



promoting voluntary action



A message from Jo Ash, SVS CEO

Dear Colleagues,

I hope this finds you well and you enjoyed some R&R and a suitably socially distanced sojourn in the sun over the bank holiday weekend.

A week is a long time in politics and even more so during this crisis as behind the scenes activity moves at frenetic pace and take up masses of time whilst we simultaneously live life in a weirdly suspended state of animation.

SVS continues to maintain the SO:Linked website www.solinked.org.uk as the main source of information for the public and frontline staff on services and support available to help people during this time so please ensure your information is on there and kept up to date and let us know of any local resources that you come across that are available to add.

Two key areas we have been working on are volunteer brokerage and coordinating localised support to add capacity to SO:Linked's team of community navigators. This is based around the six "cluster areas" that the NHS and our Local Solutions Groups

have been working within (see map below).

These new Community Volunteer Coordinating Groups will assist in ensuring help is available for practical and emotional support such as shopping, pharmacy collections, and tackling social isolation at a local level, by working closely with voluntary sector and mutual aid organisations on the ground. Referrals will be directed through the SCC Covid-19 Helpline and SO:Linked Community Navigators.

For this initiative to be successful we are looking for additional help to form the core teams in each area. If you would like to get involved please email me personally j.ash@southamptonvs.org.uk and include Community Leadership Volunteer in the subject line. We aim to get these going next week so an immediate reply would be appreciated even if only as an expression of interest at this stage. If you have, or are, an underutilised staff member who can be redeployed to assist or with some funding could offer this as an alternative to furloughing staff we would be interested to hear from you as well as from experienced community organisers with DBS checks in place.

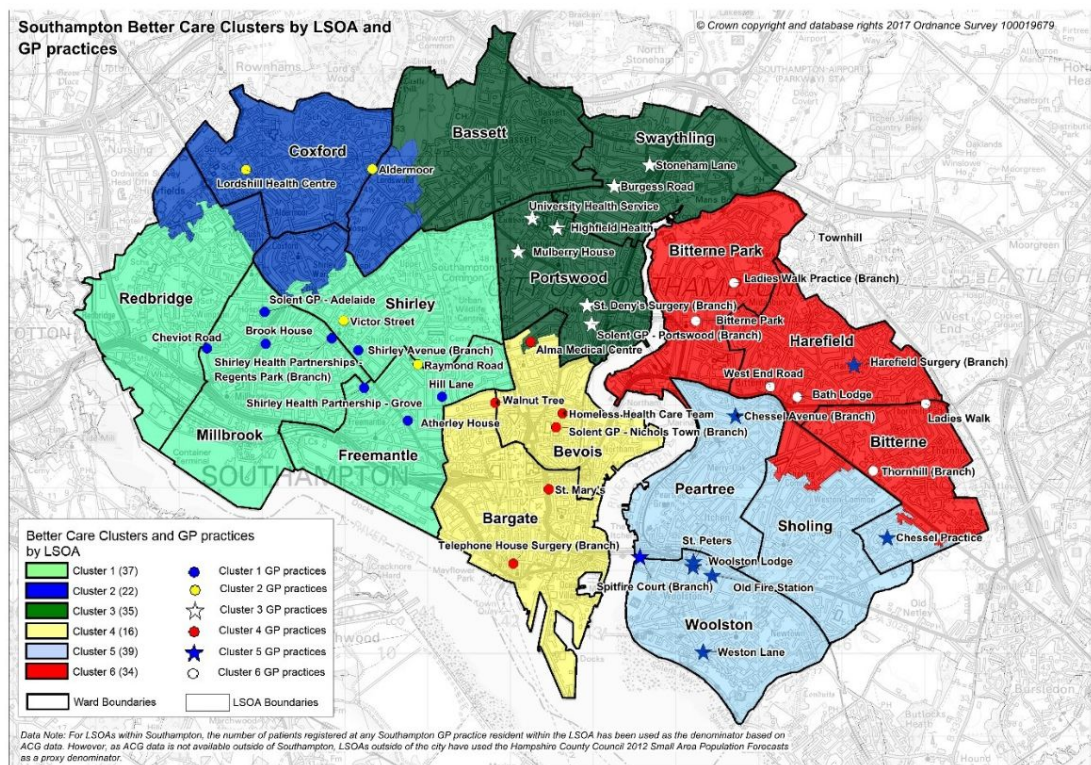
In terms of volunteering we are busy working on a Covid-19 volunteer brokerage system to sit within our Covid-19 directory, which is growing by the day. It is truly humbling to witness the amount of help the local sector, and self-organised mutual aid groups, are offering across the city. Our role is to offer support, guidance and coordination to ensure help gets to where it's needed safely and promptly.

Let us hope that when this too passes, as it surely will, that the kindness and generosity of volunteers and voluntary groups leaves us a legacy of stronger and more resilient communities than when we started facing this

together.

We should be considering our longer term sustainability and planning for recovery as well as for our immediate response so I hope the information in these special SVS mailings is helpful in keeping you informed and involved

Stay safe, stay well and stay positive – best wishes Jo



Support for Charities and Community Groups



Top resources for evaluating during a crisis:

NCP are bringing together resources and case studies from across the sector, to support you with evaluation during COVID-19.

- [Tips on adapting evaluation during coronavirus](#)
- [Tips on updating funders on project changes and evaluation](#)
- [Tips for evaluating helplines](#)
- [Contact forms for recording evidence about remote services](#)

If you know of any useful resources for supporting evaluation during COVID-19, please [get in touch](#).



Supporting BAME communities

The Ubele Initiative has set up [a new webpage](#) about the impact of COVID-19 on BAME communities and the charities that work with them. The team is providing a strategic response as well as practical support to BAME communities, which it believes will face disproportionate impacts of the outbreak and are not being adequately considered in decisions being made by government and civil society leadership. The website includes the statement that the Ubele initiative has released to government, case studies, webinars and research into the impact of COVID-19 on BAME community and voluntary organisations. [Visit the website now](#).



How DBS is supporting the fight against coronavirus

The government has updated its guidance on how the DBS is supporting the fight against coronavirus. On the dedicated webpage you can find a collection of factsheets, updated guidelines and news stories related to DBS and coronavirus. These include FAQs, updated ID checking guidelines and information about Enhanced DBS checks for healthcare professionals.

Take a look: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/covid-19-how-dbs-is-supporting-the-fight-against-coronavirus>



Eligibility checklist for government business support

This checklist offers an at-a-glance view of which type of businesses and organisations can qualify for the different support measures offered by the government throughout the coronavirus pandemic. This may be useful when supporting SMEs, non-profits and social enterprises.

[Take a look](#)



Free business support for charities

Cranfield Trust provides free tailored business support to voluntary organisations. During this challenging time all its services are being offered remotely, including one-to-one telephone support from experts on topics such as finance, communication and business contingency planning, tailored HR and employment advice, management consultancy and leadership mentoring.

Email admin@cranfieldtrust.org or visit cranfieldtrust.org for more details.



UK Finance: Making payments safely during lockdown

Many people will be relying on others to make purchases for them during lockdown, whether it be relatives, neighbours, carers or volunteers. Whoever it is, it is important to take steps to keep money safe when providing them with the means to pay, or

reimbursing them, for any purchases or transactions made on your behalf. Particularly as criminals are looking at new ways to target people during the COVID-19 crisis. UK Finance has set out the different ways that payments can be made and the precautions that should be taken to protect money. Take a look:

<https://www.ukfinance.org.uk/covid-19-making-payments-safely-lockdown>.



Resources for autistic people and families

For some autistic people of all ages, the effects of the coronavirus outbreak including cancellation of events and changes to work habits, could trigger intense stress and lead to a meltdown or a shut down.

Therefore, the National Autistic Society has collected a series of useful resources that autistic people and their families can use during this time of changes. These can be found on the website, please share:

<https://www.autism.org.uk/services/helplines/coronavirus/resources/helpful-resources.aspx>



FAQs from Carers UK

The coronavirus outbreak is a difficult and uncertain time, particularly if you are responsible for the welfare of others. Carers UK has brought together the questions they have most frequently been asked by carers, to help address the main concerns and help put carers' minds at rest, reassuring them that they're not alone and guiding them to what support there is to help.

Please share this resource:

<https://www.carersuk.org/help-and-advice/coronavirus-covid-19/coronavirus-further-support>.



In light of recent events, Aaron's Department Team have created a training course to help organisations keep their employees updated on the latest guidelines and precautions regarding COVID-19. For this, type of training course, we would usually charge, but due to the severity of the issue, we have made it free for every organisation. If you are a current customer just log in and enrol your staff. If you are not a customer of ours, no problem you can also have it free no catches. What your team will learn with the course:

- How to Contain the Spread.
- How to Properly Wash Your Hands.
- The Correct Use of PPE.
- The Symptoms of Coronavirus.
- What To Do If You Show Symptoms.
- Fake News Regarding Coronavirus.
- How To Properly Self-Isolate.

We will update the course as changes in Government guidelines occur and new information is released. The course is accessible to every organisation, so please feel free to share it with those who you think may find it useful. To access the course, please click the following link: <https://www.aaronsdepartment.com>

Covid-19 Guidance

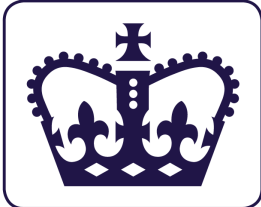


Warnings and advice about COVID-19 scams

Unscrupulous criminals are exploiting fears about COVID-19 to prey on members of the public, particularly older and vulnerable people who are isolated from family and friends. National Trading Standards is warning people to remain vigilant following a rise in coronavirus-related scams that seek to benefit from the public's concern and uncertainty over COVID-

19.

Friends Against Scams has issued guidance on the particular types of scams related to COVID-19 that have been identified. These include doorstep crime, online scams, refund scams, counterfeit goods plus several more. [You can read the guidance here.](#)



Charity Commission guidance to help with running your charity during the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak.

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) guidance for the charity sector](#)



Department of Health and Social Care information for people who are caring, unpaid, for friends or family during the coronavirus outbreak.

[Find out more](#)



Useful legal information for charities from Anthony Collins Solicitors

<https://www.anthonycollins.com/media/3901/covid19-emerging-issues-for-charities.pdf>

Digital News



Free online resource helps charities to keep remote working systems secure

With more charities working from home than ever before, new technologies are needed to keep your systems and data secure.

[Find out more](#)



The tools and technology that can make your charity accessible | 23rd April | 13:00 - 14:00 | online

We welcome Elena Córdova Russ, Customer Success Manager Financial Services and Cassandra Marrero, Teams Product Marketing Manager from Microsoft to provide you with the knowledge and skills to implement accessibility technology into your organisation.

[Join here](#)

Funding



YOUR COUNTY NEEDS YOU: GRANTS WILL SUPPORT CHARITABLE SECTOR IN FIGHT AGAINST COVID-19

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Foundation (HiWCF) is partnering with the NHS and Action Hampshire to provide a fund of £100,000 to enable the charitable sector to continue to play a vital role in supporting local communities affected by coronavirus.

Voluntary organisations or community groups requiring financial support to help them respond positively to the crisis can apply for a grant from the NHS Fund on the HiWCF website: <https://www.hiwcf.com/grants/>

HiWCF will be administering grants of between £1,000 to £10,000 for a wide range of support - for example, expenses for volunteers to carry out essential shopping or prescription collection trips for those at high risk of catching the virus, or supporting foodbanks to provide essential supplies and toiletry parcels for the most

vulnerable. Alternatively the funds could support voluntary organisations involved in transporting essential items such as parts to build ventilators, or befrienders providing a helpline and listening ear for those self-isolating without support.

Grants will be made available to organisations and groups providing innovative and resourceful services that will support the NHS in its battle against coronavirus, by perhaps providing drop-in centres to enable medical professionals to carry out testing, or groups that can supply suitably qualified staff to enable DBS checks to be carried out on volunteers.

Grant Cornwell MBE, Chief Executive at HIWCF

commented, “This vital funding from the NHS will support the smaller charities and community groups that are working incredibly hard to support local people whose lives have been impacted by coronavirus and we hope this will help some hospital beds to be freed up, and some people will be able to stay in their own homes. We are asking our network of community and charitable groups to help the NHS to make a difference, and if a small grant of £1,000 means they can keep volunteers out on the road helping vulnerable people in these unprecedented times, then this is the perfect funding for them.”

Sue Dovey, Chief Executive at Action Hampshire

said “It is critical at this time to enable local voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations to continue their vital work. This emergency fund will enable that to happen and Action Hampshire is delighted to support it.”

Ros Hartley, Executive Director of Strategy and Transformation for the Hampshire and Isle of Wight Partnership of Clinical Commissioning Groups

said: “NHS staff have received a huge amount of gratitude and appreciation recently, and we are deeply grateful for that. But we are also acutely aware that this is a team effort, and that we need to support each other. There are so many people and organisations out

there doing amazing and vital work - we wanted to make sure we were doing our bit to help them, just as they are helping our staff and the people who rely on them for care.”

HIWCF is also inviting local businesses, families and individuals to support the ‘We’re All Together’ community campaign to tackle coronavirus by making donations via the HIWCF website virginmoneygiving.com/fund/AllTogether



Chancellor Announces Lifeline For Charities

Chancellor, Rishi Sunak, has announced a £750m package designed to support struggling charities during the Coronavirus pandemic.

This follows concerns that some charities are facing huge financial challenges, with income streams such as charity shops, fundraising events and public donations being significantly impacted.

The support announced includes:

- £370m of funding that will support small, local charities working with vulnerable people. In England this support will be provided through organisations like the National Lottery Communities Fund. £60m of this will be allocated to Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- £360m (cash grants) available directly to charities who are providing essential services and supporting vulnerable people, as we battle COVID-19. £200m of this will go to supporting hospices. The rest will go to organisations like St John’s Ambulance, Citizens Advice Bureau, as well as charities supporting vulnerable children, victims of domestic abuse or disabled people.
- The Government will match pound for pound whatever the public donates to the BBC ‘Big Night In’ charity appeal on 23rd April, starting with at least £20m to the National Emergencies Trust appeal.

This is welcome news for the charity sector, which we hope will ease the financial strain on lots of charities and support other measures such as the

[Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme \(CJRS\).](#)

As with all of the financial measures the Government has been announcing it will take a little while for the details around eligibility and applying to be made available, we will keep you updated.

Please contact your TC partner today on **0330 088 7111** for support and guidance on accessing the funds and grants available to your charity.

Kind regards

TC Group

Coronavirus - if you want to discuss Government funding, HR options, mortgage holidays or tax breaks please contact us now. More information is also available in our [COVID-19 Hub](#).

Trades Against The Virus

Trades against the virus is a construction industry campaign to boost the stocks of food in the nation's food banks in preparation for the escalating public health crisis. [Find out how you can do your part.](#)



A useful round-up of Covid-19 funding opportunities from our friends at Action Hampshire

Crisis - Emergency Grant

Crisis has established an emergency grants fund for organisations that have expanded their provision to meet the current needs of people experiencing homelessness. Grants of up to £5,000 for short-term responses; and up to £50,000 to fund long-term needs and potential expansion or change in service delivery.

[Apply here](#)

Elton John Aids Foundation - Covid Emergency Fund

The Elton John AIDS Foundation is accepting applications from local community-based organisations. Proposals must address specific challenges in relation to COVID-19 for people already living with or at severe risk of HIV/AIDS.

[Apply here](#)

Fashion and Textile Children's Trust – Grants for families financially affected by Coronavirus

Grants are available to help parents and carers who have worked in the UK fashion or textile industry and whose household income has reduced as a result of the coronavirus outbreak.

[Apply here](#)

Barclays Foundation – Coronavirus Fund

The Barclays Foundation will be giving out £100 million - half of in the form of direct funding for charities, while the other half is a commitment to match employees' donations, including senior figures in the corporate pledging a third of their salary. We don't yet know how the funding can be accessed, but will keep you posted

[Apply here](#)

The National Lottery Heritage Fund - Emergency Fund

£50million fund to support the heritage sector as an immediate response to the coronavirus (COVID-19) outbreak. Grants of between £3,000 and £50,000 are available to organisations which have received funding in the past or are a current grantee.

[Apply here](#)

The Prince's Trust and NatWest Enterprise Relief Fund

The Prince's Trust and NatWest have launched a £5million grant fund for young entrepreneurs affected by coronavirus. The Fund is available to entrepreneurs aged 18-30, who can apply for grants and tailored support.

[Apply here](#)

Standard Life Foundation - Coronavirus pandemic – fast track applications

Funding is available for work directly related to the pandemic, addressing specific challenges and helping to contribute to social change which tackles financial problems and improves living standards for those on

low-to-middle incomes in the UK. Grants from £5,000 upwards are available.

[Apply here](#)

Food redistribution – Resource Action Fund

Defra are making £3.25m available through the Resource Action Fund administered by WRAP. The fund will be delivered in three phases. Phase 1: WRAP will contact a target list of small redistribution organisations who have previously applied for funding.

Phases 2 and 3 will be launched shortly. Check the website on Thursday 9th April.

[Apply here](#)

Tesco Bags of Help - Covid-19 Communities Fund

Tesco Bags of Help is setting up a new short-term fund.

Organisations supporting vulnerable groups are encouraged to apply for a grant of £500 to support organisational need in this time of crisis rather than fund specific projects.

[Apply here](#)

Virgin Money Foundation

have announced that they will make £500,000 available for existing grantees through their Community Resilience Fund. An additional £252,731 will be available through the pre-existing Community Anchors Fund, which supports locally-led organisations making a positive difference to their neighbourhoods, to help groups affected by the virus.

[Apply here](#)

ITF Seafarers Trust – Covid-19 Welfare Fund

An extraordinary fund established for a limited period to provide grants to benefit seafarers and maintain seafarers' welfare services in difficulties due to the Covid-19 pandemic and its financial consequences.

[Apply here](#)

Innovate UK

Innovate UK, as part of UK Research and Innovation, will fund projects up to a maximum of £50,000. Your application must demonstrate both realistic and

significant benefits for society (including communities, families and individuals) or an industry that has been severely impacted and/or permanently disrupted by the Covid-19 pandemic. Closing date 17th April.

[Apply here](#)

WightAID

For the next few months, grant giving to those in the most critical need, including homelessness, mental health and bereavement charities working on the Isle Of Wight.

[Apply here](#)

Maanch

currently fundraising for a Coronavirus Response Fund.

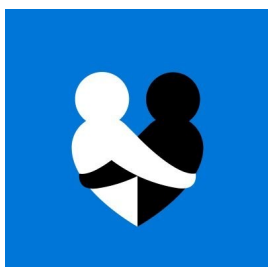
You can sign up for more information [here](#)



Supporting the charity sector during COVID-19

This is your hub for the latest funding and resources to help charities and other social sector organisations throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Visit the hub](#)



Neighbourly micro-grants

Neighbourly is offering a series of micro-grants up to £400 to existing members in the UK and Ireland. The grants have been made possible with the support of partner businesses M&S, Lidl, Aldi, Danone and Coca-Cola European Partners. They will be made to charities and community groups whose work involves supporting members of the community suffering economically, socially or from ill health as a result of the COVID-19 outbreak. This may include, but not be limited to, elderly people, those on low incomes and people at risk of food insecurity.

[More information.](#)



Emergency funds

Charity Bank has updated its list of emergency funds for charities and social enterprises that are experiencing difficulties with their cash flow during the COVID-19 outbreak.

This includes UK wide and country specific funds as well as regional funding sources, which are primarily local Community Foundations (see below for more information).

[Read the list.](#)



Community Emergency Fund

This new fund aims to help community sport and physical activity organisations who are experiencing short term financial hardship or the ceasing of operations due to the ongoing coronavirus crisis.

<https://www.sportengland.org/how-we-can-help/our-funds/community-emergency-fund>



Directory of Social Change round up of funders

Funders have been quick to issue statements on how they will support their grant holders in the coming months. [Here's our list](#) of new, amended and soon-to-be-open funds.



Copyright © 2020 Southampton Voluntary Services, All rights reserved.

Want to change how you receive these emails?

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

