



FLVC
Flintshire Local Voluntary Council
CGLISff
Cyngor Gwirfoddol Lleol Sir Fflint



Supporting, Promoting
and Developing
the Voluntary and
Community Sector

Annual Impact Report
2025/26

OUR TRUSTEES

From April 2025

Peter Agnew Chair

Tim Byram

Marjorie Thomson

John Hatton

David Wisinger

Caryl Jones

Karen Armstrong

Amanda Lonsdale

Ian McDermott

Natasha Wait

Pip Perry

Barbara Roberts

OUR STAFF

From April 2025

Ann Woods Chief Officer

Tessa Willow

Third Sector Development Manager (Core Services)

Katherine Hussey

Third Sector Development Manager
(Health and Social Care)

Admin Team

Nicola Valentine Senior Administrator

Geraint Jones Administrator

Volunteer Centre

Emily Morgan

Volunteering Development Officer

Lyn Ganderton

Volunteering Development Officer

Funding and Governance

Heather Hicks

Third Sector Development Officer (Funding)

Shaun Darlington

Third Sector Development Officer (Governance)

Social Prescribing Team

Charlotte Anderton Social Prescribing Team Leader

Dafydd Gwynedd Social Prescriber (SPoA)

Stephanie Jones Social Prescriber (SPoA)

Lewis Williams Social Prescriber (SPoA)

Joanne Overton-Jones Social Prescriber
(Early Help Hub)



FLVC CHAIR'S REPORT

Flintshire Local Voluntary Council (FLVC) has been promoting, developing and supporting voluntary and community activity for over 27 years. Supported by a dedicated Board of Trustees, our staff team have completed another year of responding to community Third Sector need – supporting community groups in the running of their organisations and linking Flintshire residents with the support and activities that those groups provide. Our organisation is one of a network of 19 County Voluntary Councils (CVCs) spanning the length and breadth of Wales. Our main funds come through an infrastructure agreement with Welsh Government, but we also rely on funding from Flintshire County Council and a number of other national and local bodies, including Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board and Families First. Each CVC offers a unique package to support the work of the Third Sector and in our team of 14 employees, we have dedicated teams working in the following areas:

- Social Prescribing – working alongside health services and other professionals/organisations to link Flintshire residents with voluntary and community-based services.
- Volunteering – Promoting volunteering opportunities and training volunteers to maintain the sustainability of the Third Sector.
- Governance and Funding – Providing much needed advice on governance and fundraising to the 2000+ voluntary and community organisations in Flintshire.



In 2025/26 we have had a greater focus on our training offer to the sector and ensuring we are evidencing the impact of our work in greater detail. We supported the pilot programme for greater impact measurement across Third Sector Support Wales, and have developed our own bespoke system to ensure we capture what works well and where we may need to change practice.

Our training offer has included specialist support for completing funding applications and Managing and Supporting Volunteers. We also benefitted from shared learning opportunities with our neighbouring CVCs, hosting a Trustee Workshop in March 2026 with the Board members from the Wrexham (AVOW) and Denbighshire (DVSC) County Voluntary Councils.

Our role in influencing the Strategic Development of the Third Sector in the Public Services was a theme for our 2026 Third Sector Conference – ensuring the voice and lived experience of our communities reaches the board room of the Public Service Board. As a Board we are here to ensure FLVC contributes to the development of Third Sector services in the most effective way. Our thanks to the staff team for their diligence and creativity in supporting the volunteers, community groups and local citizens that make such an amazing difference to our communities.

Peter Agnew
Chair of Trustees

ENGAGEMENT AND INFLUENCING

FLVC continues to play a key role in the strategic development of Public Services.

County Voluntary Councils hold the privileged position of being the voice of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

As part of our work to support, promote and develop Third Sector activity we have a key role at the Flintshire and Wrexham Public Services Board – responsible for the planning of Public Services for all residents of the two counties, as a requirement of the WellBeing and Future Generations Act.

We work closely with Flintshire County Council to link the work of community and voluntary groups to the work of our council colleagues, for the best outcomes for residents.

Betsi Cadwaladr University Board are collaborating with all North Wales County Voluntary Councils (CVCs) to develop a revised framework for working with the Third Sector across the region.

Flintshire's Compact also meets regularly which allows a space for open and honest dialogue re the challenges and opportunities faced by the voluntary sector and our health and local authority colleagues.

A key factor in our Engagement and Influencing work in the past year has been to ensure that the voice of the sector and the experiences of Flintshire residents are front and centre of Public Service Planning.



The culmination of this was our **2026 Third Sector Conference**.

On 10th March, we hosted an event (Health and Social care themed) at Theatr Clwyd in Mold to hear the voice of Flintshire residents supported by Voluntary and Community groups, in order to develop consultation for the next round of Wellbeing Plans for our Flintshire and Wrexham Public Services Board.



Great to have an event that feels genuinely co-produced, rather than supporting a pre determined narrative



A mixed audience of statutory and Third Sector service providers attended. Short, powerful presentations were very well received and applauded.

Themes included :

- support for young people at risk of criminal exploitation
- the loneliness and isolation that carers experience
- in-work poverty and the complex challenges of youth homelessness
- complex mental health issues and support from staff and volunteers with 'living' experience of trauma
- the impact of racist-based crime
- Theatre and the arts as a safe space for creative exploration and support
- Social Prescribing services - supporting vulnerable Flintshire residents to seek support from the voluntary and community sector



The chance to overlap with other professionals providing practical and mental health support in the 3rd sector, to become aware of who provides what service, and to share ideas/reflections/thoughts and suggestions.



Key messages from the day are informing future WellBeing plans for Public Services and FLVC have since been invited to join a national working group to ensure that legislation drives more change in how public sector partners collaborate with the voluntary sector.



WHAT WAS MOST USEFUL ?

Giving the third sector a voice

Real stories: hearing more about different services

A community of like minded people sharing authentic stories



The working group will reflect on the following findings :

- lack of recognition of the contribution of the voluntary sector to well-being goals, by public sector organisations covered by the legislation
- voluntary sector partners not involved in strategic conversations about service delivery early enough

Other key developments

- We have worked with TSSW partners on the national Learning and Development Strategy, Impact workstream and Safeguarding community of practice.
- We represent the North Wales CVCs on the Local Resilience Forum (Emergency Planning) and we attend North Wales Humanitarian Aid and Volunteering subgroup.
- We regularly meet with new and existing community groups and charitable organisations to link them to the wider sector and statutory partners.
- We have represented the Third Sector and social prescribing at Flintshire GP accelerated Cluster meetings, which bring together all local services involved in health and care.

CORE SERVICES

Third Sector Support Wales is a network of support organisations for the whole of the voluntary sector in Wales. It consists of the 19 local and regional support bodies across Wales, the County Voluntary Councils (CVCs) and the national support body, Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA).

We work with citizens, volunteers and voluntary sector groups to identify and address what matters to them. Our core activities to strengthen the voluntary sector and volunteering focus on:

- Enabling and supporting
- Being a catalyst
- Engaging and influencing

To achieve our shared goal we collaborate with other key partners across the voluntary sector, the public sector, business, research and funders.

We have four pillars of activity that make up our universal offer, these are:

- Volunteering
- Good governance
- Sustainable funding
- Engagement and influencing



"The third sector has always been at the heart of positive change and with our current challenging climate, the roles of our diverse organisations have become more important than ever. We must stand up for others and support one another to continue to achieve."

@WCVACymru #gofod3

Jane Hutt, Deputy Minister and Chief Whip in 2025



Our work is broadly focused on the common themes of:

- Information and advice
- Learning and development
- Networking and communication
- Shaping, influencing and building the social capital and resilience of the sector
- Raising the profile of the sector

1



We put people in touch with useful contacts, eg others doing similar work, and can be a "sounding board" for ideas and plans

2



We help with constitutions, legal aspects, charity registration, policies, insurance, bank accounts, finding trustees and more

3



We advise on fundraising, finding grants, setting a budget, outputs and outcomes, monitoring, evidencing need

4



We provide help to groups to recruit volunteers and training on how to look after them; we help people find the right volunteering role for them

5



We help groups prove the difference they are making and show others the impact voluntary and community groups make to communities.

6

Achievements in 2025/26



FLVC development officers supported **268** groups / organisations with advice and information, with one third of them also put in touch with specialist organisations. Responses to our post-support feedback survey showed that 100% of respondents said that the support they received from FLVC was helpful.



The Volunteer Centre team supported **115** people to enter volunteering opportunities and piloted a training module on Volunteer Management.



163 people attended training delivered or organised by FLVC, with **98%** of them rating the training as excellent / very good. Other events and forums welcomed **527** attendees throughout the year with **97%** of them rating them very good or excellent.

Volunteering

In 2025/26 we facilitated and participated in 18 events to support young people into volunteering. With our colleagues at Coleg Cambria, two Welsh Baccalaureate volunteering events were delivered, as well as giving talks to specific student groups and participating in four Freshers Fairs. Approximately 600 participants were invited to meet with FLVC staff, chat about voluntary work and learn how volunteering can help their learning journey and build their confidence. 20 third sector organisations attended the Welsh Baccalaureate volunteering events in 2025/26, with many attending more than one event and a waiting list in operation in case of cancellations, as word had spread about the efficacy of these events for engaging young people as volunteers.

‘A very friendly and helpful team who really care about our needs in supporting our volunteers’

Funding and Governance

In 2025/26 94% of Funding and Governance survey respondents described the support they received as very good or excellent



Excellent help whenever I have asked. Listen to what I need and always support.



FLVC development officers supported local organisations to secure **£2,065,000** of funding from a range of sources including Postcode Community Trust, National Lottery Community Fund, Arts Council Wales, Sports Wales, Community Foundation Wales, Parc Adfer Community Benefit Fund, Oakdale Trust, Bernard Sunley Foundation, Albert Hunt Trust, Enfinium Community Fund, Sported, Office of the PCC, Co-op Foundation and the Lloyds Bank Foundation.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board fund key Health and Wellbeing Facilitator roles within each CVC in North Wales. This role provides a key strategic link between Health, Social Care and Third Sector organisations.

FLVC also has a Social Prescribing team, working collaboratively with statutory and third sector colleagues to link Flintshire citizens with community-based health and wellbeing services. In 2025/26

We contribute to many local, regional, and national health and social care partnerships. In collaboration with AVOW in Wrexham, we have facilitated regular Health and Wellbeing network meetings. We bring together third sector organisations and statutory partners (local, regional and national) operating in Flintshire and Wrexham with an interest in health, social care and well-being, and provide networking opportunities and a forum to discuss topical issues and to share information and good/best practice ideas. Following the success of our Health and Wellbeing networks, we are now hosting our Babies, Children and Young Persons network in partnership with AVOW.

FLVC's Social Prescribing team

FLVC has been running a Social Prescribing service since 2018.

We have a team of five Social Prescribers at FLVC who have a vast knowledge of the community-based support services available to us as Flintshire residents.



From 1st April 2025 to 31st March 2026 the Social Prescribing team supported 2,066 Flintshire citizens (and often their carers and wider family members) – providing reassurance, exploring 'what really matters' and guiding them to relevant support services/interest groups/wellbeing activities.

Of the 2,066 individuals we supported

- 12 % were experiencing loneliness and isolation
- 41% were supported to access emergency food provision.

In a recent survey of 218 recipients of our service, 100% reported they were satisfied with the support provided.

Our Social Prescribing team receives referrals from a wide range of sources including health professionals, social workers, community projects, family and friends, and self-referrals. We are keen to develop our outreach work for Social Prescribing to enable us to reach more members of the community in informal settings. Community venues such as Caffi Isa in Mynydd Isa and GP surgeries have welcomed our staff to meet with local residents.

In the Summer of 2026, we commissioned a full Social Value Report on our Social Prescribing service (to be published early 2027) in order to greater evidence the difference that our service makes.



"Fantastic that people like yourselves are there for people like me."

"It's nice to receive a call from a friendly voice and I really appreciate your help"



THE YEAR IN PHOTOGRAPHS



Flintshire's Shared Prosperity Fund - Community Key Fund

£353,077 of SPF grants were distributed to Flintshire based organisations in 2025/26

In April 2022, the UK Government launched details of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund (UKSPF). The UK SPF is the UK Government replacement for EU Structural Funds and aimed to deliver £2.6 billion of investment across the UK.

The aims of the Shared Prosperity Fund included

- Spreading opportunities and improving public services
- Restoring a sense of community, local pride and belonging
- Empowering local leaders and communities
- Boosting productivity, pay, jobs and living standards by growing the private sector



Helen Williams (Cadwyn Clwyd) and Shaun Darlington (FLVC)

To achieve this the UKSPF funding had three investment priorities:

- Community and Place
- Supporting Local Business
- People and Skills



The promotion of the fund by Cadwyn Clwyd and FLVC, facilitated by their strong networks in the local communities, was wide ranging and effective. The support provided by officers during the delivery of projects was clearly valued by grantees, who praised their expertise, guidance and understanding

Yorke Consulting Feb 26



Flintshire joined Cadwyn Clwyd for a collaborative SPF bid for the provision of a Community Key Fund for Third Sector groups to access. A capital and revenue grant was developed to support

community spaces, low carbon living, green spaces, arts culture & heritage activities, access to sports and digital infrastructure.

2025/26 was a transition year for the programme, and Flintshire's SPF Community Key Fund distributed grants to 23 Flintshire-based organisations to the total value of £353,077.

Successful applicants in 2025/26 were

Mold Rugby Club
Holywell Town Council Pen Y Maes
Northop Hall Cricket Club
Ffynnongroyw & Picton War Memorial
Hawkesbury Little Theatre
Trelawnyd Memorial Hall & Community Association
Ysceifiog Village Centre
Rhydymwyn War Memorial Institute
Argoed Sports Association
Hawkesbury Community Cnetre
Cilcain Village Hall

Our Growing Space
Mold Community Clubhouse and Gardens
PPD Community Hwb Kitchen
Mold Cricket Club
Holywell Town Football Club
Cambrian Aquatics
Northop Hall Community Pavilion
The Groves Community and Social Club
Gwernymynydd Village Centre
Buckley Trap Management Team
Deeside Naval Club
Aston Bowling Club

GRANT FUNDING

Administered by FLVC



Community Chest Grants

Cambrian Aquatics Ltd	£750.00
Nercwys Bowling Club	£500.00
Mynydd Isa FC	£1000.00
Pontblyddyn Cricket Club	£500.00
Northop Heritage Group	£500.00
Cor Cilcain	£500.00
Rhydymwyn & Hendre Community Group	£750.00
Nannerch Sports Club	£625.00
Eisteddfod	
Gadeirol Treuddyn	£300.00
Sychdyn Memorial Hall	£1000.00
Carmel Playgroup	£343.40
Deeside Community Trust	£877.13
Broughton Youth Club	£458.65
Eye 2 Eye	£445.97
PenyFfordd & Ffynnongroyw Childcare	£931.60
Shotton Town United JFC	£880.35

Citizens Advice Flintshire	£750.00
Leeswood Bowling Club	£558.00
Deeside Synchro Ice Skating Club	£1000.00
Gwyl Daniel Owen Festival	£500.00
Connah's Quay Sea Cadets	£938.25
Home-Start Flintshire	£644.80
Cilcain Bowling Club	£727.49
Cae Rhug Holistic Farm	£930.36
Caerwys Historical Society	£494.96
Hawarden Park Girls and Ladies FC	£644.80
Traditional Skills Ltd	£262.50
Cilcain Community Shop	£640.11
Giddos Gift	£1000.00
Sealand Spartans FC	£440.92

WCVA Youth Led Grants

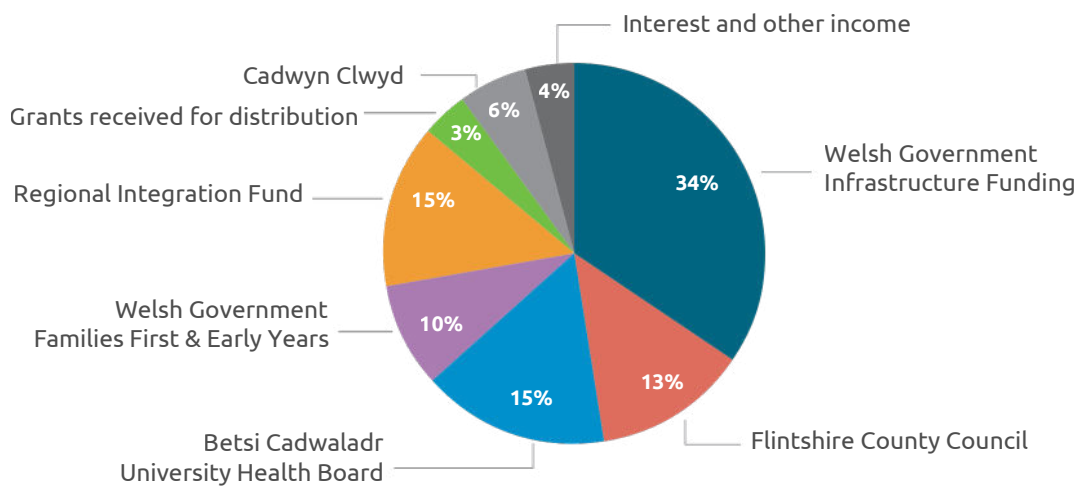
Flintshire District Scout , Archery Group	£1000.00
Cae Rhug Holistic Farm	£1000.00
Gwernymynydd Panto Group	£1000.00
Gwella	£500.00
Menter Iaith Sir Fflint a Wrecsam	£963.00
1125 CIC	£987.00



SUMMARY OF ACCOUNTS

How FLVC is funded

for the year ending 31 March 2026



Total Income during 2025/26 **£608,227**

Expenditure 2025/26 and 2024/25

	2026	2025
Staff costs	470,519	466,682
Premises costs	80,470	76,136
AGM expenses	1,304	1,390
Professional fees	14,209	14,797
Volunteers and training	56	147
Insurance and Indemnities	2,992	3,383
Governance costs	7,159	6,708
Grant disbursements	25,122	31,864
TOTAL	£601,831	£601,107

Total expenditure during 2025/26 **£601,831**