

## Research and intelligence gathering on volunteering during Covid-19

Summary as at 25 Sept 2020

Organisation	Research focus	Outputs	Status on publication
<b>Completed</b>			
Volunteer Scotland & Ipsos-Mori	The impact of COVID-19 on volunteering participation in Scotland. A survey of 1,014 adults in Scotland conducted from 22 – 29 June. It examines volunteering participation before, during and after COVID-19 – for formal and informal volunteering and the mutual aid phenomenon. A full presentation is due to be published shortly.	<a href="#">Summary presentation</a>	Published 15 July 2020
TSI National Network Survey – led by Glasgow Council for the Voluntary Sector	Survey of 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector organisations across all 32 local authority areas: <a href="https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/tsicovid">https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/tsicovid</a> No. of responding organisations = 1,184	Full report <a href="https://www.gcvs.org.uk/blog/tsi-coronavirus-survey/">https://www.gcvs.org.uk/blog/tsi-coronavirus-survey/</a>	Published 25 June 2020
Volunteer Scotland and TSI National Network Scotland	Volunteer Scotland’s analysis of the TSI Scotland Network’s Survey on the impact of COVID-19 on the third sector in Scotland. Data relevant to volunteering in Scotland has been analysed. Full presentation is due to be published shortly.	<a href="#">Summary presentation</a>	Published 15 July 2020
Volunteer Scotland – Mini-Expos (23 and 30 June 2020)	Volunteer Scotland - Presentation on ‘Impact of COVID-19 on volunteering in Scotland at Mini-Expos – 23 and 30 June 2020	<a href="#">Summary Presentation</a> <a href="#">Full Presentation</a>	Published 25 June 2020
Volunteer Scotland	Short desk research exercise to scope out the number of mutual aid organisations, their membership and characteristics.	Paper: <a href="#">Research on mutual aid groups in Scotland</a> (20 April)	Published 25 June 2020
OSCR	Survey of all registered charities in Scotland (c. 21,500) to explore the impact of Covid-19 on charities and their support needs. Survey conducted 5 – 15 May 2020. No. of responding charities = 4,827	<a href="#">Read a summary of the findings here.</a>  <a href="#">View the overall survey results here (pdf)</a>	Published 5 June 2020

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Volunteer Scotland and OSCR	Volunteer Scotland's analysis of OSCR's survey of charities examining the impact of COVID-19. Both summary and full presentations of the evidence.	<a href="#">Summary and Full Presentations</a>	Published Sept 2020
Volunteer Scotland	Media Links Spreadsheet - articles, reports and media coverage relating to volunteering during COVID-19 – with primarily a Scottish focus. It includes date, hyperlink and key classification fields such as geography, volunteering role and sector. Click on the entry ' <a href="#">Mapping of press and social media coverage</a> ' in the hyperlink below to download the spreadsheet <a href="https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/research-and-evaluation/publications/covid-19-research/">https://www.volunteerscotland.net/for-organisations/research-and-evaluation/publications/covid-19-research/</a>	An updated version of the spreadsheet is posted to Volunteer Scotland's website on a monthly basis.	Updated monthly on the VS website
New Local Government Network	Research to understand the mutual aid phenomenon in the UK and what lessons can be learned to support its development beyond COVID-19.	<a href="#">Communities vs. Coronavirus - the rise of mutual aid</a>	Published July 2020
Centre for Population Change, University of Southampton	This paper provides the first insight into the receipt of help and support amongst older people aged 70 and over during the first four weeks of the Covid-19 pandemic lockdown when this group had been explicitly advised to stay at home and minimise contact with others.	<a href="http://www.cpc.ac.uk/docs/2020_PB52_Older_and_home_alone_in_lockdown.pdf">http://www.cpc.ac.uk/docs/2020_PB52_Older_and_home_alone_in_lockdown.pdf</a>	Published June 2020
Scottish Volunteering Forum	Survey of membership - 23 Volunteer Involving Organisations (VIOs) engaging c. 30,000 volunteers	Understanding the issues from VIO perspective. PowerPoint presentation.	Not published. Circulated to SVF members
Scottish Government & Volunteer Scotland	Mapping and understanding the sign-ups to the 'Scotland Cares' portal. Separate papers have been produced by the Scottish Government and Volunteer Scotland providing complementary information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SG – information on both the VS and British Red Cross datasets by LA areas. This includes the application of the BRC Vulnerability Index. An interactive mapping tool is included.</li> <li>• VS – information by demographic splits including gender. Also, there is comparison with SHS baseline data.</li> </ul>	Evidence papers (x2): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SG – Undergoing final QA prior to publication</li> <li>• VS - Excel data – summary analysis for the 35,000 Volunteer Scotland sign-ups – not published</li> </ul>	Not published yet

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Volunteer Scotland	Initial overview of volunteering issues related to COVID-19	Paper: 'Scotland's volunteering response to Covid-19' (1 April)	Not published
Volunteer Scotland	Review of local volunteer registration process – for formal volunteering, both locally and through Scotland Cares sign-ups	Paper: 'Review of local Covid-19 volunteer registration process' and Excel spreadsheet (10 April)	Not published
Voluntary Sector Studies Network (VSSN) Conference 2020	The papers/recordings from the VSSN Conference Sept 2020 are due to be published. This is the link to the <a href="#">Outline Programme</a> .	TBC	Publication of conference outputs is pending.
Impact Funding Partners & Scottish Government	'Volunteering Support Fund: Coronavirus Pandemic Response: March – June 2020'. How organisations funded through the Scottish Government's Volunteering Support Fund have responded to the pandemic. <a href="https://sforce.co/3fH4pnm">https://sforce.co/3fH4pnm</a>	Report	Published – but not dated.
<b>Confirmed /in progress</b>			
Nottingham Trent Univ, NCVO & Sheffield Hallam University	'COVID-19 and Voluntary Sector Organisations' Response: Barometer' The Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector barometer will run for 15 months, from early September 2020 to November 2021. A short survey will capture key indicators about the impact that COVID-19 is having on the sector. The survey will have standard questions each month and then a few questions on the specific situation occurring at that time.	Longitudinal data study	Research just commencing Sept 2020
University of Sussex	'Facilitating the public response to COVID-19 by harnessing group processes' Spontaneous community support groups are common in the wake of disasters. But they tend to decline over time, even while needs for support remain high. There is a need to understand the processes whereby such groups can be sustained over time – what factors work against the decline that so often happens with such groups?	Report	Research commencing Sept 2020

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UKRI	UK Research and Innovation (the umbrella body for the 8 Research Councils) has a database detailing the funding for research linked to COVID-19.	Full details on the <a href="#">UKRI website</a> – this provides access to Excel spreadsheet and the interactive tool for Innovation Grants – click on ‘Volunteer bubble’ at bottom of bubble map. <a href="#">UKRI Innovation Grants - Interactive mapping tool</a>	Database updated regularly
Voluntary Sector Studies Network (VSSN)	<i>COVID-19 and Voluntary Action: Research Repository - projects</i> VSSN is collating research projects which focus on Voluntary and Community Sector and volunteering responses to, recovery from and implications of the COVID-19 pandemic.	<a href="https://www.vssn.org.uk/covid-19-and-voluntary-action-research-repository-projects/">https://www.vssn.org.uk/covid-19-and-voluntary-action-research-repository-projects/</a>	Research repository updated regularly
University of Sussex	<i>“Research on Mutual Aid and Spontaneous Community Groups”</i> (UKRI funded). The aim of this research is to examine the factors that enable these groups to endure. The research will use interviews and a questionnaire to understand why people join community support groups and the factors that sustain these groups over time. The project will produce guidance tools for community solidarity groups.	The research findings will include a report, two journal articles and the findings will be disseminated via a website, social media, and a dialogue event presenting the University's analysis of examples of sustained community mutual aid groups, recommendations for ‘what works’, and case studies.	Publication due Dec 2021
Glasgow Caledonian University – School of Health and Life Sciences	Research funded by the Scottish Government’s Chief Scientist Office: <i>“Solidarity in a time of crisis: the role of mutual aid to the COVID-19 pandemic.”</i> <a href="https://www.sonar-global.eu/covid-19-projects/solidarity-in-a-time-of-crisis-the-role-of-mutual-aid-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/">https://www.sonar-global.eu/covid-19-projects/solidarity-in-a-time-of-crisis-the-role-of-mutual-aid-to-the-covid-19-pandemic/</a>  Six-month ethnographic research study on four mutual aid organisations in Scotland. Research objective: How, and in what ways, do mutual aid groups complement, enhance (or undermine) formal public health provision in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic?	Research report – a draft summary report has been produced. A more detailed version to follow. VS is joining a focus group to discuss the findings.	Research in progress

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	Led by Prof Michael Roy at GCU.		
YouGov National Surveys	Regular weekly surveys of 1,000 adults across the UK on impact of COVID-19. <a href="#">YouGov Covid-19 public monitor</a>	Example outputs on: <a href="#">Volunteering vs financial giving</a> <a href="#">Unemployment and socio-economic divide</a>	Research outputs published regularly
ONS	Website for COVID-19 research: <a href="#">ONS COVID-19 Research</a>	There is a weekly publication on <a href="#">Social Impacts on Great Britain</a> and a <a href="#">dataset</a> : This provides info on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unity, equality and kindness</li> <li>• Indicators of wellbeing &amp; loneliness</li> <li>• Community spirit and neighbourliness</li> </ul>	Weekly publications
University of Strathclyde – PhD by David Bomark	<a href="#">‘What we do together: Associational life, volunteering and the benefits for wellbeing and health’</a> . Scope to include Covid-19 impact as part of the primary research for this PhD.	Interim outputs available from 2021 such as literature review, sections of thesis and presentations at events. Full thesis not till end of 2023	Discrete outputs will be published by Volunteer Scotland from 2021 onwards.
Ipsos-Mori (youth survey)	Young People in Scotland 2021 – Ipsos Mori will be conducting their omnibus survey in Jan – Apr 2021. Volunteer Scotland has shared this with our usual partners YouthLink Scotland, #IWill Scotland, Young Scot, Youth Scotland and Project Scotland.	Research will not be commissioned till late 2020/early 2021	
<b>Research proposals/bids</b>			
Corra Foundation (leader of funding consortium)	<i>“Social action during the coronavirus pandemic – learning from the crisis to help build forward, better”</i> – Commissioned research by Carnegie UK Trust, Corra Foundation, the Royal Society of Edinburgh (RSE), Scottish Council for Voluntary	Research report (Dec 2020)	

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	Organisations (SCVO), The National Lottery Community Fund and, The Robertson Trust. Research conducted Aug – Dec 2020. <a href="https://www.corra.scot/news/community-research-tender-social-action-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/">https://www.corra.scot/news/community-research-tender-social-action-during-the-coronavirus-pandemic/</a>		
Universities: Northumbria and Kent leading	UK-wide study: “Mobilising Voluntary Action in the four UK jurisdictions: Learning from today, prepared for tomorrow”  All four home countries involved (Volunteer Scotland and University of Stirling are partners)	In the ongoing COVID-19 Health and Social Care crisis, the overarching aim of this theoretically-informed rapid evidence review is to critically evaluate the volunteer-involving social welfare responses, to help guide the support for the UK volunteer effort. One year duration.	
Glasgow Centre for Population Health	Mutual aid study. GCPH are planning on co-producing research with a sample of local Mutual Aid groups in Scotland. The research will focus on how Mutual Aid groups and 3 <sup>rd</sup> sector and public sector organisations help to build resilience, reduce social isolation and support mental health. It will also investigate whether the Mutual Aid model is sustainable and can transition to a post-crisis immediate response phase.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Initial paper to synthesize research on mutual aid (pending)</li> <li>Workshop with mutual aid coordinators TBC (Aug/Sept 2020)</li> </ul>	
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<b>Other Research Reports on COVID-19 – relevant to the voluntary sector, but not directly focused on volunteering</b>			
Scottish Government’s Advisory Group on Economic Recovery	“Towards a Robust Resilient Wellbeing Economy for Scotland: <a href="https://www.gov.scot/publications/towards-robust-resilient-wellbeing-economy-scotland-report-advisory-group-economic-recovery/">https://www.gov.scot/publications/towards-robust-resilient-wellbeing-economy-scotland-report-advisory-group-economic-recovery/</a> The Advisory Group’s advice on Scotland’s economic recovery focusing on the period after the immediate crisis response has been addressed.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report of the Advisory Group on Economic Recovery</li> <li>Analytical Annex to the Report</li> </ul>	Published 22 June 2020

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Scottish Government	<i>“Research to understand the impact of COVID-19 on communities – organisational perspectives.”</i> Research conducted 14 – 27 May 2020. Alongside a programme of research with the public, SG invited organisations whose work is at the heart of communities and related outcomes in the National Performance Framework, to share how the coronavirus pandemic might have affected the people they work with.	SG Report	Still to be published.
Pro Bono Economics	<a href="#">Undervalued and overlooked? The need for better understanding civil society’s contribution to the UK economy</a>	Short paper	Published 4 May 2020
YouthLink Scotland, Young Scot and Scottish Youth Parliament	Lockdown-Lowdown research by Young Scot, Youthlink Scotland and Scottish Youth Parliament	Summary Report <a href="#">Lockdown-Lowdown Report 23 April</a>  Full Report <a href="#">Lockdown-Lowdown What young people in Scotland are thinking about COVID-19 May 2020</a>	Summary and full reports are published
Nuffield Foundation	<a href="#">Growing up Under Covid-19</a> . Longitudinal study over 18 months will follow young people aged 14-18 in seven countries as they document their family lives, peer relationships, education and participation in society while the pandemic unfolds. Scotland is included.	TBC	Notification of research work has been publicly shared.
DCMS	Report from the House of Commons Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Select Committee investigating the impact of Covid-19 on culture and the creative industries; civil society; sport; tourism; heritage; publishing, media and journalism; telecoms and DCMS’s response: <a href="https://houseofcommons.shorthandstories.com/coronavirus-impact-Digital-Culture-Media-sport-sectors-report/index.html">https://houseofcommons.shorthandstories.com/coronavirus-impact-Digital-Culture-Media-sport-sectors-report/index.html</a>	Summary report	Published 23 July 2020
Institute of Fundraising, NCVO & Charity Finance Group (CFG)	<i>“Impact on the charity sector during coronavirus”</i> <a href="https://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/library/impact-on-the-charity-sector-during-coronavirus-research-report/?preview=true">https://www.institute-of-fundraising.org.uk/library/impact-on-the-charity-sector-during-coronavirus-research-report/?preview=true</a>	Short report	Published 18 June 2020

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British Red Cross	“Life after lockdown” <a href="https://www.redcross.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/we-speak-up-for-change/life-after-lockdown-tackling-loneliness">https://www.redcross.org.uk/about-us/what-we-do/we-speak-up-for-change/life-after-lockdown-tackling-loneliness</a>	Published report	Published June 2020
All Party Parliamentary Group on Social Integration	Review of the impact of COVID-19 on social integration: <a href="https://socialintegrationappg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Social-Connection-in-the-COVID-19-Crisis.pdf">https://socialintegrationappg.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Social-Connection-in-the-COVID-19-Crisis.pdf</a>	Initial report from the COVID-19 inquiry by the APPG on social integration	Published 14 May 2020
Inclusion Scotland	Disabled People’s lived experience of shielding <a href="https://inclusionScotland.org/shielding-report/">https://inclusionScotland.org/shielding-report/</a>	Key survey results report	Published July 2020
Glasgow Disability Alliance	Supercharged: A human catastrophe – inequalities, participation and human rights before, during and beyond COVID-19 <a href="https://gda.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GDA%E2%80%93Supercharged-Covid-19Report.pdf">https://gda.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/GDA%E2%80%93Supercharged-Covid-19Report.pdf</a>	Report	Published Aug 2020
XFactor Collective and Equity Trustees (Australia)	Impact study from Australia ‘Reset 2020 Research Study’ Baseline impact study <a href="https://xfactorcollective.com/research">https://xfactorcollective.com/research</a>	Baseline impact report	Published 20 Aug 2020
GCU and Scottish Poverty and Inequality Research Unit	‘Local action to tackle food insecurity during the coronavirus’ Report: <a href="https://povertyinequality.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Food-insecurity-SPIRU-final-reports-June.pdf">https://povertyinequality.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Food-insecurity-SPIRU-final-reports-June.pdf</a> Response and recommendations: <a href="https://povertyinequality.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Food-insecurity-PIC-response-and-recommendations-June-2020.pdf">https://povertyinequality.scot/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/Food-insecurity-PIC-response-and-recommendations-June-2020.pdf</a>	Report Response and recommendations	Published June 2020