

annual report 2010



wandsworth voluntary sector development agency





chief executive's report

What is a Council of Voluntary Service?

Wandsworth Voluntary Sector Development Agency is a Council of Voluntary Service because it delivers all five services deemed vital to local voluntary and community organisations by the National Association of Councils and Voluntary Action.

Services and support

To promote the effectiveness of local voluntary and community groups by providing them with a range of services. These may more involved services such as community accountancy but we also support local groups through regular newsletters, training, funding advice and specialist services.

Liaison

To act as a focal point for the local voluntary and community sector, we encourage networking between individuals and groups within the sector, and between local groups and the statutory and private sectors. This allows local groups to learn from one another, establish contacts and work more effectively. We also help different communities to organise their own networking activity.

Representation

With government encouraging involvement of voluntary and community groups in shaping and delivering services, we enable the views of local groups to be represented, which provide an opportunity for local groups to put forward their views on national and local policies.

Development work

Over the years, the local voluntary and community sector has pioneered some of the essential public services that we now take for granted. Child protection and care for the elderly, for example, had their origins in, and were developed by, the voluntary sector. By identifying gaps in service provision we work with groups to develop new and innovative services to meet these needs.

Strategic partnerships

We work in partnership with local government and other statutory agencies to shape the delivery of services and play a key role in empowering local groups to take part in partnerships and are directly involved in a wide range of regeneration, neighbourhood renewal, health and social care, learning and other government initiatives. Our involvement in strategic partnerships can be sub-regional, district wide or neighbourhood. They may cover several issues or have a particular focus.

Stefan Kuchar

WVSDA Chief Executive

www.beingtheleader.co.uk



board report

As an agency, we work to support and empower the voluntary and community sector through a range of training, advice, volunteering support and access to local policy information. Part of our work is to represent the sector, bring it together and work towards greater cohesion and better partnerships between organisations. In these challenging times, this is ever more important.

2010-11 promises to be a year of funding cuts and challenge, but we believe that the resilience and expertise of local organisations in Wandsworth will enable the sector to grow stronger.

The Board has approved the launch of a new trading division, WVSDA Trading Ltd, which will enable the charity to launch a day nursery service in Putney South West London.

At the time of writing, the charity is undergoing a competitive tendering exercise for its volunteering service, the result of which will shape volunteering in the Borough for years to come.





organisational development



The Policy and Advocacy Project

In the past year, the Policy and Advocacy Project involved 112 representatives from 81 voluntary and community organisations. We also reach over 700 recipients via regular policy updates. We also shared information via our new web pages that provided briefings on a range of current issues.

In January 2010 we published a report entitled 'The State of the Sector', showing Wandsworth's wealth of voluntary activities, groups and causes.

We worked to create closer links between VCS networks in the borough to improve sector cohesion and increase the flow of information about the sector into the Local Strategic Partnership and vice versa.

Information and Support

Over the past year, WVSDA has worked to support the local community by disseminating information through e-bulletins, targeted e-mails and via the WVSDA website.

We send out an e-bulletin each month containing news from WVSDA's departments (including details of new projects, events, questionnaires, launches etc), funding opportunities, information about training available to local voluntary groups both at WVSDA and across London, and any community news articles sent in to be distributed by Wandsworth organisations.

The community notice board is also available online with an easy to use calendar to show training and events coming up over the next months which may be of interest to the local voluntary sector. The new-look WVSDA website was launched at the 2009 AGM and over the past year traffic to the site has doubled.

If you would like your voluntary group to be on the Wandsworth Voluntary and Community Organisations Database or if you would like to share any community news, please contact info@wvsda.org.uk



organisational development

Small Groups Support

The voluntary sector development service supported 125 organisations in Wandsworth during 2009/2010 (more than 20% of which are BMER organisations). This service enables voluntary and community organisations in Wandsworth to access information and advice on issues relevant to their development and sustainability, such as management, fundraising, legal updates, etc.

The support was provided mostly through one-to-one appointments and training sessions, as well as replying to telephone and email enquiries. Most of the demand was in the areas of fundraising and governance. Other subjects also covered were development of organisational policies, employment and business planning as well as starting up a new organisation.

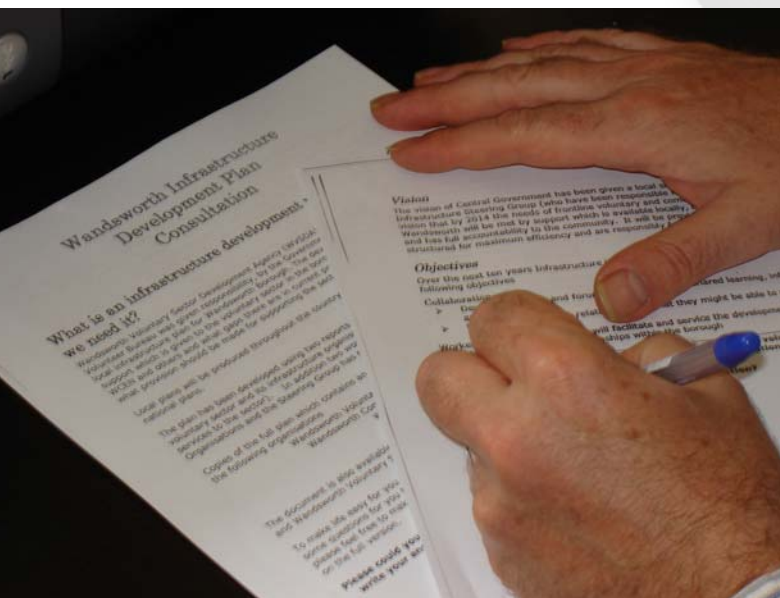


WVSDA was the delivery agency for the Modernisation Fund programme, a bursary and grant scheme part of a Government's programme to help the third sector through the recession. WVSDA successfully managed phase one of this programme in central London which involved 111 bursary holder organisations.

Community Accountancy Project

The main aim of the Community Accountancy Project is to enable voluntary action by advising, supporting and training voluntary organisations on best financial practice; to develop their sustainability and funding acquisition.

The project has offered one to one appointments, email and telephone advice, alongside training on a range of subjects including opening a bank account, developing financial controls, reserves policies, bookkeeping systems and final audits.



Putney Creche

Through grants to organisations in Wandsworth whose work assists necessitous parents of children under 7 years of age. Grand funding rounds throughout the year have enabled a range of different projects to deliver a range of different services of great significance to local people. We will continue to give grants up to £5000 to organisations fulfilling our criteria.



volunteer centre wandsworth

Volunteer Involving Organisations Project

The Volunteer Involving Organisations Project has continued to develop the direct services to organisations across London that work or would like to work with volunteers that live, work or study in the London Borough of Wandsworth (LBW).

One to one meetings, correspondence and calls with organisations supporting their volunteer programme with recruitment, retention, training, reward and recognition. We have a Service Charter that outlines our services and what we expect from the partnership with the VIO. This was developed from the last year, and we will further develop it next year, in line with the work done with the Central London sub-Region Volunteer Centre Network and Greater London Volunteering. Over the year, 111 organisations signed up to the Volunteer Centre, with another 189 organisations working through the registration process. In total, we had 504 new volunteer opportunities across the year.



Volunteer Brokerage Project

There has been a significant increase in brokerage service and there is no doubt that the current economic climate has had a direct effect on the number of people using the services of the Volunteer Centre. As in previous years the majority of the brokerage service has been provided through remote access e.g do-it and time bank enquiries, postal, telephone and online applications made through our new website. However, there has been a focus on improving the access and services through Open Sessions.

During the year the Volunteer Centre has provided services to a total of 3,409 people. The Volunteer Centre has exceeded the target of 1,500 by a total of 1,909, or exceeded the target for the year by 127%. Overall it has been a very busy year, with the main focus on achieving the LAA stretch targets by 31st March 2010. A significant amount of time was spent by the staff and volunteers who were all dedicated and committed to achieving the targets and were successful in exceeding the targets before the end of contract period.





volunteer centre wandsworth

Volunteer Support Project

This year the Volunteer Support Project continued to support those individuals with extra support needs and find them suitable volunteer placements. The main focus of the project has been to meet the needs of service users on an individual basis. The service has offered one to one individual sessions and presentations to larger groups of people with extra support needs.

Demand for the project has been steady with referrals coming in from various agencies. We also had a number of self-referrals through open session visits at the Volunteer Centre. Clients reported that they have heard about the project through friends, the internet and from their key workers, schools, colleges, Connexions and Generate. The project worker had also been working closely with Community Mental Health Teams, Work Directions and the Job Centre, who have been steadily referring clients to the project.



Activate

The Project has exceeded expectations this year. The Project has been very over subscribed which clearly proves that there is a need for such a project in the area. The project has been very well supported by the local referral organisations such as the Probation Service, Hostel accommodation staff, Community Mental Health Teams, Substance Misuse Services and a large number of other Voluntary Sector Organisations who engage with ex-offenders, people with mental health difficulties, people with substance misuse issues and those at risk of homelessness.

We have learnt that there is a definite need for a project of this type offering intensive support in the borough and that ex-offenders with multiple disadvantages require a number of years of support before they are job ready.

statement of financial activities for the year ended 31st March 2009

INCOMING RESOURCES

Incoming Resources from Generated Funds	Unrestricted	Restricted	Endowment	Total 2009	Total 2008
Other income and donations	5,743	58,834	-	64,577	59,307
Incoming resources from charitable activities –					
Grants and contracts	304,856	158,384	-	463,240	479,063
Bank Interest	18,218	10,255	-	28,473	26,897
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	<u>328,817</u>	<u>227,473</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>556,290</u>	<u>565,267</u>

RESOURCES EXPENDED

Costs of generating funds:

Costs of generating voluntary income fundraising	8,951	-	-	8,951	9,030
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Charitable expenditure:

Charitable activities	277,830	204,735	-	482,565	448,488
Governance	8,693	600	-	9,293	9,994

TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED

	<u>295,474</u>	<u>205,335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>500,809</u>	<u>467,512</u>
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NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS

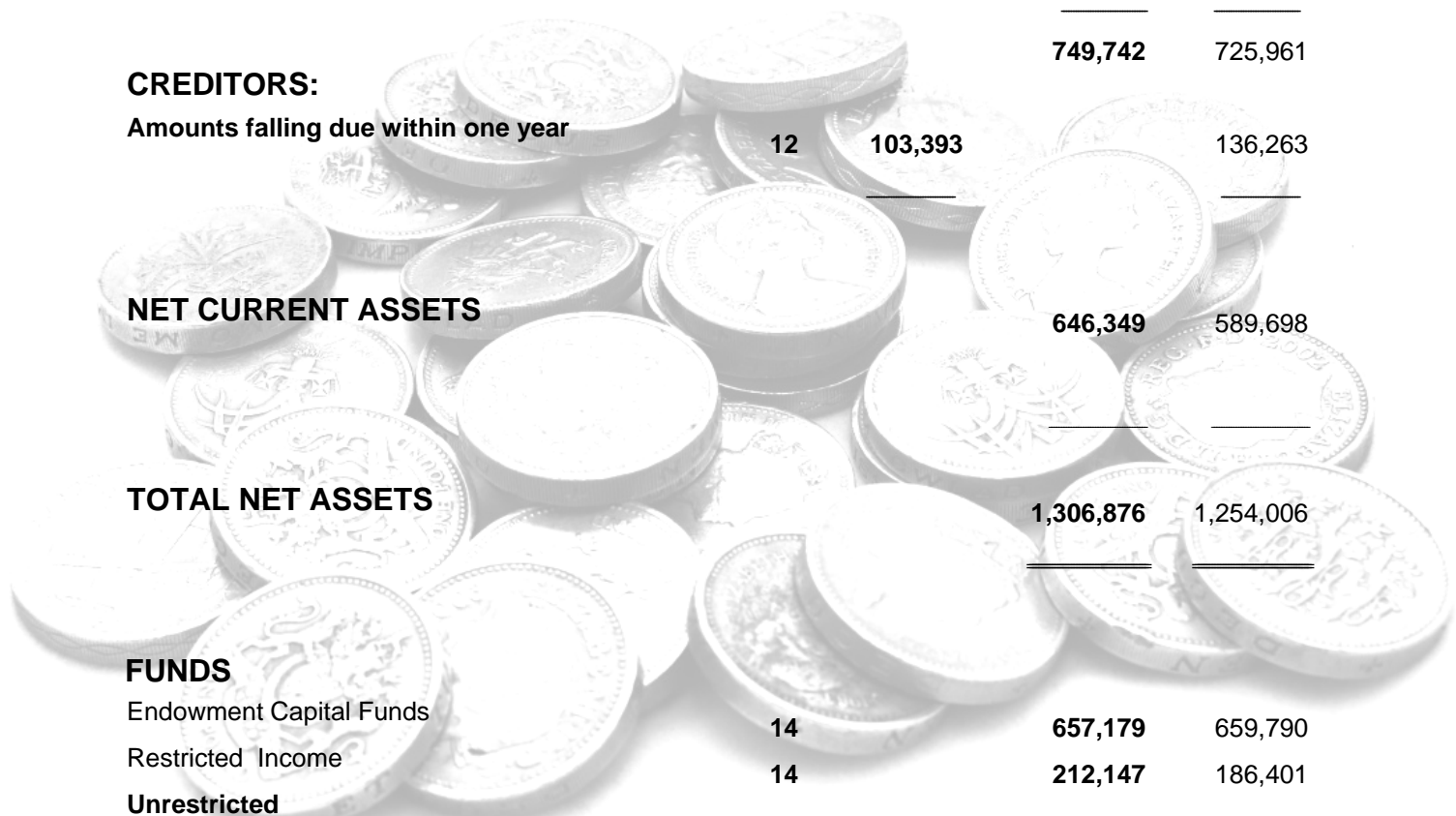
Transfer in funds	33,343	22,138	-	55,481	97,755
Net Incoming/(outgoing) Resources	(3,608)	3,608	-	-	-
Unrealised Gains/(Losses) On Investment assets	29,735	25,746	-	55,481	97,755
	-	-	-2,611	-2,611	-872
Net Movement in funds	29,735	25,746	-2,611	52,870	96,883

Reconciliation of funds

Balances brought forward	407,815	186,401	659,790	1,254,006	1,157,123
Total funds carried forward	<u>437,550</u>	<u>212,147</u>	<u>657,179</u>	<u>1,306,876</u>	<u>1,254,006</u>

Balance sheet for the year ended 31st March 2009

	2009 £	£	2008 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	9	3,348	4,518
Fixed asset investments	10	657,179	659,790
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	11	58,675	119,743
Cash at bank and in hand		691,067	606,218
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		749,742	725,961
CREDITORS:			
Amounts falling due within one year	12	103,393	136,263
NET CURRENT ASSETS			
		646,349	589,698
TOTAL NET ASSETS			
		1,306,876	1,254,006
FUNDS			
Endowment Capital Funds	14	657,179	659,790
Restricted Income	14	212,147	186,401
<u>Unrestricted</u>			
Designated funds	14	151,744	145,793
General funds	14	285,806	262,022
TOTAL FUNDS			
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		1,306,876	1,254,006





With thanks to



Improving support
for a stronger third sector



Central London CVS Network

Camden, Islington, Kensington & Chelsea, Southwark, Wandsworth, Westminster



wandsworth voluntary sector development agency

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