



Annual Report 2020/21



Photo courtesy of Active Devon



Photo courtesy of Moorvision



Photo courtesy of Bradninch Youth Club
Their new 'external room'.



Photo courtesy of Young Devon

“To Champion and Strengthen Children and Young People Organisations in Devon”

Registered Charity Number: 1054442

Voluntary Organisations for Young People and Children (VOYC) - Devon

What is it that we do?

1. **Provide Practical Help** - to ensure the support necessary to develop and maintain the children and young people's sector.
2. **Provide a Voice** - to enable the children and young people's sector to have a voice and influence.
3. **Facilitate Networking** - to support, develop and promote collaboration and networking.
4. **Manage the Charity** - to have efficient and effective systems for the management of VOYC Devon.

President

Robin Wakinshaw

Vice President

Sally Yeo (wef: 22.6.2020)

Officers

Chair of Trustees	Peter Brewer
Vice Chair of Trustees	Gill Miller
Treasurer	Jon Oliverio

Management Committee/Executive (Trustees)

Peter Brewer	Chair
Nick Creasy	Treasurer (resigned June 2020)
Gill Millar	Vice Chair
Paul Allan	Co-option
Kerrie Clifford	Co-option
Karen Jones	Co-option (resigned 9.10.2020)
Steve Keable	CEDA
Jonathan Oliverio	Youth Genesis Trust Ltd
Paul Reisbach	YMCA Exeter
Rebecca Skinner	Co-option (wef 27.11.2020)

Staff

Mark Goodman	Chief Executive
Juliet White	Operations Co-ordinator
Alex Green	Communications and Marketing Co-Ordinator

SUMMARY OF ACHIEVEMENT 2020 – 2021

Who we are and what we do

VOYC Devon continues to bring the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sectors' people together to solve problems, address root causes and inspire each other. As an organisation we understand the power of the VCSE sector and volunteering and are proud to champion these. Specifically, we support those individuals and groups working with children, young people and families. We do this by providing practical face-to-face support in a variety of different ways. There is an offer that includes a range of relevant support from starting up a group to developing policies or keeping children and young people safe. In addition, VOYC provides a diverse range of training opportunities, regular news and information updates as well as the reassurance of a telephone advice line covering almost every relevant subject. Everything VOYC Devon offers is designed to enable VCSE Organisations to become stronger, to operate more safely and sustainably, and to enhance the quality of local provision. It is important to point out that much of our support is available free of charge to the youth work sector through our grant agreement with Space who hold the Youth Service contract with Devon County Council (DCC).

Summary of Achievement

VOYC Devon continues to work as a partner with Space within the VCSE infrastructure element of the Devon County Council Youth Services contract. VOYC also continues to play a key role in developing capacity within the VCSE Sector organisations through the safeguarding training and support offered to local organisations. During the Covid-19 pandemic the delivery of training was successfully moved to an online platform. The learning from this will mean that much of the training offer will continue to be delivered online as opposed to face to face going forward. You will find an infographic on page 4 of this Annual Report that sets out in more detail our work over the last year.

During the past twelve months our work with Local Youth Networks has been greatly reduced. Instead of the face-to-face local meetings there have been regular virtual meetings to enable the workforce, both paid and unpaid, to meet and discuss the issues posed by the Covid-19 pandemic. This has included online surgeries after each announcement by the National Youth Agency relating to changes in the youth work guidelines. We recognise the importance of these networks in the re-opening of provision and will look to continue this work in the year ahead.

VOYC is involved in enabling the VCSE Sector to have their voice heard. We strive to ensure that local public services through the Devon Children and Families Partnership (DCFP) have a single way into the diverse VCSE Sector here in Devon. VOYC Devon represent the VCSE on the following: The DCFP Subgroup Chairs;

DCFP Quality Assurance Delivery Group, The Early Help Improvement Board, DCFP Communication and Engagement subgroup and the Holiday Activities Programme.

We would once again like to extend a big thank you to our staff and Trustees as both have been central to all that we have achieved during the year and we thank them once again for their commitment and time. This year will be the last time that Mark Goodman completes this annual summary of work of the organisation as he retires from the role of CEO at the end of August. Mark has given twenty years of loyal service to VOYC and during this time he has been a fountain of knowledge and support to us all, an innovator and the anchor of our organisation. We thank him for his contribution and wish him well for the future. We also welcome Tom Coulthard as Mark's successor.

Finally, we are now at a point when those that support work with children and young people within the VCSE Sector are more important than ever. Covid-19 has brought major disruptions to the lives of our children and young people. This includes social distancing, school closures, being cut off from social support networks, limited opportunities for exercise and being outdoors. As the full, long-term impact of the pandemic becomes apparent, we can anticipate a sharp increase in demand for universal services through to urgent child protection responses. This will demonstrate just how important community-based provision is to our children, young people and families. All of us at VOYC Devon will therefore be here to support all those organisations that are there for our children and young people at this important time.

Peter Brewer (Chair)

Mark Goodman (Chief Officer)

A Quick Summary of the year!

A Devon wide network of:

256 Local Organisations
18 Network Organisations
52 Associates



- ✓ An increase of 6 Members during the year;
- ✓ Reaching over 2000 children and young people settings.

Connecting people and organisations:

18 Online Zoom Sessions for Local Organisations providing Covid19 advice information and support



Strengthening Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector Organisations

48

Organisations received direct support.

29 Youth Organisations

19 Other Not for Profits who work with Children and Young People



36 'Weekly' to Members
12 'Monthly News' to Members and Subscribers

Keeping children and young people safe

Delivering Safeguarding Training for:
294 Participants, from
86 different Organisations



Being the Voice of and advocating for the Sector



VOYC attends the following DCFP sub groups:

- ✓ Sub Group Chairs;
- ✓ Quality Assurance Delivery Group;
- ✓ Early Help Improvement Board;
- ✓ Workforce Development;
- ✓ Adolescent Safety Framework Implementation .

TRUSTEES' ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED 31.3.21

VOYC Devon is a charity (Registered Charity Number 1054442) and as such meets all the rules and regulations set by the Charity Commission. The Trustees of the Charity present this report to support the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 March 2021. The Annual Report and Accounts are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011, and the provisions of Accounting and Reporting by Charities. VOYC Devon has income between £25,000 and £500,000 and so is subject to Independent Examination, conducted by KJP Financial Training Ltd.

The Charity's objects are to benefit young people in Devon by:

Championing and strengthening the informal learning offer of the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector Children and Young People Organisations in Devon by:

- strengthening VCSE organisations providing support through information and advice in all aspects of work with children and young people;
- keeping children and young people safe by developing the skills of those who work with children and young people, delivering safeguarding and other relevant training;
- connecting people and organisations by developing and sustaining both countywide and local youth networks to enable youth organisations to share good practice, resources and expertise;
- ensuring that the voice of the VCSE organisations is heard.

VOYC Devon champions and strengthens the VCSE Children and Young People Sector, with over 270 members ranging from the largest charities, national network organisations (eg, Girl Guiding, Army Cadets and Boys Brigade) to the smallest community organisations. There are thousands of volunteers supporting the organisations within our membership with people across the County giving their time, energy and money.

The year was dominated by the challenges posed by the Covid-19 Pandemic. This required everyone involved with the Charity to work differently if it was to continue to achieve its work as set out above. VOYC Devon responded and changed its meetings and delivery entirely to online with the office being closed and all the staff being home based. It has been pleasing during these difficult times to witness that individuals and organisations have collectively stood together to support each other in what has been at times very challenging. The funding position for Infrastructure Organisations such as VOYC continued to be challenging and this resulted in the Trustees agreeing to and managing a deficit budget for the year, making use of some of the uncommitted reserves.

Governance

The Trustees shall comprise:

- The three elected officers (Chairman, Vice Chairman and Treasurer);
- Up to twelve representatives of member organisations;
- Up to six co-opted members.

A Trustee shall be appointed either:

- by ordinary resolution of the members at general meeting;
- or as a co-option made at a meeting of the Executive during the year.

During the year, there were changes to the Trustee Board. Nick Creasy and Karen Jones retired as Trustees having both given many years of commitment and service to VOYC Devon. Rebecca Skinner was elected to the Trustee Board during the year.

There were six meetings of the Trustee Board held during 2020-21 and there were reports on the financial position and on the performance against targets in the management plan at each of these meetings.

Staff Team

Our able staff team has continued to be led by Mark Goodman with Juliet White as the Charity Administrator. They have been supported by both Alex Green (Communications and Marketing) and Danielle Howlett (Safeguarding Training).

Marketing

We continued to keep our website fresh, up to date and relevant. We produce a member only e-bulletin and a monthly newsletter with wider circulation to both members and stakeholders. We have continued to grow our social media presence using the VOYC Website, Twitter, Facebook and Instagram.

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees have considered the guidance provided by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit and its impact on the charity's work, and in particular the requirement that there must be specific identifiable benefits, and ones applicable to the wider public. Trustees consider that both requirements have been met.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have examined the Charity's need for reserves in the context of planned activities during 2020/21. This process has included consideration of quantifiable financial risks to the Charity within the context of continued spending cuts by central and local government.

Reserves are needed to:

- Allow funding to cover unforeseen operational or core costs like taking on temporary staff to cover a long-term sickness / absence.
- Provides a fund to cover gaps in income of up to six months if a grant is not renewed or is unexpectedly taken away.
- Planned commitments that cannot be met by future income such as refurbishment of the website or ICT hardware.
- Covering short-term deficits in our cash flow before a grant is received.

At the year-end, the level of reserves was £55,685. Based on the above criteria, the Trustees are confident that there are sufficient unrestricted reserves to meet the reserves policy requirements.

Approved by the Trustee Board on 28th June 2021, and signed on its behalf by the Chair:



Peter Brewer
Peter Brewer (Chair of the Trustees)

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

YEAR ENDED 31.03.21

31.03.20	Financial Statement	31.03.21	31.03.20	31.03.21
	INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
76016.59	B/Forward	66408.95		
24750.00	Grant – Youth Service Grant	27000.00	43114.49	Employment/Travel 44502.78
0.00	Devon Comm Found (Covid Work)	800.00	184.15	Governance 53.14
1900.00	The Grandchildren’s Project	1127.31	57.26	Networking 0.00
0.00	Comm Safety Partn (MH Training)	800.00	1636.80	Office 1215.22
10690.40	Training Programme	5610.00	552.36	ICT 497.64
1329.91	Operational Income	2000.00	589.06	Member Training 611.70
692.17	Interest	147.38	60.00	Bank Charges 69.00
0.00	Misc	20.95	1900.00	The G/Children Project 950.00
			152.00	Teignbridge Yth Netwk 0.00
39362.48	TOTAL INCOME	37505.64	48246.12	TOTALS 47899.48
			724.00	Res Exp again YS Rev 330.00
			48970.12	TOTAL EXP 48229.48
				Carried Forward 55685.11
	BANK BALANCES AS AT		31.03.21	
	CAF Current account		14573.04	
	CAF Gold Account		612.07	
	Shawbrook Bank 60 day notice a/c		35000.00	

Independent examiners report for the accounts (y/e 31.3.21):-

	CHARITY COMMISSION FOR ENGLAND AND WALES	Independent examiner's report on the accounts	
Section A Independent Examiner's Report			
Report to the trustees/ members of	VOYC Devon		
On accounts for the year ended	31 March 2021	Charity no (if any)	1054442
	Set out on pages 1 - 3		
<p>I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31 / 03 / 2021.</p>			
Responsibilities and basis of report	<p>As the charity trustees of the Trust, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").</p> <p>I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.</p>		
Independent examiner's statement	<p>I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Act or • the accounts do not accord with the accounting records <p>I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.</p>		
Signed:			Date: 16 May 2021
Name:	Kevin Pope		
Relevant professional qualification(s) or body (if any):	Fellow of the Chartered Institute of Bankers (FCIB)		
Address:	6, Harrison Close,		
	Emersons Green,		
	BRISTOL BS16 7HB		

Section B	Disclosure
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Only complete if the examiner needs to highlight matters of concern (see CC32, Independent examination of charity accounts: directions and guidance for examiners).

Auditor: Kevin Pope (FCIB) - KJP Financial Training Ltd
Mark Goodman (Chief Officer)