



# **CVS Rochdale** **Policy Briefing**

## **Government launches its Giving White Paper**

The Government has launched its Giving White Paper, which is says will make it easier and more attractive for people to give time and money to good causes.

It follows evidence which suggests levels of giving time and money have flat-lined in recent years. The Giving White Paper seeks to renew Britain's culture of philanthropy by working with charities and businesses to support new ways for people to contribute which fit into busy modern lives. New commitments include:

- A £10million Social Action Fund to support the most promising ideas for growing giving in priority areas in England and boosting levels of engagement over the next two years – including new schemes for people to volunteer a little when it suits them or match funding school philanthropy projects
- Challenge Prizes, of up to £100,000 for the best solutions to volunteer challenges
- A £30 million fund to improve the effectiveness of infrastructure organisations that support front line organisations - this Local Infrastructure Fund will be delivered by the Big Lottery Fund.
- £1 million to support Youthnet which runs the volunteering website doit.org and which will share its data more freely with organisations. Facebook have said that they will make this data accessible through them
- £700,000 to support Philanthropy UK connecting wealthy people with charities that need their support
- £400,000 support from Government and National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts (NESTA) to trial 'Spice' in England which gives volunteers 'thank yous' like vouchers or discounts with local businesses when they do good things for the community
- Establishing a new honours committee to ensure people are recognised and celebrated for exceptional and sustained philanthropy
- Open up government buildings to charities and voluntary groups
- Hold a Giving Summit in the Autumn to bring together charities, philanthropists, businesses, technologists and financiers to set the course for the future of giving
- All Ministers have agreed to a one day volunteering challenge
- The Giving White Paper builds on other work to support philanthropy including changes to the tax system announced in the Budget 2011. It's estimated that these new measures will be worth £600million to charities over the lifetime of this parliament.
- Removal of gift aid paperwork for donations up to £5000 (by April 2013)
- Move to a new online filing system for gift aid claims (by 2013)
- Reduction in rate of inheritance tax for estates that leave 10% or more to charity
- Removing barriers to giving through the cutting of red tape which will make it easier for running of a charity, social enterprise or voluntary organisation.

- Removing barriers associated with Criminal Record Bureau (CRB) checks with key recommendations for the Vetting and Barring Scheme
- Making giving easier by providing new incentives, match funding and supporting new social norms.
- Investing £5 million over three years in four 'hub' areas of significant levels of deprivation, in order to make the best use of existing strengths and resources within those communities.

This is just a number of changes which have been put forward by the government in the White Paper and this paper will mark the beginning of a process of engagement on giving. The government want to continue to explore, develop and experiment with new models to increase giving by working with other across society, charities, foundations, social enterprises, philanthropists, business, communities and individuals.

A Consultation Summary is also in with the white paper which is in response to the Giving Green Paper.

To view the full document <http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/news/giving-white-paper-%E2%80%93-making-it-easier-to-take-part-in-a-bigger-stronger-society>