



**Community &
Voluntary Services**
cheshire east

Thursday Thoughts

16th April 2020

Welcome to the Meeting

Welcome – Overview of the Session

- HR Overview and Qs
- Support to enable Furloughed and other Charity staff to volunteer
- Overview of what we know at the moment
- National – Financial Support
- Local – Financial Support

Key Issues - Discussion –

- Currently everyone is muted
- Ask Questions through the Q&A box
- If you want to speak or respond raise your hand and I will unmute you

HR Overview

Warren Moores

Associate Solicitor

Employment Law & HR Group

SAS Daniels LLP

HR Overview

ACAS - Furlough leave: the HMRC Job Retention Scheme' two additional dates:

[Tuesday 28 April - 10.30am - 11.30am](#) | [View details](#)

[Thursday 30 April - 2pm - 3pm](#) | [View details](#)

<https://www.acas.org.uk/webinars>

Recording of recent webinar

Advice – Webinar – Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/recording/viewRecording/5193030107976045313/4178211662018757647/kris.walton@cvsce.org.uk?registrantKey=4609987679088789006&type=ATTENDEEEMAILRECORDINGLINK>

Charity Staff Volunteering

Online system

Furloughed or other staff – list what their skills are and what times they are available

Organisations register and then you contact the individuals to see if they want to do what you need.

This could include a range of tasks. Will also show if they are only able to do remote or if they are able to go out.

We are looking at two options at the moment – Time to Spare and DoitLife

Poll 2

Support with Payments

Contactless / Card / Telephone Payments

Have got an option for it being through CVS or finding way to support you to purchase your own

Poll 1

Nationally – Financial Support

A total of £750m in new funding was announced for charities responding to the crisis in the UK.

£370m will go to small and medium-sized charities, channelled through the National Lottery Community Fund (NLCF) and other organisations. It will support locally-focused charities doing most during the outbreak.

Another £360m will be allocated to charities providing essential services and supporting people during the crisis. Some is specifically earmarked for hospices, St John Ambulance to support the NHS and Citizens Advice to allow more staff to provide advice. Children's charities and victims' charities were also mentioned.

The government will also match public donations to the BBC's Big Night In charity appeal, with a minimum donation of £20m to the National Emergencies Trust.

Nationally Financial Support

The National Lottery Community Fund

Existing Lottery Funding

All funding decisions made for the next six months will prioritise getting funding to groups best placed to support their communities at this vital time focusing initially on existing grant-holders and applicants.

They will prioritise:

- Organisations supporting people who are at high risk from COVID-19
- Organisations supporting communities most likely to face increased demand and challenges as a direct result of COVID-19
- Organisations with high potential to support communities with the direct and indirect impact of COVID-19
- If you would like to put in an application that is not related to COVID-19, you are still welcome to do so.

New Government Funding Through the lottery

- Information still to be released

Nationally Financial Support

Working at home

From 6 April 2020 your employer can pay you up to £6 a week (£26 a month) to cover your additional costs if you have to work from home. For previous tax years the rate is £4 a week (£18 a month).

You will not need to keep any records

This also covers volunteers who are regularly volunteering from home for you.

Locally

Cheshire East Council – People helping People

- They are ensuring support is being provided to people who have asked for it, either by their staff or referring them on to local VCFS organisations
- Volunteers are started to be contacted with the aim for them to support local Virtual Volunteer Networks
 - They are developing 8 Virtual Volunteer networks covering the Care Community footprints with a single point of contact who will manage referrals from the People Helping People scheme
 - Good practice guidelines have been developed and these include a letter that volunteers can use which has been endorsed by CEC, CCG and Cheshire Police
 - Expecting these to be live imminently - Some of you may be involved in these already.

Locally

Funding

- We are encouraging Cheshire East Council to release details of their funding plans to support the sector
- Cheshire Community Foundation and Steve Morgan Foundation along with Town and Parish Councils continue to distribute funds
- Please promote Cheshire Community Foundations Appeal Fund – We will be contacting organisations and asking them to support this as well.

<http://cheshirecommunityfoundation.org.uk/community-foundation-launches-cheshire-and-warrington-covid-19-response-fund/>

Meet the Funder Event – 29th April 1-4pm Virtual Event

<https://www.cvsce.org.uk/meet-funder>

Headline Summary Data - The results from the survey show that currently:

77% of organisations are still delivering a service to the community

The largest support group currently is, Everyone however there are a range including people over 70, those with underlying health conditions, mental health issues and people with learning or physical disabilities

73% said that their finances would be affected by COVID-19,

50% expected donations to be significantly down and 31% expected trading income to be significantly down. Positively only 5% felt that funders were withdrawing funding.

Some groups were unsure what the financial impact may be or expect it to be felt in the future.

Other issues were;

- Fundraising events have had to be cancelled
- Projects and grant funding have been delayed
- They expected a loss of membership fees
- Some are starting to see their reserves significantly impacted

41% can be contacted by new volunteers

Those not taking on were:

- were utilising their existing staff or volunteers, or
- didn't have the capacity as staff were furloughed.

45% can be contacted by residents for support

The responses highlighted the change to remote services and that they can only support those they were set up to support and not different groups

When asked how much funding they expected to lose over 12 weeks the responses varied from figures to text explaining their financial position

38 responses included a figure which totaled an expected loss of £3,998,150

1 organisation was expecting a £3million loss

With this removed the total expected loss was £998,150 with the average expected funding loss of £26,977 per organisation.

27% stated they may close within the next 12 months with 14% potentially facing closure between 1-6 months

38% where planning to furlough staff with 24% furloughing up to 50% and 16% up to 100% of their staff.

Locally



- Online Directory of Services
<https://www.cvsce.org.uk/directories/vcfs>
- Please use this and make sure your services are on there

Group Discussion

Locally

DBS Checks – What roles are needed –

Only those providing personal care or that are designed to support Vulnerable Adults or Children and so would have been regulated before Covid

Business Cover for Volunteers – This is not needed for COVID support roles.

Good practice advice - <https://www.cvsce.org.uk/covid-19-coronavirus-information-and-guidance-voluntary-sector-organisations>

Volunteering and Benefits – let us know if you are aware of anyone who experiences problems.

Please share any resources