

# South Yorkshire VCSE research

Rotherham headline findings

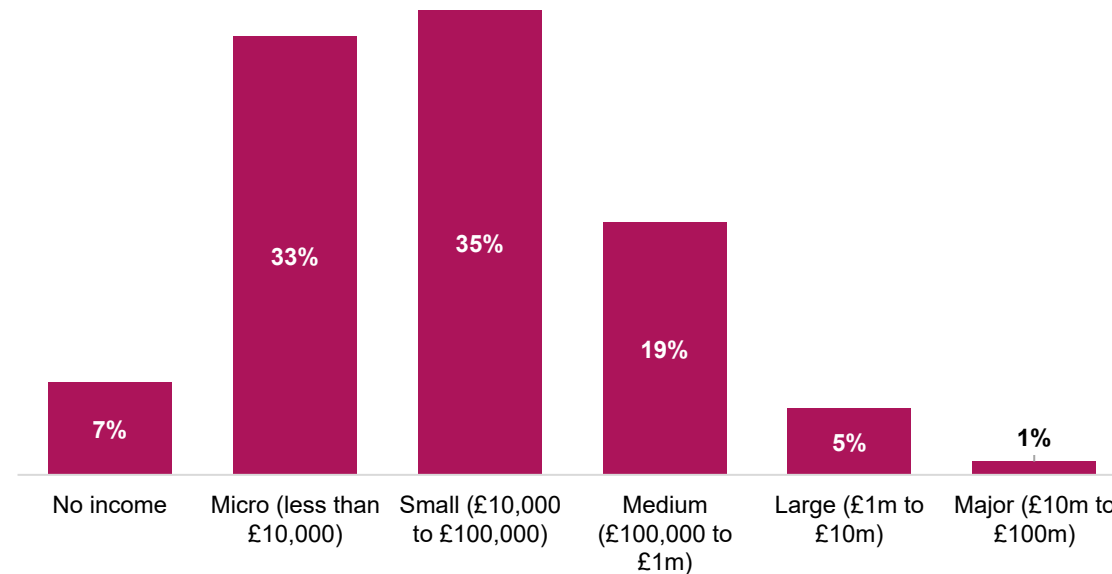


# Purpose and methods

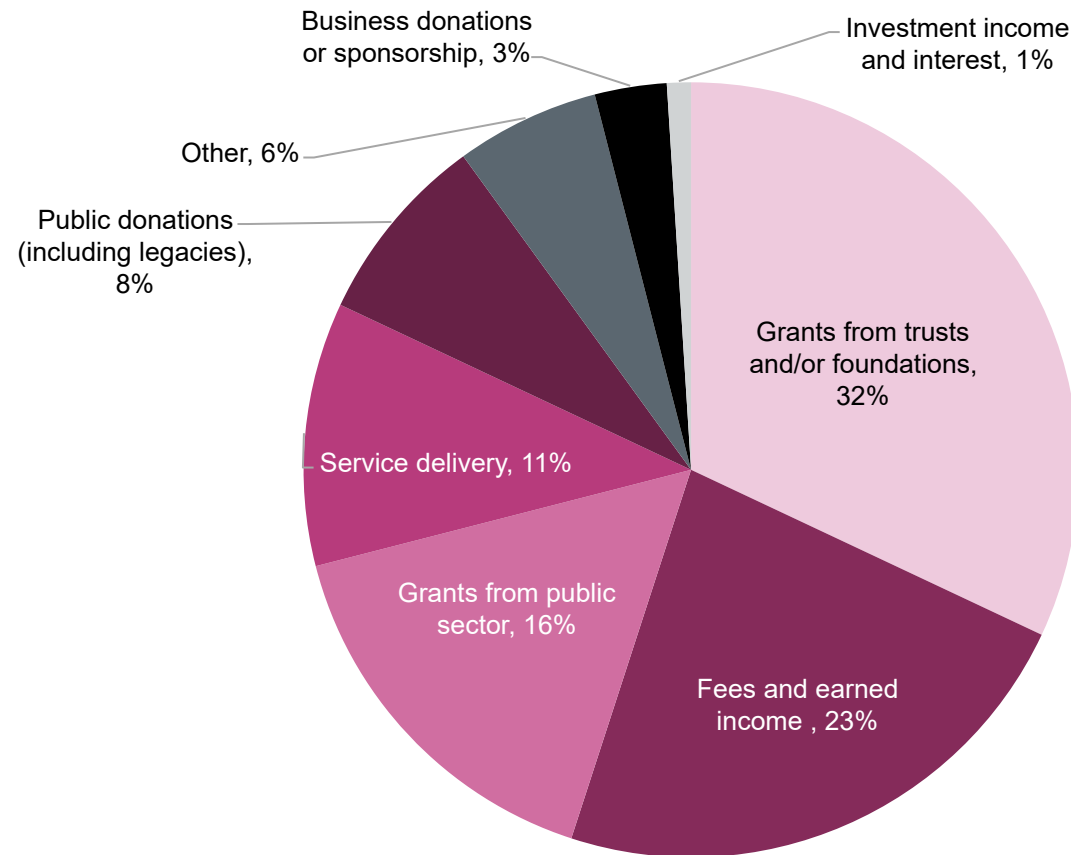
- **Up-to-date picture of VCS in South Yorkshire**
  - Previous Rotherham state of sector survey in 2015
  - Significant challenges recently due to Covid-19 and cost-of-living
- **Two strands of research**
  - Administrative data analysis (using publicly available datasets)
  - Online survey of VCSE organisations
    - 326 responses overall (103 working in Rotherham)

# What does the VCS in Rotherham look like?

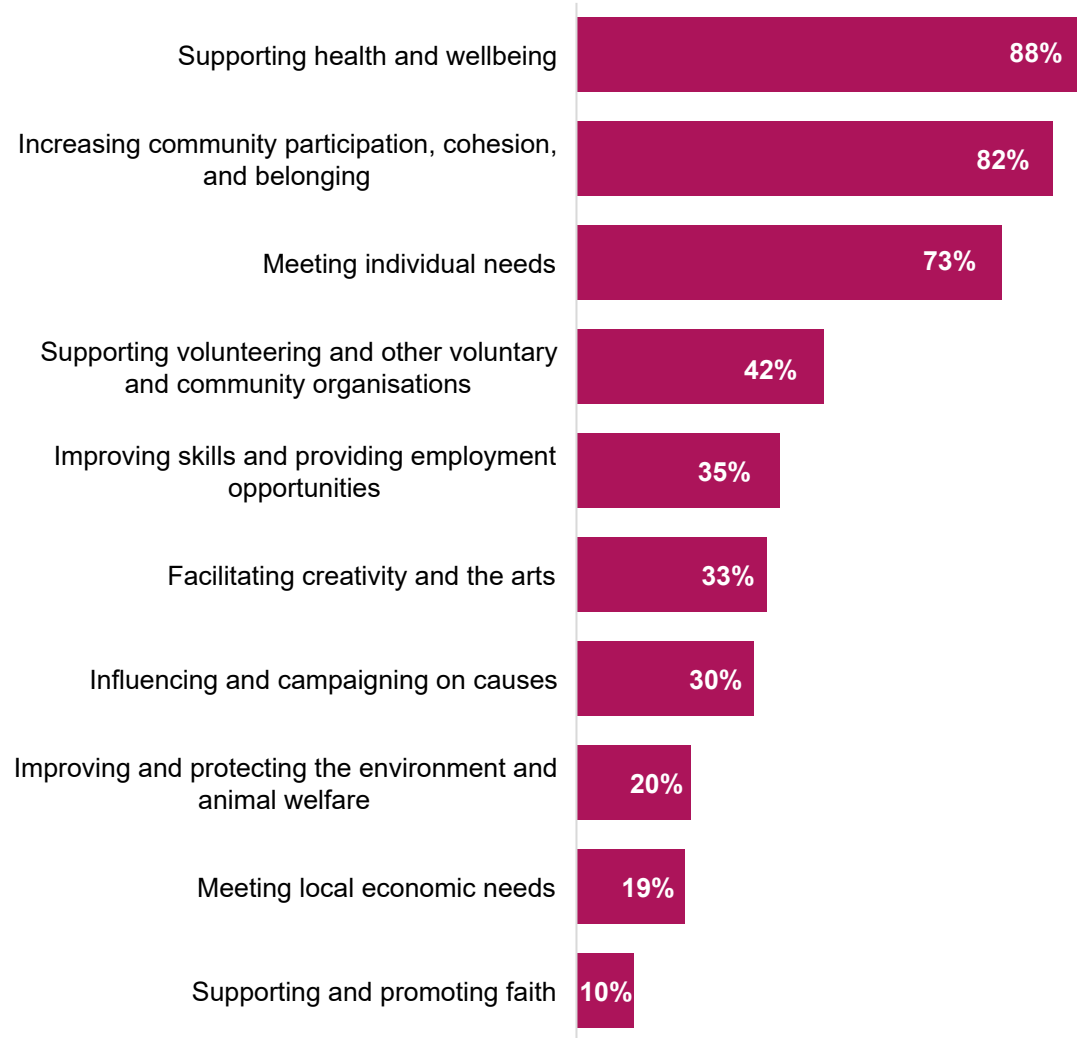
- **Total of 750 registered third-sector organisations in Rotherham**
  - 654 charities, 56 CICs, 26 societies, 14 CASCs.
  - Estimated 3,778 employees, 4,218 volunteers, 1,759 trustees.



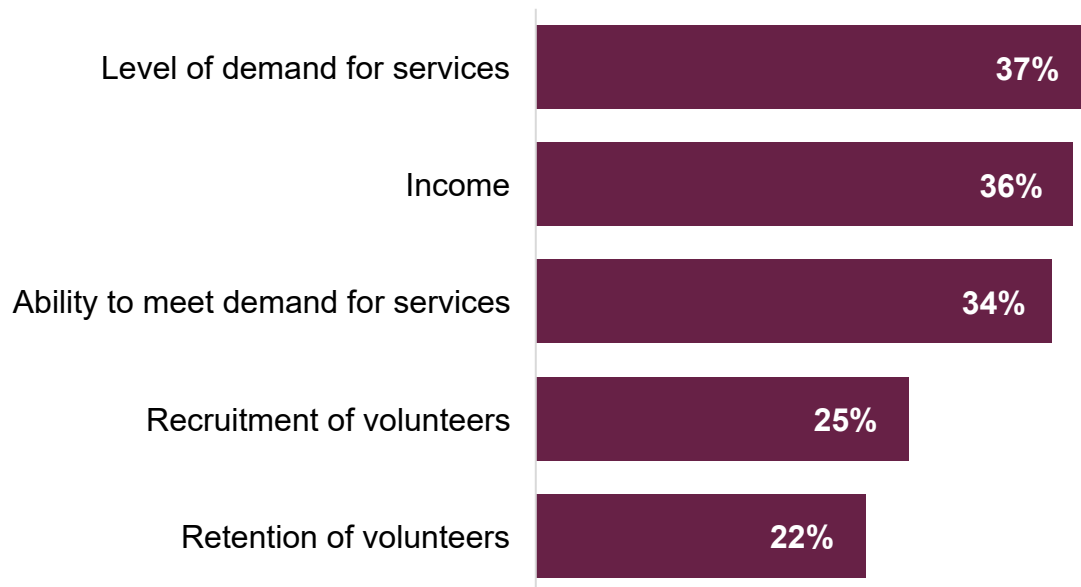
# How is the VCS in Rotherham funded?



# What does the VCS in Rotherham do?



# What are the key challenges?



Cost of living crisis has impacted on **services demand**, which we have met. However, this has been dependent on us using a level of our reserves to support this.

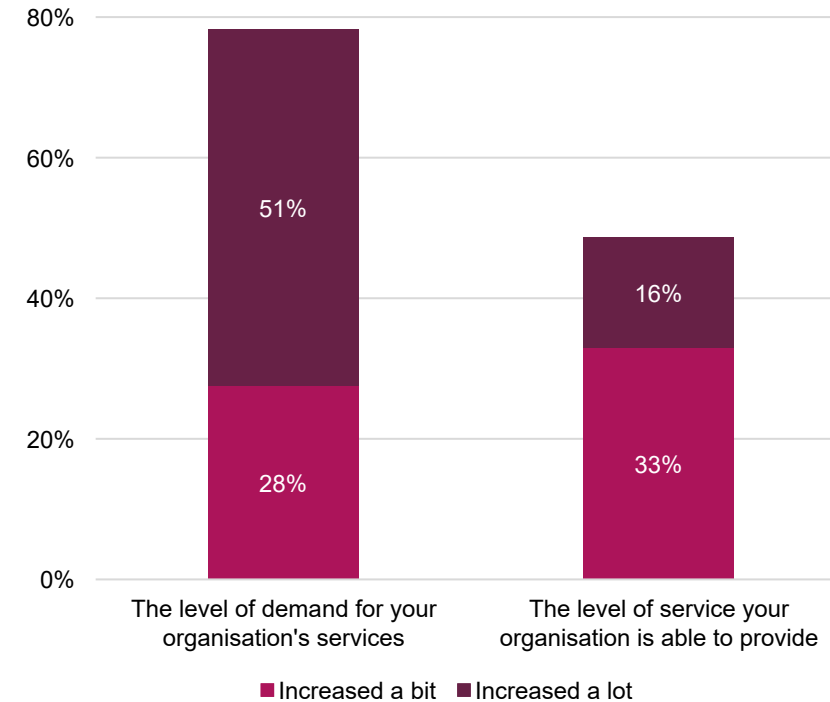
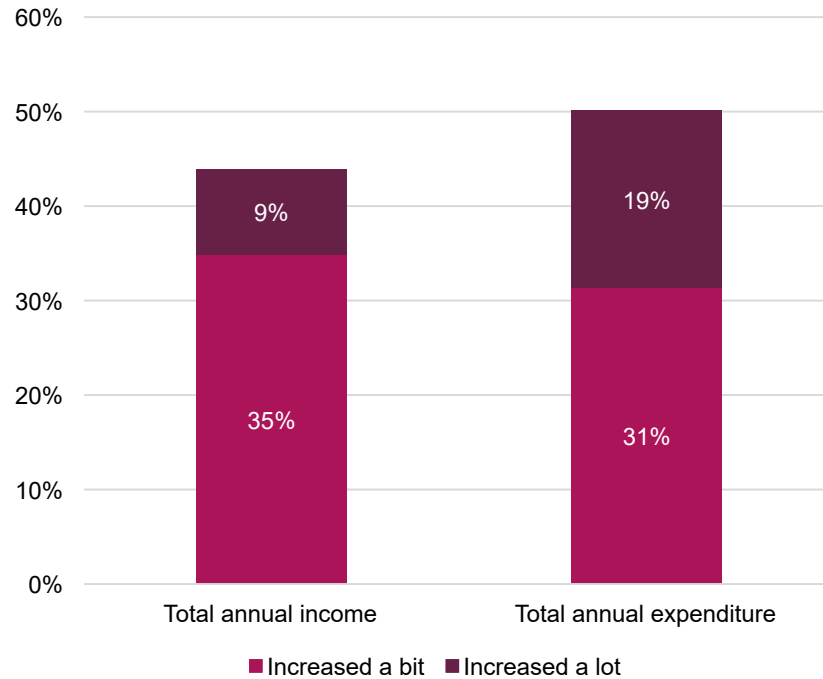
It is becoming more and more difficult to remain **sustainable**. Funding from government does not cover our costs.

We are having increasing **difficulty** in **attracting volunteers** help us run our activities.

We have had a **drop in donations and grants**, we get no funding from local or national governments we have to find our own funding, it has always been difficult to get **funding** for core costs but now this has become **much more difficult**. we are experiencing an **increased demand for our services at a time when we have a decrease in funding**.

# What support is needed?

Many challenges due to Coronavirus and Lockdowns as we've had an **increase in mental health related issues** but funding was interim but the issues have long term consequences.



Demand for our services is growing exponentially as the **availability of other advice and information services is decreasing** yet sourcing funding to cover this demand is incredibly difficult and time-consuming and most **funding opportunities are fragile and short term**. It is risky for a voluntary organisation to increase its capacity to meet the demand without secure funding to underpin it but people needing our service are desperate and the issues they are presenting with increasingly complex.

**Update on Aim 4:  
All Rotherham people live in healthy, safe, and  
resilient communities**

Paul Woodcock, 24<sup>th</sup> January 2024



## **Aim 4: All Rotherham people live in healthy, safe, and resilient communities**

Deliver a loneliness plan for Rotherham.

Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural initiatives.

Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm.

Develop a borough that supports a healthy lifestyle.

# Priority 1: Deliver a loneliness plan for Rotherham

## Key areas of progress include:

- **The loneliness action plan has been updated and is in delivery.**
- Work is taking place on the JSNA chapter on loneliness, which will include qualitative information from some of Rotherham's inclusion groups (veterans, carers, neurodiverse adults and parents and carers of children with SEND).
- Delivery of revised MECC loneliness training will commence in February
- **Ensure the board are involved in informing local priority setting and are able to take local issues relating to health and wellbeing into account in strategic planning**
- Ward priority setting will take place after the May' 24 elections, with publication scheduled for September 2024. Council services and partners will be invited to contribute local intelligence in advance of May '24 to help inform priority setting.

# Priority 2: Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural initiatives.



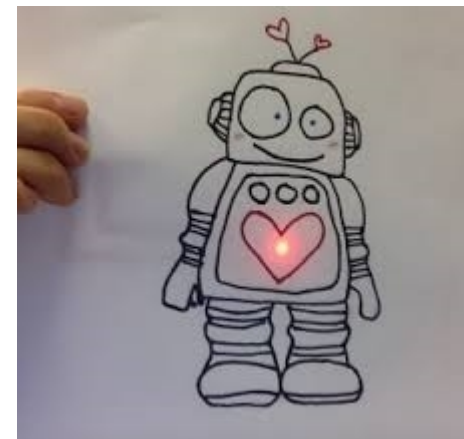
## Key areas of progress include:

- **Rotherham Show** took place on the 2 and 3 September 2023, attracting an estimated audience of 88,918.
- The Council continues to deliver on the design of the **Children's Capital of Culture** programme:
- The second annual UPLIFT Skate and Arts Festival took place in April 2023 with an estimated audience of 6,000 and featured a Teenage Market celebrating young makers and entrepreneurs.
- WoW Rotherham took place in June 2023 with elements of the programme designed and delivered by Children's Capital of Culture Trainee Festival Makers.

# Priority 2: Promote health and wellbeing through arts and cultural initiatives.

## Key areas of progress – continued:

- **Activities are being delivered in libraries for people of all ages to connect, be active and learn new skills, and widen the accessibility of library services, through: Pop-up libraries, Reading gardens, Makerspaces, Authors' visits and performances, Fun palaces**
- 1000 people attended Fun Palaces in October at various venues across the borough. Skills shared included origami, gardening, crochet, wood turning, cake decorating, brass bands, gaming & keyboarding.
- The Makerspace Project culminated in an exhibition at Riverside House, from works produced at all 5 libraries. Groups of school children, & members of the public had a go at using equipment and materials to make pinch pot birds, 3D pavilions, 2D clay figures and sewed pyjamas and hearts for the neonatal ward.



**MAKERSPACE  
ACTIVITY –** Wath  
Library, Sept 2023  
- Combine  
science with  
crafts to make  
circuits out of  
paper and bulbs



# Priority 3: Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm.

## Key areas of progress include:

- Work is ongoing to embed referral pathways with key partners in Rotherham through the Home Safety Partnership Referral Scheme and Safe and Well checks.
- Safeguarding Board Chairs meetings are now established to maintain the relationship between the safeguarding boards and work on crosscutting issues.
- **Delivery of vaccination programme for Covid-19 and flu.** 40651 Covid Vaccinations have been given in Rotherham in 2023. This equates to a 74% Autumn Vaccination Uptake.
- This is now business as usual and delivery and uptake will be monitored at service level, with assurance received by the Health Protection Committee.

# Priority 4: Develop a borough that supports a healthy lifestyle.

## Key areas of progress include:

- **A borough-wide MECC training offer on physical activity has been developed.** New training offer agreed from Yorkshire Sport to be rolled out in train-the-trainer model to social prescribers, health care assistants and care homes to support wider understanding of benefits and opportunities for physical activity for all.
- **Rotherham Food Network** is now established. Membership is still growing, and actions are on track. Further detail including action plan was shared with H&WbB in Nov 23.
- **Work is ongoing to enable all partner staff to support neighbourhoods and communities to thrive.** A partnership offer on training on strength-based approaches is being rolled out. General Awareness training is delivered via an e-learning package and it now available to all IT enabled council staff. Training for place partners is being commissioned this quarter.



# Next steps

## **Priority 1: Deliver a loneliness plan for Rotherham**

- A presentation on ward priority setting is scheduled for the March Health and Wellbeing Board

## **Priority 3: Ensure Rotherham people are kept safe from harm.**

- Work with other partnership boards on crosscutting issues relating to safety and safeguarding: Next safeguarding chairs meeting is planned for early March to focus on outcomes frameworks and performance monitoring.
- The Combatting Drugs Partnership for Rotherham will present their annual progress update to the Health and Wellbeing Board in March.

## **Priority 4 – Develop a borough that supports a healthy lifestyle.**

- Annual update from the Moving Rotherham Board will come to Health and Wellbeing Board in March.
- A workshop is being organised on Spatial Planning, Climate and Health