

Capacitybuilders Public Statement : National Support Services



Wednesday 5th September 2007

Capacitybuilders has agreed to further simplify and streamline the provision of national support services, following further feedback from the sector and key stakeholders on the proposed framework for their future delivery. A special advisory team, including key representatives of the sector, has recommended the changes to the Chief Executive and Board, who agreed them at a specially convened meeting in August.

As a result, Capacitybuilders will commission directly with organisations able to deliver the national programmes we have identified for 2008/11 rather than grouping them under strategic themes. This will ensure that a greater proportion of available resources get to the organisations involved in direct delivery.

There will be nine national support programmes covering:-

- Performance Management
- Income Generation
- Equalities and Diversity
- Modernising Volunteering
- Collaboration and Partnership
- Adapting to social change
- Marketing and Communications
- Campaigning and Advocacy
- Leadership and Governance



The advertisement relating to all nine programmes will be published on the Capacitybuilders website and in Third Sector on Wednesday 26 September. Applications will be required by 7 November. The advisory and assessment team will make recommendations on 15 November and preferred bidders chosen by the end of November.

Capacitybuilders will then work with preferred bidders to finalise 3 year business plans, ensure alignment with local, sub-regional and regional plans and address any transitional issues in relation to those new services and previous similar work undertaken by the national hubs.

ENDS.

Further Information.

National support services advisory team membership :

Chair; Julia Kaufmann – Capacitybuilders Board member
Elizabeth Balgobin – Chief Executive London Voluntary Service Council
David Tyler – Chief Executive Community Matters
Fran Beckett – Chief Executive Church Urban Fund
Margaret Bolton – Capacitybuilders Board member
Jon Fox – Director of Policy & Strategy Capacitybuilders
Simon Hebditch – Chief Executive Capacitybuilders

The procurement process :

Capacitybuilders views the process as a sponsorship or granting exercise. The Office of Government Commerce (OGC) recognises that it is common now for grants to be awarded following competitive bids, with a formal grant agreement, detailing roles and responsibilities, service level agreements and key performance indicators . The approach by Capacitybuilders will be one of EU Treaty based principles of non-discrimination, equal treatment, transparency, mutual recognition, and proportionality, and some degree of advertising - appropriate to the scale of the grants and the market it is trying to stimulate. This is in line with the UK Government objective of receiving value for money in all public procurement, not just that which is covered by the EU directives.

For further details contact :

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For further details on Capacitybuilders visit : www.capacitybuilders.org.uk