

Summarised accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008

	Unrestricted Funds 2008 £	Restricted Funds 2008 £	Total Funds 2008 £	Total Funds 2007 £
INCOMING RESOURCES				
Incoming Resources from Generated Funds				
Voluntary Income	102,046	-	102,046	99,988
Investment Income	16,631	-	16,631	13,842
Total Generated Funds	118,677	-	118,677	113,830
Incoming Resources from Charitable Activities				
Grants	93,607	656,772	750,379	907,919
Photocopying & other trading income	7,382	63	7,445	4,875
Other	12,468	4,130	16,598	5,949
Total Charitable Activities	113,457	660,965	774,422	918,743
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES	232,134	660,965	893,099	1,032,573
RESOURCES EXPENDED				
Charitable Expenditure	183,248	701,835	885,083	1,059,682
Governance Costs	28,750	-	28,750	27,589
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	211,998	701,835	913,833	1,087,271
NET INCOMING RESOURCES FOR THE PERIOD	20,136	(40,870)	(20,734)	(54,698)
Transfer and repayment of funds	(13,366)	13,366	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	6,770	(27,504)	(20,734)	(54,698)
Fund balances at 1 April 2007	205,262	55,182	260,444	315,142
FUND BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD AT 31 MARCH 2008	212,032	27,678	239,710	260,444
BALANCE SHEET				
Tangible Fixed Assets			953	9,485
Bank deposits and debtors			521,421	453,855
Creditors and deferred income			(282,664)	(202,896)
NET ASSETS			239,710	260,444
MVSC General Funds			132,032	125,262
MVSC Designated Funds			80,000	80,000
Funds Restricted to Projects			27,678	55,182
TOTAL FUNDS			239,710	260,444

Statements of Directors

These summarised accounts are an extract from the statutory annual report and accounts for the year ended 31 March 2008. Full accounts are obtainable from Merton Voluntary Service Council Limited, The Vestry Hall, London Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3UD. The accounts were approved by the Directors of Merton Voluntary Service Council Limited on 3 October 2008. The auditors have given a full and unqualified report on the accounts; their report was dated 8 October 2008. Copies of the accounts and the annual report will be submitted to the Charity Commission and Companies House. These summarised accounts may not contain sufficient information to gain a complete understanding of the financial affairs of the charity.

Lola Barrett
Director

Independent Auditors' statement to the Directors of Merton Voluntary Service Council (a company limited by guarantee)

Basis of opinion

We have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to ascertain whether the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements from which they have been prepared.

Opinion

In our opinion the summarised financial statements are consistent with the full financial statements for the year ended 31 March 2008.

Hartley Fowler LLP
Registered Auditor
Chartered Accountants
4th Floor Tuition House
27/37 St George's Road
Wimbledon
London
SW19 4EU

President

Shirley Higgins

Board of Trustees

Lola Barrett	Chair
Alec Botten	Vice Chair
Russell Humphreys	Treasurer
Helen Binnie	
Slim Flegg	
Ray Hautot	
Muriel Martin	
Fosuah Poku	
Tom Walsh	

Staff

Chris Frost	Director
Morag Plank	Deputy Director
Kacie Ashford	Office Junior
Susanne Baccini	Children's Fund Programme Manager
(until Dec 07)	
Beverley Burton	Development Worker
Shirley Chittock	LinC Project Assistant
Shirleen Clarke	Bookkeeper
Marilyn Davis	Office Manager
Dave Hobday	Head of Community Engagement & Partnerships
Tesfai Meresse	Community Accountant
Rob Mobilé	Youth Groups Development Worker
Marcus Otite	ICT Development Worker/Superhighways
Bekir Yusuf	Play Development Worker

Acknowledgements

We wish to express our thanks to the following for support during the year.

ChangeUp
The City Bridge Trust
Department for Education and Skills
European Social Fund
London Borough of Merton
London Councils
London Fire Authority Sutton and Merton Primary Care Trust
London South Learning and Skills Council
Merton Children's Fund Partnership
Metropolitan Police Authority
The National Council of Voluntary Organisations
South London Connexions Partnership
South London CVS Partnership



Merton Voluntary Service Council,
The Vestry Hall, London Road, Mitcham, Surrey CR4 3UD

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Registered Charity. Company limited by guarantee 4164949
England and Wales



Impact Report 2007-08

Chair's report



I would like to thank the staff and volunteers for their hard work and enthusiasm throughout 2007-08 and my colleagues on the board for their support and commitment. Thanks are also due to all our funders for their valued support for our work. All have contributed to another successful year for MVSC.

This year has seen an increasing focus on community engagement work through our INVOLVE network. Its elected representatives have become a well established and valued part of the Merton Partnership, helping voluntary and community organisations play a full role in the planning, delivery and monitoring of services in Merton. We have extended this area of work by taking on the co-ordination of the Police Community Engagement Group while also developing a new structure for community participation in policing. Towards the end of the year, we also tendered to be host organisation for the Local Involvement Network (LINK) which supports the involvement of the community in health and social care

services. In recognition of the growing importance of this area of work we established the new post of Head of Community Engagement and Partnerships in October, as part of our overall restructuring proposals.

As you will see in this report, there has been continuing good work and great achievements in all areas of MVSC's activities. The need to provide support to voluntary and community organisations and to help the development of a strong sector remains vital as more voluntary sector services are being commissioned and provided on behalf of the public sector. We are pleased that the importance of the relationship between the sectors has been recognised by the Council's Third Sector Review and the commitment of all partners to the local Compact, which has won another national Gold Award.

Lola Barrett
Chair

Providing support, creating partnerships, setting standards: the work of MVSC 2007–08

Practical support to voluntary and community organisations

MVSC provides local voluntary and community groups with a wide range of support and practical services.

These include:

- an information and advice service;
- a user-friendly community web portal;
- e-bulletins and mailings;
- a database of local groups;
- a directory of community organisations;
- a full training programme; and
- practical support facilities such as equipment loan, access to a computer and the Internet, and information resources.

Highlights of the year included:

- publishing a new edition of our popular Directory of Community Organisations as well as providing a searchable database of local groups on our web portal, mertonconnected.com;
- training 70 local organisations to develop their own web pages on mertonconnected.com, enabling them to raise awareness of their work and to publicise their activities in the community events diary; and
- delivering a full financial management training programme, covering legal requirements, producing annual accounts and fundraising.

Community engagement and joint working

MVSC brings the voluntary and community sector together helping to make its voice heard by the public and private sectors, to exchange information and to facilitate joint working. MVSC continues to support community engagement by facilitating a number of networks such as INVOLVE (our community engagement network), and the Youth Partnership Forum and providing other opportunities for involvement. Our Rendezvous service continued to support the development of partnerships to work collaboratively and to bid for funding to provide services in Merton, Sutton and Croydon.

Highlights of the year included:

- co-ordinating the Community Police Engagement Group while a review of its role and structure was undertaken, leading to the establishment of a new Merton Community Policing Partnership;
- establishing the new post of Head of Community Engagement and Partnerships at MVSC in recognition of the growing importance of this area of work and appointing Dave Hobday in October; and
- tendering successfully to become the host organisation for the new Local Involvement Network (LINK), which enables local communities to have a say in the planning and delivery of health and social care services.



Dave Hobday was appointed Head of Community Engagement and Partnerships



Our work with the Children's Trust was a highlight of the year.

Development

MVSC identifies and takes action to meet unmet needs. It helps build the capacity of new and existing groups and supports them in developing new services. MVSC has a large Development Team, reflecting the priority given to this aspect of our work, including a generic Development Worker plus specialists for Youth Groups, Play Development and ICT, a Community Accountant and a Partnership Fundraising Manager.

Highlights of the year included:

- organising training on how to win tenders, helping groups respond to the growing trend for public bodies to contract with voluntary organisations for the delivery of services; and
- developing the strategic and business plans for the ChangeUp Consortium, a local partnership which aims to build the capacity of the voluntary sector to provide services on behalf of the public sector.

Strategic partnership working

MVSC takes a lead role in partnerships with the public and private sector in Merton and externally, representing voluntary and community sector (VCS) interests. MVSC also promotes, facilitates and supports representation from the voluntary and community sector on partnership bodies, including the Merton Partnership, the key strategic planning group for the borough. Our Chair represents MVSC on this Board and MVSC continues to be part of the Merton Compact Steering Group, which oversees the implementation of the local agreement on relationships between the VCS and the public sector.

Highlights of the year included:

- taking part in the Third Sector Review undertaken by Merton Council and supporting the involvement of the voluntary and community sector in the process;
- working with the Children's Trust to involve the voluntary and community sector in the Children's Plan Review; and
- publishing the report of our mapping exercise, showing the extent of the contribution the VCS makes to the Local Area Agreement outcomes.

Setting standards

Underlying all MVSC's work is a commitment to setting and raising standards in the voluntary and community sector. We seek to be an example of best practice in both the management and delivery of services and to support others to achieve recognised quality standards.

Highlights of the year included:

- developing a new grant assessment and monitoring tool based on outcomes which was piloted by Merton Council Adult Social Care Team with the voluntary groups they fund;
- supporting voluntary organisations to attain Quality in Play and Aiming High accreditation and providing information on other quality standards; and
- delivering training aimed at improving management standards in the voluntary and community sector, such as outcomes training and legal financial requirements.

Fund management

MVSC manages and administers a range of grant funds and acts as Lead and Accountable Body on national or international programmes where there is a clear benefit for the VCS in Merton.

Highlights of the year included:

- leading the Merton Children's Fund programme through its final year and working with the Children's Trust to manage the transition of most of the services to mainstream funding;
- successfully completing the Learning in the Community (LinC) project that provided grants to local voluntary and community groups to enable them to provide learning opportunities for their members;
- managing the Small Grants for Small Groups programme on behalf of Merton Council.



The MVSC AGM was a well-attended and lively event.