Communities in Control Conference 2009

CRISIS, CATASTROPHE, COMMUNITY: REBUILD, RENEW, RECHARGE

Monday 15 & Tuesday 16 June 2009 Melbourne, Australia

communities

PLUS: PRE-CONFERENCE SKILLS DAY

Sunday 14 June 2009

Fundraising, Advocacy & Evaluation: How to use indicators to produce compelling evidencebased proposals

Co-Convened with:





Communities in Control One of the 16 Knowledge Centres of:



Crisis, Catastrophe, Community: Rebuild, Renew, Recharge

In times of physical, environmental and economic hardship, community organisations become **more important than ever**, providing a safety net for the injured, the grieving, the traumatised, the jobless, the homeless, the vulnerable; giving people a place to recover, to belong, to heal; providing help, support, hope, empathy and light relief.

As Australia reels from the shock of calamities from bushfires to floods to global economic turmoil, a new world is emerging. There will be challenges for many people, and for community organisations – but also opportunities.

HOW WILL THE AUSTRALIAN COMMUNITY SECTOR REACT?

- What lessons must be learned from the events of recent months that have at times plunged our world into chaos?
- How can we build the resilience and creativity necessary to rethink our approaches to social, environmental and economic development as we learn to adapt to new ways of doing and being?
- How can we develop the visionary leadership in communities that is necessary to drive these new approaches?
- How can the community sector, business, government, academia and the media come together to pursue solutions to the complex problems before us?
- What do we need to do now, today, to become the modern, dynamic, flexible organisations we need to be in order to open ourselves to new ways forward?

JOIN THE COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL MOVEMENT!

Play a part in the development of solutions to the most challenging questions of our time.

Come together with the leaders of communities across Australia, along with local, state and federal government officials, business leaders and all those who think about or care about Australian communities.

our community.com.au

OUR COMMUNITY

Our Community is a world-leading social enterprise that serves as the national gateway for Australia's 700,000 community groups and schools, providing a onestop shop for practical resources, support and linkages between community networks and the general public, business and government.

CENTACARE CATHOLIC FAMILY SERVICES



Centacare Catholic Family Services is a co-convener of Communities in Control. The organisation provides services to assist those who are vulnerable or disadvantaged with a focus on prevention and greater social inclusion through the promotion of opportunity and advocacy for fairer social structures.

Keynote Speakers



PROFESSOR MICK DODSON AM

Professor Mick Dodson AM has spent decades at the forefront of justice and reconciliation efforts in Australia. A Yawuru man, Prof. Dodson provides a living example of the Communities in Control ethos through his thoughtful, uncompromising and inclusive efforts to create understanding between all Australians and pursue justice for his people. The 2009 Australian of the Year, who is a self-described "persistent bugger," has served in a variety of challenging and highly sensitive roles at community level, with governments, global NGOs and academia.

* Communities in Control 2009 Pratt Fellow.





MAJOR DAVID ELDRIDGE

Major David Eldridge is the Chair of the National Youth Commission Inquiry into Youth Homelessness - a best practice citizens' advocacy initiative that has won plaudits for its efforts to force this long-standing issue into people's consciousness and push for real, sustained change. The campaign was highlighted through the highly acclaimed ABC documentary The Oasis, which aired during Youth Week 2008. A Salvation Army officer for more than 28 years, Major Eldridge has been instrumental in overseeing the Salvation Army's support for communities recovering from disaster.



WENDY HARMER

Wendy Harmer is an author, playwright, broadcaster, and one of Australia's best known humourists. A veteran of the Edinburgh, Montreal and Glasgow-Maufest festivals, Wendy has also worked extensively in London, America and Ireland. Along with her continuing comedy projects, Wendy is an ambassador for Interplast, an international health and humanitarian organisation, and is currently a member of the National People with Disabilities and Carers Council, whose main goal is to advise the Australian Government on the development of a national disability strategy.



BRETT DE HOEDT

Brett is a media trainer and the founder and self-proclaimed Mayor of Hootville Communications, a PR agency that serves not-for-profit clients. Before starting Hootville, Brett worked as a print journalist, talk radio host and publicist with media organisations including Truth, New Idea, Channel 7, ABC TV and radio 3AK. Brett is a true believer in community causes, community organisations, and the people who choose to support them. Alongside his PR work, he is also involved in a range of community organisations, including the Centre for Sustainability Leadership.



CATHERINE DEVENY

Catherine Deveny is a comedy writer, stand-up comedian, and a regular and often controversial opinion columnist in The Age newspaper. Catherine's voice ranges from polemic to compassionate, from joke writer to speech writer, from stand-up to sermons, from cultural terrorist to cultural therapist. She's nothing if not versatile. Catherine has been named in the Top 100 Most Influential Melbournians - and called a serial pest, a professional pain in the bum, and a left-wing Andrew Bolt. Love her or hate her, it's hard to ignore her.

Keynote Speakers



THE HON. JOAN KIRNER AM

Joan Kirner cut her teeth in community activism in school and parents' organisations before being elected to Parliament in 1985. While making her mark as a key parliamentarian and Minister, Joan never lost touch with the grassroots, playing an instrumental role in activities such as the formation of the first Landcare groups, and key educational reforms aimed at promoting social inclusion. Joan became Victoria's first female Premier in 1990, taking over at a time of deep crisis. Since leaving Parliament in 1994, she has remained an active community advocate and champion for the disadvantaged



CLARE MARTIN

Clare Martin is the C€O of the Australian Council of Social Service and the former Chief Minister of the Northern Territory. Clare was elected to the NT Legislative Assembly in 1995, becoming Opposition Leader in 1999 and the Chief Minister in 2001. She was both the first female and first Labor Party candidate to win this office. Reforms during her term included repealing of controversial mandatory sentencing laws and introduction of freedom of information legislation. Clare led her team to another election victory in 2005 before resigning as Chief Minister in 2007.



JONATHON WELCH

Jonathon Welch has combined his profound belief in equality and inclusion with his deep love of music to create and head up some of Australia's bestloved community choirs.One of the finest tenors of his generation, Jonathon began his singing career with the Victoria State Opera in 1984 and has performed with some of the world's most highly acclaimed singers, directors and conductors. These days he is best known as the high-profile director of the newly named Choir of Hope and Inspiration, a choir that has taken the marginalised into the mainstream.



PROFESSOR LEN SYME

Professor Len Syme is the world-leading epidemiologist and authority on the central importance of communities in creating health and wellbeing. Prof. Syme received a PhD in Medical Sociology from Yale University in 1957 and his work has been instrumental in showing that to improve health and wellbeing, people must have control over their own community organisations and networks. Prof. Syme is currently Professor of Epidemiology and Community Health (Emeritus), University of California, Berkeley.

* Communities in Control 2009 International Pratt Fellow.



RICHARD WATSON

Richard Watson is a futurist and author who advises the **UK Government** on innovation and scenario planning. The founder and publisher of *What's Next*, a guarterly report on global trends, Richard also writes for a number of publications including Fast Company. His book, Future Files: A History of the Next 50 Years (Scribe, 2007), has been translated into 12 editions worldwide. **Richard believes** that the future has already arrived, with many people adapting to new circumstances by rejecting globalism for a new sense of localism, and a return to community.

Also featuring:

- The Honourable Jenny Macklin MP, Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs
 The Honourable Pater Pater Land MLA. Minister for Community Development
- The Honourable Peter Batchelor MLA, Minister for Community Development
- Heloise Waislitz, Chair, Pratt Foundation
- The Wunsyaluv Dancers
- The Oasis: Australia's Homeless Youth (ABC documentary) •
- · Merv Neal, laughter yoga practitioner

2009 Westpac Australian Community Idol

The **Jack and Robert Smorgon** Victorian Children's Community Awards

The Program

8.00-9.00	Registration, Tea & Coffee			
9.00-9.30	Welcome			
	RHONDA GALBALLY and FR JOE CADDY, Co-convenors			
	Performance by THE WUNSYALUV DANCERS			
9.30 - 10.15	Opening			
	The Honourable JENNY MACKLIN MP , Minister for Families, Housing, Community Services & Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA)			
10.15 - 11.30	The Community Effect:			
	How networks and connection can help keep people safe and healthy in troubled times			
	Professor LEN SYME , PhD, Professor of Epidemiology and Community Health (Emeritus), University of California, Berkeley			
	With an introduction by Pratt Foundation Chair HELOISE WAISLITZ			
11.30-12.00	Morning Tea			
12.00 – 1.00pm	Communities:			
	The Good, The Bad, The Ugly CATHERINE DEVENY, comedian and columnist			
1.00- 2.00pm	Lunch			
2.00pm – 3.00pm	What Happened Next:			
	The story behind the push to eradicate youth homelessness Major DAVID ELDRIDGE AM , Chair, National Youth Commission Inquiry into Youth Homelessness – a best practice citizens' advocacy initiative			
3.00pm – 3.30pm	Afternoon Tea			
3.30-3.45	The Jack and Robert Smorgon Victorian Children's Community Awards			
3.45-5.00	Westpac Australian Community Idol 2009			
	Showcasing Australia's Greatest Community Groups The three 2009 Australian Community Idol finalists present their claim on the title – hear inspiring stories and insights from best practice community groups and vote on who will take this year's crown. Hosted by WENDY HARMER , broadcaster, author and humourist Introduction by PETER HANLON , Group Executive, Retail & Business Banking, Westpac			
5.00-7.00	The Community Celebration			
	Networking drinks and community entertainment hosted by Australia Post Launch of "Going Green" by Allan Robinson, Group Manager, Letters Group, Australia Post Entertainment to follow			

The Program

8.00 - 9.00	Registration, Tea & Coffee			
9.00 - 9.30	When the Heat is On:			
	How the Kinglake Ranges community is building resilience in the aftermath of disaster DARYL TAYLOR , Co-President, Kinglake Action Network & Development Organisation (KANDO)			
9.30 - 10.00	Federal, State and Local Government:			
	Working in partnership to rebuild communities The Honourable LILY D'AMBROSIO MLA , Parliamentary Secretary, Community Development			
10.00 - 11.00	The 2009 Community Leadership Oration			
	Professor MICK DODSON AM, 2009 Australian of the Year			
11.00 - 11.30	Morning Tea			
11.30 - 12.30	A Return to Community?			
	The futurist's view of what lies in store RICHARD WATSON , Futurist, business adviser and author of <i>Future Files:</i> <i>The History of the Next 50 Years</i>			
12.30-1.30	Lunch			
1.30 - 2.45	The Great Debate:			
	'Income Tax Should be Increased to Assist with Australia's Economic Recovery'			
	Adjudicator: The Honourable JOAN KIRNER AM , Victorian Community Ambassador, former Premier of Victoria			
	Also featuring: JOAN HUGHES, CEO, Carers Australia LESLEY HALL, CEO, Australian Federation of Disability Organisations BRETT DE HOEDT, showman, media trainer and Mayor, Hootville Communications CLARE MARTIN, CEO of ACOSS (Australian Council of Social Service), former Chief Minister of the Northern Territory			
2.45-3.00	Practical Social Inclusion:			
	Beyond the lip service DR JONATHON WELCH AM , Director, Choir of Hope and Inspiration			
3.00-3.30	Special Performance			
	Choir of Hope and Inspiration			
3.30 - 4.00	Announcement of the 2009 Westpac Community Idol Award Winner			
	By DR JONATHON WELCH AM , Director, Choir of Hope and Inspiration and VANESSA NOLAN-WOODS , Head of Community Markets, Westpac			

Pre-Conference Skills Day

Fundraising, Advocacy & Evaluation: How to use indicators to produce compelling evidence-based proposals

As communities across Australia regroup from recent knocks and brace for more tough times ahead it's more important than ever before to know how to tell your group's story in a way that's compelling, revealing and evidence-based. Now is the time to learn how to put to work all the information, indicators and evidence at your disposal, and use them to support your community organisation's mission.

9.30-10.00	Registration, Coffee & Tea			
10.00-10.10	Welcome and Introduction:			
	Dr RHONDA GALBALLY AO, Co-founder & CEO, Our Community			
10.10-11.00	Indicators Come in all Flavours and Colours:			
	How to find them, keep them up to date and use them SUE HAMILTON , Director of Community, Learning & Public Library Partnerships,State Library of Victoria			
11.00-11.30	Morning Tea			
11.30-12.40	Concurrent Sessions (Your Session Number is on your Name Tag)			
	Session 1: Using Indicators for Grant Applications - MEETING PLACE, LEVEL 1 PATRICK MORIARTY, Director of Training & Development, Our Community			
	Session 2: Using Indicators to Advocate for Policy or Programs - MEMBERS ROOM, LEVEL 2 Dr GILL WESTHORPE, Research & Evaluation Consultant			
	Session 3: Using Indicators to Evaluate Success - JOCKEY BAR, LEVEL 2 Dr VALERIE WILSON, Qualitative Research Consultant			
12.40-1.30	Lunch			
1.30-2.30	Pulling Strings:			
	How to persuade government with your soft & hard evidence			
	ALISON MCCLELLAND, Executive Director, Strategic Policy & Research Division, Department of Planning and Community Development			
2.30 -3.45				
2.30 -3.45	Department of Planning and Community Development			
2.30 -3.45	Department of Planning and Community Development The Low Down: Revealing the answers to all the questions you were too afraid to ask about			
2.30 -3.45 3.45 - 4.00	Department of Planning and Community Development The Low Down: Revealing the answers to all the questions you were too afraid to ask about evidence-based proposals Come prepared with questions to submit for this dynamic panel session ALISON MCCLELLAND , Executive Director, Strategic Policy & Research Division, Department of Planning and Community Development Dr VALERIE WILSON, Qualitative Research Consultant Dr GILL WESTHORPE, Research & Evaluation Consultant			

Conference Information

Venue

Moonee Valley Racing Club, Members Gate 1, McPherson Street, Moonee Ponds VIC

Price

1. Pre-Conference Skills Day (Sunday 14 June): \$230 (GST inclusive)

2. Communities in Control Conference (Monday & Tuesday, 15 & 16 June): \$285 (GST inclusive)

3. Combined Pre-Conference Skills Day + Communities in Control Conference: (14-16 June): \$485 (GST inclusive)

Group Bookings

We welcome group bookings. For details please contact Lidia or Steve on (03) 9320 6818 / 9320 6811.

Parking and Public Transport

CAR: Melway Ref: 29A7; free all-day parking available at venue

TRAM: Route #59 Airport West-City; Catch the tram from anywhere on Elizabeth St in the city & get off at Stop 33 (Moonee Ponds Junction). Walk down Dean St, turn left into McPherson St; enter at Members Gate 1

TRAIN: Catch a Broadmeadows/Craigieburn Line train from any City Loop station & get off at Moonee Ponds Station. Walk down Puckle St (becomes Dean St) through shopping strip & turn left at McPherson St; enter at Members Gate 1 Contact Viclink for info on timetables, ticket prices and maps **www.viclink.com.au** Phone 131 638

Inclusions

Registration cost includes lunch and refreshments on each day, drinks and finger food on Monday evening. Price includes GST.

Commitment to Access & Equity

The organisers and supporters of this conference are committed to access and equity and as much as possible will be done to meet the needs of all delegates. Alan Matic of Our Community will be delighted to assist any individual or organisation that requires assistance. Contact Alan on (o3) 9320 6805, or by email to **alanm@ourcommunity.com.au**

Take Away Reference Material

In line with our sustainability objectives, presentations made available for distribution to delegates will not be printed but will instead be available via the Our Community website at **www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic**. DVD recordings of the conference are also available for purchase.

Bookings, Cancellations & Refunds:

Cancellation notice of more than 10 working days prior to the event is 50% refundable; cancellation notice of less than 10 working days prior to the event – NO REFUND; Substitution of attendees is allowed; written notice is required for cancellations and substitutions; no transfers between events.

Split Tickets:

Single day attendance for the two-day Communities in Control conference is not permitted given the low cost of the program.

General Enquiries

Please email service@ourcommunity.com.au or phone (03) 9320 6800.

Program

We aim to keep to the published program, however please note that speakers and timing may change without notice.

Accommodation

For all travel/accommodation needs, Our Community recommends www.lastminute.com.au and www.wotif.com.au



This brochure is printed on 100% Recycled Paper. For every tonne of Tudor RP purchased, \$100.00 is donated to Landcare to assist with rehabilitating old landfill sites around Australia.

Communities in Control Registration

Five Easy Ways to Register TAX INVOICE: If registration is less than \$1000 including GST this 3. MAIL: **1.** PH: (03) 9320 6800 4. ONLINE: document becomes a Tax Invoice Our Community www.ourcommunity.com.au/cic2009 upon completion of payment PO Box 354 5. EMAIL 2. FAX: (03) 9326 6859 ABN: 24 094 608 705. North Melbourne service@ourcommunity.com.au VIC 3051 ALL PRICES INCLUSIVE OF GST **Registration Options** NO. ATTENDEES PRICE SUB-TOTAL 1. Pre-Conference Skills Day Only (Sun 14 June) x\$230 = 2. Communities in Control Conference (Mon & Tues 15-16 June) x\$285 = 3. Combined Pre-conference Skills Day + Conference x\$485 = (Sun, Mon & Tue 14, 15 & 16 June) DVDs (Details: www.ourcommunity.com.au/dvd) NO. COPIES PRIC€ (inc p&h) SUB-TOTAL x\$130 = Pre-order 2009 Communities in Control DVD Purchase the 2008 Communities in Control DVD x \$130 = TOTAL (GST Inc) = **Please Complete Your Details** Name Job Title Org Address Post Code Email Phone Fax Special needs (diet, access etc) If attending the Pre-Conference Skills Day please tick your ONE preferred session: Session 1 Session 2 Session 3 Name Job Title Org Address Post Code €mail Phone Fax Special needs (diet, access etc) If attending the Pre-Conference Skills Day please tick your ONE preferred session: Session 1 Session 2 Session 3 Three easy ways to pay CHEQUE: Please make cheques payable to Our Community Pty Ltd EFT: BSB: 033 132 ACC: 146221 CREDIT CARD: Please fill in your card details in the space provided below and send via post, fax or email. **Credit card details** Mastercard AMEX Card No Expiru Visa Total Amount Date Name on card Signature

Our Alliance Partners

POST

Australia Post provides high-quality mail and parcel services to Australia. Through its community investment program, the company aims to further enrich the lives of Australians. One of the ways it does this is by supporting the Marketing, Media and Post Centre (**www**. ourcommunity.com.au/ mmp), which provides community groups with the tools to spread their message more effectively.



australia's aluminium

A global leader in aluminium production, Alcoa's community partnerships aim to build on the existing strengths of the company, leading to the development of stronger and more inclusive communities. Alcoa and the Alcoa Foundation work with Our Community in supporting communities and community groups through training scholarships in community capacity building and the provision of information resources to accelerate the impact of community groups.



An industry

superannuation fund for people in the health and community services sector, Hesta has a reputation for strong returns, good service and support for the health and community services industry. It is also a strong supporter of community boards and committees through its sponsorship of the Boards, Committees & Governance Centre (www.ourcommunity. com.au/boards)



One of Australia's Big Five banks, Westpac's specially tailored Community Solutions suite of banking services (www. ourcommunity.com.au/ communitysolutions) provides the best transaction and investment accounts available for Australian community organisations. Westpac is a corporate leader in the community.



The Pratt Foundation was established in 1978 by Richard and Jeanne Pratt and is now one of the largest private sources of philanthropy in Australia. Under the leadership of Chair Heloise Waislitz and CEO Sam Lipski, the foundation is known for its visionary focus and cutting edge philanthropy.



A leading insurance company, GIO is a principal provider of insurance solutions for the not-for-profit sector, particularly small community organisations, for whom the company has released a specially tailored insurance product (see www. ourcommunity.com.au/ insurance). GIO, together with its parent company Suncorp, also support the community through live entertainment and sporting events, corporate sponsorship and donations.



The Leader Community Newspaper Group comprises 33 titles spread throughout greater Melbourne. Reaching 1.9 million readers every week, Leader works to reflect the distinct nature of each individual community served by its newspapers. The company has grown to become one of the most respected and recognisable faces of suburban Melbourne.



and Community Development

The Department of Planning and Community Development (DPCD) has been established to closely link planning with community development to build active, confident, and inclusive communities.

DPCD will put the needs of growing communities front and centre. This will ensure we are building strong communities that are well planned, well designed and help Victoria continue to be one of the most liveable States in the world.



Australian Government Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs

The Department of Families, Housing, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaHCSIA) is the Australian Government's principal source of advice on social policy and is responsible for about a quarter of the government's budgetary outlays.

FaHCSIA works in partnership with other government and non-government organisations in the management of a diverse range of programs and services designed to support and improve the lives of Australians.



Telstra is the only communications company in Australia that can provide customers with a truly integrated telecommunications experience across fixed line, mobiles, broadband (BigPond®), information, transaction and search (Sensis®) and pay TV (FOXTEL). Through its support of community sponsorships,

community business partnerships and the Telstra Foundation, Telstra has had a positive and lasting effect on a range of community, health, sporting, artistic and not-for-profit initiatives.



Westpac Community Idol

Visit www.ourcommunity.com.au/communityidol to nominate now!

As part of the 2009 Communities in Control conference, we want to find the community group in Australia that stands out from the pack.

We want to find the community group that is an innovative, vibrant, effective, representative and participative leader.

We want to find the 2009 Community Idol!

Win more than \$6000 in cash & prizes!

How To Apply

It's simple. Nominate your own community group by answering the questions on the next page, briefly explaining how and why your organisation is so special and why it stands as an inspiration to other community groups. It is not about being the biggest or the best resourced or the most high profile group, it's about being a community group that does what it does well and stands out as a beacon of community leadership.

To be eligible for the mantle of "2009 Community Idol" you need to return your entry to Our Community by Friday 29 May 2009. Three community groups will be selected as finalists and a representative of each will present their case at this year's Communities in Control conference in Melbourne on 15 June, 2009. Ten additional "highly commended" groups will also be acknowledged.

Attendees at the conference (expected to be a capacity crowd of 1500 from right across the community sector) will then vote on which of the three short-listed groups they believe is most deserving of the title of 2009 Westpac Community Idol. The prize will be announced at the end of day two of the conference on 16 June, 2009.

Prizes

All three 2009 Westpac Community

Idol finalists receive accommodation and flights for two group representatives to attend Communities in Control 2009 (interstate groups only), plus a package of Our Community books, newsletters and training vouchers, and 2008 and 2009 Communities in Control DVDs - a total prize package valued at more than \$3000.

The community group acclaimed as the 2009 Westpac Community Idol will also receive \$3000 in cash.

Judging

A panel of eminent community leaders will select three finalists and 10 groups to receive commendations. A representative of each finalist group will be notified by telephone. The three finalists will be interviewed at the conference, with the winner decided via a popular vote of conference attendees.

Eligibility - Terms & Conditions

The 2009 Community Idol must:

- Be a community organisation (i.e. A notfor-profit incorporated or unincorporated association, society, club, group or auspiced project)
- Have been in existence for a minimum of two years

All nominations must be approved by the group's Chair/President or head staff member.

Please note that in order to ensure that a range of groups are given the opportunity to have their voices heard through Community Idol, highly commended and finalist groups are placed in the "win bin" and are not eligible to reapply for three years.

To view previously honoured groups go to **www.ourcommunity.com.au/halloffame**

Closing Dates

All entries must be received by Our Community by 5pm on Friday 29 May 2009

How to Enter

Choose an option:

- Enter online by going to www. ourcommunity.com.au/communityidol/ signup and filling in the online form.
- 2. Answer the questions on the next page and attach your group's details. Post to Our Community, PO Box 354 North Melbourne 3051, or fax to (03) 9326 6859.
- 3. Copy the headings from the next page into a Word document, provide the information requested and email to service@ourcommunity.com.au.
 - Download an entry form by visiting www.ourcommunity.com.au/ communityidol. Fill in the form and post to Our Community, PO Box 354 North Melbourne 3051, or fax to (03) 9326 6859.
 - If you would like a hard copy entry form posted out to you, please contact Our Community by telephoning (03) 9320 6800 or email to service@ ourcommunity.com.au. Please allow plenty of time for return mail.



Westpac Community Idol

Entrant Details

Group Name					
Mission of Group					
Year Formed	Main Geographic Area of Operati	ion			
Postal Address		Post Code			
Contact Person	Position				
Email Address					
Phone	Mobile	Fax			
Website					

Questions

In as few words as possible, but enough to give us a good overview of your group and its work, please provide answers to the following questions as an attachment to this form or online at **www.ourcommunity.com.au/** communityidol, or via email to service@ourcommunity.com.au

Please tell us how your group meets the criteria below:

1. Promotes accessibility and equal participation in your community.

Explain how your community group has opened its arms to all people in the community – for example, people with disabilities, people from disadvantaged or under-represented groups, etc.

2. Has built a dynamic, forward-thinking Board or Committee of Management.

Explain how your Board/Committee is representative of all stakeholders, including service users and local business, and what action it has undertaken to promote the group's financial health, to manage risk and to promote innovation.

3. Has pursued excellence in fundraising.

Explain how your group has shared the fundraising burden within the group, broadened the fundraising base and developed and implemented innovative fundraising ideas.

4. Has shown leadership and advocacy.

Explain how your community group has demonstrated strong community leadership and been prepared to stand up for its cause.

5. Has a track record that makes it stand out from the pack.

Explain what it is that makes your community group so special.

6. Has an effective approach to communication

Explain how your community group has got its name, activities, actions and aims out to members, supporters, volunteers, donors and stakeholders - as well as the wider community.

Signature: