

# Welcome to



## The Council for Voluntary Service in your borough

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CVS Hounslow operates as the Council for Voluntary Service for the London Borough of Hounslow.

CVS Hounslow is a registered charity and a company limited by guarantee, governed by its Memorandums and Articles of Association, both of which were adopted on 31.01.2000.

**Our Mission is:**

To promote and support community and voluntary sector development in the London Borough of Hounslow, and to facilitate the development of a socially inclusive, well informed, well trained, professional and appropriately funded voluntary and community sector that is responsive to the needs of local people.

**Our Aims are:**

- To build the capacity of voluntary and community sector organisations (VCS) in Hounslow to deliver high quality services to the community
- To increase communication and understanding between the VCS and the statutory sector
- To empower the VCS to draw down appropriate funding
- To enable the VCS to improve its governance structures
- To enable organisations to gain greater access to information
- To increase provision of activities which encourage community cohesion

**Our Objectives are:**

We will fulfill our aims by delivering our objectives which are to:

- Offer voluntary sector groups **support and advice** on project development, fundraising, management, constitution, charitable status, trustee responsibilities, business plan, equal opportunities policies, and many other areas.
- Co-ordinate involvement of the voluntary sector and community groups in community **partnership initiatives** with the statutory and private sectors.
- **Represent** the voluntary sector at a strategic level with local politicians and chief officers from the voluntary and statutory sectors.

- Provide opportunities for **networking** to voluntary organisations both locally in the London Borough of Hounslow and, through the West London Network, in the West London region.
- Provide the **training** and support necessary to enable the voluntary and community sector to play a key role in the fundamental development of the local communities, with a particular focus on community cohesion.
- Disseminate **information** about funding opportunities and other relevant topics to all our members, and publishing a detailed and informative newsletter.

### **Our Members:**

Breakdown by area of delivery of the 198 members of CVS Hounslow:

- Advice – 4%
- Advocacy – 1%
- Arts - 4%
- Carers – 2%
- Children – 11%
- Community Support – 14%
- Counselling/Mediation – 4%
- Disability – 5%
- Education – 1%
- Environment – 5%
- Ethnic Minority – 11%
- Family support – 2%
- Fundraising - !5
- Health – 7%
- Information – 1%
- Learning Disability – 1%
- Mental Health – 5%
- Older People – 4%
- Refugee/Asylum Seeker – 6%
- Faith – 1%
- Substance Misuse – 1%
- Tenants/Housing – 1%
- Unemployment – 1%
- Women – 5%

### **West London Network at CVS Hounslow:**

The CVS is the lead partner for the sub-regional representative body for the VCS. Currently WLN has just been granted £600,000 to deliver a youth volunteering project across the 6 boroughs and is awaiting the outcome of a £1,200,000 bid to Personal Best.

### **Capacity Builders Consortium:**

The CVS is the lead agency for the Hounslow Capacity Builders programme, a government funded programme looking at planning and modernising infrastructure provision in the borough.

### **Summary of CVS Hounslow Business Plan 2008 - 2011**

The Business Plan is for the core activities of the Council for Voluntary Service in Hounslow (CVSH). This three year plan covers the period from April 2008 – April 2011.

There are 4 key strands to delivery:

1. We will run a training programme for the VCS, offering courses in ICT, governance and charity and employment law, amongst others. The programme will complement courses for the VCS run by the London Borough of Hounslow (LBH).
2. We will build capacity in the VCS by offering one to one support to voluntary organisations, including project start up and fundraising advice. Work will concentrate on the Black and Minority Ethnic Refugee (BMER) communities, but will also take a pro-active approach to helping groups from disadvantaged white communities in Feltham, in the west of the Borough. This approach is in accordance with priorities identified in the LBH Community Plan, concerning the promotion of community cohesion.
3. We will enable representation by the VCS at a range of partnerships, including the Local Strategic Partnership, Children's Partnership Board and other as appropriate.
4. Underpinning these three overlapping elements, we will monitor and evaluate this project and other, related projects.

The beneficiaries in the first instance will be the 198 CVSH members. In Hounslow there are approximately 600 VCS organisations and we will work with non-member groups to encourage membership take-up.

Ultimately the communities of Hounslow will benefit from the project as the impact of the project delivers stronger and more sustainable VCS organisations. In addition London Borough of Hounslow and the VCS will benefit from a greater amount of facilitated communication as the Representation Network ensures the right expertise is enabled to participate in the appropriate meetings, consultations and planning exercises.

We will deliver the project over 3 years:

Year One: Recruitment, Setup, Research and Delivery  
Year Two: Delivery, Evaluation and Assessment  
Year Three: Delivery, Planning for the Future

To deliver this project we will use the following staff:

CVS Director x 4 days per week  
Development Officer x 5 days per week  
Training & Information Officer x 5 days per week  
Finance Officer x 1 day per week  
Administrator x 2 days per week

The Key Stakeholders we will work with on this project are:

198 members of CVSH  
London Borough of Hounslow  
Primary Care Trust  
Local Strategic Partnership Members  
Learning and Skills Council  
West London Network (including the other 5 CVS in the sub-region)  
London Voluntary Services Council  
London Regional Capacity Builders Consortium

We will deliver our services firstly to our members and secondly to VCS non-members of CVSH, and we will work with key staff in all the partner/ Stakeholder organisations to ensure full VCS participation.

**The Business Plan includes a full 3 year work programme against which our performance will be measured.**

## **CVS Hounslow – Outcomes:**

1. 300 Voluntary and Community Organisations (VCOs) operate more effectively, are aware of their rights and responsibilities and are strengthened through more robust fundraising strategies by the end of the project.
2. 40 groups from the BMER sector will operate more professionally and are better able to engage with the statutory sector and with other voluntary agencies by the end of the project.
3. Acting on recommendations from research to be conducted on gaps and best practice in Community Cohesion, 2 groups will be supported from inception to delivery on Community Cohesion issues as a consequence of a more pro-active approach within the white communities of Feltham and other areas in the west of the borough.
4. As a result of initial research to be conducted into current representation arrangements, a minimum of 12 representatives are identified and supported to ensure effective VCO involvement in the local decision making process by the end of the project.
5. CVSH is more financially stable, better able to service the VCS and will have implemented a fundraising strategy and submitted a minimum of 9 bids by the end of the project.
6. CVSH will have worked through outreach provision with the hard to reach communities in the west of the Borough, and delivered 30 training places by the end of the project.

## **The Value of the Sector**

- West London VCS had an income of £727 million in 2000
- West London VCS had an expenditure of £688 million in 2000
- West London VCS benefited a minimum of 1,791,697 people in 2000
- Through volunteering the VCS in West London in 2000 contributed:  
£84 million (minimum)  
£145 million (upper rate)

*Figures from West London Network 'Sustaining Success'*

**Staff  
Structure**

