

LLOYDS BANK FOUNDATION

for the Channel Islands



Press Release

20th November 2015

Charity leaders address funding issues in the local third sector

Over eighty Jersey charity representatives met this week at the Pomme D'Or hotel to discuss funding for the future at the Lloyds Bank Foundation's annual autumn seminar. This half day conference was a marked change in venue in order to commemorate the Foundation's 30 years of grant giving, which has exceeded £15 million since 1985.

On Monday, Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands hosted the half-day conference, "Who Pays the Piper," to discuss funding opportunities and challenges for Jersey charities. The event was attended by over eighty senior representatives of local charities from across the third sector, as well as funding sources including the States.

The conference invited participants to share their views and ideas on how local charities should position themselves to optimize their fundraising from all sources, which is different from the seminar's usual single point of view shared by a guest speaker. There was a panel session and workshop session which involved not just the charities, but other funding sources including foundations, trusts, government bodies, and philanthropists and allowed for many perspectives and ideas to be shared broadly.

The conference was kicked off with an opening address from Foundation chairman John Boothman, where he pointed out that the long economic downturn had increased the demand for voluntary services while creating tough funding conditions. The challenge was to find new ways of attracting grants and donations while safeguarding existing sources. He said he was delighted to see so many charities represented, who between them, had helped tens of thousands of island residents, many of whom faced real challenges and hardships and who relied on the charities to maintain a good quality of life.

Mr. Boothman added "The workshop discussions have produced some valuable learning points for the States, the funding bodies, and the charities which had to compete for often reduced funding."

An expert panel discussed the issues they had encountered in their own organisations, and how they had turned these to their own advantage. The second session comprised workshop teams who added their own insights. Among the conclusions reached was the need for a workable funding strategy, better communications, more networking and greater use of social media. There was a strong feeling that improving reciprocal understanding between charities, government, and other funding bodies would help to deliver better outcomes for those dependent on charitable support.

After the final workshop summaries were wrapped up the charities were invited for a reception and drinks to further celebrate the dedication and support from the Foundation over the past three decades.

John Hutchins, Executive Director, Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands, said:

“This was a new venture for us as previous events have featured a single guest speaker. On this occasion we really wanted to get to the heart of the funding question, as without adequate financial support Jersey charities cannot ensure the continuity of the invaluable work they do. Judging by the very positive feedback we have had so far, the conference was a real success.”

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Notes to Editors:

The Lloyds Bank Foundation for the Channel Islands is an **independently-run** charitable trust with its own Board of Trustees. There are three branches to the Lloyds Bank Foundations which spread across England and Wales, Northern Ireland, and the Channel Islands. The Foundations are funded by the profits of Lloyds Banking Group and operate a range of grant programmes to provide funding for registered charities that focus on improving quality of life, creating equality of opportunity and tackling the disadvantage of those who are marginalised in society.

2015 marks the 30th anniversary of the Foundations, which have distributed over £575m to charities in communities across the UK, more than £15 million specifically in the Channel Islands, which has helped to tackle disadvantage since 1985.