

# Third Sector Trends Study Highlights

**North East England 2016** 

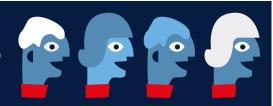


# **Headline findings**

This is a short summary of key points from the fourth edition of the ground-breaking study of the scale, dynamics and needs of the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector in North East England. A full version of the study is available on our website.

# **Employment**

Third Sector Organisations (TSOs) account for 3-4% of regional employment



### **Volunteers**

150,000 volunteers deliver 10.8m hours of work



## Relationships

- More than half (57%) of TSOs receive money from the private sector and 43% have benefited from free facilities
- Large TSOs are much more likely to benefit (43%) from free expert advice from businesses than medium (34%) or small organisations (19%)



#### **Assets & reserves**

- Nearly a quarter of TSOs operating in the poorest areas are the most likely to be in a vulnerable financial position
- A quarter (25%) used reserves for running costs



#### Income

- 67% of TSOs experienced income stability in 2014-16
- Grants remain the most important source of income for small and medium sized TSOs, while contracts are the most important source of income for large TSOs
- Fewer than 3% of TSOs state that borrowed money is important to them



# **Routes to grant funding**

- Almost 9 in 10 (88%) of TSOs who applied to local grant making foundations in the last two years were successful in winning at least one grant
- More than 7 in 10 (72%) of TSOs who applied to national grant making foundations in the last two years were successful in winning at least one grant
- Applications to national foundations are lower (51%) than to local grant makers (62%)
- Small TSOs were the least likely to apply to national grant making foundations (30%) compared with 74% of medium and 79% of large TSOs
- Almost half (46%) of organisations consider it very important that a grant maker has a regional representative in the area



The full report and all previous reports will be available at www.communityfoundation.org.uk/third-sector-trends-study

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