

ChangeUp Reading

have **your say** on future support to charities and community groups in Reading

ChangeUp is a national, government initiative to build the capacity of the voluntary sector through enhanced support services. **ChangeUp Reading** is a consortium bringing together a broad spectrum of organisations that provide support services to the voluntary and community sector.

www.changeupreading.org.uk

ChangeUp

capacity
builders

what does ChangeUp Reading do?

ChangeUp Reading aims to meet the support needs of Reading's grassroots voluntary and community organisations. Since 2004 the consortium has worked to prioritise and seek funding to meet these needs. ChangeUp Reading is currently looking ahead to priorities for the next five years. The views of local groups and organisations will influence what these priorities are.

meeting needs

The ChangeUp Reading consortium has secured over £200,000 of funding to support the sector.

ChangeUp Reading members

Age Concern Reading • Berkshire Association of Clubs for Young People • Berkshire Community Foundation • Connect Reading • Social Enterprise Berkshire • Reading Borough Council

Need – Lack of capacity in faith and minority ethnic voluntary sector groups to network and provide representation on local partnerships.

Solution – Development of a faith forum of voluntary groups and forum for black and minority ethnic voluntary groups.

Outcome – The Faith Forum and Sakoma develop during 2006 with ChangeUp funding for development workers. The Faith Forum produces a website, directory of organisations and research into the role of faith groups as service providers. Both Forums are part of the Stronger Together bid to the BASIS big lottery fund. The bid aims to build on this work by strengthening the voice of the sector.

2005

SEP

OCT

NOV

DEC

2006

JAN

FEB

MAR

APR

Need – Lack of local voluntary sector capacity to engage with influential local statutory partnerships.

Solution – Development of Forum Co-ordinator and Reading 2020 Development worker roles.

Outcome – These roles successfully funded through ChangeUp made an impact on voluntary sector engagement with developments such as Reading's Local Area Agreement, both roles are now part of the Stronger Together bid.

Need – The Forum (Reading's voluntary sector forum) that ensures voluntary sector representation on Reading's partnership groups is limited by administrative capacity.

Solution – Development of Forum Co-ordinator role.

Outcome – The Forum (Reading's voluntary sector forum) that ensures voluntary sector representation on Reading's partnership groups is limited by administrative capacity.

Need – Training need across the sector around the implications of full cost recovery for project planning and funding.

Solution – Training programme on full cost recovery.

Outcome – ChangeUp funds full cost recovery awareness conference ran in September 2006 managed by Reading Voluntary Action, bringing together the voluntary sector and funders. Subsequent training event in October 2006.

Need – Lack of data and information indicating the economic and social value of volunteering to Reading.

Solution – Volunteer Centre Reading commissions research into the value of volunteering to Reading.

Outcome – Research conducted by the University of Reading Geography Department, funded by ChangeUp, reveals that volunteering contributes £28 million per annum to the local economy. The research casts new light on the social factors influencing volunteering. Produced May 2007.

2007

MAY JUN JUL AUG SEP OCT NOV DEC JAN FEB MAR APR MAY

Outcome – The Forum thrived on effective administration provided by ChangeUp. The ChangeUp funded Forum Coordinator: website development, membership offer developed, well attended Forum events involving over 100 participants from January 2006 – March 2007.

Need – Opportunity for practitioners to share learning on community development support.

Solution and Outcome – ChangeUp funded the Reading Community Development Conference, November 2006, with 100 delegates.

Need – Gap in support to Reading's Children and Voluntary Youth Service (RCVYS).

Solution – Funding for Development Worker.

Outcome – ChangeUp Consortia Projects fund RCVYS Development Worker. The role engages new representatives and increases uptake of youth funding opportunities. Ongoing to March 2008.



looking ahead

ChangeUp Reading is looking ahead to the future priorities and themes that the voluntary sector will need support to respond to. Examples of these trends are clear to see, such as the move to commissioning and procurement, delivery of public services, developing services at neighbourhood level and increasing the capacity of the sector's governance and leadership. ChangeUp Reading values your views.



Reading Voluntary Action

ChangeUp Reading is co-ordinated
by Reading Voluntary Action

www.r-v-a.org www.rvadirectory.org.uk

**need more
information or
want to arrange
a meeting?**

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