



**START  
GROW  
THRIVE**



Di, volunteer, Burgess Hill and Albourne

# **STRATEGY 2024 - 2026**

**SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS  
TO DRIVE POSITIVE AND LONG-LASTING  
SOCIAL CHANGE**

# SUPPORTING PEOPLE AND ORGANISATIONS TO DRIVE POSITIVE, LONG-LASTING SOCIAL CHANGE

---

We are a charity on a mission to support our communities to thrive.

For us: it's all about people.

People coming together to act on what's important to them.

People having access to health, wellbeing, justice, and opportunity.

People being heard across all our communities.

People being given the tools and platforms to pursue their passions and make a positive impact in their communities.

---

## We are ambitious

for Community People and for the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector.

## Our agility as a sector

to respond to the big issues - demonstrated most recently during the pandemic and now the cost of living crisis - is testament to our collective power and understanding of the needs and opportunities in our communities.

## We are realistic

as four national membership organisations for the VCSE sector have closed since March 2022. Sussex-based community organisations too, including youth provision and dementia support services . All cited financial pressures.

Community People is not immune to these pressures.

A focus for us in 2024 - 2026 will be our own financial resilience, our journey to becoming a net zero organisation and championing equality, diversity and inclusion.

---

---

# OUR VISION

**Strong and  
connected  
communities**

# OUR MISSION

**To champion the role of  
community organisations  
and the people who power  
them.**



# OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

---

## Data & Knowledge

Deepen and share understanding of the strengths and challenges of our local communities using enhanced data, research and community listening.

## Hubs

Provide community hubs that support a wide range of services for the local community.

## Volunteering

Promote, increase and sustain participation in volunteering, ensuring *anyone* can volunteer.

## Community Development

Deliver high-quality, responsive, and inclusive community development support.

## Impact

Improve the visibility of our work and the wider sector, demonstrating our unique insights and collective impact more effectively.

## Health

Contribute to the reduction of local health inequalities by championing the VSCE sector as a vital partner in the health system.

---

# STRATEGY SUMMARY

---

## VISION

Strong and connected communities

## MISSION

To champion the role of community organisations and the people who power them.

## OUR STRATEGIC PRIORITIES



### Data & Knowledge

Deepen and share understanding of the strengths and challenges of our local communities using enhanced data, research and community listening.

### Hubs

Provide community hubs that support a wide range of services for the local community.

### Volunteering

Promote, increase and sustain participation in volunteering, ensuring *anyone* can volunteer.

### Community Development

Deliver high-quality, responsive, and inclusive community development support

### Impact

Improve the visibility of our work and the wider sector, demonstrating our unique insights and collective impact more effectively.

### Health

Contribute to the reduction of local health inequalities by championing the VSCE sector as a vital partner in the health system.

---

**Our ambition is for a thriving VCSE sector that is funded, recognised, and valued.**

**Our EDI Commitment:** Our vision is to be an organisation that exemplifies excellence in equality, diversity, and inclusion in all that we do, and influences others through our thought leadership, best practices and tools based on EDI principles.



David and Sarah Howland, Quarry Cafe and Community Fridge, East Grinstead

Photo credits: Julie Edwards Photography

---

If you are a community group, an individual with a good idea or a business that would like to understand more about the benefits of working with the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, please visit: **[communitypeople.org.uk](https://communitypeople.org.uk)**

Community People Mid Sussex is a registered Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO). Registered charity number 1158780. Registered office: The Cherry Tree Centre, Fairfield Road Burgess Hill RH15 8QB.