

Wales Council for Voluntary Action

Supporting charities, volunteers and communities



7. Finding and getting money

7.3.1 Accounting for volunteers' time in funding applications

Volunteers' time as a financial asset has gained in importance with funders. The value however, varies from fund to fund.

The following list of rates has been compiled as a guide to the value some funders place on volunteer time.

The **Annual Survey of Hours & Earnings** (2008) recommends for UK full time, not including part time £11.87, part time £7.49.

The **Arts Council of Wales** usually allows £50 a day for labour, £100 a day for skilled labour and technical services, and £300 per day for professional services.

The **Big Lottery Fund** doesn't put a financial value on volunteers' time as they do not ask for match funding but applicants should refer to the relevant guidance material for the programme they are applying to.

The **Heritage Lottery Fund** has issued guidance on the costing of the value of voluntary input into projects, when assessing the contribution from these sources as partnership funding for lottery applications. It suggests: professional services - up to £350 a day; skilled labour - £150 a day; unskilled labour - £50 a day.

The **Sports Council for Wales** gives no precise figure but expects organisations to be able to justify any costings given *eg* voluntary labour on building work is expected to be professionally managed and certified.

Environment Wales allows £6.50 per hour or £260 per 40-hour volunteer week.

European Structural Funds accept volunteers' time as match funding. Hourly rates claimed must relate to the type of work undertaken and all costings must be justified. An information sheet about this can be obtained from WCVA's Helpdesk on 0800 2888 329, email help@wcva.org.uk.

Countryside Council for Wales will accept voluntary labour as an eligible cost of a project but this must not exceed the actual cash expenditure on the project. They allow £6.25 per hour for unskilled labour (£50 per day), £12.50 per hour (£100 per day) for skilled labour and £37.50 per hour (£300 per day) for professional services.

Volunteering in Wales Fund does not put a monetary value on volunteering but pay legitimate out-of-pocket expenses.

For further information contact

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