

Briefing note on Government announcements and new schemes/initiatives

Chancellor's Economic Statement

On 22 October, the Chancellor made an economic update statement to the House of Commons. The press release is also attached.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/speeches/chancellor-statement-to-the-house-plan-for-jobs>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/job-support-scheme-expanded-to-firms-required-to-close-due-to-covid-restrictions>

This outlined three additional or extended areas of support:

- Job Support Scheme (JSS) – this replaces the current furlough arrangements: prior to implementation in November, this scheme has been extended in relation to employers which are open, but subject to reduced business. Employees will now only have to work 20% of their usual hours to be eligible for the scheme (this has changed from 33%), and the government will now pay 61.67% of the ‘unworked’ hours with the employer covering 5%. This means that the employee will receive full pay for hours worked and 66.67% for ‘unworked’ hours. In total, employees will therefore receive 73% of their wages up to £3,125 per month. Full details of the JSS are available here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-job-support-scheme/the-job-support-scheme>

- The Self Employment Income Support Scheme (SEISS) has also been extended to cover 40% of monthly trading profits, up from 20% previously announced. The Self-Employment Income Support Scheme Grant Extension provides critical support to the self-employed in the form of two grants, each available for three month periods covering November 2020 to January 2021 and February 2021 to April 21.

The first grant will cover a three-month period from 1 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. The Government will provide a taxable grant covering 40% of average monthly trading profits, paid out in a single instalment covering 3 months’ worth of profits, and capped at £3,750 in total.

The Government are providing broadly the same level of support for the self-employed as is being provided for employees through the Job Support scheme.

The second grant will cover a three-month period from 1 February 2021 until 30 April 2021. The Government will review the level of the second grant and set this in due course. Full details of the SEISS are available here.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension/self-employment-income-support-scheme-grant-extension>

- The Local Restrictions Support Grant (Business Grants) have also been extended. This will now offer grants to businesses closed as a result of national as well as local measures, and to businesses in Tier 2 areas. Tier 2 grants of up to £2,100 per month of restrictions (applied retrospectively) will be available for distribution at the discretion of local authorities, who will receive enough funding to cover every premise in hospitality, leisure and

accommodation (The amount is dependent on the Rateable Value of the business as there is a lower amount for businesses under a Rateable Value of £51,000). Businesses in any area which has been under enhanced restrictions can backdate grants to August. Below is an extract of a Government document:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/plan-for-jobs-chancellor-increases-financial-support-for-businesses-and-workers>

- We are providing additional funding to allow Local Authorities (LAs) to support businesses in high-alert level areas which are not legally closed, but which are severely impacted by the restrictions on socialising. The funding LAs will receive will be based on the number of hospitality, hotel, B&B, and leisure businesses in their area.
- LAs will receive a funding amount that will be the equivalent of:
- For properties with a rateable value of £15,000 or under, grants of £934 per month.
- For properties with a rateable value over £15,000 and below £51,000, grants of £1,400 per month.
- For properties with a rateable value of exactly £51,000 and over, grants of £2,100 per month.
- This is equivalent to 70% of the grant amounts given to legally closed businesses (worth up to £3,000/month).
- Local Authorities will also receive a 5% top up amount to these implied grant amounts to cover other businesses that might be affected by the local restrictions, but which do not neatly fit into these categories.
- It will be up to Local Authorities to determine which businesses are eligible for grant funding in their local areas, and what precise funding to allocate to each business – the above levels are an approximate guide.
- Businesses in Very High alert level areas will qualify for greater support whether closed (up to £3,000/month) or open. In the latter case support is being provided through business support packages provided to Local Authorities as they move into the alert level. The government is working with local leaders to ensure the Alert Level very high packages are fair and transparent.

The 5% to be used as discretionary grant funding is to support businesses which are closed but are not in the business rating system as well as businesses that may not be required to close but which are severely impacted (e.g. because of closure of their suppliers or the customers they supply to). The existing scheme guidance is here, (though this has not yet been updated for the new amounts in the Chancellor's statement yesterday).

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/coronavirus-covid-19-local-restrictions-support-grant-guidance-for-local-authorities>

Job Retention Bonus

Employers can claim the bonus for all eligible employees who have been furloughed. This will see businesses receive a one-off payment of £1,000 for every previously furloughed

employee if they are still employed at the end of January next year.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/further-details-of-the-job-retention-bonus-announced>

Business Support Finder

The Government have a website link where businesses can enter their details to see what support they are eligible for. There are other methods of support such as VAT deferral.

<https://www.gov.uk/business-coronavirus-support-finder>

Business Rates Relief for Retail, Hospitality and Leisure

These business rates reliefs have been applied to customers' bills for 2020-21 and we are lobbying alongside other Councils and other national bodies for these reliefs to continue into 2021-22.

Support for Individuals

Track and Trace Hardship payments

This is a new Government support scheme, whereby Track and Trace Payments Hardship payments of £500 have been introduced by Central Government to help people on low incomes who will be financially impacted when they are required to self-isolate.

These payments have to be administered by Local Authorities and the Council had to put a scheme in place very quickly, as the scheme had to be ready to process payments by 12th October 2020. Members considered a report on this this week.

The report set out the criteria that an individual would need to meet to qualify for the £500 payment. This discretionary payment is for individuals who are not currently receiving Universal Credit, Working Tax Credit, income-related Employment and Support Allowance, income-based Jobseeker's Allowance, Income Support, Housing Benefit or Pension Credit; and who are on low incomes and will face financial hardship as a result of not being able to work while they are self-isolating.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme-claiming-financial-support/claiming-financial-support-under-the-test-and-trace-support-payment-scheme>

There are also several websites that offer help:

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/coronavirus-covid-19-what-to-do-if-youre-employed-and-cannot-work>

Support for Councils

1) Contain Outbreak Management fund – The Government has announced this fund to help Councils carry out our responsibilities.

This is a Department of Health and Social Care fund to help us carry out our responsibilities. We would be eligible for a £1 per head of population payment being in the Medium Alert Level. If we moved to a High level the £1 is increased to £3 per person, and is increased to £8 per person for Very High areas. Funding is one-off and paid to DCC to distribute.

Following the move to Local COVID Alert Levels, and as of 12 October 2020, Local Authorities will be eligible for a series of payments from the Contain Outbreak Management Fund to support proactive containment and intervention measures:

1. A payment of up to £1 per head of population will be provided to Local Authorities in Local COVID Alert Level Medium (This applies to our Council). This will be disbursed as soon as public health activities have been agreed with the relevant Regional Convenor.
2. Where Local Authorities move to Local COVID Alert Level High or Very High this financial support will automatically be increased to £3 per person and £8 per person respectively.
3. This funding is incremental, not additional.
4. Funding is one-off. Repeated movement between Local Alert Levels will not enable reoccurring support from this fund.
5. Funding will be paid to Upper Tier Local Authorities (Devon County Council), for onwards disbursement.

Financial support for Local Authorities at Local COVID Alert Level Medium and High is to fund the following activities:

- a. Targeted testing for hard-to-reach groups out of scope of other testing programmes.
- b. Additional contact tracing.
- c. Enhanced communication and marketing e.g. towards hard-to-reach groups and other localised messaging.
- d. Delivery of essentials for those in self-isolation.
- e. Targeted interventions for specific sections of the local community and workplaces.
- f. Harnessing capacity within local sectors (voluntary, academic, commercial).
- g. Extension/introduction of specialist support (behavioural science, bespoke comms).
- h. Additional resource for compliance with, and enforcement of, restrictions and guidance

We have no plans to use this funding at this time and our strategy is to see how the 2nd wave develops before committing to further expenditure.

2) Local authority compliance and enforcement grant – Covid Compliance Officers

Under this new grant initiative, SHDC have been allocated £34,522 and WDBC have been allocated £25,512 of Government funding.

We are recruiting two Covid Compliance Officers roles for 6 months covering both Councils. These posts will support the work of the EHO's in enforcing Covid Secure guidelines in business premises. The ethos will be 'helping businesses to comply' and therefore helping to protect our communities by;

- Reducing demand by working proactively and educating businesses

- Providing customer focused specialist advice and promoting the work of the Councils and their reputation
- Providing practical support to aid and encourage compliance
- To deal with a range of COVID-19 compliance issues
- To assist in taking enforcement action of COVID-19 regulations or guidance where necessary

3) Devon County Council funding – Vulnerability Officer

Devon County Council pledged £1million in the summer to support the most vulnerable households affected by Covid-19. This was through a variety of interventions including money advice, hardship payments and support to families delivered through our local schools. It has continued to compliment a range of support the Council is able to offer, such as discretionary housing payments, housing benefits etc. Recognising that the demand is going to continue for these kinds of support, the Districts requested that some of the money be made available for physical posts which Devon County Council has agreed.

A Vulnerability Officer (a shared post across South Hams and West Devon) will work with our partners on interventions and internally to ensure all available support is accessed and any action (debt recovery for example) is proportionate and a last option. It will help to ensure funding goes further, by identifying repeat cases and considering underlying issues and will be a ‘go to’ officer for all services within the Council, including Members.

Are you Winter Ready?

Each year South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council launches a ‘Are you ready for winter?’ campaign - the Council’s secret weapon against this winter’s surprises.

When an emergency happens, or the weather takes a wintery twist, we are all there with our mobile phones ready to video, photo and tweet about what it happening.

So why not be prepared this winter and sign up for social media alerts from vital public services in advance.

To make it even easier for you to be connect with these agencies, South Hams and West Devon have taken the best advice from their partners and are launching their ‘Are you ready for Winter Campaign 2020’ to tell you where you can find important information quickly and easily:

- Looking for information about floods and how to be #floodaware? Follow the Environment Agency - @EnvAgencySW
- Is there a storm approaching? Follow @metofficestorms or @metofficeSWEng.
- Worried about the road network in bad weather, check in with @Devonalerts and @highwaysengland
- Worried about Flu or winter bugs? Go to @NHSchoices

Find out more at:

- www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/join-our-network
- www.engagement.westdevon.gov.uk/join-our-network

Every year South Hams District and West Devon Borough Councils, and their partners, work hard to keep you safe. So follow these feeds and you will find lots of tips and advice to help you be prepared this winter.

South Hams District Councillor, Cllr Nicky Hopwood, South Hams District Council's Executive Member for Communications, said: "This year more than ever it is so important for everyone to think ahead. We launch this campaign every year, but this year we have the added complication of the COVID-19 pandemic."

Cllr Lois Samuel West Devon Borough Council's Lead Member for Communications, said: "I would urge all of you, please don't wait for a big weather event, or a flood, to link in with these vital public services; be prepared and follow us and our agency partners now. That way you will get the most up-to-date information about things like weather warning, NHS campaigns and what is happening on the roads in your area.

We also have many tips and advice on our website about flooding, Halloween and Bonfire Night, and how to stay COVID secure.

The Councils would also like to encourage residents to get in touch with their Parish and Town Councils if they need information about sand bags locally.

Parish and Town Councils play an important role in times of crisis because most have a bad weather plan; nominated snow wardens and people who are trained to work in road clearing gullies.

Please don't wait for the bad weather to strike. The District and Borough Councils are urging all residents to take a moment to follow their social media, along with their partners Devon County Council, the Met Office and the Environment Agency on Twitter or Facebook. Get in touch with your Town or Parish Council and find out who is in charge of your local emergency plans. Remember, you can also sign up for weather alerts.

Prevention is better than cure and emergency situations will have less impact on everyone if we all get ready for winter.

District Council's Hopes For Improved Home Insulation

As part of its drive to be carbon neutral by 2050, South Hams District Council is recommending committing over £500,000 to improve the energy efficiency of households within the District.

A successful Council bid for The Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) funds, through the Green Homes Grant Scheme, has secured over £330,000 to help improve older homes' energy efficiency as part of a plan to save households money and to cut carbon emissions.

The Council is now proposing to commit a further £200,000 specifically targeted at low-income families living in fuel poverty and to underline its commitment to do it all can to tackle the global climate change and biodiversity challenges.

A Green Homes report going to the Executive Committee, on Thursday 22 October, recommends that whilst the majority of the Council's reserves are kept under review during the uncertainty around the pandemic, it is prudent to release £20k from the Climate Change and Biodiversity Earmark Reserve. This is to support delivery of these schemes and help some of the most vulnerable in our community.

In line with the Council's emerging Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategy, the extra funding, if agreed, will also help to reduce carbon emissions from existing housing, which remain a major source of CO2 emissions in the District.

The Green Homes Grant project will focus on the installation of external wall insulation and air source heat pumps for eligible households.

This scheme would mean properties, which are not on the mains gas supply and rely on alternative, less efficient sources of heating, such as oil and solid fuel, would benefit from these improvements early next year.

Whilst the additional funding, if given the green light, will help secure further reductions in fuel poverty and carbon emissions through a range of different interventions and by leveraging in additional funds.

South Hams District Council's Leader, Cllr Judy Pearce, said: "I'm delighted that we have been able to secure crucial funds to improve energy efficiency in homes, and to support some of our most vulnerable households while underlining our commitment to the Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency.

"With recent information forthcoming from Government on local authorities' funding for the coming year, we are now able to go the extra mile by recommending further funding from our reserves to deliver this vital project and to provide extra officer time in looking at further ways to help carbon reduction.

"This is an important step in reducing the District's carbon footprint in homes which don't currently benefit from efficient insulation or use inefficient methods of heating."

A member of South Hams District Council's Climate Change and Biodiversity Working Group, and Leader of the Council's Green Party, Cllr Jacqi Hodgson, added: "It is so very important that we tackle this particular carbon issue with these very welcome new funds that have become available to us. It is very timely as the winter chill sets in and we provide a low carbon alternative to turning up carbon heavy thermostats.

"Insulating homes and providing more efficient, renewable sources of heating can result in energy savings of between 10 - 30% and the installation of air source heat pumps and external wall and roof insulation will go a long way towards this. I'm very positive that additional resource has been allocated to support this incredibly important work."

To find out more about the Council's commitment to the Climate Change and Biodiversity Emergency, visit: www.climatechange.southhams.gov.uk/achievements-and-activity

To find out more about the Green Homes Project and to see if you are eligible, email:
eco@swdevon.gov.uk

Local Restrictions Support Grant for Businesses

As part of our preparation for any local lockdowns, we are preparing our processes for the awarding of the above grant.

This will be a sum of either £1000 or £1500 (dependent on the rateable value) that will be payable every three weeks that an area is subject to a local lockdown.

The government has provided us with guidance (although this is subject to change) as to how we will support businesses affected by a local lockdown. Whilst part of the scheme is mandatory, there is another part that is discretionary, so, just as we did with Track & Trace, we are looking for the Chief Executive to once again exercise his urgent powers in order for us to go live quickly.

Whilst we have had some guidance, we do not yet know our discretionary element funding so once we now more we will be able to update Members further.

'Super-fast' Electric Vehicle chargers unveiled for public use

Cutting-edge 'rapid' Electric Vehicle (EV) charge points have now been commissioned for public use at three council car parks in South Hams and Teignbridge.

From this week EV users can charge their electric vehicles at Ivybridge's Glanvilles Mill car park, the Chudleigh Library car park and at Buckfastleigh's Mardle Way car park.

The £175,000 project is a partnership of Devon County Council (DCC), South Hams District Council and Teignbridge District Council has been made possible by funding from Highways England.

The 'rapid' charge points are among the fastest chargers available - EVs should have an 80 per cent charge within 30 minutes, and will be operated by SWARCO and compatible with all EVs currently on the market.

This scheme is the latest example of Highways England's Designated Funding programme assisting local authorities to improve air quality across the country, helping DCC and district councils to work together to deliver EV charging points along the A38 in Devon.

Currently DCC and the district councils are working to deliver the government-funded Deletti project, the first phase of which aims to deliver at least 25 charging points in public carparks across the county from early next year.

And DCC is working with the private sector on the government-funded 'Street Hubz' project which aims to deliver at least 100 on-street EV charging points in Exeter from next year.

All three projects are part of local authority efforts to help reduce carbon emissions in Devon.

Last year DCC declared a ‘climate emergency’ and formed the Devon Climate Emergency Response Group (DCERG).

The DCERG is a group of 25 influential business groups, public sector bodies and councils - including South Hams District Council, Devon County Council and Teignbridge District Council.

They are working together to reduce carbon emissions and create a Devon Carbon Plan – a road map to carbon neutrality.

South Hams District Council’s Portfolio Holder for the Environment, Cllr Keith Baldry, said: “It’s really important to us to deliver as many electric vehicle charging points across the District as quickly as we can. The charging points in Ivybridge are a good starting point towards us reducing our carbon footprint. They are perfect for the town but also for travellers on the nearby A38 corridor. We are committed to our Climate Change and Biodiversity Plan and have already started to change over some of our fleet to electric vehicles.”

Councillor Stuart Hughes, Devon County Council’s Cabinet Member for Highways Management, said: “I recognise the difficulty in encouraging more people to use electric cars until there are more charging points and that’s why we are working closely with our district and government partners to deliver charge points in prime locations such as this.

“While the government has committed to banning the sale of all new petrol and diesel cars and vans from 2040, we want more people to start using electric vehicles long before that. Fewer petrol and diesel cars will lead to a reduction in emissions, cleaner air and an improved quality of life for all residents.”

Highways England Project Sponsor Brian Cull said: “We’re pleased to be working with councils across the country to make more provision for drivers making the switch to electric, and over 95% of England’s motorways and major A-roads are now within 20 miles of an electric vehicle charging point.

“The charging points will help drivers of electric vehicles make longer, cleaner journeys and reduce the anxiety of potentially running out of power.

“Elsewhere in the South West, we have already funded charging points along the A303 in Somerset, and this is another example of how we are using designated funding to benefit the environment and communities alongside our roads, as well as the people travelling and working on them.”

Councillor Jackie Hook, Teignbridge District Council’s Executive Member for Climate Change, said: “These two EV charging sites in Teignbridge mark a major milestone in our commitment to move to a more sustainable mode of transport, and we’re grateful to our partners at Devon County Council and Highways England for their contribution to this. Use of electric vehicles will be part of the solution to a cleaner, greener and more sustainable future, alongside increased use of cycling and walking, and better public transport links. We want to promote the use of all these modes of transport through improved facilities and increased safety, to give our residents more ways to reduce their carbon footprint.”

Citizens Advice Recruit

Our partners at South Hams Citizens Advice are currently recruiting a Project Manager for a two year contract.

Please encourage anyone that may be interested to contact Janie as per the documents attached separately.

South Hams District and West Devon Borough Councils Remove the RingGo App Fee

From 12th October, the convenience fee charged across South Hams and West Devon car parks when purchasing parking tickets through the RingGo app will be removed. This brings charges in line with tickets purchased at the meters. South Hams District and West Devon Borough Councils hope this will encourage even more motorists to pay to park via the RingGo app.

The Councils have seen a significant increase in contactless parking payments over recent months with visitors taking advantage of the RingGo app to pay for parking in an easy, touch-free way. New figures show that more drivers have been using RingGo than ever before, when parking in Council owned car parks. On average, Councils across the South West have seen the number of parking sessions in July and August double compared to the number of registered transactions during the same months last year.

The use of the RingGo app through the COVID-19 pandemic has allowed the public to pay for parking without needing to use a Pay and Display machine. Thereby eliminating the need to encounter multiple touchpoints and interact with others when standing in queues.

Cllr Keith Baldry, Executive Member for Environment at South Hams District Council, said: “In the current climate, paying touch-free has become increasingly important. Since most people carry a smart phone these days, paying through the RingGo app is very convenient for consumers and this is shown through the increase in payments via the app this summer.

“It means that drivers no longer need to queue or handle cash to pay for their parking. During the pandemic, touch-free parking is even more important as it reduces the risk of transferring the virus.”

Cllr Terry Pearce, Lead Member for Communities at West Devon Borough Council, said: “RingGo has always been a convenient way of parking because you can quickly and easily extend your stay without the need to go back to the car park to add more money to a machine. It is even better now because we have removed the convenience charge, thereby giving a financial saving to the user in these difficult times.

“This means it costs the same to park whether you pay by cash or through the app. If you have a smartphone, it is also a safer method of paying, because you can pay on your own device without the need to touch the machine at all.”

The Councils and RingGo have been working closely in the past months to ensure the needs of motorists are being addressed in this current climate. RingGo has been providing tailored signage and social imagery, adjusting app experiences, increasing usage of cashless options and even helping with removal of parking machines in some areas. In each of these cases, both parties worked together to establish the best solution for that area and implement it swiftly.

To find out more about parking, go to:

South Hams: www.southhams.gov.uk/parking

West Devon: www.westdevon.gov.uk/parking

Test and Trace Support Grant

If you are required by law to self-isolate because you have been in close contact with someone who has COVID- 19, and you are on a low income, you may be supported through a payment of £500, which would be administered by your local Council.

For people who are facing hardship because they have been contacted by NHS Track and Trace and are required to self-isolate for 14 days, the Government has launched a grant to support scheme.

If you are working, and on a low income, and are unable to work from home, you may be eligible to claim the grant worth £500.

Cllr Tony Leech, West Devon Borough Council's Lead Member for health and wellbeing said: "These grants will help support people most at risk of financial hardship and provide a degree of security for those needing to self-isolate. There are a range of other measures that the Council may be able to offer households who are finding things difficult, so if you are experiencing difficulties, please make contact with us.

Cllr Jonathan Hawkins, South Hams District Council's Executive Member for health and wellbeing added: "It is looking like there is a challenge ahead of us all, we must help to control the COVID virus and stop it spreading. This payment will enable those people who would otherwise not be able to afford to self-isolate, protect others and play their part."

You can apply for the Test and Trace Support Payment of £500, if you meet the following criteria:

- You are over 16 and have been told to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace on or after 28 September 2020.
- You are employed or self-employed.
- You cannot work from home and will lose income as a result.
- You are currently receiving at least one of the following benefits:
 - Universal Credit,
 - Working Tax Credit,
 - Income-based Employment and Support Allowance,
 - Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance,
 - Income Support,
 - Housing Benefit and/or

- Pension Credit.

If you fail to comply with the Test and Trace isolation rules – not self-isolating following a positive test result for COVID-19, or if you are contacted by NHS Test and Trace and instructed to self-isolate because you are a contact of someone who has had a positive test result – you could face a fine. If you test positive for COVID-19, it will also be an offence to knowingly provide false information about your close contacts to NHS Test and Trace. Failure to comply with these requirements may result in a fine of up to £10,000.

If you are facing financial hardship, please get in touch with your local council who may be able to help or signpost you in the direction of an organisation who can support you. You can find your local Councillor through the Council's website:

South Hams www.southhams.gov.uk/article/3703/Town-Parish-Councils

West Devon www.westdevon.gov.uk/article/3703/Town-Parish-Councils

VOYC (Voluntary Organisations for Young People and Children's)

Courses available:

Safeguarding Training for Charity Trustees & Members of Voluntary & Community Sector Management Committees

Delivered Virtually - Wednesday 11 November 2020 (1 pm – 4.30 pm)

Aim of this course: To enable Trustees of registered charities and members of management committees of unincorporated groups, mutuals and co-operatives to better understand their safeguarding responsibilities towards children and young people.

Target Group: Trustees of registered charities and members of management committees

Key learning outcomes are:-

- be more aware of the legal framework for safeguarding and child protection;
- better understand what needs to be done to protect all those involved with the activities of your organisation;
- feel more confident, enabling you to scrutinise any safeguarding related decisions made by your organisation;
- know what resources there are available that can support organisations take reasonable steps to safeguard beneficiaries;
- identify areas of potential risk and how these might be mitigated by your organisation.

'Get to Grips with Social Media' Training

Delivered Virtually - Monday 16 November 2020 (9.30 am – 1 pm)

This course is for Individuals and organisations who are already using social media to promote their enterprise but haven't yet got to grips with how to use it effectively.

Social media needs to work for you and the more you enjoy it, the easier it becomes. This naturally leads to better content that's well received and shared, paving the way for social media success.

What will be covered in this course?

Why use social media?

How to tell a good story.

Source and create great content.

Managing social media – plan, monitor and engage.

Further information and booking form.

Safeguarding Young Volunteers' Training

Delivered Virtually - Wednesday 25 November 2020 (6.30 am – 8 pm)

If you're working with young volunteers then there are a few things you must consider. Organisations and groups must protect their young volunteers and do all they can to make sure that their volunteering experience is enriched and positive. This new VOYC Devon online training session looks at the needs of the groups and individuals you work with from a safeguarding perspective.

Learning Outcomes:

Be more aware of the legal framework for safeguarding;

Better understand how to identify potential safeguarding issues that might occur for young volunteers;

Feel more confident, enabling you to make sure that young volunteers are right for the role;

Know how to ensure that young volunteers are clear about the context of their role;

Identify what additional support and supervision might be required and how to provide this.

Further information and booking form.

Child Protection Training - Group 2 (Awareness)

Exeter – Tuesday 8 December 2020 (9.30 am – 1 pm) – 5 spaces left!

Aim of this course: - To develop understanding and awareness of abuse and neglect of children and young people and provide the knowledge and ability to act effectively on concerns about children and young people.

Target group: Those who work regularly, or have a period of intense but regular contact with children and young people or with staff who may be in a position to identify concerns and who may be expected to contribute to the assessment of the child's developmental needs or the adult's parenting capacity.

At the end of this session you will have:

- a better understanding of the legislative frameworks and guidance in safeguarding children and young people
- a greater awareness of the types of abuse and neglect which children and young people may experience and its impact and how to recognise the signs and indicators.
- a clear understanding of what to do if someone has concerns about a child in Devon or a child makes a disclosure and the processes involved.
- an improved knowledge about the roles and responsibilities of individuals, organisations and the Devon Children and Families Partnership, including identifying, reporting, recording, sharing information.

VOYC Devon also offer Group 2 Child Protection Training in your own setting.

Did you know that VOYC Devon can travel to your organisation to deliver a personal training experience for a group of your volunteers/members of staff? We can offer bespoke Group 2 (Awareness) Child Protection Training (minimum numbers apply).

By offering this service it means that your organisation benefits by:

Less traveling for your staff;

Not having to juggle work/volunteer rotas;

All your volunteers/staff being trained at the same time and in familiar surroundings;

Bespoke training geared at your personal needs/requirements and pace;

Presenting a rich, immersive, real-time and effective face-to-face learning experience;

Immediate help, support and clarification with the group's learning;

Consistently high quality delivery (feedback score 98% for quality and overall training);

A point of contact should you wish to ask any questions about safeguarding after the event.

Group 2 (Awareness) training is crucial to anyone working with children and young people in the voluntary sector – paid or unpaid. This course increases awareness and confidence building in respect of identification, responding, recording and reporting processes involved in child protection. It will also raise awareness of legislation, attitudes & values, and blocks & challenges in safeguarding.

To find out more information and enquire about costs, please phone 01392 250976 or email us on admin@voycdevon.org.uk

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