



Investing in the third sector
Improving public services

Futurebuilders England Recession Policy – November 2008

Futurebuilders will continue to lead the third sector during this period of recession by creating a stabilising force for the entire sector. We will do this through the provision of ongoing active funding, practical support, and relevant information and resources.

Futurebuilders was established to support third sector organisations who are strong and viable but who cannot access commercial sources of loan finance. We will continue to offer such support during this period of economic uncertainty – helping organisations who did not contribute to the current crisis but are now feeling the crunch in their efforts to deliver more services with fewer resources.

We will be offering a combination of financial support, practical advice and guidance, not only to our current and potential investee organisations, but to the entire third sector. We want the sector to know we are 'open for business' – currently sourcing new investments, and that we will continue to do so throughout the economic downturn. We believe that third sector organisations can not only weather the recession storm, but can create value and opportunities within it.

We will support new customers by:

- Increasing our visibility as an active social investor to meet the increased borrowing needs in the sector created by the decreased activity of traditional lenders
- Actively seeking applicants from arenas such as education and training which may see new opportunities
- Maintaining our robust due diligence to ensure financial projections and assumptions are realistic and reflect the current climate

We will support current investees by:

- Actively encouraging regular contact to discuss practical support needs
- Offering business development support to tackle business planning challenges and encouraging relevant organisations to take advantage of new opportunities created by the current climate

We will lead the Third Sector by:

- Hosting seminars and workshops on topics such as weathering the recession, expense reduction, and financial re-engineering
- Participating in 'thought leadership' via our publications and the Third Sector media
- Providing practical tips and links to other resources on our website

Useful links

Recession: Definitions and Background

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/business/7495340.stm>

Fundraising in a Recession

<http://www.resource-alliance.org/resources/enewsletter/499.asp>

Reporting Lost Savings

https://www.acevo.org.uk/index.cfm/display_page/news_press/control_contentType/news_list/display_open/news_1363

News

<http://www.guardian.co.uk/business/recession>

<http://business.timesonline.co.uk/tol/sitesearch.do?query=recession&submitStatus=searchFormSubmitted&mode=simple§ionId=801&queryKeywords=recession>