

Cabinet Report - Funding to Voluntary and Community Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations

2022/23

Appendix 1 – VCS Infrastructure Support Organisations Funded, Summary of Achievements 2022/23.

Please note the following information has been taken from the monitoring reports returned by the organisations below.

	Protecting the most vulnerable in our community	Actively seeking to prevent homelessness	Tackling issues such as childhood obesity and lack of exercise	Empowering and supporting local volunteers and organisations
Citizens Advice - North East Derbyshire	<p>66% of our clients from North East Derbyshire had a disability or long-term health condition. In October 2022 we launched as a Hate Crime reporting centre.</p> <p>We provide a telephone service, Adviceline, which increases accessibility of our service and have the use of BSL video and Relay UK (text phone) for the deaf community. For those whose English is not a first language we have use of a telephone/video interpretation service.</p>	<p>We provide housing and homelessness advice. Last year in North East Derbyshire alone we dealt with 930 housing issues.</p> <p>We work in partnership with other agencies offering homeless and housing advice such as Pathways and take part in the annual NEDDC homelessness count survey.</p>	n/a	<p>The grant pays towards employing a part time Volunteer Coordinator. The coordinator helps us to recruit, support and retain the volunteers.</p> <p>We currently have 11 active volunteers at our drop in centre and 5 active volunteers working on Adviceline. In addition to this we have a social media volunteer, a research/campaigns volunteer and we have 5 volunteers in training.</p> <p>*Quotes from volunteers have been provided.</p>

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Derbyshire Law Centre	<p>With financial assistance from NEDDC, Derbyshire Law Centre has continued to provide:</p> <p>Specialist advice, assistance and representation service across the district on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ debt with an emphasis on housing debt ▪ discrimination ▪ employment ▪ EU Settlement scheme ▪ homelessness ▪ housing issues ▪ immigration ▪ EARRS (Employment Advice Rapid Referral Service) ▪ mortgage reposessions. <p>We operate county court duty scheme at Chesterfield Justice</p>	<p>We deliver Homelessness Prevention work in partnership NEDDC and with 5 other local councils:</p> <p>Amber Valley BC Bolsover DC Chesterfield BC Derbyshire Dales DC Hight Peak BC</p> <p>We deliver Homelessness Reduction Act work in partnership with NEDDC, Boslover DC and Chesterfield BC.</p> <p>We attend Derbyshire Homelessness Forum and relevant local authority ones.</p> <p>We continue to operate Legal Aid Agency contracts in housing/homelessness and discrimination law throughout the district.</p>	n/a	<p>We continue to support and supervise a volunteer in their role as assessor. They assess clients' needs to identify the most appropriate method of assisting them either by appointment with a specialist caseworker, provision of telephone advice, giving self-help information or signposting to an appropriate service/advice agency.</p> <p>We have been successful in gaining funding from the National Lottery to expand our volunteering opportunities for local residents.</p> <p>We attend local events to promote our services and continue to develop relationships with existing partners and organisations and explore where we can make new contacts.</p>

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	<p>Centre where we represent tenants and mortgagees who do not have a solicitor representing them.</p> <p>We continue to run the Disrepair project in partnership with NEDDC and 2 other councils: Chesterfield BC and Bolsover DC.</p> <p>We have increased our visibility on social media including Facebook, Twitter and provide informative posts regarding attending court and other important legal information in a clear and understandable way.</p> <p>An article was recently published in the</p>			

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	<p>Doorsteppa publication promoting the organisation and highlighting the service we provide with an emphasis on debt. We are currently waiting for articles to be published in other free local magazines.</p> <p>We hope this increased visibility will strengthen the profile of the Law Centre and make more residents of NED aware of the services we provide.</p>			
Volunteer Centre	<p>We offer support to the most vulnerable in our communities by offering a befriending service to lonely and socially isolated people. The referrals for this project have risen dramatically since the</p>	<p>While we do not actively seek to prevent homelessness, we do work closely with organisations that recruit volunteers who cover this field.</p> <p>The amount of work we do regarding Foodbanks has increased dramatically, so</p>	<p>This is not something we work with directly.</p>	<p>Over the last year we have worked with 911 potential volunteers (345 in the first 6 months and 566 in the second half of the year). In the second 6 months of the year 395 of the potential volunteers we dealt with came from the Chesterfield region while 146 (<i>from Oct 22 to March 23,</i></p>

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	<p>pandemic and it is virtually impossible to keep up. The Home From Hospital project is busy and Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire are probably the busiest two districts in the county.</p>	<p>much so that we now administer the vouchers for foodbank collection.</p>		<p><i>totalling 225 for the year</i>) said they were from North East Derbyshire, while 9 identified Bolsover as their residing area. The rest were what we classify as 'Out Of Area' this could be Sheffield or further afield. The majority of volunteers we see identify as White British (310) while the rest will be split through various BME communities. As well as dealing with volunteers through our brokerage service we also have approximately 100 volunteers on our befriending service working with lonely and socially isolated people across chesterfield and NE Derbyshire. We also have 18 volunteers operational on our Home From Hospital project which provides care and support, for a 6 week period, again to people in the Chesterfield and NE Derbyshire area.</p>
Rural Action Derbyshire	<p>By delivering suicide awareness training we are supporting people to have conversations about suicide, signpost to</p>	<p>By providing grants through the Rural Hardship Scheme combined with support to address fuel and food insecurity we can enable people to address debts</p>	<p>By being the contracted food partner for Street Games who have the contract to deliver the Holiday Activities and Food programme for</p>	<p>By supporting, developing and skilling up the network of community buildings and village halls, volunteers working in Affordable Food Pantries, food banks and school holiday activity groups.</p>

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	<p>sources of help and hopefully prevent deaths by suicide.</p> <p>By supporting, developing and skilling up a network of places where people can access emergency food parcels and affordable food we are helping to improve health and wellbeing and protecting the most vulnerable e.g. people on very low incomes, people without secure accommodation, victims of domestic abuse and violence, older people and people with long term conditions, people in acute financial stress and/or mental ill health.</p> <p>By providing an affordable transport solution we are helping people to improve</p>	<p>which might lead to homelessness.</p>	<p>Derbyshire, we are ensuring that providers meet the School Nutrition Standards and provide education about eating healthily as part of the programme.</p>	<p>By supporting, developing and skilling up our network of Willow project Champions to empower victims of domestic abuse to seek help and support.</p>

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	<p>their life chances through employment or training and therefore reducing their vulnerability and improving social mobility and wellbeing.</p> <p>By supporting, developing and skilling up a network of digital champions and hubs we are helping to address digital inclusion for people who are vulnerable through lack of choice, skill or opportunity to learn digital skills.</p>			