Sefton CVS
Impact Report & Accounts

Supporting Sefton’s voluntary, community and faith sector

2016
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As austerity continues and new uncertainties arise following the momentous Brexit vote in June, it is essential that the VCF sector is strong, resilient and adaptable for change in a turbulent environment.

CVS provides diverse underpinning services in support of the sector, working collaboratively with key partners and developing responses to identified needs.

Increasingly, we are working with new charity/social sector organisations from inception to action. Existing organisations are also diversifying, with collaborations being formed to deliver response, either by locality, theme, through networks or by area-based services or recognised consortia.

The 2016 Sefton CVS annual conference will consider health inequalities and sector interventions to support our most vulnerable citizens through, for example, early help and prevention and specialised support in housing, employment, mental health, substance misuse and community wellbeing.

We will also be launching a new integrated wellness service, Living Well Sefton, which is a voluntary sector-led collaboration between Sefton CVS, Sefton CAB, Brighter Living Partnership, the May Logan Centre, the Feelgood Factory and Fun 4 Kidz working with Public Health, Active Sefton and the Smoking Cessation Service.

The focus of this joint initiative is on how we can achieve better outcomes for residents by improving access and referral through the use of technology and effective partnership working, whilst promoting the value of local services and contacts. We hope this will demonstrate the strength of a change-ready and resilient local voluntary sector.

Very sadly, two members of our staff passed away during the last year - Mary Roberson who was in our Health Trainer Team and Sue Tracey who had been with the organisation for 26 years as Volunteer Co-ordinator and then Human Resources Manager. We hope to establish two community awards in their memory, in recognition of what they meant to us and of their community service in Sefton.

We are grateful to our funders and partners for their ongoing support, and also to our Trustees, Patrons, staff and volunteers for their continued involvement and hard work. We would also like to pay tribute to the VCF sector in the borough for its contribution to making Sefton a stronger and more resilient community.

Dave Roscoe
Chair

Angela White OBE
Chief Executive
Introduction

Mission
Our mission is to promote and assist voluntary, community and faith (VCF) sector activity.

Vision
Our vision is to develop a vibrant voluntary, community and faith sector that encourages and supports independent, resilient and sustainable communities.

Activities
Our key activities are to:
- Provide support services to the VCF sector.
- Promote partnerships within the sector, and between the VCF sector and other sectors.
- Provide a channel through which the VCF sector is represented.
- Develop new ideas, strategies and organisations.
- Support and develop volunteering opportunities.
- Promote equality of opportunity and access, and the value of diversity.

Values
Our guiding principles are to:
- Put Sefton people, places and organisations at the heart of what we do.
- Be open and fair in our transactions.
- Take responsibility and be accountable for our actions.
- Promote equality, diversity and cohesion through our activities.
- Support the most vulnerable people in our communities.
- Seek solutions, not problems.
- Be prepared to listen and learn.
- Operate ethically, honestly and with the highest standards of integrity.

Approach
The key elements of our approach are to:

Start where people are at
We encourage grassroots social action and community-led service delivery by helping local people to set up and develop robust projects, groups and social enterprises.

Pull in others and link it up
We operate as a sector champion, bringing together often diverse groups and organisations to network and collaborate more effectively.

Do more and do it better
We support and train local community organisations to improve their effectiveness, quality, reach, sustainability and social impact.

Innovate and pass it on
We help to spot gaps in provision and fill them by brokering creative solutions, leveraging in resources and developing new initiatives.

Promote
We promote the positive and progressive values of the VCF sector and highlight the added value of community-led and delivered services.

The Trustees of Sefton CVS pictured at a recent meeting at the organisation’s Burlington House office.
Highlights of 2015/16 Part 1

£3.3m
secured for local groups from known funding applications supported by Sefton CVS.

542
Care4You referrals handled, and a further 303 signposting service users supported.

1,353
intensive cases of capacity-building support delivered with local VCF sector groups.

1,431
people took part in 72 Sefton CVS training courses and masterclasses.

3,934
records of VCF sector services now available online via VCF Direct.

431
people including VCF sector and school staff provided with mental health training.

876
Sefton residents attended drop-in sessions at the new Strand By Me pop-up shop.

37
grants awarded to groups from the CVS-managed £1.3-million CCG VCF Fund.
3,500 people follow the work of Sefton CVS on social media.

166 GP surgery staff and local residents trained as Dementia Friends.

62 VCF sector groups used the services of the Sefton CVS Community Accountancy Service.

20 Young Advisors aged 15-23 are employed to engage young people in community life.

176 Connected Communities referrals handled to provide support to socially isolated older people.

29 different nationalities of people were clients of the BME CDW Project during the year.

11 quality assurance marks and training accreditations currently held by Sefton CVS.

1,174 people accessed volunteering opportunities through Volunteer Centre Sefton in 2015/16.
Strategic leadership and partnership

Sefton CVS works closely with Sefton Council, South Sefton and Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Groups and other statutory partners to address local priorities and facilitate VCF sector representation and participation.

Highlights of this work in 2015/16 included:

- Involvement as a key partner in work programmes including the Sefton Leadership Collaborative and Health and Wellbeing Board structures focused on adults, the Engagement and Consultation Panel, Corporate Parenting Board, Substance Misuse Partnership, Community Adolescent Service and Sexual Health Partnership.

- Involvement in ongoing work streams relating to community resilience, transformation, integration and early prevention, and advocating the vital role that the sector plays in providing services and support to Sefton residents.

- Facilitating sector networks and forums as a consultation and engagement conduit, to contribute to public policy and develop and shape local services.

- Leading work with Sefton Council on the development of New Realities, a strategic framework for the future relationship between the local authority and the VCF sector.

- Facilitating the New Realities in Action conference attended by 177 people which explored how the VCF sector can work with the local authority with fewer resources.

- Being a partner in a multi-agency group planning a co-ordinated response to welfare reform through a programme of measures to mitigate the impacts of austerity, including the local foodbanks.

- Facilitating participation and engagement mechanisms including parent forums, equalities groups, the Young Advisors and the Youth Cabinet.

- Supporting the work programmes of the South Sefton, Southport and Formby Area Partnerships.

- Being a partner in the Sefton Cares marketing campaign encouraging residents and community groups to look out for their neighbours.

- Managing the CCGs’ VCF Health Fund and administering grants focused on health and wellbeing priorities.

- Supporting the Armed Forces Covenant and Sefton Veterans Project which provides one-stop-shop support to current and former members of the forces and their families.

- Supporting community initiatives associated with World War One and World War Two, including the Sefton at War schools heritage project and VE Day and Armistice Day commemorations.

- Facilitating the Police and Crime Commissioner’s Crime Prevention Fund totalling £180k with Liverpool CVS.

CVS Chief Executive Angela White (centre) pictured at the New Realities in Action conference with Cllr Trish Hardy (right) and keynote speaker Dawn Austwick, Chief Executive of the Big Lottery Fund.
Developing and facilitating sector consortia looking at youth service redesign, adult mental health and children and young people’s emotional wellbeing.

Supporting the VOLA organisation which manages a VCF supply chain delivering employment and skills training provision.

Initiating a VCF sector collaborative, focused on the delivery of an integrated wellness service to become the Living Well Sefton service.

Facilitating sector involvement in the City Region in the emerging Building Better Opportunities Fund which will see the Big Lottery matching investment from the European Social Fund on projects that tackle poverty and promote social inclusion. The key emerging themes were digital and financial inclusion.

Providing the secretariat to - and being a member of - the Greater Merseyside V6 which is a focal point for VCF and social enterprise infrastructure/support providers to debate, influence and shape policy at Liverpool City Region level.

**Quality assurance**

*Sefton CVS holds the following quality assurance marks and training accreditations:*

- Investors in People - Gold Standard
- NAVCA Quality Award
- Volunteer Centre Quality Assurance
- Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH) Health Promoting Organisation
- Navajo (LGBT-friendly) Charter Mark
- Workplace Wellbeing Charter
- Disability Two Ticks.
- Approved Provider Status (Mentoring and Befriending)
- Open Awards Approved Centre
- Recognised Centre Royal Society for Public Health (RSPH)
- Recognised Centre Mental Health First Aid

**Recognition awards**

In addition to existing recognition awards, Sefton CVS and its projects received the following new honours in 2015/16:

The Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project received the Queens Award for Voluntary Service.

The Chameleons Project - part of Sefton Voices - was presented with a Your Heroes Team of the Year honour in the local Trinity Media and Scottish Power Your Heroes Annual Awards.

Sefton CVS supported a number of VE Day celebrations across Sefton including this one at Ainsdale Community Care.
Support for groups

**Organisation development**
This service provides support to local people looking to establish new projects and groups, and also helps existing organisations to improve their effectiveness. It also encourages groups to collaborate more effectively.

Support is available with a wide range of issues including setting up a charity or social/community enterprise, developing policies, funding, managing community buildings, governance, achieving quality standards, project development, business planning and skills development.

**Key activities during 2015/16 included:**
- Handling 1,353 intensive cases of capacity building and customised support with 309 VCF sector groups, 57 per cent with organisations with an annual income under £100k.
- Supporting 50 potential new groups, with 23 going forward as new charity and enterprise start-ups.
- Successfully concluding the ERDF Merseyside Business Support Programme which provided 50 existing third sector organisations with a minimum of 12 hours of intensive support.
- Providing advice and support to 41 groups on the Star Standard, a local quality assurance framework.
- Facilitating meetings of the Sefton Community Centre Network which promotes collaboration at local level.
- Supporting the ongoing operations and development of the foodbanks in Sefton.

**Funding Information Service**
The Funding Information Service provides support to VCF sector groups to help them access funding opportunities which will enable them to become more sustainable by improving their financial security and capacity.

Organisations can access this support through funding surgeries and roadshows, one-to-one meetings, training courses, conferences, bulletins and online.

The service also works closely with key funders such as the Big Lottery to promote their investment funds and encourage applications from local groups.

Detailed support is provided with developing the proposals to bid status, compiling evidence and data, final submission and monitoring and managing grants once awarded.

Staff also provide a bid review service to help groups with applications, and bespoke support to organisations in crisis.

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Sefton CVS launched its Leadership Links seminars and training events during the year.

893 funding opportunities advertised on the Merseyside Funding Information Portal.

23 new VCF sector groups and social enterprises created with Sefton CVS support.
Key activities during 2015/16 included:

- Organising the Funding Fair at the CVS New Realities in Action conference including key funders such as the Big Lottery, the Morgan Foundation, John Moores Foundation and PH Holt Foundation.

- Helping the VCF sector to secure £3.3 million from known funding applications during the year. 35 per cent of funds came from resources outside the borough, and a further £1.2 million of bids were awaiting decisions at the year-end.

- Managing the Merseyside Funding Information Portal, which advertised 893 funding and tendering opportunities during the year and received 24,691 profile visits and 314,300 tweet impressions.

- Participating in the Funding Advisers Network and the Merseyside Charitable Trusts Network.

- Working with Grantscape as a panel partner and promoting applications to the newly developed Burbo Bank Community Fund.

Community accountancy

- The Community Accountancy Service provides financial health checks, independent examinations, training, bookkeeping and payroll services to the VCF sector.

Key activities during 2015/16 included:

- Providing services to 62 groups, 48 per cent with incomes from £10k-100k.

- Preparing annual accounts for 43 groups, 49 per cent with incomes between £10k-100k.

- Carrying out independent examinations for 40 groups.

- Providing a payroll bureau service to 23 groups.

- Undertaking bookkeeping for six groups.

- Supporting three groups in crisis.

- Handling 28 cases relating to governance advice, four to VAT and eight to company secretarial support.

Training and skills.

- The Sefton CVS Training and Development Programme builds the skills and knowledge of the VCF sector workforce, thereby strengthening the capacity and capability of the organisations they work for.

Key activities during 2015/16 included:

- Delivering 72 training and masterclass opportunities to 1,431 individuals.

- Providing accredited online and face-to-face safeguarding training to 657 individuals.

- Offering a suite of 95 training courses that can be delivered on a bespoke basis.

- Launching Leadership Links seminars and training with presentations from the CEOs of Liverpool and Sefton Chamber of Commerce, Voluntary Sector North West and the CCGs.

- Organising masterclasses on subjects including debt and mental health awareness, radicalisation, volunteers and the law, pension reform, chairing meetings, minute taking and social value.

- Delivering RSPH Understanding Health Improvement, Five Ways to Wellbeing and Connect Five training.

- Training 166 GP frontline staff and local residents as Dementia Friends.
Volunteering and citizenship

Volunteer Centre Sefton supports volunteers, and the organisations that recruit volunteers, by providing a brokerage service that matches local people to organisations with volunteering opportunities.

The centre also provides bespoke support to organisations deploying volunteers including good practice guides, advice on policies and procedures, training and support with developing new initiatives deploying volunteers.

In addition, the centre has links with regional and national agencies in policy work relating to volunteering, and is a National Council for Voluntary Organisations-accredited Volunteer Quality Assurance Centre.

The centre has lead responsibility for the Sefton CVS and VCF sector response to World War One and World War Two commemorations. This has included working with Bootle Strand Shopping Centre as well as representing CVS and the sector at VE Day and other remembrance events.

**Key activities during 2015/16 included:**

- Helping 1,174 individuals to access volunteering opportunities.
- Supporting 509 organisations with deploying volunteers or promoting volunteering.
- Advertising 662 volunteering opportunities from 451 organisations during the year.
- Staging events in the Strand by Me Shop in Bootle and at Maricourt High School Maghull and Southport College to promote volunteering to Sefton adult residents, the under 18s and students.
- Providing 14 drop-in facilities at Sefton@Work, the Linaker Community Hub and Venus aimed at helping long-term unemployed residents to harness the benefits of volunteering.
- Celebrating volunteering with 130 individuals and 17 organisations at a recognition event at Bootle Town Hall during Volunteers’ Week attended by the Mayor of Sefton and the Sefton CVS Patrons.
- Presenting certificates at this event to 124 people, recognising 59,335 hours of volunteering which equates to a contribution of more than £792,000 to the local economy based on average earnings in Sefton.
- Launching the new Volunteer Involving Project of the Year Award which saw the inaugural honour being presented to South Sefton Foodbank.
- Working with the Formby Area Partnership, local faith groups and projects in community buildings to improve services for older people in the area.
- Working as part of a project group which has commissioned an independent evaluation of the support needs of Sefton sports clubs and associated volunteer requirements and opportunities.
- Commissioning a new improved volunteer database - VC Connect - to be introduced during 2016/7.
- Commissioning a new report on the future of volunteering to be available in 2016.

South Sefton Foodbank won the first Volunteer Involving Project of the Year Award.
Sefton 4 Good

Sefton 4 Good - launched by Sefton CVS in 2013 - is an initiative focused on developing philanthropy and local giving, primarily through an online presence.

Building on the model developed by Voluntary and Community Action Tameside, the initiative’s website enables donors to support local causes via payroll giving, an online shop and corporate giving of time, skills and goods.

Key activities undertaken in 2015/16 included:

Sefton CVS staff organising silent auctions, a sponsored bike ride, an Easter extravaganza and other activities to raise funds for the initiative.

Supporting VE Day celebrations in the borough by sourcing specially prepared cream tea packs at cost from a local baker, with 16 local organisations providing activities for older people.

Recruiting Lancashire Tea, Tetley Tea and Taylors of Harrogate as supporters of the Sefton Cares campaign by donating tea to community groups to host events to reduce loneliness.

Producing new postcards and wristbands to promote Sefton 4 Good.

Awarding three grants to local groups - Ykidz, Linacre Bridge Community Hub and the Merseyside Offender Mentoring Service.

Planning a range of fundraising events for 2016/17 and the initiative’s first round of open grants for autumn 2016.

Volunteer Centre Sefton’s annual volunteer recognition event at Bootle Town Hall.

Sefton organisations supported with the deployment of volunteers.

652 volunteering opportunities from 451 organisations advertised during the year.
Criminal justice

The aim of Sefton CVS’s work in this field is to provide strategic leadership within the VCF sector, and be a conduit to partners and interpret policy relating to the criminal justice system, community safety and Transforming Rehabilitation.

It involves working with key partners within Merseyside Police, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, HM Prison Service and Sefton Council.

**Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project**

This project provides mentoring and befriending support to offenders from HMP Liverpool, before and after release, with the aim of helping them to settle positively back into the community.

A comprehensive service is provided to help offenders overcome any barriers they face, with the objective of reducing reoffending rates significantly, and thus the consequent impact on the wider community.

The project was awarded the prestigious Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service in 2015.

**Highlights of 2015/16 included:**

- Engaging 1,223 offenders before and after release.
- Recruiting and training 76 mentors, a third of them ex-offenders.
- Successfully matching 150 offenders with a mentor.
- Just 10 per cent of offenders who engaged with the Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project returned to prison, compared with a national average of 60 per cent.
- Being represented on Sefton Community Safety Partnership, Compass, Sefton MARGG, Sefton DISARM, Merseyside Reducing Reoffending meetings and Sefton and Wirral Integrated Offender Management meetings.
- Establishing young people’s mentoring projects to work with Sefton Youth Offending Team, the Gun & Gang Crime Unit and St Helens Youth Offending Team.
- Beginning a new Achieve North West NOMS contract, working with 49 mentees to prepare them for release and reduce reoffending.

**HMP Kennet and Liverpool**

Sefton CVS’s Partnership Liaison Officers work within HMP Liverpool and HMP Kennet to broker relationships with a diverse range of VCF and enterprise sector organisations, with the aim of helping offenders settle back into the community and reducing the risk of reoffending.

Ex-offenders are being recruited as mentors to support prisoners in HMP Liverpool.

**150**

offenders were successfully matched with a mentor during the year.

**76**

new mentors were recruited and trained – a third of them ex-offenders.
Key activities during 2015/16 included:
Completing 474 prisoner induction questionnaires as a means of identifying their needs and arranging appropriate support and interventions.
Delivering stress awareness and personal wellbeing training to 38 prisoners as part of their therapeutic recovery programme.
Helping 63 statutory and VCF sector organisations and social enterprises to engage with prisoners and their families with the aim of contributing to their resettlement.
Enabling 15 prisoners to record stories for their children as part of the Storybook Dads Programme to maintain crucial family links.
Co-facilitating 25 staff and prisoner events focusing on the equalities, health and wellbeing, debt management and employment agendas.
Supporting the debt and finance pathway by helping offenders to apply for bank and credit union account facilities.
Facilitating training for offenders including the Think Differently, Cope Differently programme and healthy eating awareness.
Working with the Veterans in Custody Team and Expect to develop support for offenders who have been in the armed forces.
Co-organising three family days for 34 prisoners and their families in order to strengthen family ties during sentence.
Organising four family forums to support families on the outside with the prison regime.
Organising two veteran forums, providing 23 veterans in custody with services to support their resettlement.
Organised a veteran family day for nine veterans and 36 family members.
Establishing a 50+ prisoner forum to encourage healthy lifestyle changes and share good practice with older offenders.

The Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project received the prestigious Queen’s Award for Voluntary Service during the year.
Equalities

Sefton Equalities Team works to reduce inequalities in the borough by supporting and enabling partners to meet their requirements under the Equalities Act 2010 legislation.

It also provides a conduit through which Sefton’s protected groups can gain access to, and participate in, decision making, consultation and engagement.

**Key activities in 2015/16 included:**

Supporting Sefton Council with delivery against its Equality Duties including the production of documentation, strategic engagement and consultation with service users regarding changes or closures in day centre provision and the Supported Living Review.

Working as a member of a pilot programme responsible for identifying and planning the implementation of the School Readiness strategy to support pupils and their parents with language barriers in five nursery settings.

Providing data and intelligence to support the development of a range of strategies by the Sefton Sexual Health Integrated Partnership, Sefton Wider Determinants of Mental Health Task Group Partnership, Valuing People Partnership Board, Valuing People sub-groups relating to autism and workforce development, EPEG and the Corporate Equalities Group.

Participating in the Sefton Hate Crime MARAC, facilitating joint equality and hate crime training with Merseyside Police and becoming a Third Party Hate Crime Reporting Centre.

Initiating a Modern Slavery and Trafficking Task and Finish Group in partnership with Merseyside Police, the CCGs, MASH and Public Health to share intelligence and develop procedures for supporting a vulnerable person suspected of being trafficked.

Co-delivering an information workshop for Sefton’s faith leaders with Together Liverpool to raise awareness of refugee and asylum seekers and the barriers they face, and explore ways faith groups could help them.

Providing input to the development of the Sefton and Merseyside and Cheshire Suicide Prevention Strategies and addressing equality issues identified with Healthwatch.

Supporting research by the CCGs into BME health inequalities in central Southport and initiating a programme of training for GP practice staff.

Facilitating quarterly Sefton Equalities Partnership (SEP) meetings, bringing together representatives from the equality forums and escalating issues and information to the appropriate organisations, as required.

Facilitating networks for equality groups covering disability, black and minority ethnicities, sexual orientation, transgender and faith.

Delivering the annual SEP equalities event at Strand By Me to promote the networks to the communities of south Sefton and research residents’ perceptions of community safety and hate crime.

Supporting Sefton Access Forum which provides advice and recommendations to planning and development schemes regarding physical access and improvements.

Supporting the Merseyside-wide award ceremony for organisations achieving the Navajo LGBT Charter Mark following peer assessments.

Producing accessible materials utilising Daisy Disc and Easy Read formats and audio translation.

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Organisations and practitioners received equality training during the year.

Long-term unemployed people with disabilities received support from the Work-Ability Project.
Providing briefings, guidance and training for the incoming Accessible Information Standards.

Providing volunteer bi-lingual interpreters to CCG representatives to improve access to identified GP surgeries for Sefton’s migrant communities.

Being an active long-term partner in football’s Show Racism the Red Card initiative, and facilitating the involvement of Sefton schools in its events.

Delivering equality training including Gypsy/Roma/Traveller awareness, radicalisation and human trafficking awareness to 141 frontline organisations and practitioners including Sefton councillors, GP practice staff and school staff.

Providing mental health training to 431 participants - including school staff and VCF sector staff and volunteers - on topics including debt and mental health awareness, mental health first aid, the Deprivation of Liberties and Mental Capacity Act, Think Differently, Cope Differently and workplace wellbeing.

Managing the BME CDW Project which provides intensive one-to-one support to vulnerable members of Sefton’s BME communities experiencing mental health issues. The project ran weekly surgeries at Parenting 2000, Holy Trinity School and children’s centres supporting 97 families and 19 individuals from 29 different nationalities.

Managing the Work-Ability Project which provides intensive support to long-term unemployed people with disabilities to help them enter the labour market, access learning and undertake volunteering. During the year the project supported 54 beneficiaries.

The Work-Ability Project helps long-term unemployed people to return to the labour market.
Children, young people and families

This area of the work of Sefton CVS involves the development of a co-ordinated, strategic approach to local services, seeking to embed best practice to deliver quality outcomes for children, young people and families with a focus on multi-agency working and integrated processes.

The Every Child Matters Forum facilitates VCF representation, enabling the sector to provide service solutions to meet the needs and priorities identified locally and nationally. 468 members participate in forums and policy and information bulletins.

Key activities in 2015/16 included:

Active involvement in the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board structures and work streams of the Executive Board, Training and Child Sexual Exploitation Group.

Engaging in the CAMHS Transformation Reference Group Early Help and Neglect Sub Group, including the Early Life Forum 0-19 within the Health and Wellbeing Structures.

Leading the Sefton Emotional Achievement Service (SEAS) consortium of six local charities engaged in the mental health wellbeing of children and families. A CCG-funded initiative delivered self harm prevention and support for 11-25 year olds.

Facilitating six meetings of the Every Child Matters Forum and working proactively with Sefton Council and the CCGs on strategic priorities including Sefton Community Adolescent Service, 0-19 Healthy Child Programme and the developing Children’s Plan.

Delivering a successful partnership initiative funded by NHS England to accelerate integrated commissioning of CAMHS including a VCF pathway working on the local delivery of Tier 2/3 services.

Co-ordinating 116 referrals for Southport and Birkdale Provident Society Trust grants for vulnerable families.

Hosting the first Youth Mental Health Awards celebrating those who support young people’s mental health and people who have achieved success despite mental health issues.

Supporting local organisations through capacity building and training to develop and review safeguarding policy within community settings, including the delivery of NSPCC Safeguarding e-training (Level 1).

Providing DBS checks for local VCF sector staff and volunteers, processing 364 disclosures for 61 separate organisations.

Delivering an intensive capacity building support programme with 21 VCF providers around the provision of universal targeted services for 11-18 year olds.

Co-ordinating the work of the Parent Participation and Engagement Project, providing a consultation route between local parents and the statutory agencies responsible for the planning and delivery of children’s services.

The Shining Stars Awards ceremony at Bootle Town Hall in December 2015.

468 members participated in the work of the Every Child Matters Forum.

364 DBS checks processed for 61 separate VCF sector organisations.
Sefton Voices aims to increase the involvement of children and young people in decision making by developing their confidence and skills to give them a voice.

Sefton Young Advisors

Sefton Voices employs 20 young people aged 15–23 as Young Advisors to show community leaders and decision makers how to engage young people in community life. They help organisations ‘youth proof’ their practices, policies, strategies and commissioning. Sefton’s Young Advisors have gained local and national recognition for their work.

Key activities in 2015/16 included:

- Producing a film about the story of a World War One hero from Southport included in the Sefton History Learning Package for schools.
- Planning and delivering an event on child sexual exploitation attended by 70 young people to inform Local Safeguarding Children’s Board (LSCB) safeguarding practice.
- Designing methods of consultation on the priorities for the LSCB.
- Creating a youth-proofed version of the Children and Young People’s Plan.
- Organising the Shining Stars Awards celebrating the achievements of children and young people in Sefton.
- Undertaking a ‘mystery shopper’ exercise of Sefton’s sexual health services and conducting research with young people about them.
- Facilitating youth voices through a Youth Cabinet which now reports directly to the Sefton Council’s full Cabinet and Heads of Service twice a year.
- Undertaking the first Youth Cabinet campaign about local transport with findings presented to the Sustainable Transport Review.
- Managing Play It Forward, funded by the Heritage Lottery, which involved young and older musicians exploring the musical heritage of Sefton. A showcase event was held at the Atkinson and music sessions staged in Southport and Strand By Me.

The Sefton Young Advisors have received further prestigious national awards.
Highlights of 2015/16 Part 2

- 1,223 prisoners engaged with the Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project during the year.
- 41 VCF groups supported as they worked to achieve the Star Standard quality assurance framework.
- 95 training courses can now be delivered by Sefton CVS to the VCF sector on a bespoke basis.
- £792k of economic value contributed to Sefton via the volunteer certificate scheme.
- 63 statutory and VCF organisations engaged with prisoners at HMP Liverpool and HMP Kennet.
- 177 delegates attended the CVS New Realities in Action conference in autumn 2015.
- 50 third sector organisations supported via the ERDF Merseyside Business Support Programme.
- 657 individuals received online and face-to-face accredited safeguarding training from CVS.
Sefton VCF sector organisations and 1,465 locations included on the VCF Direct database.

sets of annual accounts prepared for VCF groups, with payroll services provided to 23 groups.

drop-in facilities provided to promote the benefits of volunteering to long-term unemployed people.

local organisations supported in providing events for older people to mark VE Day.

prisoner induction questionnaires completed at HMP Kennet to identify individuals’ needs.

10% of Merseyside Offender Mentoring Project prisoners reoffend, compared to an average of 60%.

families and 19 individuals from vulnerable members of BME communities in Sefton supported.

CVS-affiliated Twitter accounts hosted with a total following of 10,585 people and organisations.
CVS co-ordinates and facilitates the response of the VCF sector in Sefton to local and national health priorities, and also supports the sector’s engagement with key partners and commissioners on developing solutions to the identified health and wellbeing priorities in the borough.

As part of this work CVS also co-ordinates the Health and Social Care Forum which currently has a membership of 187 VCF sector organisations.

**Key activities in 2015/16 included:**

- Active engagement in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy structures, including the Adults and Wider Determinants Forums and Mental Health Sub Group.
- Providing sector intelligence to Sefton CCGs’ Experience and Patient Engagement Group.
- Supporting Sefton Partnership for Older Citizens and its action plan.
- Providing support to the Church Ward Older People’s Pilot aiming to reduce social isolation on a virtual ward model.
- Acting as a representative to groups including the Health and Wellbeing Adult Forum, Well Sefton Steering Group, Voluntary Sector Care Act Group, Dementia Action Alliance, Adult Safeguarding Board and Quality Assurance Groups, Early Intervention and Prevention Group, Anti-Poverty Working Group and Mental Health and Employment Working Group.

Making presentations about the role of the VCF sector in Shifting the Mindset, a systems leadership programme led by the CCGs.

Facilitating six meetings of the Health and Social Forum and co-ordinating the VCF sector’s engagement in the implications of the Care Act, personalised care planning and Dementia Friendly Sefton.

Exploring an Accelerating Ideas proposal to the Big Lottery focused on the opportunities and challenges of ageing.

Successfully bidding to Locality’s Our Place Programme to build referral pathways amongst VCF groups to support client groups in south Sefton.

Supporting VCF sector engagement in Carers in the Workplace, End of Life Strategy, Shaping Sefton, suicide prevention, community services in Sefton and the Big Chat events.

Facilitating the Sefton Adult Mental Health and Wellbeing Consortium (SAMHAWC), working with eight local organisations who have formed a provider collaborative.

Facilitating the Information and Advice Forum, Mental Health Service Users Forum and Shared Reading Groups.

Helping to establish Sefton In Mind, a multi-agency group working to improve access to mental health resources in the borough.

Supporting the development of an integrated wellness service.

Managing the Health Promotion Project which supports local VCF groups in promoting healthy choices.

Co-ordinating a range of training courses including Connect 5, Make Every Contact Count and RSPH Understanding Health Improvement.

Managing the £1.3-million CCG VCF Fund which awarded grants to 37 groups for projects tackling long-term mental health conditions, social isolation and dementia.

Producing a bi-weekly health and social care policy and information e-bulletin.

A still from a promotional film featuring the work of the Sefton CVS Health and Wellbeing Trainers.
Reablement

The Reablement Project provides personalised rehabilitative support to service users to enable them to return to full independence, including interventions for timely and safe discharge from hospital, and the assessment of needs to avoid unnecessary dependence on more acute, long-term services.

The services are delivered through:

- Care4You Reablement Service in partnership with Sefton Carers Centre
- Reablement Information and Signposting Service
- South Sefton Health and Wellbeing Trainers
- Connected Communities (North)
- North Sefton Social Inclusion Project

Key activities in 2015/16 included:

- Handling 494 Health and Wellbeing Trainer referrals, with 85 per cent of clients engaging in the behaviour change programme, receiving regular home visits and ongoing focused support. The remaining 15 per cent received tailored information and/or were signposted to appropriate services.
- Handling 542 Care4You service referrals, with a further 303 signposting service users supported.
- Handling 176 Connected Communities referrals and undertaking 205 activity visits aimed at re-engaging socially isolated older people with the community.
- Establishing two social groups - Fellas First and Lively Ladies.
- Facilitating Ageing Well Clubs with 35 regular members.
- Running a Shopping Service which uses 20 volunteers to support 31 registered clients.

SAMHAWC partners pictured at a World Mental Health Day event at Strand By Me.

VCF sector organisations involved in the Health and Social Care Forum.

referrals handled by the Health and Wellbeing Trainers during 2015/16.
Strand By Me and Southport Community Centre

**Strand By Me**
CVS opened Strand by Me during the year, a pop-up community signposting and health shop in the Bootle Strand Shopping Centre, funded by South Sefton CCG. A range of partner organisations use the shop to hold events and promote their services to residents.

**Highlights of 2015/16 included:**
The official launch of the shop in October 2015 by Liverpool footballing legend Jamie Carragher.

Establishing drop-ins held by organisations including the May Logan Centre, Lifeline and Galloway’s Society for the Blind.

876 residents attending drop-in sessions.

3,864 residents using the shop’s wide range of pop-up services.

40 local organisations organising activities in the shop to promote their services including Age Concern, Emmaus, the May Logan Centre, the Feelgood Factory and 3tc.

Promoting mental health awareness and local sources of mental health support on World Mental Health Day.

**Southport Community Centre**
CVS has been working closely with the Brighter Living Partnership and the PCC of St Simon and St Jude to transform Southport’s All Souls building into a community hub for the area.

This has included the refurbishing of the hall and office space and renovating the parking area.

**Highlights of 2015/16 included:**
Establishing an IT hub for use by local residents.

Establishing a range of activities including Brighter Mondays developed by the Feelgood Factory to reduce social isolation.

Providing a luncheon club and Friday films facilitated through the Brighter Living Partnership.

Running chair-based exercise sessions, mums and tots and the Charlie’s Way parent/carer support group.

Undertaking consultation with residents through Faiths4Change about the establishment of a community garden.

Holding a senior fraud awareness seminar for older citizens in partnership with Merseyside Police and Barclays.

Running a winter warmth event in partnership with the Affordable Warmth Team, One Vision Housing and Sefton Pensioners Advocacy Centre.

Establishing referral pathways with Sefton Credit Union and Southport Foodbank.

3,864 residents used Strand By Me’s wide range of pop-up services.
Sefton CVS continues to develop VCF Direct, an online directory that includes contact and service details for groups/organisations in and around the Sefton area.

The system is managed by CVS, and was commissioned by South Sefton and Southport and Formby Clinical Commissioning Groups, and developed by VidaVia Ltd.

VCF Direct currently has records of 3,934 services, 1,052 organisations and 1,465 locations on its database.

Key activities in 2015/16 included:

- Researching and verifying 3,934 VCF sector community service entries now available online.
- Acting as a communication conduit with the distribution of nine CVS e-bulletins to 1,297 contacts per issue, a total of 11,673.
- Launching a Chief Executive’s bulletin with 17 issues distributed to 1,022 contacts per issue, totalling 17,374.
- Distributing ten Health and Social Care Forum bulletins to 177 recipients per issue, a total of 1,770 contacts.
- Distributing 11 Every Child Matters bulletins to 436 recipients per issue, totalling 4,796.
- Sharing 406 articles across the Sefton CVS website and associated social media outlets.
- Generating 893 tweets from the Sefton CVS Twitter account with 3,500 social media followers.
- Hosting 17 affiliated accounts including Sefton 4 Good, the Health and Social Care Forum, Young Advisors and Every Child Matters with a combined total of 10,585 people and organisations receiving our community e-messaging facilities.
- Acting as a consultation and information conduit on issues including day opportunities, New Realities, Christmas emergency and out-of-hours services and the promotion of the Big Chat events.

Residents enjoying the regular arts and crafts activities at Southport Community Centre.
# Sefton CVS factfile

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Registered office</strong></th>
<th><strong>Auditors</strong></th>
<th><strong>Solicitors</strong></th>
<th><strong>Board of Directors</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3rd Floor Suite 3B, North Wing, Burlington House, Crosby Road North, Waterloo L22 0LG</td>
<td>BWMacfarlane Castle Chambers 43 Castle Street Liverpool L2 9SH</td>
<td>Middleton’s Solicitors 8/10 Stanley Street Liverpool L1 6AF</td>
<td>Dave Roscoe (Chair) Elizabeth Barnett (Vice Chair) Simon Sharman (Treasurer) Paul Cummins Valerie Elson Dr Mike Homfray Paulette Lappin Brenda Porter Nikki Ronan Mark Sonne Angela White (Company Secretary and Chief Executive)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>T</strong> 0151 920 0726 <strong>E</strong> <a href="mailto:mail@seftoncvs.org.uk">mail@seftoncvs.org.uk</a> <strong><a href="http://www.seftoncvs.org.uk">www.seftoncvs.org.uk</a></strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Southport office</strong></th>
<th><strong>Bankers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Charity legal advisers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Sefton Council representatives in attendance</strong></th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Southport Community Centre Norwood Road Southport Merseyside PR8 6HQ</td>
<td>HSBC 197 Stanley Road Bootle, Merseyside L20 3DX</td>
<td>Brabners Chaffie Street Horton House Exchange Flags Liverpool L2 3YL</td>
<td>Cllr Janet Grace Cllr David Pullin Cllr David Robinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>T</strong> 01704 517810</td>
<td>Unity Trust Bank PLC Nine Brindley Place Birmingham B1 2HB</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Company/charity registration</strong></th>
<th><strong>Investment managers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Principal insurers</strong></th>
<th><strong>Patrons</strong></th>
<th><strong>President</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Registered in England and Wales as a Company Limited by Guarantee No: 2832920 Registered Charity No: 1024546</td>
<td>Rathbone Greenbank Investments Port of Liverpool Building Pier Head Liverpool L3 1NW</td>
<td>David Edwards Insurance Brokers 1 Rotten Row Barns 1957 Warwick Road Knowle, Solihull West Midlands B93 0DX</td>
<td>The Worshipful the Mayor of Sefton Colonel Martin GC Amlôt OBE DL Professor Helen ML Carty DL</td>
<td>Margaret Hardman MBE</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
I have pleasure in presenting the financial statements of Sefton CVS for the financial year 2015/16.

Sefton CVS manages various projects and programmes throughout Sefton, and wherever possible, diversifies its funding sources for the development of specific projects.

This financial year saw a reduction in income, from £2.76 million in 2014/15 to £2.25 million in 2015/16.

Of the income 88 per cent is restricted funding, coming with specific conditions imposed by the donor which are binding on the organisation.

Total expenditure during 2015/16 was £2.32 million. Of this expenditure 92 per cent was spent on services to the sector, work that helps CVS achieve its objectives of promoting and assisting voluntary and community activity in the borough.

The remaining 8 per cent was spent on support services which include audit, governance, rents and other ancillary items.

The core services of Sefton CVS are highly dependent upon the continued support of Sefton Council. We thank them for their contribution.

The Trustees have re-examined the charity’s requirements for free reserves and have concluded that, to allow the charity to be managed efficiently and to provide a buffer for uninterrupted services, a general reserve of approximately £211,000 should be maintained.

The Finance Sub-committee regularly reviews the organisation’s investments, and the performance of the various funds. In 2015 the Trustees took the opportunity to implement a new investment policy which had a clear focus on ethical investments and providing a satisfactory return to enable Sefton CVS to continue to invest in its charitable objectives. Consequently the Trustees appointed Rathbones as investment managers for the organisation. As at 31st March 2016 the investments managed by Rathbones had made an unrealised gain of £7,220.

I would like to thank the finance team for their continued hard work during the year. Peter Taaffe and staff from BWMacfarlane are to be thanked for ensuring our compliance with current legal requirements. I have proposed their re-election at the annual general meeting.

Simon Sharman
Treasurer on behalf of the Trustees

Funders 2015/16

Sefton Council
NHS South Sefton Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Southport & Formby Clinical Commissioning Group
Greenbank College (ESF NEET Programme)
The Big Lottery
HM Prison Service
The Office of the Police Commissioner for Merseyside
Achieve North West

The Morgan Foundation
St Helens Council
The Heritage Lottery Fund
Community Foundation for Merseyside
Groundwork UK
Locality
Mersey Care NHS Trust
Liverpool Community Health NHS Trust
Southport & Ormskirk NHS Hospital Trust
Seedbed Christian Community Trust
# Financial statement

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Unrestricted funds</th>
<th>Restricted funds</th>
<th>Total 2016</th>
<th>Total 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income from:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations and legacies</td>
<td>106,304</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>106,304</td>
<td>103,585</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment income</td>
<td>2,804</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2,804</td>
<td>54,613</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities</td>
<td>151,715</td>
<td>1,992,924</td>
<td>2,144,639</td>
<td>2,602,935</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total income</strong></td>
<td>260,823</td>
<td>1,992,924</td>
<td>2,253,747</td>
<td>2,761,133</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenditure on:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charitable activities</td>
<td>313,725</td>
<td>2,014,685</td>
<td>2,328,410</td>
<td>2,814,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total expenditure</strong></td>
<td>313,725</td>
<td>2,014,685</td>
<td>2,328,410</td>
<td>2,814,818</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net gains on investments</td>
<td>7,220</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>7,220</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net income/(expenditure)</strong></td>
<td>(45,682)</td>
<td>(21,761)</td>
<td>(67,443)</td>
<td>(53,685)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transfers between funds</td>
<td>739</td>
<td>(739)</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net movement in funds</strong></td>
<td>(44,943)</td>
<td>(22,500)</td>
<td>(67,443)</td>
<td>(53,685)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances at 1st April 2015</td>
<td>685,042</td>
<td>963,657</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
<td>1,702,384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fund balances at 31st March 2016</td>
<td>640,099</td>
<td>941,157</td>
<td>1,581,256</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sefton Council for Voluntary Service year ended 31st March 2016**

These summarised accounts are an extract from the statutory annual report and accounts of Sefton Council for Voluntary Service for the financial year ended 31st March 2016 and which have been audited by BWMacfarlane, who gave an unqualified audit report on 5th October 2016.

The auditors have confirmed to the Trustees that these summarised accounts are consistent with the full annual accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st March 2016.

The full annual accounts and Trustees’ report of the charity were approved by the Trustees and signed on their behalf on 21st September 2016.

They will be submitted to the Charity Commission on 27th October 2016.

Copies of the charity’s full annual accounts, the auditor’s report on those accounts and the Trustees’ report may be obtained from Sefton CVS, 3rd Floor Suite 3B, North Wing, Burlington House, Crosby Road North, Waterloo, Liverpool L22 0LG.

Signed on behalf of the Trustees 21st September 2016
## Balance sheet

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fixed assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tangible assets</td>
<td>85,319</td>
<td></td>
<td>91,171</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investments</td>
<td>507,220</td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>592,539</td>
<td></td>
<td>91,171</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Debtors</td>
<td>293,982</td>
<td></td>
<td>449,538</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cash at bank and in hand</td>
<td>877,951</td>
<td></td>
<td>1,290,445</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net current assets</strong></td>
<td>1,171,933</td>
<td>1,171,933</td>
<td>1,739,983</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year</strong></td>
<td>(183,216)</td>
<td>(183,216)</td>
<td>(182,455)</td>
<td>(182,455)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net current assets</strong></td>
<td>988,717</td>
<td>988,717</td>
<td>1,557,528</td>
<td>1,557,528</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total assets less current liabilities</strong></td>
<td>1,581,256</td>
<td>1,581,256</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Restricted funds</td>
<td>941,157</td>
<td></td>
<td>963,657</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Unrestricted funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Designated funds</td>
<td>428,321</td>
<td>428,321</td>
<td>458,508</td>
<td>458,508</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other charitable funds</td>
<td>211,778</td>
<td>211,778</td>
<td>226,534</td>
<td>226,534</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>1,581,256</td>
<td>1,581,256</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
<td>1,648,699</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to the other awards received by Sefton CVS this year – and those presented by the charity – there was special recognition for the organisation’s Chief Executive, Angela White.

Angela was awarded an OBE in the Queen’s New Year’s Honours for ‘services to community action’.

Sunderland-born Angela has headed up CVS since 1992, and over the last 24 years has overseen a major expansion of its activities.

She has also represented the views of the VCF sector on many of the borough’s most important committees, steering groups and consultative bodies.

Commenting on the OBE Angela said: “This award came completely out of the blue and I was both overwhelmed and humbled to have been recognised in this way.

“Sefton is fortunate in having a fantastic voluntary, community and faith sector and it has been a privilege to work with these organisations over the years, and to support the vital work they do with some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

“I would also like to pay tribute to all my Sefton CVS colleagues past and present. Everything we have done has been a team effort, and they have supported me and the sector every step of the way.”
The information contained in this annual report is available in different formats on request.

Sefton CVS would like to thank chartered accountants BWMacfarlane for sponsoring this year’s annual report.