

SkillsActive – VCS Workforce Project – Ambassador Action Plan – Phase 3 (April 06-March 07)

Objectives	Outcomes	Milestones	Progress as at March 2007
<p>Test the mechanisms drawn out of Phase Two activity, for capturing, publishing and meeting the needs and wants of the SfBN for the volunteer/VCS workforce skills development, to include signposting to relevant qualifications –including the possible inclusion of KPIs into SSC business plans.</p>	<p>Increased awareness of the Voluntary and Community Sector workforce and their skills needs across SkillsActive and its employers and across the SSCs not participating in this cross sector project</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Raise awareness of the cross sector project internally across the departments, regions and home countries and SkillsActive board and sectors • Produce signposting information (incl. NOS) for use by SkillsActive staff, and employers, and stakeholders • Produce a presentation on VCS info and NOS for use by staff • Exchange information with other SSCs at Steering Group and Ambassador Meetings • Promote the cross sector project to all SSCs through a project bulletin (utilising news share at Ambassador meetings) • Produce copy for new SkillsActive website & 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promoted the work of the cross sector project via email updates to all SkillsActive staff and one to one meetings with some. • Disseminated information from the project to stakeholders. For example – held regular meetings with Positive Futures to provide support to their VCS projects. • NOS information promoted through partnership work and to be integrated in NOS tools being developed by SkillsActive. • Representing SkillsActive and the SfB network on the Volunteer Management & Leadership Advisory Group at Volunteering England and kept SkillsActive and the SfB network informed of all developments. • Linked up the Third Sector Leadership Centre to the VCS

		<p>update and improve the project website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access Ambassador training to support Ambassador role 	<p>Ambassadors and to the Management and Leadership cross sector project staff.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Represented SfB network at meetings with Third Sector Leadership Centre. • Organised and facilitated regular Ambassador meetings to share good practice and development opportunities – Development days held 27.09.06, 1.12.06 and 12,04,07 with workshops from, NCVO, Action Learning, Third Leadership Centre and Volunteering England and Inspirational Leadership, the Olympics and the pre volunteer training programme. • Imported the project website into the SkillsActive and updates and improvements provided to SkillsActive Communications Department, to be added to VCS web pages. • Ambassador case studies discussed at meetings and to be used to showcase the VCS work of SSCs
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Produce implementation plans and dissemination events to tackle SSC identified	Input at UKWH events with other Ambassadors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide information about the SFBN project at UKWH events 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested information of annual events and offered to send information about the SfB network cross sector project to UKWH staff.

<p>skills needs – including cross SSC events for regional/national/home country staff run jointly with the Hub.</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Presentation from SkillsActive was made at the WICVA annual conference 07.03.07 • Meeting held with SSC CEOs on 8 March at SkillsActive to discuss future joint work VCS. Further discussions to be held between SSDA and SSC CEOs. • Worked closely with the UKWH and the Volunteering Hub in England
<p>Contribute to the development of the research base and ensuring the research is responsive to volunteering/VCS skills as identified by the SfBN and the network can readily access its information</p>	<p>Maximise research opportunities to support VCS skills development</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work closely with the Research Dept in ensuring that VCS research opportunities are captured • Carry out a mapping exercise of VCS links across SkillsActive 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked in partnership on LMI research for VCS in NI • In Scotland SkillsActive Scotland Regional Manger linked into the VCS mapping exercise across SSCs. • Mapping exercise of VCS links across SkillsActive is underway and is part of forming SkillsActive’s Strategy for the VCS across its sub sectors. • Skills research in the London Region has contributed to the formation of a VCS skills strategy for London.
<p>Use emerging</p>	<p>Ensure that</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support partnership 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Linked Positive futures

<p>methodology within their SSCs to ensure that their emerging sector skills agreements take full account of Voluntary and Community sector skills (of the paid and unpaid workforce), skills issues and volunteer management alongside their wider responsibilities for skills concerned with providing voluntary and community services and share emerging best practice with the SfBN</p>	<p>skills shortages are addressed through the SSA and regional and national action plans</p>	<p>building/working at a national and regional level where possible</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with Sport Dept on VCS representation in CSP/NGB Workforce Development Plans • Link into the Pre Volunteer Training programme for London 2012 	<p>projects up to Regional workforce Development Action Plans for Sport, health and fitness</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The SfB network have been kept up to date with the London 2012 Pre Volunteer Training Programme development and vice versa. • The SkillsActive SSA has taken account of the VCS workforce.
<p>Test the mechanism for ensuring that all pilot SSCs gather LMI information on volunteering in</p>	<p>Work closely with UKWH on the research pilot being undertaken with Skills for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exchange information at PSG and Ambassador Group meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requested research methodology applied to the pilots being carried out between Skills for Health and UKWH – on receipt this will

<p>a similar way. Share the emerging good practice across the whole network.</p>	<p>Health</p>		<p>be disseminated and a request to deliver a workshop to other SSCs has been made.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The MOU consultation carried out by Rock Solid Social Research has highlighted the differences in LMI across the SSC network and this has been acknowledged by the network and the SSDA as an area that requires further attention in the next phase of this project (i.e. post phase three).
<p>Explore models for ongoing sustainability of the ambassador work including possible adoption by the Workforce Hub. Share responsibility with the Workforce Hub for training and facilitating the Ambassadors.</p>	<p>Find an ambassador model that is self sustainable by SSCs</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a sustainable way forward by discussing at Ambassador meetings 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NICVA have trialled similar models that the Cross sector VCs project can learn from. • The VCS Ambassador network for the new project will be discussed alongside the future of the VCS workforce project has been decided. • SkillsActive will continue to work with the VCs and on VCs skills issues as an SSC and through a VCS strategy.
<p>Ensure that feedback on the standards together with suggested</p>	<p>To enable the development of standards that are fit for</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report back on NOS issues raised by employers and stakeholders to inform revision and development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feedback offered on Volunteer Management standards at NCVO at Ambassador induction 27/09 meeting.

improvements are conveyed to the standards setting body.	purpose for all industries	of NOS.	
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