

BCVS

Annual Review 2008/9



Bournemouth CVS supports and
develops organisations
and promotes volunteering.



Bournemouth Council for Voluntary Service

Registered Charity No: 1081381 Company Reg'd in England & Wales No: 4024662

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Introduction by the Chair

The list of the achievements by the CVS are impressive and are due to the continued dedication and abilities of our excellent staff, supported by volunteers especially our committed trustees.

I would particularly like to mention the crucial and developing partnership working. Strategic partnership working is detailed later between various voluntary organisations and with statutory authorities, and I want to highlight the close partnership working we have with Poole CVS.

The advice and guidance to voluntary organisations across both Bournemouth and Poole is led by a BCVS manager over seeing advice and staff in both CVS offices. Similarly both Volunteer Centres, which promote volunteering, placement and good practice, are led by a Poole CVS manager overseeing work and staff. Both arrangements work very well indeed and enable us to make best use of scarce resources.

Finally our operational Community Transport Service continues to provide a most valued and responsive service for a range of people with mobility problems.

Colin Feltham



The BAT Bus arrives at Castlepoint where members can choose to walk up to the shops or take a scooter to make moving around easier.

Chief Executive's Report

This report summarises our key achievements in 2008-2009 in the context of our four main aims:

- To provide services and support and bring voluntary organisations together to enable them to work more effectively.
- To promote and encourage volunteering
- To enable the voluntary sector to represent their views and influence policy at a local and national level.
- To undertake research into gaps in support to the sector and enable responsive services to be developed.

Achievements & Performance

1. Providing services and support for voluntary organisations and bringing them together to enable them to work more effectively.



David Leighton, Advises Voluntary & Community Groups

We have developed a range of services and support to local voluntary organisations which have been extensively used including:

- 97 organisations given individual in-depth advice and guidance.
- 250 requests for technical and legal information and advice.
- Register listing contact details for 376 voluntary organisations.
- Quarterly newsletter distributed to 110 voluntary and statutory organisations.
- Bi-monthly newsletter for 91 Voluntary Youth organisations.
- 136 pieces of audio visual equipment lent out on 66 occasions to local organisations.
- Website offering specific, targeted information to the sector.
- Training courses and networking opportunities for the sector.
- Regular meetings of the Voluntary Sector Forum and the Children and Young People Forum.
- 10 e-forums to improve communication between organisations.
- Tendering Network to provide information and support for organisations on tendering
- Annual conference for Third Sector Organisations
- Diversity Forum developed jointly with Dorset Race Equality Council



Adnan Chaudry, Dorset Race Equality Council

2. Promoting and Encouraging Volunteering.

This year the brokerage service has continued to provide a timely and sensitive response to potential volunteers, helping them to clarify what work they would like to do and matching them to available opportunities.

Personal interviews are held throughout the week in Boscombe at times to suit the volunteer. Weekly outreach sessions are held in Winton. Interviews are also carried out by telephone. In the last year, the Volunteer Centre interviewed and signposted 990 volunteers. 249 were interviewed by telephone while 306 were interviewed face to face. Of the 306 attending for interview, 153 had additional needs ranging from addiction, physical disability, learning disability, mental health conditions, to ex-offending. It is clear that the brokerage service provided by the Volunteer Centre plays a significant role in ensuring equitable access to volunteering opportunities with all the benefits that such participation entails.



Kimberley Fancy, BCVS Volunteer Centre Development worker pictured left with Gill Harris, from Poole CVS

The Voluntary Vacancies Bulletin which is updated monthly allows voluntary and statutory organisations to advertise volunteering opportunities. Over 100 copies are distributed each month. We are registered with the national volunteering website www.do-it.org.uk and regularly post opportunities within Bournemouth in recognition that many people now use the internet to gain access to information. Over the last year we have received 569 volunteering enquiries through this means.

3. Enabling the Voluntary Sector to participate in strategic partnerships represent their views and influence policy at a local and national level.

Besides providing information about existing opportunities, an important area of work for the Volunteer Centre is to open up new placements and to promote good practice in the management of volunteers. We offer regular networking meetings for Volunteer Coordinators which are supported by regular web-based communications. The network currently has a membership of 344 organisations from the public, private and voluntary sector.

In September we organised a conference on Volunteering which was attended by 67 delegates and ensured that local organisations were kept informed about developments at a national level.



Carrie Smith (Poole CVS), Elspeth Gregson (NACRO) & Jackie Gandoff (Royal B'mth Hospital) pictured at the Volunteer Conference.

Volunteering has been further promoted throughout the year by means of a number of high profile publicity events including media interviews, displays in shopping centres, events during National Volunteers Week and participation in the Mayor of Bournemouth Annual Volunteer of the Year Award.



John Knight (Office of the Third Sector) speaker at the Volunteer Conference pictured left.

The 'Compact on Relations between Government and the Voluntary Sector' is the key document setting out the rules of engagement between local statutory organisations and the voluntary and community sector.

The CVS has been leading a partnership of Borough Council, Learning and Skills Council, Primary Healthcare Trust and Bournemouth Partnership which is seeking to ensure local compliance with the Compact.

In addition, the Local Strategic Partnership selected National Indicator 7 "Creating an Environment for a Thriving Third Sector" as one of their key performance indicators. A Third Sector Strategic Partnership has been established which will assume responsibility for driving the Bournemouth Third Sector Strategy to achieve NI 7 and monitoring the implementation of the Compact. Statutory partners, both individually and collectively have endorsed the strategy and a detailed action plan has been developed that is currently being implemented. As a result of this work is progressing to ensure that local commissioning and procurement processes do not disadvantage local Third Sector organisations.

In addition the Voluntary Sector Forum has now become a well-established mechanism ensuring good communication between the voluntary sector and the statutory sector. A total of 125 organisations participate. Democratic procedures for the election and appointment of voluntary sector representatives to strategic policy making bodies have been developed through the Forum and the voluntary sector now has places on over twenty key decision making committees.

The Forum provides a mechanism for ensuring that the representatives are accountable to the wider sector. E-forums have been developed to further assist with communication and information sharing.

We have also established a sub-sectoral forum for organisations working with children and young people which again has met three times this year. Seventy eight organisations serving Children and Young People have joined and representatives have been elected to enable the sector to participate fully in shaping the policies of the Children's Trust. Meetings of voluntary sector representatives are held between meetings to share information and offer additional support.

Both of these Forums play an essential role in enabling the Third Sector to maintain an independent voice and play a full part in the planning and development of services for the local population in Bournemouth.



Susan Steed from the New Economics Foundation, speaking at a Third Sector commissioning learning event

4. Undertaking research into gaps and enabling responsive services to be developed.

This year we have carried out the third full review of voluntary and community organisations operating in the Bournemouth area. The survey was targeted at 208 organisations and 118 responded giving a 57% response rate. It provided important evidence of the significant social and economic contribution of the sector.

No attempt has been made to account for the 43% of organisations which failed to respond. The results could therefore be multiplied by 1.75 to give a more accurate picture. We will continue to undertake research to monitor progress and change in the local Third Sector.

The 118 responding organisations provide paid employment for 824 people.

31% of hours were contributed on an unpaid basis. Costed at the average national wage rate this makes an indirect contribution of £6.35 million to the local economy.

The organisations received an annual investment of £8.24 million from local statutory sources and generated a further £11.25 million from other sources.

By adding the indirect economic benefit of £6.35 million to the £11.25 million generated from other sources, it can be seen that for every £1 invested by the local authority an estimated £2.14 is generated from elsewhere.

Perhaps most significant of all is that the organisations reported that 80,118 people (almost half the local population) use voluntary sector services.

Future Developments

Our plans for the future include a number of exciting developments including:

Building more evidence about the reach, value and impact of the Third Sector.

Continuing to work in close collaboration with all our partners in the public and private sectors to create an environment in Bournemouth in which the Third Sector is enabled to thrive.

Enable organisations to be more resilient during the recession and seeking to protect frontline services.

Working with commissioners to ensure that procurement processes do not act as a barrier to the sector in tendering for services.

Continuing to make best use of resources by extending our partnership with Poole CVS to cover other initiatives including Organisational Development Support.

Over 780 members have enrolled since Boscombe Shopmobility Unit opened in 1997 and over 5700 day visitors have used the service during the same period. Over 3200 loans of equipment were made during the last year. In Castlepoint over 340 members have enrolled since the Unit opened in January 2004 and over 1320 day visitors used the service during the same period. In excess of 1900 loans were made in the last year.

We are still actively seeking a suitable site to open a third Shopmobility unit in the Town Centre of Bournemouth.

Future Developments

We have been actively involved with the local authority and the Primary Care Trust in a full scale review of community transport across the South East Dorset conurbation. It is envisaged that there will be substantial expansion of community transport services in the future and that Bournemouth Community Transport along with the Shopmobility Schemes will be established as part of an independent entity offering a greatly enhanced service across the conurbation.

Staff

Community Transport

Dave Parsons - Manager
Alison Morrison - Deputy Manager
Suzanne Leighton - Community Transport Administrator
Beverley Best - Shopmobility Castlepoint Administrator
Judith Thorpe - Shopmobility Castlepoint Administrator
Penelope Steeds - Shopmobility Boscombe Administrator
Philip Brightwell - Community Transport Driver
Robert Cox - Community Transport Driver
Joe Dixon - Community Transport Driver
Robert Taylor - Community Transport Driver

Bournemouth Council for Voluntary Service

Vivienne Aird - Chief Executive
Maureen Cox - Finance Officer
Dave Leighton - Senior Manager
Ruth Shearn - Communications Officer
Sheena Randall - Voluntary Youth Sector Worker
Jacqueline Salazar - Information / Admin Assistant
Kimberley Fancy - Development Worker, Volunteer Centre
Carrie Smith - Joint Manager Bournemouth and Poole Volunteer Centres

Trustees

Colin Feltham - Chair
Hazel Walker (Age Concern Bournemouth)
Bev Hepting (Creative Associates)
Angela Ross (Wiltshire Blind Association)
Prof. Keith Popple (London Southbank University)
Paul Payne (Blandford Forum Financial Services)
Tria Whitney (North Bournemouth Children's Centre)
Deirdre Redstone (North Bournemouth Crime Prevention Panel)
Martin Broad (Bournemouth Citizen's Advice Bureau)

Standing Observers

Cllr B. Goldbart - Bournemouth Borough Council
Andy Williams - Safer & Stronger Communities, Bournemouth Borough Council

Funders & Partners

Bournemouth Borough Council
Poole Council for Voluntary Service
Dorset Community Action
Dorset Race Equality Council
Capacity Builders
Big Lottery
Grassroots
Bournemouth & Poole NHS Trust
Castlepoint Landlords
Castlepoint Tenants
Bournemouth Association for the Care of the Elderly

BCVS Summary Financial Report 2008 - 9

INCOME	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 31.03.09	Total 31.03.08
Total incoming resources	64,237	411,976	476,213	409,782
EXPENDITURE				
Total resources expended	8,179	419,284	427,463	389,322
Net incoming / outgoing resources for the year	47,378	1,372	48,750	20,460
Balance brought forward 1 April 2008	166,742	128,209	294,951	274,491
Balance carried forward 31 March 2009	214,120	129,581	343,701	294,951

Balance Sheet as at 31st March 2009

	Total 31.03.09		Total 31.03.08	
FIXED ASSETS				
Tangible Fixed Assets		16,669		22,225
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash at Banks and in hand	344,073		278,499	
Debtors and prepayments	5,500		15,536	
Stock	2,000		2,000	
Sub Total	351,573		296,035	
Creditors - amounts due within one year	24,541		23,309	
Net Current Assets		327,032		272,726
Net Assets		343,701		294,951
FUNDS				
Unrestricted		214,120		166,742
Restricted		129,581		128,209
		343,701		294,951

This is a summary of the full accounts prepared to Charity Commission Standards which have been independently examined by the Auditors. Copies are available on request from: Bournemouth CVS, Boscombe Link, 3-5 Palmerston Road, Bournemouth