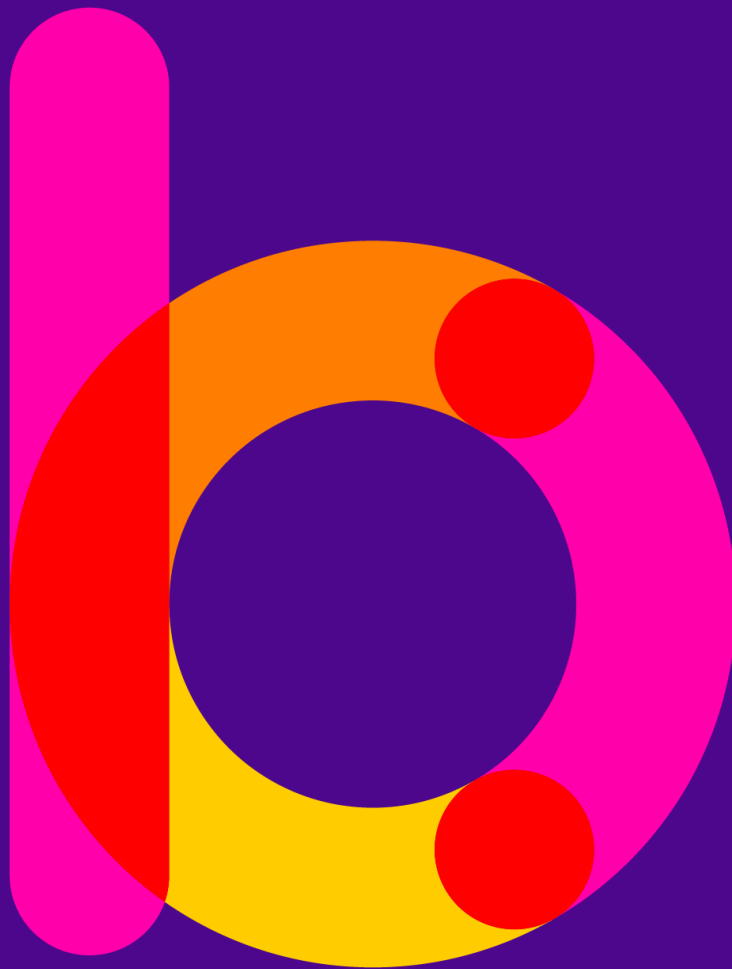


# Quarter 4 Reporting



**January – March 2025**

## A few words from Dawn Yates-Obe, Chief Executive Officer of Bolton CVS...

As we close this financial year and reflect on the past quarter, one truth stands firm: Bolton's voluntary, community, and social enterprise (VCSE) sector remains the heartbeat of our borough. The resilience, dedication, and unwavering passion of our sector continue to drive meaningful change, ensuring that our communities not only receive support but also shape their own futures.

This year has reinforced the power of collaboration. By working more closely than ever with partners across sectors, communities, and organisational boundaries, we are exploring new ways to shift decision-making power to the very people our collective work serves. Whether through redistributing funding to grassroots initiatives, amplifying community voices in strategic spaces, or co-designing solutions that reflect lived experiences, Bolton CVS stands committed to fostering more inclusive and community-led approaches.

The impact over the past quarter has been remarkable as, together, we continue to explore ways to strengthen the fabric of our communities. As we look ahead, we do so with a continued commitment to collaboration, ensuring that the people of Bolton have a voice, a platform, and the ability to drive change from within.

Shouting loud and proud about the brilliant place and people of Bolton is a favourite pastime of mine, so I was thrilled to be at the launch of We Are Bolton this quarter! If you love to tell the Bolton story too, please do join us as a Bolton Ambassador! Email [info@wearebolton.org.uk](mailto:info@wearebolton.org.uk) for more info.

Together, we are building a future where communities lead, decisions are made with those most affected, and opportunity is truly accessible to all.

### Quarter 4 in Numbers

- **£501,219.46** in grants and investments made to **56** groups and organisations
- **126** volunteering enquiries managed, **107** individuals received one-to-one support, **91** direct connections made to volunteering opportunities
- **120** VCSE groups and organisations have been supported in a development capacity
- **17** eBulletins delivered to **3,186** people across the sector (weekly, TGI Friday, Funding Bulletin, Proper Good and Bolton CVS Training Programme)
- **15** training sessions with **115** participants
- **1** Voluntary and Community Sector Forum held with **34** people in attendance

Click here to  
see how we  
have evolved

# Engagement

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025



**15,914**  
website hits

The most viewed pages this quarter are: 'Bolton CVS Homepage', 'Volunteering Opportunities', Bolton's Fund', 'We Are Here Competition', 'Groups & Community Activity', 'Job Vacancies' and 'Room Hire'.



**3,127**  
followers

This quarter, we have had **51** new followers and **17** page likes. The Bolton CVS Facebook page now has a total of **2,619** likes.



**698**  
followers

This quarter, we have gained **55** new followers.

**11** weekly eBulletins, **3** Trustee, Governance and Information (TGI) Friday e-shots, and **3** Training Programme updates have been shared and sent out to **3,186** recipients.

**49** groups were promoted in the weekly eBulletins.

**9** consultations and surveys were promoted via eBulletins and social media, ensuring Bolton CVS supports a comprehensive response to local key consultations and that the borough's VCSE sector voice is included.

Bolton CVS were mentioned **2** times in The Bolton News this quarter.

# Events

## Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

Development Officer, Debbie, and Project Coordinator, Lisa, attended the **Central North Partnership & Fit for the Future Event** at All Souls Church on 5th March 2025. The event offered a valuable opportunity for community members to network, learn about available resources, and explore potential collaborations to enhance the local area and better support those who live and work there. Organised in a marketplace-style format, the event allowed attendees to engage with various initiatives and discover the impactful work being carried out within the community.

*"Hi everyone*

*A huge thank you for attending our Central North Partnership & Fit for the Future Event on Wednesday 5th March. It was fantastic to see so many people connecting, networking, and learning more about the incredible assets in our community. Your presence and engagement made the event truly special."*

- Marvin Constantine (Neighbourhood Leader)



**BRASS Volunteering Event:** BRASS arranged a Volunteering Information event attended by Samim, our Senior Volunteering Development Officer and Joshua, one of our volunteers. Samim explained what we mean by volunteering and promoted the benefits of being a volunteer as well as highlighting how we can support people to find the right volunteering opportunity. We engaged with 25 people.

**Share to Care Event:** This event was organised by Bolton Guild of Help, supported by the Armed Forces Covenant Trust and opened by Cllr Andy Morgan. It aimed to bring together organisations who support veterans and their families. It was a chance to promote Bolton CVS services, the volunteering opportunities available and create connections with other organisations. We engaged with 20 people.



Elaine Butt, Development Manager, was invited to attend a meeting of the **Turton and District Probosc Club** to talk about the work of Bolton CVS and the importance of volunteering. The club is an association of retired business and professional people who meet twice a month for fellowship and friendship and regularly invite speakers along to their meetings. It was great to have an opportunity to meet everyone and share what we do and the impact volunteers can make (and hopefully recruit a few new volunteers!).

The Club kindly made a donation which will go into the Volunteer Fund here at Bolton CVS.

# Training

## Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

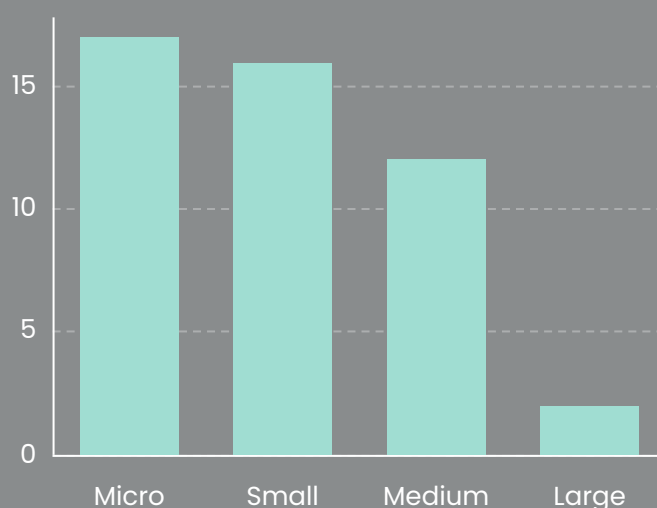
Click here to see all the training sessions we held this quarter!



**15** sessions  
**115** participants

From **67** different VCSE sector groups and organisations

Size of groups accessing training



How individuals found out about our training



■ Bolton CVS Website (27.38%) ■ Email (51.19%)  
■ Word of Mouth (21.43%)

A bespoke session was delivered on The Essential Trustee to High Hopes for Halliwell at St Pauls Community Centre to **14** attendees.

The Essential Trustee bespoke session was also delivered to existing and potential new trustees at Emmaus Bolton to **11** attendees.

*"This will really help the board to discuss relevant issues and bring trustees up to a similar level of understanding of the charity commissions expectations"* – Chantelle Seaborn, Chair of Trustees



### Safeguarding Children and Young People

*"I attended this fascinating course earlier today and found it simple, direct and comparatively easy to understand. I would also recommend it to anyone interested in this increasingly important topic."* – David Crank, S.S. Simon & Jude's Amateur Dramatic Society

### Breaking Barriers to Volunteering

*"A really good introduction to volunteering and raising awareness of Barriers for the organisation and the individual."* – Sally Houlihan, Step Together Volunteering

### Introduction to Equity, Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging

*"I enjoyed the training and found it to be very informative. The information was easy to understand and follow. Karen was so lovely."* – Jenna Jones Bolton Destitute Animal Shelter

# Funding & Grants

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

**9**

Funding  
programmes  
open

**56**

Grants  
approved

**£501,219.46**

Total amount  
approved

**14**

Groups  
supported

In Quarter 4, Bolton's Fund made up the majority of the funding awarded through grants administered by Bolton CVS (£293,345.46).

Bolton CVS also administered the following grants in Quarter 4:

- Bolton Community Homes Grants
- Community Cohesion and Resilience Fund Partnership Grants

The following funds were administered in Quarter 4:

1. Bolton's Fund Micro Grants
2. Bolton's Fund Small Grants
3. Bolton's Fund Medium Grants
4. Bolton's Fund Partnership Grants
5. Hate Crime Awareness 2025
6. Bolton Community Homes Grants
7. Community Cohesion and Resilience Fund Partnership Grants
8. VRU Wigan YR 2
9. VRU Tameside YR 2

The summary reports for Bolton's Fund awards can be found [here](#).

Number of funding opportunities promoted at GM level: **99**

# Volunteering

## Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

**126**

Volunteering enquiries

**107**

1-to-1 support

**91**

Direct connections made

**15**

Organisations supported

**88**

Volunteering opportunities promoted

This quarter, **12** people attended our Volunteer Development Network meeting to learn about supporting and managing volunteers.

Bolton CVS has **3** volunteers as part of our Volunteer Development Team, who this quarter gave **158** hours of their time.

**1** 'Benefits of Volunteering' workshop was delivered to **14** participants, a bespoke 'Introduction to Volunteering Management' session was delivered to **4** participants and 'Breaking Barriers to Volunteering' was delivered to **2** participants.

**21** people volunteered as Bolton CVS grant assessors during this quarter.

### Size of Group Supported



## Family Hubs and Environmental Volunteering

### Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

**Family Hubs Engagement:** Our Family Hubs and Environmental Volunteer Development Officer, Nicola, has been working with the community by holding **15** drop-in sessions at Family Hubs, engaging with **40** people. As a result of these, **8** people have enquired about volunteering and **4** people have started their volunteering journey. With the support of Nicola, Odyssey9 CIC will start to deliver their expressive art through music sessions at 3 Family Hubs from April 2025.

Have a look at the Family Hubs programme and what is happening in your community.

**Environmental Initiatives:** Nicola has supported **3** groups to start their journey to achieve the Volunteer Charter.



# Peer Navigators

## Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025



Farnworth Peer Navigator, Stuart Fletcher, has worked with 3 estate action groups, supported 2 clean-up days and dropped newsletter to over 800 homes in Farnworth. He has also been attending resident and community oversight meetings and consulting with residents. His Canva skills have also been well used to create flyers for events and promote the opportunity to get free WiFi through Opus Broadband.

Jayne Harrison, the Peer Navigator for Little Lever, has been working with local residents on the Ageing in Place Pathway, promoting various groups and events that are available locally. These groups are a vital lifeline for many, providing vital opportunities for social interaction that some residents might otherwise miss. Jayne also met Andy Burnham at the GM Live Well conference.



Farnworth Maintenance Peer Navigator, Neil Prescott, has been carrying out maintenance tasks and surveying needs across Bolton at Home properties in Farnworth. He has also completed First Aid training and other important training for his role.



Emily Barrow, Peer Navigator for Halliwell, successfully applied for £200 of funding for landscaping work on local estates, including clearing, planting and adding trellis screens to separate the bins from residents' areas. As well as making the area look a lot nicer, this work also helped to create a more supportive and sociable community. The project brought local residents together, with the Men in Sheds project and Bolton at Home staff.

The Environmental Peer Navigators have been busy working with community partners. In February, Milly Zlabyte interviewed local residents in Little Lever and made a video to showcase their success. She has also been tree sapling planting with volunteers at Four Seasons Community Garden, working with the Fusion Group to litter-pick and recover growing beds, and supporting the residents of School Hill to replant green spaces.

Jon Hurst has been restoring the Bankfield Community Growing Project site so it can be used by the local community, securing a £9,700 grant for this in February. With support from Bolton at Home colleagues, Jon has made the site safe and suitable for volunteer visits. Local residents have been very excited to see the progress, with neighbours visiting the site to say how happy they are to see it back in use.

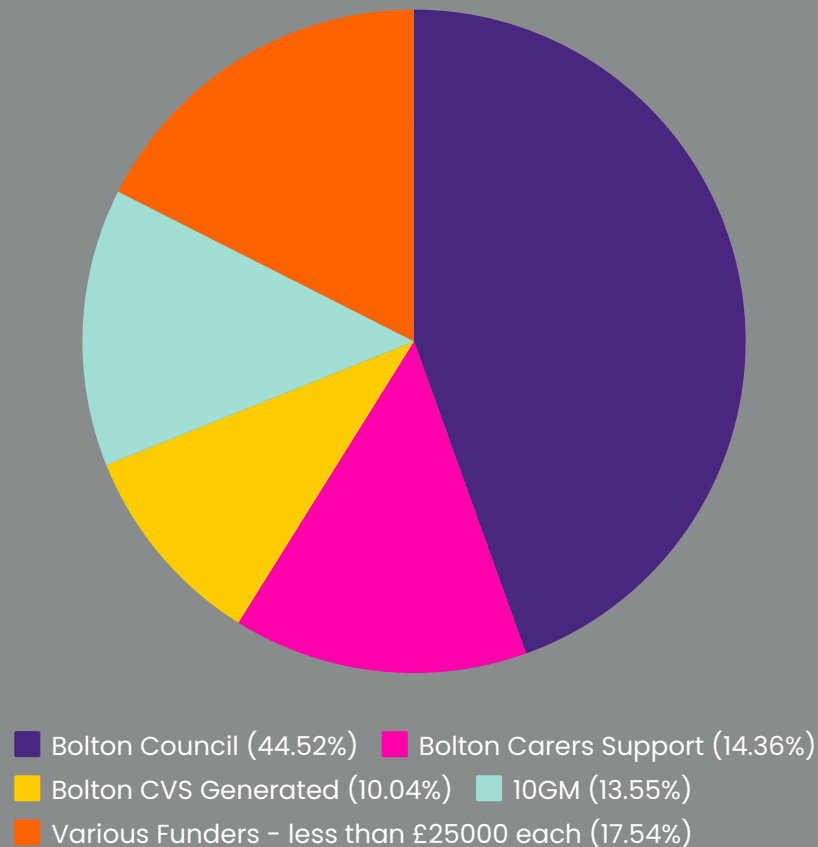




# Income

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

Total income for Quarter 4: **£487,613**



Our income stream during the 4th quarter of this year was generated via the following funders & programmes:

- **10GM:** UKSPF E26 Social Economy, Winter Vaccine Programme, VRU Facilitator Programme
- **Bolton Council:** VCSE Infrastructure Contract, Boltons Fund/HSF/HAF – investments for distribution to the VCSE sector, Community Cohesion & Resilience grant funding
- **Bolton CVS Generated:** Income from The Bolton Hub tenants & room hire; training & development work
- **Bolton Carers Support:** Unlocking Wellbeing in Bolton
- **Bolton Community Homes:** Community Investment programme
- **Bolton at Home:** Peer Navigator programme
- **GMCVO:** Proper Good programme
- **Greater Manchester Training Hub:** Fellowship programme – Wellbeing & Health Manager contribution
- **Greater Manchester Combined Authority:** Violence Reduction Unit (VRU) programme and Live Well programme
- **GM Mental Health NHS Trust:** Next Steps – Funding Programme
- **The Christie NHS FT:** Early Cancer Diagnosis Strategic Development
- **Workers Educations Association:** 3rd payment for the Positive Pathways programme
- **Greater Manchester ICB:** Bolton CVS/Healthwatch Urgent Care
- **GM Business Support Ltd:** Grant towards LED lighting from Green Economy
- **Royal Bolton Hospital FT:** Social Prescribing Link Worker programme to May 2025

# Wellbeing and Health

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025



## Smoking Cessation

Another 10 VCSE sector groups and organisations across the borough are now signed up to help tackle one of our biggest public health priorities – reducing the number of people who smoke. Representatives from VCSE organisations are being trained to have conversations with smokers to encourage them to join a smoking cessation programme. Every successful 'quit' will not only bring health and financial benefits to the individual, it will help reduce strain on the NHS, as well as putting much needed funding into the VCSE sector. For more information on how your organisation can help make Bolton healthier – and be paid to do so – contact Stephen Walker at ABL Health, the company commissioned by Bolton Council to deliver the smoking cessation programme – [SWalker@ablhealth.co.uk](mailto:SWalker@ablhealth.co.uk).

## Fairer Health for All Fellowship

Our Wellbeing & Health Manager, Liam Hanley, successfully completed Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership's *Fairer Health for All Fellowship* programme this quarter. This is designed as a comprehensive, in-depth learning and development opportunity for people from across a diverse range of organisations and professionals who influence population health and wellbeing. As part of the Fellowship, Liam had to focus on a project aimed at reducing health inequalities. He chose the work around the smoking cessation programme described above, you can read his report [here](#).

## Lung Cancer Engagement

Connected to the above, Bolton CVS has continued its work to coordinate a Cancer Awareness programme in the borough this quarter, as part of a wider initiative run by the NHS Greater Manchester Cancer Alliance.

Representatives from VCSE organisations, as well as Community Champions, have attended Let's Talk Cancer workshops and then gone on to run activities in their own communities using the knowledge, confidence and resources they got from the training to:

- Talk to people about cancer.
- Increase public knowledge of the signs and symptoms of lung cancer.
- Increase public willingness to see GPs when symptoms appear.
- Raise the profile of stopping smoking and the support available to quit.

9 organisations have delivered work so far, including Asian Elders' Resource Centre, who held 2 cancer awareness sessions, using the resources provided by the course. At their first event, they spoke to 15 people about cancer screening in Urdu and Gujarati. 10 members attended a further session about signs and symptoms, how to raise it with GPs and the impact of a healthy lifestyle. They plan to repeat these sessions on an ongoing basis.

## Increasing Vaccine Awareness and Uptake

Bolton CVS has coordinated a Vaccine Awareness programme in the borough, on behalf of the NHS. Bolton CVS worked with trusted partners, drawing on relationships established through previous vaccination-focused work. Grants were distributed to 10 groups to promote vaccination awareness.

Overall, the programme reached more than 350 people with face-to-face support/information, with a focus on those who are most likely to experience barriers to screening and immunisation. Through social media, the community organisations shared information with more than 2000 people.

# Social Prescribing

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

## Feedback from the Neurological Team regarding Tracey McCue, Social Prescribing Link Worker's attendance at their monthly meetings :

*"Tracey has attended two of our meetings so far and the whole team have found her attendance really beneficial.*

*She has been able to contribute really valuable information about community opportunities for patients that we have brought to discuss with her directly and patients that we were discussing as a team. Most of these opportunities we would have otherwise been unaware of.*

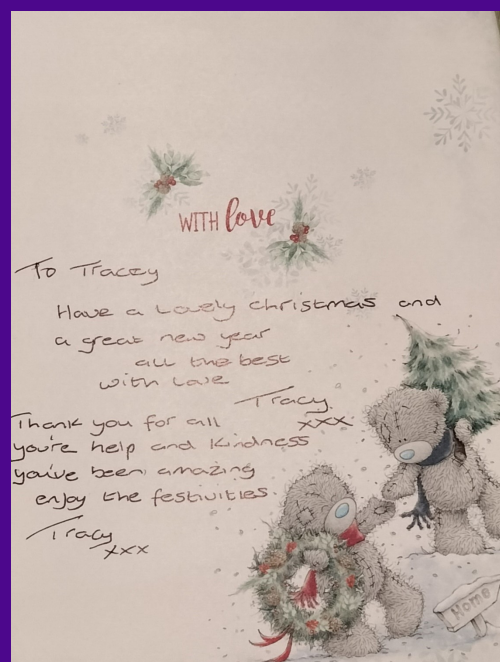
*She has taken a number of direct referrals for patients and has signposted and linked us to Social Prescribers in other areas.*

*Tracey has been able to send us links and information appropriate to the patients we have discussed, which we have then been able to share with our patients and as a whole team.*

*We have really valued her attending and would hope that this would be able to continue in the future.*

*You've been a pleasure to work with Tracey. I've always admired your knowledge, passion and commitment to doing the right thing for people."*

**Marvin Constantine,  
Neighbourhood Leader  
(Central North)**



# Development

## Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025



120

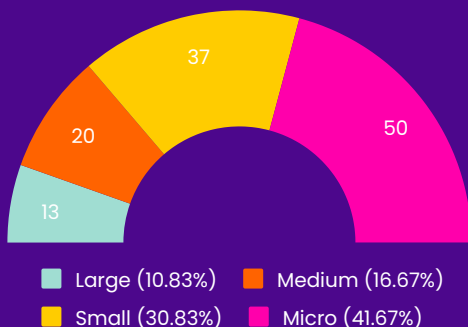
Groups supported in this quarter



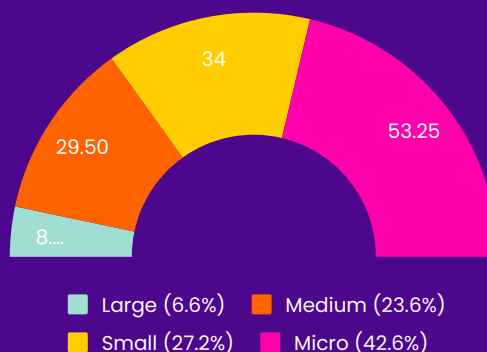
12

Individuals supported to set up a new organisation/group, with DBS checks and with GDPR advice

Size of organisations supported



Hours of support given



**5 groups** are working towards acquiring the Bolton Mark.

### Types of support given

This quarter, **20** different types of support have been given to groups:

- Business continuity
- Community Engagement
- Access to funding
- Getting ready for funding
- Managing money
- Access to training
- Charitable objects
- Governing documents
- Networking
- Dealing with complaints
- Membership & benefits
- Policies
- Finding venues
- Registering with Charity Commission
- DBS Checks
- GDPR
- Setting up a new group
- Trustee recruitment and support
- Support with banking
- Organisation health check & Bolton Mark

On 1st March, Development Officer, Karen Arkwright, attended a Development Day for the trustees and management of Emmaus Bolton, to deliver a session about Effective Challenge and Constructive Conversation. It is vital that trustees feel able to contribute at meetings and make informed, balanced decisions and this session was well received.

### Feedback from Joel Shelvin, GM Social Hikers on support given:

*"Thank you so much for your very detailed email and helpful conversation yesterday! I didn't expect to get such support, with prompt guidance, so it was a welcome surprise! The support you have pointed me towards will be invaluable for the shaping up of GM Social Hikers as a CIC."*

# Social Value & Impact

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

## Environmental Sustainability:

Bolton CVS collaborated with an external consultant to develop a **Sustainability Action Plan**. The plan outlines practical steps for reducing the organisation's carbon footprint, improving resource efficiency, and promoting eco-friendly practices across all operations.

## Community Support & Advice Services:

The Facilities Team advised and supported **24** members of the public, ensuring they had access to relevant resources and VCSE services.

**13** individuals received in-depth support, being connected with appropriate VCSE groups and organisations for ongoing assistance.

## Accessibility and Inclusion:

Offered a **reduced room rate** to a local group, enabling their meeting to proceed and fostering community engagement and collaboration.

The Bolton CVS team came together to offer a week-long work experience placement for a young person from Ladybridge High School allowing them to develop valuable skills and develop their understanding of the VCSE sector. Their feedback: *"I will take this experience and the skills I've learned with me through the rest of my career."*

## Employee Engagement & Volunteering:

An employee used their **Employee Supported Volunteering** time to make regular calls to a Senior Solutions client, offering befriending services to combat social isolation.

## Local Economic Support:

**61%** of our spending this quarter, equating to **£11,746**, was directed towards **local Bolton suppliers and organisations**, reinforcing the local economy.

## Staff Wellbeing:

Bolton CVS staff participated in a lunchtime social event, regular walks and a book club focused on promoting **wellbeing and team cohesion**, encouraging a healthier and more connected workplace.



# Partnership Development

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

Bolton CVS and Bolton Public Health are piloting a new, community-led approach to funding for VCSE-led projects in Bolton Central South. With £80,000 of Live Well funding from GMCA, we aim to tackle health inequalities and support residents to live well.

Instead of a traditional funding process, a resident and community worker led Design Group will identify key priorities, gaps, and existing strengths in the area. Up to half of the funding will be allocated based on their insights around the existing brilliant work of VCSE organisations locally. Then, VCSE sector organisations will be invited to propose solutions for the gaps identified—with funding available for their time and expertise in creating these solutions.

Volunteer Community Grant Assessors will then help decide how the remaining funding is invested. By shifting decision-making to those who know the community best, we ensure the funding has the biggest impact.

## **Farnworth Plan for Neighbourhoods**

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government has recently published a [prospectus](#) for its Plan for Neighbourhoods programme. This contains updated guidance and criteria information around the programme (previously known as the Long Term Plan for Towns programme). Bolton CVS have volunteered a staff member to participate in the development of the Farnworth Plan for Neighbourhoods.

## Huge Welcome to Martin Duffy



We are pleased to welcome Martin Duffy to join us as a Project Coordinator. Martin brings a wealth of experience and expertise, having worked extensively in the VCSE sector.

His professional background and skill set have already made a positive impact in his short time with us.



# Membership

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

Bolton CVS is a membership organisation open to Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations and groups.

In total, there are **654** Bolton CVS members. This number is made up of **575** full members, and **79** associate members. [Find out more](#) about the exclusive perks of membership and how to apply!

Pat Okekearu from Revive CIO was given support around becoming a member of Bolton CVS, here is her feedback:

*"Thank you so much for taking the time to share all of this valuable information and for such a productive conversation earlier. It was a pleasure to hear about the fantastic resources and support available through Bolton CVS.*

*The organisational health check, funding updates, and the venue list are particularly helpful as we continue to strengthen and grow our work. The training and events you've highlighted are another excellent resource.*

*Thank you for mentioning the Bolton's Fund and keeping us informed about the Household Support Fund timeline. It's great to know these opportunities are available."*

**Member offer:** Free places were given to member organisations on the Level 3 First Aid training benefitting **40** individuals from **23** organisations. [Read the feedback we received from High Hopes for Halliwell and Endeavour.](#)

# Accessibility

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

Bolton CVS and The Bolton Hub continues to be a centre for community activity and action in Bolton.

We are committed to ensuring accessibility of our services both within The Bolton Hub and within the community.

In this quarter, we had **1,923** visits to The Bolton Hub.

## **Rent a Desk**

The Bolton Hub is offering desk space and a great range of services available to hire on a daily basis. Printing, copying and mail box facilities are available at an additional charge. Email our team at [hub@boltoncvs.org.uk](mailto:hub@boltoncvs.org.uk) if you are looking to rent a flexible desk space, we will be happy to provide more details.

# Social Enterprise

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

- **9** opportunities for **52** VCSE sector leaders/entrepreneurs to access advice and support through workshops, event and advice clinics.
- **8** Social Entrepreneurs were given one-to-one support, either face-to-face or via email advice.
- **5** entrepreneurs took part in our tailored business mentoring programme.

## Funding Distribution:

- Business Development Grant: **4** x £995 grants awarded.



Bolton CVS is proud to be hosting **2** programmes dedicated to supporting the social enterprise sector – Proper Good and Our Business. Both programmes aim to help social enterprises develop, diversify, and thrive. Our networking, training and events are led by entrepreneurs who know how to run businesses that do good in their communities. All with the sole aim of supporting the social economy in Bolton to flourish.

This quarter we have concluded our 'Thrive and Prosper' enterprise readiness programme, funded by Our Business. Each of the **9** participants have had access to **28** hours of group and 1-2-1 support, which has had a hugely positive impact on both their confidence as entrepreneurs and the operations of their businesses. All the participants will continue to be supported through our Proper Good programme.

The Business Mentoring programme, has now supported **36** social entrepreneurs with our Summer cohort currently open for applications. If you'd like to know more about the impact of our mentoring programme, keep your eyes peeled for an upcoming episode of the Proper Good Podcast where we'll be showcasing the journey of three of our graduates!

We are also very pleased to have learned we are being funded to deliver a Wave Two of Our Business support over the next financial year.

Our social media pages continue to grow their reach. Our work with Uncivilised Media is continuing to invigorate our communication approach with some great results.

The Proper Good Steering Group continue to oversee the management of the Proper Good and Business Mentoring programmes. We are working alongside our colleagues across Greater Manchester to ensure we join up learning, best practice and opportunities for the enterprises in our networks.

# Case Studies & Success Stories

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

## Hate Crime Awareness Grant

8 organisations were awarded the Hate Crime Awareness Grant between December 2024 and February 2025. The awarded groups delivered different activities such as talks, art sessions, friendly football matches and more. One of the awarded organisations was Bolton Wanderers in the Community.

[Find out what Bolton Wanderers in the Community did with their grant.](#)

## Welcoming the Next Generation!



Bolton CVS hosted a week-long work placement for a local Year 11 student in this quarter.

We tried to give the young person a flavour of some of the work carried out by our team.

[Read more on the week programme Bolton CVS prepared.](#)

## The Power of Staying Flexible

As part of our work to support social enterprises and the wider social economy, Proper Good provides a regular calendar of workshops and events. While we work hard to ensure information about our activities is in lots of different places and our publicity is far reaching, occasionally we have workshops with low take-up.

[Find out how the flexible approach helped when this happened with one of the workshops.](#)

# Case Studies & Success Stories

Quarter 4, 2024 – 2025

## Welcoming New Members



As part of the membership application process, Director Sharon Bailey met with Bolton CVS Senior Development Officer, Karen, to share the good work that Get Up Keep Going CIC has been doing and to discuss support that Bolton CVS could offer.

[Find out more on the benefits of becoming a member of Bolton CVS.](#)

## Women Together

Women Together is a ladies' community group that creates and promotes community cohesion through community-based events. Recently, the group had undergone role changes, leading to uncertainty about what support the group could access and from where. Members were unclear about what Bolton CVS could offer and how to access funding and training.

[Read more about how they were supported by Bolton CVS.](#)

## Volunteer Stepping Up

Andy came to Bolton CVS looking to volunteer to help him in his recovery.

After speaking with Andy, according to his skills and interests, a volunteer match was made with Red Lane Growing Project.

[Read more about how volunteering has helped Andy and the difference it has made.](#)

# Next steps – looking forward to Quarter 1, 2025 – 2026

- 1 New sessions to be added to our training programme
- 2 Sapphire Partnership to host the next Volunteer Development Network meeting
- 3 Smoking Cessation training to be offered to more VCSE sector groups and organisations
- 4 Planning and delivery of events during Volunteers Week 2025
- 5 Revealing our new Membership Pack and Agreement
- 6 Collecting feedback from VCSE organisations on development support received
- 7 Promoting evening openings of The Bolton Hub on Wednesdays and Thursdays
- 8 Releasing the first episodes of the Proper Good podcast