

Event Information Pack for the Community Support Fund Stakeholder Event in March 2023

This pack provides an overview of the different services available in the West of England that featured in the Community Support Fund Stakeholder Event Series, 7-9th March 2023.

Please note: This is not a comprehensive list of all the support and services in the region and that is not the purpose of the document.

For further information on services available from the West of England Combined Authority, visit our [website](#). For comprehensive information on skills, training and employment services, visit our [Skills Portal](#).

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Strategic Support

SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
 The logo for 'Workforce for the Future' is displayed at the top left of the image. Below it, a man and a woman are shown in a professional setting, with the man working on a laptop and the woman gesturing while speaking. The background is decorated with various colorful icons representing business, technology, and education.	<h3>Workforce for the Future</h3> <p>Workforce for the Future provides free tailored, in-depth support to upskill employees, help retrain staff and bring in new talent. Our expert partners, who span a range of industries, can support you on your workforce journey helping to analyse business needs and develop strategies for your workforce including training options.</p> <p>Key strands of the support available through the WFTF service are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Workforce planning, diagnostic service and general support;• Digital support and training courses• Sector specific support and courses including construction and adult social care• Human Resource support• Disability confidence training• Engagement with colleges• Data analysis for decision making• Apprenticeship advice and levy transfer support• Support to make your business more sustainable <p>The support is ending this year so don't miss out on the opportunity to access this free/fully funded support.</p> <p>Eligibility: Participation is free and available to SMEs (less than 250 employees) in the West of England (B&NES, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire).</p>

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SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p>For more information and to register go to: Workforce for the Future - Combined Authority (westofengland-ca.gov.uk)</p>
 The logo for the West of England Growth Hub. It features the text "West of England" in a dark blue sans-serif font. Below this, the words "GROWTH" and "HUB" are stacked in a larger, bold, dark blue sans-serif font. To the right of "HUB" are three pink chevron arrows pointing to the right.	<p>Growth Hub</p> <p>The Growth Hub is the West of England Combined Authority's business support service, providing free and impartial support to small - medium sized businesses based in the West of England (Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire).</p> <p>We provide tailored support to organisations looking to grow, by connecting you with a wide range of programmes, online tools, training and services, including those from our expert partners, based on your business needs. Our support is broadly split in to five pillars:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Financial and business support• Technology and innovation• Workforce development• Leadership and management• Green business support <p>For more information or to arrange a meeting with one of our Enterprise Executives, please get in touch:</p> <p>Website: westofengland-ca.gov.uk/growth-hub Email us: wearegrowth@westofengland-ca.gov.uk Tel: 0117 456 6955</p>

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SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
 <p>The logo for the Good Employment Charter West of England. It features a stylized graphic of three overlapping triangles (yellow, blue, and pink) to the left of the text 'Good Employment Charter' in a bold, dark blue font. Below this, 'West of England' is written in a smaller, lighter blue font.</p>	<p>Good Employment Charter</p> <p>The West of England Good Employment Charter sets the standard for working practices in the region. Supporting businesses to improve investment in their staff, enabling more inclusive, equitable and sustainable working practices, positively benefitting people, society, and the wider economy.</p> <p>Good employment isn't just the 'right' thing to do, it also helps employers achieve more and contributes to a thriving economy. These are just some of the ways joining the Charter and being an employer of choice could benefit you:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Higher staff retention rates• Better productivity• Healthier workplace culture• Top talent chooses you <p>Eligibility: Open to businesses of any size or sector within the West of England CA (B&NES, Bristol, South Gloucestershire)</p> <p>To find out more or to apply to join the charter visit: The West of England Good Employment Charter Home</p> <p>Email: charter@westofengland-ca.gov.uk</p>


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 <p>B&NES 3rd Sector Group</p>	<p>Bath & North East Somerset Third Sector Group (3SG)</p> <p>Supporting charities, community groups and social enterprise across the whole of Bath and North East Somerset with regular events for the sector, including networking, training and 1:1 support. 3SG has a strong volunteering community, having coordinated the local response at vaccination clinics and delivering food and medication for those shielding during lockdown. Current work includes regular Leaders' Network events, Integrated Care System updates and support, an Ageing Well Network, Fundraising and Communications Network and most recently, the Bath Social Impact Network, a project created alongside Bath Spa University, dedicated to empowering and growing social enterprise in B&NES.</p> <p>For more information visit: 3sg.org.uk For information on joining 3SG as a member, visit: 3sg.org.uk/members Email: contact@3sg.org.uk Tel: 01225 683087</p>
	<p>Voscur</p> <p>Voscur is the support and development agency for Bristol's voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector. They offer a huge variety of information and support in areas such as funding, training, consultancy, recruitment, events and networking.</p> <p>For more information:</p> <p>Website: https://www.voscur.org/ Email us: info@voscur.org Tel: 0117 909 9949</p>

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 The logo for CVS South Gloucestershire features a green square background. Inside the square, there is a white stylized graphic of three people holding hands. Below the graphic, the text 'cvs south gloucestershire' is written in white lowercase letters. Underneath this, the words 'supporting', 'developing', and 'representing' are written in smaller white lowercase letters, separated by small gaps.	<p>CVS South Gloucestershire</p> <p>Providing support to local voluntary, community and social enterprise groups and organisations across South Gloucestershire to support them to grow and evolve. We bring together a wide base of skills, expertise and specialisms, to provide tailored, specialist support in areas such as funding, organisational development, governance, financial management, crisis support, or executive coaching.</p> <p>Website: https://cvs-sg.org.uk/ Email: info@cvs-sg.org.uk Tel: 01454 865205</p>
 The logo for Bristol Green Capital Partnership features a stylized green leaf icon on the left. To the right of the icon, the words 'BRISTOL', 'GREEN', 'CAPITAL', and 'PARTNERSHIP' are stacked vertically in a bold, sans-serif font. 'BRISTOL' and 'CAPITAL' are in dark green, while 'GREEN' and 'PARTNERSHIP' are in a lighter green.	<p>Bristol Green Capital Partnership</p> <p>Community climate action learning and mentoring programme</p> <p>Does your community organisation want to take climate and nature action and be part of a supportive network of other Bristol communities doing this work? You can apply to join cohort 2 of the Community Climate Action Project through the new learning and mentoring programme. Bristol Green Capital Partnership are recruiting 6 community organisations to join the programme where they will be offered a £3,000 bursary and support to engage people in climate and nature action.</p> <p>Eligibility requirements: For Bristol community organisations. Deadline 20 March.</p> <p>For more information including eligibility criteria, bursary info and application process visit: https://bristolgreencapital.org/</p>


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	<p>Climate Action Programme</p> <p>The Climate Action Programme aims to support organisations to reduce their carbon emissions, as part of Bristol's efforts to tackle the climate crisis.</p> <p>By offering a suite of events, resources and peer-to-peer learning opportunities, the Climate Action Programme provides support and inspiration to organisations whatever their starting point, promoting best practice, identifying solutions to challenges, and fostering a sense of community amongst organisations in Bristol that are committed to taking action.</p> <p>For more information, free resources and upcoming events visit: https://bristolgreencapital.org/projects/resources/</p> <p>Contact (for both programmes): contact@bristolgreencapital.org</p>
 The logo for Invest Bristol + Bath. It features the word "Invest" in a small, dark blue sans-serif font. Below it, the word "BRISTOL" is in a large, bold, dark blue sans-serif font. To the left of the word "BATH" is a large, bold, yellow plus sign. The word "BATH" is in a large, bold, dark blue sans-serif font.	<p>Invest Bristol & Bath</p> <p>For businesses looking to expand, relocate or set up a Business Hub in the Bristol and Bath Region Invest Bristol & Bath offer a confidential, free service which provides extensive, tailored support. We'll connect you with the right people, organisations and resources to set you up for success.</p> <p>The support available to businesses working with Invest Bristol & Bath includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The West of England Combined Authority: The Combined Authority will give you access to wide-ranging support. This includes simplified access to local councils; skills and talent; infrastructure; business support; and school engagement.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expertise from experienced sector specialists and stakeholders: Connect with experts from a range of fields including Aerospace and Advanced Engineering, Clean Tech & Energy, Creative and Media, Digital & Tech, Financial & Professional Services, Fintech, Food & Drink Innovation, Life Sciences, Logistic & Distribution.• Regional visits: We can design and host visits to our region to help you make investment decisions.• Industry connections: We'll introduce you to business support and recruitment providers so you can conduct research, meet the right people and get off to a smooth start.• Talent pool: We can provide detailed talent skills analysis and introduce you to academic partners and regional talent programmes.• Networks: We'll link you to industry networks, trade associations, membership organisations and research and development (R&D) assets.• Property solutions: We'll help you find the right <u>location plan for your business</u>. Whether you're relocating a large team, setting up a new centre, or looking at sites for offices, manufacturing or development, we offer confidential support. <p>For more information on the Invest Bristol & Bath Service visit: Invest Bristol & Bath - Home (bristolandbath.co.uk)</p> <p>Email: invest@bristolandbath.co.uk</p> <p>Tel: 0117 428 6211</p>

Local Funding

SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p data-bbox="831 360 1256 395">Adult Education Budget</p> <p data-bbox="831 440 2011 579">The West of England Combined Authority is responsible for adult education funding in Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire. That means we fund education providers to deliver tailored courses that meet the needs of our region.</p> <p data-bbox="831 587 1966 619">As part of our education strategy, we focus on five categories of adult education:</p> <ul data-bbox="882 663 2029 995" style="list-style-type: none"><li data-bbox="882 663 1906 727">• Engagement: Supporting disadvantaged residents to re-engage with education<li data-bbox="882 738 1935 770">• Employability: Supporting unemployed residents to progress into work<li data-bbox="882 778 1989 842">• Foundation Skills for Work: Improving employed residents' skills to boost their career prospects (skills up to and including Level 2)<li data-bbox="882 850 2007 914">• Intermediate Skills for Work: Improving employed residents' skills to boost their career prospects (skills up to and including Level 3)<li data-bbox="882 922 2029 995">• Learning for Personal Development: Helping residents progress into higher education <p data-bbox="831 1038 2007 1145">We target funding at the residents who need it most, whilst also supporting those in work to gain better-paid, more secure employment. We prioritise the following residents when choosing which provision to fund:</p> <p data-bbox="831 1153 1666 1185">People who have been unemployed for six months or more</p> <p data-bbox="831 1193 1854 1225">Unemployed people with prior education attainment falling below Level 2</p> <p data-bbox="831 1233 1928 1297">People who are employed in low-paid jobs, or at risk of redundancy, with prior education attainment falling below Level 2.</p>

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	<p>To find out more about the Adult Education Budget: Adult education - West of England Combined Authority (westofengland-ca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Email: adulthoodeducation@westofengland-ca.gov.uk</p>
	<p>Community Pollinator Fund</p> <p>The £1m Pollinator Fund builds on from the Combined Authority's 'Bee Bold Awards' and will help to deliver on the West of England's objective to increase the abundance of wildlife by 30% by 2030.</p> <p>The Fund has been created to support community-led ecology projects that enhance biodiversity and pollinator habitats across the West of England region. Each project contributes to creating or improving pollinator habitats, whilst engaging and empowering communities and volunteers to take action.</p> <p>For more information visit: Community Pollinator Fund - West of England Combined Authority (westofengland-ca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Email: bee.bold@westofengland-ca.gov.uk</p>
	<p>BNSSG Green Social Prescribing Programme</p> <p>Healthier with Nature is the Green Social Prescribing Programme for Bristol, North Somerset & South Gloucestershire. It is one of seven national 'test and learn' sites for green social prescribing across England. The aims of the programme are to empower more people, in particular those experiencing health inequalities to connect with nature, in order to improve their physical and mental health. As well as embed nature based practice in the health and social care sectors.</p>

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	Website for more information: https://bnssg.icb.nhs.uk/health-and-care/healthier-with-nature/ Email: bnssg.mh.greensp@nhs.net

Local Funding Opportunities

Here are some local sources to learn about local funding opportunities available:

Please note: This is not a comprehensive list of all the local funding in the region.

Local Funding Sources:

- [One You](#) South Gloucestershire grant offered by Southern Brooks Community Partnerships.
- [South Gloucestershire Council](#) have a page dedicated to grants for community projects.
- [Community and Voluntary Services South Glos](#) offer a list of the latest local funding opportunities.
- [Voscur](#) have a funding page listing latest funding opportunities in Bristol
- [Bristol City Council](#) have a page dedicated to grants for voluntary and community sector organisations
- [Bristol City Funds](#) City Funds brings together the public and private sectors, mixing investment, grant-funding & pro bono support to make Bristol a fair, healthy and sustainable city.
- [B&NES Funding Journal and Bulletin](#) sign up to their email bulletin to receive the latest funding information.



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Regional Funding Sources:


- [Quartet](#) Community Foundation awards grants to charities, voluntary or community organisations based in the West of England.
- [Wesport](#) summarises a number of funding opportunities that could help organisations who are looking to deliver sporting, physical activity and healthy living projects here in the West of England
- [Bee Bold Pollinator Fund - West of England Combined Authority \(westofengland-ca.gov.uk\)](https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk)
- [VANS](#) Voluntary Action North Somerset have a dedicated funding page which includes information on regional and national funding.

For the latest information from the West of England Combined Authority, including support and funding opportunities, sign up to our newsletter [here](#).


Skills and Employment Support

SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
<div data-bbox="215 371 456 699">  <p>Apprenticeships or work related training</p> </div> <div data-bbox="472 371 705 699">  <p>Careers guidance</p> </div> <div data-bbox="215 724 448 1042">  <p>Finding and getting into work</p> </div> <div data-bbox="465 724 701 1042">  <p>Furthering my career</p> </div>	<h3>Skills Connect</h3> <p>Skills Connect provides a ‘shop window’ for employment and skills support across the West of England. Bringing together in one place information, provision, signposting and advice, and servicing the provision across the region.</p> <p>Staff are available to provide advice and support and will directly signpost individuals to the best provision for them.</p> <p>Skills Connect incorporates the Employability & Skills Portal which lists the plethora of support services and training available, helping individuals and businesses to find the right support - whether they’re joining the workforce for the first time, looking for a new job opportunity or planning how to progress at work.</p> <p>The following guides bring together the local, regional and national skills, training and employment services available to residents and businesses in the West of England.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Careers Information, Guidance, Coaching and Support (Aged 11-18), (Aged 18+), Careers Platforms and Skills Information Portals; • Employability, Job Search, CV and Interview Preparation and Support with Gaining Employment; • Traineeship, Kickstart, T-Level and Apprenticeships; • Upskilling, Reskilling and Progression Within Work; • Redundancy Support (Individuals); • Business support (workforce development and skills); and • Wellbeing Support SEND and Individualised Support.



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	<p>To view the above lists visit: Skills portal - West of England Combined Authority (westofengland-ca.gov.uk)</p> <p>Email: Charlotte.Hopley@WestofEngland-ca.gov.uk</p> <p>Eligibility: Use of Skills Connect and Employment & Skills portal is open to all, and covers the whole of the West of England ((B&NES, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire). Note eligibility of specific provision will vary.</p>
	<p>Seetec Pluss</p> <p>Seetec Pluss run two DWP contracts in the South West – Work and Health Programme and Restart. Participants must be on universal credit and be referred via their job coach at the job centre. The contracts offer additional job support as well as support in wellness and mental health, skills and other interventions to assist participants.</p> <p>Seetec Pluss also hold the contract for the National Careers Service, and can support individuals looking for career advice either in one to one sessions or with group sessions within your organisation.</p> <p>For more information visit: Work, Wellbeing & Employment Services - Seetec Pluss</p> <p>Email: joanne.van@seetecpluss.co.uk</p>

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 <p>Department for Work & Pensions</p>	<p>DWP Movement to Work</p> <p>Movement to Work operates in a world of opportunity and seeks to break the vicious ‘no experience – no job’ cycle that is preventing young people, not currently in education, employment or training, from stepping onto the career ladder. By supporting organisations in providing quality vocational employment and work placement opportunities, Movement to Work helps to drive both business performance and bring about lasting social change.</p> <p>For more information visit: https://www.movementtowork.com</p> <p>Guidance on GOV.UK regarding volunteering rights: https://www.gov.uk/volunteering</p> <p>Benefits calculator for people to work out their entitlements when contemplating paid employment opportunities: https://www.entitledto.co.uk/</p>

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	<h2 data-bbox="824 240 1066 280">Future Bright</h2> <p data-bbox="824 320 2029 467">Future Bright offers free career coaching, training and support to help individuals to develop the skills and confidence needed to take their next career step. When joining the programme, you'll be matched with a career coach who'll support you to create a personalised action plan.</p> <p data-bbox="824 507 1585 544">Eligibility: Future Bright can support people who are:</p> <ul data-bbox="875 584 2011 735" style="list-style-type: none"> • Aged 18 and over; • Living in the West of England CA– that's Bath & North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire; • In paid work (including zero hours and self-employed) <p data-bbox="824 775 1635 812">Register at: www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/future-bright/</p>
	<h2 data-bbox="824 836 1653 876">Local Council Employment and Skills Services</h2> <p data-bbox="824 916 2016 987">Each of the local Councils offer a variety of free support to local residents to support skills, training, volunteering, education and employment to residents.</p> <p data-bbox="824 1027 1451 1064">Bristol City Council: One Front Door Service</p> <p data-bbox="824 1104 1783 1141">Bath and North East Somerset Council: Employment and Skills Pod</p> <p data-bbox="824 1181 1980 1252">South Gloucestershire Council: Works4Youth and Community Learning and Skills Service</p>


Community Support Fund - Case Studies

SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p>Bath City Farm</p> <p>Roots to Work is a 12-week work placement programme at the farm that aims to develop peoples' skills and confidence in Catering & Hospitality, Retail, Grounds Maintenance or Horticulture.</p> <p>The programme is available to those furthest from the jobs market who are wanting to gain real on-the-job experience of employment. We provide one-to-one employability support to tailor the placements to suit Trainees' interests, enhance their skills and learn new skills. Trainees will earn AQA Awards to prove their abilities. Towards the end of their placement we support them to access additional training, signpost to other services or volunteering opportunities, or help search and apply for employment.</p> <p>Eligibility: Aged 19 and over, long-term unemployed, struggling with their mental health or has a learning disability.</p> <p>For more information visit: Work With Us - Bath City Farm Email: amy@bathcityfarm.org.uk Tel: 01225 481269</p>


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SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p>Curo Choice</p> <p>The Power Up! programme is a 5-week employability and skills project for women and young people, with a focus on construction, trades and green skills. The course is designed to improve the wellbeing of young people and women across life stages, improve confidence and reduce employability barriers within the built environment and trade sectors.</p> <p>Alongside developing practical STEM skills, a key focus is nurturing vital soft skills, confidence, and employability skills to expand vocational horizons and prepare participants for progression into employment, training and volunteering in all sectors.</p> <p>For more information visit: https://www.curo-group.co.uk/news/news-stories/power-up-programme/</p> <p>Email: workwise@curo-group.co.uk Tel: 01225 366000</p>
	<p>Creativity Works</p> <p>Creativity Works are charity based in Bath and NE Somerset who value creativity as a means to inspire and empower people to explore, develop and grow. They run creative activities and courses suitable for those living with mental health challenges or facing difficulties in their lives.</p> <p>The Co Create Employment Programme is a creative assets-based project offering a training programme around creative arts that builds confidence, wellbeing, inclusion and employability skills.</p> <p>For more information visit: www.creativityworks.org.uk Email: info@creativityworks.org.uk Tel: 01761 438852</p>



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	<p data-bbox="831 240 1055 280">Stepping Up</p> <p data-bbox="831 320 2029 499">Positive Action Learning Leadership Programme delivered over 12 months. Stepping Up supports diverse talent - Black, Asian, minority ethnic, disabled, LGBTQ+ and women, who have the potential to "step up" into a leadership through training commitment. Bringing together individuals from the public sector, private sector and VCSE.</p> <ul data-bbox="880 547 1989 847" style="list-style-type: none">• Core Module workshops focusing on local and global leadership• Virtual learning personal development platform enhancing the learning journey• Group Stretch Assignment focusing on European sustainable development goals• Virtual Mentoring• Assigned professional tutor• Graduation Ceremony <p data-bbox="831 887 1906 922">Eligibility: Black, Asian and ethnic minorities, Disabled, Women & LBGQT+</p> <p data-bbox="831 962 1635 997">For more information visit: www.steppingupbristol.com</p> <p data-bbox="831 1002 1417 1037">Email: contactus@steppingupbristol.com</p> <p data-bbox="831 1042 1099 1070">Tel: 0117 9506141</p>

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SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p data-bbox="831 240 1016 280">Step IT Up</p> <p data-bbox="831 320 2024 427">Positive Action Programme for women who are furthest away from employment or in precarious employment, to learn new skills and goal setting for confidence building and progression.</p> <ul data-bbox="882 472 1991 815" style="list-style-type: none">• Support writing CV's and applying for Volunteering, Training, Employment• Opportunities to engage with potential employers through organised events• Support to engage in work experience and or volunteering with a view to building careers• Face to face workshops• Virtual mentoring• Works experience/volunteering• Career Passport• Graduation Ceremony with Step It Up Graduates <p data-bbox="831 855 1234 890">Eligibility: Women in Bristol</p> <p data-bbox="831 930 1632 965">For more information visit: www.steppingupbristol.com</p> <p data-bbox="831 967 1417 1002">Email: contactus@steppingupbristol.com</p> <p data-bbox="831 1003 1099 1038">Tel: 0117 9506141</p>

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	<p>Step Forward</p> <p>Step Forward team building is a unique and innovative introduction to use experiential and kinaesthetic training to build confidence and enhance skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshops hosted by employers to provide insights into workplaces and career choices • Employers providing mentoring and career support • VR learning tool to enhance the participants learning journey <p>Eligibility: Young People 15 to 25 in Bristol</p> <p>For more information visit: www.steppingupbristol.com Email: contactus@steppingupbristol.com Tel: 0117 9506141</p>
	<p>Developing Health and Independence (DHI)</p> <p>DHI run innovative services to help disadvantaged people and those living on the margins of society turn their lives around.</p> <p>The West of England Peer Academy project helps people overcoming drug or alcohol addiction, homelessness, those with an offending background and people with poor mental health. The fully accredited training helps people to become peer mentors – someone who uses their own experience to help others going through similar situations.</p> <p>In addition, we offer help through an online toolkit and resources to support other community organisations working with socially excluded people to set up their own peer service.</p>

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SERVICE LOGO	SERVICE INFORMATION
	<p>For more information visit: www.dhi-online.org.uk</p> <p>Email: info@dhi-online.org.uk</p> <p>Tel: 01225 478730</p>
	<p>Ashley Community Housing</p> <p>Ashley Community Housing's UNLOCK programme equips refugees and young people from underrepresented groups with information, advice and guidance to take up training and employment opportunities. A key aspect of the programme is supporting development of sector-specific skills in industries with labour shortages (e.g. HGV driving or Health and Social Care) to maximise suitability in areas of growing employment opportunities.</p> <p>For more information visit: https://ach.org.uk/locations/bristol-training-centre</p> <p>Email: info@ach.org.uk</p> <p>Tel: 0117 954 0433</p>

Local Networking Groups

Here are some of the local networking groups you can get involved in to help build your network and potential collaborations.

Please note: This is not a comprehensive list of all the local networking groups in the region and that is not the purpose of the document.

- Interagency Network (B&NES) Interagency Network meetings offer VCSE organisations and service providers an opportunity to share information, promote projects or events and improve partnership working.

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- [Social Prescribing and Community Activity Network \(B&NES\)](#) Group for VCSEs to share knowledge and best practice around social prescribing and community activities that support social prescribing in Bath and North East Somerset.
- [3SG Senior Leaders Network \(B&NES\)](#) is a great opportunity to meet fellow Trustees and Senior Managers from local 3rd Sector organisations, get peer support and advice, gain knowledge about what's happening in other organisations, identify shared areas of interest and opportunities to collaborate.
- [Childrens and young peoples network \(B&NES\)](#) Representing the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) working with children and young people in B&NES
- [The Bath Fundraisers' Group \(B&NES\)](#) was established to support and enable inclusive networking and learning amongst those involved in fundraising living and working in and around Bath.
- [Tech4Good Bristol and Bath \(Bristol/Bath\)](#) Tech4Good is a group to help you make connections and create a community around innovating for good in the surrounding area.
- [Bristol Older People's Forum \(Bristol\)](#) Regular Open Forum Meetings for people working for the benefit of older people.
- [Bristol Fundraisers Group \(Bristol\)](#) Connect with local fundraisers to discuss key issues and share best practice
- [Voscur Fundraising Group \(Bristol\)](#) space for everyone to come and ask questions, share learning and generally stay up-to-date with fundraising knowledge and tips.
- [Charity Communications Professionals Network \(Bristol\)](#) a place to get together with other people in the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector who look after communications, marketing or PR.
- [Children and Young People's Network \(Bristol\)](#) The network provides opportunities for strategic collaboration and information sharing across both the play and youth work sectors.
- [Peer Partnership Forum \(Bristol/South Glos\)](#) A forum, developed by Brigstowe as part of The Peer Partnership, for anyone working on (or thinking about starting) peer support programmes in their organisation. Find out about peer support best practice, new peer mentoring in the area, development opportunities for peer mentoring and partnership working, and get to network with other peer support coordinators.

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- Community Engagement Forums (South Glos) South Gloucestershire Council administer Community Engagement Forums (CEFs) across the area. There are 14 of these, each meeting 3 times a year.
- South Glos Learning and Development Service (South Glos) Offering training opportunities for eligible South Gloucestershire organisations and volunteers.
- South Gloucestershire Race Equality Network (South Glos) a forum for public, private and voluntary organisations and BAME individuals to communicate and consult on key strategy or policy changes in South Gloucestershire. We also work to influence South Gloucestershire Council, health services and other public bodies to get them to develop services which are fully accessible to disabled people.
- South Gloucestershire Disability Equality Network bring together local disabled people, and the organisations who work with them, to speak out about what will improve lives. They provide services and events useful to disabled people through open meetings, newsletters, social media and work with other local organisations.
- Diverse Artists Network (Regional) bringing together artists/ musicians across Bristol and the South West region, intending to build national and international networks encompassing the broadest spectrum of diversity & representation.
- Ways2Work Network (Regional) A community of employment support and training organisations sharing information about opportunities across the region.
- Volunteer Organisers Forum (Regional) Hosted by UWE, this network meets quarterly and offers support for anyone who manages or coordinates volunteers in the VCSE sector across Bristol. The meetings often feature a main speaker followed by an opportunity to share ideas, find out about development opportunities and network with colleagues.
- Nature & Health Practice Network (Regional) A practice network for Green Care, Nature Health and Wellbeing, Eco Therapy and other nature-based approaches. For practitioners, academics, researchers, project managers, health and nature professionals.
- Black South West Network (Regional) Support Black and Minoritised led organisations to develop networks and partnerships, facilitate community conferences, events, and networking meetings. BSWN also run a Community Sector Development Service to support Black and Minoritised grassroots community groups and organisations to have better access to information and support.

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- [Lloyds Training Academy](#) (National) host an interactive platform for online learning for charities with expert trainers and the opportunity to network with other charities.

Thank you from all the Team for joining us for the Community Support Fund Stakeholder Event Series, 7-9th March 2023.

For further information on services available from the West of England Combined Authority, please visit our [website](#).

Be sure to sign up to our [newsletter](#) for the latest news from the Combined Authority.