefing](#)

The session includes :

- HR & employment law
- Contract & Insurance
- Legal considerations when managing volunteers
- Meetings & decision making.

- **Russell Cooke Solicitors** [have released a briefing for charities](#) on a number of legal points

### **Working from home – making the most from technology**

Most of us are working from home at the moment and necessity means we have all had to improve our IT skills and make use of technology more than ever. PAVS' staff have been making use of the free Zoom software to keep in touch with each other. The following information is from Sandy Adirondak and gives information on Zoom and other software available which will make keeping in touch easier.

- The **Small Charities Coalition** has produced a page on using Zoom for remote working, with links to these publications by CAST (Centre for Acceleration of Social Technology).  
<https://tinyurl.com/r93bkxo>
- How to stay connected when working remotely (4pp)
- Getting started with Zoom (6pp)

- Getting started with Skype Video (8pp)
- Getting started with Google Hangouts (8pp)

CAST practical guide to remote meetings (22pp of slides). Includes participation, running the meeting, hand gestures, tools we use, and technical setup

*Video calls with Zoom.* (Co-production Network for Wales)

<https://tinyurl.com/yxywlqkp>

- How to set yourself up to dial in to a Zoom call
- 10 tips for participants in group video calls
- Zoom functions: Where to find what
- Hot tips for new hosts of group video calls.
- Getting the most from remote working.

- The **Chartered Institute of Personnel & Development** (CIPD) has produced a quick and easy overview of management, legal and survival basics.

<https://tinyurl.com/tgv5utz>

Includes:

- 10 top tips for healthy remote working
- 10 top tips on homeworking legal and contractual considerations
- 10 top tips for effective online meetings
- 10 top tips for managing remote teams
- 10 top tips for working remotely

- **ACAS** has produced the following guidance to help employers.

<https://www.acas.org.uk/working-from-home>

Includes:

- Preparing for homeworking
- Health and safety: Employer responsibilities, employee responsibilities, looking after mental and physical health
- Equipment and technology
- Checking how systems are working
- Setting clear expectations
- Keeping in touch
- Pay and terms and conditions of employment
- Working from home and childcare
- Expenses
- Insurance, mortgage or rent agreements