

Efficiency and Effectiveness

Strengthen and Support

Information and Influence

Voluntary Action Rotherham



Annual Impact Report 2016-2017



Welcome

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a registered charity that supports people and organisations that want to make a difference to communities across Rotherham.

Our mission is to support and develop effective, sustainable and influential voluntary and community action which brings about positive change in the lives of individuals and communities in Rotherham.

We have a large and thriving membership whose passion, commitment and resilience never ceases to amaze us and their needs are at the heart of what we do, they underpin our work and our aim is always to deliver high quality, effective and responsive services the sector wants and deserves.

We hope this report will give you an overview of who we are, the range of support and services we provide and some of our achievements over the last year.



Janet Wheatley MBE DL
VAR Chief Executive

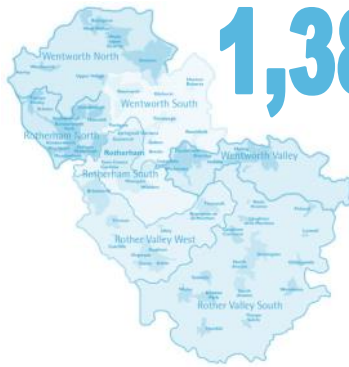


Margaret Oldfield OBE
VAR Chair



The Voluntary and Community Sector

Rotherham has a diverse and active Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) that contributes enormously to the health and wellbeing of local people and to the area as a whole.



1,382

Voluntary and community organisations operate in Rotherham



The total annual income of the sector is

£61 million



The sector employs

3,600

people

84%

Have an income of under £10k



58%

Support the local community



49,000

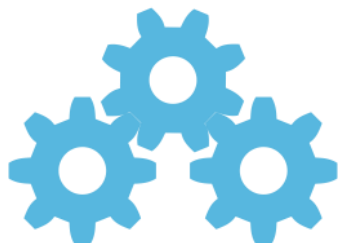
Volunteers give



85,000

hours of their time every week in Rotherham

Our year in numbers



Provided

3,222

incidences of support to local groups and



£503,758

Distributed in grants



Our Social Prescribing Service Advisors visited

1500
patients



Through funding advice, searches and bid writing we've supported the sector to secure over

£1,000,000



Provided individual support to

422

groups and organisations

The Food for People in Crisis Partnership provided almost

4,000

Food Parcels



Facilitated **61** network and consortium meetings



Carried out

938


DBS checks

I thought this morning's meeting was great and found it very useful. It is fantastic to have an opportunity to catch up with others and share best practice and ideas – you don't feel so alone.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to be at the Rotherham Show. It was a great day, we made lots of new friends and potential new contacts.



Voluntary Action Rotherham



*One of the few
email bulletins I
go through fully
each week!*

*I found the training
very informative
and useful. I'm new
to commissioning
and I felt that it
was pitched very
well for me. I've
learnt a lot!*

Connections and reach

Voice and Influence

VCS Representatives



Our Strategic VCS Representatives sit on more than **40** decision making boards in Rotherham

An Audience with...

148 Organisations attended sessions to meet the decision makers and have their voices heard on issues that matter to them



@varotherham



Our social media activity reached **160,000** people

786 Members

From small community groups to large charities



www.varotherham.org.uk



Pages viewed on our website by **238,258** **74,000** visitors

VAR Email Bulletin

52 Email bulletins to **783** organisations



Delivered to **1,200** inboxes every week!

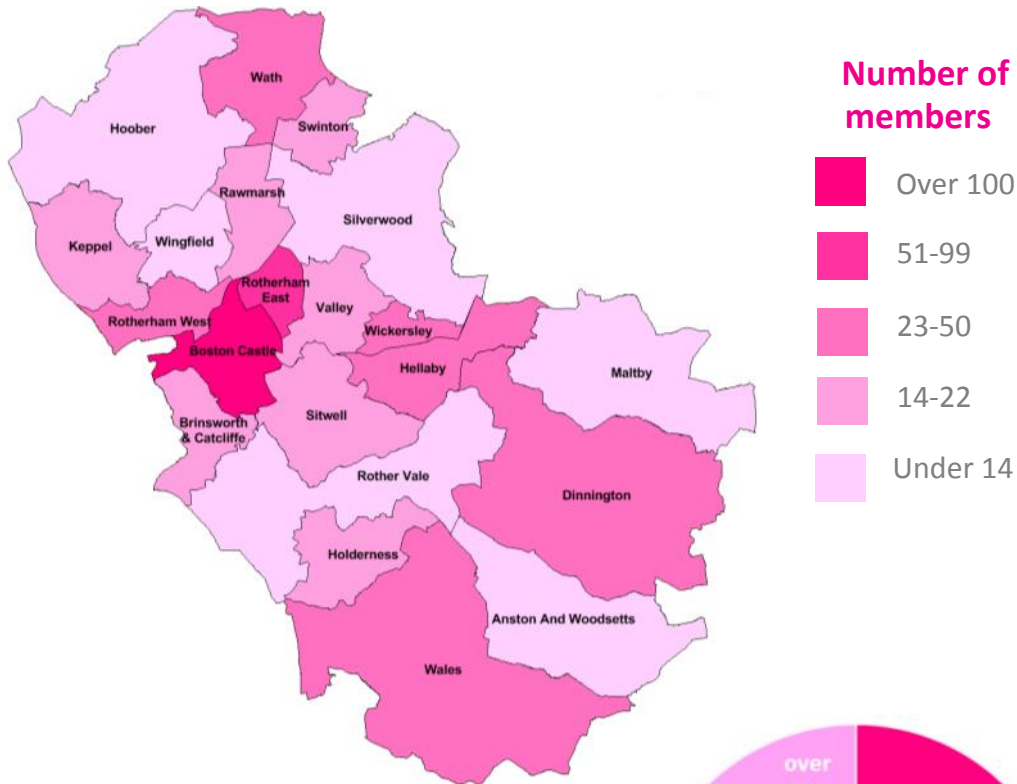
Our Volunteers



Through events and talks our Health Volunteer Ambassadors engaged with **1,321** individuals

Mapping our influence

Voluntary Action Rotherham is a member-led organisation made up of almost 800 voluntary and community groups and social enterprises. This map shows the distribution of our members across Rotherham.



Income/size

Members range in size from small volunteer led community groups to large national charities. This chart shows the size of our members in terms of annual income.



Community Achievement Awards

Celebrating its 13th year the Community Achievement Awards recognise the individuals and projects that make a significant difference to the communities of Rotherham.

At this year's awards ceremony we saw laughter, we saw tears, but more than anything we saw the inspirational people that go that extra mile to support the people of Rotherham.

We are all in awe of the dedication and commitment of the winners:

Volunteer: Ted Ring

Volunteering for the last 63 years Ted is an amazing ambassador for the sector and the town.

Young Volunteer: Georgia Pell

Georgia has shared her own story and experiences to help other young people.

Project: Brampton United JFC

Volunteers provide 200 local children with the opportunity to train and play football.

Our thanks go to the Rotherham Together Partnership, our sponsors and of course to all those who put nominations in.

The whole thing was a joy to be at and I just wanted to congratulate everyone involved

Strengthen and Support



Rotherham Volunteer Centre

Rotherham Volunteer Centre celebrated 10 years of providing support to groups and individuals in Rotherham. During that time we have supported over 12,000 people to find out about volunteering!

This year's Volunteers' Month was our biggest yet with voluntary, statutory and private sectors all getting involved.

Our volunteer walk 'The Big Walk' attracted support from almost 300 people and engaged 37 organisations all who helped us say a big thank you to Rotherham's army of volunteers.

With a market stall in Rotherham town centre, a Volunteer Fair and intense media campaign we increased volunteer applications by 346%.

Thanks for organising the whole day, it went beautifully! A day to remember, happiness and sunshine all round



Volunteering

Rotherham Volunteer Centre promotes volunteering across the borough and advises hundreds of people each year who wish to find out about volunteering opportunities and refers them to volunteer involving organisations in and around Rotherham.

Strengthen and Support



Support we provided



We issued **3,406** payslips for **59** organisations

We carried out **105** funding searches for groups and organisations



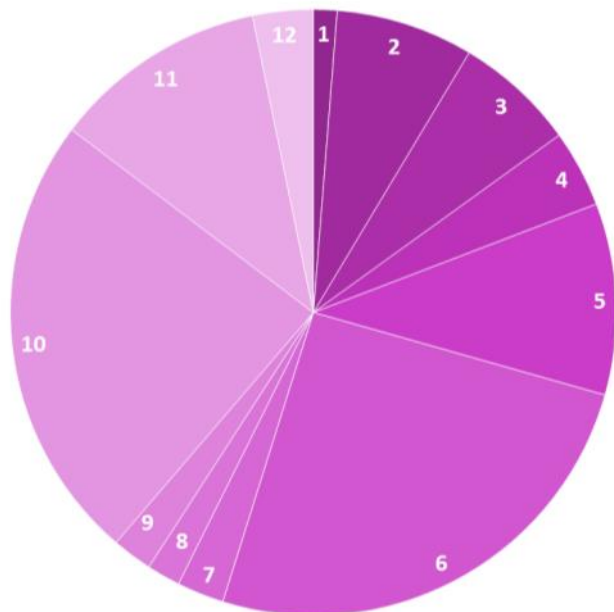
We advertised **355** job vacancies through our website

We carried out **25** Independent Examinations of charity accounts



We distributed grants to **32** organisations

We provided support and advice on:



- 1 Policies and Procedures - 7 (1%)
- 2 Pensions and Auto-enrolment - 41 (7%)
- 3 Financial record keeping and reporting - 36 (6%)
- 4 Start-ups - 23 (4%)
- 5 Funding - 57 (10%)
- 6 Managing volunteers - 142 (25%)
- 7 Recruitment, job evaluation and contracts - 14 (3%)
- 8 Grievance, redundancy and TUPE - 10 (2%)
- 9 Governance - 12 (2%)
- 10 Safer recruitment - 134 (24%)
- 11 Marketing - 64 (11%)
- 12 Bid Writing - 18 (3%)

Supporting Shiloh

Shiloh Rotherham have been providing services on a voluntary basis to vulnerable adults in Rotherham for 25 years.

We were approached when 2 key board members wanted to take a step back and wanted to explore future options for the charity.

We supported Shiloh, through Grantfinder, to identify suitable funding and coordinated a meeting with the Big Lottery to discuss ideas.

Over the next few months we worked closely with Shiloh board members to evaluate existing services, undertake consultation and complete the funding application form.

It was a long process but in mid 2017 Shiloh heard they had been successful. The funding will see Shiloh employ members of staff and enable them to deliver better, coordinated services to people who are homeless or vulnerable.

The massive changes in Shiloh over a relatively short time were possible because of the readily available high quality support from VAR at each stage of change



Strengthen and Support

VAR is an absolute rock at the heart of the community and the passion you display as staff and an organisation is incredible.

VAR always do their best to help me with any queries, are prompt, polite and very professional. I know they will help if they can, if not, they will try and point me in the right direction.



Who we are

Customer First



Achieved for the third time in a row



Active Citizens

We trained 23 participants and hosted 7 visitors from Pakistan, Bangladesh, Indonesia, Columbia, Palestine and Northern Ireland



Our Social Prescribing Service made **4,109** referrals to voluntary and statutory services



ISO:9001

Successfully audited and maintained



Rotherham Compact

We were instrumental in the review and adoption of the partnership agreement



The Children, Young People & Families Consortium established a young people's board **the Different But Equal Board**

which is made up of a diverse group of young people aged 11-23 to involve children and young people in shaping services



Awarded the Duke of York Community Initiative award along with **8** other groups we supported to apply



In partnership with RotherFM and Parkgate Shopping our Toy Appeal saw **1,100** children and young people receive a gift at Christmas



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Chair: Margaret Oldfield OBE

Registered Charity Number: 1075995

Registered Company Number: 2222190



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE



Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group



LOTTERY FUNDED



Rotherham Public Health

