



Mapping Of VCS Children and Youth Services – April 16th 2014

Sandwell Council of Voluntary Organisations (SCVO) public database lists 991 voluntary and community sector organisations currently *active* within the borough.

1. Overview of VCS Youth Provision

Of this number, **195** organisations in total claim to support children and young people within the range 5 yrs to 18 yrs.

This figure can be broken down as:-

- 5 – 11 yrs 152 organisations
- 11 – 16 yrs 186 organisations
- 17-18 yrs 158 organisations

These organisations can be broken down broadly into the following categories:-

- 74 uniformed groups
- 20 sport groups/ clubs
- 28 specialist groups
- 73 providing general/ universal youth services

In terms of scale, these organisations can be broken down further:-

- 111 small groups (mostly volunteer led and run, income less than £15k pa)
- 58 small organisations (employ some staff, income between £15k-£250k pa)
- 26 large organisations (employ staff, income over £250k)

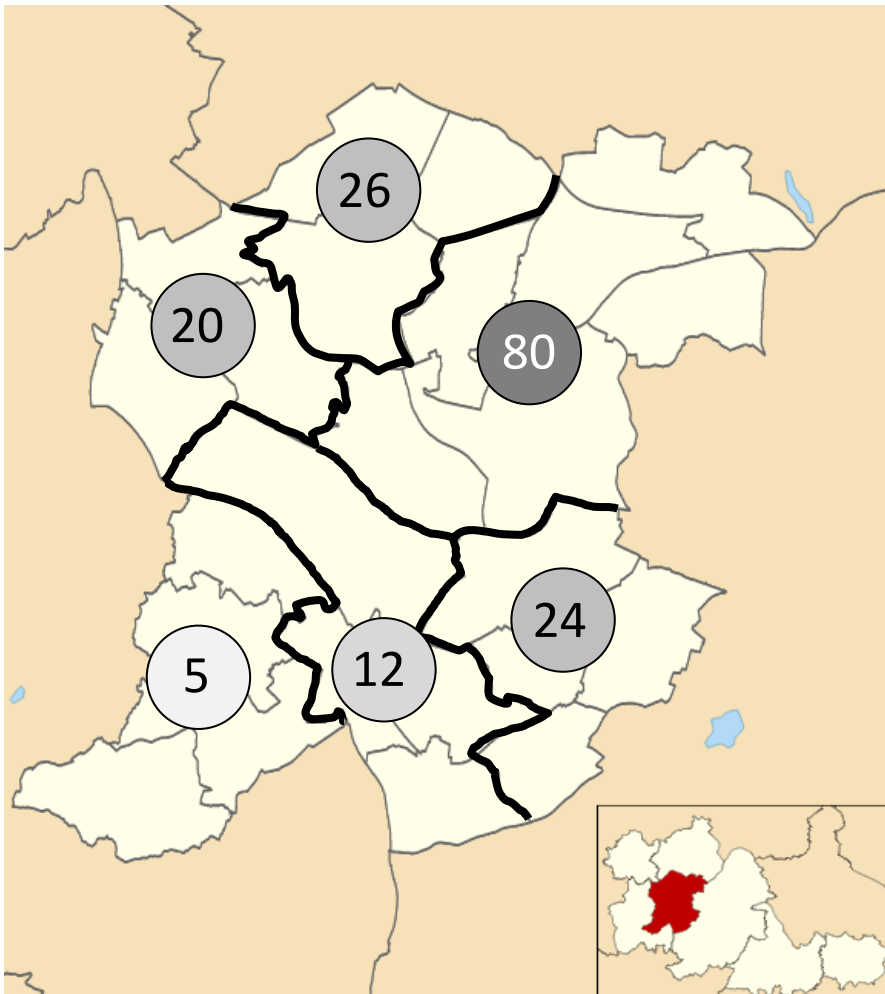
Of the 195 organisations, 70 claim to deliver services in all Sandwell wards with the remainder delivering mostly in one or two wards only.

2. Where the Services are Based

The location of VCS organisations base often reflects for smaller organisations where the focus of their support is offered. For larger organisations services are provided in a variety of different locations.

Across the 195 organisations, 28 are based outside of the borough, mostly in Birmingham, Wolverhampton or other neighbouring boroughs.

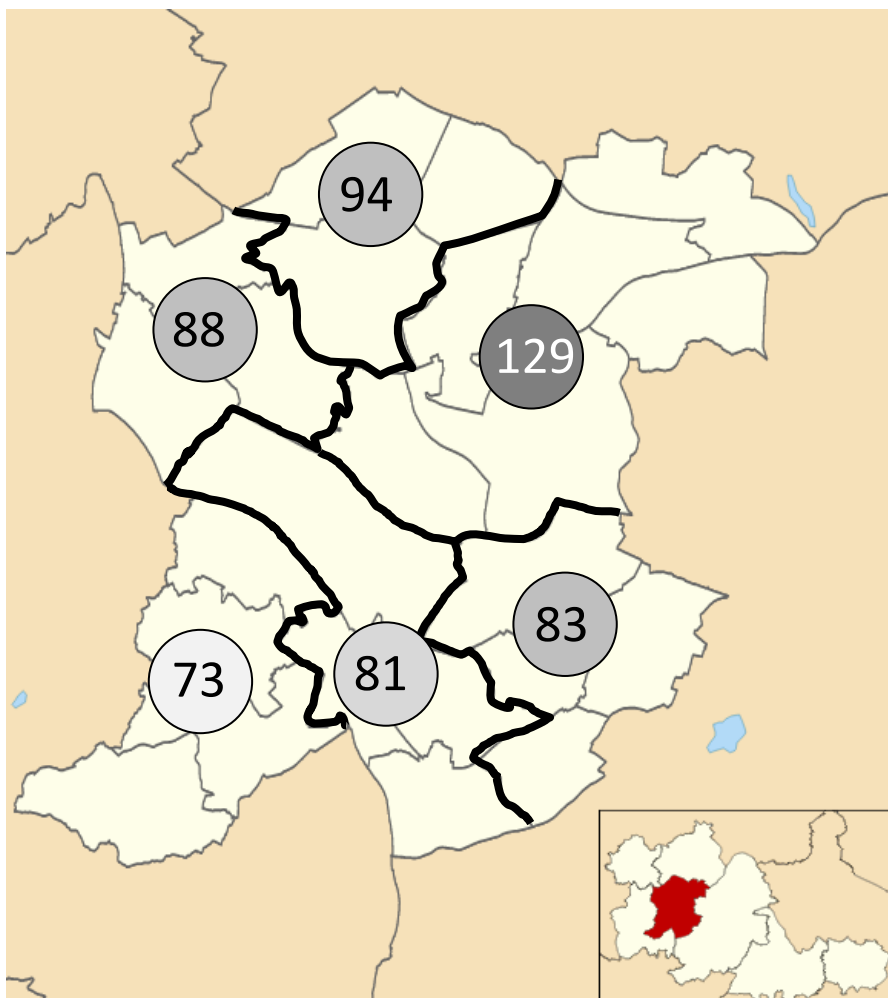
The map shows where the remaining 167 are located:-



3. Reach of Service Provision

Starting from the baseline of a large number of borough-wide groups which deliver across the borough, the number of service providers active in each town broadly replicates the picture in section 2.

The map shows again a greater amount of service delivery activity in the north of the borough. Figures indicate the number of organisations who state that they deliver services in each town.



4. Conclusions and Points for engagement

- There are numerous points for young people to receive support from VCS organisations across the borough. However, some towns have significantly less resource than others
- The majority of groups are volunteer-led and run, more reliant on volunteers than finance, and not in a position to take on staff, contracts or assets
- The number of large organisations are few, and not all are dedicated/ youth-focused organisations.
- There is a significant cohort of organisations *not included* within this list which have a past track record of youth support and/ or the potential to host or deliver effective youth services, eg community centres, sports clubs, housing associations, arts organisations, faith/ cultural communities, etc..
- Therefore there is potential to meet gaps in service provision in certain areas of the borough through organisations currently delivering in other areas
- In engaging all organisations, big and small, around the current youth service challenge the essential questions which need to be asked are...
 - Are you interested and willing to grow and develop your youth provision?
 - What would your organisation look like if it delivered 100% of its potential for youth support?
 - How might you move towards reaching that potential?

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