



BURY
VOLUNTARY,
COMMUNITY
& FAITH
ALLIANCE

STRATEGIC PLAN

2026 - 2030



Who we are

Bury VCFA is the Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO) for the Voluntary, Community, Faith* and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector in Bury.

We provide a range of development guidance and information, support for those wanting to volunteer and advice to groups developing volunteering opportunities.

We work to support the voice of the VCSE sector and collaborate to influence strategy affecting the sector and local communities.

* Relating to the community activity of faith organisations





Our purpose & vision

Our Charitable Purpose

To promote and strengthen the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise sector for the benefit of the community in the Borough of Bury. To coordinate, organise and enable partnership working to enable positive change in communities.

Our Vision

Our vision is simple. All of our work is focused on –
“Improving the lives of local people”

How we work

● **We're Collaborative**

- We work together to create solutions
- We are open to new ideas and ways of working
- We are a movement – connecting groups and communities

● **We have Integrity**

- We bring together a range of knowledge and expertise
- We are a trusted safe pair of hands, delivering a high-quality service

● **We are Proud**

- We are proud to be part of Bury and the communities we serve
- We are passionate about our communities, the sector and the people of Bury

Our Work

Our four main areas of work align with the key functions of Local Infrastructure as identified and accredited by NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action)



**Leadership &
Advocacy**



**Partnerships &
Collaboration**



**Capacity
Building**



Volunteering



Representative Structures

Pilot and develop representative structures for key boards and forums to strengthen sector voice within the borough's strategic decision-making.



Insight and Intelligence

We continue to gather insight and intelligence to understand the sector and to demonstrate the need of local communities.



Our Membership

Continue to grow Bury VCFA's membership and ensure it reflects the changing communities of Bury, ensuring a strengthened and clearly communicated membership offer.



Effective Communications

Ensuring effective communication to ensure the sector are aware of the latest information and insight but also to raise awareness of the sectors work and impact.



Community Ownership

Strength community ownership and the control of buildings, land and assets for the benefit of the community.

Leadership & Advocacy

As the local infrastructure organisation for Bury, we have a leadership role, strengthening our sector's voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.

We support and empower vulnerable and marginalised communities, working towards a more equal society.



Memorandum of Understanding

To build upon the memorandum of understanding between Bury's public and VCSE sector via a dynamic co-produced action plan that meets the needs of partners and local residents.



Facilitating Partnerships

Continue to facilitate partnerships and alliance approaches to support the VCSE to actively deliver services and programmes to support Bury residents.



Beyond Bury

Ensuring that the sector is supported, positioned and enabled to play a key role in policy, projects, and decisions made at a Greater Manchester level and beyond.



Social Value

Maximising social value within the borough, working alongside VCSE organisations, the public sector and the private sector.



The Bury Fund

Strengthen our role as a trusted grant giver and broaden the range of funding sources included within the Bury Fund.

Partnerships & Collaboration

We create opportunities for collaborative working by building networks and partnerships between local organisations and strategic partners.

Through nurturing these relationships, communities are better equipped for both the development of ongoing projects and times of crisis.



Our Offer

Continue to review and revise our capacity building offer to meet the needs of Bury's diverse VCSE sector



Training

Continue to grow and develop our training support offer, including building local capacity within the VCSE sector to deliver high-quality training.



Specialisms & Expertise

Alongside building our own offer, convene and facilitate sector access to specialist support and expertise.



Impact Measurement

We will support and empower the voluntary sector to better understand and evidence its impact, strengthening its role in shaping positive change



Neighbourhood Working

Strengthen our ways of Neighbourhood working by developing our community connectors support offer to ensure reach across the borough.

Capacity Building

When local voluntary and community organisations have access to practical support, people and communities become more resilient and able to flourish.

We provide training, resources or advice to facilitate community development.



Volunteering Strategy

A refreshed volunteering strategy for the borough, co-designed and developed with key stakeholders from across the borough



Equality and Inclusion

Continue work to ensure volunteering in Bury is open, inclusive and accessible to all residents and communities



Trusteeships

Supporting the development and support of trustees within Bury's VCSE sector to strengthen governance, build leadership capacity, and ensure the long-term sustainability of local VCSE organisations.



Quality

Promoting high-quality volunteering by sharing best practices, ensuring volunteers are considered as part of Bury's broader workforce, and supporting them through professional development and wellbeing initiatives.



Volunteer Recognition

Continue to explore and develop mechanisms to recognise and celebrate the role volunteers play within Bury.

Volunteering

Volunteering is integral to thriving communities. We encourage and nurture volunteering opportunities, so that people can build connections and work together on things they care about, driving positive change locally.



Income Generation

Continue to explore new ideas for income generation and diversification, including chargeable services, room hire and the investment of reserves



Digital Innovation

Building on our website and database development, we continue to explore digital innovation to improve and streamline our processes.



Policies and Governance

Continue to review and strengthen internal processes, policies and governance to reflect organisational growth. We will maintain our NAVCA LIQA and VCQA quality mark accreditation



Workforce Development

Ensuring the sustainability of our organisation by supporting our workforce, including investing in professional development and reviewing our employment pathways.



The Bury Pound

Explore our supply chains and, where possible, support local and socially minded businesses and suppliers.

Sustainable & Effective Organisation

Ensure that Bury VCFA continues to be a financially sustainable organisation with effective policies, procedures and processes to ensure the delivery of high quality services.

What will success look like?

- A strong and thriving Bury VCFA that is fit for purpose and fit for the future.
- The principles and key actions of the Bury Memorandum of Understanding are embedded as common practice and business as usual across both the VCSE and public sectors.
- We understand our local VCSE sector and its needs through comprehensive insight and intelligence.
- We communicate compelling stories that demonstrate the VCSE sector's role in tackling inequalities and creating real change in communities.
- More VCSE leaders are engaged in strategic spaces and feel empowered to influence and affect change.
- A growing and thriving membership of Bury VCFA, with an increasing number of VCSE groups receiving support.
- More people volunteering from communities of place, identity, and experience, supported by a system-wide volunteering strategy.
- Our skilled workforce feels supported and engaged, with access to personal and professional development opportunities.
- Bury VCFA is recognised as the trusted grant giver for investment into Bury
- Meaningful and beneficial social value is delivered within Bury for the benefit of local people, particularly through VCSE collaboration with the private sector.

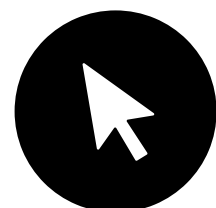




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