

Annual Report 2016 2017



voluntary action camden
supporting local action by local people



Supporting Organisations

Information, resources, specialist advice and support, training and consultancy

Strategic Work

Partnership projects, networks and forums, lobbying, research and policy development

Starting out

Support in setting up and running a new organisation.

Somewhere to sit

Hot desking, meeting rooms, use of office resources.

Raising money

Training and one to one support to use Grant finder and write successful grant applications.

Planning

Writing and refreshing business plans in a rapidly changing environment.

Employing staff

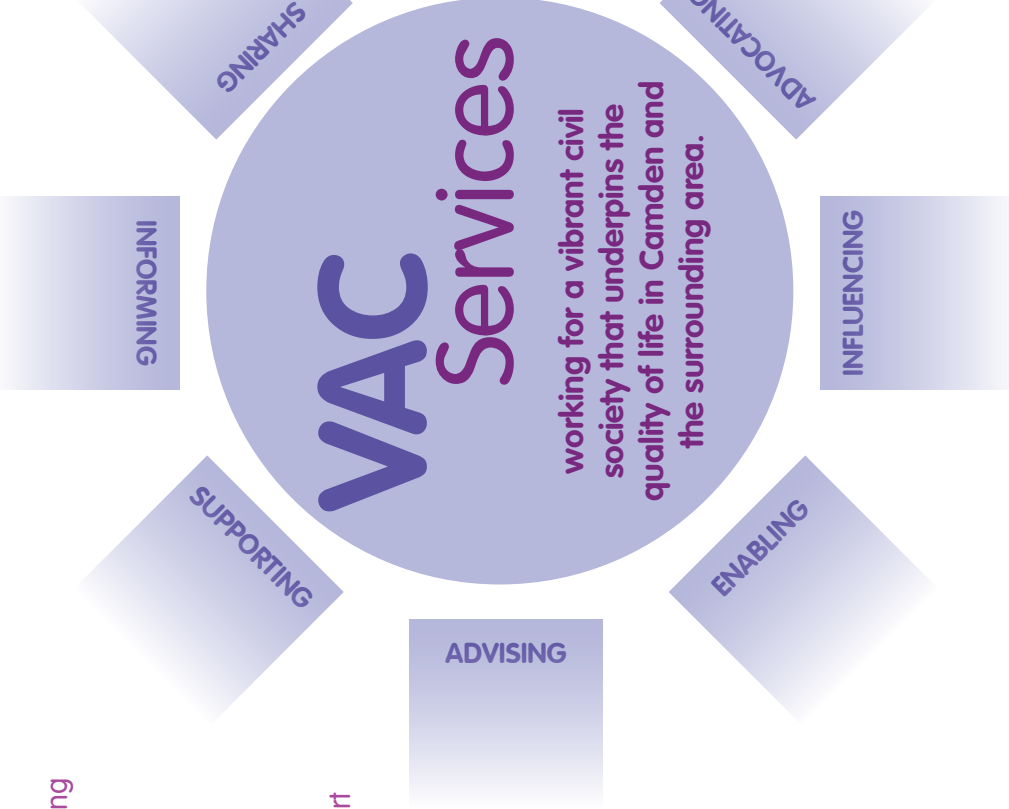
Recruiting, contract and employment issues.

Consortium Building

Supporting organisations, large and small and across sectors, to work together.

Improving knowledge and skills

Training on coaching and mentoring, setting up a social business, governance, management and new challenges e.g. GDPR.



Camden Cultural Advocacy

Working with BME communities to address mental health issues and co-producing services.

Community Partnership Adviser

Strengthening links between BME communities, faith groups and the Camden Children's Safeguarding Board.

Pro Bono Coaching and Mentoring Network

Support for people working or volunteering in civil society organisations.

Collaborative Working

Co-producing events with the public sector and working with partners in community centres, business, and universities.

Health Inequalities Hub

Working to improve access to services, building community networks and enabling community voices to be heard.

Data and Policy Analysis

Access to a comprehensive database and policy briefings.

Environmental Justice

Strengthening the voice of local people to tackle negative impacts of development on health and wellbeing.



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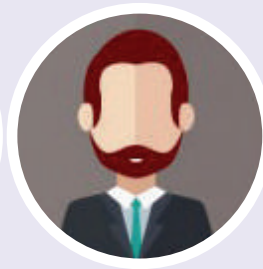
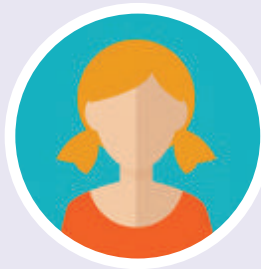
Key Achievements this Year



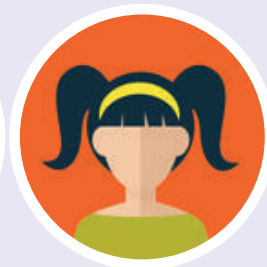
Supporting Local Community Groups

Setting up & developing community groups

Helped **57**
community groups & local residents setup & develop organisations, projects & activities for local good.



Provided employment and human resources advice and guidance to **16** organisations and **20** individuals.



Updated **1232**
community group contact details on our OneCamden Directory.

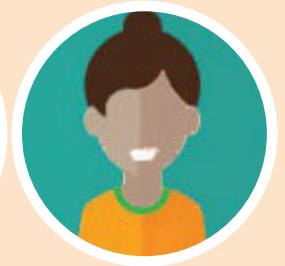


Signposted **387**
Camden groups & local residents to Camden activities, advice & support.

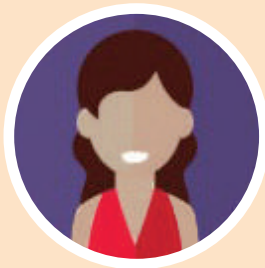
Supporting Local Community Groups

Helping groups raise money

Organised **1**
Funders Fair with **9** London funders for
39 small Camden groups & local
residents.



Delivered **6** seminars & workshops on
one-to-one bid-writing & crowd funding
attended by **77** community groups.



Provided one-to-one
bid-writing support to
59 Camden groups.

Every hour spent on support the
resulting funds generated are equal to

£24,576

worth of funding raised for each hour of
VAC's support.

Helped local community groups raise over

£520,000

13 assisted Grantfinder
sessions to help local
groups find funding.

Supporting Local Community Groups

Upskilling VCS Staff & Volunteers

Delivered **11** professional courses @ Mary Ward Centre.

Trained **119** students in project management, leadership, governance & business start-up.

Delivered coaching & mentoring training to **15** local people.

Students received **100%** pass rate on all accredited courses.

Setting Up Camden Giving

Secured funding of **£40,000** from the City Bridge Trust to set up Camden Giving.

Supported the **recruitment and induction** of the Camden Giving Director.

Administered the application process for the **first round of grants**.

Setting Up Camden Disability Action

Set up **1** user led disability advocacy charity with **200** members.

3 major funding grants awarded.

Helped recruit **5** new trustees, organise **1** AGM, and recruit and manage **1** Development Worker.

Supporting Local Community Groups

Setting Up the Centre for Independent Living

Facilitated the creation of the CIL Consortium made up of **6** local voluntary organisations.

Supported the **consortium** to deliver the contract to run the Centre for Independent Living

Setting up St Pancras and Somers Town Living Centre

Facilitated the setting up of the **Living Centre Consortium**.

Supported the **successful bid** to secure funding.

Managing Somers Town Big Local

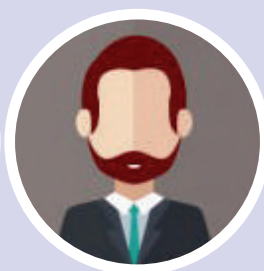
Line management of **Big Local** project in Somers Town.

Over **200** Somers Town residents actively participated in initiative.

Supported **30** community projects.

Published **4** editions of the local community newspaper.

Helped **10** community projects secure match funding.



Supporting Community Action

Neighbourhood Planning

Groups in **3** neighbourhoods supported to improve community engagement about planning, housing needs and neighbourhood improvements.

Delivered **4** planning workshops with local residents.

Started **Environmental Justice project** in collaboration with UCL, Environmental Law Foundation and residents in Euston area to challenge local policy changes affecting neighbourhood environment.

Social Prescribing

17 health advocate volunteers placed in **9** GP practices across the borough.

Made **650** referrals of patients to voluntary sector activities, services & organisations.

14 volunteers trained in Royal Society of Public Health Level 1.

9 volunteers trained in Mental Health Awareness.

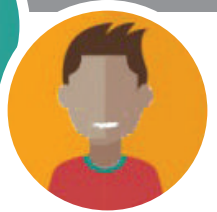
Mental Health Project (ended March 2017)

Trained **27** Mental Health Champions from BMAER communities to raise awareness of mental health in the community.

Over **320** local people attended workshops on mental health & well-being.

Held over **250** conversations with the public to raise awareness of mental health and wellbeing.

Supporting Community Action



Protecting Children in the Community Training – Round 10

14

Delivered training sessions on harmful practices, abuse linked to belief, honour based violence & forced marriage.

Involved **10** organisations and **125** local BAMER residents

81

A further local residents and front line staff benefited from special FGM training sessions.

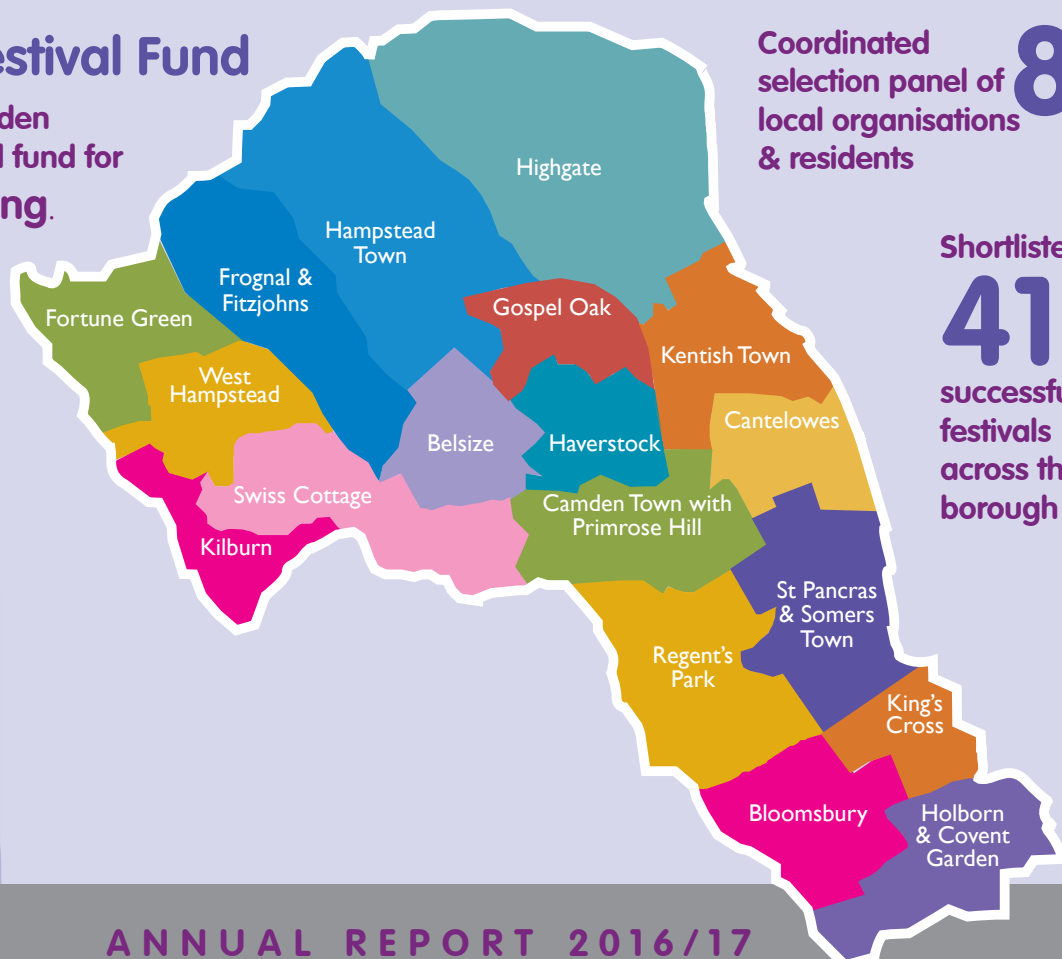
Community Partnership Advisor contributed to

8

cross-sector working groups, forums and initiatives on child safeguarding issues.

Camden Festival Fund

Administered Camden Community festival fund for 5th year running.



Coordinated selection panel of local organisations & residents

8

Shortlisted **41** successful festivals across the borough

Influencing

Key Decision Makers

Shaping Policy

Produced **quarterly policy briefings** for local groups on topics such as health & well-being, social prescribing & digital transformation.



Took part in the **Way Ahead** process to redesign **VCS infrastructure** support in London.



Co-ordinated collective VCS response to put forward VCS position to decision makers e.g. on pensions, social fund, changes in adult social care & Prevent.

Delivered **5** policy seminars on sortition, health & safety, future of health & social care & future of infrastructure support in Camden,

attended by **105** community organisations.



Undertook research to find out the **size & profile** of the local voluntary & community sector in Camden, and shared data with key stakeholders.

Engaged in the **Sustainability and Transformation Plan** process of the North Central NHS.

Influencing

Key Decision Makers

Communications & Social Media Reach

Klout score of

45

1258

followers with

183 new

followers this year.



Weekly newsletter sent to

over **2000**

subscribed readers.

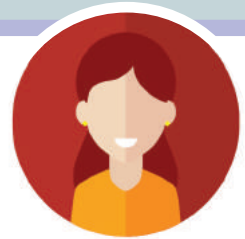
473

views of
VAC's YouTube Channel.



366

Facebook likes.



63,365

Tweet Impressions &

4672

profile views.



Developing Online Resources

Over **43,000**

hits to VAC website

New resources & toolkits

pages developed for VAC website.

Over **1110**

views of
VAC toolkits & resources pages
developed for VAC website

Strengthening Ourselves

Technology

Reduced back office costs and liabilities.

Moved main IT systems **into the cloud.**

Looking at how we use **data** more intelligently, including reviewing our **CRM.**



Governance & Sustainability

Successful reaccreditation of **IIP.**

Gained the new **NAVCA** award.

Retained **Cutting Carbon** Award.

Revisited & revised **risk register.**

Began our journey to **GDPR** compliance.



Volunteering

Supported by **46 volunteers** throughout the year on IT, Neighbourhood Planning, Mental Health & Social Prescribing.

Benefited from an estimated **£129,500 of volunteer support** (MVA calculation).





Please get in touch to find out more about our work:

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action
c a m d e n

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