



**Salford CVS**  
Making a difference in Salford

# **Salford CVS** **Strategic Plan** **2025-2028**







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# The History of Salford CVS

## Background

Salford CVS began life in 1919, as part of Manchester and Salford Council for Social Service (MSCSS). The organisation covered the twin cities of Manchester and Salford and was established to support local people by coordinating relief efforts and taking practical action in the aftermath of World War One.

Salford Council for Voluntary Services was established in Salford in 1973, in response to local authority changes, when MSCSS split into two organisations – Salford CVS and Manchester CVS. Originally operating as a co-operative, the structure began to change in 2001 when it appointed its first Coordinator, closely followed in 2002 with its first Chief Executive Officer. The organisation was incorporated as a Company Limited by Guarantee in 1985 and registered as a Charity in 1988. In 2008, the organisation was renamed **Salford Community and Voluntary Services (Salford CVS)**.

For more information on the history and timeline of Salford CVS please visit [www.salfordcvs.co.uk/our-history](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/our-history).

## Our role in Salford

Salford CVS is the city-wide infrastructure organisation for the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in the city of Salford; providing specialist information, advice, development support and opportunities for influence and collaboration. We provide support for organisations to establish and develop including training for their staff, volunteers and trustees.

Via our Volunteer Centre, we provide support for individuals who want to volunteer and assistance for organisations with developing their volunteering programmes.





Salford CVS has a proud history of making a difference in Salford for over 100 years. We are a well-respected partner in this city and have excellent relationships with both VCSE and public sector organisations. We are financially stable with a clear business plan and a highly skilled, motivated staff team. As a membership organisation we work hard to address the needs and represent the interests of our over one thousand Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) member organisations.

The organisation is governed by a Board of Trustees who are elected by members at our Annual General Meeting. The Board comprises of people who predominantly live and/or work in Salford and who have relevant skills and experience to share. Each year the elected Board appoints a Chair, Vice Chair and Treasurer from amongst its Trustees.

## Our role in Greater Manchester

We play a strategic role in the Greater Manchester city-region, where we are founder members of the GM VCSE Leadership Group, created in response to devolution. We are founder co-owners of the 10GM partnership ([www.10GM.org.uk](http://www.10GM.org.uk)), alongside Action Together, Bolton CVS and Macc; and work closely with all of the local infrastructure organisations in Greater Manchester.



A joint venture to  
support the local  
VCSE sector in  
Greater Manchester

## Our role nationally

Salford CVS operates within a wider national framework in terms of our membership of NAVCA, NCVO and Social Enterprise UK.



# Vision, Mission and Values

## Vision

A robust and sustainable Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector that meets the diverse needs and aspirations of the people of Salford.

## Mission

Making a Difference in Salford

## Values

Making a difference through:

<b>Passion</b>	Being passionate about the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector
<b>Innovation</b>	Being innovative in our approach
<b>Quality</b>	Delivering quality at the heart of all of our activities
<b>Cooperation</b>	Stronger when we work cooperatively with others to achieve our vision
<b>Inclusion</b>	Taking an intersectional approach to celebrating, valuing and promoting equity, diversity and inclusion
<b>Impact</b>	Demonstrating impact and making a difference every time





## Charitable objects

- 1) To promote any charitable purpose for the benefit of the public principally but not exclusively in the local government area of Salford and its environs (are of benefit) and in particular to build the capacity of third sector organisations and provide them with the necessary support, information and services to enable them to pursue or contribute to any charitable purpose.
- 2) To promote, organise and facilitate co-operation and partnership working between third sector, statutory and other relevant bodies in the achievement of the above purposes within the area of benefit.

# What We Do

There are four main strands to the work of Salford CVS – described as the Core Functions of Local Infrastructure by NAVCA, our national membership body.

[www.navca.org.uk/what-our-members-do](http://www.navca.org.uk/what-our-members-do)

LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY	PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS	CAPACITY BUILDING	VOLUNTEERING
			
Mobilising and encouraging community action, strengthening our sector's voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.	Creating opportunities and driving effective joint working by building networks of local organisations and strategic partners.	Providing practical support and opportunities for people to develop skills in their local community, so that they can achieve their goals and aspirations.	Building an environment in which volunteers and their communities thrive, by encouraging and nurturing volunteering opportunities.

## Leadership and Advocacy

### Vocal Forums

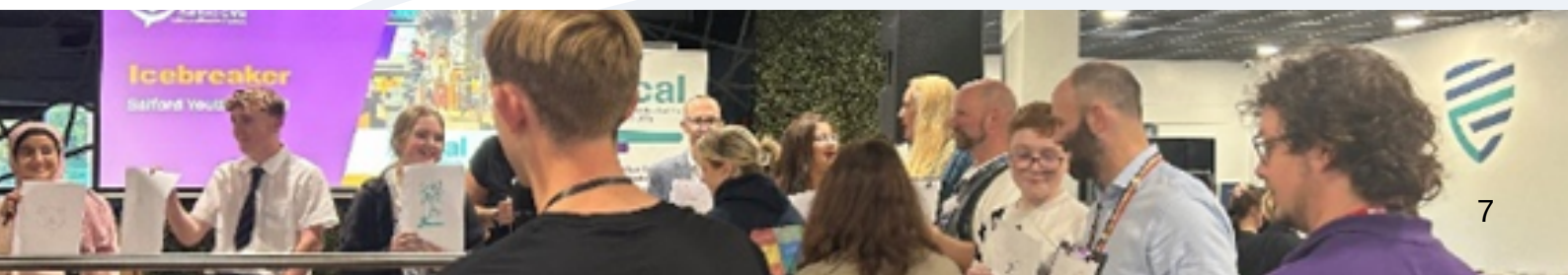
Our Vocal Forums provide strategic VCSE voice and influence, and include leaders (Chief Executives); children, young people and families; and wellbeing, health and care. We also facilitate several practitioner networks around domestic abuse and sexual violence, environment, food, and volunteer coordinators. We operate with the support of a wide range of Vocal representatives from the VCSE sector, who sit on a variety of partnership boards in the city on behalf of our sector.

### Strategic Partnerships

Salford CVS and Vocal representatives actively participate in all of the city's strategic partnerships as advocates for the VCSE sector, volunteering and local communities – including the Health and Wellbeing Board, Skills and Work Board, 0-25 Advisory Board, Safeguarding Adults Board, Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Community Safety Partnership, Equality Network, Climate Action Board and many more. We are also members of NHS Greater Manchester Integrated Care Partnership Board structures both locally and within Greater Manchester.

### Conferences and round table events

Salford CVS convene a range of round table events for our sector throughout the year, featuring key council and health leaders; we also organise a large VCSE conference each year and a Seldom Heard young people's event, to name a few.





# Partnerships and Collaborations

Salford CVS facilitate and participate in a wide range of VCSE and cross-sectoral partnerships and formal collaborations, including:

-  **Wellbeing Matters** – social prescribing and community assets in Salford  
[www.salfordcvs.co.uk/wellbeing-matters](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/wellbeing-matters)
-  **Age Friendly Salford** – enhancing the quality of life for older residents by encouraging active participation and community engagement  
[www.agefriendlysalford.org.uk/](http://www.agefriendlysalford.org.uk/)
-  **Elevate Salford** – learning, skills and work for those furthest from the labour market and who need the most support [www.salfordcvs.co.uk/elevate-salford](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/elevate-salford)
-  **Family Hubs** – supporting the work of these early help centres in Salford  
[www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford-family-hubs](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford-family-hubs)
-  **Living Well Salford** – providing community mental health support  
[www.salfordcvs.co.uk/living-well-salford](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/living-well-salford)
-  **Salford4Good** – raising funds and supporting local good causes  
[www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford4good](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford4good)
-  **Salford Social Enterprise City** – working with local social enterprises to: preserve and promote the heritage of Salford's social businesses; support existing social enterprises to scale, replicate and develop sustainable business models; encourage new social enterprises, new models of social business and new social entrepreneurs  
[www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford-social-enterprise-city-and-salford-sup](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/salford-social-enterprise-city-and-salford-sup)
-  **Salford Social Value Alliance** – creating a social movement that encourages Salford organisations to make a positive difference to local communities through their activities and business [www.salfordcvs.co.uk/social-value-salford](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/social-value-salford)
-  **10GM partnership** – a joint venture supporting the VCSE sector in Greater Manchester, co-owned by Action Together (Oldham, Rochdale, Tameside), Bolton CVS, Macc (Manchester) and Salford CVS; working closely with all of the other Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) in Greater Manchester.  
[www.10gm.org.uk](http://www.10gm.org.uk)
-  **Answer Cancer** – leading the community cancer screening engagement programme across Greater Manchester [www.salfordcvs.co.uk/answer-cancer](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk/answer-cancer)



# Capacity Building

## Development Support

We provide one-to-one information, advice and guidance, group support and training courses to the VCSE sector. This includes good governance, financial management, sourcing funding, support for social enterprises, strategic and business planning, demonstrating impact, social value, equalities, safeguarding, data protection, using data and stats and campaigning.

## Grants and Investments

We manage and administer a wide range of small grants and investments in Salford and across Greater Manchester, such as the NHS GM supported Third Sector Fund grants programme; Salford City Council's Short Break Care, Family Hub and Hate Crime grants; GM Mental Health Trust's Asset Recovery Fund; GMCA's Inspire grants; GM Moving's Walking and Wheeling grants, and other funds.

## Back Office Services

- **Finance** – bookkeeping, management accounts, independent examinations, payroll and provision of holding accounts
- **Administration** – printing and copying
- **Compliance** – DBS checks and advice, help with auto-enrolment (pensions), GDPR (data protection), information and training
- **Other Services** – such as providing a postal address service for small community groups and operating a range of consultancy services

# Volunteering

## Volunteer Centre

Volunteer Centre Salford provides a range of services including Volunteering Brokerage, Good Practice support, Training, Strategic Development, Campaigning and Recognition. We also run our annual Heart of Salford awards.

## Our Volunteers

We look after a large number of volunteers directly who provide support to Civil Contingency emergencies, Age Friendly Salford and Family Hubs, for instance.



**Heart of  
Salford**




# Strategic Priorities

During 2024/25 Salford CVS developed its strategic priorities for the next three years, with the help of our members, staff, trustees and partners.




Alongside the core priorities listed in the boxes below, we will augment our delivery with some additional ideas sourced during this process.

## Leadership and Advocacy

### Priorities

-  **Develop and support Salford's Vocal model** for voice and influence, ensuring VCSE representation and distributive leadership on all of Salford's main partnership boards
-  **Provide opportunities for the wider VCSE sector** to be kept informed and engaged in **key city issues**
-  Organise a large **annual VCSE conference** on topical themes, delivered by and for our sector

### Additional areas for development



-  **Leadership training and support** (including for emerging leaders and diverse leaders) – we'll do this via our work in the 10GM partnership [www.gmworkforcehub.org.uk](http://www.gmworkforcehub.org.uk)
-  **Find creative ways to engage more people at neighbourhood level and enable them to have a say** – we'll do this as part of our role in the emerging GM Live Well work
-  **Continue to undertake emergency response and civil contingencies work** in Salford and GM

# Partnerships and Collaborations

## Priorities

-  **Build opportunities for partners** from across sectors to come together and develop effective joint working protocols and practice
-  **Develop opportunities for VCSE organisations to create formal partnerships** to deliver services and solutions in a 'place'
-  **Establish a range of VCSE practitioner networks** to address key issues such as food poverty, the environment, volunteering




## Additional areas for development

-  **Further develop relationships with the private sector** – we'll do this via our work leading the Salford Social Value Alliance
-  **'Meet the Commissioner' events** – we'll do this via our Vocal Forums' voice and influence work






# Capacity Building

## Priorities

-  **Provide 1-2-1 capacity-building support** for Salford's VCSE organisations, specifically focusing on good governance, business planning, securing funding, compliance, safeguarding
-  **Organise a wide range of training workshops** on key themes, taking place throughout the year; including delivering adults and children's safeguarding training
-  **Manage and administer a wide range of small grants and investments** to benefit the local VCSE sector

## Additional areas for development


-  **Support new members through the grants process** – we'll do this via our 'Meet the Funder' events and follow up with 1-2-1 support as needed
-  **Offer training for volunteers in youth work, community development, mentoring and other relevant skills** – we'll research this as part of the refresh of our training offer for 2025/26
-  **Prioritise our Membership Support offer**, including developing a confidential '**Early Warning System**'

# Volunteering

## Priorities

-  **Broker opportunities and support connections** between local people seeking to volunteer and organisations who welcome volunteers; and also recruit and manage a team of events and civil contingencies volunteers in-house
-  **Prioritise developing volunteering opportunities for Salford's young people and residents from diverse communities**, ensuring good practice is at the heart of this work
-  Organise our annual **Heart of Salford awards**, celebrating volunteering and the local VCSE sector

## Additional areas for development

-  **Train a pool of volunteers with relevant expertise that can be dispatched to support groups with admin / comms / bookkeeping, etc** – we'll do this by further developing employer supported volunteering, including maximising our '24 Hours to Make a Difference' programme









**Salford CVS**  
Making a difference in Salford



# Contact us

## **Salford CVS and Volunteer Centre**

Registered address:

The Old Town Hall

5 Irwell Place

Eccles

Salford

M30 0FN

Tel: 0161 787 7795

Email: **[office@salfordcvs.co.uk](mailto:office@salfordcvs.co.uk)**

Website: **[www.salfordcvs.co.uk](http://www.salfordcvs.co.uk)**

Social media: **@SalfordCVS**



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