

# BAVO

## Annual Impact Report 2018 - 2019



**21<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Year**

**Supporting the third sector,  
communities and individuals to make  
a positive impact on people's lives**

# Chief Executive's and Chair's foreword

As we celebrate 21 years of making a difference in Bridgend County Borough, the Board and I are justly proud of the organisation's achievements – we have had to flex, change and be responsive with the moving times and we have come a long way since those early days!

BAVO and the Third Sector are now key strategic partners in Bridgend County Borough and in the region. We have worked hard to position ourselves as contributors to many important areas of development, campaigns, innovative initiatives and research. We have also sought to ensure participation and engagement of the sector so that there is the opportunity for members and their service users to influence and co-produce change and to also be recognised as valuable and credible service partners and providers.

As a result, 2018/19 was another successful and busy year for the organisation. BAVO's core services were again in great demand as a result of preparing for regional change as well as increasing regulations such as GDPR, requiring support to the sector. Nevertheless, we still delivered a full training programme, distributed small grants, co-hosted local and regional conferences, launched the regional Social Value Forum and co-production group and facilitated collaboration between many of our members. We celebrated voluntary action through Volunteers' Week activities and our annual Volunteer Awards and contributed to important areas of work around participation, consultation and engagement, tackling poverty, wellbeing and health and social care. We also continued the local Community Companions scheme and mentored Trustee Boards through our Link Up project. We did all this against a back-drop of national austerity, which saw our income decrease rapidly as some projects came to an end. Some became self-sustaining, whilst others despite their positive impact, had no option for mainstreaming due to the lack of local funding available. All partners in Bridgend across sectors, are experiencing the same political and economic challenges and we have seen the results of this played out creating division in our communities, our member organisations reporting working under increasing pressure and with individuals whose needs were escalating or becoming more complex.

In this report you will find more detail about our key areas of work peppered with our performance indicators, impact and outcomes. All of our activities strategically fit with our vision, mission, aims and ambition for the sector. We are here to support a growing, robust, influential and sustainable Third Sector in Bridgend County Borough. Everything we do comes under our four core pillars: Governance, Volunteering, Influencing and Engagement and Sustainability.

Like our members, BAVO is always seeking innovative ways to deliver services. We still deliver face-to-face support, but we have also improved our digital services through Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW), which is an infrastructure partnership between WCVA and CVCs across Wales.

We are proud to have contributed to a diverse voluntary sector that improves health and wellbeing, reduces inequality and inspires others. There is no doubt that the Third Sector makes a real difference to the quality of life for many thousands of residents and benefits the whole population.

We thank our Trustees for their skills, knowledge and experience which they have applied diligently to shape and monitor BAVO's strategic direction. Thanks must also go to our project volunteers, befrienders, mentors and Third Sector reps who give their time and experience to the cause and of course our staff for their dedication and expertise, all of whom make BAVO an inspirational place to work.



**Heidi Bennett**  
**MBA, MCIPD, FInstLM**  
**Chief Executive**



**Mark Davies**  
**Chair**

## Trustees 2018/19

Steve Curry

Mark Davies (Chair)

Marged Griffiths

Les Jones (Vice Chair) The Court House, Maesteg (up to November 2018)

Mari Major MBE Morgannwg Endeavour Charitable Trust

Clive Owen Cruse Bereavement Morgannwg

Cllr Charles Smith Cabinet Member, BCBC (Co-opted) and Westward Community Centre (up to November 2018)

Cllr Richard Young Cabinet Member Communities BCBC and Mental Health Matters Wales (from December 2018)

## Mission statement

Our purpose is to support, encourage and promote the development of a voluntary and community sector in Bridgend County Borough, that is effective and efficient, informed and influential and makes a positive impact on people's lives.

## Values

The work of BAVO is guided by a set of values that help to determine priorities and the overall style of working. We recognise that Bridgend County Borough is diverse and everyone has the right to equality of opportunity and to make a contribution to their community.

## The outcomes we want to achieve are:

- Stronger third sector organisations through providing support, advice and training and learning opportunities, skills development and capacity building;
- Active and diverse communities through supporting and promoting volunteering and active citizenship, equal opportunities and diversity;
- A confident and influential third sector, through advocating for the sectors' inclusion in shaping policies, strategies, co-producing solutions to local issues and embedding the sector in local planning and commissioning processes;
- A greater voice for citizens and communities through enabling service users/carers, community groups and citizens to engage in local decision making processes that affect them and their lives;
- A sustainable third sector as a result of brokering strong partnerships, coordinating and connecting opportunities for collaborative working.



## OUTCOME:

More people in Bridgend County Borough are engaged in and benefit from volunteers and volunteering.

Volunteers deliver services in the heart of our local communities. They make it easier for people to get the support they need and also improve other people's wellbeing. Volunteers help communities to address their needs and to be more sustainable and resilient.

We provided support to organisations to develop good practice when recruiting, training and retaining volunteers to improve the quality and diversity of local volunteering opportunities.

We hosted the Volunteer Managers Forum throughout the year, which brings organisations together to provide peer support, legal updates, information on safe volunteering and working practices and to learn and share ways to continuously improve the quality and diversity of opportunities to local volunteers.

We worked with a wide range of organisations to develop and increase volunteer opportunities, we met individuals on a one-to-one basis to discuss what they would like to gain from volunteering; matching their individual needs, aspirations and skills to organisations that needed them.

As a member of Third Sector Support Wales (TSSW), we launched a free to use digital volunteering platform for volunteers to find opportunities and for organisations to post volunteer vacancies. The new system has helped to recruit and manage volunteers, log volunteer hours, plan rotas and events, record training and experience and produce reports, visit [bridgend.volunteering-wales.net](http://bridgend.volunteering-wales.net)

## What did we achieve...?

Responded to **687** volunteer enquiries.

Held **282** volunteering interviews.

Placed **204** volunteers.

Assisted **66** organisations with issues relating to good practice in volunteering.

**17** organisations attended Volunteering in Wales roadshow.

**28** organisations attended Volunteers' Week activities.

Helped over **100** voluntary organisations in Bridgend County Borough to highlight their volunteer opportunities on the Wales Volunteer website.

Our annual Volunteers' Week and Volunteer Achievement Awards recognise the commitment and positive impact of volunteering. By visiting events and activities including information days, job fayres and organisations, we sought to attract those of all ages and abilities by promoting volunteering as a way to improve health and wellbeing, reduce isolation and loneliness, improve confidence and self-esteem and increase and positively impact on basic skills, university or job prospects.

## What was our impact?

### Sian's story...

"I visited BAVO who explained the range of volunteering available, how many hours and training that I would need to do to volunteer. The Volunteer Centre discussed a variety of volunteer opportunities and they referred my details to projects that were suitable, matching my skills, availability and interests. The centre has always been available to offer support, guidance and help if I needed it.

"Volunteering has given me a purpose and added structure to my week. I have also met new people. Volunteering takes over a good chunk of my week which has proved very beneficial to me. As I volunteer with a few projects, I have attended training for each volunteer role, which has given me a greater understanding.

"I have been involved in befriending and mentoring. I feel my involvement with both projects and the individuals I support has made a real difference to their wellbeing and reduced their loneliness and isolation.

"The volunteer mentoring with the young people has given me an insight into working with young people and their needs. Volunteering with Community Companions has allowed me to understand the needs of older people.

"Volunteering has given me more confidence and I feel appreciated."

## Youth volunteers (14 – 25)

We highlighted and promoted the important role young people play in supporting third sector organisations by informing them of the wide range of rewarding and challenging volunteering opportunities available throughout the area. We raised the profile of youth volunteering activities through information days, visits to schools and colleges, the Wales Volunteer and BAVO websites and social media.

We also supported and facilitated the Bridgend Youth Led Panel, made up entirely of young people, which enabled them to develop their skills in grants management and undertake the decision making process to awarding funding to local youth led projects.

**£7,298.79** was awarded to 10 projects that were all conceived and developed by young people enabling them to take a more active role within their local community.

## What did we achieve...?

**120** young people attended BAVO Volunteer Centre interviews.

**72** young people placed as volunteers.

## What was our impact?

### Sheldon's story...

"I am part of the panel which allocates funding to different charities and organisations in order to help them achieve their plans to help and involve young people.

"I first got involved when BAVO came into college to advertise volunteering and the panel. I got involved because it sounded like a good way to help other people and it also tied in nicely with my course in college (accountancy).

"The Volunteer Centre helped me boost many of my core skills such as critical thinking, communication, team work and empathy skills.

"Volunteering has definitely boosted my ability to work in a team and compromise. It has certainly changed the way I see volunteering and different charity groups around me.

"My volunteering has definitely helped others, as the funding we allocated has provided many opportunities for young people to learn new skills, get involved and meet new people.

"Volunteering has boosted my confidence as I have to voice my opinion even if other people don't agree with me. I believe being able to put volunteering on my CV has definitely helped me get my new job and I'm excited to continue to volunteer with the funding panel. Volunteering is giving an hour of your day to change someone's life."



# Active and involved citizens

## Focus Forward

The Focus Forward Project was a 'Communities 4 Work' joint pilot project between BAVO and Bridgend County Borough Council from October 2018 to March 2019. It provided support to improve wellbeing, discover volunteering and skills training, whilst providing one-to-one support to people that needed personal development, confidence and work experience through volunteering roles.

Project participants received free training to help fulfil their volunteer role, including Basic First Aid; Safeguarding Children and Adults and Dementia Friends.

We helped people put in place the things they needed to improve their wellbeing and confidence and we signposted to support groups in the area to help them continue their employment journey.

### What was our impact?

#### Megan's story...

Megan was looking to develop new skills and update her computer skills and she saw volunteering as a good opportunity to meet new people and up-date her CV. She now volunteers at Bridgend Citizens Advice.

"I was referred by the Volunteer Centre to a few volunteer opportunities, including Citizen's Advice. This opportunity seemed like the best option and offered me training to carry out an advisor's role involving face-to-face meetings to support individuals.

"I am not originally from Bridgend and I was hoping to have a greater understanding of the community and the daily support needs of individuals. Citizens Advice has given me an insight into this. It also helped me settle into a new area and meet new people.

"Volunteering has really helped with my personal development and confidence and the training I have attended will be beneficial to me with my future job applications."

## Focus Forward in Bridgend County Borough



- Support and guidance on all aspects of volunteering
- Make positive changes
- Develop personal skills and experience
- Improve your quality of life
- Achieve your goals...

Community support to improve your wellbeing and discover volunteering opportunities to suit YOU

### What did we achieve in six months...?

**33** people attended one-to-one meetings to discuss volunteering, training etc.

**12** people attended induction or training for their volunteer role.

**27** people referred to projects for volunteering.

**14** started volunteering.

**8** people completed the volunteer awareness session.

**4** people came off the Focus Forward project due to securing employment.

# A thriving and sustainable third sector

## OUTCOME:

Third sector organisations in Bridgend County Borough are sustainable, able to generate income and make better use of resources to deliver local services and improve people's wellbeing.

Our funding surgeries offered local groups the opportunity to meet directly with major funders on a one-to-one basis. We ran **7** funding surgeries which were attended by **62** member organisations from across the county borough. The National Lottery (Awards for All, People and Places and Heritage funds), Coalfields Regeneration Trust and Grow Wild (the national outreach initiative of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew), all attended to offer guidance to potential applicants.

Our funding advice services helped members wade through the complexities of funding bids easily and efficiently through sharing our expertise as fundraisers, fund managers and assessors.

As members of TSSW, we launched a new funding portal to help third sector organisations find funding. **Funding.Cymru** enables voluntary organisations to self-search grant and loan finance opportunities from local, national and international sources. It is free to use with a simple registration process, but BAVO provides dedicated support to help members use the portal in order to have the best chance to secure funding.

## What was our impact?

### Williams Memorial Hall's story...

Williams Memorial Hall in Coychurch is 100 years old and requires roof repair or replacement and has damp in the walls and floor. Trustees took advantage of the opportunity to meet National Lottery staff face-to-face, when they attended our BAVO funding surgery in May 2018. This resulted in an award of £45,000 to begin the initial stages of a total building renovation project to save a much needed community asset.



Mabyn Thomas, Clerk to the Trustees of the Williams Memorial Hall, said: "BAVO facilitated the initial meeting between some of the Trustees and the National Lottery which clarified what we had to do to fulfil the Lottery grant criteria and set us on the right path to obtaining the £45,000.

"This money will enable the Trustees to do surveys, searches, have further public consultations, create architectural plans and finalise costs so that we can apply in 2020 for further funding for building works."

## What did we achieve...?

Responded to **2,435** enquiries (including **714** tailored support).

Assisted **120** tailored support and advice to trustees.

Provided **18** ebriefings, bulletins and newsletters.

Achieved **£1.2M** new inward investment for local activity, facilities and causes through our funding advice service.

Distributed **£20,000** in small grants for local groups.



# A thriving and sustainable third sector

With a focus on good governance, we provided ongoing support and advice to groups and individuals at various stages of development including drafting and amending governing documents, charity and company registration and developing policies and procedures. We helped our members identify the most appropriate legal structure such as unincorporated groups, registered charities, Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASCs), Charitable Incorporated Organisations (CIOs), Community Interest Companies (CICs), Development Trusts, Cooperatives and not-for-profit organisations limited by guarantee.

Already providing guidance to our members on Community Asset Transfers, we organised a Community Shares information session in partnership

with the Wales Co-operative Society aimed at sports clubs and community centres within Bridgend County Borough. Groups discovered that Community Shares schemes were one way of saving and/or transforming local community facilities; raising money to finance a project; funding new sports clubs and financing renewable energy developments.

Our development service supports organisations and trustees to be safe and compliant and helps with every day issues and needs. Our consultation service offers a tailored confidential service to members when things may not be going to plan, including mediation, HR, practical help with book-keeping and accounts filing, exploring financial errors or irregularities or managing personal processes (hearing grievances, investigations, disciplinarys etc).

## What was our impact?

### Western Beacons Mountain Rescue Team's story...

Their patch is one of the largest areas covered by a single Mountain Rescue Team in the UK. During a typical year, they respond to between 50 to 60 call outs and are available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Already a registered charity, the Rescue Team wanted to convert to a Charitable Incorporated Association. Through a series of meetings at their HQ in Bryncethin, BAVO staff supported trustees through the adoption of their new constitution and the process of applying for new registration. BAVO's support gave trustees an added layer of protection from liability and has served to help them keep their governance and constitution up to date so that they can get on with the business of saving lives!



## What was our impact?

### Calon Y Cwm's story...

Established in the Upper Garw, the Trustees create linkages and partnerships to deliver the group's mission with a common theme of improving wellbeing, communities and the environment in the Garw Valley.



Through various meetings and discussions with Trustees, BAVO supported Calon Y Cwm to become registered as a Foundation Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). By going through the registration process they have been successful in complying with charity law which has helped the group to acquire funding to become very active and successful in developing local activities and projects.

Their first major scheme was a Pontycymer Youth Club based in Halo Leisure Centre Pontycymer, which has nearly 150 young people registered members. The charity successfully run a full summer programme and invite groups and individuals to share their success to help Calon Y Cwm to grow and to improve the lives of many young people.

# A thriving and sustainable third sector

## OUTCOME:

Third sector organisations in Bridgend County Borough are competent, confident and robust in the running of their organisation, to ensure appropriate services are provided to meet local need.

## Training

Our training supports the personal and professional development of Trustees, staff and volunteers. Our training programme covered topics including safeguarding, Applied Suicide Interventions Skills Training, basic accounting and Trustee's roles and responsibilities. We were also pleased to deliver for the first time a 'Basic Introduction to Recruiting, Selecting and Managing Volunteers'.

Our 'Dementia Friends' sessions run in partnership with the Alzheimer's Society, were delivered to change people's perceptions of dementia and transform the way people think, act and talk about the condition. Volunteers were recruited to become 'Dementia Champions' to continue delivering sessions within their own social circles and community to maximise benefit and sustainability.

Bridgend Youth Support Network brings together third sector organisations working with young people across Bridgend County Borough. Working in partnership, BAVO supported the training needs of the youth support sector by offering courses covering the Mentoring and Skills Programme, Introduction to Youth Work and Developing Bilingualism in the Work Place courses.

**58** people were trained in our Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST). We are considered as one of the lead ASIST training organisations in Wales, surpassing all others in terms of delivery outcomes and numbers trained.

Delivered to residents, volunteers and those working in the third, private or public sector; our two day suicide 'first aid' sessions are delivered as part of our commitment to the county suicide and self-harm prevention strategy and action plan. With an aim to create suicide safer communities by increasing people's skills and resilience, ASIST explains how to intervene and save a life from suicide.

## What did we achieve...?

**25** BAVO courses delivered.

**291** people gained new skills through BAVO training.

**100%** of attendees rated BAVO courses as very good or excellent.



# An informed and influential third sector

## OUTCOME:

More third sector organisations have a voice and can contribute confidently and effectively to policy, planning and service developments to ensure local services meet users' needs.

With the imminent Health Board mergers announced in 2018, we were aware that our members would have concerns as to how the mergers would affect their services. As a result, BAVO led on the regional response and worked collaboratively with neighbouring CVCs on consultation events so that third sector groups and organisations could have their concerns directly addressed.

We attended and offered a third sector perspective at numerous Public Service partnership groups and facilitated third sector forums. We recognise that our members are best placed to represent the views of third sector providers, as such, we supported third sector representatives to have a direct input into strategic partnerships wherever possible.

In addition to this, Bridgend County Borough Council was required to make a further £35 million cuts to their budget by 2023. They asked residents to complete their 'Shaping Bridgend' consultation to give their opinions on their proposals. We always strive to support, empower and assist our local third sector to play a more active role in community consultation processes, as such cuts impact on the sector and the communities they serve.

In partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council's engagement team, we organised a well-attended 'Shaping Bridgend' third sector event where our members were able to raise their issues to the Leader of the council.

We facilitated a number of local third sector thematic forums and networks. These brought together service providers to connect them to strategies and policy and support information flow to and from strategic partnerships, such as the Public Service Board and Regional Partnership Board. The Chairs of the third sector forums are mandated to be the representative for their area of work on various partnership boards. They provide a vital link to ensure participation and engagement of their forum members in their decision making processes locally and regionally.

Our forums included volunteer managers, DAMHSN mental health providers, Youth Support Network, Bridgend Health Social Care, Social Value Forum, Western Bay Citizens Panel, Western Bay Health, Social Care and Wellbeing Network, Third Sector Stakeholder Reference Group, Carers Partnership and Prevention and Wellbeing Network.



# Effective partnerships and engagement in policy

## Health, social care and wellbeing

Our **Prevention and Wellbeing Network** event organised in partnership with Bridgend County Borough Council, recognised that prevention is everyone's business. Almost 100 delegates attended from across sectors to find out about some of the innovative projects that organisations are engaged with and how we are collectively progressing the work of the Social Services and Well-being (Wales) Act 2014 and the Well-being of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015.

Physical activity and swimming in particular, has shown to have many benefits for people with dementia. BAVO, The Alzheimer's Society and Halo Leisure worked in partnership to organise weekly dementia friendly swimming classes at Bridgend Life Centre. Offering dementia friendly opportunities such as this, reduces isolation and loneliness and provides support to carers.

BAVO is a partner of '**The Bridgend Falls Steering Group**', a multi-disciplinary group which develops people's knowledge on falls prevention in order to reduce the number of falls amongst older people and enables them to keep safe and remain independent in their own homes. A 'Falls Are Everyone's Business'

event provided an ideal setting for information sharing, established relationships between the sector and health board and succeeded in building connections and working relationships with partner organisations.

Social Value Forums are a requirement under the Social Services and Well Being (Wales) Act 2014, through which Welsh Government introduced a duty to promote the development of social value organisations. These are organisations which deliver social value as a core of their ethos and culture, pro-actively working in a way that provides a voice and control and improves the wellbeing for citizens.

BAVO launched the **Social Value Forum** for Western Bay which served to bring the community, statutory sector partners and community organisations together to share information and co-produce ways of working that are truly responsive to the needs of local citizens and people in need.

Loneliness and social isolation were themes identified during the initial round table discussions at the launch event. The second event was co-produced with partners and beneficiaries and a steering group was formed to ensure that the programme and the forum's direction was collaboratively produced. A total of **128** people attended both forums.



# Effective partnerships and engagement in policy

## Mental health

During a particularly challenging year with health board boundary changes, we ensured the risks to third sector providers were tabled at a variety of multi-agency partnerships.

Our Mental Health Development Officer represented providers' voice at **17 partnership and planning groups**. By doing so, we ensured further opportunity and investment for third sector organisations and disseminated information to mental health and wellbeing related organisations, resulting in greater ranges of representation, involvement and engagement.

BAVO facilitated the Drug Alcohol Mental Health Third Sector network (DAMHSN) through a transition year. We took the opportunity to review networks and forums alongside the imminent health board boundary changes. During this period, a range of subject areas were examined such as service users' and carers' issues, gaps in provision, planning and commissioning.

As part of wider emotional health and wellbeing promotions, we allowed groups to take over our Bridgend office so they could have a central place to celebrate and raise awareness of national campaigns. Attended by over 100 people, we helped local groups to better inform people within the community about dementia and older people's and general mental health.

We supported ABMU's Health Board Primary Care Division with the review of commissioned counselling services across the GP Clusters as well as developing an engagement strategy for patients.

We assisted the review of counselling services for Bridgend GP Cluster (Bridgend and Pencoed) and provided a considered report to the Network which led to a new tender process going out for third sector bids. This resulted in a new third sector provider delivering counselling services, with other GPs following suit and reviewing their provision, leading to increased opportunity for the sector and better provision for patients.

As part of a partnership of community groups, businesses, Councillors, local authority, ABMU Health Board, GP practices, Public Health, Natural Resources Wales, SW Police, Social Landlords and residents, BAVO worked with the local community to promote and improve local people's health and wellbeing through the Llynfi Valley 20 Project (LV20).

We promoted the use of the physical environment for social prescribing to improve people's emotional and mental health. As part of the Llynfi Valley 20 Project, BAVO worked with Run Wales, Halo, Bridgend County Borough Council and local volunteers to launch Maesteg's very own parkrun. **2,833 runners** and **944 volunteers** have taken part in the last year, which has improved their health and wellbeing. LV20 also sponsored the annual Maesteg Santa Fun Run.



# Bridging the gaps: partnership projects

## Community Companions

BAVO worked in partnership with Neath Port Talbot CVS to gain funding from the National Lottery Community Fund to continue offering a high quality, flexible service to provide a free of charge, confidential and non-judgemental service recruiting volunteers to people needing befriending.

### What did we achieve...?

**69** new individuals received befriending support.

Recruited **41** new volunteer befrienders.

Added value of **6,565** hours volunteer time across the project.

Provided **£53,898.65** worth of volunteer care hours on the project.



### What was our impact?

#### Louise's story...

"I retired from nursing due to ill health a few years ago and to be honest I missed helping people.

"Being unwell over the past few years, I spent so much time at home alone unable to go out. I can empathise with others in similar situations, it can be so lonely. I went through training to become a befriender and I haven't looked back.

"I visit two ladies every week and we talk over a cup of tea. It sounds so basic but that's what's missing from their lives. I listen to their concerns and support them any way I can. If they have a problem I can't help with I put them in touch with other services that can. I hope my visits ease their loneliness and they feel less isolated as that's how they make me feel.

"Since volunteering, I have started a befriending group every Monday in Dyffryn Church. The aim is to help those on the befriending waiting list who don't have a volunteer to support them yet, but anyone in my community who's lonely and wants a chat can come along.

"Some weeks I organise guest speakers like the Fire Service

who came to advise us about keeping ourselves safe in our homes. A gentleman from MIND has attended and provided wellbeing sessions. Other weeks we reminisce about times gone by and look at old photographs of the town through the years or just drink tea and catch up.

"It's such a wonderful group. We all support one another and it's lovely to see people's friendships flourish. Many of the attendees are of a similar age and have common ground so they understand one another's struggles and can chat through any worries together without judgement. Everyone gets on so well they have even exchanged telephone numbers to contact one another in between the group sessions which is fantastic!

"I love volunteering as a befriender. It has made a huge positive difference to my life. Due to my own life limiting illness, I was very isolated and volunteering with Community Companions has enabled me to get out from my four walls helping to reduce my own loneliness. Befriending gives me a purpose and makes me feel happy; it has improved my quality of life. It has given me new friendships and I feel privileged that people allow me into their lives and let me be a part of it."

# Bridging the gaps: partnership projects

## Link Up Project: 'Strengthening 3rd sector skills'



We launched our three year Link Up Project in partnership with Swansea CVS and Neath Port Talbot CVS, to strengthen third sector governance and skills development.

Funded by The National Lottery Community Fund, the project aims to bring new skills and expertise to organisations in the third sector through recruiting and matching skilled peer mentors from public, private and independent sectors with third sector organisations.

Our members are already benefiting from our Link Up Project and acknowledging the value it brings to sustainability and good governance within their organisations. They feel more capable and empowered to plan for the future and overcome difficult economic environments.

### What did we achieve...?

Recruited **6** mentors and **3** new trustees.

Delivered **22** inductions with all participants reporting an increased knowledge of third sector governance.

**14** local organisations registered to Link Up Project.

**2** 'Roles and Responsibilities of a Committee Member, Legally a Trustee' workshops delivered to **15** trustees.

**28** members attended a regional project conference focusing on diversity and strengthening governance in Neath Port Talbot.

### What was our impact?

## Nantymoel Boys & Girls Club and Community Centre's story...

A neighbouring local council community building was being demolished and there was a need to continue to provide some of the activities previously provided for community members. As a result, the Nantymoel Boys and Girls Club and Community Centre was formally established in April 2018 as a further development of the Nantymoel Boys & Girls Club. They needed to build the capacity of their Trustee Board and it was difficult for the group to identify where to start with recruiting trustees and volunteers to run the new centre.

Our Link Up Project Officer supported the current Trustees skills development and arranged Trustee refresher training. They also arranged training with the Children's Rights Unit for young people interested in becoming trustees and recruited a mentor with finance experience to help update their finance and budgeting systems from paperwork to electronic.

Through the Link Up Project's support, two new Trustees were recruited and two young people completed an accredited young Trustee training course. All the current and new Trustees have gained knowledge from completing a governance induction and are more aware of their roles and responsibilities.



# Raising the profile

We raised the profile of both our own organisation and that of the wider third sector through our website, social media, e-briefings, newsletters and media releases. We emphasised the difference the third sector makes in improving communities and the positive effect the sector has on people's lives.

We also used as many partnership meetings, media outlets and tools as possible to get these messages out and to achieve rightful recognition for all the work the sector does. Our weekly media releases raise awareness of the range of support services, activities and opportunities delivered within the county borough. We very much appreciate our local press and media's continued support.

To demonstrate the value, impact and difference our work has on individuals, communities and public services, we promoted case studies, digital stories, surveys, testimonials and independent evaluation studies.

Information about local third sector organisations and services is now being shared via Third Sector Support Wales' unique database [infoengine.cymru](http://infoengine.cymru). People can register their organisation's details directly onto the database so it is kept live and up to date. Through all our marketing channels, we continually work to raise infoengine's profile, as this new partnership ensures that information is readily available to both the public and to those who offer advice and support across Wales.

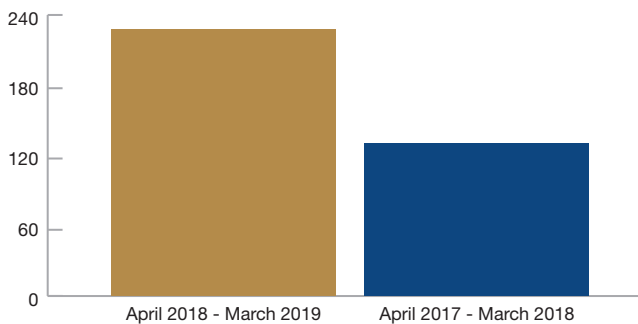
## What did we achieve...?

**231** BAVO articles featured in featured in local press, radio and independent websites.

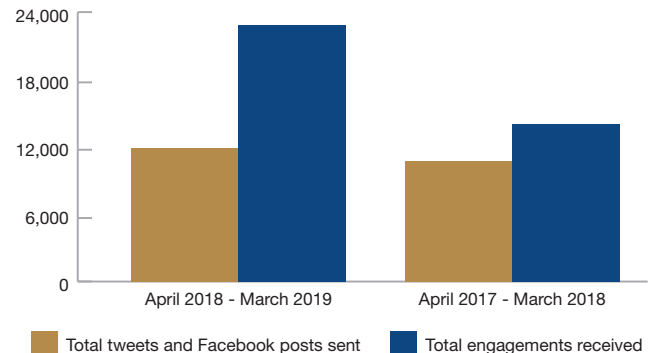
**20,195** visitor sessions to [www.bavo.org.uk](http://www.bavo.org.uk)

**22,778** engagements generated from social media.

**BAVO media activity**  
BAVO articles featured in local media  
2018/19 compared to 2017/18



**BAVO social media activity**  
via Facebook and Twitter  
2018/19 compared to 2017/18



## Independent auditors' statement to the Trustees of the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO)

We have examined the summarised financial statements of the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) for the year ended 31 March 2019.

### Respective responsibilities of Trustees and auditors

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the summarised financial statements in accordance with the recommendations of the charities SORP.

Our responsibility is to report to you our opinion on the consistency of the summarised financial statements with the full financial statements and Trustees' Annual Report. We also read the other information contained in the summarised annual report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements or material inconsistencies with the summarised financial statements.

### Basis of opinion

Our examination involved agreeing the balances disclosed in the summarised financial statements to full annual financial statements. Our report on the charity's full annual financial statements describes the basis of our opinions on those financial statements and on the Trustees' report.

### Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements and the Trustees' Annual Report of the Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO) for the year ended 31 March 2019.

### Bevan Buckland LLP

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors  
Langdon House, Langdon Road  
Swansea  
SA1 8QY

Date: 12 September 2019

## Statement by Trustees

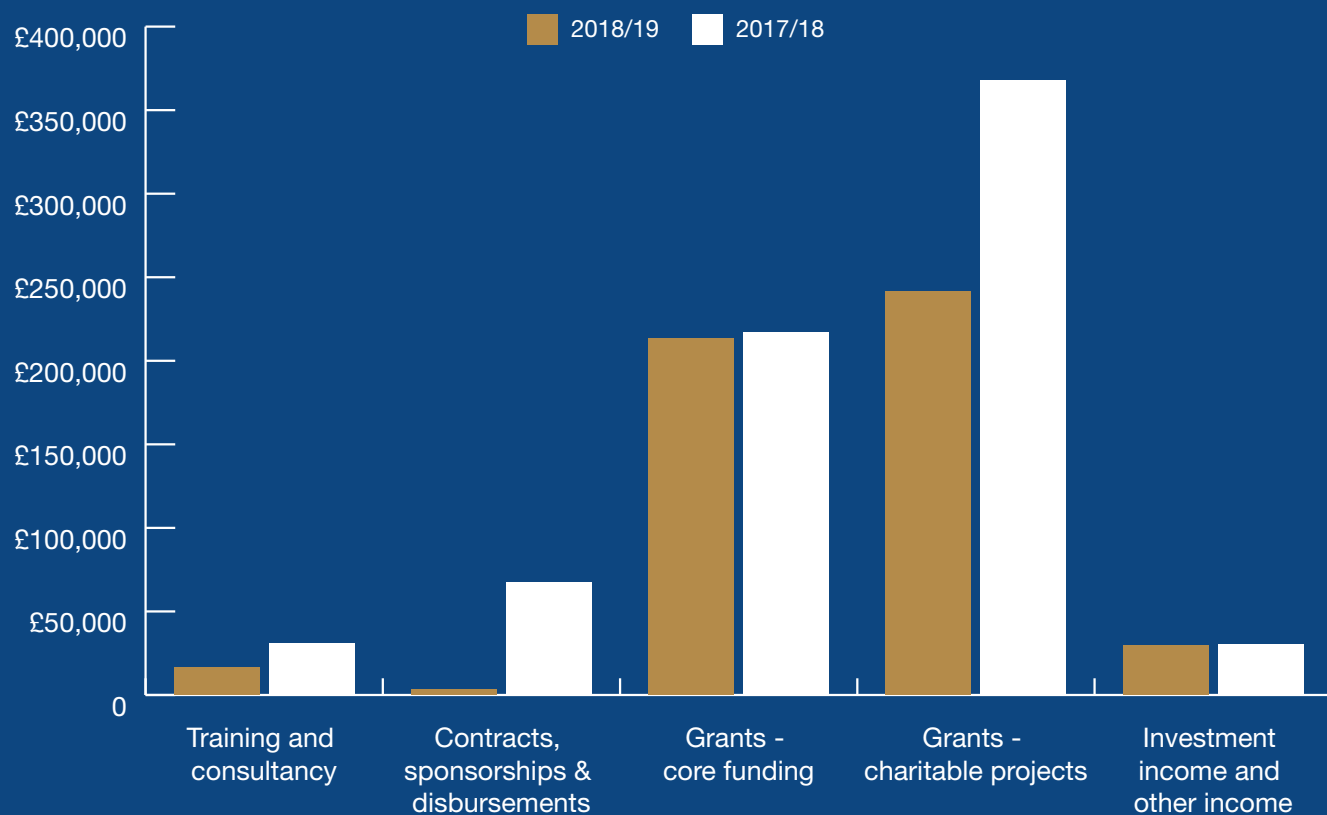
These summarised financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2019 are not the full statutory accounts of the association, but contain a summary of information extracted from the annual accounts relating to both the Statement of Financial Activities [SOFA] and the balance sheet.

These summarised financial statements may not contain sufficient information to allow for a full understanding of the financial affairs of the charity. For further information, the full financial statements and the Trustees' annual report should be consulted; copies of which can be obtained on application to BAVO.

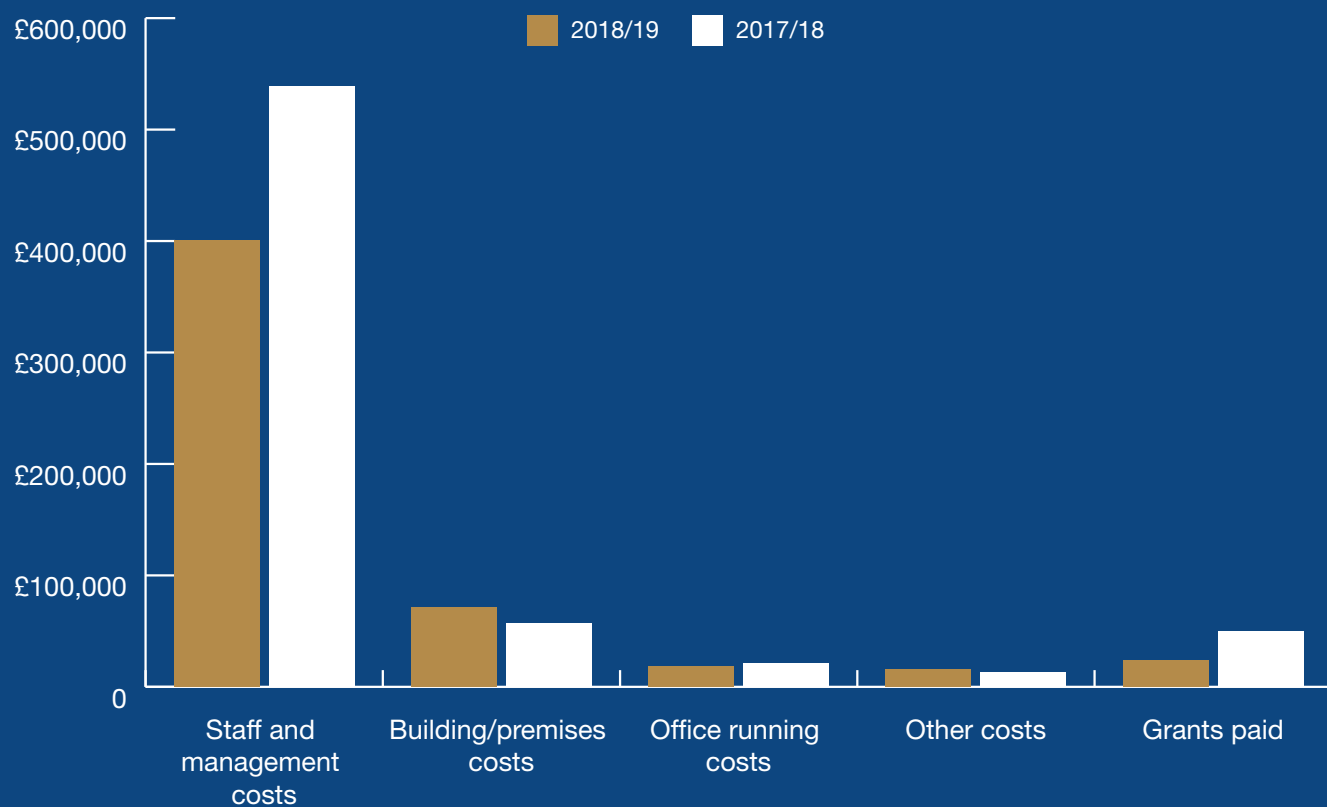
The full financial statements have to be subject to external examination by an independent auditor and received an unqualified report.

The full report and financial statements were approved by the Trustees on 12 September 2019 and have been submitted to the Charity Commission and to the Registrar of Companies.

## Income summary



## Expenditure summary



## Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO)

### Balance sheet

As at 31 March 2019

	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £	2018 £
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>				
Tangible fixed assets		229,632		237,920
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>				
Debtors	8,200		92,027	
Cash at bank and in hand	1,417,844		1,345,634	
	<b>1,426,044</b>		<b>1,437,661</b>	
<b>CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>				
Creditors falling due within one year		87,162	77,932	
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<b>1,338,882</b>		<b>1,359,729</b>
<b>TOTAL NET ASSETS</b>		<b>1,568,514</b>		<b>1,597,649</b>
<b>FUNDS</b>				
Restricted: income funds		281,419		317,517
Unrestricted: income funds				
Designated funds - revenue	617,000		617,000	
General charitable funds	440,463		425,212	
	<b>1,057,463</b>		<b>1,042,212</b>	
Unrestricted: capital funds				
Designated fixed asset funds		229,632		237,920
<b>TOTAL CHARITY FUNDS</b>		<b>1,568,514</b>		<b>1,597,649</b>

# Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations (BAVO)

## Statement of financial activities

Year ended 31 March 2019

	Unrestricted funds		Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	General funds £	Designated funds £	2019 £	2019 £	2018 £
<b>Income and endowment funds from:</b>					
Other trading activities	47,057	-	-	47,057	126,481
Income from investments	1,873	-	-	1,873	1,684
Income from charitable activities	213,530	-	241,187	454,717	584,634
<b>Total income</b>	<b>262,460</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>241,187</b>	<b>503,647</b>	<b>712,799</b>
<b>Expenditure:</b>					
Expenditure on raising funds	2,592	-	-	2,592	2,687
Expenditure on charitable activities	211,866	-	292,333	504,199	592,913
Expenditure on other trading activities	25,992	-	-	25,992	86,426
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>240,450</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>292,333</b>	<b>532,783</b>	<b>682,026</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) before transfers</b>	<b>22,010</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(51,146)</b>	<b>(29,136)</b>	<b>30,773</b>
<b>Transfers</b>					
Transfers to restricted funds	(18,883)	-	18,883	-	-
Transfers from restricted funds	3,835	-	(3,835)	-	-
Transfers to designated funds	(90,569)	90,569	-	-	-
Transfers from designated funds	98,857	(98,857)	-	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year</b>	<b>15,250</b>	<b>(8,288)</b>	<b>(36,098)</b>	<b>(29,136)</b>	<b>30,773</b>
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>	<b>425,213</b>	<b>854,920</b>	<b>317,517</b>	<b>1,597,650</b>	<b>1,566,876</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>	<b>440,463</b>	<b>846,632</b>	<b>281,419</b>	<b>1,568,514</b>	<b>1,597,649</b>

Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations



Cymdeithas Mudiadau Gwirfoddol Sir Penybont



### Bridgend Association of Voluntary Organisations

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Company no: 07691764 • Charity registration no: 1146543

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[www.bavo.org.uk](http://www.bavo.org.uk)



**BAVO would like to give a special thank you to all our third sector representatives who provide their time free of charge to attend strategic meetings and ensure a third sector voice is heard.**

**Thank you to all our members for their ongoing support, encouragement and engagement in very challenging times and for all they do in their communities.**

**We would also like to thank our funders:**

