



First Ever Manchester Survey of the Third Sector

We have commissioned the Centre for Regional Economic and Social Research at Sheffield Hallam University to assess the current size and scope of voluntary and community activity in Manchester. We want to build up a full picture of the wide range of groups and organisations, the activities that you undertake; the areas you work in; the communities you work with the general income and expenditure, volunteers and any paid staff; experiences of working with the public sector and the help, advice and support available to you.

This information will identify the contribution and impact of the voluntary and community sector in Manchester and provide a tool which we can all use to influence decision makers, inform policy and drive improvements in Manchester. However, this research will only be useful if enough groups take part to make the response rate significant.

This means that it is important that as many groups as possible answer. Please do fill in the survey to help us build a clear and accurate picture of the size, shape and contribution of the sector in Manchester. The survey will also help provide local government and partners with **your views** on their performance and help them understand the challenges your group faces.

A wide number of charities, voluntary, community, and faith groups, and social enterprises have been asked to take part – groups of all sizes. Please add your voice to this group and make sure you are included. If you are in touch with other local community groups or voluntary organisations, please encourage them to take part as well. We know how busy you are, so we really do appreciate busy staff and volunteers giving time to complete the survey.

FREE PRIZE DRAW

If your group has a turnover of less than £100k a year, you will automatically be entered into a prize draw to win a Flip camcorder and a day of one-to-one training to help you showcase your work!

To complete the survey online visit:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/manchesterSOS>

You will need to enter your unique reference to complete the survey, if you haven't received a letter or email with your unique number please contact Michelle Foster, on 0161 834 9823, or email: michelle@macc.org.uk

If you would like to complete a paper version of the survey, please contact Michelle Foster, on 0161 834 9823, or email: michelle@macc.org.uk

Please do complete the survey as soon as you can **by Friday 21 December 2012**.



If your organisation or group does a significant amount of its work in any areas of Greater Manchester that are outside of Manchester we would like you to answer questions about that part of your work as well. To do this you will need to complete a specially designed online version of the questionnaire instead of the local Manchester based questionnaire. To complete the Greater Manchester survey, please visit: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/State-of-the-sector-survey>

The answers you give will be treated in the strictest confidence, used for research purposes only and will not be published in a way that identifies you or your organisation.

If you have any questions or queries about the survey please contact my colleague Michelle Foster, on 0161 834 9823, or email: michelle@macc.org.uk who is co-ordinating this work in Manchester.

Many thanks for your help with this important research.

Mike Wild
Chief Executive