



Briefing paper – July 2009	7
<p>Real Help for Communities – Office of the Third Sector</p>	
<p>Summary</p>	<p>Real Help for communities: Volunteers, Charities and Social Enterprises is an action plan outlining £42.5 million support for the third sector in the difficult economic climate.</p> <p>Meeting Demand for Services and Tackling Unemployment</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Up to £10 million investment in a volunteer brokerage scheme for unemployed people. This will create over 40,000 opportunities for people to learn new skills and give back to communities through volunteering – from April 2009 ▪ A £15.5 million Real Help for Communities; Targeted Support Fund for small to medium providers in communities most at risk of increased deprivation due to recession. This is addition to the £130 million Grassroots Grants programme meaning more small grants to more community groups. Available from April 2009 <p>Strengthening the Sector now and in the future</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ A £16.5 million Real Help for Communities: Modernisation Fund to support viable third sector organisations to access specialist services in order to restructure and become more resilient and efficient in the recession. Funding for organisations from Summer 2009 ▪ £0.5 million investment in the School for Social Entrepreneurs to expand its action-learning programme to support social entrepreneurs. <p>Other support in Real Help for Communities</p> <p>There is also a package of support designed to address cash-flow, credit and investment needs of small and medium sized businesses</p>
<p>Action points</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It may be useful to check out what is happening in your area in relation to this funding. • Organisations should consider: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ where this fits in to their current operations ○ the implications in relation to volunteering ○ whether or not they will need to review any policies/procedures

Sources of information	<p>To order a copy of: Real Help for Communities: Volunteers, Charities and Social Enterprises call 0845 015 0010 (stock are limited). This includes a key milestones chart of all the various actions announced. The document can be downloaded from:</p> <p>www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/real_help_for_communities.aspx</p> <p>There is also a package of support designed to address the cash flow, credit and investment needs of small and medium sized businesses. The package of support is accessible to third sector businesses as any other.</p> <p>www.busniesslink.gov.uk</p>
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