



Quarterly confidence survey: December 2009

This is the first report from the new voluntary and community sector quarterly confidence survey, run by the Regional Forum. The survey assesses expectations within the sector over the next 3 and 12 months. Survey findings will be published in December, March, June and September and include results across the region as a whole and across each functional sub region.

Trends from this quarter include:



Most respondents think economic conditions within the VCS will deteriorate over the next 12 months.



The sector expects to deliver more services, but does not expect staffing numbers to keep pace.



43% of organisations expect their own financial situation to deteriorate; 15% expect it to improve.



The majority of organisations expect that statutory bodies will positively influence their success over the next 12 months.



Most organisations expect to collaborate more over the next 12 months.



Most organisations who are involved with decision-making are either not funded or not adequately funded for this activity.

1. Survey results: All respondents

Over the next 12 months, do you think economic conditions within the voluntary sector will improve, remain stable or deteriorate?

improve 3% remain stable 24% deteriorate 73%

During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease the extent of the services that it offers?

increase 47% decrease 8% no change 45%

During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease paid staff numbers?

increase 25% decrease 11% no change 64%

Do you expect the FINANCIAL situation of your organisation to improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?

improve 15% remain stable 42% deteriorate 43%

Do you think the GENERAL situation of your organisation will improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?

improve 24% remain stable 28% deteriorate 48%

Do you expect your organisation to collaborate more or less with other organisations over the next 12 months?

more 78% less 3% no change 19%

Do you expect to become more or less involved with local/regional decision making over the next 12 months?

more 38% less 10% no change 47% n/a 4%

If you are involved with local/regional decision making, are you:

**12% specifically funded to do this
7% adequately funded to do this
27% inadequately funded to do this
54% not funded to do this**

How do you expect statutory bodies (e.g. your local council, PCT, Yorkshire Forward) to influence your organisation's success over the next 12 months?

positive 56% no influence 14% negative 26% n/a 4%

2. Survey results: Organisations working across specific sub-regions

		South Yorks	West Yorks	North Yorks	Humber
Over the next 12 months, do you think economic conditions within the voluntary sector will improve, remain stable or deteriorate?	Improve	2.38	3.85	0.00	0.00
	Remain stable	14.29	19.23	28.57	42.86
	Deteriorate	80.95	76.92	71.43	57.14
During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease the extent of the services that it offers?	Increase	40.48	53.85	28.57	28.57
	Decrease	9.52	11.54	14.29	0.00
	No change	45.24	34.62	42.86	71.43
During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease paid staff numbers?	Increase	19.05	30.77	28.57	14.29
	Decrease	11.90	11.54	14.29	14.29
	No change	64.29	57.69	42.86	71.43
Do you expect the FINANCIAL situation of your organisation to improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?	Improve	7.14	23.08	14.29	14.29
	Remain stable	35.71	34.62	42.86	57.14
	Deteriorate	50.00	38.46	28.57	28.57
Do you think the GENERAL situation of your organisation will improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?	Improve	14.29	30.77	14.29	42.86
	Remain stable	45.24	34.62	71.43	28.57
	Deteriorate	30.95	30.77	0.00	28.57
Do you expect your organisation to collaborate more or less with other organisations over the next 12 months?	More	73.81	69.23	71.43	85.71
	Less	4.76	3.85	0.00	0.00
	No change	16.67	23.08	14.29	14.29
Do you expect to become more or less involved with local/regional decision making over the next 12 months?	More	26.19	23.08	57.14	42.86
	Less	16.67	11.54	0.00	0.00
	No change	45.24	57.69	28.57	57.14
	Not applicable	7.14	3.85	0.00	0.00
If you are involved with local/regional decision making, are you:	Specifically funded to do this	2.38	11.54	28.57	14.29
	Adequately funded to do this	7.14	7.69	0.00	0.00
	Inadequately funded to do this	28.57	23.08	28.57	0.00
	Not funded to do this	45.24	42.31	28.57	85.71
How do you expect statutory bodies (e.g. your local council, PCT, Yorkshire Forward) to influence your organisation's success over the next 12 months?	Positive influence	42.86	61.54	57.14	57.14
	Negative influence	33.33	23.08	0.00	28.57
	No influence	14.29	7.69	14.29	14.29
	Not applicable	2.38	3.85	14.29	0.00

3. Survey results: organisations working across the whole region

Over the next 12 months, do you think economic conditions within the voluntary sector will improve, remain stable or deteriorate?	Improve	7.69
	Remain stable	46.15
	Deteriorate	46.15
During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease the extent of the services that it offers?	Increase	69.23
	Decrease	0.00
	No change	30.77
During the next 3 months, does your organisation have actual plans to increase or decrease paid staff numbers?	Increase	15.38
	Decrease	7.69
	No change	76.92
Do you expect the FINANCIAL situation of your organisation to improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?	Improve	23.08
	Remain stable	61.54
	Deteriorate	15.38
Do you think the GENERAL situation of your organisation will improve, remain stable or deteriorate over the next 12 months?	Improve	38.46
	Remain stable	53.85
	Deteriorate	7.69
Do you expect your organisation to collaborate more or less with other organisations over the next 12 months?	More	92.31
	Less	0.00
	No change	7.69
Do you expect to become more or less involved with local/regional decision making over the next 12 months?	More	76.92
	Less	0.00
	No change	23.08
	Not applicable	0.00
If you are involved with local/regional decision making, are you:	Specifically funded to do this	23.08
	Adequately funded to do this	15.38
	Inadequately funded to do this	15.38
	Not funded to do this	46.15
How do you expect statutory bodies (e.g. your local council, PCT, Yorkshire Forward) to influence your organisation's success over the next 12 months?	Positive influence	61.54
	Negative influence	30.77
	No influence	7.69
	Not applicable	0.00

The Regional Forum publishes a variety of resources that provide information about the voluntary and community sector in Yorkshire and the Humber. You can find these on our website or contact us at:

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