

# State of the VCSE Sector 2017

## Trafford summary

### Introduction

This document is based on the State of the VCSE Sector 2017 report, which is a Greater Manchester wide research project. The key objective of the research is to provide an overview of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE\*) sector both within Trafford and Greater Manchester as a whole.

It was undertaken by the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research (CRESR) at Sheffield Hallam University and commissioned by 10GM\*\* with GMCVO\*\* and Stockport Council. The research involved a web-based survey of organisations. Unfortunately we did not have a VCSE infrastructure partner to support this research at a locality level and so the response rate from Trafford based organisations was low - providing limited local data for analysis. This should be considered when looking at the results.

However, the responses are sufficient to allow some comparisons with those received from Trafford for our previous study in 2013. This document sets out what we are able to conclude about the current state of the VCSE sector in Trafford in order to inform future local developments.

To read the report for Greater Manchester and the other locality reports please visit:

[www.10gm.org.uk](http://www.10gm.org.uk) or [www.gmcvo.org.uk](http://www.gmcvo.org.uk)

### How many organisations are there?



There are an estimated **1,455 organisations** working in the VCSE sector in Trafford who are involved in many areas of activity.

There are an estimated 15,890 organisations working across the VCSE sector in Greater Manchester and the vast majority (90%) are micro or small organisations (operating on an income less than £10,000 per year).

### What are the main areas of work within the VCSE sector in Trafford?

The four areas of work with the biggest proportion of organisations working in them are:

Health &  
Wellbeing

Community  
Development

Sport &  
Leisure

Economic  
Wellbeing

\*When we talk about the VCSE sector we mean voluntary organisations, community groups, the community work of faith groups, and those social enterprises where there is a wider accountability to the public via a board of trustees or a membership and profits will be reinvested in their social purpose.

\*\*10GM is a joint venture between Greater Manchester VCSE sector local infrastructure organisations.

\*\*\*GMCVO (Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation) is the VCSE support and development organisation covering the Greater Manchester city region.

## What is the economic value of the VCSE sector in Trafford?

Due to the low response rate by local VCSE organisations we cannot give a robust estimate from this survey. However, we do know that it was an estimated £65 million in 2011/12. Trends across Greater Manchester suggest this figure is likely to have fluctuated over the intervening years, ending with a small reduction (around 3%) in 2016/17.

## Where does the VCSE sector receive its funding from?

Based on the respondents to the survey we can gain some insight into where the VCSE sector in Trafford receive their funding:



- ⇒ 76% of respondents receive funding from non-public sector sources
- ⇒ 16% of organisations have an active earned-income strategy
- ⇒ 42% have some form of direct links with private businesses

## How sustainable is the VCSE sector in Trafford?

Due to the low levels of data received we cannot provide robust local information in this report. However, in the 2013 Trafford report 33% of VCSE organisations provided an expenditure figure which was greater than their income, with 23% of organisations having less than three months running costs in reserves.

The Greater Manchester 2017 report reveals that 46% of VCSE organisations have less than 3 months running costs in reserves.

## How well does the VCSE sector in Trafford work in partnership?

Respondents to the recent survey indicated that:



- ⇒ **84%** have direct dealings with Trafford Council
- ⇒ **8%** have contact with the 'emerging' Greater Manchester structures
- ⇒ **42%** have a "great" or "fair amount" of contact with private businesses
- ⇒ **68%** have a "great" or "fair amount" of contact with other VCSE organisations
- ⇒ **13%** are members of a VCSE consortium
- ⇒ **61%** want to work more closely with other VCSE organisations

## Who works and volunteers in the VCSE sector in Trafford?

Due to the low levels of data received we cannot provide robust local information in this report. However, from the 2013 Trafford report we know that there were:

- ⇒ 1,700 full time equivalent (FTE) paid staff in 2012/13
- ⇒ 27,800 volunteers in the sector providing an estimated 83,700 hours of their time each week

**For more information about the GM State of the VCSE Sector 2017 report, please contact:**

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