

Summary of speakers 06.04.06

Ruralnet|uk

Jane Berry is Project Development Manager at ruralnet|uk, a charity and Social Enterprise. Jane is running a project just awarded under the Finance Hub, to Network Funding Advisors, and will be launching the project at the SOMFAWN meeting. The aims of the project are to research how Funding Advisors network at present, to share information and expertise (both locally and nationally), and to set up online discussion forums. These will draw on ruralnet's existing online services, used by over 20 VCS networks, both rural and urban. She will be showing some demonstrations, in partnership with the COSMIC Mobile Technology Shuttle, and looking for Funding Advisors to be 'pilot users' for the project, from April to June this year.

Futurebuilders England

Marianne Patterson from Futurebuilders England will give a presentation about the investment fund and then lead a discussion, when she will answer any questions that people may have about the organisation or about their eligibility to apply.

FBE is the £125 million government backed investment fund to help the voluntary and community sector deliver better public services. The fund provides a combination of grants and loans for organisations that deliver public services and earn revenue by forming contracts with public sector agencies. Since the launch of FBE in 2004 over 100 organisations have benefited from over £36million of loan and grant finance.

SINE & SELD

SELD is a short-term ODPM funded pilot trying to improve the use of local evidence to improve delivery of Neighbourhood Renewal. SELD currently maintains a focus on the 7 priority Neighbourhood Renewal areas in the region (although we are trying to improve local evidence use generally across the region). Further details at www.seldsw.org.uk.

The task is essentially basic signposting to available intelligence sources (e.g. Neighbourhood Statistics, ID2004, www.data4nr.net e.t.c.) to support funding applications, monitoring and evaluation of projects and programmes.

SINE is a group of research and consultation professionals from Somerset County Council, the District Councils, PCTs, Police and Fire Service who work together to share information and carry out research and consultation projects.

Useful resources:

What is Evidence?

<http://www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/regeneration-renewal-article131-p1.html>

The SELD Evidence Guide for Funders and Funding Advisers

<http://www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/regeneration-renewal-article144-p1.html>

The SELD Evaluation Resource Guide

<http://www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/regeneration-renewal-article150-p1.html>

The Performance Improvement Hub

<http://www.creatingexcellence.org.uk/regeneration-renewal-news-173-thread-0-0.html>