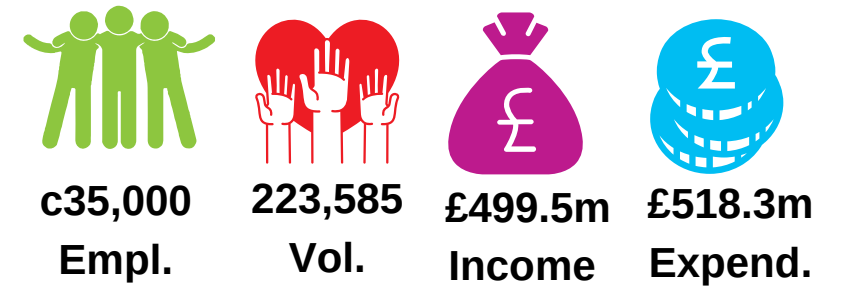


Size of Suffolk Registered Charities

72% have income less than £100,000
 96% have an income less than £1m
 9% have an income less than £10,000
 4% income £1m+

2881



- #### Top 4 costs
- ✓ Energy bills
 - ✓ Other utilities
 - ✓ Staff salaries
 - ✓ Essential supplies
- Nb: Rise in NICs 2025

Ask of Funders

Consideration of core funding, long-term funding and less complex application processes.

- ### Responses to increased costs in 2024
- ✓ Increased charges for services
 - ✓ Limiting or restricting services
 - ✓ Unexpected use of reserves
 - ✓ Terminated or suspended services
 - ✓ Introduced or extended waiting lists
 - ✓ Reduced staff hours and/or redundancies made

The State of Suffolk's VCFSE Sector 2025

(Voluntary, Community, Faith & Social Enterprise)



- 69% reported income stability or decrease in 2024.
- Grant award size fell by 49% in 2023/24, & no. grants awarded fell by 77%.
- 30% reported income growth.
- 44% of respondents do not meet the 3-month reserves threshold...
- 7% do not have any reserves & a further 5% unlikely to meet contractual obligations should the worst happen.

Volunteering Spotlight

Volunteer decline noted by all respondents ↓

81% have no specific role for recruiting and retaining volunteers

Covid 19 & Cost of Living Impacts still taking 2nd and 3rd place behind 'Less time' as the biggest challenge

50+ respondents felt it has become more difficult to recruit volunteers, and just under 50 felt it has become more difficult to both recruit and retain volunteers

25% of volunteers are aged 65+ and in total, 64% are above the age of 51

- #### Top 3 sector challenges:
- 1 Insufficient funding
 - 2 Increase in demand
 - 3 Volunteer recruitment

- #### Key Concerns to Note
- Finance
 - Organisational resilience
 - Our people
 - Impact on communities

- #### Top 5 challenges facing sector professionals:
- 1 Funding & Cashflow
 - 2 Volunteer Recruitment
 - 3 Long term/sustainable funding
 - 4 Burnout/ lack of time/ worklife balance/ high workload
 - 5 Core funding

More than 60% experienced an increase in demand & complexity for services & expect the increase to continue in the next 12 months.

40% had witnessed instances of burnout in the last 12 months.

More than half indicated they were slightly or very concerned about volunteer wellbeing & 82 organisations were slightly or very concerned about the wellbeing of staff.