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## \$3.4m Investment

The Government is investing \$3.4 million over the next four financial years to strengthen capacity within the community and voluntary sector.

The funding will be used to continue the work that the community-based working groups – Community Sector Taskforce and Te Wero – have been carrying out over the last year.

Work will progress on national and regional sector capacity building projects and will include:

- annual regional and sectoral forums to identify issues for discussion with Government
- a national regionally-linked structure and electronic information network to provide information and support to non-government agencies
- best practice examples for case studies and training on effective Treaty partnership models
- work with local government to engage the community and voluntary sector in community plans
- work with Pacific and ethnic minority communities to ensure they are able to participate in national and regional initiatives
- development of an effective monitoring and reporting system for the performance of government agencies in engaging with tangata whenua groups
- tools and ways to facilitate engagement between government agencies and tangata whenua organisations.

## New Director

Brenda Ratcliff has been appointed Director, Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS).

Brenda comes from Barnardos NZ, where she is currently Director of Strategic Policy responsible for managing the Strategic Policy Team and the Family Advocacy Information and Resource Centre.

Brenda also has public sector experience with Occupational Safety and Health. She brings to the position practical knowledge and experience of the community and voluntary sector, and skills in government policy development. She replaces Sue Driver, who as Establishment Director has developed the profile of OCVS since it was formed in September 2003.

## Value Of Sector To Economy

Funding for the collation of statistics which will show the value of the community and voluntary sector to the economy was announced in the Budget.

New Zealand does not currently have an official basis on which to measure the full value of non-profit organisations, and no systematic collection of information on volunteering and unpaid work.

The funding will enable Statistics NZ to develop two satellite accounts – one for non-profit organisations and one for households. Satellite accounts provide in-depth analyses of parts of the economy that are not currently well described in the country's National Accounts.

The non-profit satellite account will pull together data which provides a picture of the size, structure and revenue of the non-profit sector, including information on membership numbers, employment and volunteer input.

The satellite accounts for households will add a picture of unpaid work and informal volunteering that takes place outside of non-profit organisations.

Production of the satellite accounts will enable New Zealand to join an



*A volunteer at Aro Valley Citizens Advice Bureau assists a client with her inquiry.*

international project run by Johns Hopkins University, USA, which compares data on the non-profit sector around the world.

A local advisory committee will be set up later this year to oversee New Zealand's involvement in the project.

The Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS) is co-ordinating involvement with the Johns Hopkins project, in conjunction with community trusts and the Association of Non-Governmental Organisations of Aotearoa, and will liaise with Statistics New Zealand.

It will take about two years to compile initial baseline data, with additional information being added on an annual basis.

*For further information contact:  
OCVS Senior Analyst Diana Suggate  
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# Local Solutions For Local Problems

How can local organisations work together to make better use of scarce resources?

This was one of the questions asked by keynote speaker and Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector (OCVS) staff member Hugh Lawrence at the recent Taranaki Funding Expo.

Held at New Plymouth's Civic Centre in May, the expo was organised by the Joint Action Group, a partnership of community, local and central government organisations and businesses. The expo, which was attended by 200 people, aimed to bring funding organisations and community groups together to share ideas and information.

"It was a great opportunity for people working at a local level to come up with local solutions. One issue I explored was the fact that the number of community organisations that exist is greater than the amount of funding available. I got people talking about duplication of services and resources and how they might work in different ways to address that issue," Hugh says.

"By the end of the day many people had made connections to help them build on the ideas that started to emerge. These will be fed back to expo organisers to follow up and used to guide the Office's ongoing work with government agencies. The Office is keen to facilitate similar workshops in other areas."

Hugh also provided an update on key projects to address funding issues such as Funding for Outcomes – a project to simplify funding agreements for community organisations contracting with more than one government agency – and development of an online resource for public servants on good funding practices.

If you are planning a regional funding expo and would like an OCVS staff member to facilitate a similar workshop, email: [ocvs@msd.govt.nz](mailto:ocvs@msd.govt.nz)



OCVS Senior Analyst Hugh Lawrence was a keynote speaker at the recent Taranaki Funding Expo.

## Briefly

The Registrar of Incorporated Societies is encouraging societies to file outstanding financial statements for 2002-2003. Non-filing of financial statements indicates that a society is no longer in operation and the Registrar should remove the society from the register. The Registrar would prefer not to remove societies that are still in operation. Outstanding financial statements should have been sent to the Companies Office, Private Bag 92061, Auckland Mail Centre by 4 June 2004. The list of affected societies can be viewed at [www.societies.govt.nz](http://www.societies.govt.nz). Click on the Information Library in the left hand menu, select Other Entity Registers, then click on Incorporated Societies. The list was also published on 2 May in the Sunday Star Times. Further queries can be made to [info@societies.govt.nz](mailto:info@societies.govt.nz) or freephone 0508 SOCIETIES (0508 762 438).

Enrolments in the Postgraduate Diploma in Management of Not for Profit Organisations are now being accepted for the next semester. Based within the University of Waikato's Management School, the diploma is taught entirely online so offers a flexible form of postgraduate study for anyone who has internet access. Scholarships are available to assist with fee payments. Further information can be found at [www.mngt.waikato.ac.nz/community](http://www.mngt.waikato.ac.nz/community). For information regarding the scholarships visit [www.waikato.ac.nz/research/scholarships](http://www.waikato.ac.nz/research/scholarships). Specific enquiries can be sent to either Associate Professor Maria Humphries [mariah@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:mariah@waikato.ac.nz) or Suzanne Grant [slgrant@waikato.ac.nz](mailto:slgrant@waikato.ac.nz)

A resource to help community and voluntary organisations identify and manage liability and risk will be available in August. The Office for the Community and Voluntary Sector has worked closely with community organisations and government agencies to identify the issues and determine the most effective ways to deal with what is considered by the sector to be a complex and important issue.

An online toolkit to help public servants improve their practice when funding community, voluntary and tangata whenua organisations will be launched at the end of August. The toolkit was one of the recommendations in 'He Waka Kotuia' – the report of the Community-Government Relationship Steering Group. The toolkit will provide examples of good practice models used by government agencies in their funding arrangements with non-government organisations. While directed at public servants, the toolkit will be of interest to the community and voluntary sector.