

NEWS RELEASE
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Charities tell Chancellor they can deliver effective public services at a better price for the taxpayer

Charity leaders are to meet with the Chancellor this morning to outline how they can help to achieve quality and efficient public services.

ACEVO, which represents more than 2000 charity leaders, says that by understanding the people they serve and by providing preventative services they can help achieve significant long- term savings and deliver services that are more aligned with individual service user needs.

The past decade has seen a dramatic growth in the number of public services delivered by charities, with the 'third sector' now earning significantly more than it receives from voluntary donations. Key areas in which charities deliver services include health & social care, education and offender management. Despite this growth Stephen Bubb, Chief Executive of ACEVO, still believes that the true potential of the sector is yet to be realised.

Charities say there are specific areas in which they can add value and have challenged the government to allow them to run entire services in which voluntary sector deliverers have demonstrated their expertise, including end of life care, the management of type 2 diabetes and the rehabilitation of prisoners.

Speaking on today's meeting, Stephen Bubb, Chief Executive of ACEVO, said:

"We are making an irresistible offer to government. Devolving more public service delivery to the voluntary sector will benefit both the economy and service users who receive more effective and personalised services. We have the opportunity to transform the way we deliver our public services and we believe that government needs to be bold in putting the voluntary sector at the heart of this.

"We hope the Treasury will recognise the potential there is in our offer and will work with us to ensure the third sector can play a vital role and central role, in

the delivery of top quality services and cost-effective public services that will contribute to our economic recovery and growth.”

The meeting with the Chancellor precedes a summit ACEVO is to hold with members of the Shadow Cabinet in March on the future role of the third sector in public service delivery in an environment of public spending cuts.

Both meetings come as a result of a proposal made by ACEVO members to Alistair Darling for a summit in a joint letter ahead of last year’s pre budget report.

-ENDS-

Editor’s notes:

- ACEVO (Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations) is the professional body representing charity and not-for-profit sector chief executives in the UK, with over 2000 members.
- The broad not-for-profit sector now employs the full-time equivalent of 1.5m staff, with a collective annual turnover of £46bn.
- ACEVO is committed to improving third sector leadership skills worldwide