

# Supporting Voluntary Action

Community House, South Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1RH  
Telephone: 020 8315 1900  
Email: [admin@communitylinksbromley.org.uk](mailto:admin@communitylinksbromley.org.uk)  
[www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk](http://www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk)



Thursday, 03 November 2022

## **Bromley Economic Partnership – Briefing Update**

As agreed at the Economic Partnership meeting on Tuesday 1 November, I am providing a written update to the partnership to highlight matters of relevance.

### Recent activities of interest

#### 1. Volunteering Fair October 11

Community Links Bromley hosted a volunteering fair for local charities on 11 October. The event showcased volunteering opportunities on behalf of 20 local charities with a range of volunteering offers. These included befriending opportunities, literacy support, driving opportunities. Well attended by the public, the fair provided an opportunity to talk with potential volunteers, and to network with other organisations in a lovely and friendly environment at Community House.

Of volunteers expressing an interest in opportunities 23% said that this was to improve their CV and acquire new skills.

#### 2. Voluntary Sector Assembly – Cost of Living Challenge

CLB hosted a VS Assembly on 2 November. The assembly focused on the cost of living challenge and how we can work together collectively to support residents and charities during this period. Both health and local authority colleagues were represented at the event.

#### 3. NCVO Civil Society Almanac

This is a data collection on the voluntary sector based on Charity Commission and ONS Labour Force Survey data. The headlines are:

- Almost one million people worked in the voluntary sector in 2022, about 3% of the UK workforce
- Slightly more than half (56%) of voluntary sector employees work for smaller organisations with fewer than 50 employees
- Almost a third (30%) of the voluntary sector works from home or does hybrid working – higher than public and private sectors

- The voluntary sector has grown rapidly over the last decade, up by about 27% or the equivalent of 200,000 people since 2011. During the same period, the public sector grew by 10% while the private sector grew by 12% - which given their larger size their workforces grew in far greater numbers but at a slower rate.

#### Forthcoming activities

4. Borough Partnership. CLB sits on the Borough Partnership. The Partnership which is chaired by LBB Chief Executive has been discussing local recruitment challenges and how we can work together as a borough to address these. One action/activity agreed is to host a recruitment fair in January. CLB are on the event steering group and will use the opportunity to promote vacancies in the local voluntary sector.
5. Trustees Week 7-11 November

Next week we are hosting two events that maybe of interest to members' eager in using their management skills to support local charities.

- Introduction session to becoming a Trustee Wednesday 9 November 18:00-19:00 A link to register is attached: [Introduction Session to Becoming a Trustee Tickets, Wed 9 Nov 2022 at 18:00 | Eventbrite](#)
- This is followed by a separate **Trustee Recruitment Event - an event that brings together organisations looking for trustees, and people who want to become trustees.**  
**This is scheduled for 19:15-21:00 pm**

For further information Contact: Fay Millen  
[faym@communitylinksbromley.org.uk](mailto:faym@communitylinksbromley.org.uk)  
02083151930

Trustees' Week (7th - 11th November) is an annual event to showcase the great work of charities and provide the opportunity for everyone to get involved and make a difference.

Trustees play a key role in the success and smooth running of a voluntary organisation. Each charity or not-for-profit group is unique and will be looking for trustees with specific interests, experiences and a passion for their work.

# Supporting Voluntary Action

Community House, South Street, Bromley, Kent, BR1 1RH  
Telephone: 020 8315 1900  
Email: [admin@communitylinksbromley.org.uk](mailto:admin@communitylinksbromley.org.uk)  
[www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk](http://www.communitylinksbromley.org.uk)



## Items of interest for subsequent partnership meetings

1. Shared Prosperity Fund: Status, themes, governance etc.
2. Digital Inclusion – What does this look like for Bromley? Who is excluded? Strategy/plans to meet the challenge
3. Green Economy: What does this look like moving forward and local implications
4. SE Integrated Care Board: How can we support the Board in its commitment to the development of more resilient communities, as well as meeting its social and economic objectives?

*Christopher Evans Chief Executive*