

# Value and Future Needs of the VCSE Sector in Survey 2017



Take part in the biggest bi-annual survey of charities and voluntary organisations in Shropshire. The survey has been created and launched by Shropshire Voluntary and Community Sector Assembly (VCSEA) who are keen to create a picture of the local VCSE sector and build up a valuable evidence base of information.

By taking part in the survey, you will be helping to inform funders, partners and other key stakeholders of the current state and needs of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector (VCSE) in Shropshire. Please answer all questions in the survey to your best knowledge to help us build up a robust evidence base.

To complete the survey as thoroughly and completely as possible you may need some information about your organisation including volunteer and staff number/working hours, annual income, trustees etc. Survey questions are categorised into four themes; economic activity, impact, governance and future plans.

Complete the survey and ensure that your voice is heard; help present a powerful and robust message for the sector in Shropshire by completing the survey and encouraging other VCSE contacts to do so.

The survey can be completed in 15 minutes. Please only complete one per organisation. This section is optional but providing your details would help us identify the number of individual organisations and avoid duplication of information. Please complete all questions with a \* as these are required answers.

This section is optional but providing your details would help us identify the number of individual organisations and avoid duplication of information. Please complete all questions with a \* as these are required answers.

---

## Survey:

1. Please provide the following information:

Organisation:

Contact Name:

Email Address:

2. What is your annual income (approximately)?

Less than 20K

Between 20-50K

Between 51-100K

Between 101-500K

Over 500K

3. Have you seen the following increase, decrease or stay the same over the last 12 months?

	Increase	Decrease	Stayed the same
Income			
Expenditure			
Level of Reserves			

4. How many volunteers does your organisation have (approximately)?

5. What are the total number of hours your volunteers work per week (approximately)?

6. Have you seen the number of volunteers working with your organisation change in the last 12 months?

Increased

Decrease

Stay the Same

7. How many members of paid staff does your organisation have?

8. Of your paid staff, how many (approximately) are:\*

Part time staff

Full time staff

9. Have you seen the number of paid staff working with your organisation change in the last 12 months?

Increased

Decreased

Stayed the same

10. If you source your funding/money from any of the sources below, please stated what the estimate percentage of your total income from each source is:  
*(if you don't know where you're funding comes from, please leave blank. If you have other sources of income you can detail them in the next question.)*

Donations and fundraising activities

Membership fees/ subscriptions

Grants from non-statutory bodies

National Lottery (e.g. Big Lottery)

Grants or core funding (including Service Level Agreements)

Earned income from contracts

Earned income from trading including retail

Income from investments

11. If you receive funding from sources other than those in the last question, please detail them here:

12. What services does your organisation provide? (tick all that apply)

- Community development and mutual aid
- Cohesion/civic participation
- Culture and leisure (including arts, music, sport and recreation)
- Economic well-being (including economic development, employment and relief of poverty)
- Accommodation/housing
- Education and lifelong learning
- Training
- Transport
- Environment/sustainability
- Equalities/civil rights (e.g. gender, race, disabilities)
- Heritage
- Health and well-being (e.g. medical, health, sickness, disability, mental health)
- International development (e.g. overseas aid, famine relief)
- Religious/faith-based activity
- Criminal Justice
- Animal Welfare
- Capacity-building and other support for third sector organisations
- Volunteering and supported employment
- Other charitable, social and community purposes
- Unable to say

13. Which of the groups listed below are clients/users/beneficiaries of your organisation (who you provide services to)? Tick all that apply in this column:

The general public  
Women  
Men  
Older People  
Children (aged 15 or under)  
Young People (aged 16-24)  
Carers  
People with physical disabilities and/or special needs  
People with particular physical health needs  
People with learning difficulties  
People with mental health needs  
People from Black and Minority Ethnic communities  
People with a particular financial need (including poverty)  
Asylum seekers/refugees  
Homeless people  
People with addiction problems (e.g. alcohol, drugs)  
Faith communities  
Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people  
Socially excluded/vulnerable people  
Victims of crime and their families  
Other third sector organisations  
Animals  
Unable to say  
Other

In this column only tick 2/3 boxes to identify your top clients/users/beneficiaries

The general public  
Women  
Men  
Older People  
Children (aged 15 or under)  
Young People (aged 16-24)  
Carers  
People with physical disabilities and/or special needs  
People with particular physical health needs  
People with learning difficulties  
People with mental health needs  
People from Black or Minority Ethnic communities  
People with a particular financial need (including poverty)  
Asylum seekers/refugees  
Homeless people  
People with addiction problems (e.g. alcohol, drugs)  
Faith communities  
Lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender people  
Socially excluded/vulnerable people  
Victims of crime and their families  
Other third sector organisations  
Animals  
Unable to say  
Other

14. What is your estimated number of service users?

15. Does your organisation have any direct dealings with the following partners in your local area? Tick all that apply.

*If you have answered yes to any of the following, please state whether your relationship is positive, negative or indifferent.\**

Public Sector Bodies (inclu. Local Authority, Health Partners, Police and Crime Commissioner etc.)

Is your relationship with Public Sector Bodies...

Yes

Positive

No

Negative

Indifferent

Private Sector

Is your relationship with the Private Sector...

Yes

Positive

No

Negative

Indifferent

Town and Parish Councils

Is your relationship with Town and Parish Councils...

Yes

Positive

No

Negative

Indifferent

Other voluntary, community and social enterprise sector organisations/bodies

Is your relationship with other VCSE organisation/bodies

Yes

Positive

No

Negative

Indifferent

16. Do you have any trustees?

If yes, state how many here:

Yes

No

17. Do you have any problems recruiting and retaining trustees?

Use this space to make any comments about this:

Yes

No

18. Does your organisation have a formal or informal plan for the next 12 months?

Yes

No

19. Thinking ahead to the next 12 months, on a scale of 1 to 5 are you worried or hopeful about the following:

1 = very worried    2    3    4    5 = Very confident

	1	2	3	4	5
Working with other VCSE organisations					
Ability to secure other sources of income					
Ability to retain volunteers/volunteer turnover					
Ability to recruit volunteers with sufficient skills					
Ability to retain staff/staff turnover					
Ability to secure grants and contracts					
The Shropshire Economy					
National policies: wages and pensions					
National policies: data protection changes					
National policies: changes to charity law					

20. What achievements are you most proud of?

21. Is there anything else you'd like to tell us relevant to the value and future needs of your VCSE organisation in Shropshire?

22. Would your organisation be interested in a Shropshire VCS Leadership Forum?

Yes      No

Thank you for taking the time to complete this survey.

Please save a copy of your completed survey and then e-mail a copy to [vcsassembly@shropshire.gov.uk](mailto:vcsassembly@shropshire.gov.uk) or print and post to Kate MacDonald, Feedback and Insight Team, 1L23, Shirehall, Abbey Foregate, Shrewsbury, Shropshire, SY2 6ND.