



At the Cutting Edge:

**A survey of the impact of the spending cuts
on voluntary groups in the most deprived
communities in England**

*by Church Urban Fund
and Church Action on Poverty*

March 2011

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Executive Summary

Key findings

This report summarises the results of a special survey carried out by Church Urban Fund and Church Action on Poverty to monitor the impact of the public spending cuts on voluntary groups in the most deprived areas of England. Undertaken in January 2011, the aim is to get beyond the headline numbers – an £81 billion reduction in government expenditure over four years - to how this is impacting at a grassroots level, through the eyes of project leaders who are working with some of the most marginalised people in our society. The key findings are:

- Nearly half of the voluntary groups have already experienced a noticeable reduction in their income as a result of the spending cuts, and a further fifth think their income will definitely or is very likely to fall. Only one in six do not expect the cuts to impact on their organisation;
- Over half of the groups received some public funding last year from either central or local government, accounting for a third of these organisations' total income. In many cases, these grants have already been cut or discontinued. Uncertainty over the future of public funding is a huge problem in itself, as it makes forward planning very difficult.
- Even groups not in receipt of public funding are being affected indirectly by increased competition for trust funding, including from larger charities who would previously have looked to government grants or contracts to fund much of their activity. Church-based community projects are also noticing a significant reduction in income from individual giving and the hiring out of premises to local authorities and groups funded by them;
- Voluntary groups listed a wide range of strategies to compensate for an anticipated fall in their income. Cutting services was the third most common response after applying to more trusts and diversifying their funding stream. Only a minority of groups had no plans as yet;
- More than 80% of groups expect the spending cuts to have a significant impact on the people they work with, disproportionately affecting some of

the most marginalised people in our society. Many groups cited examples that are recorded in this report, including cuts in services and benefits to very disadvantaged young people, vulnerable families, frail elderly people, homeless people and those recovering from addiction. Other major concerns are about loss of jobs and opportunities and the rising cost of living.

Background

In November 2010, the Coalition Government announced substantial cuts in public spending over the next four years totalling £81bn (which includes the cuts announced earlier that year). Of particular significance to the charity sector are the above-average cuts to local authority budgets, which are front-loaded and borne disproportionately by the most deprived areas.

This report is based on an online survey of 232 faith-based voluntary groups in the 10% most deprived communities across England, asking about the impact of the spending cuts on the organisations and on the people they work with. These groups address a wide range of problems associated with poverty, such as homelessness, addiction, isolation, unemployment, low skills and lack of opportunity. The majority have an income of less than £100,000 a year and rely heavily on volunteers.

Impact on voluntary groups

Around 60% of the groups surveyed are expecting their general situation to worsen over the next year and only 20% expect it to improve. However, 44% say they are planning to increase the services they offer over the next few months. Realistic or not, this reflects the groups' desire to meet the acute and rising need they see in their communities.

These voluntary groups are quite heavily dependent on public funding. Just over half received some public funding last year, accounting for a third of these organisations' total income. One in five groups relies on public funding for more than half of their income. In many cases, these grants are being cut or discontinued.

At the time of the survey, nearly half of the groups (99 groups, or 46%) had already experienced a noticeable reduction in their income as a result of the spending cuts and an additional 46 groups (21%) thought it was definite or very likely that they would be affected over the coming year, in many cases as early as April 2011. Only 36 groups (16%) thought it unlikely that they would be affected. Uncertainty over the future of public funding is a huge problem in itself, as it makes forward planning very difficult. Nor are smaller groups optimistic about their chances of securing future government contracts for new programmes or reformed public services.

"We have lost funding for Night Support Workers, worth £30,000. Supporting People has been reduced by £12,000 last year and £47,000 from April. Targeted Support Fund has ended - £13,239. Future Jobs Fund has also ended - £2,267. We have already made two staff redundant and a further two will leave at the end of March. We may have to cut staff even further as the squeeze continues."

[South Tyneside Churches' KEY project]

"Our government-funded contract (Flexible New Deal) is being cut short and we do not know whether we will be successful in our attempt to be part of the next programme. The Future Jobs Fund under which we employ a number of previously unemployed young people is also being cut short."

[Strood Community Project, Kent]

Voluntary groups that receive public funding – and this includes many of the larger ones - are more likely to be affected by the cuts, but the impact is not confined to these groups. Many others (56 groups in total) expressed concerns about the knock-on effect on their ability to raise money from charitable trusts and foundations, even though they were not specifically asked about this. Applications to some of the largest funders have increased by up to 50% in the last year. And small/medium-sized groups are facing more competition from larger ones, who would previously have looked to government grants or contracts to fund much of their activity.

“We don’t receive money direct from public funding but have already noticed it becoming harder to secure grants and donations from trusts as they are more over-subscribed. We see this becoming increasingly hard as many organisations who are currently receiving public funding are larger and capable of putting in better applications.”

[St Christopher’s Youth Project, Bradford]

A significant number of voluntary groups, including many church-based community projects, reported various other indirect effects of the cuts, such as loss of income from hiring out premises to local authorities and groups funded by them, reductions in individual donations due to the economic climate, and higher maintenance costs due to the rise in VAT.

Between them, these organisations reported a wide range of strategies to compensate for an anticipated fall in their income. Cutting services was the third most common response after applying to more trusts and seeking funding from businesses and wealthy individuals. Other options being considered are: social enterprises and other income-generating activities; more community fund-raising; greater use of volunteers; cost savings; and collaborating or merging with other voluntary groups. Only a minority of groups had no plans as yet. Respondents highlighted a number of adverse side-effects, including diversion of staff and volunteers to fund-raising activities, the replacement of paid staff with less skilled volunteers, and having to ask for more donations from communities and congregations that are already over-stretched. A few groups saw opportunities in the new funding environment.

Impact on deprived communities

Nearly 60% of groups expect the spending cuts to have a large impact on the people they work with, 24% expect there to be a small impact, and 18% expect no impact. Many groups are already beginning to see the effects of the spending cuts and cited specific examples of services that are in danger of closing as a result:

- Council funding for 58i’s youth homelessness project in Nottingham was pulled at the last minute; if new funding is not forthcoming within months,

the young people the project helps may end up homeless or staying in B&Bs where they are easy prey to drug dealers.

- FACE, a support service for older people in Faversham, is having its government grant axed or cut in half. Without support with the practical tasks needed to look after their homes and keep them safe, many of their elderly clients could end up in residential care.
- For the Centre Project in Leicester, which provides a support network for vulnerable adults, the loss of government funding is potentially life-threatening for some of their clients who depend on the centre as their only positive contact with the outside world.
- Oxford has lost its only dedicated debt centre, which was run by Oxford Vineyard Church and worked with around 250 people a year at a modest annual cost of £6,000.

Many groups also highlighted the impact of cuts to other local services. Examples include fewer people being referred to addiction treatment centres, people being discharged from mental health services who still have considerable support needs, and whole communities blighted by the early termination of housing renewal schemes.

"We work with vulnerable families and the spending cuts mean that they are not getting the support they need. We are working with a single mum at the moment whose children were taken into care. They will not be allowed back until significant things are done in the house to make it habitable but the spending cuts mean that the council will not carry out many of these necessary jobs. Fortunately some of the church folk are helping, but there are many tasks we simply do not have the skills to do." **[St Martin's, Sherwood, Nottingham]**

Other than cuts to local services, the main concerns are to do with reductions in specific benefits, loss of jobs and opportunities, and the rising cost of essentials like food and heating, which is not being matched by benefit increases. Most commonly referred to were cuts to the Educational Maintenance Allowance, disability-related benefits and Housing Benefit (forthcoming). These are hitting

some of the most vulnerable groups: young people from low income families, people with a long-term disability or mental health problems and those who are homeless or in insecure housing.

A small rise in prices or reduction in benefits can have a significant impact on individuals and families who are already on the edge. As one project leader explained, even the breakdown of a car or washing machine becomes a major problem.

"Many people who use our services are unemployed with addiction problems and chaotic lives that mean even a small change can send their finances into chaos. One lady had her benefits stopped without really understanding why and had no income for a week. Her only options were to starve or graft, so she returned to the street - something we had stopped her from for around twelve months."

[All Saints, Liverpool]

"Finding employment has always been difficult for the people of the West End of Newcastle and it is going to become more difficult as the cut backs take effect. A lot of people in the area are employed either directly or indirectly by the Council – and a lot of voluntary organisations are funded by them. There are a lot of worried people wondering if they are still going to have a job and, if not, where they are going to find one."

We have a young man - a "NEET" - doing some voluntary work at the moment and he has said that the number of jobs he can apply for is decreasing and the number of people applying for each job is increasing. And because he has spent three years doing A Levels and, not achieving the grades he needed, he finds himself too old to be an apprentice and lacking in the practical experience or skills that employers are looking for. I would imagine he is only one of many in the same situation."

[CHAT Trust, Newcastle]

Conclusion

The impact of the cuts is already being felt by voluntary groups in deprived areas and by the people they work with, disproportionately affecting some of the most

marginalised people in our society who often depend on local services for support and help to rebuild their lives. Savings from reductions in funding to voluntary groups are relatively small, because these groups rely heavily on volunteers. But the potential costs are very large in both human and economic terms.

Aims

The aim of this report is to examine the initial impact of the spending cuts on community organisations in the most deprived areas, and on the people they work with. The purpose is to get beyond the headline numbers - an £81 billion reduction in government expenditure over four years - to how this is impacting on people and communities at a grassroots level. Reports by other charities have already looked at how the cuts are likely to affect specific services, such as Sure Start centres or youth provision.¹ The particular focus of this report is on the 10% poorest communities through the eyes of voluntary groups working in these areas, based on a survey of groups that have received funding from Church Urban Fund (CUF) in the previous three years.

CUF's grants are targeted at smaller community-based organisations in the 10% most deprived areas of England. So this study offers an early barometer of how smaller grassroots voluntary groups, which are at the heart of the Government's vision of the Big Society, are being affected by the spending cuts. These organisations work with some of the most marginalised groups in our society, so it is also a useful check on the Government's commitment to protect the most vulnerable people from the worst effects of the cuts. In doing so, we concur with David Cameron's statement prior to the General Election:

"The test of a good society is how you look after the elderly, the frail, the vulnerable, the poorest in our society." (3 May 2010)

¹ Sure Start: survey by 4Children and the Daycare Trust, reported in The Guardian, 28 Jan 2011.
Youth services: study by NCVYS, reported in The Guardian, 5 Jan 2011.

Context

In November 2010, the Coalition Government announced substantial cuts in public spending over the next four years in its Spending Review. Having risen by nearly 4% a year in real terms for the past decade, overall spending is set to fall by around 1% a year between 2010-11 and 2014-15. And cuts in some budgets are significantly greater than this. Of particular significance to the charity sector are the larger-than-average cuts in revenue grants to local authorities (26%), which are also front-loaded (with around two-thirds of the overall saving over four years being required in the first two years). On top of this, welfare cuts have been announced totalling £18bn, including major cuts to Housing Benefit and restrictions on disability-related benefits, which will disproportionately affect the poorest households.²

Also relevant are changes to the local authority finance system with adjustments to the allocation of funding between authorities and reduced protection of area-based grants, such as Supporting People and Sure Start, many of which are targeted at vulnerable groups. The net effect appears to favour the wealthier authorities at the expense of the most deprived. In 2011/12, the first year of the new settlement, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Newham, Manchester, Rochdale, Knowsley, Liverpool, St Helens, Doncaster and South Tyneside are among the 36 local authorities that face the maximum cut of 8.8%. Meanwhile, Dorset gets a small increase in funding and Windsor & Maidenhead, Poole, West Sussex, Wokingham, Richmond upon Thames and Buckinghamshire all get cuts of 1% or less. Overall, the reduction in the budgets for the 10% more deprived authorities is more than four times greater than for the 10% wealthiest authorities (see Chart below).

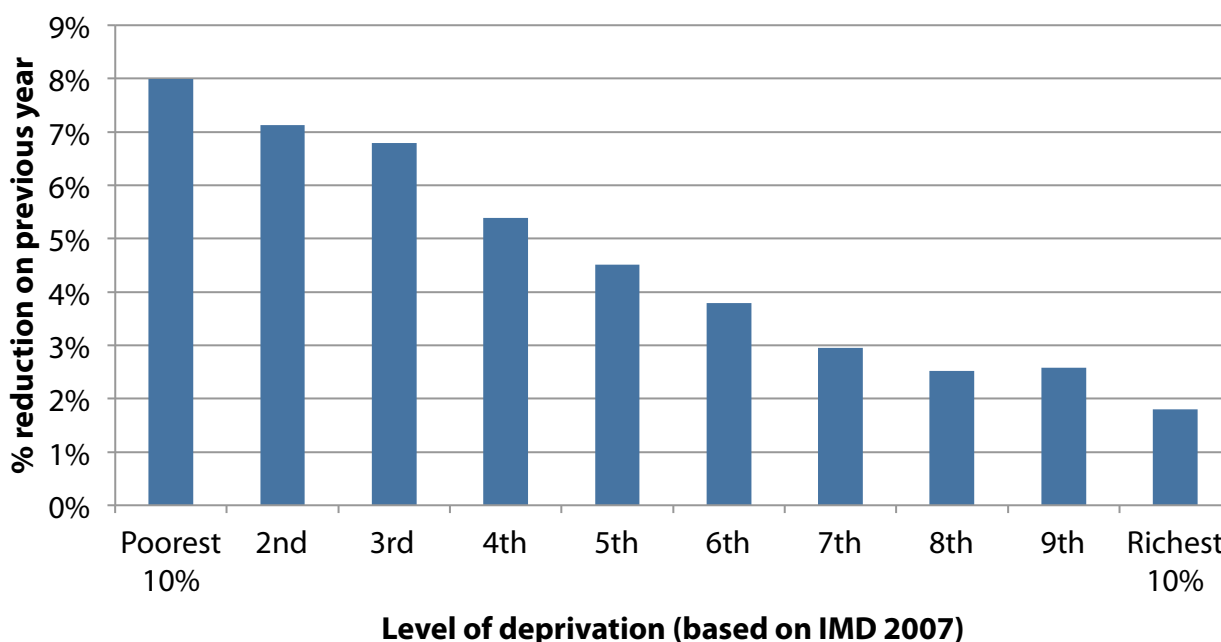
These are the high-level numbers that make the headlines, but this report is concerned with their impact on the 'ground', particularly on the poorest communities. The most direct and immediate impact of the cuts will be to local services, as councils are forced to cut their budgets. 'Discretionary' services, many

² The distributional impact of the spending cuts is subject to controversy. The Government's own analysis suggested that the overall impact of its tax and benefit changes is mildly progressive (i.e. that they represent a larger proportion of income for the richest than of the poorest). However, according to the independent Institute of Fiscal Studies (IFS), the tax-benefit measures are regressive, especially when they exclude the effects of measures announced by the previous government and include the likely effect of various policies not modelled in the Government estimates, such as the changes to disability-related benefits.

of which have a preventive purpose, are likely to be particularly vulnerable as local authorities focus on delivering only what is strictly necessary to meet their statutory duties.

This will involve cutting services that they provide directly, but also services that are commissioned from voluntary providers and grant-in-aid to voluntary sector organisations to support their work. Indeed, some local authorities have been accused – by Eric Pickles, the Communities Secretary, among others – of imposing disproportionate cuts on local voluntary and community groups in order to protect council-run services.³ ACEVO, which represents charity groups, estimates that the sector as a whole could face up to a £3.1 billion hit by 2014-15.⁴ New Philanthropy Capital estimate the drop in income could be as much as £5.1bn over the next 18 months.⁵ In response, the Government established the £100m Transition Fund to help medium- and large-sized charities “to gear up to deliver public services in more challenging times”.

Reduction in local authority budgets by level of deprivation, 2011-12^a



■ % reduction (left-hand scale)

³ See, for example, the article by David Brindle in The Guardian, 2 March 2011, entitled “Eric Pickles willing to block ‘unreasonable’ cuts to voluntary sector”.

⁴ Figure quoted by Peter Kyle of ACEVO at Action Planning’s “Funding the Future” Conference on 8 March 2011.

⁵ From New Philanthropy Capital’s report “Preparing for Cuts”, published in October 2010.

- a. Figures are for local authorities' revenue spending power, which is the total amount of resources available from council tax, central Government revenue grants, and NHS funding for social care.
- b. London Boroughs, Metropolitan Boroughs, Unitary Authorities and Shire Counties are ranked according to the 2007 Index of Multiple Deprivation and divided into ten groups. The poorest 10% includes: Liverpool, Hackney, Tower Hamlets, Manchester, Knowsley, Newham, Islington, Middlesbrough, Birmingham, Kingston-upon-Hill, Blackpool, Nottingham, Sandwell, Salford and Stoke-on-Trent. The richest 10% includes: Wokingham, Rutland, Surrey, West Berkshire, Windsor & Maidenhead, Bracknell Forest, Buckinghamshire, Richmond-upon-Thames, South Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, Hampshire, Leicestershire, Oxfordshire, and Bath & North East Somerset.

Source: own analysis based on data from Annex A of CLG's "Local Government Financial Settlement 2011-12".

Approach

This report is based on a survey of all the faith-based community organisations that have received a CUF grant in the previous three years (Jan 2009 - Dec 2011). Nearly all these groups are based in the 10% most deprived areas of England and most are relatively small faith-based organisations with an annual turnover of less than £150,000 a year, these being the main criteria for receiving a grant.

Contacts for these organisations were sent an initial letter in early January, followed by up to two reminders by e-mail, requesting them to complete our on-line survey (see Appendix A). 232 out of 648 organisations filled in the survey - a response rate of 36%, which is good for a survey of this kind (see Appendix B for a list of all the responding organisations).

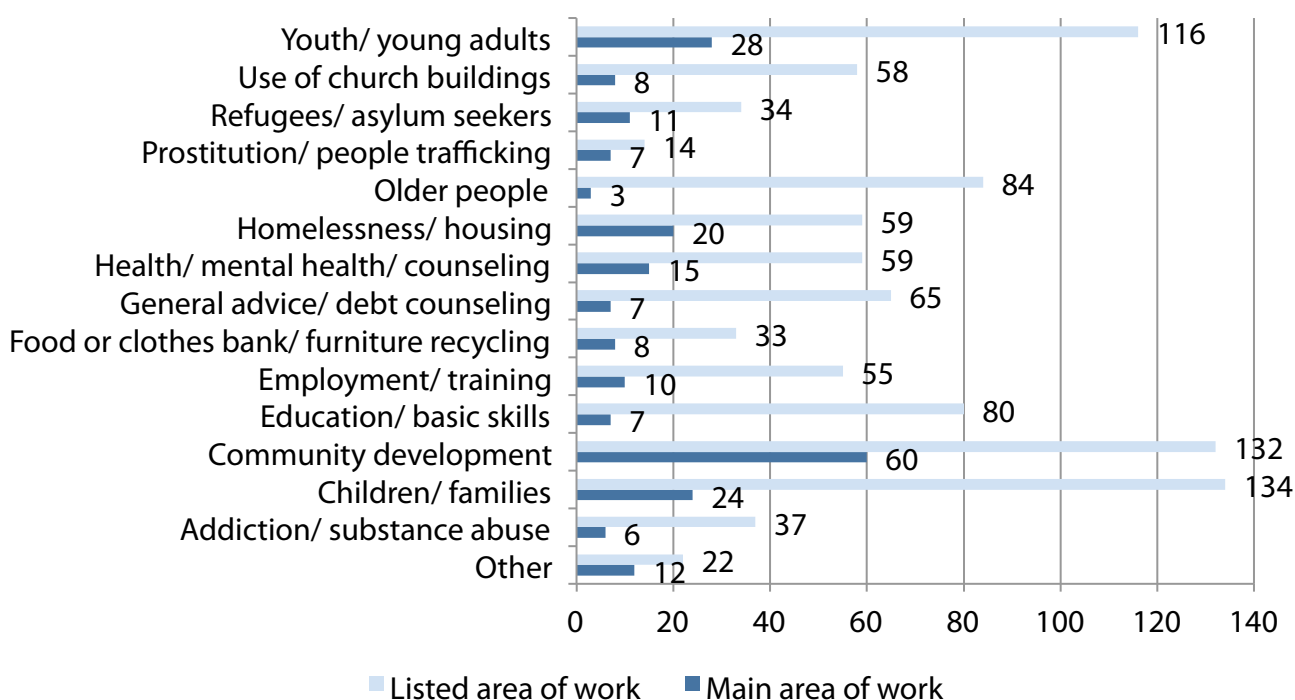
Most of the spending cuts are only due to come into effect in April 1st 2011, nearly three months after our survey was sent out. So, our survey was designed to gauge the mood among community groups and to establish a baseline against which to monitor the impact of the cuts in the coming year and beyond. (We were, therefore, surprised to find that so many groups had already begun to feel the impact of the cuts at this relatively early stage.) A follow-up survey is planned for September 2011.

Of those who responded, about a third of the respondents (72) are church-based community projects or activities and the remainder are independent faith-based community organisations (160).

The activities undertaken by these community groups are extremely diverse, addressing the wide range of problems associated with poverty, including homelessness, addiction, mental health problems, isolation, unemployment, low skills and lack of opportunities.

Groups were asked about their main areas of work. Most projects listed several areas of work - on average four and up to twelve – reflecting the multi-faceted nature of much community-based activity and the commitment of these organisations to meeting the diverse needs of these communities. So we subsequently asked project leaders to identify the main or primary focus on their work, which is also reported in the Chart below.

Main areas of work



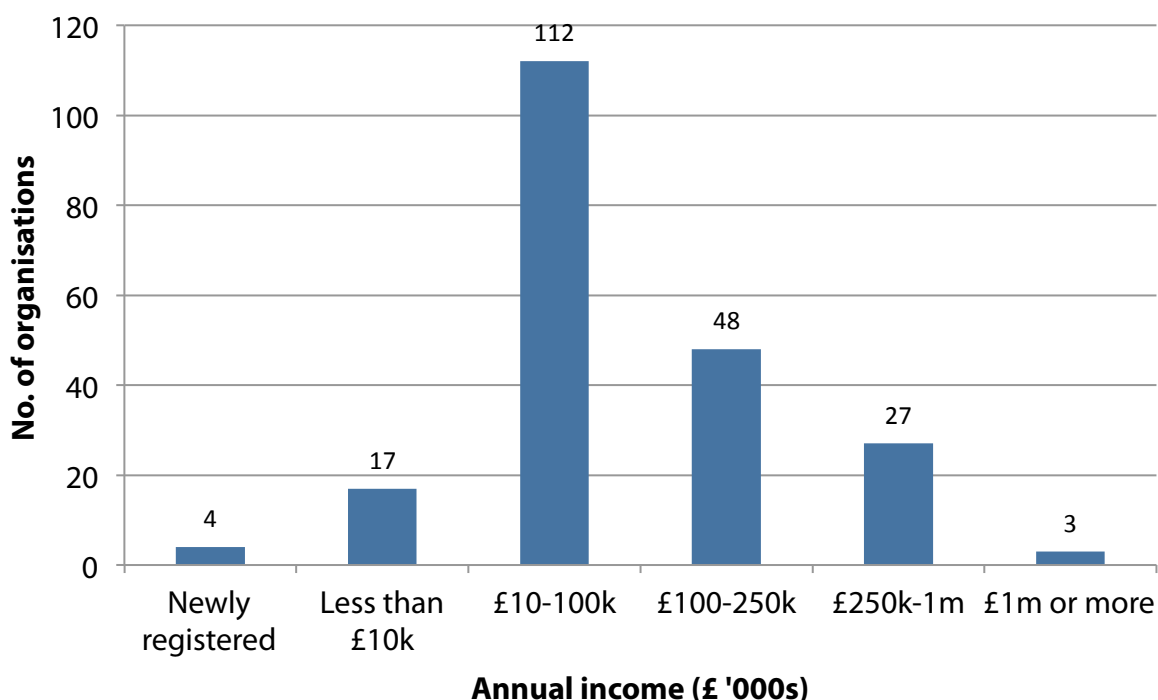
We achieved a good geographical spread across regions, with 40 of the Church of England’s 43 dioceses represented in our sample.

The median annual income of these organisations is £64,000 and ranges from zero to £1.5 million. Overall, the organisations represented in this survey have a combined annual turnover of around £25m.

About a tenth of the groups (8%) have an annual income of less than £10,000 (defined by the NCVO as 'micro' organisations); over half of the groups (54%) have an annual income of between £10-100,000 (small); around a third (36%) have an annual income of between £100,000-£1million (medium); and three groups (1.4%) have an income of £1million or more a year (large) (see Chart below). Compared with the sector as a whole, our sample contains more small/medium-sized voluntary organisations and fewer micro or large organisations.⁶

A typical organisation in our survey has 3 paid staff (mostly part-time) and 10-20 volunteers. The smallest organisations are entirely run by volunteers, whilst the largest organisations employ 10 or more full-time staff. On average, projects involve between 10-15 volunteers for every full-time equivalent member of paid staff.⁷

Annual income of voluntary groups



⁶ Source: NCVO, GuideStar Data Services. See: http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/sites/default/files/UploadedFiles/NCVO/Publications/Publications_Catalogue/Sector_Research/How_big_is_a_typical_voluntary_organisation.pdf.

⁷ Based on counting part-time paid staff as equivalent to half a full-time member of paid staff.

Impact on voluntary groups

Just over half of the organisations in our survey had received some public funding in the previous year. The most common forms of public funding were local authority grants (received by 100 groups), followed by service provision contracts (46), central government grants (29) and Housing Benefit receipts (10).

The total value of public funding received by these organisations ranges widely from a few hundred pounds to up to £750,000. The mean value of these grants is £74,000, but this is skewed by a small number of very large grants. The median grant is £30,000.

Value of public grants

	No. of organisations
No public funding	103
Less than £10k	37
£10-25k	18
£25-50k	16
£50-150k	31
£150-500k	15
£500k or more	3
Median (recipients only)	£30,000
Mean (recipients only)	£74,000

43 of the organisations - about a fifth of those surveyed – relied on public funding for more than half of their total income in the previous year. In general, the larger the organisation, the more likely they are to be in receipt of public funding, and the greater the share of their income accounted for by public funding.

Certain types of organisation appear to be more reliant on public funding, in particular those focusing primarily on homelessness, young people, employment/training and addiction, perhaps because it is (or was) easier to obtain public funding for these kinds of projects.

Across all the organisations, public funding accounted for around a third of their annual income. This is very similar to the NCVO’s estimate of 36% for the proportion of all third sector income from government funding in 2006/07.⁸

Public funding as a share of organisations’ annual income

	No. of organisations
No public funding	103 (48%)
Less than 25%	43 (20%)
25-50%	25 (12%)
50-75%	25 (12%)
75% or more	18 (8%)
As % of total income (all organisations)	33%
As % of total income (recipients only)	43%

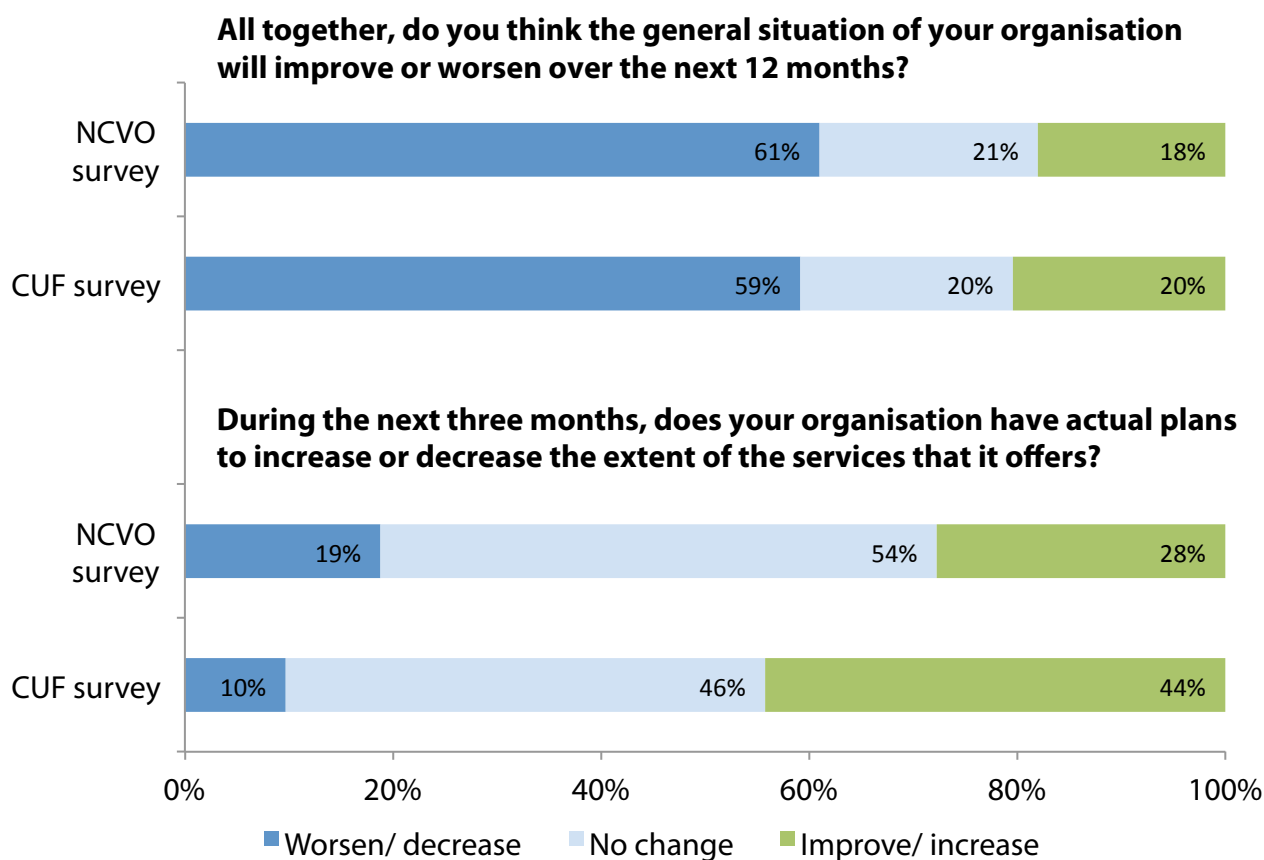
We started by asking two general questions about the outlook for their organisation. These questions were borrowed from the NCVO’s quarterly survey of its members, so that we are able to compare the experience of the groups we support with the rest of the voluntary sector. In terms of their general situation, the responses closely match those reported in the NCVO’s latest report⁹ (for Q4 2010) – with around 60% of voluntary groups expecting their situation to worsen over the next year and only around 20% expecting them to improve.

However, CUF-supported groups were more bullish about their plans for the immediate future – with 44% planning to increase the services they offer, compared with 28% of NCVO member organisations. This includes many groups

⁸ From NCVO’s report, “The State and the Voluntary Sector: Recent trends in government funding and public service delivery”. 23.6% of the voluntary sector’s total income is earned income from statutory sources (i.e. service contracts) and 12.6% is voluntary income from statutory sources, including the National Lottery.

⁹ From a report published by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) and entitled “Charity Forecast: a quarterly survey of sector leaders, Quarter 4, 2010” by Olivia Hirst and Jenny Clark.

that are expecting their own financial situation to deteriorate and may reflect the acute and rising need they see in the most deprived communities and their desire to meet those needs in spite of the spending cuts.

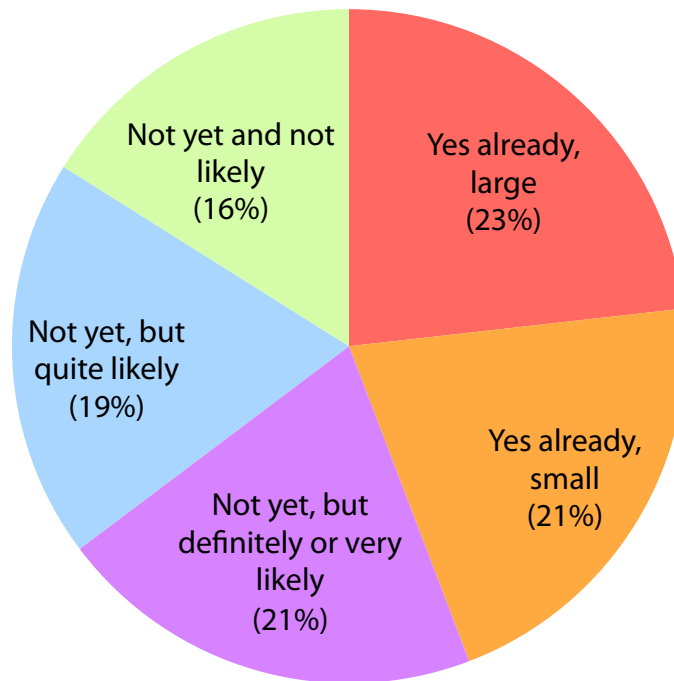


Having enquired about their general situation, we asked a number of more specific questions about the impact of the spending cuts on them as an organisation. Nearly half of the groups (99 groups or 46% of the sample) said they had already experienced a noticeable reduction in their income as a result of the spending cuts. An additional 46 groups (21%) had not yet seen a reduction in their income, but thought it was definite or very likely that they would be affected over the coming year, in many cases as early as April 2011. (The survey was conducted in January.) Only 36 groups (16%) felt it unlikely that the spending cuts would impact on their organisation’s income (see Chart below).

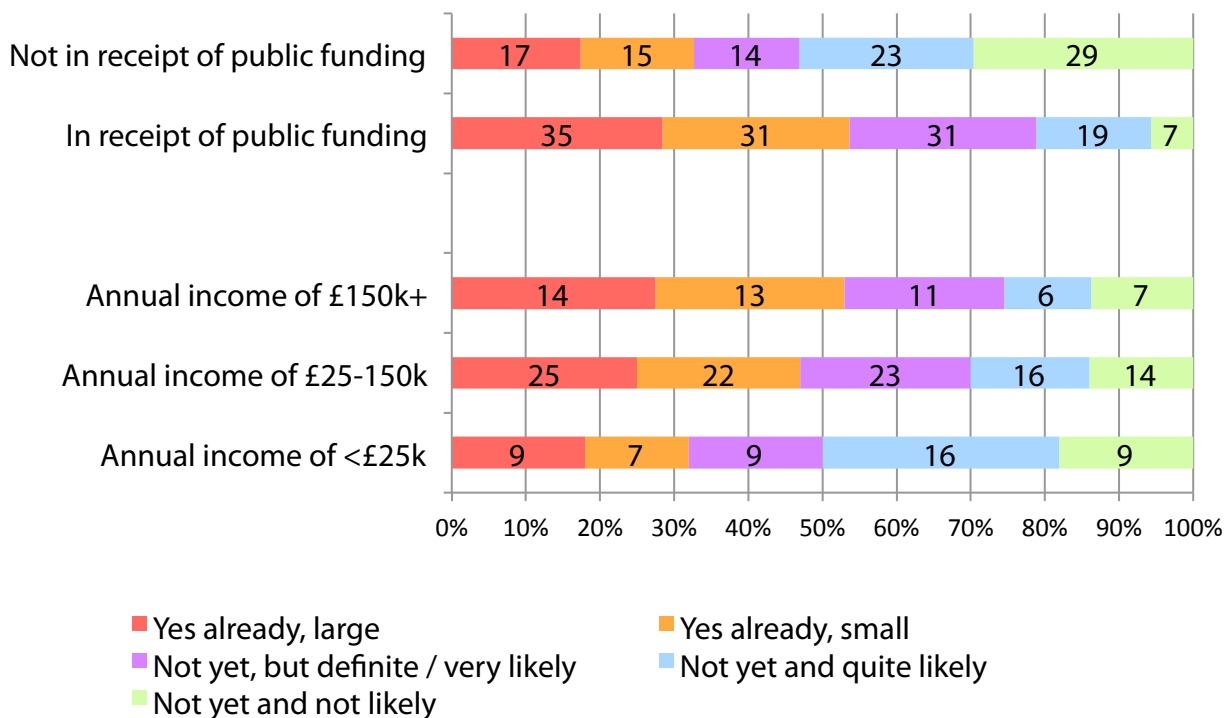
Voluntary groups that receive public funding – and this includes many of the larger ones - are more likely to be affected by the cuts, but the impact is by no means limited to these groups. Even among smaller organisations and those that are not in receipt of public funding, around a half said that their organisation’s

income had already fallen, or was very likely to fall, as a direct or indirect result of the spending cuts.

Expected impact of spending cuts on organisation’s own income



Impact of spending cuts by size and receipt of public funding



In their open-ended responses, community organisations highlighted a number of ways in which they are being affected by the spending cuts.

(a) Reduction in government funding

Overall, 47 groups said that their funding from central or local government had already been reduced or withdrawn – or that they have been notified that a government grant or contract will not be renewed, in most cases from April 2011. Another 24 are still awaiting decisions by their local authority but think it is either “definite” or “very likely” that their funding will be cut (and 11 groups think it “quite likely”). Five of these groups mentioned the possible impact of the forthcoming cuts in Housing Benefit (HB), which is an important source of revenue for rehabilitation projects. Uncertainty is a huge problem in itself, as it makes forward planning very difficult; quite a few groups said this was a major problem for them even if they had not yet had their funding cut.

The following quotes are, unfortunately, representative of many groups’ experiences:

“We have lost funding for Night support workers, worth £30,000. Supporting People has been reduced by £12,000 last year and £47,000 from April. Targeted Support Fund has ended - £13,239. Future Jobs Fund has also ended - £2,267. We have already made two staff redundant and a further two will leave at the end of March. We may have to cut staff even further as the squeeze continues.”

[South Tyneside Churches’ KEY project, Newcastle]

“A 15% cut in September 2010 meant that we had to make two part-time staff redundant and reduce the days we offer day care from 5 to 4 a week. This has a significant impact on our elderly clients who have nowhere to go on the fifth day and little extra care at home. We have had to send out first stage redundancy letters to all our day care staff as there is no word of future funding from April 1st. The lack of notice of cuts means forward and strategic planning is very difficult.”

[Weoley Castle Community Projects, Birmingham]

“We have already had to do the same work for less money, down on last year, and fully expect further cuts, as Slough has been hit very hard. We are now being asked to cater for 16 and 17 year olds alongside our existing 18 to 30 year olds. This involves more care and additional legal costs as under 17 year olds cannot sign Assured Shorthold Tenancy agreements. No further funds are being offered to take on this extra responsibility.”

[Slough YMCA, Slough]

“We know that there will be less available from local government who have been very supportive in the past, not only with grants but also with the time and expertise of council staff. If they are made redundant, which is quite likely, then we will suffer as a result.”

[Cheetham Communities Together, Manchester]

Nor are smaller groups optimistic about their chances of securing future government contracts for new programmes or reformed public services, in part because they cannot achieve the same economies of scale as larger organisations. Competition for contracts is increasing as charities compete against the private sector as well as against each other. This is likely to intensify with the Localism Bill, which will enable voluntary and private providers to bid to run services currently provided by local authorities.

“Our government-funded contract (Flexible New Deal) is being cut short and we do not know whether we will be successful in our attempt to be part of the next programme. The Future Jobs Fund under which we employ a number of previously unemployed young people is also being cut short.”

[Strood Community Project, Kent]

“It has become increasingly hard for small organisations like ours to win government grants or contracts despite the fact that we are doing exactly what the Government wants us to do.”

[WHEAT Mentor Support Trust, London]

“Smaller, local community-focused grants have nearly all closed, and there are no new opportunities opening up and greater competition for those that remain. This will only get worse as more people are hit. And as a small provider, we are unable to offer the same ‘value for money’ on a large scale that organisations like Barnados can.”

[Streetspace WSM, Weston-Super-Mare]

“The procurement system as it is currently operated favours large and national charities making it difficult for the small charities, that are actually engaged in service provision, to win tenders.”

[The Centre Project, Leicester]

Though it was not specifically mentioned by the respondents to our survey, the new emphasis on ‘payment by results’ shifts the risk of government contracts on to the provider; this is particularly hard for smaller organisations to manage, because of the strain it puts on their cash flow. Separately, we spoke to one housing association which is involved as a specialist sub-contractor in several consortia bidding to be part of the new Work programme. They were concerned about the risks involved in these contracts and questioned the viability for “small” organisations like theirs – and they have an annual turnover of around £5m!

(b) Knock-on effect on grant applications

Many more groups (56 in total) expressed concerns about the knock-on impact of the cuts on their ability to raise money from charitable trusts and foundations,

even though we did not specifically ask about this. Many of these groups had already observed a significant increase in competition for grants and a corresponding reduction in the success of their applications. Others groups are anticipating a much harder fund-raising environment as a direct result of the spending cuts. This is borne out by evidence from some of the major funders. The National Lottery Fund, Esmee Fairburn, and the Lloyds TSB Foundation all said that the number of grant applications they have received has increased substantially in the last year - by between a quarter and a half - whilst the overall amount of funding available from charitable trusts and foundations is around the same level as in previous years.¹⁰

As the quotes below demonstrate, there are specific concerns about the ability of smaller or mid-sized community organisations to compete for funding with larger organisations who would previously have looked to local and central government grants and contracts to fund much of their activity:

“We don’t receive money direct from public funding but have already noticed it becoming harder to secure grants and donations from trusts as they are more over-subscribed. We see this becoming increasingly hard as many organisations who are currently receiving public funding are larger organisations who are capable of putting in better applications to trusts.”

[St Christopher’s Youth Project, Bradford]

“As a small charity we are going to face greater competition from other organisations seeking ever smaller grants from trusts and local grant initiatives.”

[Community Advance Project, London]

¹⁰ These figures were quoted by representatives of these organisations at Action Planning’s “Funding the Future” conference in London on 8 March 2011.

“We have written a huge number of grant applications to various grant bodies and trusts, but monies we would normally be getting around now has been turned down. We don’t know when we will be successful in getting a grant to help us to continue, which means that some of our projects may close down.”

[REM Educational Centre, South East London]

Again, these claims are supported by evidence from some of the larger charitable trusts who have noticed an increase in applications from larger organisations who would not previously have been interested in their small grants programmes. A representative from the Lloyds TSB Foundation said they were being quite “hard-nosed” about this, recognising that, although the quality of applications from larger organisations is often higher, this does not necessarily reflect the quality of the proposed projects.

As resources become scarce, decisions made by charitable trusts will have a substantial influence on whether particular charities survive the cuts; for the voluntary groups we support, this in turn will depend on whether trusts prioritise applications from groups working in the most deprived areas of the country on the basis that the need is more acute and there are fewer alternative sources of funding - a “bias to the poor”, in the words of the late Bishop David Sheppard.

(c) Indirect impact on rental income

In addition to the direct impact of public spending cuts, a significant number of groups (20 in total), including many church-based community projects, talked about the indirect impact of the cuts on income from room hire, leasing of premises, and user charges. Much of this revenue came either directly from local authorities (e.g. for training events) or from Sure Start centres or voluntary groups who are funded by local authorities and under pressure to cut their costs. The loss of income varies from a few thousand pounds at the Trinity Centre in Wakefield to tens of thousands in the case of InSpire at St Peters Ltd in Southwark.

(d) Reduction in individual giving

A substantial number of groups (28 in total) said they had already observed, or were concerned about, a reduction in individual donations due to people losing their jobs or economic uncertainty. Church-based community groups, in particular, are often heavily dependent on giving by church members. The Oxford Vineyard Church, for example, is having to cut back its community-based activities, because giving by the congregation has decreased significantly.

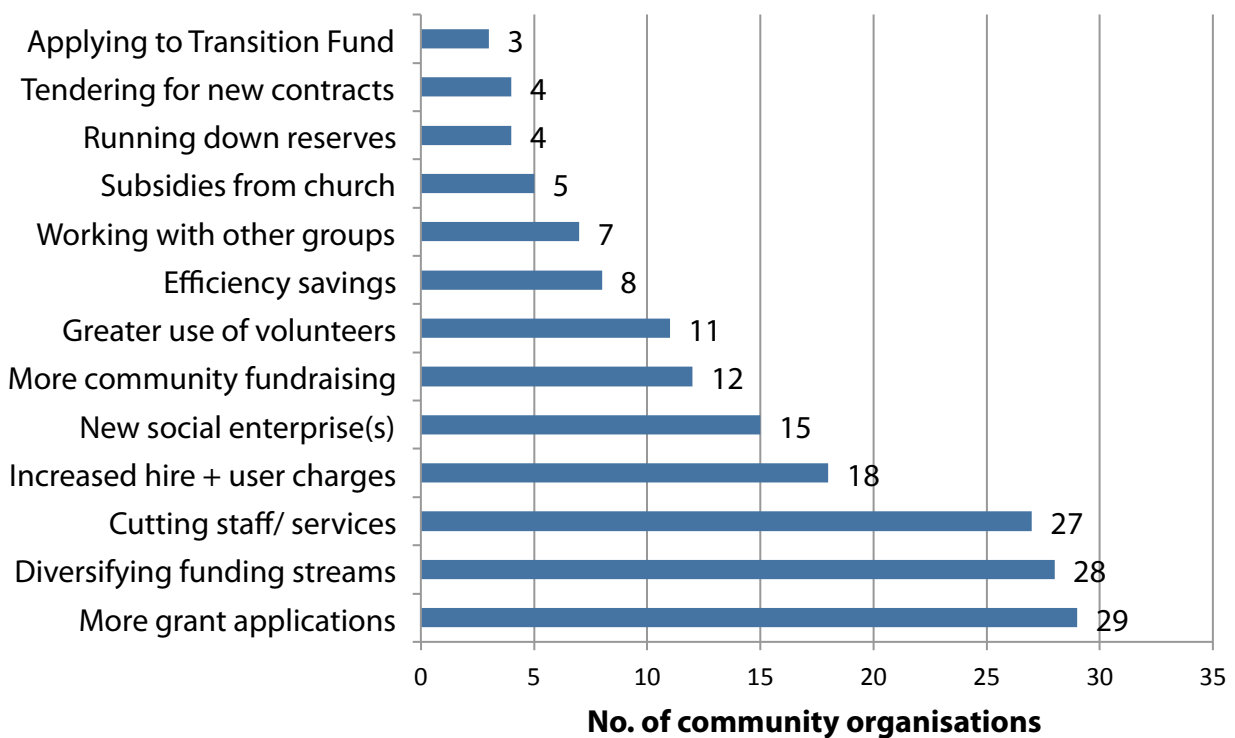
(e) Cost pressures

Finally, a small number of groups (4 in total) mentioned rising costs as a problem, specifically the impact of the rise in VAT (e.g. on maintenance costs) and the phasing out of transitional relief on Gift Aid from April 2011. As one respondent pointed out, charities like theirs are not able to pass on these extra costs, so end up bearing the full brunt of inflation.

Responding to the cuts

Having asked about the impact of the cuts on their own funding, we asked what, if any, plans the organisation had to compensate for a reduction in their income. Between them, voluntary groups reported a wide range of strategies, listed here in order of the number times they were cited by different groups (see Chart below):

Responses to the spending cuts



- Seeking more funding from charitable trusts and other grant-making bodies, by submitting more applications and hiring additional fund-raisers or training more staff in fund-raising;
- Pursuing alternative sources of funding (e.g. corporate sponsorship, wealthy individuals), in order to diversify the organisation's funding stream;
- Cutting or rationalising services, including reducing the number of paid staff and/or their pay or hours and focusing on 'core' services;

- Increasing incomes from existing assets, by letting out premises or charging for some of the services they offer;
- Setting up a social enterprise and/or other income-generating activities;
- Increasing income from community or church fund-raising, by running special events or campaigns and raising awareness of the project's benefits in the church and the wider community;
- Increasing the use of volunteers to do the work previously done by paid staff;
- Making efficiency savings, for example by reducing heating costs, renegotiating contracts with service suppliers, more prudent use of consumables, moving to cheaper premises or postponing planned improvements;
- Merging, or working more closely, with other voluntary groups to share costs or submit joint funding applications;
- Using church resources to cross-subsidise community work (only feasible for church-based community projects);
- Running down reserves, existing funding or legacies to tide the project over;
- Tendering for new government contracts, including as part of larger consortia;
- Applying to the Government's Transition Fund, set up to help civil society organisations adapt to a more difficult funding environment.

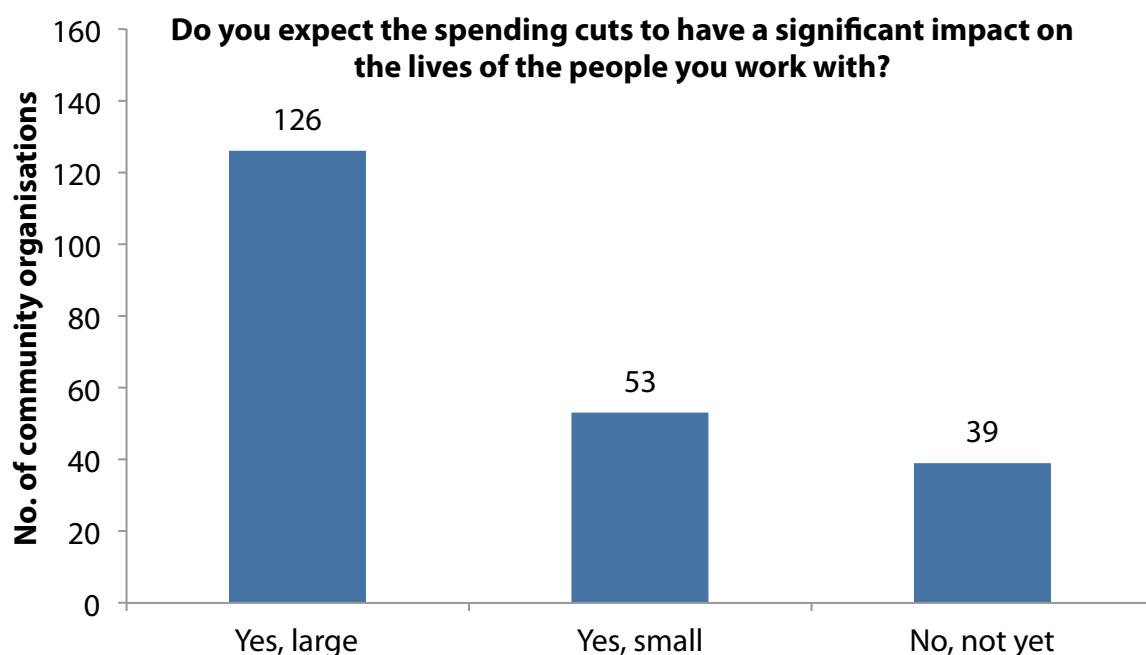
Some groups' strategies appeared to quite well-developed. Good News Family Care, for example, has drawn up a five year business plan which sets out their

vision to transform their training and work-based skills projects into micro-businesses in order to become increasingly self-funding. Only a minority of groups had no plans for how they were going to respond to an anticipated fall in their income (as of January 2011).

Other than cuts to their services or activities, respondents highlighted a number of other adverse side-effects, including diversion of staff and volunteers to fundraising activities; the replacement of paid staff with less skilled volunteers; and having to ask for more donations from congregations or communities that are already over-stretched. A small number of groups saw opportunities in the new funding environment, for example to be more inventive in the projects they develop and to free themselves from the “hand out culture of local government funding”.

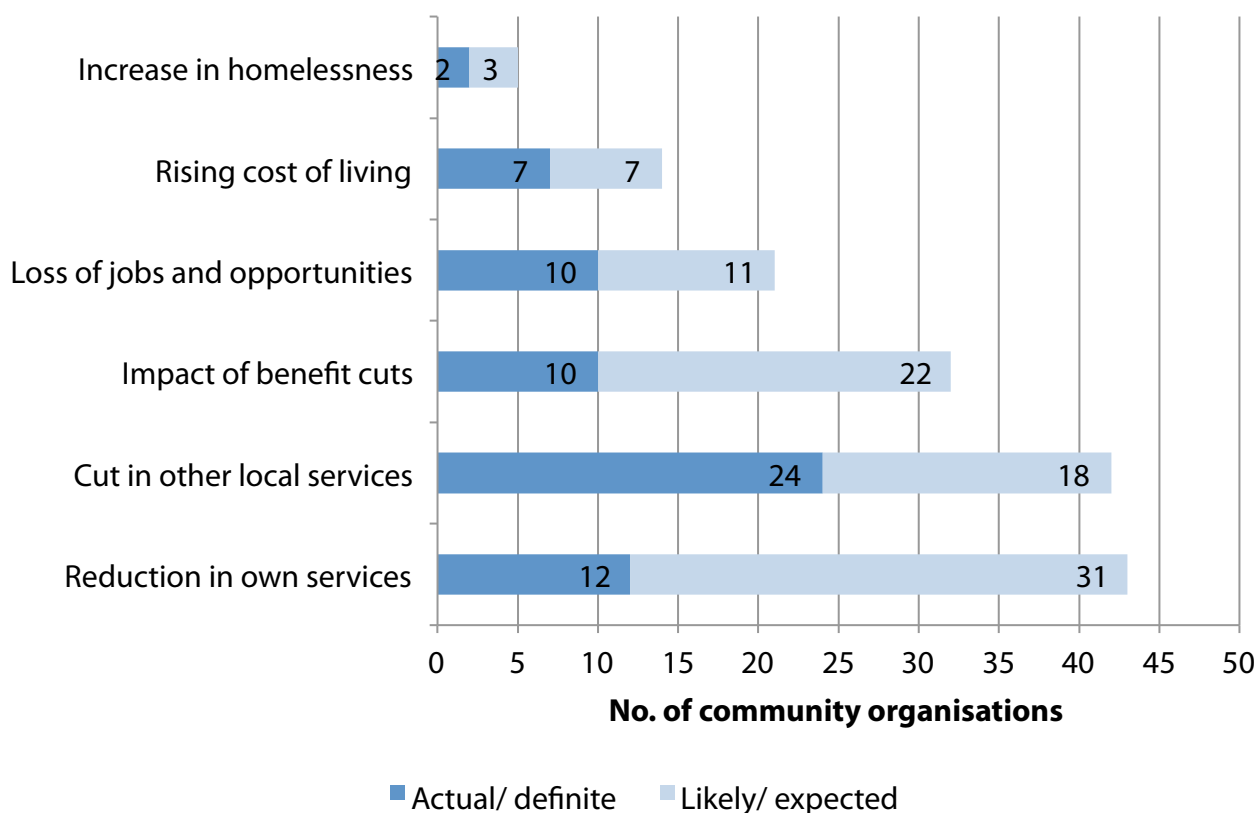
Impact on deprived communities

In the final section of the survey, groups were asked about the impact on the people they work with. Of those who responded, 126 groups (58%) expect the spending cuts to have a “large” impact on the lives of the people they work with, 53 groups (24%) expect them to have a “small” impact and 39 groups (18%) expect no significant impact. The largest impacts are reported by food banks, employment/training projects and health-related projects, and by voluntary groups in the North East and South West of England.



When asked to give details, some groups were clearly anticipating the impact of policies that have been announced but not yet come into effect (e.g. cuts to Housing Benefit), whilst other groups said it was too early to tell. However, many groups were already beginning to see the impact of the spending cuts on their own project and on other local services, and were able to give specific examples of services that are closing and people who are suffering as a result. As well as cuts to their own and to other local services, the most common concerns are to do with benefit cuts, loss of jobs and opportunities, and the rising cost of living (see Chart below).

Impact of spending cuts on people living in the most deprived areas



(a) Cuts in own services

Perhaps unsurprisingly, many projects focused on the impact that any reduction in their services will have on the people they work with. Here are just a few examples from the many we could have selected:

- Council funding for 58i's youth homelessness project in Nottingham was pulled at the last minute; if new funding is not forthcoming within months, the young people the project helps may end up homeless or staying in B&Bs where they are easy prey to drug dealers;
- FACE, a support service for older people in Faversham Kent, is having its government grant axed or cut in half. Without support with the practical tasks needed to look after their homes and keep them safe, many of their elderly clients could end up in residential care.
- Oxford has lost its only dedicated debt centre, which was run by Oxford Vineyard Church and worked with around 250 people every year at a modest cost of £6,000 a year.
- For the Centre Project in Leicester, which provides a support network for people recovering from addiction, the loss of government funding is potentially life-threatening for some of their clients who depend on the centre as their only positive contact with the outside world. One of their service users is a recovering alcoholic who comes to the Centre for support and to be away from his drinking friends. He lives alone and has no family and all his mates continue to drink heavily. If they cannot continue to offer support, he may be at risk of trying to take his life because as he says there is nothing left to live for and he now feels very isolated.
- The North Benwell Youth Project in Newcastle has lost two major streams of funding, so will have to reduce the work they do every week with 100 or so very disadvantaged and marginalised young people for whom the project is their only source of professional advice on employment/ training, drugs and mental health issues.

In all these cases, the savings from not funding these services are relatively small, because these groups rely heavily on volunteers. But the potential costs are much greater both in human and economic terms.

(b) Cuts in other local services

Many groups highlighted the significant impact that cuts in other local services are having on the people they work with. Quite a few groups pointed out that cuts in local services, and the recession more generally, will put more pressure on voluntary sector services like theirs:

- The STAK project, which helps homeless people in St Austell, is already seeing an increase in the number of people coming to them now that Cornwall is cutting its Floating Housing support, but wonders what is happening to these people beyond the 7 hours that their centre provides food and warmth.
- The Lighthouse at Weston project in Weston-super-Mare works with many people recovering from addiction and is finding that fewer people are now being referred to local treatment centres due to lack of funding.
- St Martin's in Nottingham is finding that the vulnerable families they work with are no longer receiving the support they need. One single mother had her children taken into care and was told they will not be returned until her council home is made habitable. But the local authority cannot afford the improvements because of the spending cuts, and although members of their church are helping, there are many jobs they simply do not have the skills to do.
- The possible planned closure of a Sure Start centre, currently based in St Peter's Stonegrave in London would mean young families having to travel long distances to access services, as well as costing the church valuable rental income which helps to fund their church-based community activities for children and young people. Following a campaign led by the church in collaboration with local residents, the centre has been reprieved, at least for the moment. However, it is still by no means clear where all the funding for the centre will come from.

- St John and St James Church in Bootle, Liverpool says that the whole community is being affected by the premature termination of the Housing Renewal Programme in April as the new housing programme grinds to a halt, leaving families feeling abandoned in half-empty streets.

The impact of the cuts is falling hardest on the most marginalised groups who are often very dependent on these services, particularly those who rely on expensive services that may no longer be seen to be affordable (e.g. home visits), those with less severe disabilities who may be seen as a lesser priority, and the beneficiaries of specific programmes that are being cut, including: Supporting People, the Future Jobs Fund, Connexions, Sure Start, ESOL classes for asylum seekers, welfare advice, career advice, and counselling services.

(c) Impact of benefit cuts

The benefit cuts most commonly highlighted by respondents were the withdrawal of the Educational Maintenance Allowance (EMA), restrictions in eligibility for disability-related benefits and the forthcoming reductions in Housing Benefit. As the examples below show, the cuts are having a disproportionate impact on some of the most vulnerable groups: young people from low income families, people with a long-term disability or illness and people who are homeless or living in temporary or insecure housing:

“Many people who use our services are unemployed with addiction problems and chaotic lives that mean even a small change can send their finances into chaos. One lady had her benefits stopped without really understanding why and had no income for a week. Her only options were to starve or graft, so she returned to the street something we had stopped her from through support for around twelve months.”

[All Saints, Liverpool]

"Many of the people we see are on long-term disability related benefits as a result of serious mental health issues. We are already experiencing pressure being put on people to enter employment for which they have no skills or experience and where employers would not be prepared to offer work on the basis of their current presentation. One of the women we are working with has a long history of abuse and finds interaction with men very difficult; not so long ago, she was completely mute. She had become much more stable and had started to volunteer for a cat charity which she enjoyed. But she was interviewed for a Pathway to Employment and told to give up the voluntary work and seek employment; she is quite unable to do this. A man with mental health issues and learning disabilities whose only employment was in sheltered employment has been deemed fit for work after his Incapacity Benefit was reviewed, even though he has been admitted to special sheltered accommodation because of his level of social support needs! An appeal is pending."

[Croydon APCMH]

"We work with young people who I would describe as being at the "bottom of the heap": homeless , often abused , with difficult family backgrounds, and issues such as mental health problems, immigration issues, exploitation and sometimes substance misuse. Often they have got behind with education due, for example, to family caring responsibilities or a chaotic upbringing. I have no doubt that the full impact of the cuts will conspire to keep them at the bottom, with low expectations and life chances. Ending of EMA will impact on young homeless people trying to remain in education. Benefit cuts are already affecting those with disabilities and cuts in housing benefit will also increase poverty."

[Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust, London]

"We are a youth homelessness charity so any benefit cuts that impact housing benefit will have a dire effect. There is a lack of social housing and, as Shelter has predicted, there will be an increase in homelessness."

[Community Projects Carlisle]

(d) Loss of jobs and opportunities

Many of the areas where these voluntary groups are based already suffer from low levels of employment, so a hard situation is become even harder for many people who are unemployed or have recently been made redundant.

Towns or regions that are heavily dependent on public sector employment and disadvantaged groups, such as ex-offenders and those with few qualifications, are particularly affected by the spending cuts and the economic downturn. This quote from the CHAT Trust in Newcastle illustrates this point well:

“Finding employment has always been difficult for the people of the West End of Newcastle and it is going to become more difficult as the cut backs take effect at the City Council. A lot of people in the area are employed either directly or indirectly by the Council – and a lot of voluntary organisations are funded by them. There are a lot of worried people wondering if they are still going to have a job and, if not, where they are going to find a new one.

We have a young man - a “NEET”¹¹ - doing some voluntary work at the moment and he has said that the number of jobs he can apply for is decreasing and the number of people applying for each job is increasing. He is no longer considering University as the Government has increased the fees. And because he has spent three years doing A Levels and, not achieving the grades he needed, he finds himself too old to be an apprentice and lacking in the practical experience or skills that employers are looking for. I would imagine he is only one of many in the same situation.”

The concerns expressed here are supported by previous research showing that it is the most deprived areas – and within them the young and least educated – who are experiencing the largest rise in unemployment.¹² Youth unemployment recently hit a record 20% in the three months to December 2010 with nearly one million 16-24 year olds now out of work (The Guardian, 17 February 2011).

¹¹ NEET stands for Not in Education, Employment or Training.

¹² For example, research by the Financial Times (reported in the Guardian on June 16 2009) found that the increase in the number of additional jobseeker’s allowance claims was significantly greater in the 10% most deprived areas (15% increase between Jan-Apr 2009) than in the 10% least deprived areas (6% increase).

(e) Rising cost of living

Many projects commented on the rising cost of basic necessities, like food and heating, and the increase in VAT. Even small rises in prices or reductions in benefits can have a significant impact on individuals and families who are already on the edge and were living on very little before the cuts. As one project leader pointed out, even the breakdown of a car or washing machine becomes a major problem. Quite a few projects gave examples of extreme hardship, where people are going without heating at the moment, and in some cases without proper food:

“As everything has gone up in price, people are having to cut back on crucial items, particularly heating and electricity. Many families are going without heating until they get their next benefit as they cannot afford to put money on their key meter. Their diets have been affected as it is far cheaper for families to buy food with a low nutritional content or convenience food rather than fresh fruit, vegetables and meat; even basic proteins, such as eggs, have nearly doubled in price and for some are seen as a luxury.”

[St John’s Community Development Project, London]

Again, academic and other research confirms perceptions about the rising cost of essentials, such as food, fuel and clothing, which account for a much larger share of expenditure for people on low incomes. For example, a recent piece in the Evening Standard found that the cost of a ‘typical’ weekly food shop had gone up by more than 20% in the last three years.¹³ And a study for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation found that, since 2008, the cost of achieving a basic minimum living standard has risen at a much faster rate than official inflation figures, as measured by the Retail Price Index (RPI).¹⁴ As benefit increases have been linked to the RPI, this is leaving those reliant on state benefits significantly out of pocket. This situation will worsen from April as benefit increases will then be linked to a different index – the Consumer Price Index - which historically has grown at a lower rate than other inflation indices.

¹³ From the Evening Standard, 10 March 2011 (pgs 22-23).

¹⁴ Reported in The Guardian, 17 January 2011 (“Poorest families’ standard of living will continue to fall”).

Conclusion

Smaller voluntary groups are quite heavily dependent on public funding; around half of the organisations surveyed in this report have received central or local government funding in the last year, accounting for a third of these organisations' total income. In many cases, these grants are being cut or discontinued, or are very likely to be. And even groups not in receipt of public funding are being affected indirectly by increased competition for Trust funding, loss of rental income, and a fall in individual donations as local communities and congregations feel the impact of the cuts.

Most groups expect the spending cuts to have a significant impact on their communities and many are beginning to see the effects on the people they work with and cited specific examples that are detailed in this report. Those affected are among the most marginalised groups in our society who often depend on local services for support and help to rebuild their lives. Savings from cutting grants to community groups are relatively small, because these groups rely heavily on volunteers. But the costs are potentially very large in both human and economic terms.

Appendix A: Questionnaire

Impact of spending cuts

1. About your organisation

The purpose of this survey is to monitor the impact of cuts in public spending on grassroots community initiatives like yours. All responses will be anonymised, unless we specifically request permission to refer to your organisation by name.

If you are a church, please base your response on your community-focused work with marginalised people and those experiencing poverty.

If you are a community group, please respond on behalf of the organisation as a whole, not just that part of your work that was funded with help from CUF.

This survey should take about 20 mins to complete. Thank you very much for your cooperation.

1. Name of organisation

2. City or town where most of your organisation's work is focused

3. Which Anglican Diocese is your organisation based in (if known)

4. Main focus of your work (tick as many as apply)

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Addiction/ substance abuse | <input type="checkbox"/> Health/ mental health/ counseling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Children/ families | <input type="checkbox"/> Homelessness/ housing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Community development | <input type="checkbox"/> Older people |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education/ basic skills | <input type="checkbox"/> Prostitution/ people trafficking |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Employment/ training | <input type="checkbox"/> Refugees/ asylum seekers |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Food or clothes bank/ furniture recycling | <input type="checkbox"/> Use of church buildings |
| <input type="checkbox"/> General advice/ debt counseling | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth/ young adults |

Other (please specify)

5. How many paid staff and volunteers are involved in your community work?

Full-time paid staff

Part-time paid staff

Voluntary workers

6. What is your organisation's annual income from all sources

7. Main contact person (for survey)

Impact of spending cuts

8. E-mail address

9. Telephone number

2. Impact on your organisation

10. All together, do you think the general situation of your organisation will improve or worsen over the next 12 months?

Worsen

No change

Improve

11. Does your organisation receive any public funding from central or local government?

Yes

No

12. If so, where does your public funding coming from? (tick as many as apply)

Central government grant(s)

Local government grant(s)

Service provision contract(s)

Housing Benefit receipts

Other (please specify)

13. And, how much in total did your organisation receive in public funding last year?

14. Has your organisation already experienced a noticeable change in its income as a direct result of the spending cuts?

Yes, large

Yes, small

No, not yet

15. If so, please give details

16. Do you expect the spending cuts to impact on your organisation's income over the coming year?

Definitely

Very likely

Quite likely

Not likely

Impact of spending cuts

17. If so, please say how you expect your funding will be affected by the spending cuts?

18. What, if any, plans does your organisation have to compensate for any reductions in its income?

3. Impact on the people you work with

19. During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease the extent of the services that it offers

- Decrease
- No change
- Increase

20. In a 'typical' week, approximately how many people benefit directly from the different activities run by your organisation?

21. Do you expect the spending cuts to have a significant impact on the lives of the people you work with?

- Yes, large
- Yes, small
- No, not yet

22. If so, please give details, including individual stories that illustrate the impact of the spending cuts. (Any examples we quote in our report will be anonymised.)

4. Big Issues

We would be grateful if you could spare a few more minutes to tell us about the issues that matter most to your community.

Impact of spending cuts

23. Other than the spending cuts, what do you think are the most important issues affecting the people you work with? (Please be as specific as you can.)

24. If different to above, what would you say are the most important issues facing your community as a whole? (Please be as specific as you can.)

25. Other than spending decisions, can you suggest any specific changes in government policy or public service delivery that would have a beneficial impact on the people you are working with and/or on your community as a whole?

26. Can you recommend any distinctive approaches or initiatives developed by your organisation that you think could be effective if implemented more widely?

27. Would you or your organisation be interested in getting more involved in our advocacy work, using your local knowledge and experience to influence policy-making at a national level?

Yes

No

Maybe

28. Would your organisation be willing to host a "listening workshop" with a group of people you work with in order to identify the issues that matter most to them and what needs to change?

Yes

No

Maybe

Appendix B: List of responding organisations

Name of organisation	City or town	Diocese
Burnside Centre	Langley Estate, Middleton	Manchester
Strood Community Project	Medway, Kent	Rochester
The TAB Centre	Shoreditch, London	London
A Rocha UK	Southall, London	London
World Action Youth	Waltham forest , East London	London
Act Network - Mission Year	London	London
St Luke's church	Stockport	Chester
Parish of Aston & Nechells	Birmingham	Birmingham
St Mary's Church, Lincoln Green	Leeds	Ripon & Leeds
Churches Key Project	South Tyneside	Durham
St Marys Church, Slough	Slough	Oxford
The Church of the Good Shepherd	Rugeley Staffordshire	Lichfield
FACE	Houghton-le-Spring	Durham
Lift Community Trust	Birmingham	Birmingham
Penryn & Falmouth Foodbank	Penryn and Falmouth	Truro
LAMP	Luton	St Albans
Latymer Christian Fellowship Trust	London	London
Open Gate	All within North East England	Durham
Heartsease Community Project	Norwich	Norwich
Linacre Methodist Mission & Neighbourhood Centre	Liverpool	Liverpool
Reachin Higher	Croydon	Southwark
WSPM Agape Community Project	Harrow Road/ Queens Park Area	London
Edward Road Baptist Church	Birmingham	Birmingham
Norwich Foodbank	Norwich	Norwich
InSpire at St Peters Ltd	London	Southwark
Community Advance Project	London	London
Mike's Place	Sittingbourne	Canterbury
Pan-Asia Community Housing	Birmingham	Birmingham
Shrodoba Scrapstore	Rotherham, South Yorkshire	Sheffield

London Ecumenical Aids Trust (LEAT)	London	Southwark
Trinity Churches	Shrewsbury	Lichfield
SHINE	Bradford	Bradford
Paul & Barny's Place	Oldbury	Birmingham
The Parish of Old St Pancras	London	London
CHAT Trust	Newcastle upon Tyne	Newcastle
Sussex Pathways	Lewes	Chichester
All Saints Landmark Centre	Bradford	Bradford
Harbour Bideford	Bideford	Exeter
Parish Church of St. Chad's Lichfield	Lichfield	Lichfield
St Martin's Centre Partnership	Newcastle upon Tyne	Newcastle
Oxford Vineyard Church	Oxford	Oxford
Jeremiah Project	Mitcham	London
Life Expectancy Wirral	Wirral	Chester
Slough YMCA	Slough	Oxford
Hope into Action	Peterborough and Cambridge	Ely
The Centre Project	Leicester	Leicester
Write Here Write Now	Birmingham	Birmingham
Jericho Road Project	Nottingham	Southwell
Preston and South Ribble (North) Street Pastors	Preston	Blackburn
Church of Christ the King, Beaumont Leys	Leicester	Leicester
Grease Monkeys - Hope Church Shrewsbury	Shrewsbury	Lichfield
WHEAT Mentor Support Trust	London	London
St Luke's Neighbourhood Trust	Sunderland	Durham
St Barnabas Community learning Centre	Huntingdon, Cambs	Ely
St. Edward's Church, Mottingham	Mottingham, London	Southwark
Maryam Project, St. Philip's, Girdlington	Bradford	Bradford
St. John's Church	Knotty Ash, Liverpool	Liverpool
St Paul's Church	Stratford East, London	Chelmsford
Lifeteams limited	Stockton on tees	Durham
St Paul's Church	Cheltenham	Gloucester
Bacup Family Centre	Bacup, Lancashire	Manchester
NewStarts	Bromsgrove	Worcester
Catalyst Urban Trust	London	London
The Clock Tower Sanctuary-	Brighton & Hove	Chichester
The Thornbury Centre	Bradford	Bradford
Narthex Sparkhill	Sparkhill, Sparkbrook &	Birmingham

	Springfield	
House of Heroes	Barnstaple	Exeter
Trussell Trust	Salisbury	Salisbury
Saint Mark's Community Developments	Birmingham	Birmingham
Northmoor Live At Home Scheme	Manchester	Manchester
Worcester CASH	Worcester	Worcester
Urban Hope, St Stephen's youth work project	Islington, London	London
The Croydon APCMH	Croydon	Southwark
Streetspace	National	Birmingham
Toucan Employment	London	London
Bridge Street Church	Leeds	Ripon & Leeds
Willows Counselling Service	Swindon and surrounding area	Bristol
North Benwell Youth Project	Newcastle upon Tyne (West End)	Newcastle
Restore	Derby	Derby
STAK	St Austell	Truro
St Peter's, Stonegrove	Edgware	London
Devon and Cornwall Food Association	Plymouth	Exeter
Saltbox	Stoke on Trent	Lichfield
St James Parish Church	Haslingden, Rossendale	Blackburn
Ykids	Bootle, Merseyside	Liverpool
Manchester Sudanese Tree Development Community	Manchester	Manchester
St Andrews Community Network	Liverpool	Liverpool
Inspire Middleton	Middleton	Manchester
The Parish of S. Margaret, Hollinwood & S. Chad, Limeside	Oldham	Manchester
St Martin Church	Sherwood, Nottingham	Southwell
St James Church	Sandwell	Birmingham
Hope Housing	Bradford	Bradford
St. Luke with St. Philip's Church	Blackburn	Blackburn
Prestbury and Pittville Youth (PPY)	Cheltenham	Gloucester
St Michael and All Angels, Bartley Green	Bartley Green, Birmingham	Birmingham
Haringey Churches Winter Shelter	London	London
St Katharine's Matson	Gloucester	Gloucester
Faversham Assistance Centre (FACE)	Faversham, Kent	Canterbury
The Eastside Centre	Sutton-in-Ashfield	Southwell

Avenue Centre	Southampton	Winchester
Lacha Roi Ministries	Barking/ Dagenham, Redbridge	Chelmsford
Camborne Parish Church	Camborne	Truro
Worth Unlimited	Birmingham and North London	Birmingham
Booth Centre	Manchester	Manchester
St Thomas Community Project	Garretts Green	Birmingham
St Peter's Church	Klingston upon Thames	Southwark
Reading Refugee Support Group	Reading	Oxford
REM Educational Centre (REMEC)	New Cross Gate	Southwark
All Saints Church Liverpool (previously St Philip's)	Liverpool	Liverpool
Church of England 'Social Responsibility' (and trustee of various organisations)	Hull	York
St Christopher's Youth Project	Bradford	Bradford
Choices	Ealing	London
mega mentors	London	London
Walsall Street Teame	Walsall	Lichfield
Supporting the Local Community at St Aidan's	Leeds, West Yorkshire	Ripon & Leeds
St Martin's Youth & Community Centre	Birmingham	Birmingham
St. Aidans Community Group	Sunderland	Durham
Good News Family Care (Homes) Ltd	Buxton	Derby
Three Spires Tots	Coventry, West Midlands	Coventry
St Luke's Church Centre	Birmingham	Birmingham
Christchurch on the Mead, Hackney Marsh	Hackney (E9)	London
Emmanuel Christian Centre	Lincoln	Lincoln
The Church In Cottingley	Leeds	Ripon & Leeds
Christian Muslim Forum	London	Southwark
The Potters House Church (The Chapelton Theatrical Educational Project)	Leeds	Ripon & Leeds
Slough Refugee Support	Slough	Oxford
Huyton Churches Training Services	Huyton, Knowsley, Merseyside	Liverpool
ASCEND	South Oxhey, Watford	St Albans
The Feast	Birmingham - Sparkhill and	Birmingham

	Aston	
St Christopher's Church / The Springfield Project	Birmingham	Birmingham
Balsall heath Church Centre	Blrmingham	Birmingham
Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire	Nottingham	Southwell
Lifespring Church	New Ollerton	Southwell
Phoenix Detached Youth Project	Meadowell North Shields Tyne And Wear	Newcastle
Hetton & Eppleton Community Hall	Hetton-le-Hole	Durham
The Rock Youth Project	Carlisle	Carlisle
St. Aidan's Church	Speke	Liverpool
St Austell Foodbank	St Austell	Truro
St Oswald's Church	Netherton	Liverpool
Cedar Housing Nottingham	Nottinghamshire County Boroughs (Broxtowe, Rushcliffe, Gedling)	Southwell
St Mary Magdalene Church	Gorleston, Great Yarmouth	Norwich
Brighton and Hove City Mission Basics Bank	Brighton and Hove	Chichester
Parish of Rochester, St Peter's with St Margaret's	Rochester	Rochester
St John and St James Church, Orrell Hey	Bootle , Liverpool	Liverpool
Refocus	kent and the South east of London	Rochester
Project Freedom	Earlestown	Liverpool
58i	Nottingham	Southwell
Thomas Helwys Baptist Church	Lenton, Nottingham	Southwell
The Peace Alliance	London	London
St Chads Church	Romiley, Stockport	Chester
Kairos WWT	Coventry	Coventry
Marsha Phoenix Memorial Trust	London	London
Streetspace WSM	Weston Super Mare	Bath & Wells
The Nehemiah Project	London	Southwark
St Philip's Church	Bournemouth	Salisbury
St Peter's	Penhill, Swindon	Bristol
Team Parish of Oldham Community Project	Oldham	Manchester
Axminster Alternative Job Club	Axminster	Exeter
Community Projects Carlisle	Carlisle	Carlisle
St Swithuns Church	Hither Green, Lewisham	Southwark

Weston Community Developments Ltd	Southampton	Winchester
South Derbyshire Youth for Christ	Swadlincote	Derby
Caris Islington	London Islington	London
Hemsworth Christian Fellowship	Hemsworth	Wakefield
Prestbury and Pittville Youth (PPY)	Cheltenham	Gloucester
The Lighthouse at Weston	Weston-super-Mare	Bath & Wells
Olive Branch Trust (St John's Bowling Network)	Bradford	Bradford
Meersbrook Park United Reformed Church	Sheffield	Sheffield
Your Space: E16 Counselling project	London (E16)	Chelmsford
Lunch Positive	Brighton & Hove	Chichester
East Norfolk Youth for Christ	Great Yarmouth	Norwich
St Mark's Church	New Ferry, Wirral	Chester
Ashleworth Parochial Church Council	Ashleworth	Gloucester
Godly Play Project	Wolverhampton	Lichfield
Longhill Linkup	Hull	York
Priory Parish	Birkenhead	Chester
Latchkey Youth Club	Northampton	Peterborough
Action Group for Halcyon	Plymouth	Exeter
St Mary's Community Centre	Sheffield	Sheffield
Canaan Project	London	London
Healthy Living Projects	Ilford	Chelmsford
St Mary the Virgin Church, Rowner, Gosport	Gosport	Portsmouth
Crime to Christ Charitable Trust	Northampton	Peterborough
Holme Christian Community	Bradford	Bradford
Christ Church with Saint Ann Newcastle	Newcastle upon Tyne	Newcastle
Community Hope	Lytham St. Annes	Blackburn
Christ Church	Liverpool	Liverpool
Open Hands Coventry	Coventry	Coventry
Lilies of the Valley	Keighley, West Yorkshire	Bradford
St Hilda's Church Community	Hull	York
Lee Oasis	London borough of Lewisham	Southwark
Dayspring Ministry	Croydon	Southwark
Urban Devotion Birmingham	Birmingham	Birmingham
Alternatives Trust East London	Newham	London
Loaves N Fishes	Sandwell	Birmingham
Working Chance	London	London

Sowing Seeds Ministries	Middlesbrough	Durham
South West Community Chaplaincy - Peninsula Initiative	Devon, Cornwall and SW Somerset	Exeter
Parish Nursing at Church of Resurrection	Leicester	Leicester
Wharton PCC	Winsford, Cheshire	Chester
St Pauls Church	Plymouth	Exeter
Community Action Norwich	Lakenham, Norwich	Norwich
All Souls Church and Community Centre	Nottingham	Southwell
St Johns Community Development Project	London	Southwark
South Tyneside Churches' KEY Project	South Tyneside	Newcastle
All Saints Liverpool (previously St Philip's/St John's St Mary's St Cyprian's churches)	Liverpool	Liverpool
Open Door Community Project and HTK Project	Runcorn, Halton	Chester
The Bridge Pregnancy Crisis Centre	Penge, London SE20 8JB	London
Yarpole Community Project	Yarpole, Leominster	Hereford
Brook Farm Community Association	Malvern	Worcester
New Life Community Church Milnrow	Milnrow/Newhey	Manchester
Chapel Allerton youth project	Leeds	Ripon & Leeds
St. Clements Church	Ordsall-Salford	Manchester
Perspective Trust	Kettering	Peterborough
St Chad's Community Project	Gateshead, Tyne & Wear	Durham
Communityworks	Bradford	Bradford
Oaks Church	Skelmersdale	Liverpool
Portobello Community Forum	Wakefield	Wakefield
Step by Step (Cumbria)	Kendal	Carlisle
Onset Trust/Options Crisis Pregnancy Service	Dunstable	St Albans
St. Paul's Church, Stockingford,	Nuneaton	Coventry
Redbridge Faith Forum	London Borough of Redbridge	Chelmsford
St Saviours Community Centre Ltd	Folkestone	Canterbury
U-Turn Project	Tower Hamlets & Newham	London
Westbourne Park Family Centre	London, Westminster	London
Holy Trinity Church	Barnstaple	Leicester
The Trinity Centre	Batley	Wakefield
Cheetham Communities Together	Manchester	Manchester

Nottingham Arimathea Trust	Nottingham	Southwell
Community Childcare Service	London	Chelmsford
Weoley Castle Community Projects	Birmingham	Birmingham
Feltham Community Chaplaincy Trust	London	London