

# Communities Service

## BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

### ANNUAL REPORT

April 2022 –  
March 2023



We are the Communities team; we focus on growing the power of communities who experience the greatest inequity.

We do this through:

- Asset Based Community Development
- Grant funding
- Supporting volunteering
- Connecting people to each other and to resources
- Enabling communities to be involved in decisions that affect them
- Supporting Council colleagues to involve communities

Read on for some of the highlights of working with Bristol's vibrant, diverse and hard working communities last year...



# A YEAR OF COMMUNITIES



## PERFORMANCES

There were two forum theatre performances by communities in Knowle West and Lawrence Weston, exploring issues that matter to them.

APRIL 2022



## CONVERSATIONS

We hosted the Mayor's Conversation with VCSE organisations, to plan a response to the Cost of Living Crisis of winter 2023/24

## FUNDING

We supported two organisations in Hartcliffe to access funding- Hartcliffe BMX club and Hengrove Heroes

JUNE 2022



## GROUPS

We supported the set up of the first Bristol Polish Women's Group

## FACILITIES

We secured funding for a Multi Use Games Area in Knowle West, working with the Housing Delivery team

JULY 2022



## PARTNERSHIPS

We facilitated a workshop between colleagues in Regeneration and Knowle West residents to develop a way of working together on regeneration projects in Filwood Broadway



## GRANTS

We allocated £150k small grants through Bristol Impact Fund 2 to grow the power of communities experiencing the greatest inequality. Through collaboration with Bristol Funders Network, we were also able to bring in an additional £75k to fund more projects

AUGUST 2022

## SUCCESSSES

Zion Community Centre was successful with its community share office and the Community Development Team supported them to reach their target



## FIRSTS

We supported the set up of the Afghani community organisation- the first in the city

SEPTEMBER  
2022

## PARTICIPATION

1837 volunteer hours were given to projects funded through Bristol Impact Fund and 32,030 people took part in the funded activities



## NEW APPROACHES

We started work taking a Public Health approach to tackling youth violence in the inner city



OCTOBER  
2022

## TRAINING

We trained 15 young people to deliver three social action projects as part of the GAP with Grassroots Communities.

## VOICES

Three Disabled people with Learning Difficulties designed and led a research project to find out what barriers others in their community face, and whether they wanted a group or organisation run and led by the community, which has been missing in Bristol for a number of years.



NOVEMBER  
2022

## LEARNING

We worked with 5 neighbourhood and equalities VCSE organisations to launch of the Connecting People into Communities learning circle and training, to embed and develop an ABCD approach to their work together



## CHAMPIONS

We hosted a Community Champion event to launch the network and celebrate the success of the champions' award winning work on Covid 19 vaccine programme during the pandemic.



## DEVELOPMENT

We worked alongside residents in Dove Street to access Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funding to redevelop the play area



## RESPONSE

We engaged local people in a community response to the fire at Twinnel House



## GROWTH

Can Do Bristol hit 14,000 members, interested in offering or taking up volunteering opportunities in the city

DECEMBER  
2022



## ENGAGEMENT

We started co-design work in Temple Quarter to engage communities in regeneration of the area



JANUARY  
2023



## PARTICIPATION

100 diverse residents from across the city took part in participatory decision making events to allocate Community Resilience Funding – according to a participant survey, 73% would take part again



## INFLUENCE

Over 100 residents attended four conversations about the new committee model to influence the future of the new city council governance system



## NETWORKS

A network of 100 welcoming spaces opened across the city.



## EMPOWERMENT

Residents held their first community conversation about safer streets in Hartcliffe. 11 residents were involved in designing an event which 50 people participated in

FEBRUARY  
2023



MARCH  
2023

## SOCIAL ACTION

100 social action projects were funded through the One City Many Communities Cost of Living response, swiftly getting £450k to communities

## HEALTH

We worked in partnership to start the temple street vaccine clinic



## POWER

We coordinated a people power event attended by over 200 people. The event was co-designed by local people and showcased stories of citizen led action across the city

# OUR WORK IN NUMBERS



1,006

People taking  
action



241

Community  
Groups taking  
action



817

New connections  
between people



241

People  
connected to  
opportunity



28

Connections  
across  
communities



7,711

Community  
building  
conversations



63

People trained  
in community  
development



42

People taking  
part in learning  
circles



48

Active  
community  
champions



1,837

Volunteer hours  
given to  
projects funded



£2.3mil+

Grants awarded  
to VCSE groups



14000

Members on  
Can Do Bristol

Thank you for collaborating with us!

If you'd like to get in touch, email us:  
[communities@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:communities@bristol.gov.uk)

Or find us online @ Community  
Development Bristol

