

Nova

BUILDING A VIBRANT VOLUNTARY
SECTOR IN OUR DISTRICT

Annual Report 2019



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Structure, Governance and Management

The charity is a company limited by guarantee and was incorporated on 9 March 2010.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

Trustees are recruited primarily from the membership of Nova Wakefield District, and occasionally from outside the membership to meet the skills requirements of the board. Trustees who are not part of an organisation which is a Nova member are made Individual Nova Members once they are on the Nova board. Trustees are appointed by members at the AGM, or co-opted by other members of the board between AGMs to ensure the board has the skills required to govern the organisation.



Organisational structure

Nova has a board of up to 15 Trustees who meet every 6 weeks and are responsible for the strategic direction and policy of the charity. At the end of the 2018-19 year the board had 12 members, with a variety of professional skills relevant to the work of the charity.

The Nova CEO is the Company Secretary and also sits on the board but has no voting rights. Day to day responsibility for the provision of services rests with the Chief Executive, who is responsible for ensuring that the charity delivers the services specified and that key performance indicators are met.

Nova operates a very flat organisational structure with only 3 layers of management, which aims to encourage personal responsibility and innovation amongst staff.

Chair's Report



Mike Holt, Chairman of Nova

This past year has been one of significant progress for Nova and the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector as a whole in Wakefield District. For Nova to be invited to take a place on the Wakefield Together Executive represented recognition, on the part of our statutory partners, of the contribution which the sector already plays in the development of the social and economic life of the District. It was also an expression of confidence that the sector's future role would be essential in helping to create more vibrant, active and healthy communities. Our representation on a number of key policy boards and partnership bodies has, as a result, increased the influence of the sector at strategic levels of dialogue.

The reforming of the Third Sector Strategy Group has, through its wider membership and more focused agendas, increased the potential for collaboration and coordination in shaping a new strategy for the sector. At the same time Nova's own governance has been improved through the recruitment to our Board of a number of new trustees, who have become active in giving direct support to our Chief Executive and our staff team.

Notable successes during the year have included the delivery of an important social prescription service through the Live Well Wakefield contract, together with the development of the Community Anchor Network, which has brought together, on a regular basis, a number of our asset based members from all parts of the District to share experience, skills and resources.

I can report that Nova's financial position has stabilised during the year and that our membership has grown steadily. It now includes well over 300 organisations. Our ability to provide quality infrastructure support to those members has been greatly enhanced through our close relationship with key partnership organisations (Young Lives, WYCAS and PERS) and I look forward to those partnerships developing further.

The sector's profile has been raised during this past year. Expectations on Nova and the sector as a whole have never been higher. It will be my ambition to make sure that we meet those expectations as we develop new capacity, grow new partnerships and discover new ways of working across sectors.

Chief Executive's Statement



Ian Cockerill, CEO Nova

The past year has been both rewarding and challenging in so many ways. Rewarding because of the way in which Nova's members and the amazing things they do inspire me and the Nova team to try harder to help them and the wider VCSE sector achieve their aims for our community.

Challenging, because the environment in which we work, so heavily influenced by public sector austerity, means the health and wellbeing needs within our community and the impact of poverty continue to be felt by far too many people and it remains so hard to secure the resources we need to increase the great work the sector continues to deliver. As a result, we work hard to change this.

In the last year, we increased the funding we secure for the sector to around £450,000, we worked with more organisations to help their sustainability and we won new contracts to be delivered by our members and our partners. Nova staff, colleagues from our Board and from our members also toil to be representative of the sector within a range of partnerships and groups across the District. All of us making the case for investment and celebrating and highlighting the brilliant work the people of Wakefield deliver for our community.

2019/20 is already proving to be as equally challenging and rewarding but already the first six months is showing that we will increase again the resources secured for the sector and our members. We have been successful in strengthening our partnerships both strategically and operationally. I am always reluctant to single any one organisation out for praise or recognition that we work with because it is almost impossible to do so with so much good work and people in evidence across the District but this year I will make an exception by acknowledging the passing of Alison Drake from Castleford. Her contribution in Castleford through the Heritage Trust and so many other projects is so representative of the inspiration I take from others who work tirelessly for their communities and achieve things that make me both laugh and cry.

All of us here at Nova will try and emulate her energy and commitment as best we can in the years ahead so that our sector can continue to meet the needs of local communities in the way that only they can.

Our Year in Numbers

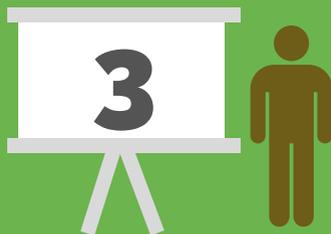
Nova paid out

£448,021

to Nova Members through contracts and grants being secured.



Nova held



'Introduction to the Third Sector' training sessions for voluntary, public and private sector colleagues.

Nova circulated



monthly e-bulletins



e-shots

Nova held

13

Learning and Networking sessions

Topics covered included: GDPR, funding, communications, social media, finance, Big Lottery, Lloyds Bank Foundation, Safer Communities Fund, and Coalfield's Community Investment Programme.



Nova supported / engaged with

163

organisations

130

of which were Nova Members

Nova hosted

4

'Big Conversations'

Developing a Third Sector Strategy



Community Safety (x2)

Social Prescribing



Strategic Report

Nova's 3 organisational aims:

1. Provide opportunities for growth for Nova Members

- Support members to collaborate to bid for contracts.
- Drive up the quality of our members' service delivery.
- Enabling excellence in contract management.
- Develop innovative models to support the sustainability of our sector.

The following contracts and grant programmes were delivered in 2018-19:

Live Well Wakefield

The Live Well Wakefield (LWW) service started in April 2017 and is a partnership with South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust. This is known as a social wellbeing service for adults aged 18+ throughout the District. The service tries to help Wakefield residents to maintain a healthy lifestyle and to prevent them needing to access health care services. The service works closely with VCSE organisations throughout the District to embed itself within the sector and improve accessibility and the wellbeing offer to local residents. In addition to the main contract there is a grant fund providing funding for additional activities to meet needs identified through the service's delivery.



Third Sector Crime Reduction Network

Funded by the West Yorkshire Police and Crime Commissioner Innovation Fund this enables us to support and connect VCSE organisations to the work of the Community Safety Partnership supporting the role of our local VCSE representative and helping them to engage with our members on both the work of the Partnership and the issues they face within their activities.



Bereavement Advice and Support Service

The service provides information, practical and emotional support to people who have experienced bereavement in Wakefield District, The delivery partner is Age UK Wakefield District. This was renewed for a further two years from April 2019.



Volunteering and Community Anchor Development

Funded by Wakefield Council, this project involves ensuring community anchors are equipped to identify volunteer opportunities, development of dispersed volunteer hubs throughout the District, and creating a recognisable volunteer brand and website - Volunteer>Wakefield.



Public Health Communications Secondment

A member of the Nova Team was seconded to the Public Health Intelligence Team at Wakefield Council to help support and deploy communication activity related to the Connecting Care programme by undertaking a 'Knowledge Officer' role. The secondment also included supporting with wider Public Health communications.



Building Better Opportunities (BBO) Connecting Opportunities and Hopeful Families

Connecting Opportunities involves 10 organisations working with migrants offering support, language classes and training around the Leeds City Region. The project will create new local connections, and opportunities for local people to be mentors, and for employers to provide work placements. Hopeful Families is a partnership of 6 VCSE organisations working together to help individuals who are out of work to build confidence and overcome challenges in finding employment. Connecting Opportunities and Hopeful Families are funded by the European Social Fund and the National Lottery Community Fund.



Warwick Ahead and Macmillan Projects

We work in partnership with two Nova members (Warwick Ahead Big Local Partnership and Levi's Star) to employ the Community Development Worker, as well as partnership support work for Warwick Ahead (a Big Local Area) and be the accountable body for a Macmillan project devised by Levi's Star - a charity based in Wakefield that provides support for children with brain tumours and their families.



2. Ensure the voluntary sector is able to shape and influence decision-making in the District

- Ensure that local policies and practice take into account the views, needs and assets of the sector.
- Be a two way link for sharing information with VCSE colleagues and statutory partners.
- Provide a platform for campaigning and engagement on key issues facing the sector.
- Ensure there is adequate representation on strategic partnerships across Wakefield District.
- Influence statutory agencies to ensure the third sector is positioned to deliver contracts.

Voice and Influence

Nova hosts 'The Assembly' which is the brand name we use for all influencing activity by the local VCSE, to ensure that local policies and practice take into account the views, needs and assets of the VCSE and the local people that the sector works with.

Connecting Care

Nova has been heavily involved with influencing the integration of health and social care locally (which is known as Connecting Care). We are represented on the Clinical Commissioning Group's Connecting Care Partnership Board and on the New Models of Care Board, which involve all the major deliverers of health and social care in the District.

Community Anchors

Nova has worked closely with colleagues in Public Health and the Communities Team at Wakefield Council to promote the importance of 'Community Anchors' in the District. Anchors are now an integral part in a variety of partnership delivery models (e.g. health, social care and adult education).

3. Organisational development support for Nova Members

- Identification of members' needs using Nova Assist.
- Provide high quality appropriate support for our members.
- Co-ordinate support to our members via partners using Nova Assist.
- Re-establish a Volunteer Centre in the District.
- Raise the profile of volunteering in the District.
- Support members to develop partnerships and joint working.
- Improve the capacity of organisations to provide a quality volunteering experience.

Support

Nova provides very practical organisational development advice and support to members. This can take place in the form of 1:1 support or collective support where we work with groups of organisations on common development themes. Typical support included: legal model advice, governance, business planning, bid feedback, financial planning, safeguarding and HR.

Learning and Networking sessions

Nova runs 'Learning and Networking' sessions each month. The sessions are short, focused on particular topics and are delivered by Nova members of staff, partners and expert speakers. Topics included: volunteering, funding, communications, income generation and governance.

Online

Nova circulates a monthly e-bulletin containing lots of information relevant to the VCSE in Wakefield District. Nova uses Twitter, @Nova_WD to promote our work and comment on VCSE issues locally and nationally. The Nova website is comprehensive and holds a variety of VCSE related information as well as Nova ASSIST, the organisational diagnostic tool.

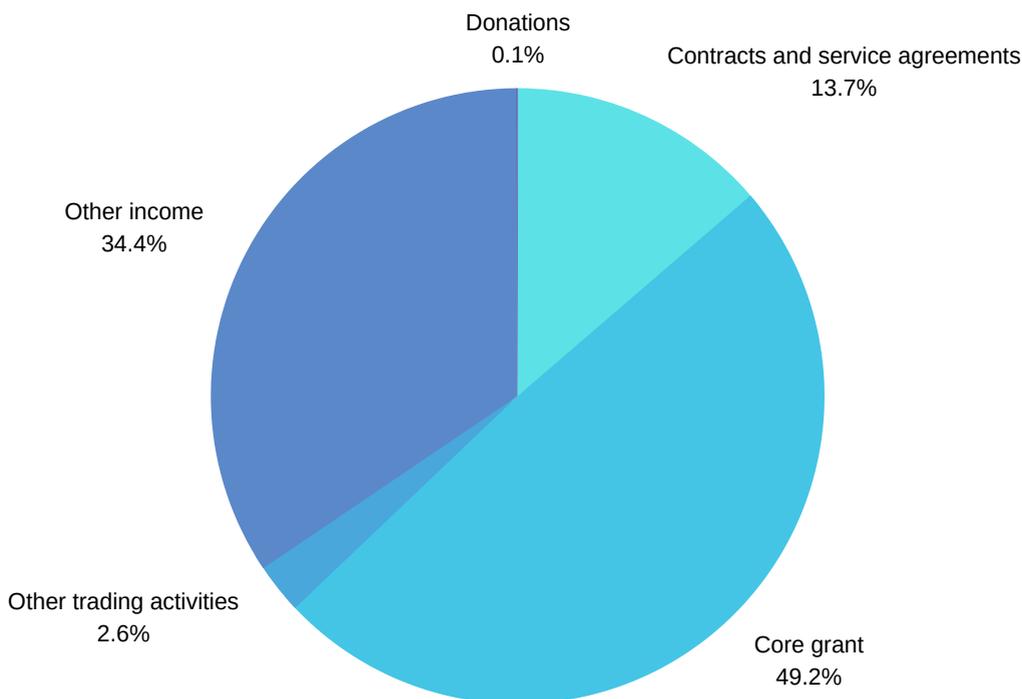
Financial Review

Income

During 2018-19 Nova's total income was **£1,388,643**, compared with **£1,181,988** the previous year. The unrestricted funds totalled **£266,911**, and the restricted funds equalled **£1,121,732**.

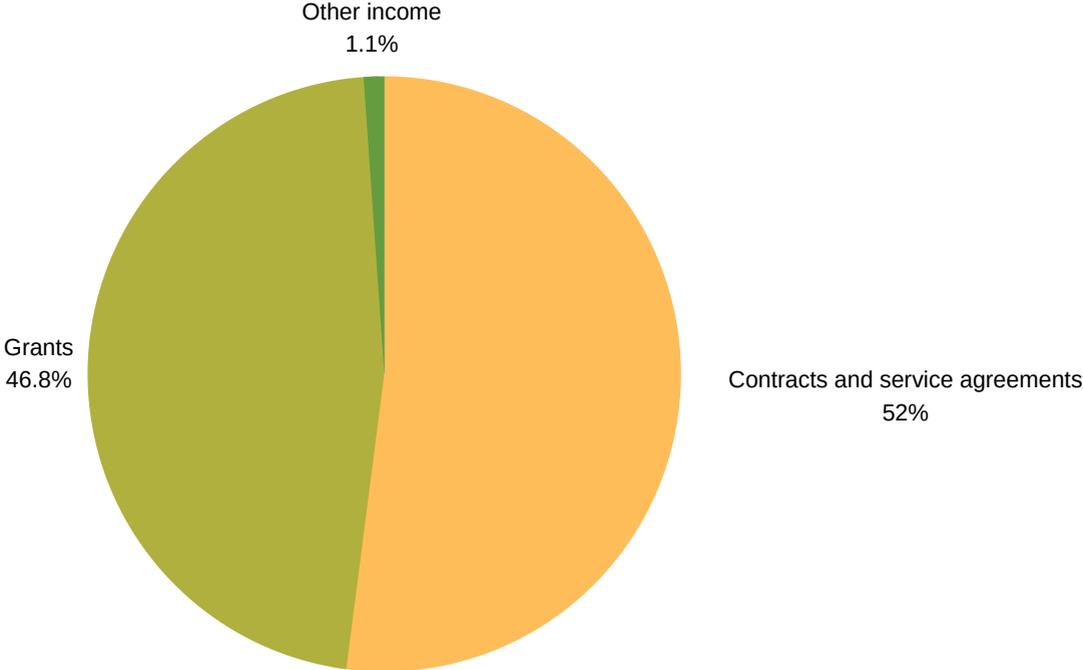
Out of the unrestricted income, **£36,599** was generated via contracts and service agreements, and **£131,329** was received through grants. The remainder of the income was created through other trading activities, a donation of **£200**, and other income.

Unrestricted income 2018-19



Out of the restricted income that Nova received in 2018-19, **£583,841** was generated by contracts and service agreements. **£525,391** was received through grants, and **£12,500** was received through other income.

Restricted income 2018-19

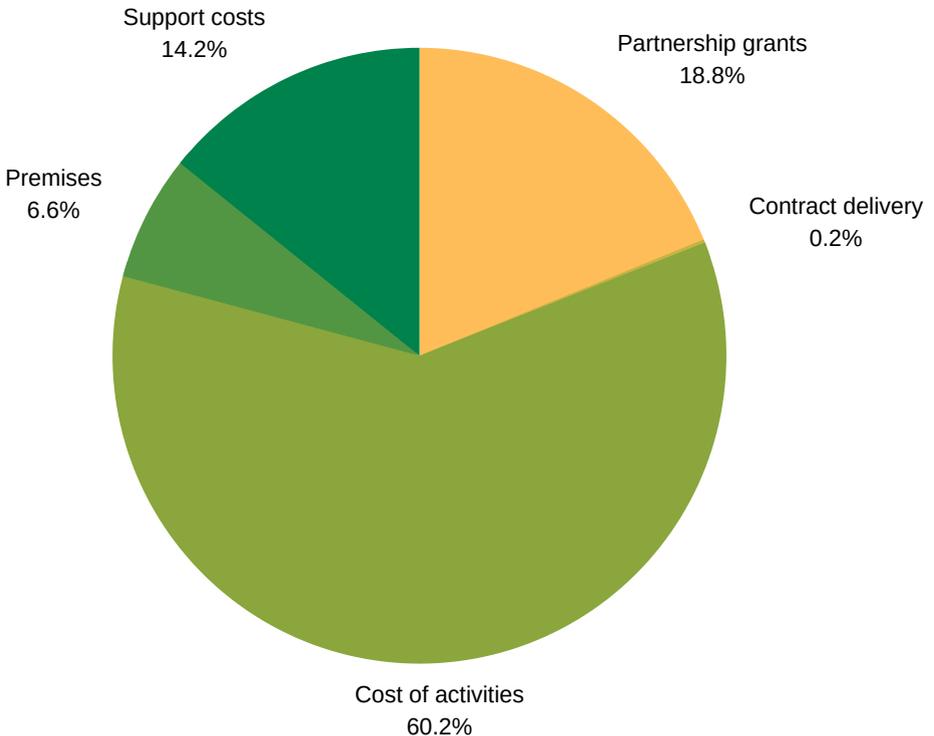


Expenditure

During 2018-19 Nova's total expenditure was **£1,376,606**, compared with **£1,196,692** in the previous year. The unrestricted funds totalled **£244,181** and the restricted funds equalled **£1,132,425**.

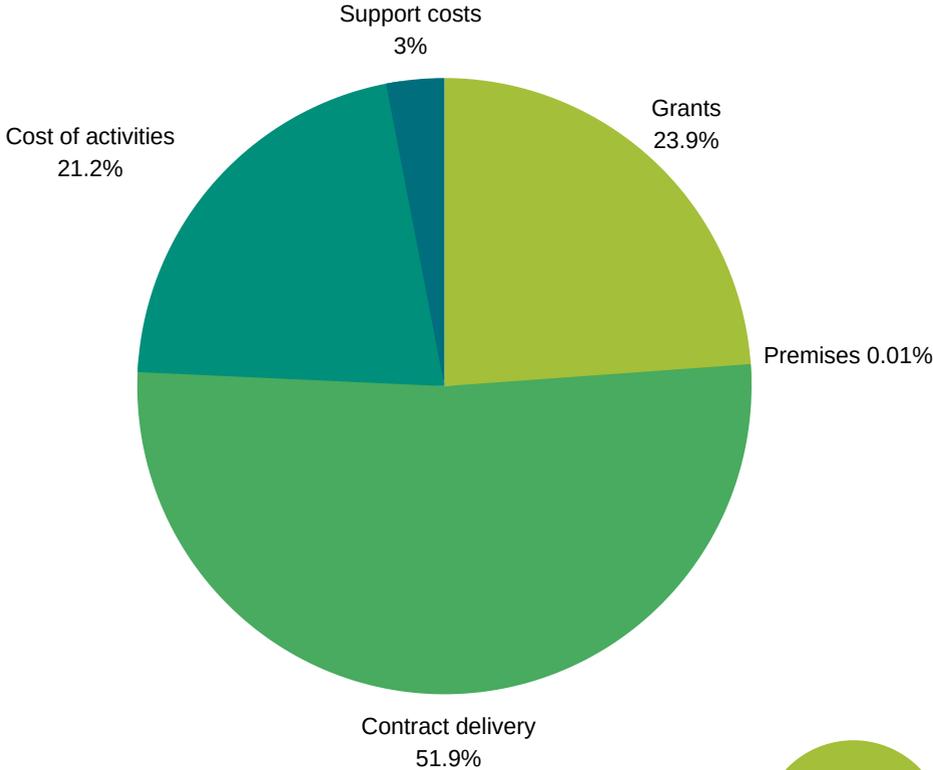
Out of the unrestricted expenditure, **£46,000** was spent on grants, **£411** on contract delivery, **£146,885** on cost of activities, **£16,110** on premises, and **£34,775** on support costs.

Unrestricted expenditure 2018-19



Out of the restricted expenditure, **£270,197** was spent on grants, **£587,355** on contract delivery, **£240,377** on cost of activities, **£630** on premises, and **£33,866** on support costs.

Restricted income 2018-19



Grants paid out

The total grants paid to institutions during 2018-19 was **£303,498**.

Young Lives Consortium	£25,375
West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service	£12,000
Pay & Employment Rights Service	£9,000
Well Women Centre	£7,793
Age UK Wakefield District	£15,521
St George's Lupset	£25,500
One To One Development Trust	£8,000
CoActive	£7,910
Five Towns Christian Fellowship	£150
St Catherine's Church Centre	£7,816
Locality	£4,483
Castleford Heritage Trust	£8,000
Tigers Trust	£6,175
Havercroft & Ryhill CLC	£25,500
Eastmoor Community Garden Association	£6,966
GASPED	£7,715
Spectrum People	£19,428
Incredible Edible Wakefield Ltd	£5,988
iSpace5 CIC	£1,200
Balne Lane Yoga Club	£400
CALM	£7,325
Chin Wag Club	£1,248
Community Minded Supporters Group	£2,733
Deaf Ex-Mainstreamers Ltd	£8,000
FDSO	£3,230
Five Towns Stroke Club	£533
Groundwork	£7,532
Inspiring Community CIC	£7,400
Ossett War Memorial Community Centre	£7,982
POUCH	£1,377
Proper Job Theatre Company	£8,000
Second Chance Headway Centre	£10,000
Speak With IT	£5,700
St Peter's Church Stanley	£200
Standbridge Lane Community Development Trust	£7,668
Think Creative	£4,796
Trinity Methodist Church	£8,000
Ward 3 Community Partnership	£4,504
Yorkshire Visually Impaired Cricket Club	£250
Portfolio Education	£2,100



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