

BUILDING STRONGER COMMUNITIES

Courses designed to support the voluntary and community sector to grow and strengthen during challenging times

<p>Introduction</p>	<p>The University of Derby has a long experience of working with the voluntary, public and community sector. We have been involved in delivering degree programmes, short courses and community partnership projects for many years.</p> <p>The current climate of spending cuts and the Big Society policy debate poses many challenges for all of us and our aim with this consultation event is to explore strategies which enable the University and the sector to work more closely together.</p> <p>We are proposing to develop four short courses which we hope are of interest to the sector.</p>
<p>What are the four courses?</p>	<p>The four courses are stand-alone but follow a rationale in the order that they will be offered:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. ‘The Bigger Picture’ (New government, new context, new social policy) 2. ‘Community Development Strategies’ (Approaches, tools and resources) 3. ‘Project Development for the Voluntary and Public Sectors’ (Taking an idea through to a funding or project proposal) 4. ‘Managing Projects Effectively in the Voluntary and Public Sectors’ (Delivering and managing projects effectively)
<p>Are the courses accredited?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each course carries 30 credits at Higher Education Level 4 (first year degree level) • Completing all four courses will enable a student to gain the equivalent credits to the first year of a degree programme. • Provides a useful taster for people interested in studying at University in the future
<p>How will the courses be assessed?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The course work will be based on real-life projects and issues that people are working on in their agencies and will be in the shape of presentations and reports BUT NOT EXAMS!
<p>When will the courses be starting and where?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The aim is to start the first course in October but this depends upon the courses being approved and full recruitment. The courses will be held in Derby.

Who are the core partners?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Derbyshire Learning & Development Consortium • Derby Community Action • Derbyshire Community Foundation
Who can apply?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There is no geographical limit although we are particularly aiming the courses at the East Midlands. • Because the courses are accredited, we aim to recruit people who are able to meet the assessment demands of the courses.
What is the number of students to be recruited per course?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The proposal is to recruit an average of 25 students per course. • In trying to keep the cost of the course down to a minimum, it is essential that we recruit to (or in excess) of this target.
What will be the cost of each course?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are in the process of costing the programme but an early estimate is £530 per course. • The fee has to be realistic and not prohibitive. We will be actively working with our partners to secure external funding which can act as a bursary fund to alleviate the difficulties that many agencies may face in supporting individuals to access these courses.
How will the students be funded?	<p>Through a combination of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Personal contribution • Contribution of employer • Bursaries secured from external funding
What will be the method of delivery?	<p>Each course would consist of</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-5 days of face to face delivery • Working independently to prepare a group presentation • Tutorial support for each student and electronic resources