INVOLVE
VOLUNTARY ACTION IN MID DEVON

2024-27 Development Strategy



Katheryn Hope, Chief Officer

May 2024

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Wellbeing Coach | Tiverton Primary Care Network

“Over the last 3 years, through my work as a social prescriber in Tiverton Primary Care Network it has become apparent that there is no community building or infrastructure development organisation aside from Involve. Involve play a pivotal role in bringing the voluntary and community sector and statutory agencies together for community development, community support and training and networking, recognising that all communities are 'better together'.”

About Involve

We are Mid Devon's Council for Voluntary Service, supporting and promoting voluntary and community action across Mid Devon. Involve is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Involve aims to help communities in Mid Devon to be more resilient, improving the lives of citizens. We support existing and evolving charities, voluntary organisations, and community groups across Mid Devon and further the development and sustainability of local voluntary and community action in Mid Devon. We work with individuals, groups and organisations to promote, support and develop capacity and services in the community and to help individuals to feel they are valued members of their community with something meaningful to contribute.

Our Vision

Our Vision is that, together with our voluntary sector and communities, we help strengthen well-being, resilience and quality of life for people throughout Mid Devon in a dynamic and responsive way.

We believe that a thriving community is built upon the strength of its various groups and organisations. We envision an equitable future where every local community group, regardless of its size or focus, has access to the resources, guidance, and support it needs to flourish.

Our Mission

Our Mission is to empower Mid Devon communities through direct support, governance, planning and financial advice, mentoring and provision of networking and connection opportunities. By doing so, we aim to enhance the overall well-being of our communities, foster a sense of unity, and create a brighter future for all.

Our Strategic Aims

We help develop strong and informed communities within a VCSE sector which is valued and meets the needs of the community.

We provide opportunities and support to enable people to participate and feel a valued member of their community especially through volunteering.

We enable people to connect with meaningful and supportive services in their community.

We raise our profile so we fulfil our aims and become the leading voluntary sector organisation in Mid-Devon promoting, championing and supporting voluntary and community action.



EQUITY

OPENESS

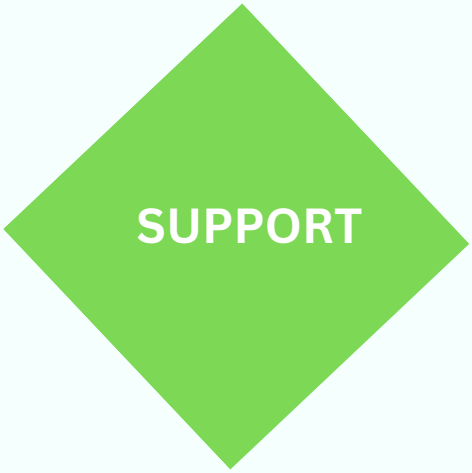
Our Values

Our organisation has identified the following core values to underpin our work within all areas and help to shape how we approach monitoring and evaluation to determine our future direction.



TRUST

We aim to build a foundation of trust within our communities with relationships and partnerships built on mutual trust and respect together with a sense of openness.



SUPPORT

Our whole reason for being is to support our communities to strengthen and empower a sense of well-being, resilience and quality of life for people throughout Mid Devon .



EQUITY

Through our work we foster a sense of unity, equality and inclusiveness to create a brighter future for all.



PARTNERSHIP

We believe positive relationships and partnerships are the foundation of effective working recognising that all communities are 'better together' .

Involve Services

Our Core Community Support

We work with individuals, groups and organisations to promote, support and develop capacity and services in the community. We provide VCSE support and guidance on areas such good governance, charity set up, volunteer services, and funding especially through our Senior Community Development officer role. We employ Community Builders to provide on the ground support in Crediton and Cullompton encouraging people of all ages and backgrounds to get involved in their community. We run networking groups in the three main towns of Tiverton, Cullompton and Crediton including our Community Wellbeing Alliances and Mid Devon Food Network which provide both local intelligence and the opportunity for greater collaboration and partnership as well as sharing good practice.

Our Projects

Our projects are diverse and in direct response to what communities tell us they need. The health, wellbeing and improvement of quality of life of our local communities is a priority for us. We have a fantastic team of Culm Valley Wellbeing Coordinators through a partnership with the primary care network doing essential work supporting the wellbeing of individuals within the community. Alongside we run a growing youth club in Cullompton, again in response to lack of provision within the area. Devon People First is run as a semi-independent body within Involve supporting people with learning difficulties to speak up for themselves through peer and self-advocacy.

Governance and Management

Involve has a board of 4 trustees including a chair and also 2 ex-officio members, who represent the management board and meet four times a year to determine the direction and general policies of the charity as well as finance governance and budgeting. Members of the Management board have a wide range of skills and interests and many of them have long established experience both in the community and in charity based work.

The Core Team



Katheryn Hope
Chief Officer

Katheryn has worked in the voluntary sector in a variety of roles for over 25 years and is passionate about empowering communities and the people within them .



Fran Esau
Senior Community Development Officer

Fran brings a wealth of knowledge of life in Mid Devon to Involve, having lived and participated in communities here for more than 30 years.



Jane Lillis
Administrator

Jane covers office support and finance roles and has a background in office management as well as working as a Village Agent supporting communities across Devon.



Tamlyn Fraquin
Crediton Community Builder

Tamlyn brings a wealth of experience from her corporate career in a regional management capacity and is enthusiastic about facilitating further development and growth in Crediton.



Lynne Clarke
Cullompton Community Builder

Lynne has worked in the Charity Sector since 2006, setting up services and support to address isolation and other associated issues including in Mid Devon.

The Wellbeing Team



Laura McDonagh
Lead Wellbeing Coordinator

Laura leads the team of wellbeing coordinators. As well as working with individuals, she oversees the service management and supervision of the team.



Zoe Flockhart
Wellbeing Coordinator

Zoe loves her job because of the difference she can make to people's lives. She encourages them to identify what matters to them and help them to work towards positive outcomes.



Lauriel Woodley
Wellbeing Coordinator

Lauriel is the newest member of the team and comes with a wealth of knowledge. Lauriel works with individuals referred by a health professional to access support.

The Youth Team



Sophia Roper
Senior Community Youth Worker

Sophia has been delivering youth work for 15 years and is passionate about supporting young people's personal, social and educational development enabling them to develop their voice, influence and place in society.



George Munn
Youth Support Worker

Having experienced youth clubs from when he was young George knows how much difference youth work can make to the lives of young people, now more than ever and is passionate about his role.



Dominic Bennett
Youth Support Worker

Dom started as a young volunteer in 2010 and has since gone on to deliver youth provision as a youth support worker all over Devon.

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COMMUNITY ACTION IN MID DEVON

COMMUNITY



The three areas in Mid Devon with the highest deprivation rates are: Tiverton West – 60.9% of households were deprived in at least one dimension, Tiverton East – 58.6%. Cullompton – 52.7%. (2021 census)

Introduction

The majority of Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) activity in Mid Devon is based in the main centres of population, principally Tiverton, Crediton and Cullompton. VCSE organisations in the main towns aim to meet wider community needs. There are a substantial number based in the more rural areas, a good proportion of which are village or community-wide services and facilities. Many community or charitable groups continue to function with very informal structures developed in isolation. Some of these organisations can be unaware of their responsibilities under charity law and that includes the lessons learnt and best practice established by similar organisations.

Transport, employment, housing, social isolation, and mental health are growing issues for many of our population. People in rural areas face additional cost-of-living pressures due to higher energy, food and transport costs and the difficulties with digital connectivity. (Census 2021). A survey of Devon households in October 2022 found that 29% are food insecure and 36% were planning to keep their heating switched off over the winter (2022/23) (Transform research, Jan 2023). Poverty in Mid Devon is a significant issue, with certain areas experiencing higher levels of deprivation. According to the 2021 census, 50.9% of households in Mid Devon were deprived in at least one dimension.

These figures highlight the ongoing challenges related to poverty and deprivation in Mid Devon, despite some improvements over the years. Deprivation is a complex issue, encompassing various elements such as unemployment, lack of qualifications, poor health, and inadequate housing. Addressing these issues requires a comprehensive and multi-faceted approach.

COMMUNITY

79.5% of residents felt it is important to promote activities that improve the public's health. 42% said an important priority was to provide statutory services

Mid Devon Residents Survey 2022



In 2023-24 we regularly engaged with

- **70 community groups with our Health and Wellbeing Alliance meetings**
- **23 groups with Mid-Devon Food Network meetings**
- **450 organisations on our regular mailing list increased by 28% in one year.**

Overview

Our community development work ensures that our focus is on building capacity to meet the identified overall needs of our wider communities. Involve needs to be proactive to enable our voluntary and community sector to meet a wide range of community need. Networking and collaboration are a vital part of our work to create a joined up approach. Only by working in true partnership with the voluntary sector and our partners can we enable the voice and needs of our residents to be heard so as to respond with meaningful support as well as influence infrastructure development and transformation. It is important that we reach out to include the wider more rural communities of Mid Devon.

We need to build a stronger, more sustainable voluntary sector which includes providing relevant training opportunities for our organisations (online and in person), the networking opportunities to enhance their capacities as well as their collaboration and the development support they need. Our 3 year plan aims to outline our strategy to accomplish this overall goal using our values as the four pillars of our approach together with the established steps of our community work:

Communicate → Connect → Listen → Develop → Empower

COMMUNITY BUILDING



In 2023-24 our community builders:

- **Established retired farmers groups in Crediton and Cullompton with over 30 members each**
- **Set up breastfeeding groups for young mums**
- **Held Listening Cafes to hear what local people want for their community**
- **Established online community directories**
- **Helped facilitate a Celebration of Youth event**

With wide local experience of the area, our dedicated and passionate Community Builders listen to local people, respond and connect local residents with like-minded people, organisations and groups so new activities are set up, diverse groups established, and friendships created. After identifying a gap they develop ways to fill it such as our successful peer-support offer for older agricultural workers. Our inaugural meeting in Crediton attracted 55 attendees. These 'Vintage Farmers' groups are going from strength to strength regularly attracting 30 attendees. In Crediton our community builder is working closely with Macmillan Cancer and social prescribers to develop a talking café. Other groups have also been established in response to need including breastfeeding support and a Parent Peer Support group . Crediton has also held an inaugural event Celebrating Youth; bringing together over 20 groups, clubs and activities with a collaboration of the community groups, Queen Elizabeth school, Involve, Crediton Town Council, Crediton Youth Service and Mid Devon PCN.

Following a local Crediton survey on what opportunities are needed for young people, we received c.170 responses and we are now working to establish how we can meet those needs identified.

In Cullompton a pop up Repair Cafe has been initiated supporting local sustainability by mending rather than throwing away, a regular Community Litter Pick is underway and our Community Builder has established Cullompton Community Friends – informal volunteers who signpost local people to services and groups, Our Community Builders play a vital role in empowering their local community.

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COMMUNITY



In Tiverton there's a significant need for a community building role as well as community connecting.
Tiverton already has a critical amount of services lacking and a community is only as good as the services that are available to support people and those available to offer wide-ranging ways for people to participate and be part of their community and grow its strengths.
Tiverton Wellbeing Coach

Our objectives are to:

- Maintain and develop the services and support we have established for voluntary and community organisations in Mid Devon.
- Enable liaison within the voluntary and community sector of Mid Devon.
- Maintain and develop strategic partnerships and representation of the voluntary and community sector. Ensure that the Voluntary Sector in Mid Devon has a voice on relevant issues.
- Assist voluntary and community sector development to meet the needs of the communities of Mid Devon.

Our Planned Work

- **Increase the number of community builders in our team to include Tiverton supporting our voluntary sector to build their capacity, particularly in areas of need i.e. dementia, mental health, unpaid carers, social isolation, people with learning disabilities and more rural areas especially farming communities.**
- **Encourage wider connections through our Community Wellbeing Alliances and increase attendance by 50% or more encouraging collective pooling of resources and knowledge and improving networking and collaboration.**
- **Establish a membership scheme with a tiered approach offering benefits such as funding support and achievement of the Quality Assurance mark.**
- **A strategic presence on the Devon Voluntary Assembly as a representative of Devon Voluntary Action.**
- **Set up an online community directory for Tiverton to promote, support and develop capacity and services in the community and support signposting.**
- **Establish in person and online training to support voluntary sector capacity.**

VOLUNTEERING



Your help is making a real difference to the lives of children and young people who need support with their mental health. We would be lost without you!

Volunteering is at the heart of what we do as an organisation. We are committed to providing an effective and meaningful service which meets the needs of our wider communities and improves quality of life for people across Mid Devon.

The population of Mid Devon is increasing rapidly and outgrowing the established voluntary activities that take place there. The wide cross section of people moving in brings opportunities for developing creative voluntary activity. We are conscious that we are not currently engaging with this new section of the community as much as we could or to the growing development and volunteering needs of the area. Increasingly statutory services are relying on the voluntary sector for support and improved pathways to community care and integration.

We need to put specific support into developing a focus for voluntary activity and community development in this area as our research has confirmed. We know from our extensive network of local organisations, and our community–based staff and other projects, that there is a constant battle to recruit, manage, train, motivate and retain volunteers at all levels including Trustee level. With the constant cuts to statutory services, community work is becoming more and more the only way that organisations can stay afloat and provide the complementary services needed to keep resilient communities. Recent surveys of local need have highlighted that organisations find an in-person approach more helpful and effective especially as groups currently report attracting new volunteers is an ongoing challenge.

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VOLUNTEERING

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Our mission is to:

- Develop, support and empower Mid Devon's voluntary and community sector and improve the environment in which it operates.
- Develop, support and promote volunteering across Tiverton, Cullompton, Crediton and surrounding areas.

Strategic aims:

- **Community Outreach**: Launch a targeted outreach campaign to raise awareness about volunteering opportunities.
- **Partnership Development:** Collaborate with local businesses, schools, and non-profits to create a network of support.
- **Volunteer Incentives:** Offer training, recognition, and other incentives to encourage long-term commitment.
- **Events and Workshops:** Organise community events and workshops to engage potential volunteers and showcase the impact of their work.

Our specific goals are:

- To establish partnerships with at least 5 local organisations in the next year.
- To recruit 100 new volunteers in the next 12 months.
- To create a sustainable volunteer program that benefits both the volunteers and the community.

Our Planned Work

- **Recruit a Volunteer Support Coordinator to provide one-to-one advice and guidance to voluntary organisations, build partnerships and be instrumental in the re-establishment of a new Volunteer Hub based in Tiverton.**
- **Research and Identify Needs: Conduct a survey to understand the community's needs and the types of volunteer opportunities that are most appealing. Ensure a variety of roles that cater to different interests, skills and times. Collect volunteer stories and videos that connect emotionally with all characteristic groups.**
- **Consult on, and create diverse opportunities based on talents and strengths so community members can equally contribute and connect.**
- **Deliver annual volunteer fairs in each main town and work with under-represented groups.**
- **Provide volunteering workshops covering recruitment, governance, policies and procedures and volunteer retention.**

WELLBEING



You lifted a very heavy weight off my shoulders today. Thank you so much for your help

In 2023-24

- 3177 total contacts
- 269 wellbeing coordinator referrals
- 28 people enrolled on Hope courses

Our Culm Valley Wellbeing Coordinator project provides a vital service bridging the gap between PCN services and community support.

This project provides three Wellbeing Coordinators, Laura, Zoe and Lauriel, also known as Social Prescribers, to support the Culm Valley Primary Care Network. Wellbeing Coordinators connect individuals referred by professionals to local services in the community for their improved wellbeing. These may be people who are feeling lonely and isolated, may be worried about finances or housing, are lacking in confidence or who are struggling with long term health conditions. Services in the community could include community groups and support, counselling, or support for carers. The goal of wellbeing coordinators is to find out from each individual: "What matters to you". They then provide much needed support over a period of time to help each person achieve their goals. All our Wellbeing Coordinators are also Hope Facilitators and run regular HOPE (Help Overcoming Problems Effectively) courses to compliment the support they offer.

Our Planned Work

- **Reduce the waiting list of patients seeking non-clinical help by 50% in the next year.**
- **Increase the number and range of HOPE courses to empower individuals to feel more able to deal with challenges as well as provide peer-to-peer support.**
- **Establish ongoing support networks to follow service provision.**
- **Work collaboratively with other groups, CVS organisations and volunteers to facilitate group work and planned courses.**

YOUNG PEOPLE



I like youth club because...
It's fun!!
Full of friendly people!!!
I like everyone here
I love the activities we do!

In 2023-24:

- **We registered 57 young people**
- **On average 15 attendances per session**
- **Ran sports programs including boxing, yoga, pickleball, badminton, and frisbee.**

This exciting project was set up in response to there being no regular co-ordinated under 18 youth provision for Cullompton. Involve employs a senior community youth worker and two support workers to run the growing club.

Originally PCN Youth Link Workers who work closely with young people highlighted a lack of local opportunities both in traditional youth clubs as well as an absence of other group activities to support peer relationships, wellbeing, and healthy lifestyles for young people in the area. The Cullompton Youth Club project was set up providing locally based, locally run, sustainable and collaborative youth provision and local engagement drawing on learning from previous models. Our enthusiastic and dedicated staff provide youth activities at least twice each week for different age groups. The project adopts a partnership approach with Involve, the Town Council, the local PCN, Space Devon and the John Tallack Centre where the provision is run. The young people are settling in and really feel as if it is their space. Work is developing and is always led by the aspirations of the young people themselves.

Our Planned Work

- **Recruit volunteers to support the youth club sessions.**
- **Develop a dedicated outdoor area for the young people.**
- **Increase numbers attending our younger youth club sessions by 50%.**
- **Strengthen partnerships with local infrastructure organisations to respond to issues for young people (for example; mental health, school absences) within the community and encourage participation of young people in local democratic structures.**

DEVON PEOPLE FIRST

I hadn't seen or spoken to anyone for months because the day centres have all closed and now I can see my friends again online, it's fabulous



In 2023-24:

- **We reached 2500 people with first contacts**
- **Achieved 492 Friendship group attendances**
- **Ran 5 Crime Awareness sessions reaching 70 individuals**

A Devon-wide project for people with learning disabilities.

This award winning project supports people with learning disabilities to speak up for themselves through peer and self-advocacy. Resources are provided in easy read, and easy to understand language, so they can be accessed more widely. Devon People First is run as a semi-independent body within Involve, with volunteers from the learning disability community, a nominated representative of which sits on the Involve board. Funding from Devon County Council facilitates online Friendship groups providing an important opportunity for social interaction tackling the prevalent issue of isolation often experienced by people with a learning disability. We also provide peer advocacy, with staff support, for victims of crime with a learning disability funded through the Devon and Cornwall Police and Crime Commissioner.

Our Planned Work

- **This year we are piloting in-person Friendship groups starting in Tiverton and Cullompton with funding from Devon County Council.**
- **We are creating an on-line directory of services and activities offered by groups who actively welcome people with a learning disability.**
- **We plan to reach out to more people who will benefit from our services to increase numbers who attend our activities.**
- **We aim to include more people with a learning disability in our decision making at ground level.**

The Devon People First Team



Lloyd Waterman
Senior Project Coordinator

Lloyd is highly experienced having been in his role for 20 years yet is possibly even more passionate about his work than when he first started..



Laura Williams
Assistant Project Coordinator

Laura's post is new this year and she brings fresh ideas and energy to the project along with her multi-faceted skills.

Gallery

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Marketing Plan

Our Objectives

To grow awareness of Involve as a charity and CVS for the voluntary sector in Mid Devon, build a regular campaign, encourage voluntary organisation sign-ups with 1000 groups receiving regular mailings by 2027.

To raise our profile so we fulfil our aims and become the leading voluntary sector organisation in Mid-Devon promoting, championing and supporting voluntary and community action.

SWOT ANALYSIS

Strengths

- Established (since 1985) and respected as a significant VCS support organisation
- Established services across the full range of infrastructure support
- Developed network of contacts required to carry out services
- A comparatively small flexible organisation, responsive to changing national and local trends and needs.
- An effective, motivated and skilled team of paid staff

Weaknesses

- Sector and organisation increasingly dependent on short-term funding
- Providing the service across a wide geographical area with poor transport links
- Outdated CRM system not fit for purpose
- A comparatively small organisation vulnerable to the impact of internal organisational problems and short term staffing
- Statutory funding much reduced
- New CO and trustees

Opportunities

- Well placed to provide VCSE support and form strategic partnerships
- Increased commitment to the VCSE by statutory partners
- Greater integration and partnership working throughout the Devon CVS network in partnership with DeVA
- New emerging ideas and energy from newer staff members/trustees
- Free digital training /support to improve our working systems and CRM technology

Threats

- Ongoing need to secure additional funding to cover core costs
- Heightened expectation of what the sector / volunteering can deliver
- Increasing gap between core funding and service costs threatening consistency of service as funding becomes more project dependent
- Competition for the same funding pots by other charities / DeVA partners
- Competitors such as Devon Communities Together
- Not staying digitally up-to-date

Our Plan

What are our Goals?

- **To re-establish our brand**
- **To raise awareness of what we offer to Mid-Devon communities**
- **To increase visibility**
- **To generate traffic to our website**
- **To grow our service use**
- **To meet our targets**
- **To improve and streamline our digital systems**



Raising our Profile

One of our main aims in the forthcoming year is to raise our profile to fulfil our aims and become the leading voluntary sector organisation in Mid-Devon promoting, championing and supporting voluntary and community action.

Our strategic aims are to:

- Increase the numbers of organisations receiving ongoing information / bulletins from present 450 to 1000 by 2027.
- To re-establish a membership programme offering tiered benefits thereby improving ongoing support for our communities as well as a financial commitment to us from those we support.
- Demonstrate our impact to improve funding opportunities.
- Improve our marketing channels in a measurable way.

Marketing Channels

Over the course of 2024-27 we will ramp up our use of the following channels for raising public awareness of our service, developing brand awareness and generating leads:

Website

Purpose of channel

- Brand Awareness and information about Involve and its purpose / mission
- Provision of up-to-date advice and guidance and useful information for VSCE organisations in Mid Devon
- Regular quarterly newsletters
- Metrics to measure success

Actions:

- **Promote our website more widely on every email, publication, social media to increase footfall.**
- **Develop our website to showcase our projects and demonstrate our impact.**
- **Measure website metrics quarterly to evaluate success.**
- **Create meaningful links with other organisation websites.**

Social Media

Purpose of Channel

- Brand Awareness and promotion of Involve activities
- Useful information for Voluntary Sector
- Engagement with community and other organisations
- Demonstrating our impact through ongoing newsletters / posts

Actions:

- **Engage regularly with other community groups to show presence and invite page likes to raise member numbers.**
- **Schedule regular weekly posts from Community Builders / projects to raise profile.**
- **Create themed campaigns i.e. celebrating volunteering which include community members.**
- **Measure social media metrics quarterly to evaluate success.**



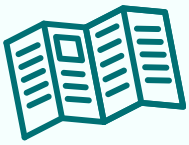
Newsletter

Purpose of Channel

- Brand Awareness and promotion of Involve activities
- Useful information for Voluntary Sector
- Engagement with community and other organisations
- Demonstrating our impact through stories and feedback

Actions:

- **Regular quarterly newsletter to include input from our various projects and core teams.**
- **Create themed campaigns i.e. celebrating volunteering which include community members.**



Flyers

Purpose of Channel

- Brand Awareness and promotion of Involve activities
- Useful information for Voluntary Sector
- Promote our values and mission as an organisation
- Demonstrate our impact

Actions:

- **Create a flyer detailing the overall work of Involve to be distributed at outlets such as libraries, community centres, shops, charities etc. and to give to our members.**
- **Include our values and mission on all flyers produced for Involve including core work and projects.**

Devon Connect

Purpose of Channel

- An online hub promoting volunteer opportunities, activities and events
- Useful information for Voluntary Sector
- Engagement with community and other organisations
- Creating connections and networking opportunities

Actions:

- **Engage regularly with other community groups to show presence and raise member numbers.**
- **Regularly add activities and events.**
- **Create themed campaigns i.e. celebrating volunteering which include community members.**
- **Measure hub metrics quarterly to evaluate success.**
- **Hold training events on how to make the most of Devon Connect.**
- **Actively promote Devon Connect to our Mid Devon communities to expand membership.**

Marketing Development

In order for us as an organisation to stay ahead we need to appoint a dedicated marketing / communications coordinator to fulfil our marketing objectives. This will be part of our overall strategic plan and be included in our budgeting and fundraising from 2025.

We are reviewing our CRM system and undertaking Digital Leadership training with a view to upgrading all our working systems to become more streamlined, up-to-date and user friendly in the forthcoming year. As part of this we will upgrade our approach to evaluation and outcomes to demonstrate the positive effects of Involve's work across Mid Devon with a comprehensive Evaluation and Impact Report which will inform future delivery ensuring sustainable and long lasting benefits for all.

Our Supporters

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Involve Voluntary Action in Mid Devon is always grateful to receive funding and other support to enable us to continue our work with our voluntary sector and communities. We would like to extend our gratitude to the groups and organisations who support our work:

active devon

City Community Trust

College Surgery Partnership

Cullompton Town Council

Cullompton Town Team

We Are Devon Community Foundation

CHAT bringing hope

eVA Devon Voluntary Action

The League of Friends of Crediton Hospital and its Community Patients. "Promoting the health and well-being of our community"

jtc John Tallack Youth & Community Centre

Libraries Unlimited

Devon County Council

Supporting We Are Macmillan. Cancer Support

Mid Devon District Council

NHS Devon

NHS England

Victim Care PCC We support victims of crime

PCC Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner Devon and Cornwall

Redlands Primary Care

SPACE

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Our 3-Year Plan

We will build a strong and vibrant VCSE sector within our communities through asset-based community development and support. We will put a framework in place so communities know where to go for support and how to establish services within their community meeting need and becoming more sustainable and resilient. The benefit of our work will be the wellbeing of everyone resident or working in Mid Devon communities.

Year One:

- **Consolidate our Community Builder/Connector offer** in Cullompton and Crediton and appoint Project Manager; use our knowledge of gaps in services to continue group support to fill gaps.
- **Appoint Tiverton Community Builder/Connector** to map assets; build trust and connections in Tiverton
- **Build on Cullompton Community Friends online directory** extending similar resources elsewhere using strong community-asset groups to host the website.
- **Appoint dedicated Volunteer Support Coordinator** to provide advice and guidance and deliver annual volunteer fairs in each main town.
- **Set up new Volunteer Hub in Tiverton.**

Year Two:

- **Appoint Publicity and Events Coordinator** to create content; provide 4 additional training events each year on topics requested by local groups including a funding event.
- **Consolidate Tiverton Community Builder offer**, set up community directory.
- **Adapt volunteer support** to initial year findings. Consult on, and create diverse opportunities based on talents and strengths
- **Appoint rural community builders;** map assets; build trust and connections in rural areas to set a base life-satisfaction rate; discover gaps and challenges.
- **Design regular feedback mechanisms** so community members can observe our impact and how future offers would benefit.
- **Assess and learn** from events, training, funding and volunteer fairs.
- **Volunteer Coordinator** will work with under-represented groups.

Year Three:

- **Review learning from years 1 & 2** to meet new challenges.
- **Full impact assessment**, consultation / survey to assess satisfaction with connecting and volunteering opportunities and support.
- **Report and plan;** future continuation of our work.

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INVOLVE VOLUNTARY ACTION IN MID DEVON

Phone: 01884 219833

Email: admin@involve-middevon,org.uk

Website: www.involve-middevon.org.uk

Charity no: 1177169

Involve Voluntary Action in Mid Devon is a registered Charitable Incorporated Association (CIO). Following our initial set up as a Volunteering Centre in 1985 in Tiverton, we were then newly established as a charity in 2018 to serve the voluntary and community organisations across Mid Devon. We are a core member of Devon Voluntary Action (DEVA), under whose umbrella we are also members of the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) and the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO). Through collaboration with strategic partners and our voluntary sector, Involve works to make a real difference for Mid Devon communities.

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