



Haringey
**Community
Collaborative**

Our impact

2024 - 2025



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1. CEO Forewords

Dan Rogers, CEO of Public Voice



When we launched the Haringey Community Collaborative in May 2024, we had some specific principles in mind:

- Focus on a few priorities, to make the best use of our limited capacity.
- Decide those priorities with the sector, through co-production.
- Reach and involve previously unheard groups in the borough, so more organisations would benefit.

It's fantastic that so many different voices and perspectives have been part of our priority setting; and that so many new faces have been engaging with our capacity building – whether individually, attending Voluntary and Community Sector Forums and training, or even as part of our Challenge Fund programme.

We know these are challenging times for the voluntary sector, and indeed for our communities. Funding is scarcer, while demand for services is increasing. There is a lot of uncertainty about the way ahead, and some of our much-needed voluntary organisations are struggling.

In these difficult and straitened circumstances, it is vital that we as the borough's VCS lead focus our support and voice where it can make the biggest difference. We will be working with our sector and partners to co-produce our updated priorities in the coming months, and need you to help us determine our plans for the year ahead.

And there is opportunity too. In 2025-26, Haringey will gear up for its year as the London Borough of Culture in 2027 – including celebrating the vital role of the voluntary and community sector in fostering that rich, vibrant culture. Meanwhile the NHS is undertaking a radical shift, in seeking to move more care and services into the community – with a more 'neighbourhoods' approach to working. We will work to ensure that the critical role of the voluntary sector in supporting wellbeing, raising health literacy, and identifying and engaging residents at risk, is central to these plans in Haringey.

Lastly, I'd like to take this opportunity to thank each and every organisation, staff member and volunteer across our sector for the work you do. We look forward to supporting and strengthening the work of our sector in the year ahead.

CEO Forewords

Lynette Charles, CEO of Mind in Haringey

At Mind in Haringey, we are proud to be a partner in the Haringey Community Collaborative. This partnership represents a powerful commitment to working together across the voluntary and community sector to address the deep-rooted inequalities and growing mental health challenges facing our communities.

Over the past year, we've seen how co-production, shared learning, and genuine collaboration can help us focus on what matters most – reaching those who are too often left unheard, unseen or unsupported.

We have welcomed the focus on capacity building, equity, and neighbourhood-level solutions, and have seen first-hand the value of bringing in new voices and perspectives to shape priorities that truly reflect our borough.



We recognise the pressure many organisations are under, and we stand in solidarity with the voluntary sector in Haringey as we navigate rising demand, limited funding, and a changing health and care landscape.

Through our collaboration with Public Voice and others, we are committed to amplifying the sector's voice, advocating for mental health as a core part of community wellbeing, and ensuring that residents – especially those facing the greatest adversity – are supported, empowered, and included.

As we look ahead to Haringey's year as London Borough of Culture in 2027 and the NHS's shift towards more community-based care, Mind in Haringey will continue to champion the critical role of the voluntary sector in shaping a healthier, fairer, and more connected borough.

We thank the voluntary and community sector of Haringey for their vital work and look forward to continuing this work, together in 2025/26 and beyond.

2. Strategic partner for the VCS

Haringey Community Collaborative are Haringey Council's Strategic Partner for the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). We represent the diverse voices of the sector at strategic meetings and forums to advocate for the needs of the sector and ensure VCS participation in decision making.

Representing the VCS at various meetings and forums

- London Plus CVS Network
- Safeguarding Children Partnership (and various sub-groups)
- Safeguarding Adults Partnership (and various sub-groups)
- Safeguarding Adults and Children Joint Board
- Haringey Borough Partnership
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Population Health and Health Inequalities Committee
- NCL VCSE Alliance
- NCL ICB Quality and Safety Committee
- Family Hub Partnership Board
- Neighbourhood Delivery Board
- Neighbourhoods and Health Inequalities Board

Council buildings and social value

Working with the Haringey Community Centres Network and Haringey Council, we have been part of conversations to develop a new framework for assessing social value contributions of

organisations using council assets/buildings. We advised on and supported wider engagement across the VCS to agree fair and practical social value measures to be used by organisations wanting to use a council building, with social value contributing to rent subsidies. We now plan to support the piloting of the new social value framework with existing community centres

Safeguarding

Representing the VCS as part of both adults and children's safeguarding partnerships, we have been working with partners in social care, health, policing, education and beyond to raise awareness of local safeguarding issues. We are working on tailored learning and training to support Haringey grassroots organisations and strengthen safeguarding in the borough

Valuing the voluntary sector

Across the Haringey Borough Partnership, North Central London VCSE Alliance, and in conversations with others such as funders and the Ministry of Housing, Communities, and Local Government, we have been seeking to underline the importance of Haringey's VCS in supporting wellbeing and community resilience. This includes seeking to define the VCS's role in the future of 'Neighbourhoods' working for the NHS; as well as pushing for simpler, longer term strategic funding for local VCS projects.

3. About us

Who we are

The Haringey Community Collaborative, established in May 2024 and commissioned by Haringey Council, aims to provide strategic leadership and capacity building for the VCS. The Collaborative is managed by Public Voice, a Community Interest Company (CIC) based in Haringey, in partnership with Mind in Haringey.

Our purpose

We provide comprehensive support to the VCS in Haringey, particularly grassroots organisations and under-served groups, to strengthen governance, grow fundraising channels, build capacity, and increase impact.

We help VCS groups and organisations to:

- Find funding opportunities and get support to develop funding applications.
- Find the information needed to develop essential documents and processes, including governance.
- Get set up or started on a new project.
- Start, grow or manage community groups or organisations.
- Connect with others in the community through events and networking.
- Recruit volunteers.



Pictured from left to right: Andy Donald - Chief Executive / Haringey Council, Cllr Ajda Ovat - Haringey Cabinet Member for Communities, Cllr Peray Ahmet - Leader of Haringey Council, Dan Rogers - CEO Public Voice, Deborah King - Mind in Haringey, Councillor Sue Jameson - Former Mayor of Haringey, Lynette Charles - CEO / Mind in Haringey.

Our team

Haringey Community Collaborative Team:

- Beth Kay, Haringey Community Collaborative Manager
- Gerardine Garvey, NavNet+ Development Manager
- Juliet Chard, VCS Capacity Building Lead
- Orsolya (Orshi) Szeverics, Communications and Engagement Officer
- Mary Blake, Volunteer Coordinator

Haringey Community Collaborative senior leadership team:

- Dan Rogers, CEO, Public Voice
- Lynette Charles, CEO, Mind in Haringey
- Deborah King, Head of Business Development, Mind in Haringey



Pictured from left to right: Juliet, Orshi, Beth, Mary, Gerardine.

4. What we do

Overview

- Weekly VCS e-newsletter
- NavNet+ WhatsApp group
- Strengthen community networks
- One-to-one VCS support and enquiries
- Haringey Volunteer Centre
- Showcase events
- Monthly VCS Forums
- Grant funding programmes (VCS Challenge Fund)
- Capacity building - training sessions and workshops

VCS Challenge Funds

Haringey VCS Challenge Funds provide grant funding that Haringey groups and organisations can apply for. Each VCS Challenge Fund round will focus on a particular theme or issue identified in the VCS Priorities Report 2024/25.

Guidance is provided for each VCS Challenge Fund to ensure that applicants are able address the kinds of interventions and/or outcomes the community hopes to see. Successful grant awardees are selected by a community panel of local residents, experts, and stakeholders.

Grant awardees have six months to deliver their projects, ending with a showcase event to publicise the impact of their projects to local stakeholders and funders. Alongside project delivery, grant awardees

will receive tailored capacity building support from Haringey Community Collaborative.



VCS Challenge Fund

The initial phase of the Haringey Community Collaborative VCS Challenge Fund involved a co-design process in Summer 2024, where more than 70 VCS organisations were engaged to identify the main priorities of need in the borough. Through this co-production process, the Collaborative identified the rising 'Cost of Living' as the most critical issue within Haringey. This was the theme for the first round of the Challenge Fund.

One-to-one capacity building

Haringey Community Collaborative provides tailored support to VCS organisations in Haringey, helping them grow, connect, and thrive. We offer personalised guidance across a range of needs, including funding advice and application feedback, project development support, and volunteer recruitment. We assist with community engagement, partnership working, policy development, and organisational sustainability. Additionally, we promote local events and services, and respond flexibly to urgent challenges such as premises issues. Our service supports a diverse mix of groups – from community centres, to arts collectives, to refugee networks – ensuring grassroots initiatives in Haringey have the tools and connections they need to succeed.

Learning and development: group capacity building training

We offer group capacity building to VCS staff and volunteers of through a mix of online and in-person training opportunities. Training priorities have been co-production with over 70 local organisations, the programme addresses eight priority areas: training and development, collaboration and partnerships, bid writing and fundraising, volunteer engagement, technology and data, knowledge sharing, policy and procedures, and community engagement. Our training offer helps build stronger, more resilient community organisations across Haringey.

We deliver bite-sized 'Lunch and Learn' sessions and in-depth specialist workshops, featuring expert facilitators and tailored content. Recent training has focused on knowledge and skills for supporting Haringey residents, for example safeguarding and PIPOt guidance, mental health awareness, children's protection insights from NSPCC, domestic abuse awareness, and LGBTQ+ suicide prevention. We've also hosted training focused on VCS organisational development, including Excel for budgeting, Theory of Change, and fundraising strategy.



Community of practice (NavNet+)

NavNet+ (Navigation Network Plus) is an online platform for Haringey's VCS to share information, knowledge and news, develop collaboration and partnership working, highlight best practice through shared guidance, and to ensure that workstreams, projects and resident services are not duplicated.

We are expanding our NavNet+ community through outreach, NavNet+ networking events, newsletter, and our VCS steering groups are continually shaping the direction of our NavNet+ offer.

Networks, community engagement, and outreach

Haringey Community Collaborative is here to support all existing community networks based in the borough. This year, we've worked closely with networks such as the Haringey Community Food Network, the Haringey Community Centres Network, and the Turkish and Kurdish Network to help strengthen their activities and connections.

We also help bring people together to form new community-led networks. Through our facilitation and support, groups like the LGBTQ+ Network, the Haringey Community Research Network, and a local Heritage Trust are being created to meet shared goals and local needs.

Our outreach work focuses on engaging with new and diverse communities across Haringey. We regularly attend events and activities hosted by VCS groups, to build relationships and ensure our support is accessible and inclusive.

Communication is key to what we do. We create ways for the VCS to connect online and at in-person events. Our social media and weekly newsletters help the VCS connect, collaborate, and stay informed. We share volunteer and job opportunities, highlight local events, showcase inspiring community work, and share updates from public sector partners. Feedback from the sector is essential – it helps shape our work and holds us accountable to provide a service that truly meets local needs.



5. Our impact

A Funding highlights

£79,230

Funding directly awarded to grassroots VCS organisations

- **£19,912** – VCS Challenge Fund (Cost of Living Round)
- **£59,318** – Accelerate Fund (Haringey Family Hubs)

Funding across Haringey's VCS*

117

Grants awarded to Haringey-based VCS organisations

95

Haringey-based VCS organisations received funding

28

Funders awarded funding to Haringey-based VCS organisations

£6,316,346

Grant funding received by Haringey-based VCS organisations

Funding organisations most popular in Haringey*

- ▶ Sport England **22 grants**
- ▶ The National Lottery Community Fund **12 grants**
- ▶ Greater London Authority **12 grants**
- ▶ City Bridge Foundation **9 grants**
- ▶ Woodward Charitable Trust **8 grants**

*Source: 360Giving GrantNav, May 2024 - April 2025.

B Capacity building highlights

246

Capacity building enquiries from Haringey-based Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations, supported with one-to-one capacity building.



Funding

Fundraising strategy, finding and applying for grants, bid writing support, supporting groups to form partnership and consortium bids



Collaboration and community engagement

Connecting groups and stakeholders to form partnerships, building relationships with stakeholders, service outreach, supporting national charities to deliver in Haringey, providing a platform for organisations to speak about their work at forums



Organisational development and project support

Supporting groups and organisations with governance, CIC application forms, finding new premises to deliver activities, developing safeguarding policies and procedures, tailored advice to help design project plans for funding opportunities, developing organisational business plans, vision and values statements, and theory of change frameworks



Volunteering

Processing DBS checks for volunteers of emerging VCS organisations, tailored advice to help groups to develop their volunteering roles, sharing volunteer role description templates, promoting volunteer opportunities through our networks



Publicity and advertisement

Increasing awareness of local community campaigns, publicising community activities and services through Haringey Community Collaborative communications and socials, featuring community groups in our NavNet+ and Collaborative newsletters, providing guest speaker slots at our events

B Capacity building highlights

Haringey Community Collaborative – Events, training, forums

515

Attendees at Haringey Community Collaborative forums, events, and training.

Capacity building training sessions

Co-production is at the heart of the Haringey Community Collaborative's strategy. This approach involved working collaboratively with more than 70 VCS organisations and other stakeholders to identify and prioritise key areas of capacity building support needs.

This year, we have delivered a programme of capacity building training sessions, via online 'lunch and learn' (bitesize learning and information sessions, focusing on our priority areas, delivered by experts) and in person group workshops and training sessions to address eight capacity building priority areas:

- Training and development
- Collaborative and partnerships
- Bid writing and fundraising
- Volunteer engagement
- Technology and data
- Knowledge sharing
- Policy and procedures
- Community engagement



B Capacity building highlights

Capacity building training sessions – Lunch and learns

48

Attendees across five ‘lunch and learn’ capacity building sessions

- **Lunch and Learn: North London Community Workshops**

Our friends at North London Waste Authority (NLWA) delivered an overview of their VCS workshops, with an invitation for Haringey-based VCS organisations to attend training around finance and fundraising; monitoring and evaluation; organisational strategy; equality, diversity and inclusion; GDPR, and more.

- **Lunch and Learn: Haringey Adult Safeguarding Board and PIPOT Guidance**

Delivered by Haringey Council’s Safeguarding team, this essential training session was designed to inform VCS staff and volunteers who work or come into contact with children and people in need of care and support. The session explained how to be compliant with the ‘Person in Position of Trust’ (PIPOT) guidance issued by Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board.

- **Lunch and Learn: Young Peoples Mental Health and Wellbeing (delivered by Kooth)**

Kooth is an anonymous site which helps children and young people to feel safe and confident in exploring their concerns and seeking professional support around their mental health and

wellbeing. Learning outcomes included increased understanding of how to support and encourage young people to use Kooth, and the pressures that are impacting mental health of young people in Haringey. The session concluded with discussions around what VCS organisations can do to support young people towards positive mental health and wellbeing.

- **Lunch and Learn: with NSPCC**

NSPCC (National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children) are the UK’s leading children’s charity. NSPCC representatives gave an overview of NSPCC services, best practice, and ways for Haringey-based children and youth organisation to get involved.

- **Lunch and Learn: Loneliness Awareness**

The Haringey Reach and Connect team (support for over 50s in Haringey) gave an introduction, overview, and case studies of the Loneliness Awareness Week campaign.

B Capacity building highlights

Capacity building training sessions – Specialist training and workshops

100

Attendees across 10 capacity building training sessions

- Fundraising and Bid Writing Training (Wood Green Library)
- An Introduction to Microsoft Excel (guest training by Superhighways).
- Microsoft Excel for Budgeting (guest training by Superhighways)
- Domestic Abuse Awareness Training (guest training by Tender: Healthy Relationships).
- Theory of Change Workshop X2 (VCS Challenge Fund cohort 1 and Accelerate Fund cohort 1).
- LGBTQ+ Suicide Awareness (guest training by Mind Islington and Outcome).
- Haringey Community Research Network - Introductory Meeting
- Business Planning workshop (guest training from Worshipful Company of Management Consultants).
- Responding to the riots: supporting communities to react and stay safe (guest training by Connect Futures).



© Networking and development highlights

Sector-wide events

- **Launch Event**, May 2024
- **Meet the Funder Event**, November 2024
- **Community Showcase and Awards**, December 2024

NavNet+ outcomes

222

New members joined our NavNet+ community (via our WhatsApp group or receiving our NavNet+ Newsletter), **totalling 442 members.**

Volunteering outcomes

130

Volunteering opportunities advertised across 49 Haringey Community Collaborative weekly newsletters

- Local volunteers recruited from young to old, through pop-up volunteer recruitment stalls at the Tottenham Capital City College Fair, the Haringey Age Well Festival, the YMCA, and Haringey's Libraries.



Voluntary and Community Sector Forums

11

Monthly Voluntary and Community Sector Forums and their themes, topics, locations:

- May 2024 – **Volunteering** (Mind in Haringey)
- June 2024 – **Co-designing Future Forums** (Mind in Haringey)
- July 2024 – **Fundraising and Bid Writing** (Online)
- August 2024 – **Social Value Leases Workshop** (The Engine Room, Tottenham)
- September 2024 – **Loneliness and Isolation** (Mind in Haringey)
- October 2024 – **Creating Partnerships** (Northumberland Park Resource Centre)
- November 2024 – **Health Inequalities** (Online)
- January 2025 – **Housing** (Online)
- February 2025 – **Advice: Benefits, Immigration, Housing** (Mind in Haringey)
- March 2025 – **Safeguarding** (Online)
- April 2025 – **Mental Health and Wellbeing** (Mind in Haringey)

In June 2024, we co-designed our monthly VCS Forum schedule with VCS staff and volunteers, ranking themes of high to low priority. This year's VCS Forums have also addressed many of the key themes identified in Our Priorities 24/25 Report. The VCS Forums provide space to learn new skills, share best practice, hear from sector experts and stakeholders, disseminate key information, build peer-networks, and inspire each other.



Continuously co-producing our service with the VCS

Sector feedback has helped us adapt and improve all aspects of our service. The sector asked for VCS Forums to be held on various days of the week (to accommodate part-time staff and volunteers schedules), different times of day (and avoiding school drop-off and pick-up times), and different accessible locations across the borough (from Tottenham to Stroud Green).

VCS representatives have shared their feedback, including aspects they like about VCS Forums:



I like the fact that there is a cross section of organisations present at the voluntary sector forum, especially at the online session on Funding. Was good to have knowledgeable appropriate speakers as well as to hear from grassroots organisations who spoke about their experience of using the new funding tools.”

Attendee at July VCS Forum – Fundraising and Bid Writing



The presentations were extremely informative. I have already started to circulate the information.”

Attendee at March VCS Forum – Safeguarding

VCS Forum attendees have also provided guidance and suggestion of how we could improve our forums:

“It would have been interesting to have had more discussion about the topics presented.”

“Offer more online meetings.”

“More publicity for the fact-to-face sessions, with information sent out a month in advance.”

“Allow more time for networking”.

“More information on how to recruit and manage volunteers effectively. Information on the value of upskilling grassroots organisations with digital skills and how to market themselves on a budget but using creative and innovative methods.”

“It’s been good to have a fresh approach to supporting the voluntary sector, as an organisation you are showing that you care. However, I feel you need to reach more of the grassroots organisations who are supporting the community in its most deprived areas plus need to engage with more faith organisations and groups who are often quite proud in asking for help to sustain community activities such as foodbanks, soup kitchens and luncheon clubs etc.”

6. Our co-produced priorities

Why we co-produce

Since May 2024, Haringey Community Collaborative has taken a co-production approach to agreeing its strategic priorities and the focus of its capacity building efforts. This approach involves working collaboratively with more than 70 VCS organisations and other stakeholders to identify and prioritise key areas of need. The Collaborative's commitment to co-production ensures that the voices of the community and VCS organisations are central to decision-making processes, leading to more effective and relevant outcomes.

Co-production process

When the Collaborative was launched in May 2024, the initial phase involved a comprehensive co-design process to identify and prioritise key areas of need. This process included several stages:

Literature Review and Research: The Collaborative began by conducting extensive research to understand the existing issues and challenges in Haringey. This included analysing strategies, visions, and action plans relevant to the borough, as well as consulting with local experts.

Survey and Feedback: A survey was distributed to VCS organisations to gather initial views and rankings of priorities. Over 50 organisations participated, highlighting the most pressing issues facing the community.

Workshops and Interviews: Through workshops and interviews with strategic leaders from the VCS, statutory sector, and subject matter experts, the Collaborative identified the strengths of the VCS and the key challenges that needed to be addressed.

Defining Priorities: Based on the insights gathered, the Collaborative facilitated workshops to decide on the priority themes. This stage involved in-depth discussions to ensure that the identified priorities were aligned with the needs of the community.

Our Priorities 2024-2025

Read the full report here: [Our Priorities 2024-2024](#)

Three priority themes:

- Cost of living
- Mental health and wellbeing
- Community safety

Capacity building priorities:

- Bid writing
- Collaborative and partnership working
- Knowledge sharing
- Governance
- Volunteer engagement
- Technology and systems



7. Our Year in Highlights

- 1 Cross-sector collaborative, lived experience, and capacity building. Supporting grassroots organisations and young care leavers in Haringey.
- 2 Accelerate Fund: £59,318 invested in grassroots groups to strengthen Haringey's Family Hubs.
- 3 Tackling the cost of living crisis in Haringey.
- 4 Improving the tech and IT skills in the VCS.
- 5 Celebrating Haringey's Voluntary Sector: Community Showcase and Awards 2024.



1 Cross-sector collaborative, lived experience, and capacity building – Supporting grassroots organisations and young care leavers in Haringey

In February 2025, Haringey Community Collaborative was approached by Haringey Council’s care leavers team, to share their insights into challenges faced by young care leavers as they transition into independent living. Challenges include the high financial costs of moving, challenges with DIY and sourcing affordable furniture, and difficulty finding suitable employment opportunities, creating barriers for young care leavers. For many young care leavers, on a limited budget and limited practical support, this puts pressure on mental wellbeing and leads to debt and rent arrears.

Mental health and wellbeing support is one of our key priorities co-produced with the VCS (see ‘Our Priorities 2024-2025’ report).

Supporting young people in Haringey to fulfil their potential is important to the VCS. As a result, Haringey Community Collaborative saw this as an opportunity to collaborate with the local authority to develop a funding bid, led by a local VCS group, for the London Councils Pan-London Grants Programme. This pan-London funder prioritises young care leavers at risk of homelessness as a core beneficiary group.

Through our relationships with grassroots VCS organisations, Haringey Community Collaborative were able to identify and initiate a collaboration with ‘You vs You Foundation’, a Haringey-based Community Interest Company founded by Ahmed Mohammed,



that supports young people, including care leavers and unaccompanied migrants.

Ahmed’s skills and experience were the perfect fit for the project. As a care experienced young person, Ahmed had been supported by the Haringey Council care leavers team in his youth, providing a personal understanding and lived experience of the issues presented. Over a six-week period, Haringey Community Collaborative facilitated several online and in-person sessions with Ahmed and the Haringey Council team members Angela and Siobhan to develop and hone the application for the London Councils grant. The project, if successful, will incorporate practical DIY support, removal costs and mentoring for care leavers from Haringey, Barnet and Enfield from 2026-2030.

An enormous amount of effort and time was put in by Ahmed and we remain hopeful for the outcome of this bid.

2 Accelerate Fund: £59,318 invested in grassroots groups to strengthen Haringey's Family Hubs

- Nine grassroots community organisations funded.
- Partnership with Haringey Family Hubs.
- £59,318 invested in local solutions.
- Funding provided to organisations with annual turnover under £250k.
- Six month projects underway in the community and across four Family Hub locations.
- Tailored capacity building support for each grant awardee.

The Family Hubs Accelerate Fund

Haringey Community Collaborative, with funding from Haringey Family Hubs (Department for Education), launched the Accelerate Fund. This opportunity is for Haringey-based grassroots VCS groups working to support local families. Through this initiative, we awarded £59,318 in grants – ranging from £4,000 to £10,000 – to nine local organisations with an annual turnover under £250,000. The aim is to achieve positive family outcomes through six-month projects led by VCS organisations, enhancing the Haringey's Family Hubs offer.

Through our VCS Challenge Fund model, successful grant awardees were selected by a community panel of local residents, experts, and stakeholders in January 2025, based on the potential impact of their proposals. Delivery is now at the halfway point, with final outcomes to be shared at a showcase event in autumn 2025, bringing together stakeholders and funders to witness the impact of the projects.



Capacity building support

The Accelerate Fund goes beyond funding. Each group is receiving tailored capacity building support to help strengthen their delivery and sustainability. This has included:

- Theory of Change workshops to clarify outcomes and refine project plans.
- Children's safeguarding training.
- Workshops on youth mental health and wellbeing.
- Ongoing one-to-one support to address delivery challenges.

Organisations are strengthening their relationships with the Haringey Family Hubs team and aligning their work with the wider Family Hubs offer across Haringey – Triangle Centre, Muswell Hill, Northumberland Park, and Rising Green. Some projects are delivered at these hubs, while others take place in community spaces or local venues, including outdoor spaces like Finsbury Park and New River Leisure Centre.

Meet the nine Accelerate Fund grant awardees and their projects

- **Dadventurers:** Engaging fathers and their children in group walks, events, and bonding sessions. Peer-support builds confidence in parenting, supported by resource packs on emotional wellbeing.
- **Paths Through Change:** ‘A Place For Us’ provides play sessions for children and parents who live apart, fostering positive family connections through interactive activities. Delivered at Muswell Hill and Eric Allin Family Hubs.
- **Bozca-der:** Hosting drop-in sessions for Haringey’s Turkish/ Kurdish community, with workshops on parenting, wellbeing, crime prevention, and navigating education.
- **Manhood Academy Global:** ‘My Life Matters’ is a school and community campaign empowering 11 to 16 year olds through leadership workshops and mental health education. Also providing parenting sessions and family toolkits at Rising Green Hub.
- **Community Development Association for Minority Communities (CDAMC):** Supporting children with learning difficulties through online, interactive English and Maths education sessions.
- **Achieved Dreams:** Hosting before-school breakfast clubs for Jewish families alongside health and budgeting workshops. The project also includes Thursday wellbeing sessions at Triangle Hub focused on employment, healthy eating, and digital inclusion.
- **Polish Eastern European Communities (PEEC) Family Centre:** Weekly under-5s playgroups supporting language, culture, and early development. Monthly sessions provide access to specialists including SEND professionals and dieticians.
- **Black Arts Production Theatre:** Empowering youth aged 8–16 through creative arts workshops leading to LAMDA (London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art) accreditation. The programme includes written workshops, creative activity workshops, and exam days, guided by experienced tutors.
- **Pedal Power:** Cycling ‘rain or shine’ sessions are for children and adults of all ages with SEND. Hosted in Finsbury Park Athletics Track on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays and New River on Fridays.

As these projects progress, they are already demonstrating the power of local, community-led approaches to support families. Through adequate funding and capacity building support, local grassroots organisations can create a big impact. The autumn showcase will celebrate their achievements – and pave the way for future collaborations across Haringey’s Family Hubs.



It’s been amazing to see how our Theory of Change is really coming to life through this project. We’ve actually started implementing it in some of our other projects too, and the impact has been incredibly positive.”

Accelerate Fund awardee

3 Tackling the cost of living crisis in Haringey

The rising cost of living was identified as one of the most urgent challenges facing Haringey's communities (see Our Priorities 2024-2025 Report). From food insecurity to fuel poverty and unstable housing, residents are navigating increasingly complex pressures. Haringey Community Collaborative is responding by providing grassroots funding, sharing useful information and resources with sector, and offering training to support organisations financial sustainability.

£19,912 invested in grassroots organisations via the VCS Challenge Fund (round 1 - cost of living).

Through the first round of our VCS Challenge Fund, we provided small grants totalling £19,912 to eight local VCS organisations to deliver targeted initiatives to address cost of living pressures. This co-produced fund was built around three key priority areas identified by the community:

- **Basic Needs:** Addressing challenges related to the affordability of necessities such as clothing, hygiene products, food security, fuel poverty, and access to affordable housing.
- **Community and Support Services:** Enhancing social inclusion through the provision of social spaces, improved networking opportunities, digital skills training, accessible advocacy, and a comprehensive one-stop-shop for support.
- **Financial Stability:** Supporting employability and entrepreneurship by providing upskilling opportunities, job application training, and guidance for starting businesses.

Each funded project – from Bounds Green Food Bank to TLC's digital skills workshops in Northumberland Park – offer practical support where it's needed most. Importantly, this seed funding helped small organisations test ideas and create meaningful impact in Haringey's diverse communities.

Sector-wide information and resources

Our monthly VCS Forums and our NavNet+ community are designed to foster collaboration and learning around the themes that matter most to the sector. This year, some of our VCS Forums have addressed systemic issues tied to the cost of living.

- In January 2025, our forum focused on Housing and Homelessness, featuring campaigns on housing disrepair, winter homelessness support, and local housing strategies.
- In February 2025, the focus was Advice, Immigration, Benefits, and Food Insecurity, with input from Citizens Advice Haringey, Gospel Centre Food Bank, and HoPEC Digital Services. These sessions support the VCS to connect people to the right resources, quickly and effectively.
- Members of our NavNet+ community of practice continually share information and resources about local support for residents most impacted by the rising cost of living.

The rising costs of living impacts VCS organisations to

We understand that cost of living impacts not just residents, but also the VCS organisations supporting them. That's why our capacity building offer includes training around financial sustainability.

This year, we delivered training and workshops about Funding and Bid Writing and Excel for budgeting, financial planning, and reporting (delivered by Superhighways). These skills are essential for VCS organisation to survive economic pressures and meet funder requirements.

Our Commitment

Through our VCS Challenge Funds, our information and resource sharing, and our tailored training for the sector, Haringey Community Collaborative is taking a holistic approach to address the cost of living crisis. In July, we begin our process of reviewing and co-producing Our Priorities for 2025-2026, starting with a Cabinet in the Community Forum: VCS Strategy and Priorities.



4 Improving the tech and IT skills in the VCS

At Haringey Community Collaborative we co-produced our priorities together with local organisations and community members. One of the key areas that emerged from this collaborative process was the need for better digital support and inclusion within the sector.

Many local groups told us they needed help to build their confidence and skills in using technology, especially after the pandemic highlighted how essential it is for outreach, service delivery and organisational resilience.

What we did

- **VCS Forum on Digital Inclusion:** We organised a monthly VCS Forum focused on digital inclusion, where local organisations came together to share challenges and ideas for improving access to digital tools and skills. Speakers and representatives were Haringey Council, Tender Loving Care, Atypify.
- **Practical Training:** In October 2024, we partnered with Superhighways to deliver a series of online Lunch and Learn sessions for grassroots organisations, including an introduction to Excel, a follow-up on Excel for budgeting, and a planned session on website development later this year. We also organised a Business Development Workshop with Nick Bush, which showed how having a clear plan helps VCS organisations coordinate their work and secure stakeholder support. Building on this, we are now working with Developwise to promote their services across Haringey and to deliver video editing training, supporting groups to create stronger digital content for social media, websites and funding bids.



- **Ongoing Capacity Building:** We continue to connect organisations with digital resources, training opportunities and peer learning so that groups feel more confident using technology to engage their communities and strengthen their work. Team members offered ad hoc advice and guidance around Mailchimp and social media, in addition to supporting Challenge Fund awardees with the creation of digital leaflets, and highlighting their projects in the Haringey Community News.

Impact

Local organisations have reported feeling more equipped to produce digital content, run online events and use tech to reach residents who might otherwise be excluded. This work remains a priority for us, and we will keep co-designing solutions with the sector to tackle the digital divide in Haringey.

5 Celebrating Haringey's voluntary sector: Community Showcase and Awards 2024

- Held at Tottenham Town Hall.
- 250 attendees.
- 50 voluntary and community sector stalls.
- 60+ award nominations.
- Nine award winners, eight highly commended.

In December 2024, Haringey Community Collaborative hosted our first Community Showcase and Awards Ceremony, bringing together over 50 local organisations to celebrate the incredible work of Haringey's VCS.

Residents explored stalls and networked with local organisation to find out about the diverse range of services available from the local VCS, including services and activities focused on food security, employment support, climate action and youth empowerment.

Spotlight on local impact of our 2024 award winners

- **Outstanding Organisation of the Year:** The Daughters United, for their transformative work with women and young people.
- **Hero Team/Volunteer of the Year:** Wheely Tots – Moselle Community Project and Foodbank Volunteers, recognised for their support of Broadwater Farm residents.
- **Inclusion and Equalities:** Haringey Shed took the Inclusion and Equalities award for their Summer Theatre project, involving 30 young people (20 with special educational needs and disabilities). Oldalone UK were highly commended for their digital inclusion initiative for empowering older people from Haringey's Latin American community.



- **Community Safety:** Ark Resettlement Services took the Community Safety award for their person-centred, strength-based approach to supporting people affected by the criminal justice system. Thru Life were highly commended for their Mental Health & Bereavement initiative, supporting at-risk young people in Haringey.

Awards were presented by Mayor of Haringey, Cllr Sue Jameson, with Cllr Ajda Ovat in attendance to congratulate nominees and winners. The Showcase also marked the announcement of successful applicants to the VCS Challenge Fund Round 1, providing crucial funding to grassroots groups addressing the cost of living crisis.

8. Year ahead

Updating our priorities through co-production

Our July VCS Forum, co-delivered by Haringey Council, is a Cabinet in the Community event to develop our VCS priorities and strategy. This will be followed by surveys, interviews, and workshops with local organisations to co-produce our priorities for the year ahead.

VCS Challenge Fund Showcase Event – Round 1 Cost of Living

Taking place at The Trampery in Tottenham, at this Showcase event, the Challenge Fund cohort will present the impact and outcomes of their projects and share their learning. There will be an opportunity for Q&A and networking with VCS stakeholders. Our Accelerate Fund cohort will have their own showcase event in the autumn.

Volunteer Fair

Building on our pop-up volunteers centres at Haringey Libraries and Leisure Centres, our Volunteer Fair will be an opportunity for local Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs) to recruit new volunteers.

Haringey Community Showcase and Awards 2025

In December, our annual showcase and awards is an opportunity to celebrate our incredible community organisations and the amazing work they do to support residents in Haringey. We will have stalls from local VCS organisations giving residents a unique opportunity



to connect with and meet local groups and services. Winners of the 2025 Community Showcase Awards will be celebrated for their excellent work and impact in Haringey's VCS across nine categories, including Green and Sustainability, Inclusion and Equalities, Community Safety, and more.

Capacity building training programme continues

Led by our VCS Capacity Building Lead, our co-designed programme of capacity building training continues. Our upcoming training sessions include: An introduction to Safeguarding; Bid Writing and Funding; Meet the Funder: National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund; Website development with Superhighways; Support and Advice from London Sport.

Growing our NavNet+ community

Now with 442 members, our NavNet+ community continues to grow. The NavNet+ steering development group continue to develop the platform for members. We target our outreach to build relationships with minoritised and underserved groups, including a diverse range of ethnic and faith-based communities to reflect Haringey's people.




Haringey Community Collaborative is delivered by Public Voice in partnership with Mind in Haringey to ensure that the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) in Haringey is stronger, able to attract more funding and deliver better services.



The Community Collaborative works with and is funded by Haringey Council and the local NHS as the official 'Capacity Building Partner' for the VCS in Haringey.

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