



The lead volunteering infrastructure in the North West



22 Bishop Street
Derry/Londonderry
BT48 6PP



42 Barrack Street
Strabane
BT82 8HD

NWVC Impact 2023/2024

REPORT FROM
1ST APRIL 2023 – 31ST MARCH 2024



Promoting Volunteering Across Derry City & Strabane District Council Area



WWW.NWVC.CO.UK

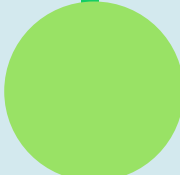
Volunteering Projects & Activities



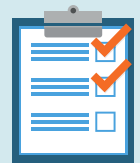
VISP - Volunteer Infrastructure Support Programme in Derry City and Strabane District Council Area



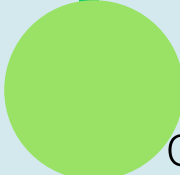
654 new volunteers registered




Promoting good practice in volunteering across the district



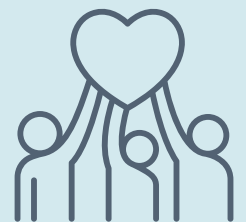
25 New organisations registered



397 volunteer involving organisations registered on NWVC database



6 turn up take part volunteering events



Derry City & Strabane District Council Strategic Growth Plan

"To Increase & Sustain current levels of volunteers within the Derry City & Strabane District Council Area"

"Expand on opportunities to recognise volunteers' contributions to society"



Volunteer NI

North West Volunteer Centre

EPIC awards - What is it?

- EPIC (Empowering People In Communities) is an award scheme that recognises and validates the contribution made by volunteers.
- It is available to anyone who makes a commitment of at least 50 hours volunteering within a 12 month period. There are 3 levels of award Bronze, Silver & Gold



#EpicAwardsNI



- EPIC awards is an initiative set up by Volunteer NI, a partnership across all the Volunteer Centres in Northern Ireland.
- The North West Volunteer Centre rolls out EPIC in conjunction with Derry City and Strabane District Council and throughout the District and open to all ages.

What can EPIC do for me?

- EPIC is about getting recognition for your time, commitment, experience and skills you share as a volunteer.
- It demonstrates to potential employers that your volunteering is recognised and validated. It is a great way to let employers know what skills, experience and training you have developed as a volunteer.
- EPIC can help build your case for further and higher education i.e. UCAS



A total of 538 people have received an EPIC Volunteer Award



210 people received their 50 hour award



194 received their 100 hour award



134 received their 200 hour award

56,700 volunteer hours



Volunteers' Week 2023



During 2023 Our volunteers week campaign provided the platform for volunteers to receive the appreciation and recognition.



Lunch on us: A number of volunteer involving organisations received lunch platters and thank you certificates



Downloadable 'Thank you' certificates were made available from our website



Support provided to a number of volunteer recognition events attended by staff across the DCSDC area



Foyle Search & Rescue

Heart of Foyle First Responders



Fountain Street Community Development Assoc

Strabane Health Improvement Project

Me4Mental



ForSight charity shop

St.Columbs Park House



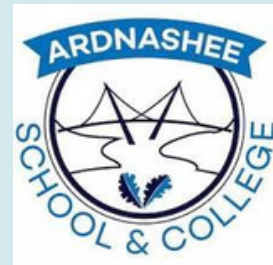
Victoria Bridge Community Association

Springhil Park Resident & Youth Association

Enagh Seniors



Summer programme 2023



The centre provided administrative support to the 2023 summer programme working with Ardnashee school & College and Foyle Parents & Friends Association

132 children & young people with disabilities participated on the summer programme. On average 44 participants per day

Supporting 130 families in partnership with Foyle Parents & Friends Association & Ardnashee College

2640 hours of respite for parents & carers over the summer period

100% of parents felt that the summer scheme met the needs of their child

64% of parents strongly agreed that building and maintaining friendships has increased for their child

61% of parents strongly agreed that listening and co-operation with others has improved for their child .

21 volunteers were recruited, trained and gained valuable experience working with children and young people with a range of disabilities and challenging behaviour

My child has loved every minute of the summer scheme, she is happy and content and sleeping through the night which she hasn't been doing since school broke up. The scheme is brilliant and has allowed me to catch up on housework schedule dental and doctors checkups for myself. It has been great respite all the staff and volunteers have been brilliant - Many thanks (Parent)

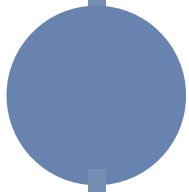
North West Volunteer Centre Training

Promotion, delivery & evaluation of 48 training courses.

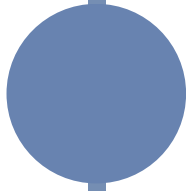
	Level 3 Emergency First Aid at Work (RQF)	9
	Introduction to Emergency First Aid	11
	Level 2 Safeguarding & Protecting Children & Young people	3
	Awareness in safeguarding children & young people	10
	Integrated children & adults Safeguarding Courses	8
	Awareness in safeguarding Adults courses	1
	Level 2 Food Safety in Catering Course	4
	Basic life support & AED courses	1
	Level 1 Health & Safety at Work (RQF)	1
Total of 48 courses delivered & 518 participants		



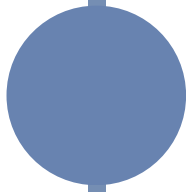
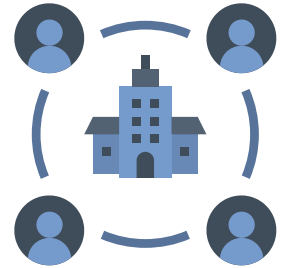
Access NI service 23/24



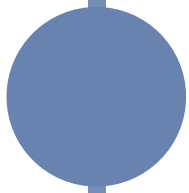
902 access ni applications completed



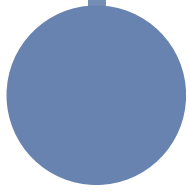
122 organisations supported



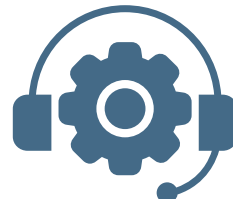
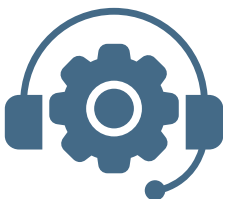
902 people supported through the access ni process



ACCESS NI Certificate of compliance awarded for basic standard & enhanced Applications



ACCESS NI Support materials updated and circulated to organisations



In September 2023 the centre secured funding from Developing Healthy Communities under Clear Project funding to deliver “Volunteer Connect Empower” project

<p>Objectives</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Targeting year 12 and 13 year groups in post primary schools across the Derry City and Strabane District council Area - Promote volunteering as a healthy lifestyle choice for young people. 2. Inform about the health and wellbeing benefits of volunteering using the 5-steps to wellbeing. 3. Highlight the skills development and benefits of volunteering so that our young people are better able to realise their potential. 4. Promote the EPIC (empowering people in communities) Volunteering Awards to young people. 	
<p>Action 1: Volunteer Connect Empower - Information sessions</p>	<p>Deliver 8 Volunteer Connect Empower Information sessions Participating schools include: St. Brigids College – Year 12 & Year 13, St. Mary’s College Year 12 & Year 13, Lisneal College year 12 & Year 13, Foyle College Year 13, Lumen Christi College year 13.</p>	<p>Total number of participants 760</p>
<p>Action 2: Volunteer Recruitment & Engagement Event</p>	<p>Facilitate a volunteer recruitment and engagement event with 10-15 community partners who will showcase opportunities to volunteer. Community organisations will bring along people who are already volunteering to share their experiences with prospective volunteers.</p>	<p>total number of participants 38</p>

Through the Volunteer Connect Empower information sessions 92% of participants are more informed about how to get involved in volunteering locally. 92% of participants are more aware of the health and wellbeing benefits from volunteering. 100% are more informed about how to get involved in volunteering locally. 78% of participants stated that they were likely to volunteer in the future.





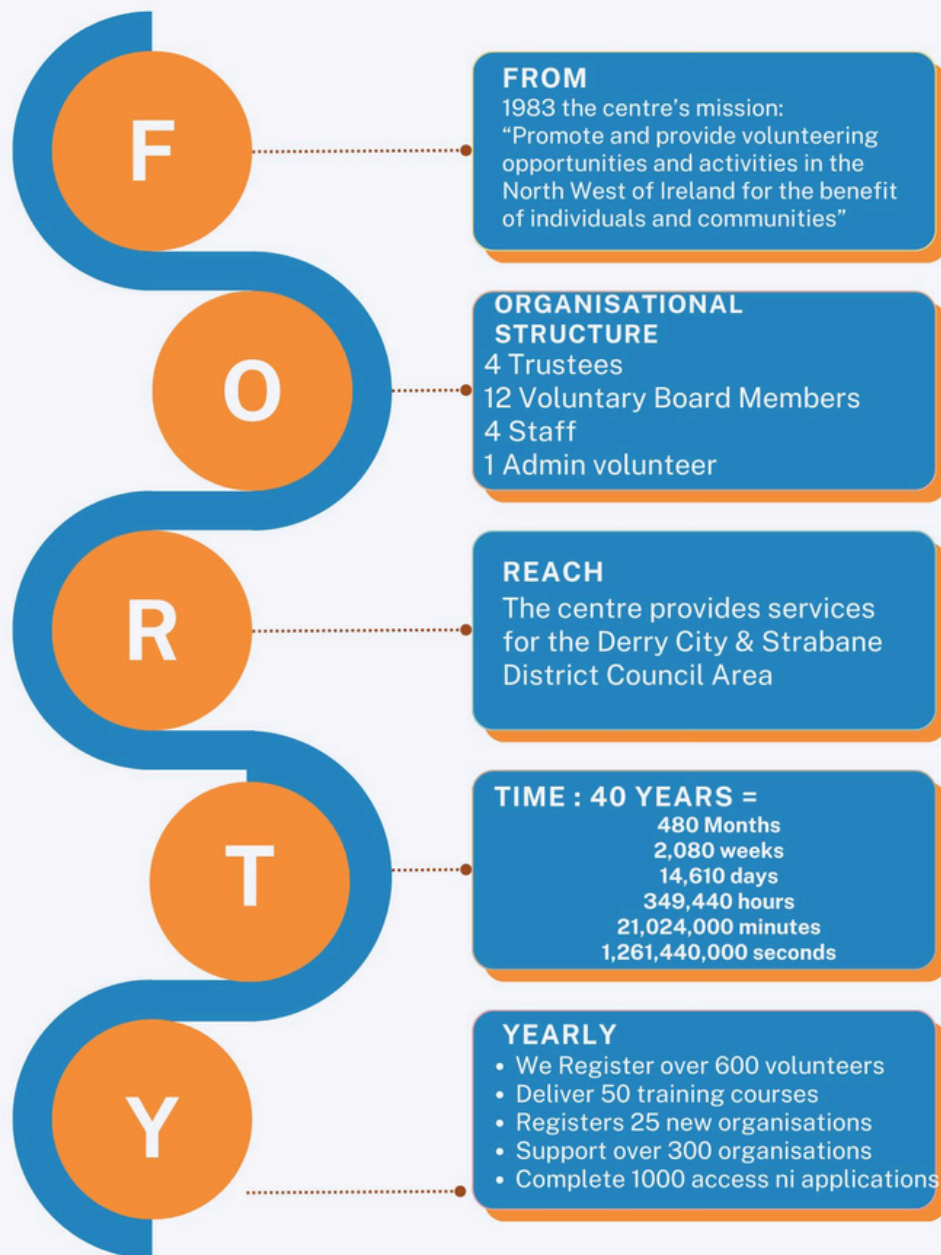
Celebrating 40 years

On October 26, 2023, the Churches Voluntary Work Bureau marked its 40th anniversary with a special showcase event at the Bishop Gate Hotel. The event welcomed 70 guests who came together to celebrate the centre's achievements over the past four decades.



Celebrating 40 years

Churches Voluntary Work Bureau celebrating 40 years



North West Volunteer Centre

Celebrating 40 years

1983 - 2023

Celebrating 40 years in the community



Registering 24,000 volunteers

**£2 million pounds of small grants
funding for volunteering**

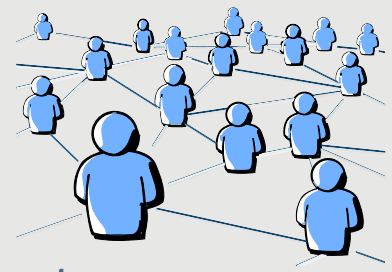
**Supporting over 300 volunteer
involving organisations**

20,000 volunteer opportunities

Delivery of 500 training courses

500 EPIC Volunteer Awards

**Connecting local people to local organisations across
the Derry City & Strabane District Council Area**

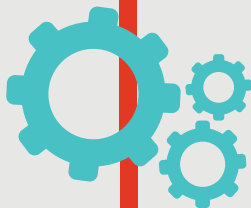


Website & Social Media impact



10126 total visitors
4402 visitors from Google searches
220 from social networks

44,793 page views in total across all users
5832 for homepage
4158 for Opportunities
1181 Expressions of interest



Opportunities Viewed
908 views for Children and Young People
703 views for Admin and Office Work
661 views for Animals
Befriending / Mentoring - 648
721 views for Shops/Retail
571 Shops & retail
548 views Arts, Drama, Music and Crafts
Altnagelvin hospital 529



2300 followers on Facebook & 1900 likes 



684 followers on Twitter/X



641 followers on Instagram



1007 views for content on youtube



Thank you to our funders

Department for Communities - VISP Project

Inner City Trust

Derry City & Strabane District Council

The Honourable Irish Society



Project supported by the PHA

