

DERBYSHIRE DALES COUNCIL FOR VOLUNTARY SERVICE



The Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell. Derbyshire Dales CVS' new base from December 2007.

Annual Review 2007 – 2008

Company and Charity Information

Registered Office:

The Agricultural Business Centre, Agricultural Way, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1AH

Directors' and Trustees' report for the period from 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008

Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service (also known as Derbyshire Dales CVS) is a Registered Charity (1093087) and a Company Limited by Guarantee (4428280). The principal address of the Company and its Registered Office is The Agricultural Business Centre, Agricultural Way, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1BY.

Trustees of the Charity and Directors of the Company during the period were as follows.

Paul Bradley	
Richard Campen	resigned 7 th August 2007
Albert Catt	appointed 2 nd November 2007
Gill Geddes	
Geoff Gee	appointed 25 th March 2008
Patricia Hall	
Patricia Leake	
Adele Metcalfe	appointed 2 nd November 2007
Jeff Marsh	resigned 25 th October 2007
Kate Smith	resigned 27 th September 2007
Peter Stone	appointed 27 th September 2007
Helena Stubbs	

Staff during the period:

Chief Executive Officer and Company Secretary:	Neil Moulden
Finance and Facilities Manager:	Janet Smith
Community Development Worker (Hurst Farm)	Caroline Stone
Development Worker	Sarah Paisley
Development Worker	Hester Messom (to 31 st October 2007)
Development Worker	Marion Beloe
Signpost Manager	Beth Lawrence
Signpost Worker	Shena Lawrence (to 15 th November 2007)

Auditors: West and Foster, Chartered Accountants and Registered Auditors, Water Street, Bakewell, Derbyshire DE45 1EW

Bankers: Unity Trust Bank, Nine Brindleyplace, 4, Oozalls Square, Birmingham B1 2HB

Bank of Scotland, 2nd Floor, 38 St. Andrew Square, Edinburgh EH2 2YR

Investment Advisors: Edward Jones Ltd, 11 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London E14 4HH

Foreword by the Chair of DDCVS

As someone relatively new to the charity and voluntary sector, becoming first a trustee and then the Chair of Derbyshire Dales CVS has been, as they say, a steep learning curve for me. However, it has also been a very interesting and rewarding one. The great range of local groups and organisations supported by DDCVS is remarkable, and illustrates what an essential part of our community the voluntary sector forms. We have also been able to support many disadvantaged through projects such as Signpost and our community development work on Hurst Farm. I have also been very impressed by the CVS's ability to have an influence on the local decision makers through its membership of strategic bodies such as the Local Strategic Partnership and working groups such as the project team for the new health facilities in Ashbourne.

As you will see, all of this is achieved with a very limited budget. As someone who comes from a business background, I am very conscious of the need to demonstrate value for money and I have no doubt that our organisation can do exactly that.

I am very pleased to be able play a part in the work of the CVS and hope that you will enjoy reading about the work that has taken place during the year and our plans for the future.

Paul Bradley

Chair, Derbyshire Dales CVS

Mission Statement

Derbyshire Dales CVS exists to promote strong, sustainable and healthy communities through voluntary and community action.

Funders and supporters in 2007 - 2008

We would like to give sincere thanks to the following organisations, projects and individuals for their financial support during 2007-2008.

Derbyshire Dales District Council
Derbyshire County Council
Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust
Lloyds TSB Foundation
The Children's Fund
Peak District National Park Authority
Derbyshire Community Foundation
Derby & Derbyshire Economic Partnership
The Rural Action Zone
The Rural Pathfinder
Ms. Patricia Leake

Membership List

Following organisations and individuals are members of Derbyshire Dales CVS and we would like to thank them for their continued support.

1st Youlgrave Guides
Age Concern Derbyshire Dales North
Age Concern, Derby and Derbyshire
Alzheimer's Society (South Derbyshire Branch)
Amnesty International (Wirksworth and District Branch)
Arts in the Peak
Ashbourne and District 50+ Forum
Ashbourne and District Stroke Support
Ashbourne Area Access Group
Ashbourne Club for those with impaired vision
Ashbourne Community Transport
Ashbourne Partnership
Ashford in the Water Parish Council
Ashford in the Water War Memorial Institute
Association of Bakewell Christians
Atlow Mill Centre for Emotional Education
Bakewell Access Group
Bakewell Chamber of Trade
Bakewell Community Interest Group
Bakewell and District Probus Club
Bakewell and District Historical Society
Bakewell and Eyam Community Transport
Bakewell Area U3A
Bakewell Oxfam Supporters Club
Bakewell Youth Forum
Baslow and District Resident's Assn
Benefit with Bingo
Bonsall Parish Council
British Red Cross
Calver Parish Council
Calver Weir Restoration Project
CAMTAD (Deaf and Hearing Support)
Churchtown Out of School Club
Community Fayre for Wirksworth and District
Cubley Parish Council
Dales Heart Cardiac Support Group
Derby Diocesan Council for Social Responsibility
Derbyshire Advocacy Service
Derbyshire Association of Local Councils
Derbyshire Community Foundation
Derbyshire County Council
Derbyshire Dales Careline
Derbyshire Dales District Council
Derbyshire Dales Ramblers
Derbyshire Dales Victim Support
Derbyshire Friend
Derbyshire Gypsy Liaison Group
Derbyshire Rural Community Council
Derbyshire Rural Helpline
Derwent Rural Counselling Service
Elton Gardening Club
Encore Re-Use
Farming Life Centre
Derbyshire Federation for Mental Health
First Taste
Friends of Cromford Canal
Granby House Society Ltd
High Peak CVS
Hope Valley Access Group
Hope Valley Christian Youth Work
Langsett Parish Council
Leonard Cheshire Community Services
Longford Youth Club
Matlock and District Hard of Hearing Club
Matlock and Surrounding Communities 50+ Forum
Matlock Town Council
Matlock Toy Library
Mid Derbyshire Association for Mobile Physiotherapy
Mid Derbyshire Citizen's Advice Bureau
Out and About Luncheon Club
Peak District Affordable Housing Forum
Peak Railway Association Ltd
Peak District National Park Authority
Peaks and Dales Advocacy Forum
Peter Stone Consulting Ltd
Post-Natal Illness Support and Help
Relate Derby and Southern Derbyshire
Rural Education and Arts Project
Stoney Middleton Parish Council
St. Oswald's Church, Ashbourne
Sustainable Youlgrave
The Arkwright Society
Tideswell Parish Council
Traidlinks
Umbrella Information Office
Voluntary Action Sheffield
Volunteer Centre Buxton and District
Volunteer Centre Derbyshire Dales
Well Heeled Appalachian Dance Group
Winster Village Magazine
Winster Village Shop

Chief Executive's Overview

The year 2007-2008 has been a successful one for Derbyshire Dales CVS. That is not to say that it hasn't had its challenges, but overall it has been a year marked by achievement and progress. You will read about our work in more detail over the next few pages, but it is worth just mentioning a few highlights.

At the end of 2007 we moved successfully to our new offices at the Agricultural Business Centre in Bakewell, a move that had been planned for some time and has now been achieved. This has provided us with a modern office base which is at the centre of the community, and we are very grateful to Derbyshire Dales District Council for their support in achieving this. The creation of a 'Co-Location Hub' at the ABC has been very successful and has enabled us to build to good working relationships with colleagues from partner agencies.

The winning of the contract for the Signposting and Support Services for Derbyshire was also a significant achievement, and the partnership approach adopted certainly paid dividends. The awarding of this contract was also testimony to the excellent work that has been done on the Signposting project over the last few years, both in Derbyshire Dales and High Peak, and in other areas of the County.

The hosting of one of the County Council funded VCI Development Workers for Derbyshire has also been a very positive development, and another good example of partnership working with other agencies. There is a report about their work later in the report. New resources were also won to run a Health Trainer project in Matlock which will further diversify DDCVS' range of services.

Our development work and training programme was once again very successful, and it is particularly pleasing to note that a large proportion of the groups we supported were new clients. As always, this area of work was very diverse, ranging from small one-off pieces of information or advice, through to involvement in major development projects and serious management and governance issues. As ever, our development workers handled this large and diverse workload with great skill and professionalism.

On the strategic and partnership front, DDCVS was very much engaged with local and sub-regional bodies such as the Local Strategic Partnership Forum, Derbyshire Compact and Third Sector Support for Derbyshire.

During the year, significant new funding came into the CVS from a variety of sources. This, along with sound management of resources, turned around what was initially a rather bleak financial picture at the start of the year into a relatively healthy one by the end.

As always, I would like to conclude by thanking all my colleagues at DDCVS for all their work during the year. I would also like to thank all those people involved in the voluntary and community sector in the Derbyshire Dales for the huge contribution they make to the community.

Neil Moulden

Chief Executive, Derbyshire Dale CVS

Derbyshire Dales CVS' work during 2007- 2008

Below is a brief summary of our work during the year. It has been a very busy year for us all, and it is difficult to encapsulate all that has been achieved in a few pages, but we hope that the following gives a flavour of what we have been doing.

Practical Services

The practical services that we are able to provide to local groups and other organisations have again been an important part of our activities during the year. Photocopying, the loaning of equipment and the provision of meeting space have all been well used with 53 groups using our photocopying services and 25 groups hiring equipment and using our meeting room. We hope that with our move to the ABC, a more high profile and accessible venue, the use of these services will increase. In the coming year we have plans to expand these services.

Development Work

During 2007-2008 we worked with something like 80 different local organisations to provide information, advice and support. From a development work perspective it has been an excellent twelve months and this is something that we can build on in our new Forward Plan. At our recent meeting with Derbyshire County Council to discuss our service level agreement, DCC were keen to emphasise that they value the support that CVS offers to local groups as this directly contributes to the Local Area Agreement target of 'Developing a Thriving Third Sector'. This kind of work should continue to be our main focus and the funding of development work remains a priority for us. Around 45 new groups have been worked with during 2007-2008. Again this is excellent and something that demonstrates the need for CVS services.

We were pleased to continue our very successful community development work on Hurst Farm in Matlock, and a number of groups and activities have been established as a result of this. Caroline, our Community Development Worker, is now working from the new Children's Centre at Castle View which will provide a very good base for the work.

Our development work is always very diverse, and the needs of local groups are many and varied. Inevitably funding is a regular area of work for our development team, and this can range from a small group needing a few hundred pounds to cover their transport costs through to a major project needing a six-figure sum. Contracting and self-generated income are also becoming increasingly important. Advice and support around good policy and good practice makes up a large part of our work. Even small charities face an increasingly strict regulatory framework, and being able to demonstrate that you are a well run and well managed organisation is essential to gaining funding and contracts to deliver services. Sometimes what a group needs is just encouragement and a sympathetic ear, and we are always very happy to provide that too.

To give one example, one local organisation received the following support from CVS during the year: advice about roles and responsibilities of trustees; advice about recruitment of staff and trustees; participation in interviews for new staff; advice about

developing a reserves policy; advice about financial management; participation in a grievance appeal; and advice about procedures at an AGM. This demonstrates the wide range of advice and support that can be offered by DDCVS and the varied and challenging nature of development work.

Training

During the year, Derbyshire Dales CVS once again ran a successful programme of training courses and seminars aimed at the local voluntary and community sector. We did this in spite of having very modest resources to use to enable this to happen. Gaining funding to put on non-accredited short courses has been an ongoing problem for a number of years, and 2007-2008 was no different.

A wide range of topics was covered in the training programme including budgeting, developing a reserves policy, preparing an audit trail, business planning, management of volunteers and volunteering, web research, bereavement, fund-raising and risk assessment.

In addition to the above DDCVS ran two very well attended seminars: *From Charity to Third Sector Enterprise* which focused on the need for charities to diversify their income and to develop an enterprising approach. We were grateful for the support of the Rural Pathfinder that enabled these events to take place.

Health Development Grants

During the year DDCVS distributed a total of 18 small grants to local groups using funding provided by Derbyshire PCT. These grants provide valuable income to small grassroots organisations. The grants were allocated by a small panel of people representing DDCVS, Derbyshire PCT, North Derbyshire Voluntary Action and Volunteer Centre Derbyshire Dales and we are very grateful for their contribution to the decision making process. DDCVS will be distributing more grants from this funding during 2008-2009.

Signposting and Support

Our Signposting and Support Service was established in 2004, and during that time has developed into a effective and much valued service which works with some of the most disadvantaged and marginalized people in the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak.

The year 2007-2008 was a significant one for the project, with two major questions to be answered: will the work be continued through a tendering process by Derbyshire County Council; and if it is, will we be able to win the contract? Fortunately, we have been able to answer yes to both these questions.

The fact that DDCVS was able to win the contract was in no small part due to the excellent work that had been done by the project staff since 2004, both in our area, and in the other districts of Derbyshire since 2002. The successful tender was based on Derbyshire Dales CVS managing the project, and delivering the work in partnership with South Derbyshire CVS, Amber Valley CVS and NE Derbyshire CAB.

The collaborative nature of the bid meant that the experience that had been built up over the last few years was retained and the bid was acknowledged by Derbyshire County Council as an excellent example of a partnership based tender.

Whilst all this was being decided, the work of the project carried on as usual, and continued to offer information and support to families across the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales, working with 132 clients during the year.

Health Trainer

During the year, Derbyshire Dales CVS developed a Health Trainer project on the Hurst Farm Estate in Matlock. Health Trainers work with individuals and groups in the community to address health inequalities and to encourage people to be healthier. Health Trainers might work with people on topics such as nutrition and healthy eating, losing weight, giving up smoking, alcohol consumption, getting fitter, sexual health and emotional wellbeing.

A new worker on the project was recruited in March 2008, and Rebecca has made an excellent start. We hope that we will be able to report on the great success of the project in next year's review.

Governance and Management.

During the year three long-serving trustees left the Charity's Board mainly due to pressure from other commitments, all having made an excellent contribution to the work of DDCVS. However, the Charity recruited four new trustees, and we believe that they will bring valuable skills and experience to the Board, and perhaps a new perspective on the work of the Charity. During the course of the year the trustees have become increasingly involved with the work of the Charity, a very positive sign for the future.

The Finance and Development Committee continued to work very effectively as a sub-group of the Board, and once again did much to increase the robustness of the Charity's financial reporting and recording, which is now of a high standard, and we will be working hard to maintain that standard in the future. The Finance and Development Committee also made a significant contribution to the overall governance of the Charity.

Following on from the work that was carried out by the Premises Working Group in December 2007 the Charity successfully moved to its new premises at the Agricultural Business Centre in Bakewell. The move has so far had a positive impact on the work of the Charity, and it is anticipated that this will form its base for the foreseeable future. The move is part of the creation of a 'Co-Location Hub' at the ABC, with Volunteer Centre Derbyshire Dales, Business Link and East Midlands Business also being based at the Charity's premises.

During the course of the year the Charity changed its ICT service provider, and this has resulted in demonstrable improvements in our ICT systems, and the transfer of our systems to the Agricultural Business Centre was handled with great professionalism resulting in only a few hours 'down time'.

A full policy review was begun during the year, and this will be completed in the coming year. A new annual cycle of review was also put in place, which will ensure that all policies and procedures reflect changes both in the internal and external environment.

It was pleasing that the tendering process for the Signposting contract did not result in any concerns being expressed by the commissioning body about the policies or governance arrangements of the Charity.

Partnership and Strategic Work

As ever, DDCVS was engaged in much work with our partners in the statutory and voluntary sectors. This is vital work, but at the same time it can sometime be difficult to point to real outcomes from attendance at the many working groups, forums and committees that we are involved in. However, the Derbyshire Dales is a district where genuine partnership working and understanding between different organisations undoubtedly exists, and we are pleased to have been able to contribute to this again this year. Below is a brief summary of some of the work we have been involved in.

Our membership of Third Sector Support for Derbyshire (3D) is one of our most important strategic partnerships that we are involved in, bringing together as it does all the CVS, Volunteer Centres and similar 'infrastructure' agencies in Derbyshire. It enables these organisations to speak with a united voice, and to ensure that the services provided across the County are co-ordinated and complementary.

We have continued our involvement with the local collective of voluntary organisation Peak Partners for Rural Action which ensures joint planning and service delivery between local infrastructure organisations. During the year PPRA was asked to nominate a Voluntary Sector Chair for the Derbyshire Dales and High Peak Local Strategic Partnership.

Our involvement with the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has enabled to work on identifying and meeting the needs of people in the area with our colleagues from both statutory and voluntary sectors, and has also enabled us to participate in Derbyshire Partnership Forum, the LSP for Derbyshire. The LSP will be working in the coming year on the new Community Strategy for the area, and we will ensure that the voluntary and community sector are able to participate fully in the developing this.

We have worked on the Derbyshire Compact Steering Group, and during the year some real progress was made with the development of a mediation protocol for the Compact.

As always we have worked extensively with our colleagues at Derbyshire Dales District Council. We have continued to have our regular officer meetings and have contributed to planning meetings around the Local Development Frame, Equalities and the Matlock Town Plan and the Ashbourne Economic Study. We have also been pleased to welcome a representative from DDDC on to our Trustee Board.

We have worked with the Peak District National Park Authority on their Equalities Audit and we are pleased they too are represented again on our Board.

Our involvement in the Healthy Structures project has enabled to work with Derbyshire

PCT in reviewing their current support for the voluntary sector, and will hope that this work will pay dividends for the local voluntary sector in the future.

We have been involved in the Project Team for the new 'Health Campus' development in Ashbourne and have ensure that the views of local people are taken into account as this work progresses.

Funding / Finance

DDCVS entered the year 2007 – 2008 with a significant budget deficit, but through the gaining of new funding and the careful cost management we ended the year with income exceeding expenditure.

New funding from Lloyds TSB Foundation, the Peak District National Park Authority, Derbyshire PCT, the Peak District Enterprise Fund and the Rural Action Zone was important, but of course equally important was invaluable on-going support that we receive from Derbyshire Dales District Council, Derbyshire County Council and Derbyshire PCT. The winning of the Signposting and Support contract for Derbyshire also protected a valuable stream of income for the next three years.

Overall, the year saw a reduction in income from the previous year of around 9%, but this was more than matched by a reduction in outgoings. This was at least in part due pro-active resource management that saw a significant drop in expenditure on supplies and services, and in spite of significant increases in telecommunications expenses and professional fees. These increases are, however, likely to be temporary 'blips' caused by our relocation, the upgrading of our IT systems, and audit requirements at the end of the Leader+ programme.

Income generation activities, such as consultancy and the provision of practical services such as copying and equipment loans again brought a significant amount of our income, around 6.5% of our overall incoming resources. Although a relatively small amount, it is nevertheless an important strand of unrestricted income.

By careful management of our bank accounts and reserve funds we also managed to increase our level of income from bank interest. We have also worked with Edward Jones Ltd to make sensible medium-to-long-term investments that protect the organisation's viability in the future. In spite of volatility in the financial markets, these investments have stood up well.

During the year further improvements were made to our financial reporting and recording procedures which has made the active management of our resources easier and enabled us to highlight potential problems more quickly, and be more responsive to changing situations.

In short, DDCVS once again showed itself to be a cost effective and pro-active organisation that will always make best use of the resources available to it.

Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

	Notes	Restricted Funds £	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2008 £	Total 2007 £
INCOMING RESOURCES					
Incoming resources from generated funds					
Voluntary income					
Membership fees and donations		-	50	50	152
Activities for generating income					
Charges for services		-	14,824	14,824	14,989
Bank interest		38	3,685	3,723	2,627
Incoming resources from charitable activities					
Grants received	2	180,409	27,491	207,900	228,978
Total income		180,447	46,050	226,497	246,746
RESOURCES EXPENDED					
Cost of generating funds					
Costs of generating voluntary income		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	160,055	42,659	202,714	287,836
Governance costs	3	1,804	10,318	12,122	11,492
		161,859	52,977	214,836	299,328
NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS.		18,588	(6,927)	11,661	(52,582)
TRANSFER BETWEEN FUNDS					
Unrealised (loss) on investments		-	(1,896)	(1,896)	(445)
NET MOVEMENT OF FUNDS IN YEAR		18,588	(8,823)	9,765	(53,027)
Reconciliation of funds					
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD		8,014	58,425	66,439	119,466
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		£26,602	£49,602	£76,204	£66,439

Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service

BALANCE SHEET 31ST MARCH 2008

		2008		2007	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets			-		-
Investments	6		22,659		20,794
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	7	12,243		5,229	
Cash at bank and in hand		68,429		55,619	
		80,672		60,848	
CURRENT LIABILITIES					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	8	(27,127)		(15,203)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			53,545		45,645
NET ASSETS			£76,204		£66,439
FUNDS OF THE CHARITY					
Unrestricted funds	9		49,602		58,425
Restricted funds	10		26,602		8,014
TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS			£76,204		£66,439

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the special provisions of Part VII of the Companies Act 1985 relating to small companies.

Approved and authorised for issue by the board of Directors and Trustees on 23rd July 2008 and signed on their behalf.

A complete set of Derbyshire Dales CVS's Annual Accounts for 2007-2008 can be obtained from our office in Bakewell. Please call 01629 812154.

What does the future hold?

During the course of the year, a new forward plan for the organisation will be developed. It is likely that this will cover the period 2008 - 2011. However, we expect that the mission and principal areas of activity of the organisation will not vary greatly from the previous forward plan.

The implementation of the new County-wide Signposting and Support contract will be a significant piece of work during the year, involving as it does four different agencies. The Charity will be the accountable body for the work, and will also be acquiring a new member of staff and a new outreach office base in Chesterfield in order to deliver the service in that area. Care must be taken to ensure that the delivery of this project does not divert our attention too far from the Charity's other core activities.

The Health Trainer project on Hurst Farm estate, Matlock, will be another significant piece of work during the year, and we will be working hard to ensure that it is successful and attracts more funding in coming years.

We will be working to ensure on-going funding for our Community Development work of Hurst Farm.

We will continue our involvement in the public consultation around health facilities in Ashbourne, an important piece of partnership work with the Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust.

Continuing to develop our new office base at the Agricultural Business Centre will be a priority during the year. We must also face the challenge of having staff based at four separate locations (Bakewell, Matlock, Ashbourne and Chesterfield.) This is a considerable spread for a small organisation, both financially and logistically, but is essential with such a large geographical operating area.

We will once again be focused on securing additional resources to enable us to enhance our provision of information, advice, training and support to build on the excellent work that has been done over the last few years. Providing this kind of support for local voluntary and community organisations remains the Charity's main priority.

After unavoidable delays during the previous year, we will again be working towards the achievement of the PQASSO Level 2 and NAVCA quality marks.

The Charity will maintain its involvement in key strategic partnerships, including the Local Strategic Partnership, Derbyshire Partnership Forum, the Compact Steering Group and Third Sector Support for Derbyshire (3D).

Overall, the financial position for the year 2008-2009 looks sound. Cash-flow projections show that the Charity will remain solvent during the year whilst maintaining its current level of staffing and service provision. The Chief Executive will be actively seeking new funding sources and making applications for funding to support the continued development of the Charity.

Changes in the external environment might have a material effect on the Charity. In last year's report we mentioned that the move towards commissioning and away from grant aid might have a significant impact on the Charity. The fact that we successfully bid for a major contract during the course of the year shows that we were right to see this change as an opportunity as much as a threat. The Derbyshire PCT, a major funder of the Charity, is currently undertaking a review of its grant aid to outside bodies, and the outcomes of this review will almost certainly be known during the coming year. We will be working to preserve and build on our funding and we hope that the good relationship that we have built up and the partnership working that we have engaged in with the PCT will help us to do this. The Derbyshire Dales District Council, with which we have always enjoyed an excellent relationship, has continued to give us generous support, and we look forward to this continuing in the future.

The changes brought in by the Charities Act 2006 and the Companies Act 2006 are likely to have a minimal impact on the Charity itself, but are of considerable importance to some of our clients, and so we will be striving to keep abreast of these developments.

Overall, there seems to be a notable lack of new funding opportunities for local infrastructure organisations such as ours, as well as for the organisations that we aim to support. There are also concerns about the state of the economy in the U.K., with increasing oil prices, falling house prices, rises in the cost of living and unsettled financial markets. Quite how such factors might impact on the Charity is not really clear. Naturally all of the above are causes for concern, but we hope that we will nevertheless be able to bring additional resources into the organisation during the course of the year, operating as we are from a relatively secure financial base.

Reports from our colleagues

Earlier in the report we talked about work with partner organisations, and particularly those that are based with us at the Co-Location Hub in the Agricultural Business Centre at Bakewell.

Below are some brief reports from our colleagues who share this space with us.

Voluntary & Community Sector Development Worker:

The first few months were spent identifying groups; primarily information was gathered from the Signpost Directory and DDCVS files, approximately 15 organisations (various sizes) were listed. Since January, 7 groups have been visited, work continues with 3 of these. Work is predominantly around funding streams, policies and working towards best practice.

Overall groups have been very welcoming and happy to receive the service. The majority have been unaware of the Children's Trust, Children and Young People Plan, countywide Moving Forward Events and the Free DCC training on offer. However, they are aware of the CVS and are currently or have been historically in contact with them for support. Groups that are not particularly in contact are those that are church based – these tend to receive support and guidance from their respective church organisations.

Issues highlighted throughout Derbyshire Dales and High Peak

- ★ Very little provision for 5 – 11 year olds. What is available is in the format of after school clubs available once a week, school term only.
- ★ Very little for females, males (females can also attend) have skate parks/clubs etc.
- ★ No long term/follow up support for YP regarding domestic abuse/alcohol/substance misuse.

Nikki Tugby – VCI Development Worker

Volunteer Centre Derbyshire Dales:

The Volunteer Centre Derbyshire Dales has had a very busy year. Volunteering Development Officers Sam Tock (based with Derbyshire Dales CVS at the Agricultural Business Centre in Bakewell) and Debbie Webster (based at the main office in Ashbourne) have been working with organisations and volunteers throughout the Derbyshire Dales with a variety of activities:

- ★ Registering and promoting volunteering opportunities on behalf of organisations.
- ★ Matching potential volunteers with the volunteering opportunity that is right for them.
- ★ Raising the profile of volunteering generally by attending events, giving talks and via local press and radio.
- ★ Providing regular free training for local volunteer involving organisations on issues around volunteering and volunteer management.
- ★ Researching and then setting up a Volunteer Co-ordinators' Network, giving volunteer co-ordinators a chance to meet up, swap ideas and information and update on good practice.
- ★ Organising the second annual photographic competition, 'Focus on Volunteering'
- ★ Offering advice, information and general support to organisations on volunteering issues.

In the first two years of the project, the Centre has worked with 332 organisations to help them better involve volunteers in their organisation's management and development. It has also helped 333 people find a volunteering role that benefits and enriches their life in some way. The project, which is now in the third year of a Lottery grant, is investigating alternative sources of funding support and possible sources of income generation, to enable it to continue beyond 2009.

The contact details for the Volunteering Development Officers are:

Sam Tock (Northern Derbyshire Dales) 01629 810907, sam@vcdd.org.uk

Debbie Webster (Southern Derbyshire Dales) 01335218604, debbie@vcdd.org.uk

Sam Tock – Volunteering Development Officer

Business Link:

In 2008 Business Link joined the suite of services currently offered by the Derbyshire Dales CVS at their new offices in Bakewell retaining their local presence. Sue Scholes, based at Bakewell, is one of the business advisors working in the High Peak and Derbyshire Dales and can offer free confidential one to one meetings to discuss your business ideas. Business Link also offers a suite of structured workshops which are free and are held locally Buxton and Glossop to help develop business skills. These workshops include:

- Deciding to Start
- Business Planning
- Financial Planning
- Managing Money
- ICT for you Business
- Managing Risk
- Sales & Marketing

We can also help signpost to many other sources of business support including local networking opportunities. To find out more - including September dates for training courses - please call Sue Scholes 07970 440131 (Mon-Wed) or call the office to make an appointment on 01246 212902.

Sue Scholes – Business Start Up Adviser

The Agricultural Business Centre, Bakewell, which is featured on the cover, has a wide range of facilities including meeting rooms and training and conference facilities. For more information about the ABC call 01629 813777.



This Annual Report is written, designed and reproduced entirely by the staff of Derbyshire Dales Council for Voluntary Service.

For more information about Derbyshire Dales CVS contact us on 01629 812154

Email: enquires@ddcvs.org.uk

www.ddcvs.org.uk