



A joint venture to support the local VCSE sector in Greater Manchester

Activity Report

September 2022 - October 2023



Welcome to this summary of our work over the past 12 months

It's been an eventful year, with our work in Greater Manchester (GM) influenced by world events, the aftermath of COVID, the ongoing cost of living 'crisis', the machinery of government, and recent changes in the NHS.

We've continued to work closely with [Bury VCFA](#), [Sector3 Stockport](#), [Thrive Trafford](#), [Groundwork North West](#), and [Wigan and Leigh Community Charity](#) and with [GMCVO](#), [The VCSE Leadership Group](#), the [GM Alternative Provider Collaborative](#), and the [GM Equality Alliance \(GM=EqAl\)](#), amongst others.

We've made more links and built positive relationships across the public sector, with different teams in the [Combined Authority](#) and [NHS GM](#). We gratefully acknowledge the contributions of our funders: [Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(GMCA\)](#), [NHS GM Integrated Care](#), [GM Cancer Alliance](#), [GM Moving](#) (formerly Greater Sport) and The University of Manchester. Their support has enabled us to achieve so much in the last 12 months.

In this summary report, you'll get a flavour of how 10GM has committed to supporting and strengthening the voluntary, community & social enterprise (VCSE) sector in Greater Manchester.

About 10GM

10GM is a joint venture owned by four partner organisations, which are [Action Together](#) (Oldham, Rochdale, and Tameside), [Bolton CVS](#), [Macc \(Manchester\)](#) and [Salford CVS](#). We're a collection of local infrastructure organisations (LIOs) operating strategically to support the VCSE sector to bring about real change within communities in Greater Manchester.

Born out of a desire to collaborate and support one another, 10GM became a Company Limited by Guarantee in February 2019, with an accompanying Collaboration Agreement based on 7 Co-operative Principles.

Our [team](#) is made up of four Directors who are the CEOs of the organisations that own 10GM Ltd; a Chief Operating Officer responsible for the delivery of our [programmes](#); and a team of staff with specialist skills, connections, and knowledge, operating both across our localities and within our central GM team.

What we do together as 10GM is:

- Increase VCSE sector voice and influence
- Increase VCSE sector income
- Strengthen the VCSE sector through joint initiatives
- Facilitate locality and Greater Manchester collaborations and partnerships

The values that guide our work are **Equity, Impact, Influence, Reach and Effectiveness.**



Increasing VCSE sector voice and influence

VCSE Commissioning and Investment Sub-Group

As a co-chair and strategic supporter of the [GM VCSE Commissioning and Investment Sub-Group](#), 10GM has worked to influence planning and decision-making this year. Our primary objective is to retain current investment at a time of significant financial pressure and to promote good commissioning principles and practices. Highlights include:

- Successfully influencing NHS GM led to a comprehensive review of VCSE contracts; the inclusion of risks to the VCSE sector in the ICS Risk Register; and a commitment to agreed ways of collaborating.
- The development of a [Fair Funding Protocol](#) for the GMCA.
- Expansion of the [Alternative Provider Collaborative](#), resulting in over 120 VCSE and NHS providers attending their first Convention in November 2023.

Other ways we've increased VCSE sector voice and influence:

- **Representation:** 10GM Directors chair, co-chair and sit as equal partners on a wide range of strategic bodies. 10GM advocates for the VCSE sector and shares feedback.
- **GM VCSE Accord:** [Facilitation and support](#) to VCSE local infrastructure to develop shared approaches; seize and bid for new opportunities; gather and share insight; and influence system partners.
- **GM VCSE Leadership Group:** The 10GM Directors are founder members of the [GM VCSE Leadership Group](#). This year they have influenced a range of strategies including the Primary Care Blueprint; the Mayoral Manifesto; and Single Settlement plans with GMCA.
- **GM Moving:** We're partners on the Executive Board and provide strategic lead support to the central team and locality Place Partnerships (formerly Local Pilots).
- **Cost-of-Living crisis:** We work with all LIOs, to share approaches and develop coordinated responses to inform GM-wide strategies.



Increasing VCSE sector income

GM Moving Connecting Communities

10GM was funded by [GM Moving](#) to deliver a project that tests how to build capacity and leadership in communities to enable active lives for all. One-off investments were made to Bury VCFA and Wigan's Groundwork.

Bury is working with young people in Whitefield. In Wigan, investment is being made in community sports infrastructure to increase movement in the borough.

The projects are seeking to strengthen and develop the connections between community groups, community leaders and local partners. They aim to tackle inequity of access through the involvement of communities that face the highest barriers to movement, active lives, and active places.

GM VCSE Infrastructure Development Programme

This programme brings £1.6m of investment into the VCSE sector in Greater Manchester over three years through the [UK Shared Prosperity Fund E11](#).

It aims to improve locality support for the sector, by building on the strengths of locality infrastructure, identifying gaps and using best practices to accelerate development.

Running until March 2025 and delivered across all 10 boroughs of GM, priority areas include Membership Models and Promotion; Website and Information Strategies; Growing Social Enterprise and Social Investment; Growing Voice and Influence; and developing VCSE Training and Development.

GM Walking grants

We distributed [£95,000 to 39 organisations](#) between October and December 2022. Salford CVS managed the fund on behalf of 10GM, working with [GM Moving](#) and the [Caribbean and African Health Network](#). The grants benefited 1,759 individuals.



Strengthening the VCSE sector through joint initiatives

Our projects are delivered collaboratively by our central 10GM team, by locality staff from Action Together, Bolton CVS, Macc, and Salford CVS, working alongside other partners.



VCSE and Primary Care Network Partnerships

We brought VCSE organisations and local Primary Care Networks together to learn how to create long-term, sustainable partnerships and use them to reduce health inequalities. We funded 5 partnerships and appointed an evaluation partner.

The activities enabled people experiencing health inequalities to engage in health community settings.

From this work, we developed a set of recommendations focused on how different people and organisations can work better together and have shared ways of planning and delivering joined-up health and care services.



Violence Reduction Programme

Commissioned by Greater Manchester's Violence Reduction Unit (part of GMCA), we're delivering a programme of community-led approaches to violence reduction. We launched new programmes in Bury, Oldham, Tameside, Wigan, Rochdale, Stockport, and Trafford. These joined existing programmes in Bolton, Salford, and Manchester. This expansion was accompanied by a £1 million investment equally distributed across the ten boroughs, supporting sustainable community-led solutions to reduce serious violence across GM. We also enabled VCSE input into the co-design process of GMCA's Greater Than Violence 10-year strategy.

VCSE Workforce Development Programme

10GM is working jointly with GM LIOs to build VCSE workforce capability in six key areas: Recruitment, HR support, Inclusion, Leadership Development, Personal Development, and Wellbeing.

The programme has built an advisory network of people from the sector. This year we've focused on wellbeing – delivering seminars promoting existing resources and making space for organisations to reflect together.

We've undertaken research to further understand the needs of the sector and to create an offer of tailored services, which include:

- The GM Workforce Hub: An online resource for all VCSE workforce needs.
- The GM Recruitment Hub: a job site for all VCSE vacancies across GM.
- A shared HR service for small and medium VCSE organisations in GM, including an Employee Assistance Programme.
- Co-produced learning programmes which will build capacity and skills, and nurture new talent within the sector.

VCSE Data and Intelligence Scoping Project

From August 2023 10GM and NHS GM Population Health partnered with Data Orchard CIC to better understand data and intelligence in the VCSE sector. Through this work, we have:

- Gathered views and perspectives on opportunities to improve the use of data and intelligence across VCSE-led activity and services in GM.
- Analysed VCSE sector data capacity and capabilities in GM.
- Developed recommendations to improve the way data and intelligence is collected, shared, and used.

Other ways we've strengthened the sector through joint initiatives:

- Achieve Recovery Grants Programme for GM Mental Health Trust: to support people recovering from drug and alcohol addiction across Salford and Trafford (and in Bolton until April 2023). It's coordinated by Salford CVS, on behalf of 10GM.
- Fairer Health for All Framework: a system-wide commitment and framework for reducing health inequalities and tackling the social factors that affect people's health.
- GM Food Security Action Network: bringing together people working to end food poverty.
- Live Well: Influencing GM's collective movement for community-led health and wellbeing.

Facilitating locality and Greater Manchester collaborations and partnerships



VCSE Population Health Programme

10GM's [Population Health programme](#) brings together VCSE organisations with NHS GM and others to strengthen the influence of the VCSE sector in GM's decision-making and development of population health approaches. We speak up for making shared decisions with communities and people with lived experience of inequality, alongside grassroots voluntary and community organisations.

10GM co-chairs and provides strategic support to the GM VCSE Population Health Group. This group brings people together to share best practice developments across GM and in localities, and to have an influence together.

- We [showcased](#) how local collaboration can tackle health inequalities. The video stories include Bolton's COVID-19 vaccination programme; GM Older People's Network; partnership working to address complex needs in Wigan; and improving transport for disabled people in Salford.
- Supporting VCSE organisations to influence the Greater Manchester Primary Care Blueprint, lobbying for improved collaboration between Primary Care and VCSE organisations to address inequalities.
- Worked with NHS and VCSE colleagues to explore collaborative work on cardiovascular disease prevention.

Looking ahead

Since October 2023, and for the year ahead, 10GM remains dedicated to advancing our four broad strategic priorities:

- Alleviating poverty
- Striving for greater equity
- Improving health & wellbeing
- Taking climate action

GM Cancer

10GM is working with GM Cancer, partners from the NHS, and the wider VCSE sector to achieve a permanent reduction in cancer-related health inequity. Through engagement of the VCSE sector, we're channelling the issues faced by marginalised communities into decisions taken at a GM level.

- We've created the [VCSE Cancer & Inequalities Network](#). This will allow a range of voices to contribute and add to GM Cancer plans. It will also create a peer support network, improving cancer delivery in the VCSE sector.
- We launched a [grants programme](#) to enable VCSE organisations to develop new initiatives to support their communities and reduce inequalities.
- We continue to lead on the [GM Answer Cancer](#) programme, via Salford CVS.

Other ways we've facilitated locality and Greater Manchester collaborations and partnerships:

- **Changing Futures:** supporting and empowering people experiencing multiple disadvantage.
- **Alternative Provider Collaborative:** continuing to administrate their finances and employ the APC Project Manager on their behalf.
- **GM Sanctuary Seekers Community Response Group:** advocating for the rights and needs of asylum seekers, refugees, and migrants.
- **GM ICP People and Communities Engagement Strategy:** working with colleagues on a model for strengthening communities by greater participation in decision-making in health and care.
- **GM Moving:** supporting community engagement and leadership in creating a social movement to enable active lives for all.

If you'd like to discuss how we can work together, please do get in touch - we'd love to hear from you.

