



Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme **September 2025 Greenwich Hub for Influence, Voice, and Engagement Networking and Celebration Event Report**

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Workshop Details

Date: 4 September 2025

Time: 1:00pm – 4:00pm

Location: METRO Woolwich

Conference Facilitators:

- Mark Delacour – Director of External Affairs, METRO GAVS
- Andrew Kerr – Voice and Influence Programme Manager, METRO GAVS
- Loic Marcon – Voice and Representation Manager, METRO GAVS
- Mutmahim Roaf – Development Officer, METRO GAVS
- Adam Tipping – Communications and Network Support Officer, METRO GAVS
- Hannah Weber – Communications and Community Coordinator, Greenwich Giving
- Sheena Wedderman – Inequalities and Outreach Manager, South East London
- Thomas Lowe – Senior Programmes Officer (Grants), Groundwork London

Groups and Organisations in Attendance:

- Advocacy in Greenwich (AIG)
- Charlton Community Champions Consortium CIC
- CraftA (Community Responsive Artists, Felters and Textile Associates)
- Debt Centre Greenwich
- Delta Mind Foundation
- Derrick and Atlas Gardens Residents Association
- English for Action London
- First Step Trust
- forwarduk.org.uk
- Greenwich and Bexley Community Hospice (GBCH)
- Greenwich Giving
- Healthy Food Events CIC
- Home-Start Greenwich
- Indian Cultural Society
- Lioness Within Community CiC
- London Borough of Barking & Dagenham
- Maritime Children's Foundation
- METRO Centre
- New Arrivals Support
- Ochu Group Consultancy CIC
- Oxleas Foundation NHS Trust
- Royal Borough of Greenwich



- Adult Social Care
- Children's Services
- Health and Adult Services
- Housing and Safer Communities
- Public Health
- South East London Integrated Care Board (Greenwich)
- South East London Mind
- Trinity Laban Conservatoire of Music & Dance
- Volunteer Centre Greenwich (VCG)
- Woolwich Service User Project (WSUP)
- World of Hope (WOH)

Aim, Objectives, and Approach

The September 2025 Greenwich Hub for Influence, Voice, and Engagement (G-HIVE) Networking and Celebration Event was the tenth workshop in the second phase of the Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme, which began in September 2022. It was the second dedicated networking opportunity hosted by METRO GAVS during the third year of G-HIVE's second phase.

The first aim of the event was to continue building professional relationships and networks between the Statutory and Voluntary Sectors within the Health and Social Care System in the Royal Borough of Greenwich. This was achieved through a formal networking activity during the first half of the event, as well as informal networking opportunities throughout the event. It was also achieved during the first part of the event which was allocated to presentations about key funding opportunities for Voluntary Sector organisations within the borough:

- Inequalities Grants 2025/2026 (South East London Mind)
- Walking and Cycling Grants (Groundwork London)

The second aim of the event was to capture the impact which G-HIVE has had within the Royal Borough of Greenwich between 2022 and 2025. This was achieved through group and individual feedback activities during the second half of the event which will feed into an overall evaluation report being produced by the G-HIVE Programme Team. The third aim of the event was to review and celebrate G-HIVE's achievements during Phase 2, which was achieved through a presentation delivered by Andrew Kerr, Voice and Influence Programme Manager, and the screening of a video which captured the impact which G-HIVE has had with three organisations within the borough: Royal Borough of Greenwich; South East London Integrated Care Board (Greenwich); and Volunteer Centre Greenwich (VCG).

Building upon previous G-HIVE Networking Events, the September 2025 G-HIVE Networking Event incorporated a mixture of activities and presentations. The activities included both formal and informal networking opportunities, and opportunities for attendees to gain a deeper understanding of opportunities available to organisations within the borough. By METRO GAVS continuing to adopt this methodology and approach within G-HIVE, there is a role model for culture change across the system which G-HIVE is working to support and facilitate. The structure of the event was based around two activities and three presentations. This enabled attendees to network and get to know each other (Activity 1), understand current funding opportunities (Presentations 1 and 2), feed into G-HIVE's impact evaluation (Activity 2), and understand G-HIVE's achievements (Presentation 2).

With Phase 1 of the Greenwich Voice and Influence Programme taking place entirely virtually, the decision was made to hold the event in person, with attendees registering with METRO GAVS. In total, fifty-three people attend the September 2025 G-HIVE Networking and Celebration Event.

Activity 1: Small Group Networking

The first activity of the event was focused on attendees continue getting to know each other in order to understand more about them as individuals and their roles within the borough. This was facilitated through Activity 1 – Small Group Networking.

As part of this activity, attendees self-allocated into small groups and were given thirty minutes to engage with each other and reflect on changes in their delivery since the COVID-19 pandemic. This focus was identified and chosen in line with the overall theme of the event around reflecting of G-HIVE's impact and achievements since it started in 2021. This also allowed attendees to understand any crossover in the challenges they have been facing in this time, as well as any successes they have had as a result of changes which have had to be made. Whilst the topic(s) of discussion was open to each group, the following prompt questions were suggested to 'kickstart' conversations:

- How has the delivery of projects, programmes, services, and/or activities changed since the COVID-19 pandemic?
- What impact(s) have these changes had on organisations within the borough?
- Are there any further changes which need to be supported to continue improvements in delivery?

Each attendee was also provided with a blank Contact Information Sheet and a pen to record the contact details of attendees they engaged with during the activity, and throughout the event.

The first activity once again proved to be successful, with several attendees commenting that they enjoyed being able to reflect on where they were just after the pandemic, where they are now, but also where they would like to go in the future. It was also noted that attendees have found this type of activity beneficial throughout G-HIVE Phase 2, with the G-HIVE Programme Team keen to continue running it, albeit with adaptations as per feedback which is received, at future events if a Phase 3 is to be funded and commissioned.

Presentation 1: Inequalities Grants 2025/2026

South East London Mind, through the Greenwich Mental Health Hub, currently coordinate a borough-specific grant funding programme to support projects which tackle mental health inequalities.

Funding of between £10,000 and £15,000 per year is available, which includes initiatives aiming to improve the accessibility and inclusivity of support, and projects which offer innovative approaches.

For further information about the Inequalities Grants 2025/2026, please email [Sheena Wedderman](#).

Presentation 2: Walking and Cycling Grants

Groundwork London, on behalf of Transport for London, provide annual grants of up to £5,000 for activities which promote and encourage more regular and safe walking and cycling. As part of the funding, activities need to demonstrate their work with diverse groups and communities, especially



those which traditionally are under-represented in walking and cycling, and remove the barriers for those groups and communities to walking and cycling.

For further information about the Walking and Cycling Grants, please email [Thomas Lowe](#).

Presentation 3: G-HIVE Phase 2 Achievements

G-HIVE, which was first established in July 2021, has been delivering its second phase of development since September 2022, with it due to conclude in October 2025. During this time, the G-HIVE Programme Team have hosted nine workshops, three conferences, seven networking events, and thirteen trainings. As Phase 2 of the programme comes to an end, the G-HIVE Programme Team reflected on the achievements which have been realised during the last three years.

Information, Advice, and Guidance

The G-HIVE Information, Advice, and Guidance offers to the Royal Borough of Greenwich Statutory and Voluntary Sectors were launched at the April 2024 G-HIVE Networking Event. Since then, G-HIVE has successfully supported fifty-one engagement activities (twenty-five within the Statutory Sector, and twenty-six within the Voluntary Sector). Whilst the programme is due to be delivered for another month, and the final activities supported will slightly increase, the figures to date represent a huge achievement for a team of four staff but only 2.2 full time equivalents in terms of contracted hours.

Learning, Development, and Training

The G-HIVE Learning, Development, and Training Support Package started in May 2024, with trainings taking place between June 2024 and May 2025. In total, eight trainings were delivered in 2024, with a further five in 2025:

- Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity (June 2024)
- Race and Ethnicity (July 2024)
- Religion and Belief (July 2024)
- Co-Creation, Co-Development, Co-Design, and Co-Production (September 2024)
- Disability and Inclusion (October 2024)
- Monitoring and Evaluation (October 2024)
- Engaging and Negotiating with Senior Officials (November 2024)
- Co-Creation, Co-Development, Co-Design, and Co-Production (December 2024)
- Facilitation Skills Masterclass (January 2025)
- Public Speaking Masterclass (February 2025)
- Engaging with Communities, Structures, and Cultures (March 2025)
- Digital Tools for Engagement and Collaboration (April 2025)
- Social, Peer, and Community Led Research (May 2025)



Infrastructure

During G-HIVE Phase 2, the G-HIVE Programme Team delivered a number of internal and external digital infrastructures to support and facilitate voice, influence, representation, and engagement within the Royal Borough of Greenwich. These include:

- [Consultation and Engagement Database](#)
- [Consultation and Engagement Resource Hub](#)
- [Community Spaces Directory](#)
- [METRO GAVS Members Directory](#)
- New METRO GAVS CMS
- New [METRO GAVS Website](#) (inclu. e-Bulletin software)
- Reinvigoration of the METRO GAVS social media: [Facebook](#) and [X \(formerly Twitter\)](#)

Impact with Greenwich-Based Stakeholders

Between late-2024 and early-2025, the G-HIVE Programme Team spoke to three stakeholders within the borough which G-HIVE has supported closely in their own deliverers: Royal Borough of Greenwich, South East London Integrated Care Board (Greenwich), and Volunteer Centre Greenwich (VCG). As a result of this engagement, the G-HIVE Programme Team produced a [short video](#) to showcase the impact and achievements of the programme through the eyes of these stakeholders.

Activity 2: Capturing G-HIVE's Impact During Phase 2

With G-HIVE Phase 2 concluding in October 2025, the G-HIVE Programme Team are currently evaluating the overall impact which the programme has had within the Royal Borough of Greenwich. As part of this evaluation, the G-HIVE Programme Team were keen to seek the views, opinions, and understandings as part of the overall evaluation in order to capture the impact which G-HIVE has had on them, their organisations, and their delivery within the Royal Borough of Greenwich.

In order to capture this impact, attendees were asked to feedback on the different aspects of G-HIVE which they may have interacted with and received support from, with the programme team providing some prompt questions in order to 'kickstart' their feedback:

- Information, Advice, and Guidance: How has G-HIVE's information, advice, and guidance supported you and your organisation?
- Learning, Training, and Development: What have you and/or your organisation done as a result of attending a G-HIVE training?
- Infrastructure: How are you and/or your organisation using G-HIVE's infrastructure? What have you done with it?
- Overall Impact: What impact has G-HIVE had in the borough?



The G-HIVE Programme Team also facilitate a 'Ripple Effect Mapping' exercise with attendees to capture further impact which the programme has had on them. This included the use of a bee hive production metaphone:

- Flower: What happened when G-HIVE supported the attendee and/or their organisation?
- Bee: What was the result of this support for the attendee and/or their organisation?
- Beehive: What was the impact which this support had on the attendee and/or their organisation?

The results of this activity will be collated and inputted into the overall G-HIVE Evaluation Report for Phase 1 and Phase 2, which is due to be published in October 2025.

Next Steps

The September 2025 G-HIVE Networking and Celebration Event was the second of two networking events planned for third year of developing G-HIVE. It was also the last event being delivered by G-HIVE as part of their funding from the National Lottery Community Fund. METRO GAVS will conclude Phase 2 with a full evaluation of Phase 1 and Phase 2 before the programme is concluded in mid-October 2025.

For further information, please contact the following:

- [Andrew Kerr – Voice and Influence Programme Manager](#)
- [Roy Gopaul – Stakeholder Engagement Coordinator](#)
- [Loic Marcon – Programme Support Officer](#)