

Spending review: quick summary of points for the Voluntary and Community Sector

- Council budgets reduced by 7.1% every year for 4 years. Ring-fences on government revenue grants to be removed, apart from schools and public health, giving more freedom on where to spend what's left.
- There will be an estimated 490, 000 fewer public sector jobs in 4 years time.
- Office for Civil Society has announced £100m one year transition fund for voluntary and community sector organisations. Likely to be for organisations with income between £50k and £10m that have good prospects for delivering public services. 5 partners, including Community Development Foundation (to be unquangoed and become a charity) and Big Lottery Fund are being assessed to deliver the fund. You can apparently email and find out more about this transitionfund@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk
- Office for Civil Society budget will be £470m over the 4 years covered by the review. How much goes to the new National Citizen Service and to the proposed Community First Fund is not yet decided.
- Cabinet Office budget to be reduced by £55m but with extra (unspecified) funding for the Big Society – training 5,000 new community organisers and piloting the National Citizen Service.
- Train to Gain is described as a one of the 'lower priority' programmes that will be abolished (others aren't named).

- There will be 50% increase in adult apprenticeships – 75,000 new ones over 4 years.
- Science budget is protected - £220m confirmed for the St Pancras UK Medical Research and Innovation Centre.
- Additional £1bn for adult social care by year 4 of review and a further £1bn through the NHS to support joint working with councils.
- Sure Start protected in cash terms but to revert to original purpose. 15 hours of free early years education to be available to disadvantaged 2 year olds.
- Cuts to Supporting People programme minimised (£6.5b committed for 4 years).
- Introduction over next 2 parliaments of a single Universal Credit to replace all working age benefits and tax credits. This will go alongside a new Work Programme providing intensive help to people looking for work – to be delivered by the private and voluntary and community sectors. Payment potentially related to resulting reduction in benefit claims.

Whitehall departments will publish business plans next month which will give more detail about where cuts are being made.