BURNLEY PENDLE & ROSSENDALE
COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE
Registered Charity Number: 1062446 Company Limited By Guarantee: 3328219

CVS in Rossendale
Work Report 2025/26

Helping people to help others

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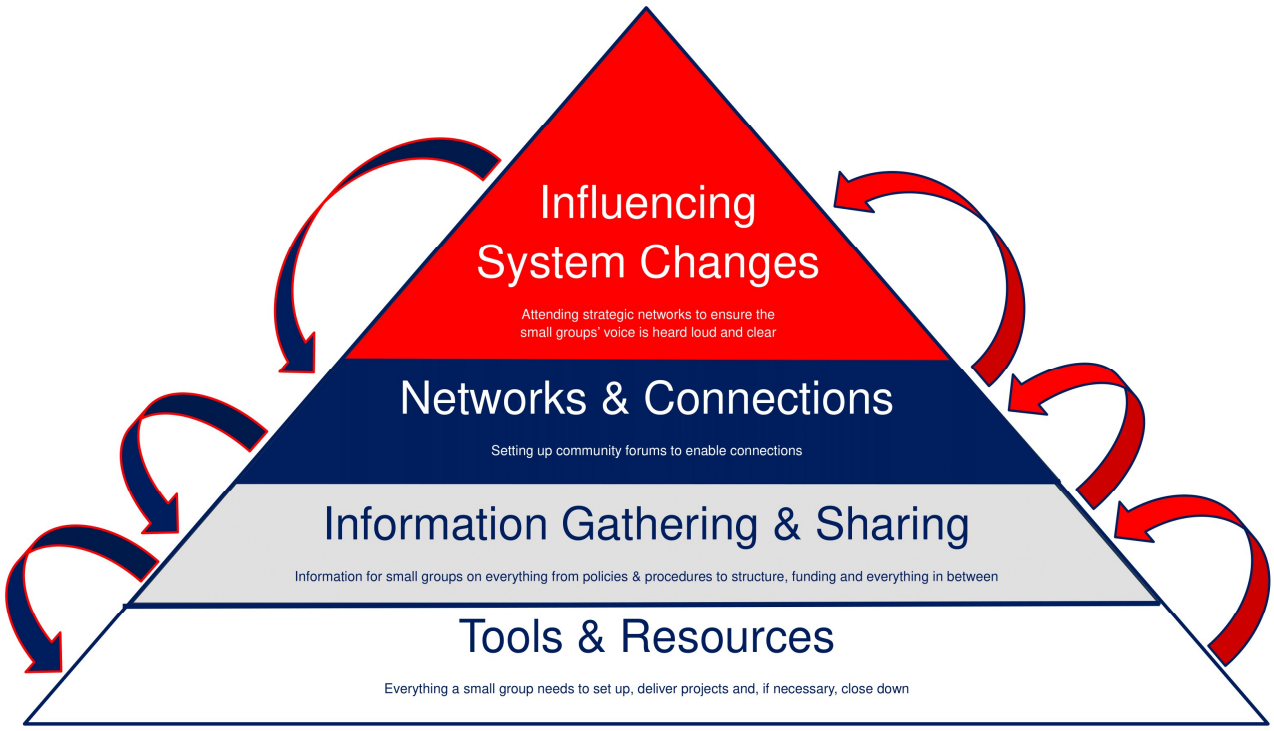
Introduction

BPRCVS and Rossendale Borough Council have had a beneficial partnership over many years. Although the partnership has not had a Service Level Agreement in place for a number of years, CVS continues to deliver vital services in the Rossendale community.

The work CVS does enables more funding to be brought into Rossendale. This enhances not only the voluntary, community and faith sector landscape but also the economic landscape of Rossendale.

Infrastructure support within the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector is essential for fostering resilience, sustainability, and growth. At CVS, our infrastructure principles ensure that organisations and community groups receive the guidance, resources, and advocacy they need to thrive.

Our work is governed by the four principles of infrastructure:



We **Gather and Share Information** from our projects which support our communities and from our VCF groups who support our communities and equip them with the **Tools and Resources** they need. We feed that information into our **Networks and Connections** including community forums, national bodies and partnerships to help to **Influence System Changes**.

We then support VCF groups to navigate those **System Changes** by equipping them with the **Tools and Resources** they need to support our communities and encourage them to **Gather and Share Information** at our **Networks and Connections** to help **Influence System Changes and so it goes on….**

If we weren't here to support Rossendale groups in this way, working to these principles, working with groups to help influence strategic decision makers, VCFSE groups would not have these funding opportunities or other resources to support our communities.

Supporting Groups in Rossendale

Name of Group	Bacup	Britannia & Lee Mill	Goodshaw & Cribden	Greenfield & eden	Hareholme & Waterfoot	Haslingden	Helmshore	Longholme	Whitewell & stacksteads	Healy &Whitworth	Greensclough	Facit & Shawforth	Irwell	Worsley
Bacup Credit Union		X												
Bacup Park Bowling Club		X												
Bacup Royal Theatre Group	X													
Beacon Dementia & Wellbeing							X							
Calm & Connected CIC (Formally UK Yoge)					X									
Civi Pride Rossendale								X						
Dansworks Dance Academy of Performing Arts		X												
East Lancs Down's Syndrome Support Group							X							
First Choice Credit Union						X								
Friends of Haslingden Library						X								
Friends of Pithead Park						X								
Friends Reminisce			X											
Focus & Fly									X					
Haslingden Squash Club					X									
Whitewell Bottom Community Centre									X					
Job Cnetre Plus Rawtenstall								X						
Lalatte Lounge					X									
Livewell Health CIC									X					
M3 Project					X									
Whitworth Leisure Centre										X				
Neurorehabpt							X							
Ponies for People									X					
Rammy Men				X										
Red Rose Pest Control Community Support C.I.C.						X								
Rossendale Borough Council											X			
Rossendale Refugee support Group				X										
Rossendale RUFC					X									
Rossendale Talking Newspaper Association					X									
Stackesteads Countryside Park Group									X					
The Whitaker								X						
Spectrum Inclusion CIC					X									
The Raft Foundation								X						
The Sophie Lancaster Foundation						X								
Valley Counselling & Young People Services			X											
WAVE Adventure						X								

Above is a snapshot of the groups by Ward we are currently supporting in Rossendale. We have supported and do support others across the Rossendale area.

Volunteers and volunteer-led groups are a hugely vital resource and of significant importance to CVS as they are the shining light in our local communities. It is absolutely vital that these groups get the support they need to succeed and that's what we're here to do.

The CVS Development Team provides support to VCFSE groups and organisations with policies and procedures, governance, best practice, funding and grant bids, DBS checks, volunteer recruitment and management and much more.

The DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) team underwent an intense review of our processes and procedures in 2025 and passed with 100% compliance.

Our Payroll Bureau Service supports organisations to pay their staff; we have 12 organisations signed up to this service with 6 of those being Rossendale groups.

Whether supporting a group to develop and grow, providing access to new volunteers, or by referring and signposting new clients and beneficiaries, we're always here to support local VCFSE groups.

After all, ***helping people to help others*** is our mantra.

Representing in and for Rossendale

CVS attends strategic and community networks regularly so that we can stay informed on future plans and developments, and in turn provide the relevant representation and support to communities and residents.

Our continued representation and time invested at strategic level ensures funding keeps coming into Rossendale for the small groups, who so, often cannot afford the time to attend and have their voice heard. Current funding includes: Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups' Funding Programme, Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Grants, Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Large Grants and we are working with the National Lottery and National Association of Voluntary and Community Action on a programme which will include funding opportunities which will benefit Rossendale's small groups.

Community networks include: Rossendale Connected, Burnley Linked and People of Pendle.

Locality meetings in Rossendale include: Rossendale Connected Health and Wellbeing Partnership, Rossendale Sports and Physical Activity Partnership, Rossendale Holiday Activity and Food Programme, collaboration forums, etc.

Strategic networks include East Lancashire VCF Leadership Group, Transformation Group, Urgent Emergency Care Partnership, Lancashire and South Cumbria Alliance working with the Integrated Care Board, other partnership meetings, etc.

We also work with National Association of Voluntary and Community Action to help influence national government.

The Chief Executive Officer and Operations Manager are invited to and attend numerous strategic meetings – a juggling act in itself!

Rossendale Connected

CVS was one of the partners who helped to set up Rossendale Connected during the Covid 19 pandemic which affected us all so profoundly. The idea was to come together to ensure consistent messages were being sent out to the community, work wasn't being duplicated and partnerships were strengthened.

This evolved into the Rossendale Connected meeting which are held once a month and administered by Rossendale Borough Council. The meetings provide an opportunity for groups and organisations to come together, share information, ideas, suggestions and ask questions. With connections being made within the meetings and strengthened outside of the meetings.

With permission from Rossendale Connected, CVS has set up two similar forums for Burnley and for Pendle. The Chair of Rossendale Connected launched both of the forums and gave her blessing for them to 'steal wholesale' the idea and process of Rossendale Connected.

As well as contributing regularly to Rossendale Connected, CVS is proud to say that both Burnley Linked and People of Pendle are thriving with over 120 members each – thank you Rossendale Connected!

Social Prescribing in Rossendale

The Social Prescribing Team for Rossendale has 12 members of staff comprising an Operations Manager, Health and Wellbeing Programme Manager and Project Support, 2 part time Social Connectors as well as 1 Adult Social Care Social Connector and a Hoarding specific Social Connector. We also have 2 x part time Development Workers, 1 x full time Volunteer Hub Co-ordinator and 2 x project support workers as well as 2 x part time admin workers

Co-location of Health and Wellbeing Teams is being considered across Burnley and Pendle due to the successful integration of the SPLWs and Social Connectors with Integrated Neighbourhood Teams and other healthcare teams. Perhaps this is something Rossendale could consider for the future.

Cases are increasingly complex - the cost-of-living crisis is impacting on our communities and so increasing referrals substantially. Teams are regularly engaging with the community at various events, which is proving successful in building relationships with other services and raising community awareness of the service available.

Social Prescribing for children and young people is similar to Social Prescribing for adults. We operate in virtually the same way with the only real difference being the focus is put upon the health and wellbeing of the child or young person. However, supporting children is a lot more complex than supporting adults therefore, referral numbers tend to be lower. We can and do support the whole family in Pendle including parents, grandparents and carers through our services for adults. We don't have funding for this service in Rossendale or in Burnley; however, we are in negotiations with Lancashire County Council and have recently sent a potential funding source to Rossendale Borough Council and Burnley Borough Council.

We look to improve health and wellbeing via non-clinical, community services by enabling referral destinations (voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise organisations) to accept referrals.

Getting Around in Rossendale

Communicars is a community transport service delivered by BPRCVS as part of a consortium for the people of Rossendale. The service is reliant on volunteer drivers who use their own cars to transport passengers. The service helps the socially isolated, disabled and elderly get to groups, lunch clubs, trips into town, and so much more.

We are, at present, short of drivers in the Rossendale area and we are working hard to recruit in the area as we know it is a desperately needed service.

Funding is limited and the service is boosted by CVS to enable support of those most in need of this service. CVS Trustees have invested in this much needed service for many years.

The minibus is also driven by volunteer drivers and is available for hire by any of the VCFSE groups and organisations in Rossendale.

We are always looking for more volunteer drivers – please contact susan.cole@bprcvs.co.uk to help turn miles into smiles!

Volunteering in Rossendale

CVS is revitalising volunteering in Rossendale. The Volunteer Hub is the place to go for all things volunteering and support for your group. What we don't know about volunteering isn't worth knowing!

Whether you're an individual looking for voluntary opportunities or a VCFSE group or organisation looking to recruit volunteers, we can help.

The Hub is busy getting out and about in the community at many different events. We also have a monthly forum where existing, new and potential volunteers as well as VCFSE groups and organisations are welcomed to discuss all things volunteering.

We promote the existing CVS training and volunteer recruitment programme to sustain and increase the current level of volunteers in Rossendale – targeting gaps where volunteers are needed. We also support organisations with recruiting volunteers, adopting necessary policies and procedures, maintaining and managing volunteers.

Our volunteer process was updated with the development of a handbook and application form in line with beginning to deliver the new National Lottery Community Fund funded Volunteering for Health and Wellbeing Hub in July 2023.

Volunteer forums (get togethers) are organised, where volunteers can share information and experiences with each other. These and the training sessions and workshops we deliver for groups are very popular.

DBS sign up is also popular. The information and guidance given is second to none and groups have reported the ease of application.

Volunteer Celebration event and Christmas Party held every year.

Please get in touch with the Hub: thehub@bprcvs.co.uk or our Development Team: groupsupport@bprcvs.co.uk

We are also working with Lancashire Association of CVS' across the county to support Volunteering for health. We are developing a process to be used by all organisations who support volunteers who support people to increase their health and wellbeing.

Funding in Rossendale

CVS strives to bring in the funding so vital to our small voluntary, community and faith groups. We involve ourselves in strategic partnerships both within and without Rossendale. This, we do, to enable the voice of those small groups who rarely get the opportunity to evidence the great work they do at tables where influencers and decision-makers sit.

To this end we have successfully delivered a number of funding streams to groups in Rossendale:

For over 12 years we have successfully negotiated **The Social Prescribing Small Groups' Funding** which is attached to our Social Connectors. The funding is aimed at smaller voluntary, community and faith groups, in particular who are a vital part of the Social Prescribing Programme. Without the funding programme our Social Connectors (and Social Prescribing Linkworkers whoever they are employed by) would have fewer

options to refer beneficiaries into locally particularly amongst volunteer-led smaller groups.

Year on year, CVS has brought funding into Rossendale:

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2014/15		
Rossendale Hospice	Get Active, Feel Good	9,997.00
Edgeside & District Partnership	Patter & Natter, Time for Me	1,600.00
Proffitts	Pop up Restaurant	9,765.00
Vets in Communities	Dig for VIC	9,979.00
Rossendale Citizens Advice Bureau	Support Through Advice	10,000.00
Horse + Bamboo	Baby Boo	19,659.00
The Friends of St John's Churchyard	Churchyard	1,000.00
Mid Rossendale Credit Union	Join the Club	6,008.00
Haslingden Community Link	Holistic Inspirations	10,000.00
Rainhall Centre	Healthy Lifestyle	4,060.00
Stacksteads Allotment Society	Build & Grow Gardening Project	4,998.00
Total for Rossendale		**£87,066.00**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2015/16		
Lancashire Wildlife Trust	A Breath of Fresh Air	4,005.00
Veterans in Communities	Positive Art	2,854.00
Lumb Millennium Green Trust	Fit for Life	10,000.00
Proffitts CIC	Home/Pop up Restaurant	8,150.00
Bury and Rossendale National Childbirth Trust	Sling Meet and Library	1,358.00
Edgeside and District Community Partnership	Musical Stories	10,000.00
Community Assets Standing Tall (CAST)	Healthy Connections - past and present	9,920.00
BaRB FC Community Supporters	Bacup Borough Over 50s Walking Football Club	9,989.00
Friends of Rossendale Museum	Reminiscence Sessions	6,266.00
Action for ASD	Family Support Project	10,000.00
The White Horse Project	Health Minds, Healthy Bodies	9,500.00
Stubbylee Community Greenhouses/Bacup Consortium Trust	Stubbylee Community Recovery College	10,000.00
Seniors Together in Rossendale	Memory Box	8,000.00
Crossroads Care East Lancashire	Getting Together Singing Group	18,018.00
Understanding Autism North West	Autism Therapy	9,458.00
The Rossendale Befriending Service	Singing and Support Group	7,560.00
Total for Rossendale		**£135,078.00**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2016/17		
Ponies for People	Ponies for Wellbeing	2,000.00

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2016/17		
Bacup Pride	Active in the Park	9,785.00
Cotton Shed Theatre Company	Sliver Shed	9,150.00
Understanding Autism NW	Autism Consultancy project	9,965.60
Whitewell Bottom Community Ass	Sit Down to Fitness	1,980.00
Harvey Longworth Court Residents Association	HLC Sports Club	1776.30
Whitewell Bottom Pre-School	Sport and Healthy Eating	600.00
Rossendale Revival	Xlerate	9,948.00
PTFA St James CE Primary School, Haslingden	Allotment Development/ Reflective Sensory Garden	8,000.00
Friends Reminisce	Arts for Health	3,240.00
Friends of Snig Hole Park	Buddy Board	1,500.00
Lancashire Equalities Organisation Ltd	Health in Mind	7,100.00
Bacup Family Centre	Giving a Helping Hand	10,000.00
Stubbylee Community Greenhouses	Parkrecycle	10,000.00
Rossendale Basketball Club	Junior Basketball	2,000.00
St Anne's Parochial Church Council	Fun 4 Families	2,820.00
Haslingden Girls and Ladies Football Club	Free Soccer Saturday School	2,000.00
Rossendale Football Community Trust Limited	Rossendale Football Academy for 6 - 11-year-olds	2,000.00
The White Horse Project	Young, Fit and Healthy	4,480.00
Yoga Therapy for MS, Rossendale	Expansion of the group	3,076.00
Harvey Longworth Court Residents Association	The Festive Season	972.77
Understanding Autism North West	Alternative Autism Christmas	1,990.00
Total for Rossendale		**£102,007.37**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2017/18		
Rossendale Football Community Trust Ltd	Tackling Inactivity in Families	4,993.00
Haslingden Civic Pride	Planting up Flower Beds in Haslingden	1,650.00
The White Horse Project	Romance Academy	4,800.00
Understanding Autism North West	Autism Workshops Project	3,855.60
Pelvic Floor Aware Exercise for All	Pelvic Floor with Core Training	1,400.00
Whitewell Bottom Pre-School	Mini Me Activity and Exercise	700.00
Rossendale Mini and Junior Section	11-16 Engagement	5,000.00
Cotton Shed Theatre Company	Beep' Shed!	2,898.00
Harvey Longworth Court Residents and Community	Fit Therapy Exercise Over 60 Years	1,142.87
Rossendale Football Community Trust Ltd	2 New Youth Football Teams	4,052.00
Friends of Whitworth Library Group	Community Activities and Performance Opportunities for Wellbeing	4,968.00
Spectacle Arts	One in Five	2,451.45

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2017/18		
Edgeside and District Community Partnership	Little People, Big Adventures	5,000.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Association	Seated Exercise	1,080.00
Apna Rossendale	Apna Sayhath	2,975.00
Friends Reminisce	Arts for Health	2,910.00
Kids in Rossendale	BPRCVS	500.00
Total for Rossendale		**£50,375.92**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2018/19		
Focus & Fly CIC	Focus & Fly: Lift Off	1,330.00
Be Well - with Ekah Foundation	Be Well - with Ekah Project	1,480.00
The Magdalene Project	Time to Fly	1,750.00
Manchester Men's Health	Whitworth Shed Project	3,885.00
Reaching Empowerment and Diversity CIC	Reach Your Potential	3,960.00
Understanding Autism North West	Autism Therapy for the autism community of Burnley, Pendle & Rossendale	1,326.67
The White Horse Project	Clean and Shine	2,400.00
Whitewell Bottom pre-school	Kids Rock	1,000.00
Activities R Us- East Lancs Care Homes	Brighter Days	1,293.33
Community Assets Standing Tall	Stimulating Exercise Combating Dementia and Social Isolation	3,998.00
Total for Rossendale		**£22,423.00**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2019/20		
Activities R Us - East Lancs Care Homes	The Sound of Music	1,317.60
Pelvic Floor Aware Exercise 4All	Pelvic Floor Safe Exercise	1,775.00
Manchester Men's Health	Whitworth Shed Project- Broadening Horizons	3,885.00
Cowpe Community Hall	Cowpe Community Defibrillator	650.00
Friends Reminisce	Reminiscence & Arts for Health	1,900.00
Made in Haslingden	Improving Wellbeing for People Living with Dementia and their Carers	2,436.00
HLC Residents Assoc & Community Friends	Active Body & Mind Booster	829.92
Understanding Autism North West	Autism Therapy for the autism community of Burnley Pendle & Rossendale.	1,326.66
Whitewell Bottom Pre-school	Together we can Combat Children's Health and Mental Well-being	1,360.00
Cotton Shed Theatre Company	A Brighter Day	1,250.00
The Therapeutic Forest CIC	Woodcraft for Wellbeing	3,947.00

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2019/20		
Stacksteads Countryside Park Group	Summer Fun	3,210.00
Bacup Family Centre	Healthier Me!	7,770.00
Rossendale Leisure Trust	Adult Learn to Swim and Swim Regularly	5,054.60
Lancashire Dementia Training and Consultancy	Dementia Friendly Schools	3,988.00
Rossendale Leisure Trust	Edgeside Park Families and Children Project	3,206.70
Total for Rossendale		**£43,906.48**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2020/21		
Pelvic Floor Aware Exercise 4all	Video Based, awareness advice and exercise	1,319.90
Holistic Child and Family Therapy CIC	Raising Awareness around Additional Sensory Needs in our Community	1,266.66
Civic Pride Rossendale	Rewilding Rossendale	1,750.00
Shape Lancashire CIC	Connect With Shape	948.50
Stacksteads Countryside Park Group	Make Things Beautiful	3,090.00
Bacup Pride	4th Bacup Flower Festival	1,095.00
Unlock Your You CIC	Free Counselling Services	4,095.00
St Anne's Church, Edgeside	Community Worker	3,133.00
RammyMen CIC	Stubbins Mill Support	4,000.00
Activities R Us - East Lancs Care Homes	Art Attack with Creative Mojo	4,996.00
New Parent Support Group	Mini Me Time New Parents Support Group	2,850.00
Haslingden Squash Club Juniors	Design of Junior Squash Team Kit	3,289.20
Rossendale Leisure Trust	Active Lifestyles	5,000.00
Cotton Shed Theatre Company	Christmas Theatre Shed	1,985.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Pre-School	Rebuilding Self Confidence and Self-esteem in our Pre-school Children	450.00
Haslingden Junior Girls and Ladies f/c	Free Saturday Soccer School (Phase 2)	5,000.00
Friends Reminisce	Friends Reminisce 'Arts for Health'	2,700.00
Weir Pride	Weir Playground Project	630.00
Lancashire Dementia Training & Consultancy	Supporting Dementia Carers	3,240.00
CAST	Keeping connected through memory box workshops	4,260.00
Total for Rossendale		**£55,098.26**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2021/22		
St Anne's Edgeside	Moving & Makers	4,000.00

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2021/22		
St Thomas & St James Churches	Thursday Friends & Food	4,867.25
Unlock your you	Mental Health and Wellbeing Service	5,000.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Centre CIO	Seated Exercise	1,230.00
Healthy Mind Games CIC / Rammy Gamers	Miniature Modelling and Tabletop Strategy Gaming for Beginners	5,000.00
Vision	Youth Counselling	5,000.00
Manchester Men's Health CIC - Whitworth Men's Shed	Restart	4,462.50
MS Angling and Education	MS angling & education - wellbeing Wednesday/Feel good Friday fishing sessions.	1,666.66
Friends Reminisce	Get into Gardening	5,000.00
ABD Centre	Nurture - Parent/Baby Bonding Group	735.00
Rossendale Rounders	Rossendale Rounders Club –indoor and outdoor pay and play	3,208.85
Dansworks Dance Academy of Performing Arts CIC	Targeted Performers - Changing Lives	5,000.00
Braille IT	Orbit Reader 40	1,311.19
White Horse Project	White Horse Active	2,670.00
Equalities and justice Northwest (Previously Lancashire Equalities Organisation	Me Time Project	2,800.00
Total for Rossendale		**£51,951.45**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2022/23		
The ABD Centre	Bacup Arts and Crafts	1,701.00
Beacon Dementia and Wellbeing	The Beacon - Dementia Carers' Group	2,388.75
Dansworks Dance Academy of performing Arts CIC	Targeted Performers – Changing Lives	5,000.00
Focus & Fly CIC	The Harbour Project	5,000.00
Whitworth Men's Shed	Whitworth Men's Shed Wellbeing Sessions	4,738.00
Bacup Cinema Group	Bacup Cinema Community Engagement Groups	3,000.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Centre	Its Slime for Fun	4,820.00
Rammy Men CIC	Another Option	5,000.00
Girls Up and Active	Groove & Glow	1,466.00
New Era	Capacity Building - SP Support	3,333.33
Brighter Lives	Capacity Building - SP Support	3,333.33
CAB Rossendale	Capacity Building - SP Support	3,659.86
CAB Rossendale	Capacity Building - SP Support Additional	5,488.00
Total for Rossendale		**£48,928.27**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2023/24		
The Greater Good Project CIC	Free & Easel	4,950.00
Beacon Dementia and Wellbeing	Enhancing Services and increasing wellbeing for people living with dementia and their carers	3,405.15
Stronger Together Carers Group	Enriching Lives Together	1,000.00
Rossendale refugee Support Group	Ongoing Development of weekly Drop-In	2,145.00
Aged Blind & Disabled Centre (Bacup) Charitable Trust	Stitch in Time - Sewing Class	2,572.00
Let's Talk Project	Middlemen	2,350.00
Goofus Theatre	Reach	2,320.00
Stacksteads Countryside Park Group	Kay's Friendship Lunch	1,948.00
Bacup Natural History Museum (Bacup NAT)	Football 4 Wellbeing	1,857.00
Rammy Men CIC	In The Shop	5,000.00
Chai Rossendale	Chai Self-Defence	1,680.00
Move2Change CIC	Outdoor wellbeing	2,604.00
UKYOGA CIC	Empowering Educators for Holistic Student Wellbeing	5,000.00
WaterWell Foundation CIC	Spring into Action	5,000.00
Spectrum Inclusion Rossendale	Support Sessions and Safe Space Directory	233.85
Nordic Shield CIC	Nordic wellbeing for Better Health	1,900.00
Total for Rossendale		**£43,965.00**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2024/25		
Aged Blind & Disabled (Centre) Bacup Charitable Trust	Dance 4 All	4,116.00
The Greater Good Project CIC	Craft in the Community	5,000.00
Lancashire Collaborative Ministry	Unity in the Community	2,500.00
Parkwood Tennis Club	Walking Tennis	2,790.00
Spectrum Inclusion CIC	Spectrum Lantern Campaign	1,938.64
Focus & Fly	Lift Off	5,000.00
East Lancs Down's Syndrome Support Group	Social Activities Programme	4,818.00
Whitewell Bottom Pre-School	To promote Health and wellbeing within Pre-school and the wider community.	1,960.00
The White horse Project	The Great Outdoors	5,000.00
Rammy Men CIC	Activity Led Mental Wellbeing	5,000.00
Stronger Together Carers Group	Musinc Movement and Healthy minds	2,482.00

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2024/25		
WAVE Adventure	Active Outdoors Families	3,707.29
Total for Rossendale		**£44,311.93**

Integrated Care Board Social Prescribing Small Groups Fund 2025/26		
The Greater Good Project	Rhythm & Reminiscence	4,750.00
Wave Adventure	Volunteering Programme for Families	5,000.00
Whitworth Leisure Centre	Encourage participation in fitness activities by delivering targeted introductory courses and ultimately increase membership of the leisure centre	5,000.00
Rossendale Refugee Support Group	Physical Activity, Social Contact & Mental Health for Refugees and people seeking Asylum	5,000.00
Rossendale Rugby Club	Walking Rugby	3,100.00
Manchester Men's Health CIC	"Tall Tales for All Men" – Creative Interventions to Raise Awareness of Male Suicide and Men's Health in Rossendale	4,956.00
Haslingden Squash Club	Launch a Squash Development Programme for Adults	3,664.50
Rammy Men	Bowling Us Over!	5,000.00
ABD Centre	Keeping Active	4,500.00
Ponies for People	Ride fit and Wellbeing	4,150.00
More in The Room CIC	Menopause and More	1,529.26
Total for Rossendale		**£46,649.76**

Overall total brought into Rossendale by CVS from the Integrated Care Board's Social Prescribing for Small Groups' Funding for Rossendale's smaller voluntary, community and faith groups

£731,761.44

We have successfully delivered the **Eric Wright Charitable Trust Small Groups' Funding** for 8 years. The Trustees were so impressed with how we processed applications and reported on the groups' activities that they asked us to administer a larger pot of funding. The Trustees liked our processes so much that they asked us to help set up the Wyre and Fylde Small Groups' Funding with Lancashire Association of CVS'.

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2018		
Whitworth Men in Sheds Project	Shed Start Up	250.00
Stonemoor Bottom Residents' Group	Community Events for All 2018	500.00
Activities R Us	Gardeners World	500.00
Civic Pride Rossendale	Bringing colour to Rawtenstall and Waterfoot town centres	500.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Association	Bring Spring to Whitewell Bottom!	500.00

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2018		
Weir Pride	Beautiful Blooming Weir	500.00
Arty Party Rossendale	Community Arts Projects	500.00
Ekah Foundation CIC	Young People's Future Building	400.00
Barrowford Civic Pride	St Thomas Cemetery Restoration	394.56
Cowpe Memorial Fund	Renovation of Cowpe Memorial Garden - Phase 3	500.00
Total for Rossendale		**£4544.56**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2019		
Little Savoy Picture House	Reminiscence Community Cinema	495.00
Bacup and Stacksteads Carnival Organisation	Centenary Carnival	500.00
Weir Pride	Weir Signing	
Bacup Now Community Events Group	Bringing Bacup Together	500.00
Arty Party Rossendale	Families Together	499.00
Made in Haslingden	Community Craft and Man Shed	400.00
Stacksteads Allotment Society	Let's all Work Together	447.75
Seniors Together in Rossendale (STIR)	The Film Club	440.00
Whitewell Breakfast Club	Start The Week Right	250.00
Whitewell Keep Fit Club	Keep Fitter	250.00
Whitewell Zumba Group	Zumba-Long With Us	250.00
Whitewell Yoga Group	Yoga For All!	250.00
Total for Rossendale		**£3286.75**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2020		
Stacksteads Band	Junior Recruits	325.00
Made in Haslingden	Story Box - Connecting our Communities	1,000.00
Whitworth Sports Council	Walking Whitworth Leaflets	500.00
Readstone Environment Group	Litter Collection/ Balsam Bashing/Raising Awareness of everyone's carbon footprint	469.95
Haslingden Methodist Church	Making Haslingden Healthy Project	500.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Organization	Decorate The Centre	500.00
Total for Rossendale		**£3,294.95**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2021		
RammyMen	Public Living Room	1,000.00
CAST (Community Assets Standing Tall)	Overcoming Lockdown	500.00
Unlock Your You	Rossendale Mental Health initial Response Unit	1,000.00

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2021		
Activities R Us - EL Care Homes	Craft and Creation Seniors	1,000.00
Civic Pride Rossendale	Rewilding Rossendale	1,000.00
Rossendale Rounders Club	Rounders	500.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Centre	Community Veg & Fruit Growing	500.00
Friends of Haslingden Cemetery	Open Day and Planting scheme – Haslingden Cemetery	400.00
Total for Rossendale		**£5,900.00**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2022		
Civic Pride Rossendale	Whitaker Park	3,500.00
Rossendale Radio	Community Noticeboard and Hub	£2,340.00
Friends Reminisce	Social Outings	1,400.00
Whitewell Bottom Community Centre	Accessible Community Open Garden	1,000.00
Ponies For People	Ponies Give Pleasure	500.00
More in the Room	Rocking our New Year's Resolutions Together	1,000.00
4th Rossendale Guides	Guides can have adventures	500.00
Rossendale Refugee Support Group	Inclusion Activities	1,000.00
Aged Blind & Disabled Centre Charitable Trust	Women in Music	845.00
Total for Rossendale		**£12,085.00**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2023		
Rossendale Refugee Support Group	Christmas and New Year Events 2023/24	500.00
Spectrum Inclusion Rossendale	Social Group for LGTQ+ and Allies	432.00
IMT Forever	Let's Get Moving - a stepping stone to being active	500.00
Readstone Environment Group	Balsam Bashing and Lunch	250.00
Friends of Haslingden Cemetery	Volunteer Support	500.00
Advocate Neurodivergence Educational Consultancy	The Neuroaffirmative Approach for Families and Schools	500.00

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2023		
Stacksteads CountrySide Park Group	Lantern Parade 2024	500.00
Spectrum of Light Rossendale	Parent & carer Support Group	500.00
Rosegrove Neighbourhood Watch	Flower Power & Card making	1,000.00
Total for Rossendale		**£4,682.00**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2024		
More in the Room	Safer Christmas	2,000.00
Irwell Vale Methodist Church	Chaple Tea Rooms	5,000.00
Football Zone CIC	Sport Zone	4,242.00
Friends of Haslingden Cemetery	Volunteer Recruitment, Skills and Capacity Building	3,832.00
Stacksteads Countryside Park	Kay's Friendship Lunch	2,200.00
Spectrum of Light Rossendale	Neuro affirmative adult wellbeing project	3,057.16
Total for Rossendale		**£20,331.16**

Eric Wright Charitable Foundation Small Groups' Funding 2025		
Rossendale Drum Majorettes		495.00
Friends Reminisce	Social Outing	500.00
We Evolve Project CIC	We Evolve	500.00
Friends of Haslingden Cemetery	Volunteer Celebration/well-being event & AGM	1,000.00
Total for Rossendale		**£2,495.00**

Overall total brought into Rossendale by CVS from Eric Wright Charitable Foundation's two funding streams (large and small grants) for Rossendale's smaller voluntary, community and faith groups

£56,619.42

From our involvement in various strategic groups and partnerships we have brought in further funding to Pendle including the funding streams below:

Lancashire County Council's Over 50s Activities Funding 2023		
Whitworth Men's Shed	Collective Interest Development	£2,954.00
Total for Rossendale		**£2,954.00**

Population Health Management Funding 2023		
Haslingden Community Link	Rossendale Connected - Winter Warmth	31,922.00
BPRCVS Communicars	Rossendale Communicars	4,000.00
BPRCVS Health & Wellbeing for Children & Families	Mindfulness Sessions for young people and volunteer recruitment and training in Rossendale	4,085.95
Citizens Advice Rossendale & Hyndburn	Rossendale Winter Warmth (Emergency food & fuel line)	10,000.00
Total for Rossendale		**£50,007.95**

Overall total brought into Rossendale by CVS from other funders and funding streams for Rossendale's smaller voluntary, community and faith groups	**£52,961.95**

Overall total for Rossendale Groups that CVS has worked hard to lever in since 2014	**£841,342.81**

Personal Health Budgets

In addition, CVS has also brought into Rossendale at least £10,000 for adult Personal Health Budgets funded by Lancashire and South Cumbria Foundation Trust and at least £10,000 for children's and young' people's Personal Health Budgets funded by Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

This funding is for people who are struggling with their mental health and being supported by either Community Mental Health Team or CAMHS. Funding has been used for gym membership, craft items, beauty items, fidget spinners, etc – anything that would help the patient to increase their mental wellbeing.

We have taken the decision not to itemise this funding due to the personal nature of the funding and to protect to privacy of the people who have been funded. We have not included it in the amounts above.

Training for Rossendale Groups

We deliver Monitoring and Evaluation Workshops each month for small groups. 6 Rossendale groups have attended these workshops over the last year.

These workshops are designed to support groups have been awarded funding from the streams we administer, however, those who have funding from National Lottery, etc have taken part too.

During the Get Togethers organised by our Volunteer Hub/Development Team we ask participants what kind of training they need or would like. From the last get together in January and February (called Coffee, Cake and Collaboration by the attendees) we found that our groups would like more information/training on funding, monitoring and

evaluation and volunteer management. The Team will be organising these over the coming months. Out of 17 groups represented at the sessions, 6 were from Rossendale.

Communications in Rossendale

The Media & Communications team is responsible for promoting CVS and our projects and services across a variety of channels. The team also does this for VCFSE groups and organisations to help spread the word on their behalf.

The BPRCVS website is an information sharing portal where we publish a wide range of information relating not just to CVS, but also all the groups and organisations across our localities and beyond that we engage with. Watch this space as we're always looking to develop the website to contain even more information than before!

Social media performance continues to be impressive. We've amassed more than **2,500** organic 'Likes' on Facebook and a total greater than **6,000** unique 'followers' across our channels. Distinct audiences are forming across our social media channels enabling us to target specific demographics. Keep an eye open for new social media channels opening in 2026.

Subscribing to our Info Share newsletter is an effective way of sharing information with sector colleagues, clients, volunteers, etc. as it provides a weekly round-up of the latest news, funding opportunities, volunteering information, training courses, jobs, activities, events, and more! Sign up today at www.bprcvs.co.uk or email shaun.dodds@bprcvs.co.uk with your details.

The Media & Communications Team spends a good chunk of time supporting not just CVS' projects and services, but those of other VCFSE groups and organisations across Rossendale and beyond. Themes that our Team supports VFCSE groups with include internet safety, data protection, publicity, social media, marketing, collecting evidence, etc.

The Team is continually developing our marketing and communications practices so, watch this space for new content and promotions coming very soon!

Promotion of all of CVS and the Rossendale communities' events, training and information across networks creates shared learning opportunities as well as creating space for collaborations and partnerships.

Accommodation for Rossendale Groups

CVS welcomes hundreds of visitors per quarter to our buildings from Rossendale.

The CVS Centre houses **6** organisations as resident tenants including Freeflow, We Are With You and Wildlife Trust who **all** cover Rossendale.

With meeting spaces available, The CVS Centre is open to all VCFSE groups and organisations.

Gannow Community Centre is a thriving community centre serving the local people of Gannow as well as residents from all over the borough and beyond. Rossendale residents have been known to come along to the Centre to join in with the range of

activities available including Young at Heart, a volunteer-led group for older people to socialise and set the world to rights!

Our Community Café is open every Wednesday and Friday morning through to lunch for a fantastic full English breakfast!

The Gannow Food Share supports individuals and families with access to food bags to provide emergency sustenance for a few days. Rossendale Social Prescribing Team regularly pick up and deliver parcels to families in Rossendale.

With a wide range of groups delivering activities, support and sessions, there is always something for everyone happening at Gannow Community Centre.

Rossendale Office

CVS retains a presence in Rossendale, as well as Burnley and Pendle. CVS has an office at the AB&D Centre in Bacup. This local presence seeks to further build relationships and enhance support to local people and groups.

We have three members of staff permanently based at the Centre with various other members of staff working from this office from time to time. For example, our Development Team regularly meet groups at the Centre to give advice and guidance on funding, governance, etc.

CVS is committed to delivering services in Rossendale.

A community hub that is more central is an exciting prospect which CVS would be delighted to support.

Demonstrating Impact

As an infrastructure organisation which delivers projects as well as supporting them, it is difficult to demonstrate the impact of what we do. We decided to alter the way we present our information from the beginning of 2024/25 and produced infographics and video reels. This graphic way of presenting our impact has garnered much valuable feedback and positive comments. We hope that this better demonstrates what we do and the impact we have made in our communities.

The infographics for Quarters 1, 2 and 3 of 2025/26 are included in this report.

How CVS Aligns with Rossendale Economic Development Strategy

Volunteering is not just about giving our time for free and supporting our community in practical ways – it's also about contributing to the economy of where we live.

BPRCVS can contribute to most of the actions detailed in the strategy. Our projects and services should be invested in and capitalised to support Rossendale's ambition of empowering the diverse population to realise their potential and increasing life chances. We would help to inspire young people and raise aspirations by ensuring they feel heard and supported. We would work to increase volunteering opportunities and so increase skills and experience. We would support CICs, charities and small groups alongside Growth Lancashire to ensure sustainability and resilience.

Rossendale Vision

Taken from Rossendale Economic Development Strategy 2018-33.

By 2033, the Rossendale economy will show strong and sustainable growth, with improved connectivity as a 'bridge' in to Lancashire from Greater Manchester and West Yorkshire. The Invest in Rossendale brand will be firmly established within the business community, attracting growth sector businesses to our employment sites with access to a skilled labour supply, creating well paid jobs for local residents. Rossendale will be known in the sub-region and beyond for its Adrenaline Valley offer and cultural experiences. Residents will have improved life chances and achieved greater economic success through the provision of enhanced employment, skills and educational opportunities. Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden will be well known regionally for their unique offers and be strong destinations for shoppers and visitors.

Rossendale Priority	**Rossendale Actions**	**CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution**
Priority 1: To establish thriving Town Centres of Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden, each providing its own unique offer and a destination for shoppers and visitors	Develop Town Centre Visions for Rawtenstall, Bacup and Haslingden	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. The VCFSE could help with ideas for these visions.
	Attract a quality investor to reinvigorate and manage Rawtenstall market	Important also to remember that all volunteer involving groups contribute to the economy in giving their time for free though support for those volunteers needs significant investment. Funding support for volunteering in Rossendale would increase the skills and experience needed to develop investable propositions in Rossendale.
	Develop a forward strategy for Bacup Townscape Heritage Initiative	VCFSE groups could help with this. Spreading the word is the lifeblood of the VCFSE sector. Groups need support to organise themselves, pick up and give the right messages, etc. This support comes from infrastructure organisations like BPRCVS.
	Investigate a shop local scheme for Bacup	VCFSE groups could help with this. Spreading the word is the lifeblood of the VCFSE sector. Groups need support to organise themselves, pick up and give the right messages, etc. This support comes from infrastructure organisations like BPRCVS.
	To continue to seek external funding to support the investment in Haslingden Town Centre	Funding support for volunteering in Rossendale would increase the skills and experience needed to develop investable propositions in Rossendale.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	Promote walking routes and signage in our town centres	Volunteering opportunities could help with this. The small groups could also help with this. Both can help to spread messages the council would like to get out to wider communities – word of mouth is very powerful. Funding for support for the volunteers and groups would be needed. Volunteer opportunities to encourage people to ride bikes, walk, etc – support groups to deliver walking sessions, bike sessions – use Friends of (parks) volunteers to encourage active travel for leisure. Needs funding to support the volunteers and groups.
	With our traders' groups, develop and deliver an action plan to promote the unique offers of our town centres	Volunteer-led groups and individual volunteers could help with this. The small groups could also help with this. Both can help to spread messages the council would like to get out to wider communities – word of mouth is very powerful. Funding for support for the volunteers and groups would be needed. It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire.
Priority 2: To establish the Invest in Rossendale brand, promoting and increasing inward investment in Rossendale attracting growth sector businesses and bringing quality employment.	To bring forward Futures Park Leisure and Employment Village, supporting leisure and healthy life-style businesses	CVS's Social Connections Team support people into becoming active members of their community – supporting mental ill health, tackling health inequalities, etc. The Team has a funding stream attached which provides destinations for beneficiaries of the service. Some of these groups' working with CVS and Growth Lancashire could blossom into social enterprises.
	To bring forward future employment sites suitable for advanced manufacturing and spin out companies	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. Many of these organisations are also employers.
	Promoting Rossendale as a place to invest; develop and deliver an Action Plan for 'Invest in Rossendale'	Important to remember that all volunteer involving groups contribute to the economy in giving their time for free though support for those volunteers needs significant investment.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
		Funding support for volunteering in Rossendale would increase the skills and experience needed to develop investable propositions in Rossendale.
	Work with the LEP/Marketing Lancashire to promote 'Invest in Rossendale' in the wider Lancashire context	Volunteering opportunities could help with this. The small groups could also help with this. Both can help to spread messages the council would like to get out to wider communities – word of mouth is very powerful. Funding for support for the volunteers and groups would be needed.
	To deliver short term actions to lobby, promote, shape strategy and develop a business case for the Rossendale Rail Link	Volunteering opportunities could help with this. The small groups could also help with this. Both can help to spread messages the council would like to get out to wider communities – word of mouth is very powerful. Funding for support for the volunteers and groups would be needed.
	Develop a succession strategy for major inward investment, identifying sites for the longer term	Funding support for volunteering in Rossendale would increase the skills and experience needed to develop investable propositions in Rossendale. CVS works tirelessly to bring in investment to support our communities including from national and local organisations and institutions.
Priority 3: Creating a strong and thriving business base, supporting new and existing businesses	Developing Rossendale Council's presence in the commercial lettings market with an e-enabled and up to date offer of Council owned commercial premises	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. Many of these organisations are also property owners.
	To identify suitable occupants for the current Futures Park to co-locate with Rossendale Council	A Community Hub with a range of partners would be a proposition CVS would welcome. This has worked particularly well in Burnley with the Burnley Together partnership's Downtown.
	To recommend the acquisition	Suggestion to use private sector's Corporate Social Responsibilities to fund some of VCFSE

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	and further development of employment-based assets to expand the Council's portfolio, generate revenue streams and expand the business rate base	needs to help increase the skills and experience of the potential workforce by broadening volunteering opportunities and helping them to keep their workforce well and in work. This would mean businesses would be more stable and more likely to expand.
	Investigate the provision of an enterprise hub managed workspace scheme for start-up and micro businesses	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale.
	To investigate a bond-holder type initiative for the evolution of the Rossendale Business Leaders Forum	Use volunteer opportunities to increase skills and experience and also attract people to Rossendale. Students to volunteer with various groups and CVS projects to give them varied work experience, inspire ambition and aspirations – we already host trainee GPs and are in negotiations to host student nurses and social workers. Businesses could offer their staff so many volunteer hours per year as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Business staff could volunteer to mentor those who want to upskill.
	Working with the LEP and partners, develop a social enterprise and business support infrastructure; including networking events, referrals to the BOOST Gateway and	BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale. It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	linkages to Further and Higher Education	
	Working with Valley at Work and the Whitaker to provide specialist support to our creative industries	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale.
	Influence the LEP and other partners to maximise broadband coverage and band widths	Volunteers could be tasked with tackling the digital skills gap to compliment the connectivity. No use in being connected if residents are unable to use it! Funding needed to support the volunteers and perhaps small groups who could deliver sessions on digital connectedness and safety.
	Working with East Lancashire Chamber of Commerce, support the expansion of the renewable energy sector; identifying income generation opportunities	Social Connectors support people to increase their health and wellbeing and so, become less reliant on pharmaceuticals e.g. asthma: a referral to a choir helps with breathing and reduces the need for an inhaler which is made from plastic and goes into landfill. Small groups provide destinations such as choirs to support people's health and wellbeing. Additional funding is needed for this kind of support – including funding for infrastructure and volunteering support such as BPRCVS.
Priority 4: Developing our visitor economy, active leisure and Adrenaline Valley brand and cultural offer.	To develop a tourism and cultural strategy for Rossendale	Use volunteer opportunities to encourage people to visit parks, green spaces, etc – Friends of (Name) Park for instance. CVS could help to set these up and support them through the funding process.
	To bring forward a Trail Head Centre (Phase 1) for the Lee Quarry Mountain Bike facility at Futures Park Leisure and	Use volunteer opportunities to encourage people to visit parks, green spaces, etc – Friends of (Name) Park for instance. CVS could help to set these up and support them through the funding process.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	Employment Village	
	To support the growth plans for Bacup Football Club	Use volunteer opportunities to encourage people to visit parks, green spaces, etc – Friends of (Name) Park for instance. CVS could help to set these up and support them through the funding process. It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow, from infrastructure organisations such as BPRCVS working alongside Growth Lancashire. CVS has supported Bacup Football Club with various funding streams.
	To support the capital expansion of the Whitaker Museum and Art Gallery, securing Phase 2 Heritage Lottery Funding	CVS works tirelessly to bring in investment to support our communities including from national and local organisations and institutions. Supporting organisations to secure funding is our reason for being. It is an infrastructure function and needs funding to secure this type of support for VCFSE organisations such as the Whittaker Museum and Art Gallery.
	To support the continued development of Ski Rossendale and capital works	Use volunteer opportunities to encourage people to visit leisure facilities, parks, green spaces, etc – Friends of Ski Rossendale could be set up to help with this kind of thing. CVS could help to set this up and support them through the volunteer management process.
	Work with the LEP/Marketing Lancashire to promote the visitor economy in the wider Lancashire context	Use volunteer opportunities to encourage people to visit parks, green spaces, etc – Friends of (Name) Park for instance. CVS could help to set these up and support them through the funding process and the volunteer management process.
Priority 5 of the Strategy talks about the need to encourage and support young people of school age to achieve their potential.	Based on a gap analysis of employment and skills provision, develop a 'Rossendale Futures' project; a single gateway multi-agency response to address the	Use volunteer opportunities to attract people to Rossendale – increase skills and experience CVS' Social Prescribing for Children and Young People encourages ambition, inspire and improve life chances for young people alongside other partners – supporting young people who are not attending or have issues attending full time education.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	barriers for those furthest away from the labour market	Use volunteer opportunities to increase skills and experience BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale.
	To promote apprenticeship opportunities and jobs for local people within the construction sector by conditioning planning applications via the preparation of an Employment and Skills Supplementary Planning Document	Students to volunteer with various groups and BPRCVS projects to give them varied work experience, inspire ambition and aspirations with a view to moving into an apprenticeship.
	Work with the LEP/Skills & Employment Hub to improve the take up of employment and skills services	CVS' Social Prescribing for Children and Young People encourages ambition, inspire and improve life chances for young people alongside other partners – supporting young people who are not attending or have issues attending full time education. Use volunteer opportunities to increase skills and experience BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale. Businesses, CICs, charities, etc could sign up to the Lancashire Skills Pledge.
	Raising aspirations and informing career choices with better links between	CVS' Social Prescribing for Children and Young People encourages ambition, inspire and improve life chances for young people alongside other partners – supporting young people who are not attending or have issues attending full time education.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	Rossendale's high schools and business	Students to volunteer with various groups and CVS projects to give them varied work experience, inspire ambition and aspirations – we already host trainee GPs and are in negotiations to host student nurses and social workers. Businesses could offer their staff so many volunteer hours per year as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Business staff could volunteer to mentor those who want to upskill.
	Work with Accrington and Rossendale College to re-establish a satellite presence in Rossendale	CVS has links with Accrington and Rossendale College as well as UCLAN.
	Develop strong links with Lancashire County Council Children and Young People's Service, Rathbone and Child Action North West to support those Not in Education, Employment or Training	CVS' Social Prescribing for Children and Young People encourages ambition, inspire and improve life chances for young people alongside other partners – supporting young people who are not attending or have issues attending full time education. We work closely with schools and colleges to support young people who have issues with structured education.
	Explore the opportunity for the Credit Union to diversify into the business loan market to support people into self-employment.	BPRCVS are delivering a very successful Employability and Skills Programme in Burnley – this could easily be transferable to Rossendale – possible investment opportunity for large employers in Rossendale.
	In partnership with Social Enterprise Lancashire Network,	It is important to remember that CICs, charities, etc are businesses though need support to grow from infrastructure organisations such as CVS (working alongside Growth Lancashire) and SELNET.

Rossendale Priority	Rossendale Actions	CVS in Rossendale Potential Contribution
	developing opportunities in the third sector; including volunteering and social enterprise	
	To lobby for improvements to public transport links within the Central Pennine Strategic Development Corridor to support access to work	Communicars is our volunteer car scheme which support those who cannot use public transport (for whatever reason) – volunteers use their own cars to transport people to appointments – an investment in this ensures people are socially connected, healthy and feeling well. Potentially moving back into a work environment.

Potential funding resource for Rossendale work:

Crisis and Resilience Fund is being given to local councils to help catch people before crisis point. It will include an element of personal crisis funding. It will be going direct to district Councils and starts on 01.04.26 for a 3-year period ending on 31.03.29. Infrastructure support and personal budgets could be delivered and managed by CVS.

CVS provides and advertises volunteer opportunities which can increase skills and experience. When students volunteer with various groups and CVS projects they have feedback that they have gained valuable and varied work experience which has been inspiring and raised their aspirations.

Young people are our most valuable asset, without them the future looks bleak. Giving them the right kind of support when they need it is vital in creating aspiration and inspiration for a bright future. Our Social Prescribing for Children and Young People supports young people who often fall through the gap and do not reach the level required on the continuum of need for social services intervention.

Equally, the CVS Social Prescribing Programme for adults offers support to people, empowering them to become contributing members of their own communities. This mean they could become economically active and contribute to the growth of Pendle.

Existing businesses in Rossendale have a corporate social responsibility. By offering their staff a few volunteer hours per year, they are advertising their business, increasing their profile and encouraging those who would like to make a career in their industry and, so future proofing their business.

A part of the larger companies' corporate social responsibility could be a contribution to funding for Rossendale groups. This again increases the business' profile and attractiveness to potential investors and future staff.

It is important to remember that CICs, charities and social enterprises are businesses though need support to grow from infrastructure organisation such as CVS as well as statutory programmes such as Growth Lancashire.

Community networks such as Rossendale Connected who already have 100+ members could expand to include private business. This would increase the profile of both the VCFSE and the private sector. By working together, we could make Rossendale stronger, more resilient and more attractive to outside investment.

CVS is leading on the development of the government's Civil Society Covenant. CVS will also be working to support the implementation of the covenant.

Potential Proposal:
1 x full time or 2 x (20 hours) part time Development Workers – exclusive to Rossendale:

Costs: approximately £50,000

Wrap around support would be offered from CVS' other services including the Social Prescribing Team which includes part time Social Connectors (x3 which includes a specialist Adult Social Care Connector), one part time Social Connector working with people with hoarding issues.

1 x Social Connector for Children and Young People (20 hours) exclusive to Rossendale working alongside a specialist Children's and Young People's Counsellor (20 hours).

Costs: approximately £50,000

There would be additional support including Senior Management Team skills and experience; HR/Finance Team functions including payroll and IT and marketing support from our Communications Team which would be provided as a wraparound service.

Quarter Reports for 2025

Quarter 1: April – June 2025

The first quarter of this report really highlights the reason why CVS exists. We have supported an increasing number of VCF (voluntary, community and faith) sector organisations with a whole range of issues. Feedback tells us that with the support of CVS they have been more likely to be successful in funding applications, recruiting and supporting volunteers, etc.

Our remit to represent the VCF sector means we can take the feedback to strategic groups and provide case studies/stories to show the real value of the sector.

CVS has brought into Rossendale £841,342.81 since the beginning of the Social Prescribing Programme in 2014. CVS worked with the Integrated Care Board (formerly Clinical Commissioning Group) to help them understand that without the VCF groups the Programme would not work. Social Connectors need destinations in the community to refer into. The Small Groups' Social Prescribing Funding has been allocated to CVS alongside funding for the Social Connectors since the beginning of the programme and continues to be a vital part of the programme.

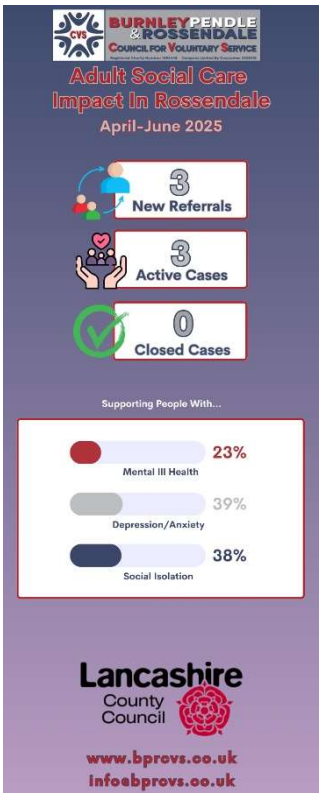
CVS in Rossendale has an amazing staff team and fantastic volunteers who really do make a difference.

CVS supports people and families in all of the local communities of Rossendale. We do this through a wide range of services and by working on projects with partners in the VCFSE sector. Many of our projects and services are funded, but we also fund some ourselves from reserves where possible to allow

us to support as many people, families and communities as we can.

For example, our Trustees agreed to fund our Social Prescribing for Children and Young People's Team for five years out of reserves. This could not continue, as I am sure you can understand. Pendle West PCN now fund two Linkworkers who are employed by CVS. Unfortunately, Rossendale PCNs did not take up the offer and have since employed their own Linkworker for Children and Young People. Our Team is fortunate to have generous donators who contribute to activities each year for the young people including three days at Whitehough Activity Centre.

These activities are vital for the development of the children and young people – they make friends with people they may never have met before, who have something in common with them. The activities are also useful for parents. We had two Mums who were caring for children with ADHD and Autism. One was trying desperately to get her child into a school with the right support and was finding it a very trying experience. The other Mum overheard the first Mum talking to a worker about this and offered to help. They chatted for a while and kept in touch outside of the session. These two Mums supported each other, and both children are now in education with the proper support In place. These Mums may never have met if it wasn't for the activities provided by our Team on behalf of generous benefactors.

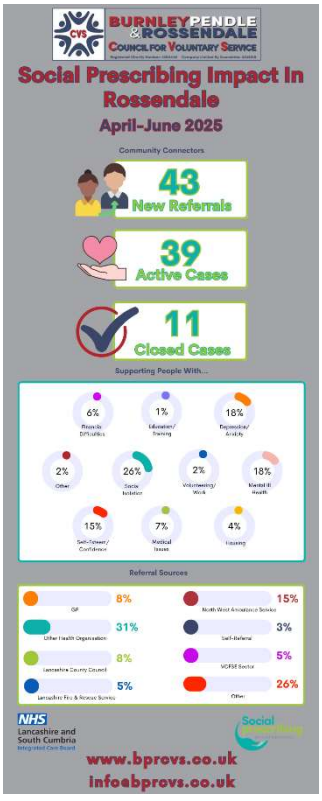


Our projects and services bear fruit only because of the partners we work with, our excellent volunteers, staff and trustees and their compassionate, dedicated and enthusiastic support, and the vital funders who enable us to deliver important services to the communities of Rossendale.

Volunteers and volunteer-led groups are a crucial resource and of significant importance to CVS as they are the shining light in our local communities. It is absolutely vital that these groups get the support they need to succeed and that's what we're here to do.

In 2025 we revitalised our support for groups and introduced a co-design/co-production more collaborative approach. This means representatives from small groups are empowered to make decisions on how funding is allocated and spent in their communities, which services and activities are delivered in their communities, what the processes for funding application looks like and what information is gathered for monitoring and evaluation purposes.

To support this approach, we have integrated our Group Support Team with our Volunteer Hub, creating the Development Team. This means that volunteer involving groups and individual volunteers will receive a wrap around, clear, simple service which meets their needs.



Our Community Transport service is vital for Rossendale. We provide transport for those who cannot use public transport. Our volunteer drivers become friends with their regular passengers and so help to combat loneliness and isolation in our communities. Our minibus is a boon to community groups – giving the opportunity to take beneficiaries around and outside Rossendale. This opportunity is not always available to all of our community members. The minibus helps to tackle social isolation, combatting loneliness, broadening horizons and increasing experiences.

Whether supporting a group to develop and grow, providing access to new volunteers, providing access to transport, referring and signposting new clients and beneficiaries, contributing to community networks, getting involved in public service strategies and initiatives, we're always here to support local VCFSE groups.

After all, ***helping people to help others*** is our mantra.

Quarter 2: July – September 2025

This quarterly report as always evidences the amazing amount of support delivered across all the projects CVS hosts.
The period has been extremely busy – the days of things quietening a little in the summer months seems to have disappeared!

Our profile continues to grow, and our Chief Executive Officer is being invited to what seems to be ever increasing numbers of strategic meetings to represent the wider sector.

Mechanisms to gather information from our groups are essential and we say a hearty 'thank you' to everyone involved in the forums and networks who feed information into CVS so we can make sure their voice is heard at every level.

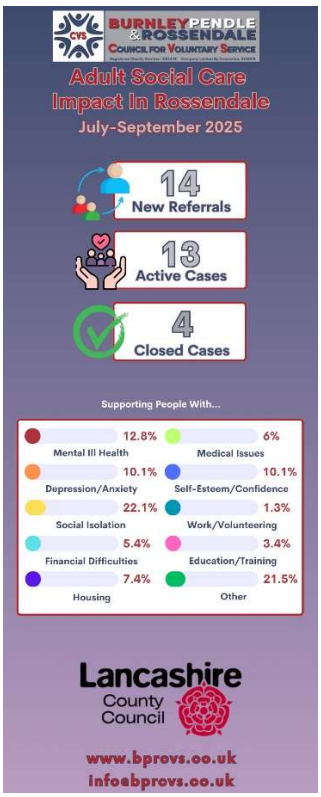
The value of the sector is highlighted in national reports, and the value of local infrastructure is recognised in the role we play supporting the many hundreds of groups, not just in Rossendale but across Lancashire.

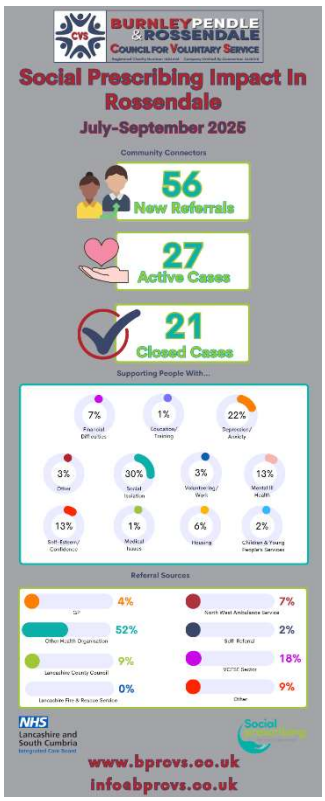
CVS' role in the Lancashire Association of CVS' Volunteering for Health project helps to highlight our area at a Lancashire level. This, along with the new partnership arrangements CVS has with Lancashire County Council's Adult Social Care Team to provide Social Connectors in each area all helps to support our communities and highlights the vital role voluntary, community and faith groups play in supporting the health and wellbeing of Rossendale residents.

CVS' Chief Executive Officer's role with NAVCA, LACVS, the Local Lancashire project and place on strategic partnerships has an impact across Lancashire and our CVS is held up as an example of what other areas of the county would like. To manage this is without any doubt a huge challenge, but one we (trustees, staff and our amazing volunteers) rise to every day.

We have 5 Rossendale Trustees including Rossendale Council representatives. Our Chair and Vice Chair are from Rossendale.

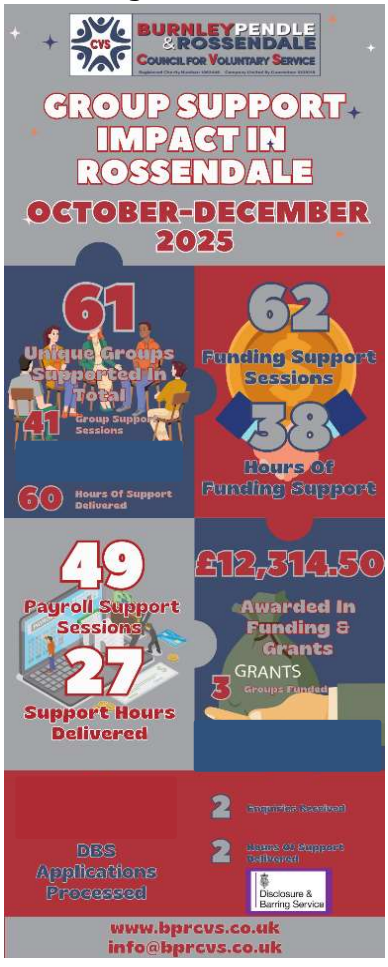
All of our Rossendale Trustees attend board meetings and contribute to the smooth delivery of our projects and services.





Quarter 3: October – December 2025

This report on the third quarter of this year again highlights the reason why CVS exists. We are supporting an increasing number of VCF (voluntary, community and faith) sector organisations with a whole range of issues. Feedback tells us that with the support of CVS they have been more likely to be successful in funding applications, recruiting and supporting volunteers, etc.



Our additional work projects are also seeing an increasing demand from people, and again, are receiving great feedback.

Our remit to represent the VCF sector means we can take the feedback to strategic groups and provide case studies/stories to show the real value of the sector.

The Chief Executive Officer regularly travels to other parts of the county and country to talk to others from organisations across the country, sharing experience, learning, and
best practice as well as being the small groups' voice to help influence funders and decision-makers.

All of the funded groups regularly receive referrals from Social Prescribing Link Workers and Community Connectors.

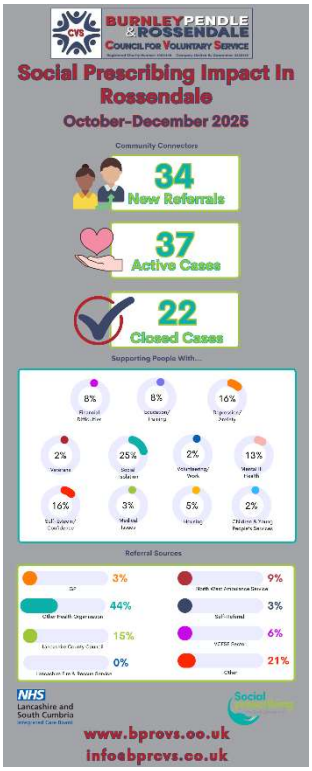
CVS in Rossendale has an amazing staff team and fantastic volunteers who really do make a difference.

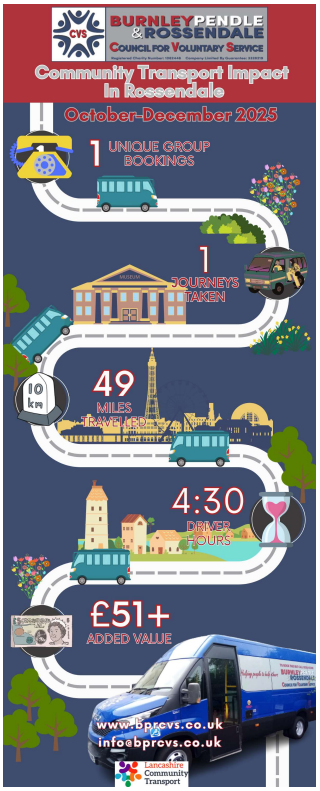
Our Volunteering for Health and Wellbeing Hub had to take a short hiatus this quarter. Our Co-ordinator moved on to

other things, working with Lancashire Constabulary and we took this opportunity to re-evaluate, review and re-establish our Volunteer Hub across our three areas.

CVS as a whole supports people and families in the local communities of Rossendale. We do this through a wide range of services and by working on projects with partners in the VCFSE sector. Many of our projects and services are funded, but we also fund some ourselves from reserves where possible to allow us to support as many people, families and communities as we can.

Obviously, this is limited, and our





reserves are not infinite, therefore, we have had to pause referrals into our Social Prescribing for Children and Young People's service as we are only funded from Pendle West Primary Care Network to provide this service. Our Senior Management Team are working hard evidencing the impact this service has on young people and their families, influencing decision makers and funders. Rossendale PCN has recently employed their own Linkworker for Children and Young People.

Our projects and services bear fruit only because of the partners we work with, our excellent staff and trustees and their compassionate, dedicated and enthusiastic support, and the vital funders who enable us to deliver important services to the communities of Rossendale.

Staff Values

We asked our dedicated staff to come up with 3 values which they believed represented CVS. Out of a large list of values, the following 5 values were the most common:

Professional
Reliable
Inclusive
Diverse
Empowering

These 5 values create a 6th organisational value:

P R I D E

Pride in our work

Pride in our communities

Pride in helping people to help others

Return on investment and Conclusion

I am sure you will agree – we provide value for money regardless of how much investment is made. For example:

- Cumulative total contribution to the economies of Burnley, Pendle and Rossendale for 2024/25 £144,621.52 divided by 3 areas = £48,207.17 for Rossendale.
- Cumulative total volunteers added value across all three areas for 2024/25 = £708,659.16 divided by the three areas = £ 236,219.72 for Rossendale.
- For £10,000 investment there would be a 28.4 return on that investment.

This is just an example. With the whole of CVS in Rossendale's projects supporting individuals and groups including Social Prescribing, Communicars, Development Team, networking and events, etc, the return on investment is, we are sure you would agree, much, much more.

Chief Executive Officer's Statement

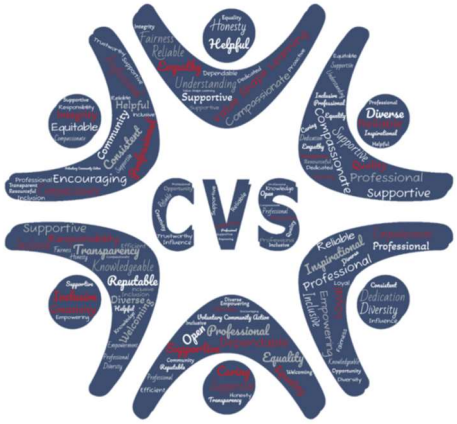
This report provides just a snapshot of the amazing work completed during the period.

Our team continue to support hundreds of VCF groups across our 3 districts as well as contributing significantly to growing developments across the County.

As an organisation CVS continues to face significant financial challenges and trustees- drawn from our membership - remain committed to utilising our reserves to maintain services. We know this cannot continue for long and are seeking every opportunity to ensure much needed services are not lost. This story is replicated right across our sector at a time when the sector is also seeing a rise in demand for services. I and the team will continue to advocate at every opportunity to highlight and showcase the fantastic work of the VCF.

In our 90th year the articles produced; evidence a very real testament to the challenges faced by our population since 1935 and the dedication of the VCF in finding solutions to help people. If you haven't read them yet, please do. They are available on our website: www.bprcvs.co.uk and make fascinating reading. The challenges faced now are so similar to those faced when the organisation was first formed - and the years that follow.

My grateful thanks go to our staff, our brilliant volunteers, our partners and to the 1000s more who are involved with VCF organisations across our 3 districts. Together we are stronger 😊

Christine Blythe

Chief Executive Officer
BPRCVS
February 2026