



Annual Report 2022/23



Photo courtesy of Tom Coulthard - Training at Dartington



Photo courtesy of Tom Coulthard Training at the Calvert Trust



Photo courtesy of Balloons Charity, Devon



Photo courtesy of 1st Highweek Village Scouts

“To Champion and Strengthen Children and
Young People’s Organisations in Devon”

Registered Charity Number: 1054442

Voluntary Organisations for Young People and Children (VOYC) - Devon

What is it that we do?

1. **Provide Practical Help** - to ensure the support necessary to develop and maintain the children and young people's sector.
2. **Provide a Voice** - to enable the children and young people's sector to have a voice and influence.
3. **Facilitate Networking** - to support, develop and promote collaboration and networking.
4. **Manage the Charity** - to have efficient and effective systems for the management of VOYC Devon.

President

Sally Yeo

Vice President

Nominations Invited.

Officers

Acting Chair of Trustees

Gill Millar

Acting Vice Chair of Trustees

Peter Brewer

Acting Treasurer

Steve Keable

Management Committee/Executive (Trustees)

Gill Millar

Acting Chair (from July 2022)

Peter Brewer

Acting Vice Chair (from July 2022)

Paul Allan

Co-option (resigned 1.8.22)

Kerrie Clifford

Co-option

Dani de Beaumont

Co-option (resigned 25.11.22)

Steve Keable

Acting Treasurer CEDA

Paul Reisbach

YMCA Exeter

Rebecca Skinner

Co-option

Staff

Tom Coulthard

Chief Executive

Juliet White

Operations Coordinator

Rachel Hopper

Communications and Marketing Coordinator

SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENT 2022 – 2023

Who we are and what we do

VOYC Devon continues to bring the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sectors' people together to solve problems, address root causes and inspire each other. As an organisation we understand the power of the VCSE sector and volunteering and are proud to champion these.

We support individuals and groups working with children, young people and families by providing practical, face-to-face support in a variety of different ways. Our offer includes a range of services, from starting up a group to developing policies or keeping children and young people safe. In addition, VOYC provides a diverse range of training opportunities, regular news and information updates as well as the reassurance of a telephone advice line, email support and web based video meetings.

We operate 6 local youth networks to give workers, volunteers and activists a place to discuss issues, collaborate and share their experiences, connecting our groups with statutory agencies, large charities and relevant agencies operating in the county.

Everything VOYC Devon offers is designed to enable VCSE organisations to become stronger, to operate more safely, sustainably and to enhance the quality of local provision. The majority of our support is available free of charge to the youth work sector through our grant agreement with Space, who hold the Youth Service contract with Devon County Council (DCC).

Summary of Achievement

VOYC Devon continues to work as a partner with Space within the VCSE infrastructure element of the Devon County Council Youth Services contract. VOYC also continues to play a key role in developing capacity within the VCSE Sector organisations through the safeguarding training and support offered to local groups.

We have trained a record number of people this year, with over 100 organisations from a range of backgrounds taking advantage of our regular courses and bespoke offers, with the VCSE sector benefiting from continued low cost and flexible options for delivery to staff and volunteers.

Local Youth Networks have been quieter than we hoped, but networks in West Devon have benefitted from free first aid training organised by VOYC . We ran meetings in East Devon, South Hams and Teignbridge as well. We did continue to offer plenty of advice, support and funding to groups both new and established on a wide range of issues.

We have secured substantial funding from 2023 to open MHFA England Mental Health First Aid up to the voluntary sector and smaller groups through reduced costs and are pledged to double the number of trainers in Devon for this vital training over the next two years. This is

to be achieved by working in partnership with a number of larger organisations to bring the training out to more remote parts of the county and online.

VOYC is involved in enabling the VCSE Sector to have their voice heard. We strive to ensure that local public services through the Devon Children and Families Partnership (DCFP) have a single way into the diverse VCSE Sector here in Devon. VOYC Devon represents the VCSE on the following: The DCFP Subgroup Chairs, DCFP Quality Assurance Delivery Group, Early Help Improvement Board, DCFP Communication and Engagement and the Holiday Activities Programme.

The rising costs of living and subsequent higher wages have put a strain on the sector. We have helped to keep provision open through raising awareness of the available support via funding streams and through help with recruitment, staff training and keeping our own training very competitive for members. We have also used our networks to enable collective buying of training such as First Aid, to reduce costs to clubs by working together and using local providers. We will continue to do our best to keep our members informed of any help available through a renewed and vibrant newsletter and more relevant social media, curated by our new communications and marketing coordinator, Rachel.

We would once again like to extend a big thank you to our staff and Trustees as both have been central to all that we have achieved during the year and we thank them once again for their commitment and time.

Gill Millar (Acting Chair)

Tom Coulthard (Chief Officer)

A Quick Summary of the year!

A Devon wide network of:

258 Local Organisations
18 Network Organisations
66 Associates



- ✓ An increase of 7 Members during the year;
- ✓ Reaching over 2000 children and young people.

Connecting people and organisations:

4 meetings for Local Networks
providing advice information and support



Strengthening Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector Organisations

34

Organisations received direct support.

22 Youth Organisations

12 Other Not for Profits who work with Children and Young People



29 'Weekly' to Members
10 'Monthly News' to Members and Subscribers

Keeping children and young people safe

Delivering Safeguarding Training for:
380 Training Places, from
74 different Organisations



Being the Voice of and advocating for the Sector



VOYC attends the following DCFP sub groups:

- ✓ Quality Assurance Delivery Group;
- ✓ Early Help Improvement Board
- ✓ Communication and Engagement

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR ENDED 31.3.23

VOYC Devon is a charity (Registered Charity Number 1054442) and as such meets all the rules and regulations set by the Charity Commission. The Trustees of the Charity present this report to support the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2023. The Annual Report and Accounts are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities. VOYC Devon has income between £25,000 and £500,000 and so is subject to Independent Examination, conducted by Kevin Pope of KJP Financial Training Ltd.

The Charity's objects are to benefit young people in Devon by:

Championing and strengthening the informal learning offer of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector Children and Young People Organisations in Devon by:

- strengthening VCSE organisations providing support through information and advice in all aspects of work with children and young people;
- keeping children and young people safe by developing the skills of those who work with children and young people, delivering safeguarding and other relevant training;
- connecting people and organisations by developing and sustaining both countywide and local youth networks to enable youth organisations to share good practice, resources and expertise;
- ensuring that the voice of the VCSE organisations is heard.

VOYC Devon champions and strengthens the VCSE Children and Young People Sector, with over 250 members ranging from the largest charities, national network organisations (eg, Girl Guiding, Army Cadets and Boys Brigade) to the smallest community organisations. There are many committed volunteers supporting the organisations within our membership with people across the County giving their time, energy and money.

The year was a challenge for many members, with rising costs and a continued shortage of volunteers and trained youth workers

VOYC will continue to strive to support existing provision, empower volunteers, train an effective and vigilant workforce in safeguarding and to open new groups, clubs and opportunities for the young people of Devon.

Governance

The Executive Committee comprises:

- The three elected officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer);
- Up to twelve representatives of member organisations;
- Up to six co-opted members.

The Executives are appointed either:

- by ordinary resolution of the members at general meeting;
- or as a co-option made at a meeting of the Executive during the year.

During the year, there were changes to the Executive Committee. Paul Allen and Dani de Beaumont stepped down as Trustees. Peter Brewer stood down as Chair at the Executive Committee on 22/7/22 and the Executive Committee agreed to appoint Gill Millar as Interim Chair until the AGM in 2023.

There were six meetings of the Executive Committee held during 2022-23 and there were reports on the financial position and on the performance against targets in the management plan at each of these meetings.

Staff Team

Our able staff team has continued to be led by Tom Coulthard as CEO with Juliet White as the Operations Coordinator. Rachel Hopper joined us in Spring 2023 (Communications & Marketing Assistant) and we continue to be supported by Danielle Howlett (Safeguarding Training) as a freelance contributor.

Marketing

We continued to keep our website fresh, up to date and relevant. We produce a weekly member only e-bulletin and a monthly newsletter with wider circulation to both members and stakeholders. This publication has been re-launched and re-designed for this year. We have rebuilt our social media strategy to better reflect the achievements and focus of our members.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Executive have considered the guidance provided by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and its impact on the charity's work, and in particular the requirement that there must be specific identifiable benefits, and ones applicable to the wider public. Trustees consider that both requirements have been met.

Reserves Policy

The Executive has examined the Charity's need for reserves in the context of planned activities during 2022/23. This process has included consideration of quantifiable financial risks to the Charity within the context of continued spending cuts by central and local government.

Reserves are needed to:

- Allow funding to cover unforeseen operational or core costs like taking on temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness / absence.
- Provides a fund to cover gaps in income of up to six months if a grant is not renewed or is unexpectedly taken away.
- Planned commitments that cannot be met by future income such as refurbishment of the website or ICT hardware.
- Covering short-term deficits in our cash flow before a grant is received.

At the year-end, the level of reserves was £70355.01. Based on the above criteria, the Trustees are confident that there are sufficient unrestricted reserves to meet the reserves policy requirements.

Approved by the Trustee Board on 26th June 2023, and signed on its behalf by the Chair:



Gill Millar
Acting Chair of the Trustees

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED 31.03.23

Financial Statement					
31.03.22		31.03.23	31.03.22		31.03.23
INCOME		£	EXPENDITURE		£
55685.11	B/Forward	62995.61			
28443.00	Grant – Youth Service Grant	28766.00	53608.32	Employment/Travel	37861.40
1443.00	Grant - YS Arrears	0.00	307.83	Governance	117.33
20000.00	Covid-19 Recovery	0.00	12.00	Networking	9.60
29420.00	CSP Monies	0.00	1867.39	Office	1426.14
3209.00	EDDC - Youth Support	0.00	2048.12	ICT	671.88
0.00	Grant - Comms Fund	4500.00	250.00	Member Training	40.98
10087.50	Training Programme	12813.45	96.00	Bank Charges	72.00
420.00	Operational Income	1245.00	0.00	Train. Reimbursements	900.00
0.00	Youth Network	900.00	26703.58	CSP Grants	0.00
111.24	Interest	343.52	49.90	Misc	0.00
27.40	Misc	28.26			
93161.14	TOTAL INCOME	48596.23	84943.14	TOTALS	41099.33
			907.50	Res Exp again YS Rev	137.50
			85850.64	TOTAL EXP	41236.83
				Carried Forward	70355.01
BANK BALANCES AS AT			31.03.23		
	CAF Current account		3812.92		
	CAF Gold Account		31247.68		
	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice a/c		35294.41		

Independent examiners report for the accounts (y/e 31.3.23):-

 CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES		Independent examiner's report on the accounts	
Section A Independent Examiner's Report			
Report to the trustees/ members of	Charity Name VOYC Devon		
On accounts for the year ended	31 March 2023	Charity no (if any)	1054442
Set out on pages	1 - 3 <small>(optional: to include the page numbers of additional sheets)</small>		
	I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2023 .		
Responsibilities and basis of report	As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act"). I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.		
Independent examiner's statement	I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or • the accounts do not accord with the accounting records I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.		
Signed:			Date: 27 April 2023
Name:	Kevin Pope		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers (FCIB)		
Address:	6, Harrison Close, Emersons Green, BRISTOL BS16 7HB		
Section B Disclosure			
Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners)			
IER	<< < 1/3 > >>		October 2018

Auditor: Kevin Pope (FCIB) - KJP Financial Training Ltd
Tom Coulthard (Chief Officer)