

Appendix 12. North Hertfordshire Centre for Voluntary Services Limited

=Document Control:

Version	Issue Date	Changes
1.0	NA	First Draft (BE)

Reference	CG-238			
Name of Organisation	North Hertfordshire Centre for Voluntary Service Limited			
Organisation Type	Registered Charity			
Ward	All Hitchin Wards			
Project Type	A Volunteer Fair in Hitchin Market Place to support the North Herts Year of Volunteering.			
Green option considered?	N/A			
NHC Councillor involvement that may constitute a conflict of interest	Cllr Val Bryant is an NHCVS Member			
Previous financial support within six years	Funding agreements from NHC: 21/22 - 20,800 22/23 - £21,216 23/24 - £26,640 (which includes a one off extra £5k for a volunteer conference) 24/25 - £22,073 25/26 - £22,514 NHPF October 2024 - £14,622			
Documentation reviewed and approved*	Safeguarding	Yes	Accounts	Yes
	Demonstrates clear governance	Yes		
Total applied for	£1,500	Total project cost	£1,500	
Officer Summary				
<p>North Hertfordshire Centre for Voluntary Services Ltd (NHCVS) are the only local infrastructure organisation supporting and connecting the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector across our area.</p> <p>Volunteers are one of the quiet forces that make Hitchin work, often unseen, but out there in all weathers, 365 days a year, and deeply relied upon. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, VCFSE groups report that volunteering has become harder to sustain and grow, even as demand for their services continues to rise. This reflects a national trend.</p> <p>Therefore, NHCVS are seeking funding towards their Hitchin Volunteer Fair in Hitchin Market Place on 6 June 2026 from 10am until 3pm, which will form part of their 'Year of Volunteering Campaign'.</p> <p>NHCVS are leading the campaign, which will be a 12-month programme running from April 2026 to April 2027, with strategic partners Letchworth Garden City Heritage Foundation and North Hertfordshire Council. This is not a recruitment drive, it is a coordinated, district-wide programme to make volunteering more accessible, flexible and sustainable.</p>				

*Funding will only be released on receipt and approval of all supporting documentation

Working alongside local groups, the programme will:

- Review and help reshape volunteering roles to better reflect how people live now
- Encourage volunteering among under-represented groups, including young people, older people, men, disabled people, families, those from minority backgrounds and new arrivals to Hitchin
- Promote the personal benefits of volunteering, including improved wellbeing, confidence, gaining new skills and social connection

The funds will be used for:

- The hire of the gazebos and tables from Hitchin BID £450
- 3 x 10ft by 3ft street banners £120
- 3 x Pull up roller banners £180
- Flyers and posters £300
- Staff costs £450

In summary, a relatively small investment enables a coordinated, high-visibility intervention that supports multiple organisations simultaneously, building long-term volunteering capacity and contributing to a more resilient community in Hitchin.

NHCVS are also applying for £1,000 from the Baldock Forum and £1,000 from Royston Forum to run similar events in Baldock and Royston.