

# State of the Voluntary Sector Survey 2008

## Children & Young People's

### Introduction

**BCVS is in the process of conducting a series of annual surveys to give information about the Voluntary and Community Sector in Bournemouth.**

The intention is to:-

- Identify the size and scope of community and voluntary groups offering a service within Bournemouth.
- Evaluate their contribution to the local economy.
- Record the contributions of staff, both paid and unpaid, working within the voluntary and community sector.
- Measure the changes to the above over the three years.

### Methodology

**A total of 208 community and voluntary groups were targeted for the survey. At the beginning of 2008 a questionnaire was sent out and this was followed up with a letter and subsequent telephone calls.**

Of the total number of respondents 34 were classed as children's and young people's organisations.

The survey had a response rate of 57%. No attempt has been made to account for those organisations which did not respond hence the figures are, once again, likely to be a very conservative estimate of the total economic value of the Sector to the

### Key findings

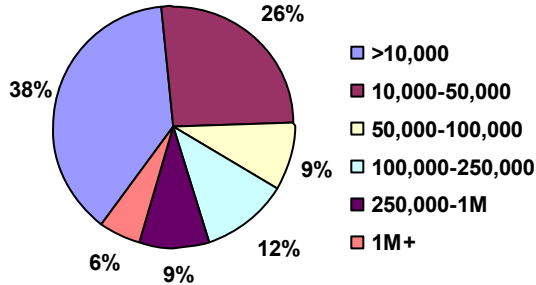
The information collected this year relates to January 2008 to December 2008.



**Bournemouth Council for Voluntary Service**

## (Gross income of organisations)

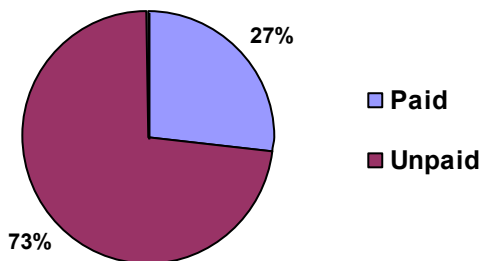
Organisations were placed into a series of income bands.



## Number of employed staff and volunteers

384 paid staff were employed by the responding organisations supporting 1045 volunteers. The number of volunteers per employee is 2.72

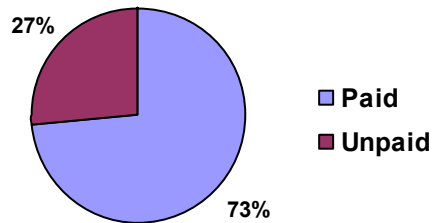
## Number of paid staff compared to volunteers



## Number of hours worked by paid staff and volunteers

Paid staff worked a total of 11842 hours per week. Volunteers worked a total of 3823 hours per week. After adjusting for annual leave, paid staff worked an estimated 544732 hours per year while volunteers worked an estimated 198,796 hours per year.

## Proportion of hours worked by paid vs. unpaid workers



## The direct economic contribution of the Voluntary and Community Sector

The results show that the voluntary and community organisations responding this year contributed £10.93million directly to the economy of Bournemouth in 2008.

This figure has been calculated by adding together the total gross income of the responding groups.

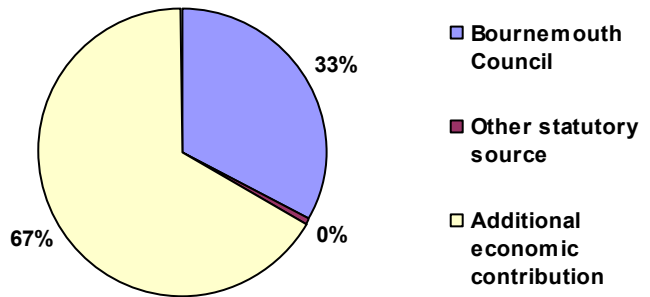
£4.49 million was contributed by Bournemouth Borough Council and £0.06 million by other local statutory organisations.

## The direct and indirect economic contribution

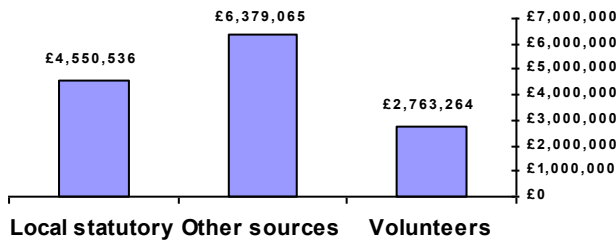
In addition to the contribution by local statutory organisations the respondents generated a further £6.38 million from other sources such as charging for services, fundraising events and grants from trusts.

The income generated was also used to support 1045 volunteers. A total of 198,796 hours was contributed by the volunteers in 2008. Valuing this time at the national average wage rate equates to an indirect economic contribution of £2.76 million to the Bournemouth

## Proportion of statutory income compared to total direct and indirect economic contribution



## Direct and indirect economic benefit from various sources



By adding the indirect economic benefit of £2.76 million provided by voluntary work to the £6.34 million generated from other sources, it can be seen that for every £1 contributed by the public sector an estimated additional £2 of economic benefit was generated.

## References

Mean hourly wage rate. Annual survey of Hours and Earnings (ASHE), Analysis by all employees 2008.

Whilst some voluntary roles may correlate to lower paid employment there are also many hundreds of solicitors, accountants, company directors (charity trustees) and senior managers working in VCS organisations on a voluntary basis hence the selection of this figure.

For more information about our work, a copy of our directory or details of membership please contact:

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## Acknowledgements

We would like to thank all the people involved in voluntary and community organisations who took the time to complete the survey.

Thanks are also due to the Safer and Stronger Communities Forum for funding this research. The majority of the funding for this survey is being provided by the Bournemouth Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership however ChangeUp funding enabled an extension to be made to this in respect of Children and Young People's organisations.

## Concluding Remarks

Voluntary and community organisations offer services which are innovative, creative and responsive. They play a major role in delivering the outcomes identified in the Children and Young People Plan and in enabling the objectives of 'Every Child Matters' to be achieved, ensuring that children and young people are healthy, stay safe, enjoy life and contribute positively to their community.

Voluntary and community organisations are particularly effective at reaching marginalised and 'hard to reach groups' and are trusted within local communities. They are well placed to identify local need, gather feedback from children, young people and their families and can contribute to the planning of future services.

They can enable effective participation from children and young people. The services they deliver are often preventative in nature and can potentially save money on high cost multiple interventions at crisis level. They have specialist skills in specific areas and many organisations take on a public education or awareness raising role too.

Voluntary and community organizations have the ability to draw on a range of funding sources that are not accessible to public sector bodies and as this report has demonstrated investment in the sector produces significant returns. It is crucial that current levels of funding should be maintained to ensure that children, young people and their families in Bournemouth receive the best quality services. It is vital that grant aid should also continue as it enables new and smaller groups to gain access to funding in order to focus on local needs.

Do you work in a Voluntary organisation which provides a service to children and / or Young People? If so why not come along to the Voluntary Sector Forum - Children and Young People (CYP) which meets three times a year.

It aims to ensure the effective involvement of the voluntary and community sector in all aspects of the planning and development of services for children and young people.

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