

## VOLUNTARY SECTOR Fact Sheet

### The Voluntary and Community Sector's Involvement in Supporting the Health and Wellbeing of Sutton's Resident

#### 1. The Voluntary and Community Sector in Sutton

The voluntary sector is a vital part of the fabric of a strong society in the UK. There are more than 160,000 organisations (NCVO Almanac 2016) that make up the sector across the UK, which are incredibly diverse and represent a range of sizes, aims and activities. The value of the UK voluntary sector to the wider economy – its Gross Value Added (GVA), or the value of output – was estimated at £12.2bn in 2013/14. (NCVO)

The London Borough of Sutton has a vibrant and diverse voluntary and community sector (VCS). This consists of Registered Charities and community and voluntary sector organisations. These organisations are governed by Boards of Trustees or Management Committees and the services are delivered through a combination of paid staff and volunteers. In Sutton there are over 400 organisation registered with the Sutton Centre for the Voluntary Sector (SCVS), although it is estimated that the size of the sector is more extensive than this. It is anticipated that during 2017/18 SCVS will be conducting a state of the survey report. This will provide a much more accurate reflection of the sector in the borough.

These organisations provide a range of essential services including: information and advice; befriending; counselling; adult health; social care; advocacy; play and leisure services; and mentoring. The VCS works with the diversity of community members across Sutton, including: Black and Minority Ethnic community members; older people; Carers; people with a mental health diagnosis; victims and survivors of domestic violence; victims of crime; people with long term conditions; children and young people; and people with Learning Disabilities.

This list is not exhaustive and the VCS, based on local needs assessments, seeks funding and resources to support those needs.

Some of these services are funded by London Borough of Sutton and Public Health, whilst others are funded from external grants from trusts or grant providers. SCVS 2015 member survey highlighted that 48% of the organisations working in the borough receive external funding (not from statutory providers) which provides an essential contribution to the health and social care economy.

The Adult and Social Care Voluntary Sector Directory provides an overview of the health and social care providers in the Borough. <http://www.suttoncvs.org.uk/local-organisations/directories/>

SCVS provides advice, funding information and support, networking, partnership and capacity building, representation and a voice for the voluntary and community sector in Sutton.

## 2. Sutton's Voluntary and Community Sector and the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

SCVS has been promoting the engagement of the VCS in the JSNA in two ways: Firstly, it has encouraged the VCS to disseminate relevant information into the JSNA development process in order to better inform decisions about commissioning. Secondly, it has promoted the use of the JSNA to help VCS organisation to evidence local need when applying for external funding to support delivery of services that respond to local need.

### Contact details for further information about Voluntary and Community Sector Services in Sutton:

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