



BVSC

Bexley Voluntary Service Council
Celebrating 50 years of serving the community

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015

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INTRODUCTION



CHAIR

It is an honour to be writing my first report as your organisation's new Chairperson in its 50th year. Cause for celebration indeed!! Thousands of people have come through our 7 front doors from 35-37 Broadway to the Crayford Manor House today...

Having first become a volunteer with the local Red Cross when I was 6 years old in 1965 and having lived my whole life in Barnehurst I have witnessed the incredible changes that have taken place during those 50 years first hand. In particular communications have been completely transformed. Where would we be now without the internet or mobile phones?

Communication is at the heart of what a Council for Voluntary Services / Volunteer Centre is all about and our model in Bexley continues to evolve and grow to meet the needs and expectations of our local people and groups in a landscape of continual change.

As one of your Board members with responsibility for oversight of the big and small picture I am sure that we, as a team, have the passion, commitment and tenacity to face whatever challenges lie ahead and further to become leaders and pioneers in our field of local voluntary sector infrastructure services; bringing creativity and innovation to the fore whilst ensuring attention to detail, accountability and transparency to build authentic relationships in our communities.

Congratulations and sincere thanks to each and every one of you who has ensured that we reached 50 years' in existence and we remember those who are no longer with us at this time. On behalf of everyone I would also like to say a big thank you to our team of staff, volunteers, supporters and funders who have worked so hard this year.

Patricia Giles, BVSC Chairperson



CHIEF EXECUTIVE

The role of infrastructure organisations like BVSC and the value we provide in very difficult financial times when key frontline services are losing their funding, have been topical issues this year with the publication of the report by the Independent Commission on the future of Local Infrastructure (January 2015). As an organisation, these issues have been central to our internal change programme - a comprehensive state of the sector research project, staff and trustee planning days and a focus group with commissioners have helped us review our strategy and set our business plan for the

next three years. A governance review has helped us consolidate and streamline our trustee board.

Simply put, infrastructure organisations need to be useful to our members and funders - strategically in terms of identifying opportunities for the sector, and in being responsive when needs arise. So we are very proud this year to have promoted and supported the development of a social prescribing pilot in Bexley, to have coordinated and supported the Winter Angels programme across Bexley, Greenwich and Lewisham and to have supported the children and young people's sector through the prime contractor procurement process. All three projects show the incredible value of collaboration, both within the sector and with statutory sector partners, and the ability of the sector to mobilise quickly to respond to need.

The year has also presented some challenges - our move to Crayford Manor House in May 2014, and a restructure due to a reduction in funding. Three longstanding members of staff left in this year; Julie Bristow, Lynne Regan and Pam Sloan, who have contributed hugely to the development of BVSC over the last 17 years. We give them our thanks and best wishes for the future.

This year, 2015, we celebrate 50 years of supporting the voluntary sector in Bexley. Despite difficult times ahead, there are clear signs that our statutory sector partners recognise the important role of the voluntary and community sector and the need to sustain it. We look forward to working with you to develop a strong, active and vibrant voluntary sector that can make a positive difference to the lives of people in Bexley.

Sakthi Suriyaprakasam, BVSC CEO.

Who we are and what we do

Bexley Voluntary Service Council is the Council for Voluntary Service (CVS) for the London Borough of Bexley. BVSC has been an independent organisation serving the residents of Bexley since the London Boroughs were formed in 1965.

Our aim is to support local voluntary and community groups by providing them with training, advice and support. We also facilitate networks and forums which bring the voluntary sector together and provide a platform for the sector to put forward its views on issues that affect them.

In the early 1970s we developed a Volunteer Centre to match potential volunteers with groups seeking help and the Centre has been a part of BVSC ever since. The Centre is a member of and accredited by Volunteering England.

Our Vision:

That there is a strong, sustainable and influential voluntary and community sector able to make a positive difference to people's lives in Bexley.

Our Values:

In the course of our work we will:

- ⊙ work in a trustworthy and transparent manner
- ⊙ develop our expertise and strive for an excellent standard of professional behaviour from all staff, volunteers and trustees
- ⊙ maintain our independence from government
- ⊙ base our responses to consultations that we submit on behalf of the sector, on our consultations with groups
- ⊙ help foster a culture of co-operation, understanding and tolerance within the diverse community in Bexley
- ⊙ promote volunteering as an integral part of life in Bexley
- ⊙ promote the role of the voluntary sector based on our belief that the sector is an equal partner and should have an active role in the planning and delivery of services in Bexley

Our Aims:

- ⊙ To ensure that BVSC has the resources for continuous improvement and development
- ⊙ To ensure that BVSC remains the lead supplier of support for volunteers and volunteering
- ⊙ To increase the resilience of the (Voluntary Community Sector) VCS in Bexley
- ⊙ To create and maintain an influential and supportive relationship between the local VCS and its public sector partners in delivering on the Health and Social Care and Children and Young People agendas

How we support our community groups

CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE (CYP)

Support for children, youth and family organisations.

Our Children, Youth & Families Partnership Officer (CYFP Officer) provides dedicated and specialist support in the areas of:

- ⊙ Funding
- ⊙ Commissioning
- ⊙ Partnerships & collaborations
- ⊙ Safeguarding policies/procedures
- ⊙ Developing services to further meet the needs of children and young people

Support is offered through one-to-one sessions with organisations, the Children & Young People's VCS Network and training events. A regular e-bulletin is produced to keep the sector up to date with any policy, training or funding opportunities relevant to the children and young people's sector.

Additionally the CYFP Officer is your first point of contact for the Children & Young People's Partnership Board (formerly the Children's Trust) and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2014-2015

2 CYP network meetings attended by over 20 organisations to share information, network and discuss key topics such as managing Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and latest funding opportunities.

Over **30** E-Bulletins to the CYP network covering local and national news, funding opportunities, policy updates, consultations and events of interest.

CONSORTIA DEVELOPMENT: We supported the development of a Children's and Young people's consortium in response to the commissioning of Children's Services in the London Borough of Bexley (LBB), working with organisations who identified that they would like to form a consortium to respond to the opportunity.

Enabling Quality Assurance: We offered intensive support to 5 groups in working towards Level 1 Information Governance compliance and The Safer Bexley Mark resulting in 3 organisations achieving the Safer Bexley Mark this year.

Representation: Representing the sector at the Local Safeguarding Children's Board Effectiveness sub-group, The Children and Young Peoples Partnership Board, The Early Help Review and the Quality Review group, The Family Nurse Partnership Advisory Board, The Children's Health Forum, and the Sexual Health Network. The sector has been informed of key outcomes of these groups via regular briefings including the LSCB intention to carry out Section 11 audits and multi-agency briefings in relation to the revised CAF.

Influencing The CYP network forum and the CYP e-bulletin has included information on key consultations to inform the sector and to influence practice and policy. Consultations included The Department for Education (DfE) consultation on the revision of the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) code of practice: 0-25 years, The DfE consultation on enabling local authorities to delegate virtually all children's social care functions to third party providers and The London Borough of Bexley's budget consultation.

BVSC also developed a survey "*Helping Children and Young People in Bexley to enjoy a Healthy Life*" which enabled groups to help us identify gaps and plan for the future.

*Young volunteer Ronan helping Seun hold a pen to colour
in a sun catcher, watched by the Mayor.*

(Bexley SNAP)



Support on Adult Health & Social Care

BVSC understands that many of our voluntary organisations are engaged in working with adults in the health and social care arena. We have therefore always had a special focus on health and social care and offered support on:

- ⊙ Funding
- ⊙ Commissioning
- ⊙ Partnerships & collaborations
- ⊙ Safeguarding policies/procedures
- ⊙ Developing services to meet health and social care needs
- ⊙ Support and training to enable effective participation by voluntary sector representatives

This year, we were fortunate in being able to work closely with our colleagues in Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Council to co-design a social prescribing project for Bexley. From initial conversations at the CCG commissioning intentions event in early 2014, a project group met regularly over the year to research different models of social prescribing, and assess the model with the best fit for Bexley, taking into consideration needs, target groups, data collection, and available funding. The funding for the project was agreed in November 2014, and the 15-month pilot began in April 2015. Delivered through Bexley MIND, the pilot will work with GPs in the Clocktower locality. This is an important development for the voluntary sector in Bexley, as it enables us to work more systematically with GPs and has the capability for showing the impact of the sector's work with individuals.

Another important development was the implementation of the Care Act. In May 2014, the Care Bill received Royal Assent and became the Care Act 2014. The Care Act is the biggest change to Adult Social Care legislation for 60 years and will mean a significant change for adult social care. In responding to this, Bexley Council set up four project groups to plan and implement the work, with a Care Act steering group set up to oversee the implementation. BVSC became a member of the steering group in October 2014. As a result, the sector has been consulted on developments on the Care Act through the Voluntary Forum and via a specific meeting between commissioners and providers to explore which areas of the Care Act could be delivered by the voluntary sector, and to explore opportunities for commissioning and market shaping.

In April 2015, BVSC, in partnership with London Borough of Bexley (LBB), hosted the launch meeting of the Advice Providers Forum. This initiative was intended to build on the work of the Welfare Reform Group which was convened to consider the implications of welfare reform and plan how best to support Bexley residents who would be affected. The proposed purpose of the Advice Provider's Forum was to bring together key representatives from different sectors to increase understanding of the continuing challenges posed by welfare reform changes that are taking place within the context of a limited and decreasing resource for advice work.

This first meeting was very well attended by representatives from the voluntary sector, the Council and housing associations who were keen to continue meeting. Following the meeting, BVSC put together an information sheet detailing advice that was available through the voluntary sector including services delivered by many of the providers at the meeting. This will not only help residents to identify the best place to seek advice but will also enable better signposting between agencies.

The advice providers forum was convened once more in the year and agreed a data framework for advice services, discussed how providers could join up services better, and looked at the role of a number of sub-sectors like the private rented sector, housing associations and food banks.

Another initiative that was started this year was Building Health Partnerships programme. The programme is designed to support local partners in health and social care to focus on the mutual benefits of strong and informed CCG and Public Health [PH] engagement with the local Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise [VCSE] sector and the development of a range of activities that will support health and wellbeing in the local community.

Bexley was one of six areas selected to be part of the programme, following submission of a successful bid by BVSC.

The first session, held on 31st March 2015, focused on exploring opportunities and barriers to cross sector collaboration, and jointly discussing and building on the initial application to this programme to support health and wellbeing in the local community. The day was attended by 31 participants from the voluntary and community sector, the Council and the CCG. An action plan was developed by the end of the day encompassing co-commissioning and co-design, and better engagement between GPs and other health and social care providers and the voluntary and community sector. The programme will continue through two further facilitated meetings in the next six months.

Apart from specific projects, BVSC has continued to attend a range of forums and partnerships throughout the year to represent the sector, including:

- ⊙ The Health and Well-being Board and Executive Groups
- ⊙ The JSNA Advisory Board
- ⊙ Chief Executive Officers' Group (CEOG)
- ⊙ Integrated Care Collaborative meetings
- ⊙ The Safer Neighbourhood Board
- ⊙ Healthwatch Steering Group
- ⊙ The Care Act steering Group
- ⊙ Bexley Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board
- ⊙ The People Overview and Scrutiny Panel
- ⊙ The Patient Council
- ⊙ The South East London Commissioning Unit stakeholder events

We have also continued to hold quarterly Voluntary Forum meetings to communicate and consult with the sector on key agendas.



Respect in Bexley Group Awards Evening.

Volunteering



Volunteer Centre
Bexley

Volunteering is an activity that involves spending time, unpaid, doing something that aims to benefit the environment or individuals or groups other than (or in addition to) close relatives.

The London Volunteering Forum (of which VC Bexley is a member) has defined volunteering as “being mutually beneficial (to individual and organisation), independently chosen and freely given; enabling and flexible wherever possible and with a community or social benefit”.

The Volunteer Centre provides a brokerage service between organisations who need volunteers and people who either live in Bexley or want to volunteer in Bexley. We work across all sectors – voluntary, community, public and private organisations.

Things we can help you with:

- ⊙ Providing a one-to-one signposting session with a trained advisor
- ⊙ Help to search for opportunities online on the national website
- ⊙ Provide a “Want to Volunteer” leaflet for more information
- ⊙ Provide a “Types of Volunteer Opportunities” pack for more information
- ⊙ Support for people that have a mental health issue or a learning disability that want to volunteer
- ⊙ Want to work in a charity shop - we have a Charity Shops Factsheet 2011

Highlights from 2014-15...

This year has seen big changes for the Volunteer Centre. After many years of service our manager Lynne Regan moved on to pastures new. Lynne was well known not just in the Bexley voluntary sector but in the wider volunteering world. She has been replaced by a Volunteer Centre Co-ordinator Mark Restall. Our brokerage work is now in the hands of our Volunteering Advisors, Jennie Branch and Sharon Williams.

In addition, alterations to the ‘Do-it’ volunteering website and software have led us to develop our own online volunteering database. This will help us match local people to volunteering opportunities across Bexley.

Winter Angels project - a partnership across Bexley, Greenwich and Lewisham (the three areas in our local urgent care network), the project aimed to reduce pressure on hospitals over the winter months by mobilising volunteers to offer one to one support for older people who were recently discharged from hospital or living alone or without family or friends nearby to support. The three Age UKs across the boroughs worked with the Volunteer Centres to recruit and train volunteers to deliver the service.

The Winter Angels project attracted **297** enquiries from potential volunteers - this led to **82** volunteers across all 3 boroughs being recruited, checked and trained to support eligible people over a period of 6 weeks to 4 months. Support included befriending and companionship, help with shopping and other practical tasks, and signposting to other sources of help. The project was funded by the CCGs for the three boroughs through Winter Resilience Funds, and supported **115** people with over **1,000** interventions.

Brokerage Service - we have dealt with **1304** enquiries from people wanting to volunteer, online and person. As well as seeing potential volunteers at our office we have held regular signposting sessions at Bexleyheath library as well as occasional sessions at the Jobcentre.

Volunteers Week - we held a roadshow throughout libraries and community centres in the borough. The roadshow generated **42** enquiries about volunteering in the borough, which led to **7** signed up new volunteers.

Volunteer Support Project has supported **82** people with learning disabilities or mental health problems seeking to benefit from voluntary work. The project enables people to gain confidence and experience, and through our well-being evaluations we can see the difference it makes to their lives.



"Thought I'd let you know how much I am enjoying the work in the Ellenor shop! I am now doing Monday afternoons as well and there is a Christmas meal in December which I am going to as well and I was invited to the do by Kay on my first day!

I am finding the experience to be so interesting and it is proving very worth while and so far I have helped out with the books at the back of the shop, sorting out clothes, etc and steaming clothes. Last Monday, Rita asked if I was getting bored with steaming, so I said I am not getting bored as it is a job that needs doing. Luckily, steaming of clothes is done until the rack is full and I can do it in under two hours! I would like to say many thanks for getting me the job at the Ellenor shop.

Kind regards - Robin."

New Developments in volunteering for 2015-16!

We have recently developed a range of information sheets on good practice and policy issues. There are nine so far with more to come. These can be downloaded from our website. Topics include:

- ⦿ What is volunteering?
- ⦿ Starting a volunteering programme
- ⦿ Creating a volunteer role
- ⦿ Recruiting volunteers
- ⦿ Dealing with problems
- ⦿ How to find the right volunteer role



Carer's Support Bexley - Young Volunteers

Our aim is to build a high quality online hub of information, and, over the next year, become a key destination for volunteer-involving organisations across Bexley to learn more about good practice in volunteer management.

Support and Development

One-to-one development support including funding advice

The Development Manager provided advice, support and training to groups on a range of issues, including:

FUNDING – with access to computer databases of grant-making trusts, and BVSC's community library

ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT – eg. developing a constitution, becoming a limited company, restructuring the organisation, trustee roles and responsibilities.

PROJECT DEVELOPMENT – planning a project, drawing up the budget, how to manage it.

CHARITY REGISTRATION AND REGULATION – whether your group should register and how to fill in the application.

EMPLOYMENT – information on legal requirements and good practice around recruitment, contracts, workers' rights, dismissal and management.

As well as giving one-off advice, the Development Manager is able to undertake in depth work with groups, such as:

- ⊙ facilitating vision days
- ⊙ longer term development consultancy
- ⊙ serving on project steering groups

The Development Manager supplied a range of material for groups including:

- ⊙ a model constitution for a small community group
- ⊙ a model Memorandum and Articles for a limited company
- ⊙ a model deed for a charitable trust
- ⊙ model policies

BVSC's Community Library contains a range of books which was used to assist groups with their development. The books include information on:

- ⊙ Funding and fundraising
- ⊙ Self-help groups
- ⊙ Management of voluntary organisations
- ⊙ Law and employment
- ⊙ Regeneration and economic development
- ⊙ Policy, research and community involvement
- ⊙ Health and social care

Training Programme

The Development Team runs a programme of training for the voluntary and community sector, based on feedback from our users on their needs. We also signpost to alternative sources of training for groups with specific needs that are not met within our own training programme.

Highlights from 2014-15...

13 training courses delivered to groups; attended by **153** individuals representing **54** groups

82 one-off support sessions, of which **28** were intensive in-depth pieces of work

CASE STUDY

CENTERPIECES

“Over a period of about 18 months BVSC’s Development Officer Olwyn Sinclair, has supported Centrepieces Mental Health Art Project, initially helping to first decide what sort of organisation it wanted to become through a series of sessions and workshops, which eventually transpired to be a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. She then met on a regular basis with representatives of Centrepieces, supporting and refining the application until its eventual acceptance by the Charities Commission in Feb 2015. This has benefited Centrepieces enormously, strengthening the project by appointing a good body of local Trustees and giving it a more formal identity which means it is being recognised more, and is



now ready to start applying for bigger grants and awards to secure its longer term future.

In the meantime BVSC has also supported Centrepieces by arranging a one-day workshop from an external provider on creation of Business and Strategy Development Plans. Centrepieces is now holding its own workshop to formulate these. Olwyn also arranged a one day training course on Developing an Effective Fundraising Strategy which we attended and for a visit from a ‘Big Lottery’ advisor, which has helped us to focus on what is needed to apply for major grants to sustain the project.

Centrepieces was introduced to a new accounting software package by Olwyn (Beancounter) which we attended training on and which has now been set up and is working well with Centrepieces as a new CIO.

And finally Centrepieces was encouraged and supported to apply for a grant from the William Kendall Trust for which we were successful, and which is enabling us to provide a series of sculpture classes at the Lodge, Hall Place and is already having tremendous benefits for the artists with mental health problems who use Centrepieces. Where would we be without BVSC?!”

BVSC Conference 2014

BVSC held its all-day conference on 9th July 2014 at the Holiday Inn in Bexley. The conference provided an opportunity for us to launch the findings from our 'state of the sector' research, commissioned in January 2014. We also had speakers from Voluntary Action Rotherham and Sheffield Hallam University, speaking about their social prescribing project and findings from the evaluation of the scheme.



Workshop topics included prime contractor procurement (to support the forthcoming CYP procurement process), changes to volunteering and how charities could diversify their funding base. Two member organisations were asked to showcase how they used innovative solutions to survive the economic downturn.

Over 70 participants attended the day. Feedback from the day was very positive, with members, commissioners and other partners finding the day a useful opportunity to learn and network.

Comments from participants:

- ⊙ *I'm sorry I could only stay for the morning but I thought social prescribing was excellent and will be following it up.*
- ⊙ *Well done.*
- ⊙ *Lots of things to take on board for the future.*
- ⊙ *A great day - thanks.*
- ⊙ *Wonderful! A most productive day with excellent speakers and workshops! Well done!*
- ⊙ *I found the workshops extremely helpful*
- ⊙ *Excellent facilities and good broad speakers/workshops relevant to organisations both big and small.*

Big Local Programme 2014

The Lottery's Big Local programme awarded £1 million to spend over 10 years to 150 areas across England that are considered to be in need of improvement and have not had a fair share of Lottery funding in the past. The Slade Green area was selected to benefit from this funding, which is managed by the Big Local Trust on behalf of the Lottery. Local people played a key role in deciding how to spend or invest their money to improve the area and create lasting change. BVSC has been working to support this initiative and has attended partnership meetings, provided advice and information that has enabled many residents to be trained as ambassadors and share information with other residents. BVSC and the Big Local partnership board worked together to organise a Stakeholders Conference in October 2014 to increase the involvement of external partners in the programme. The event showcased the range of projects, programmes and activities that have already been implemented and the plan for the future. BVSC will continue to work with residents in Slade Green Big Local area to help them establish activities that will improve their area.



What our members say about us!

"A really good course, I will definitely be following up and using the course materials in my work in future"

"Thank you for letting me join a thoroughly stimulating and positive training session. Great points to take away and a great group to work with"

"A most useful course. We are now under pressure to produce outcome and impact data for our funders, but like all organisations have to allocate resources and time in the right place. This has helped us ensure we don't waste our efforts going in the wrong direction."

"At a time of increased pressures the value of having an independent voice, reviewer and facilitator such as BVSC is invaluable"

"BVSC are a vital resource for all voluntary sector organisations in the Borough, keeping us all in touch with each other and with developments and opportunities that may affect us."



"I took over the management of Bexley Deaf Centre in January 2015. My background was in business and I was not entirely familiar with the voluntary sector. There were a few issues that needed addressing here at BDC and I was also keen to improve our services and take the charity to the next level. I relied heavily on the support and knowledge of the BVSC, without whom I would have been utterly lost at times. Thanks to their advice we have managed to secure some extra funding which has enabled us to deliver new projects in the community. During the last Nine months I have come to realise that the BVSC are invaluable in supporting the voluntary sector in this borough. It's reassuring to know that there's always somewhere to turn for help and advice."

-Tania Bushell, Chief Executive Officer, Bexley Deaf Centre

Support from BVSC's Development Officer - Olwyn Sinclair.



"I wanted to say at the start, that if wasn't for your help and support Deepdene Club would not have got started. In the five years we have been running the club, all the guidance re: formulation of our Constitution and policies as well as the charitable status was gained with your support. Needless to say the input you had, in guiding us and working with us on our bids, has over the five years netted us in total grants amounting to £117, 000 of which £50,000 was from the Cory Environmental Trust to the parish for hall improvements.

You advised us to apply to the People's Health Trust for funding, and offered help and support on the application acting as a referee, which led to a successful bid. We have been granted £16,500 over a two year period, enabling our project costs to be met. You also helped us to secure £1,000 from the William Kendall Charity, and from the Yapp Charitable Trust of £1,000 per year for three years. We are in the second year of the Lloyds Trust Charity of £3,300 which is helping towards core costs this fiscal year, due to your efforts the previous year.

This has made the club financially secure for the next three years, as nearly 90% of our budget is on staffing. Without your input the club I'm not sure the club would have been so successful.

You have also led training for the trustees, enabling them to understand their roles better and how to play an overseeing role especially in the management of conflict of interest when it arises. You have also always had time to advice and support us on a range of charity issues which has been much appreciated.

- Nova Desouza, Deepdene Club

Howbury Tumblers - support from CYP officer for Bexley Safer Mark

When our Safer Bexley Mark became due for renewal, the Children & Families Officer Roy Gopaul came to visit and went through all our Policies and Procedures. He indicated where an update was required, produced some working sheets detailing all areas requiring improvement and update, highlighting specific areas of each individual policy. He also brought my attention to some policies we didn't have at all, such as an E safety policy. His guidance saved me considerable time and I was then able to go directly to the Safe Network website and via their tools , work on those policies needing updating and adapting it to our setting.

We then checked the amended versions, BVSC offered a few more pointers for me to work on, such as updating Local safeguarding contact details. Further to This Vikki Wilkinson took over and did a final check prior to our Policies being put forward for approval. We gained our Bexley Safe Network Kitemark for the second time, which is a wonderful mark of recognition that demonstrates our commitment to our families and the public to run a setting which is , as far as possible, safe for all - Staff, Parents, students , and children. A valuable asset for us and achieved with the most useful help from BVSC.

- Carole Read, Manager, The Howbury Tumblers

The Statistics!



No. of registered charitable organisations in Bexley



Estimated no. of unregistered charitable organisations in Bexley



No. of organisations registered on BVSC database



No. of organisation supported to obtain quality marks



No. of organisation supported through training events



No. of groups supported through one-to-one sessions



No. of e-bulletins and magazines



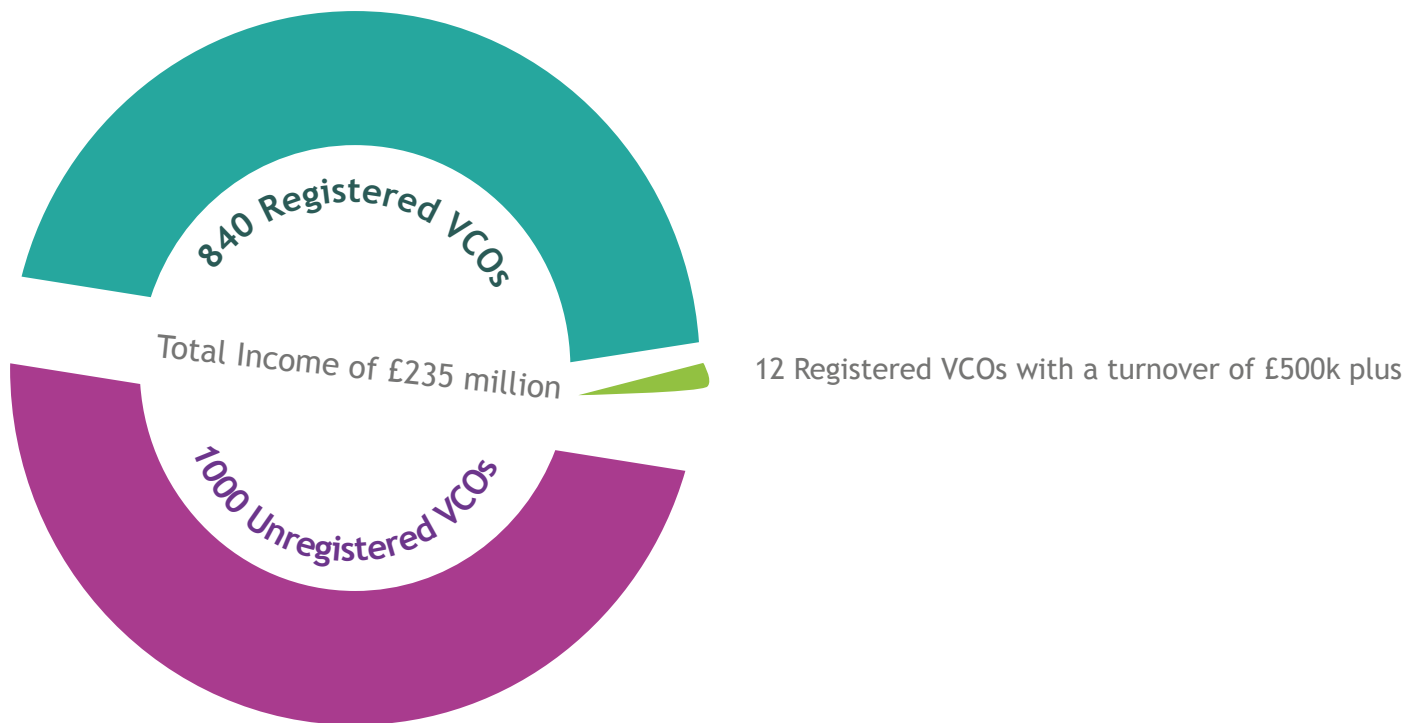
No. of network meetings and events facilitated by BVSC



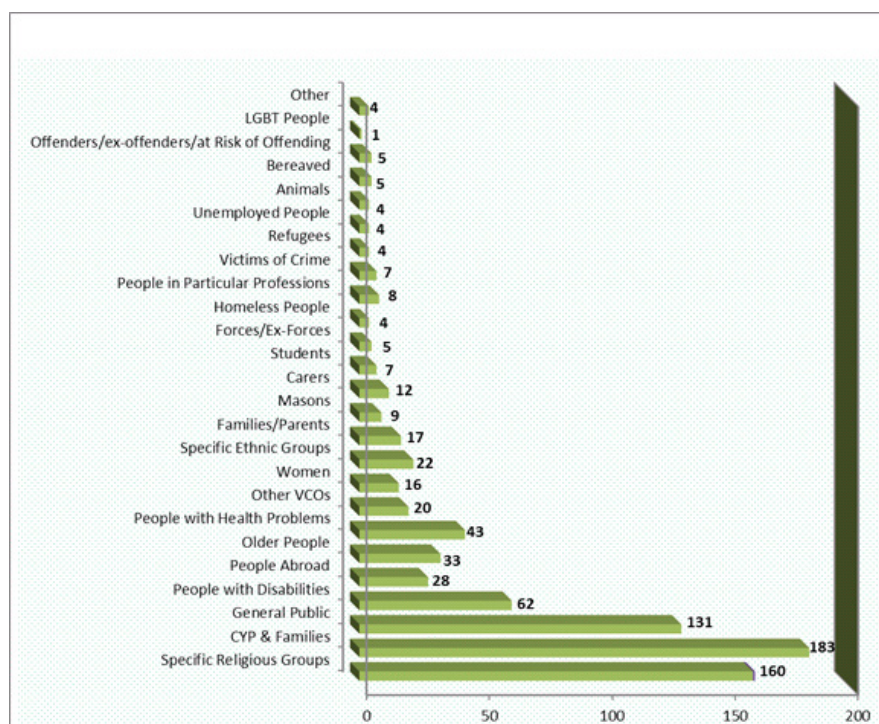
No. of boards/forums we sit on to represent the sector

Findings from BVSC's Voluntary Sector Survey June 2014

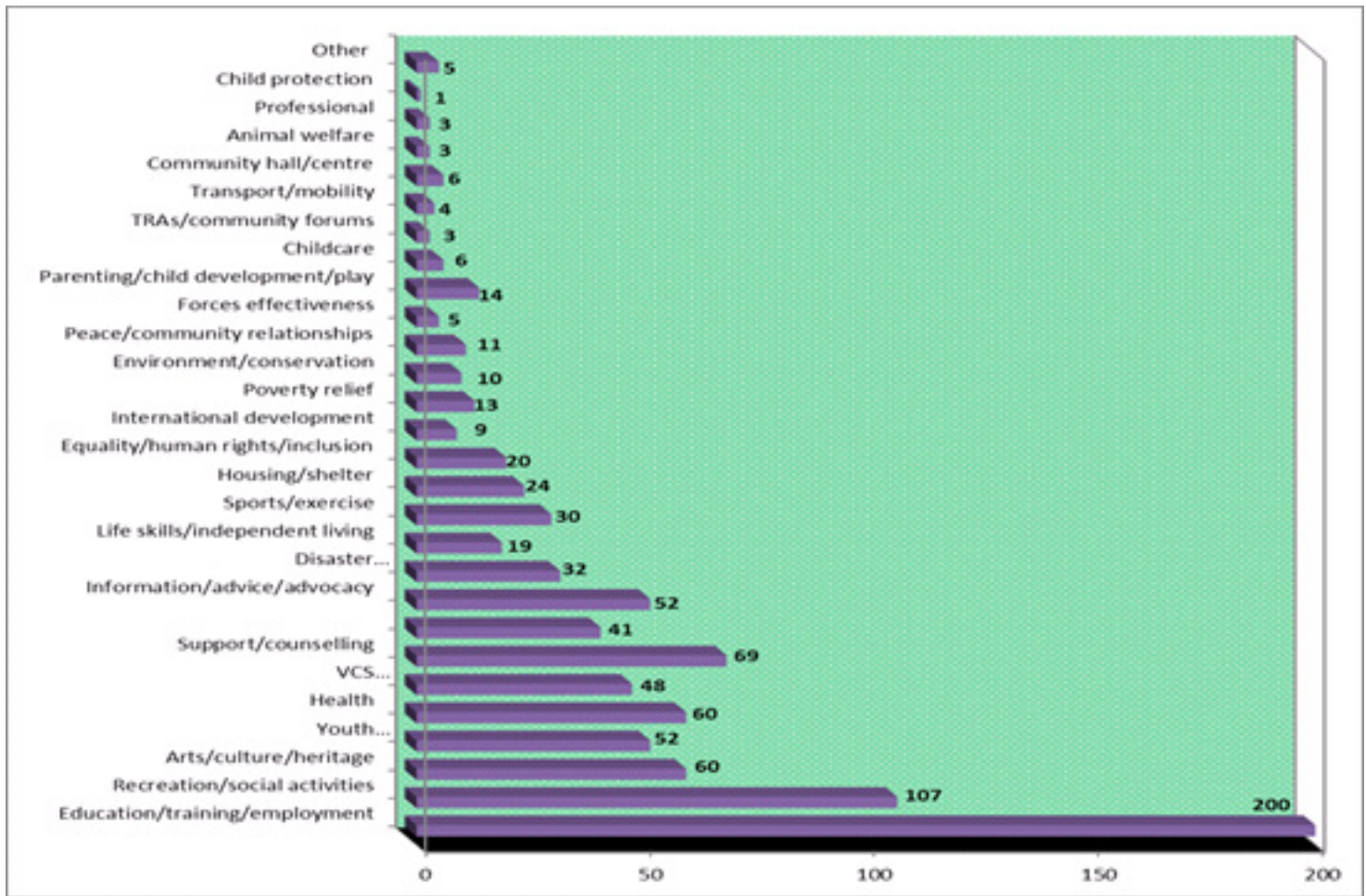
NUMBER OF VOLUNTARY ORGANISATIONS IN BEXLEY



WHO ARE THE BENEFICIARIES OF REGISTERED CHARITIES WORKING IN BEXLEY?



WHAT FIELDS ARE THESE CHARITIES WORKING IN?



THE FINANCIAL PROFILE OF BEXLEY CHARITIES

70% of Bexley charities have £100k p/a or less. 55% have £25k or less

HOW HAS THE FINANCIAL PROFILE CHANGED OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS?

- ⊙ 10% (51) lost at least half of their income
- ⊙ 31% (152) lost up to half of their income
- ⊙ 8% (39) stayed at the same level of income
- ⊙ 50% (244) increased their income, with 8% (37) at least doubling it

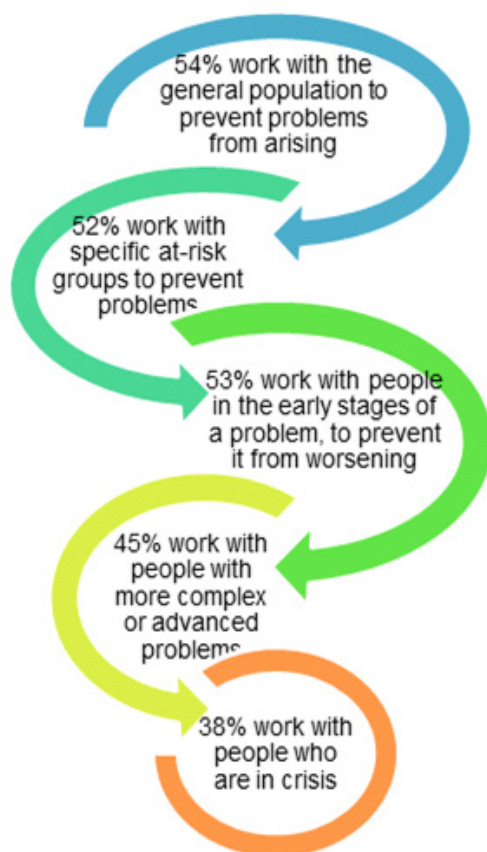
HOW MUCH DO CHARITIES RAISE IN ADDITION TO THE MONEY PROVIDED BY BEXLEY COUNCIL?

For every £1 given by the Council, these charities raise another £5.90.

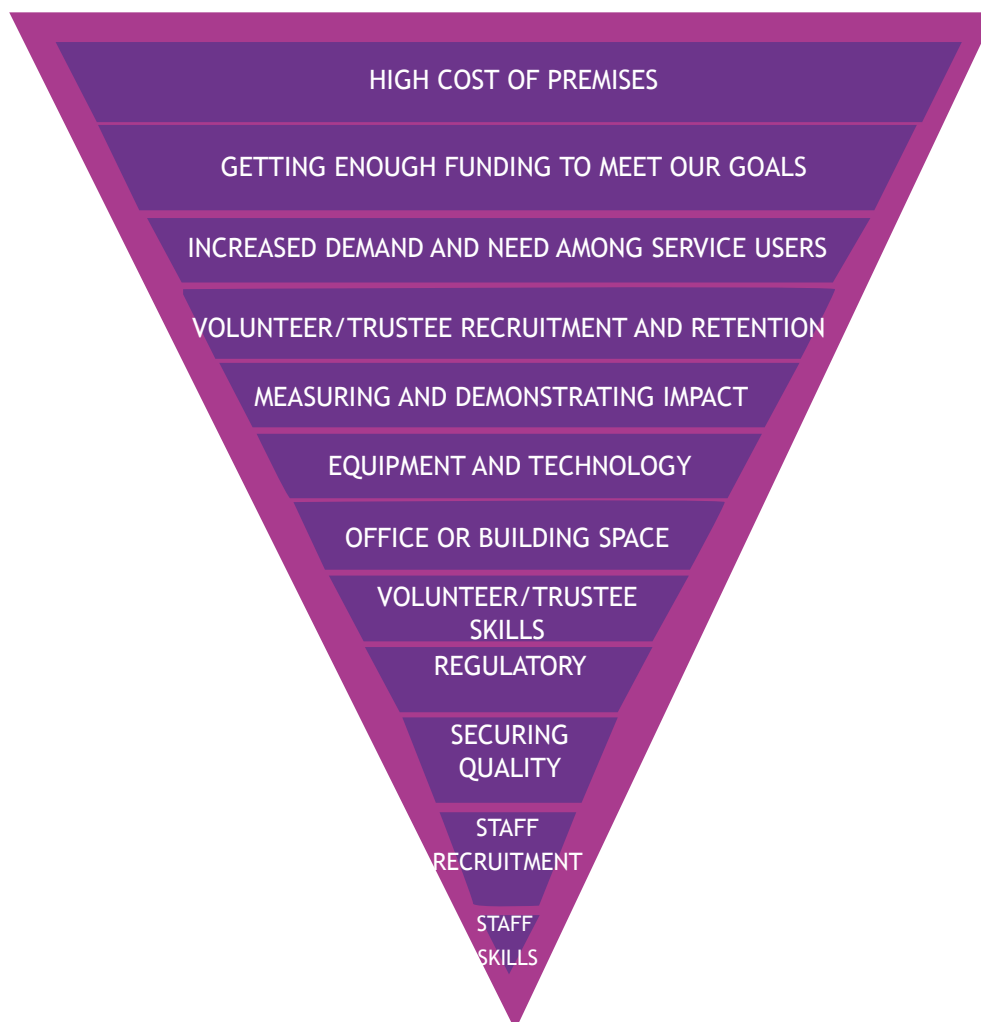
WHAT DO VOLUNTEERS CONTRIBUTE TO THE WORK OF VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS (VCO's) BEXLEY?

- ⊙ VCOs in Bexley on average have 8 trustees and 36 non-trustee volunteers
- ⊙ The average number of unpaid hours contributed by trustees and volunteers in Bexley is 86.4 per week per organisation
- ⊙ If paid min. wage, this would cost each organisation an additional £29,203 pa.
- ⊙ For all charities working in Bexley, the contribution of volunteers, if paid min wage, would be worth £13.5m

AT WHAT STAGE DO VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ORGANISATIONS INTERVENE?



WHAT PROBLEMS DO ORGANISATIONS EXPECT IN THE NEXT YEAR



Financial Overview

Our finances at a glance (for the year ended 31 March 2015)

The total income for the 2014-15 was £401,441, against an expenditure of £439,538. At the end of the financial year £197,258 remained as restricted funds.

Year ending	2014-2015	2013-2014	2012-2013	2011-2012
Incoming Resources	£401,441	£363,111	£433,176	£445,762
Resources Expended	£440,160	£511,283	£416,820	£443,474
Surplus / (Deficit)	£(38,719)	£(148,172)	£16,365	£2,288
Fund Balance	£ 354,530	£393,249	£541,421	£525,065

We continue to obtain our core funding from London Borough of Bexley, however we remain committed to diversifying our sources of funding. We are only too aware of the financial pressures experienced by our funders, and as such, the trustees wish to thank our core funders for their continued support.

The strategy of the organisation remains one which aims to have core funding from local authorities and income generation, and to enable ongoing development through project funding from large funders and charitable trusts.

Board of Trustees for the period 2014-15

Patricia Giles	(Chair from 03.02.15)	Fazio Rashid
Barbara Seeley	(Chair 29.09.14 - 10.01.15)	R Hudson
Linda Whitby	(Chair from 01.04.14, Vice-Chair from 29.9.14)	Terry Murphy
Donald Lonergan	(Vice Chair - retired 9.7.14)	Clair Johnson
Brian Jones	(Treasurer)	Steve Davies
Dr Rashied		Tracie Dempster
G Dhesi		Vivian Smith
A Hundal		Michelle Martin
K MacLaren		Nicola North

Office Volunteers:

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Lesley Snashford
Jenny Miller

Donors and supporters for the period 2014-15

London Borough of Bexley
Bexley Clinical Commissioning Group
The Big Assist Programme



Bexley Voluntary Service Council

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