



COMMUNITIES SERVICE



We are the Communities Service. We work with citizens and voluntary sector organisations to grow the power of communities, to build a thriving city, and to keep those who experience the greatest inequity safe.

ANNUAL REPORT 2024 - 2025



Credit: Eastside Community Trust



Here are some of our highlights...

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





2024 - 2025 - An Overview

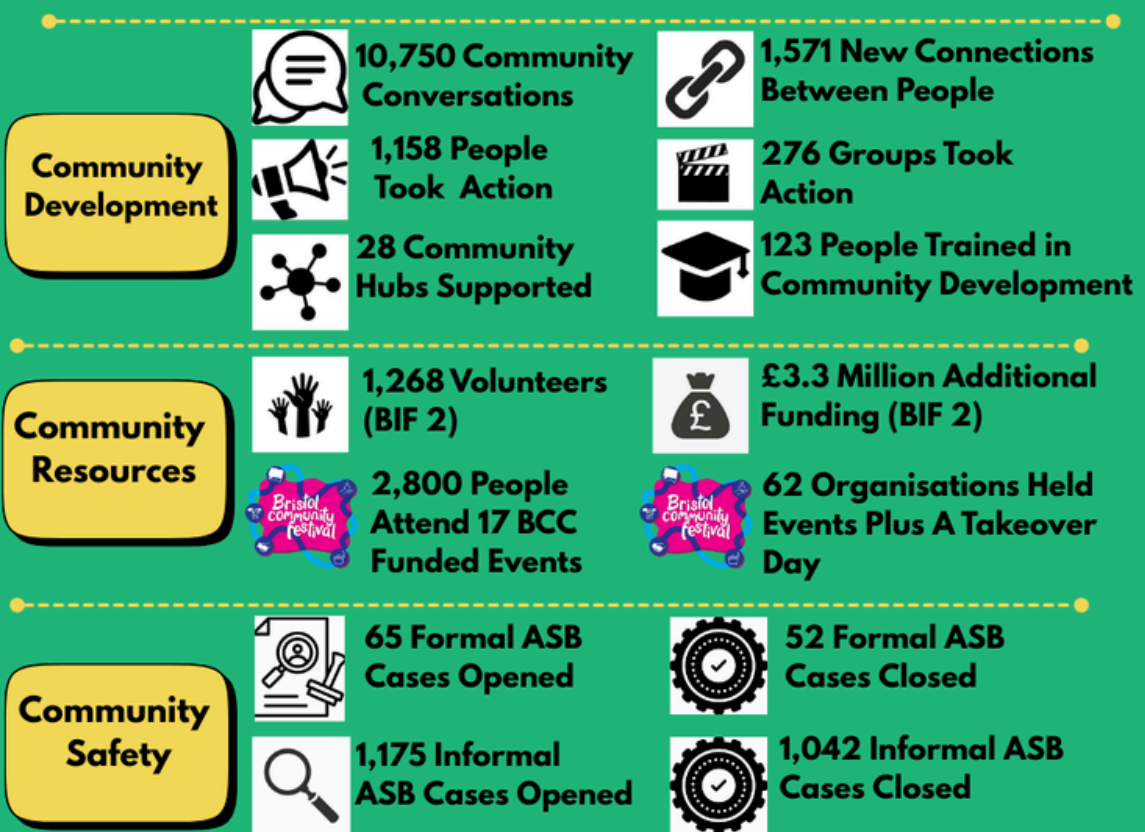
At the heart of everything we do in the Communities Service is a deep commitment to the people of Bristol. This annual report gives a snapshot of the work of our Community Programmes, Safer Communities, Community Development, and Community Resources teams over the past year.

Our approach is rooted in building trust and our work is shaped by the voices, strengths, and aspirations of Bristol's citizens.

This year has seen people coming together to solve issues important to them. We've made new partnerships and strengthened existing ones to better support communities. We funded community and voluntary organisations to carry out their vital work. Read on for more of our 2024-25 highlights.

We extend our huge thanks to residents, community groups, and partners from across the city who have been part of this journey so far. As we look ahead, we remain committed to working alongside communities to build a city where everyone can thrive.

OUR WORK IN NUMBERS



A YEAR IN COMMUNITIES

June 2024

PREVENTION

Safer Communities facilitated and chaired three Channel Panel meetings that set out support plans for individuals who are at risk of being radicalised and drawn into extremism.



May 2024

CONNECTION

Partnering with Bristol Disability Equality Forum, a community conversation took place with residents from Hartcliffe who identify as Disabled people. From this conversation, a new peer support network was created, which meets fortnightly.



August 2024

BUILDING STRENGTH

Responding to the riots in August in Bristol, we partnered with Sirona Care & Health and local organisations to host four gender-sensitive Emergency First Aid at Work training sessions.



July 2024

RESILIENCE

£660,000 was awarded to 31 key anchor organisations and community hubs through Community Asset Management grants to help manage their buildings more sustainably for the long term.

October 2024

AWARENESS

In 2024, the theme for National Hate Crime Awareness Week supported those affected by LGBT+ motivated hate crime. The Lord Mayor raised the flag on College Green with Bristol Ballroom Community and other partners to raise awareness.



A YEAR IN COMMUNITIES



November 2024

COHESION

Over 120 community and voluntary sector partners, hubs and city partners came together at City Hall for a One City, Many Communities conversation on community cohesion.

ASKS & OFFERS

The Asks and Offers feature was launched on volunteering platform Can Do Bristol. Residents, organisations and businesses can now make specific offers and requests of free materials or pro bono support to other community members.



December 2024



COMMUNITY PLAN

The Ignite Community Plan hosted a survey across Hartcliffe and Withywood to develop a community-led plan - the first of its kind in South Bristol.

January 2025

YOUNG PEOPLE

We brought together Young people, and community and faith organisations in North Bristol to map youth provision, gaps and opportunities.



A YEAR IN COMMUNITIES



January 2025

CONVERSATION



Community representatives came together with the BCC Policy team and Council Leader Cllr Tony Dyer and Deputy Leader Cllr Heather Mack to discuss issues important to them.



February 2025

HUBS

Community and equity hubs co-designed workshops to problem solve across organisations working with communities of place and of interest. These provided a space to build relationships, collaborate.



March 2025

FUNDING

Bristol Impact Fund 3 launched. The fund aims to grow the power of communities experiencing the greatest inequity.

LOVE STAPLETON ROAD
BCC, Avon & Somerset Police and Stapleton Road residents started meeting to create a neighbourhood where people feel safe, supported, included and valued. The open meetings take place every 2 months.

