

Survey responses

VCS organisations

Of the 86 respondents to the VCS organisations survey:

Q1

87% strongly oppose or do not support the decision to reduce funding to the voluntary sector by £550,000 in the next financial year.

3.5% were willing to consider

7% support or strongly support

Q2

70% strongly oppose or do not support prioritising funding to the delivery of statutory services

12.8% were willing to consider

10% support or strongly support

Q3

81% strongly oppose or do not support reducing the discretionary grants by £270,000.

8% were willing to consider

9% support or strongly support

Q4

56% strongly oppose or do not support reducing only the OBG element of the budget and running a small grants programme

12.8% were willing to consider

28% support or strongly support

Q5

76% strongly oppose or do not support reducing the total grants budget by £270,000 , not running a small grants programme and allocating the remaining budget to OBG funded projects

11.6% are willing to consider

9% support or strongly support

Q6

79% strongly oppose or do not support reducing the budget by £270,000, not running a small grants programme and allocating funding for six months to OBG funded projects at their current level

12.8% were willing to consider

3.5% support or strongly support

Q7

46 of the survey respondents had not used the services of Harrow Community Action (HCA)

15 had used the services of HCA

28 did not provide a response to the question

Some of the reasons given for not having used the services were;

- not aware of the service
- no need for the service
- no outreach to groups

Q8

27% strongly oppose or do not support reducing the funding to HCA at the same level as other OBG funded services
21% willing to consider
36% support or strongly support

Q9

83% strongly oppose or do not support a reduction of £280,000 to the Adult social services budget
10.5% were willing to consider
3% support or strongly support

Q10

24% strongly oppose or do not support combining the delivery of all services funded by Adult social services in to a single agreement
39.5% were willing to consider
31% support or strongly support

Q11

57% felt that there should be some aspects of council funding that should be protected
37% felt that there should not be aspects of council funding protected

Suggestions for services that should be protected included services for the vulnerable, CAB, advice services, carers services, mental health services etc.

Q12

26 organisations feel that there is some overlap of services delivering the same or similar services
23 organisations feel there is none or are not aware of any overlap
37 organisations provided some other comment or did not comment

Q13

29% strongly oppose or do not support the suggestion that with some short-term investment in the voluntary sector if could rely less on Council funding in the future
37% were willing to consider
22% support or strongly support

Some of the suggestions provided by respondents were;

- private investment to support local projects
- advice from a business manager
- help to buy properties

Q14

Some of the suggestions for what other type of support could be provided were;
- facilitating co-ordination and collaboration

- more volunteers
- help with accommodation including meeting and activity space

Q15

20 organisations responded to the question about whether or not they were aware of any other budget proposals from Harrow that may impact on their ability to deliver services of these;

- 8 organisations were not aware of any other budget proposals
- 9 organisations were aware of other budget proposals
- 3 provided some other comment

Q16

13 organisations responded to the question about whether or not they aware of any budget proposals from other organisations that may impact on their ability to deliver current services of these;

1 organisation gave a specific example of other budget proposals that may impact on their ability to deliver services.

Q17

Suggestions for how the Council can work with VCS organisations to assess the potential impact on service users included;

- each service to be reviewed to look at the impact on individuals
- work with HCA ensuring it is inclusive of all groups
- Undertake needs analysis
- understand what groups provide

Q18

- 19% oppose or do not support ceasing funding to community festivals
- 44% were willing to consider
- 25% support or strongly support

Suggestions for alternatives for delivering these festivals include;

- seek sponsorship
- fundraising, voluntary help and donations

Organisations that responded to the survey identified that they were serving the following protected characteristics:

Survey respondents

Age	12.59%
Disability	15.93%
Gender Reassignment	7.41%
Marriage / Civil Partnership	7.78%
Pregnancy and Maternity	6.67%
Race	10.74%

Religion and Belief	9.26%
Sex / Gender	8.89%
Sexual Orientation	7.04%
No Response	13.70%

8% received funding from Adults
4.6% received funding from Children and Families
10.5% received funding from Community and Culture
2% received funding from Public Health
2% received funding from Resources

Service Users

The results of the consultation show of the 196 respondents to the service user survey:

Q5

78% strongly oppose or do not support the decision to reduce funding to the voluntary sector by £550,000 in the next financial year 2015/16.
12.7% were willing to consider
5% support or strongly support

Q6

82% felt there should be some services protected from cuts
16% felt that there should not be any services protected from cuts

The types of services that users felt should be protected were Age UK, CAB, services for elderly people, services for youth, vulnerable people and carers.

Q7

13% were aware of voluntary organisations delivering the same or similar services
79% were not aware of voluntary organisations delivering the same or similar services

Suggestions for how these could be delivered more efficiently included;
Understanding services offered and which are used; by identifying need; more joined up support; give space for groups to come together

Q8

40% strongly disagree or disagree with the idea of combining Adult services and inviting applications from either a single or group of organisations working together to deliver these
26.5% were willing to consider
22% agree or strongly agree

Q9

Suggestions for other way of helping voluntary organisations include;

Increase membership; organisations raise funds themselves; offering accommodation, advertising, promoting volunteering; provide expert fundraisers; pool support services, share volunteers; encourage more volunteering

Q10

36% strongly oppose or do not support stopping funding to community groups to organise festivals

26.5% are willing to consider

29% support or strongly support

Suggestions for how these could be delivered;

Celebrations without funding; business sponsorship; donations; communities to organise them themselves; involve schools; use volunteers;

Service User survey respondents:

Age

Under 16	0.00%
16-24 years	4.59%
25-44 years	30.61%
45-64 years	30.61%
65 years & over	24.49%

Disability

No	40.54%
Yes, affecting mobility	18.47%
Yes, affecting hearing	4.95%
Yes, affecting vision	3.60%
Yes, a learning disability	5.86%
Yes, mental ill-health	9.46%
Yes, another form of disability	5.41%
[No Response]	11.71%

Marriage

Yes	55.10%
No	33.16%
[No Response]	11.73%

Civil partnership

Yes	2.04%
No	43.37%
[No Response]	54.59%

Pregnancy / Maternity

Yes	2.55%
No	72.96%
[No Response]	24.49%

Ethnic Origin	
Asian or Asian British	30.61%
Black or Black British	11.22%
Mixed ethnic background	2.04%
Other ethnic Background	3.57%
White or White British	34.18%
[No Response]	18.37%
Religion and Belief	
Buddhism	1.53%
Christianity (all denominations)	37.24%
Hinduism	16.33%
Islam	13.27%
Jainism	1.02%
Judaism	1.53%
Sikh	0.51%
Zoroastrian	0.00%
No religion / Atheist	9.69%
Other -please specify	3.06%
[No Response]	0.00%
Sex	
Male	36.22%
Female	55.61%
[No Response]	8.16%
Gender Identity	
Yes	86.22%
No	1.53%
[No Response]	12.24%
Sexual Orientation	
Bisexual	2.55%
Gay Woman / Lesbian	1.02%
Gay Man	1.02%
Heterosexual	67.86%
Other – Please specify	1.53%