

14/2007

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diverse funding applications for National Youth Volunteering Programme

The youth volunteering charity v has received 754 Expressions of Interest from a diverse range of organisations for the £70 million funding available through its new National Youth Volunteering Programme (NYVP).

Over three years, v will be funding a youth volunteering infrastructure, creating specialist teams to cover every Local Authority area and encouraging the direct delivery of volunteering opportunities for young people aged 16-25 in England.

v is seeking to diversify the network of youth volunteering providers by making funding available to a wide range of organisations, with a specific emphasis on reaching small organisations accessing hard to reach young people at a local level.

The sector was challenged to submit applications which offer volunteering opportunities that tap into young people's passions and concerns and engage them in activities of benefit to both the volunteer and society.

Terry Ryall, v Chief Executive, says: "We are delighted by the positive response from a diverse range of organisations who have taken up our challenge to inspire a new generation of young volunteers.

"Our aim is to harness and build on the expertise and track record of established organisations while encouraging diversification in the network of youth volunteering providers by making funding available to a wider range of local, new and emerging organisations."

Following feedback from the sector, v has offered a two-stage application process to allow organisations to register initial Expressions of Interests before proceeding to submit a detailed full application proposal.

The deadline for Expressions of Interest has now passed and these are now being assessed. Successful organisations will receive written notification in the week commencing September 10 and invited to submit a Full Application by October 19, 2007.

Ends

Media enquiries: contact v PR manager Petra Coveney on 020 7960 7016 or 07824 562282

Notes to Editor

- **v** is the youth volunteering charity launched in May 2006 whose mission is to inspire a new generation of young volunteers in England aged 16-25. **v** is supported by the Office of the Third Sector in the Cabinet Office.
- The charity was set up to implement the recommendations of the Russell Commission outlining a new national framework for youth action and engagement, following a nationwide consultation which included 6000 young people.
- **v** is led by the cares, interests, passions and beliefs of young people. A Youth Advisory Board made up of twenty young people called **v20** is involved in all aspects of the charity's work. Four members of **v20** sit on **v**'s Board of Trustees.
- **v** works with and builds upon the current voluntary sector infrastructure, funds the creation of volunteering opportunities through grants rounds and implements programmes to create awareness and positive understanding of volunteering for young people. For more information on **v**, visit www.wearev.com