



Worcestershire Voices – Civil Society after COVID-19

Chaired by Mark Jackson, High Sheriff of Worcestershire

- Welcome
- Finances
- Mental and Physical Health
- New Relationships
- Q&A

Worcestershire Voices – Civil Society after COVID-19

Please submit questions via the Chat function

Include the Organisation you are representing
and who the question is for

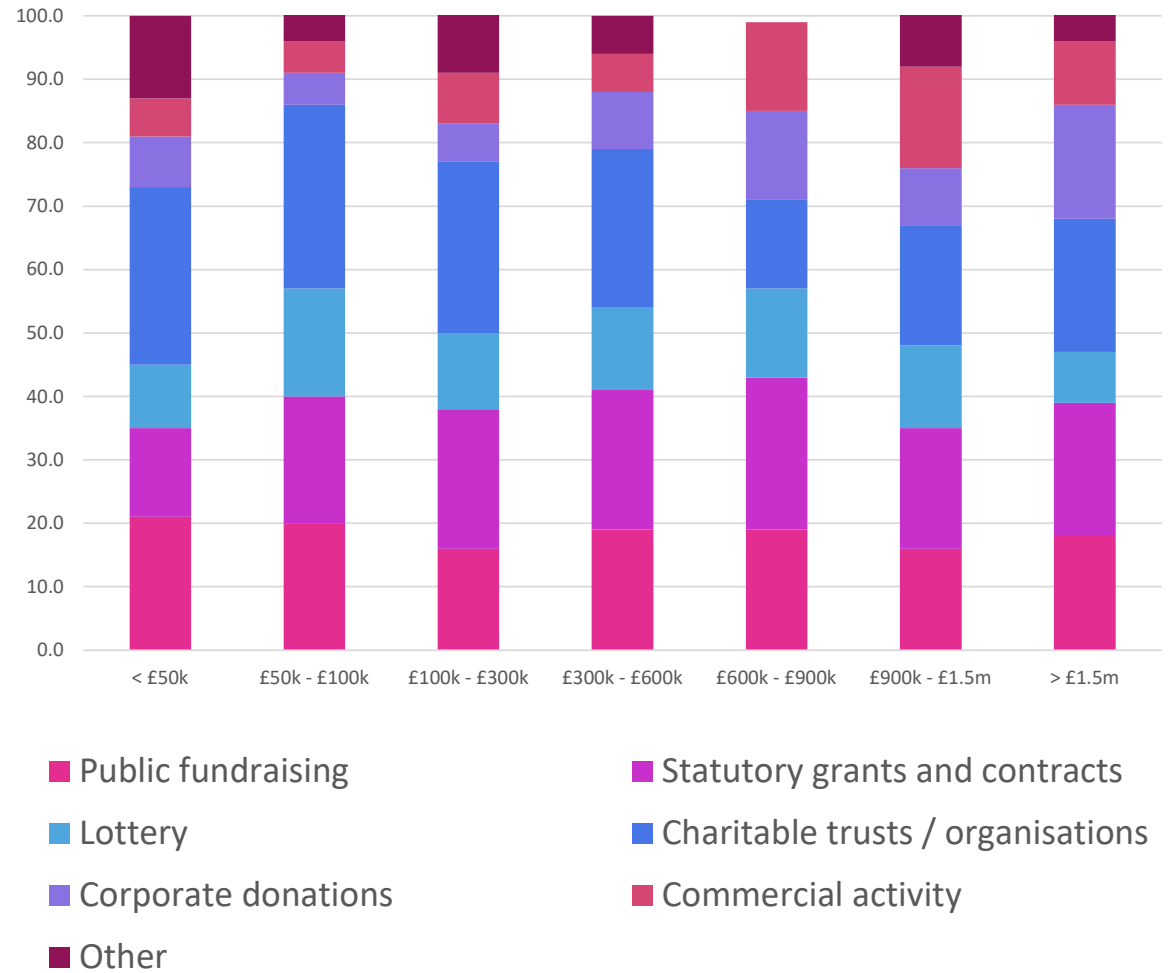
National Picture

Recent survey by NCVO, Institute of Fundraising & Inspiring Financial Leadership for period of shut-down

- 84% Charities report a decrease in total income
- 15% Charities report an increase in total income
- On average charities received 29% less income than budgeted for during lock-down (23/3/2020 to 12/5/2020)
- Trading income 72% lower
- Grant income 29% higher
- Government income (grant & contract) 51% higher



Worcestershire VCS – funding by source



Local Picture – Voices Survey

How big is the Worcestershire VCSO?

- £270 million (2.1% Gross Added Value)
- 3.3% of employees
- 5.8% of business

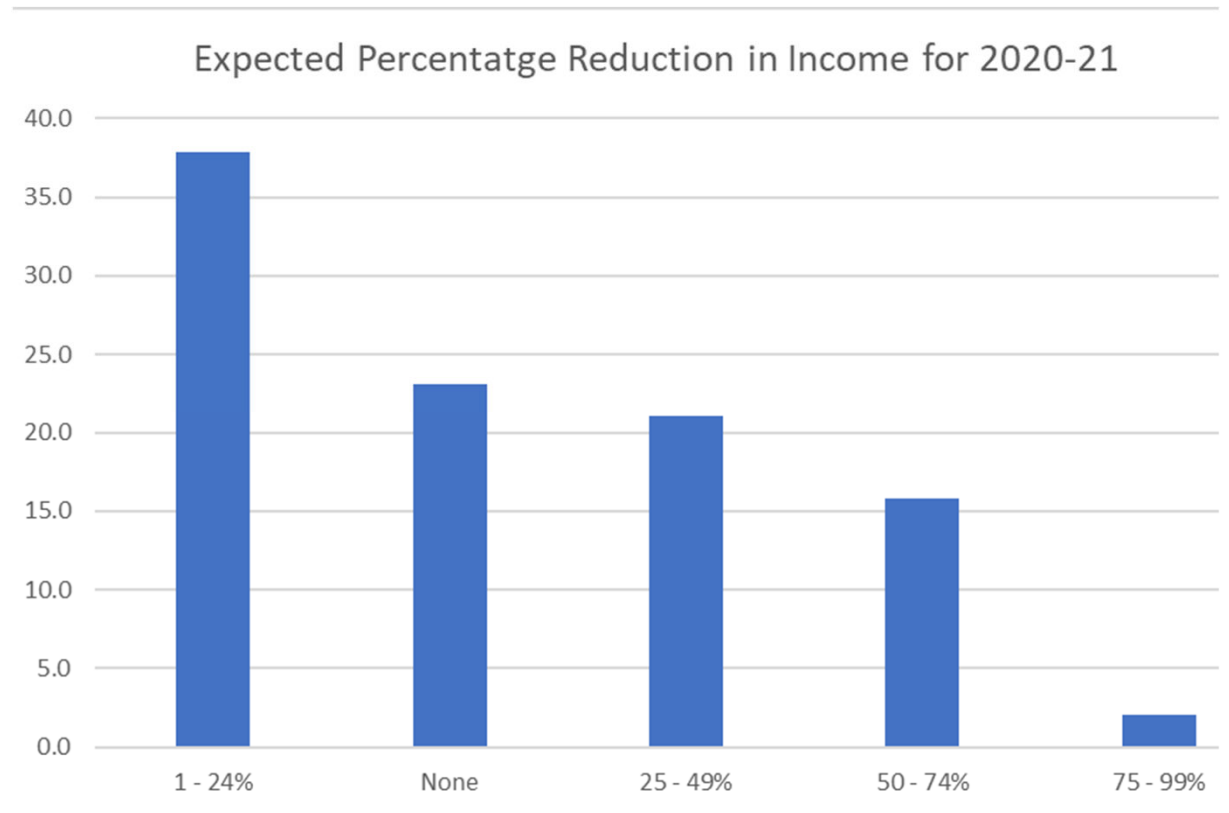
Covid-19 Impact

- 18% of survey VCSO expected income to fall by 50%
- 11% not confident in surviving

At the same time

- 47% report an increase in demand for their services

% of
Worcestershire
VCSO reporting a
reduction in
income



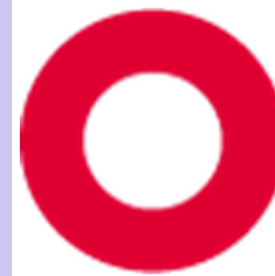
Big Issues

- Grant Giving Trust will have less to give with poor investment yields
- Personal and Corporate Social Responsibility giving lower with recession
- Central and Local Government financial pressures (but demand on services growing)
- Just the start as:
 - World Economy with trade wars, Brexit.....
 - Covid-19 cases increasing
 - Economic impact will grow
- Forging a new 'commercial' relationships with those who benefit from our interventions (business, local government and communities)

Good mental health is an asset and is also linked to good physical health.

Both support positive social and economic outcomes for individuals and society.

90% of people report feeling worried about effects of C-19 on their life
Young adults and women affected hardest
Effects of schools closures and lockdown
Where family conflict exists
Pandemic exacerbated pre-existing inequalities in mental health
Stress experienced by health care workers
Effects of media reports



**The
Health
Foundation**

Recovery – new determinants for well being*?

- Meaningful life/purpose
- Positive emotions
- Feeling connected – associational life reduces the risk of premature death by 50 percent
- Enjoying small things – lockdown reduced our choices
- Doing something for someone else, sharing gifts and talents
- Living healthy – movement/exercise, lifestyle decisions.

* *Huber, Fredrickson, Walburg*

Local picture – VCS survey (Health providers data)

Post Covid

16.4% of VCSOs (Health providers) do not feel confident

90% feel somewhat confident or very confident about finances

Over 1 third expect income reduction of 25% or more

18% expect no income reduction

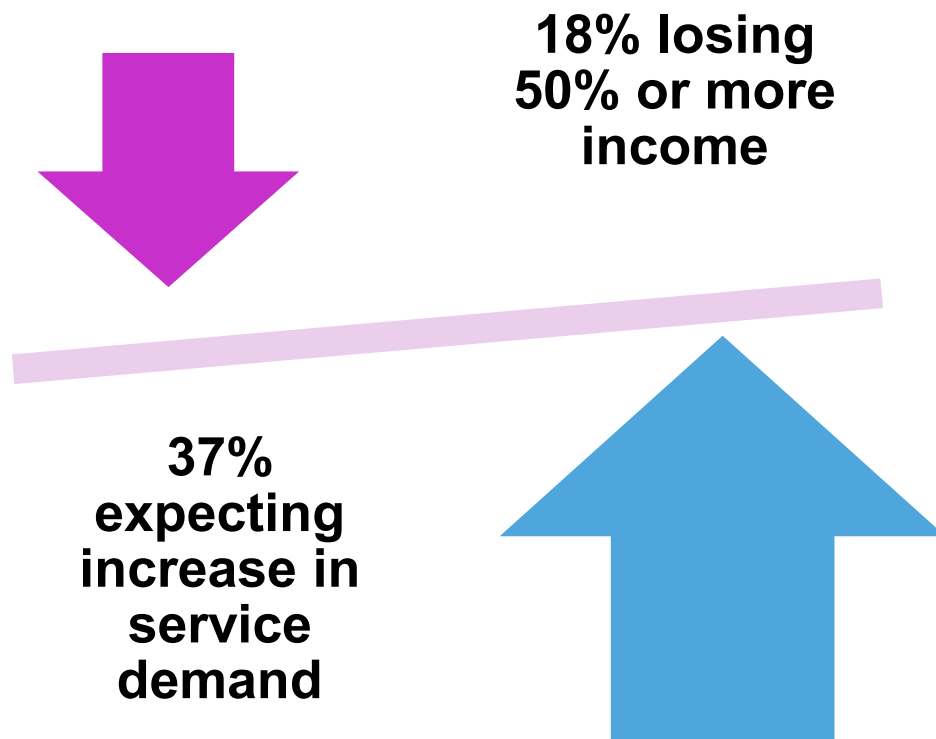
12.5% expect redundancies

Nearly half will retain staff (the rest will reduce hours/pay)

Key issues – Uncertain and Complex Future

- Medics, professionals and VCSOs don't always know best
- Discover not Deliver
- Complement local assets and skills
- Add value to what people can do for themselves
- Will current surge of social action remain? VCS is key enabler
- Spontaneous volunteering and structured volunteering:
 - Community action and citizenship
 - Volunteers to support existing structures: charities, NHS

NEW WAYS OF WORKING



“Digital inclusion and communication has now become our number one priority both with staff and in delivering projects.”

“I would like to increase our use of social networking to ensure our members feel less isolated and so we can together examine ways of helping in the future. The experiences of the last few months have helped identify the opportunities linked with video conferencing/ virtual networking.”

“We have been using Zoom a lot and have also adapted our referral system to accept telephone and email referrals. We are using our social media platforms more as well.”

“The country seems smaller thanks to the increase of virtual meetings and that means we can access expertise from all over the country.”

“VCS engagement with statutory services has been excellent but this has not necessarily by design. Structures are needed to cement relationship, co-design effective and efficient services.”

“We need to spread the fantastic new relationships that are building with NHS into local government. NHS seem to "get" genuine collaborative working to use the strengths of VCS where large parts of local government seem to see VCS as a way of getting services done on the cheap.”

“This pandemic has demonstrated the essential need for services in the third sector and yet the pay gap and support from central sources is still in dire need of review as a result. We expect far too much from people paid far too little.”

“During this Pandemic we have been blessed by people all working together for the young people and families to be supported.”

“The VCS has definitely come together with more commitment so hopefully closer working opportunities will be more forthcoming from now on.”

“This crisis has shown that the smaller VCS grassroots organisations are the ones that stepped up immediately and had been supporting people in their community for weeks before the larger ones had got themselves organised.”

“As charities, we will need to become more flexible, adapt to the social climate and embrace change.”

“Pleasing to work more collaboratively with other third sector colleagues :)”

We have a once in a generation opportunity – let's not squander it!

- Exploit the massive step-change in the use of digital solutions.
- Create and stick with collaborative ways forward for the sector.
- Shift the relationship with statutory agencies from dependence and contracting to interdependence and co-production.