

2015 -16 in figures

Key Figures from our Accounts

	2015-16	2014-15
Income	£107,143	£ 82,427
Expenditure	£ 91,128	£ 65,579
Net income	£ 16,015	£ 16,848

Total funds carried forward at 31 March 2016 was £58,030, of which £26,007 was restricted & £32,023 was unrestricted.

Supporting the Voluntary Community & Faith Sector



* 12 Training & Networking events delivered * 204 people attending events from 97 different VCFS organisations * 115 organisations assisted with individual information/advice/ services



Volunteering

* 18 events attended to promote volunteering * 389 volunteer referrals * 183 volunteers placed of which 31 had additional support needs and 50 were corporate volunteers * 25 Volunteer Awards presented by the Mayor

Thank you to our Trustees and Volunteers

Trustees:

Gill Williamson	Chair
Arthur Browne	
Anne Cotterell	
Jonathan Essex	
Caroline Howard	Treasurer
Stuart Matthew	Secretary
Alisdair Semple	
Cllr Barbara Thompson	representing Surrey County Council
Cllr Keith Foreman	representing Reigate & Banstead Borough Council

Volunteers:

Bushra, Cara, Chantal, Claire, Hugo, Linda, Mavis, Naveen, Pat, Phil and Val

Thank you to our Supporters and Partners

Banstead Library
Community Foundation for Surrey
Comic Relief
East Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group
Home Start East Surrey
Horley Library
Reigate & Banstead Borough Council
St Johns Ambulance
Surrey Community Action
Surrey County Council
Tandridge Voluntary Service Council
The Belfry Centre
The Big Lottery
The Cinnamon Trust
The Hub, Redhill
Voluntary Action Mid Surrey
Workers Educational Association (WEA)

Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead

Suite1, Floor 2, Tower House, 3 Cromwell Road
Redhill, Surrey, RH1 1RT

E: info@varb.org.uk T: 01737 763158

www.varb.org.uk

Registered Charity Number 1138897
Company Registration Number 07217319



Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead

Annual review for April 2015 – March 2016



Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead (VARB) is a charity that supports voluntary, community and faith sector organisations in the Borough of Reigate & Banstead. VARB also promotes volunteering and places individual and corporate volunteers with local voluntary organisations.

VARB is part of a national network of Councils for Voluntary Service and is a registered Volunteer Centre, accredited by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)

Welcome to our new look Annual Review.

This has been a very positive year for Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead. We have seen our team grow in strength, successfully managed an office move into the Belfry Tower in Redhill and held some very well attended events in partnership with other Voluntary Services.

I would like to say thank you to our primary funders, Surrey County Council, Reigate and Banstead Council and East Surrey CCG for their continued support.

In particular as well I would like to thank the contributions this year of two of my fellow trustees, Stuart Matthew for masterminding the office move and Caroline Howard for both her role as Treasurer and her support to the office team.

In addition I would like to acknowledge Nina Porter, our new General Manager, who has brought a wealth of knowledge and experience to us that has made a great impact in a short time.

Our team of staff and volunteers have worked very hard taking us out into the community in all sorts of weather, and have engaged with a host of local organisations and volunteers.

With the rebrand and launch of the new website at the beginning of 2016 I feel we are in a much stronger position to support the wider community in Reigate & Banstead.

I hope you enjoy this new style report and find it informative.

Best wishes

Gill Williamson

Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead Chairperson

Progress in 2015 – 16: Volunteering



Throughout the year VARB promoted volunteering through public and targeted events and via a range of literature. We have used the national volunteer website Do-it to publicise over 180 new opportunities.

Overall 183 volunteers were placed in 2015-16, including

50 corporate volunteers – an area that is growing.

Many volunteers now use web sites such as Do-it to volunteer directly with organisations, so the role of VARB is evolving.

Through the Aspire project VARB provides extra support and guidance to volunteers with additional needs. 31 Aspire volunteers were successfully placed in 2015-16.

“Time always goes very quickly. It makes you feel more worthwhile and there is a real sense of fulfilment and pride in what you are doing”

Aspire Volunteer placed with WEA Gardening Project

A Young Volunteer project was launched in February 2016 using funding from Comic Relief and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council. The project aims to attract more young people into volunteering by highlighting suitable opportunities and working closely with schools and colleges.

A range of training opportunities for volunteers were delivered, in partnership with WEA and St John Ambulance: First Aid, Online Safety, Event Planning and Transferable Skills. Future courses will be informed by the Training Needs Assessment (March 2016).

VARB worked closely with the Borough Council to deliver the Mayor's Volunteer Awards, hosted at Gatton Park in September 2015. It was a great event with many inspiring stories of voluntary work in the Borough.



Supporting the Voluntary, Community & Faith Sector

Working with the Cinnamon Trust we sponsored a Faith Audit to identify the social and economic impact of faith groups in the Borough. The Audit revealed 474 projects with a financial value of over £5million and led to a greater awareness of the faith sector among public and voluntary organisations. VARB has built on this work to develop closer links with the faith sector.

The Building Better Partnerships project, funded by The Big Lottery, took place from September 2015 to August 2016. VARB collected information, from over 70 local organisations, about the resources they needed and could offer in the areas of skills, transport and premises. This culminated in a Matchmaking Event for organisations and a Directory of Resources to broker partnerships and help with the sharing of resources within the sector. There are plans to build on this work in 2016-17 to request resources from the local business community.



In February 2016 over 100 people attended the Funding Fair, held in partnership with Tandridge Voluntary Service Council, to hear funding advice from the Big Lottery, Community Foundation for Surrey and other funders. VARB also launched monthly Funding Surgeries offering individual funding searches and advice.

VARB held a further 4 networking events throughout the year, including a Moving Forward workshop and Network Lunch for Volunteer Managers.

Other News

A new trustee, Alisdair Semple, joined the board in 2015-16 along with 4 new members of staff: Caroline Foxton, Chrissy McDougall, Nina Porter and Alice Patterson.

In February 2016, the organisation rebranded from Reigate & Banstead Voluntary Services (RBVS) to Voluntary Action Reigate & Banstead (VARB) and launched our new web site www.varb.org.uk.

