



## **LONDON**

### Facts and figures about the London and national voluntary and community sector.

The London Development Agency and others cite the following:

- 26,634 registered charities generating £18.7 billion in 2005 (Guidestar 2006)
- 761 start-up charities in 2005 (Guidestar 2006), over 60,000 community groups and 5,000 social enterprises
- the VCS employs around 250,000 people - 6.4% of London's working population and 38% of all charity employees in England and Wales (Guidestar 2006)
- The £18.7 billion generated by charities in London in 2005 includes 45% generated by sales, 36% from gifts and donations, 6.9% from investment and 11.2% from other sources
- Earned income of almost £4 billion (NCVO 2002)
- Contribution of over £3 billion to London's GDP (NCVO 2002)
- The VCS plays a vital role in assisting statutory and other public sector agencies to deliver on objectives for the good of all Londoners through advocacy, campaigning and delivery

## **NATIONAL**

The Learning and Skills Council lists the following facts about the VCS nationally:

- there are three million volunteers - equivalent to an additional 1.3 million full time jobs
- volunteers' contribution is valued at over £15 billion
- one-third of all VCS income is from government sources
- one-third of VCS organisations have fewer than 10 staff
- a quarter have no paid staff at all
- the VCS employs higher proportions of part-time workers, people from black and ethnic minority communities and women, people with long-term illness or disability and graduates

- the most common skill gaps are in management and strategic planning, communications, computing and strategic use of ICT and personal skills
- Research for the London Regional ChangeUp Consortium on mapping London VCS networks (Janice Needham and Jean Barclay, May 2005) found over 200 regional and sub-regional networks in London. Half are specialist sector networks that are not well connected to generic infrastructure.

### **Other sources**

The voluntary/ community sector employs 249,304 people – over 6.4% of London's working population (Guidestar, 2004)

110,000 paid voluntary and community sector workers (London Voluntary Sector Almanac 2000 NCVO)

London has over 60,000 voluntary and community groups (LDA 2005)

In Newham, Hackney and Tower Hamlets alone, 3000 voluntary and community organisations have leveraged £585 million per year into these three boroughs. (East London Voluntary Sector Alliance, 2004)

### **National Council of Voluntary Organisations – Voluntary Sector Almanac 2006, NCVO**

The Almanac shows that grants represented 52% of government funding to charities in 2001/02, but only 38% in 2004/05. Contracts, on the other hand, have increased from 48% in 2001/02 to 62% in 2004/05.

Larger organisations appear to have benefited most from the switch to contracts, with 37% of government funding to charities going to organisations with incomes of over £10 million, compared to 0.4% going to organisations with incomes of up to £10,000. This period has also seen the emergence of the 'premier league' charities, 18 charities that generate one eighth of the sector's income.

Smaller organisations, however, are struggling to keep pace. The total amount generated by organisations with incomes of up to £10 million actually fell during 2004/05. 86.8% of organisations have incomes of less than £100,000, but generate less than 7% of the sector's income.