

Westminster Social Policy Forum Keynote Seminar
The Third Sector and the Big Society – practicalities, policy and challenges

Timing: Morning, Thursday, 22nd March 2012

Venue: Wellcome Trust Lecture Hall, Royal Society, 6-9 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1Y 5AG



**WESTMINSTER
SOCIAL POLICY
FORUM**

Agenda subject to change

- 8.30 - 9.00 Registration and coffee
- 9.00 - 9.05 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Baroness Thornton, Shadow Minister for Health and Equalities Lead; and Secretary, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Social Enterprise
- 9.05 - 9.35 **The future for the Third Sector: challenges and opportunities**
Jane Hobson, Head of Policy, Charity Commission
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.35 - 9.45 **The future of charity funding**
Dharmendra Kanani, England Director, Big Lottery Fund
- 9.45 - 9.55 **Access to investment: new models of social finance and making Social Impact Bonds work for the Third Sector**
Toby Eccles, Development Director, Social Finance
- 9.55 - 10.05 **The view from the small charity sector**
Debra Allcock Tyler, Chair, Small Charities Coalition
- 10.05 - 10.25 Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.25 - 10.45 **Review of the Charities Act 2006: priorities for change and next steps**
In light of the ongoing review of the Charities Act 2006, is reform of the Act needed, and why? What should be the key priorities for reform, such as reducing regulatory burden? Does more need to be done to build and maintain public confidence in the charity sector?
Baroness Howe of Idlicote, Chair, Charity Law Review Advisory Group, National Council for Voluntary Organisations
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.45 - 10.50 **Chairman's closing remarks**
Baroness Thornton, Shadow Minister for Health and Equalities Lead; and Secretary, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Social Enterprise
- 10.50 - 11.15 Coffee
- 11.15 - 11.20 **Chairman's opening remarks**
Baroness Hamwee of Richmond upon Thames, Member, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Social Enterprise
- 11.20 - 11.40 **Next steps for Big Society Capital: developing a market for social investment**
Nick O'Donohoe, Chief Executive Officer, Big Society Capital
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 - 12.30 **The Big Society: implementation and impact**
Perspectives on the impact of the Big Society agenda for communities, businesses and the third sector. What does the Big Society and the Government's localism agenda mean for community participation and for partnership working for national and local charities? How might business practice be affected in large and small businesses? With much discussion about the Big Society focusing on the role of the social sector, what should be the role of the private sector, and does the Big Society agenda open up new opportunities for business? What role should local groups have in running local services, and does the Community Right to Challenge provide sufficient scope for local groups to exercise influence on how services are run? Should 'Social Value' be taken into account when commissioning services, and how might it be evaluated? How should social value be balanced with financial concerns? In a period of economic constraint, is sufficient funding available to support greater community engagement and activism? In areas of poverty or low social capital, what kind of barriers to community participation typically exist – and how should they be tackled?
Simon Blake, Chair, Compact Voice
Bob Thust, Head of Corporate Responsibility, Deloitte
Julia Slay, Senior Researcher and Social Policy Programme Co-ordinator, nef (the new economics foundation)
Andrew Conlan-Trant, Director, Labour Market Services, Rehab Group and Director, Rehab JobFit
Ralph Michell, Director of Policy, ACEVO
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.30 - 12.55 **Taking forward the Big Society agenda**
What are the next steps for taking forward the Big Society agenda across Government? How will the rollout of the Big Society agenda be monitored and evaluated?
Hülya Mustafa, Deputy Director, Big Society Strategy, Department for Communities and Local Government
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 - 13.00 **Chairman's and Westminster Social Policy Forum closing remarks**
Baroness Hamwee of Richmond upon Thames, Member, All-Party Parliamentary Group on Social Enterprise
Lizzie Sayer, Senior Producer, Westminster Social Policy Forum