Civil Society Group

Executive Summary

Civil society contributes almost £40 billion to the UK economy and plays a vital role in delivering services, strengthening communities, attracting investment, and preventing problems before they escalate. However, the sector continues to face intense pressures from rising costs, increased demand for services and reduced incomes.

This submission sets out a package of measures to strengthen the partnership between government and civil society, improve the sustainability of the sector, and enable charities and voluntary organisations to continue delivering positive outcomes for communities across the UK.

The key recommendations are to:

- Ensure grants, contracts and procurement processes fully recognise and fund the true value and costs of voluntary sector delivery, including full-cost recovery, multi-year funding arrangements, inflationary uplifts, and appropriate funding for staffing and volunteer costs.
- Encourage charitable giving and long-term philanthropy by protecting and modernising tax incentives, preserving incentives for charitable bequests, and modernising Gift Aid to make it simpler and more effective.
- Support place-based giving and local voluntary sector infrastructure to attract new donors, strengthen local partnerships, and direct resources to communities where they are needed most.
- Invest in community ownership and community wealth building through a long-term national strategy and increased funding to help communities acquire and manage local assets.
- Tackle the digital divide and support responsible AI adoption by ensuring charities have equal access to government digital programmes and tailored support for skills, governance, technology, and data readiness.
- Strengthen cyber resilience across the sector through dedicated funding, practical support, and improved access to cyber security advice and protection measures.

Together, these measures would support more effective public spending, unlock additional investment and philanthropy, strengthen communities, support good growth in every postcode, and help build a more resilient civil society sector across the UK.

Civil Society Group

2026 Budget submission

About the Civil Society Group

The Civil Society Group is a collaboration of over 80 civil society infrastructure and membership organisations, which has been working since the start of the pandemic to coordinate action and engagement between civil society organisations and governments across the UK. Through our members and wider networks, we gather insights from hundreds of thousands of registered charities, community and faith groups, voluntary organisations and social enterprises.

Introduction

Civil society contributes almost £40 billion to the UK economy, equivalent to around 1.5% of UK GVA.[1] Charities and voluntary organisations work in communities across the country, creating jobs, attracting investment, reaching underserved groups and preventing problems before they escalate, reducing pressure on public services. The Autumn Budget therefore provides an early opportunity to put the ambitions of the Civil Society Covenant into practice and position civil society as an effective strategic delivery partner, connecting national priorities with local communities. This should be underpinned by genuine co-design, recognition of the sector's expertise and sustainable funding.

However, the sector's ability to fulfil its role in strategic partnerships as well as provide vital services is under increasing strain. The number of people donating to charities has dropped by an estimated 6 million since 2016, while organisations continue to face rising costs and increased demand for services.[2] These pressures are being felt most acutely by smaller charities, which make up the majority of the sector. The Charity Commission's Charity Sector Risk Assessment 2026 found that smaller charities are "operating on the narrowest margins". [3]

Putting civil society at the heart of decision-making and action for transformative social change would strengthen communities and support good growth in every postcode. We are therefore calling for action to:

- Ensure Government grants, contracts and procurement processes fully recognise and fund the true value and costs of voluntary sector delivery, including through full-cost, multi-year contracts and more appropriate social-value requirements.

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[1] Pro Bono Economics (2025), *Civil Society and Volunteering: A Force for Growth*. Available here
[2] Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) (2026), *UK Giving Report 2026*. UK Giving Report
[3] Charity Commission for England and Wales, *Charity Sector Risk Assessment 2026*, published 18 August 2026. GOV.UK

- Removing barriers to collaborative delivery, shifting away from adversarial tendering processes.
- Encourage charitable giving and long-term philanthropy through a range of policy levers, including modernising tax and fiscal incentives.
- Support place-based giving, strong local voluntary infrastructure and approaches that give people a genuine stake in their neighbourhoods.
- Support community wealth building through long-term investment in community ownership of local assets.
- Tackle the digital deficit and ensure charities have equal access to AI adoption programmes, alongside tailored support for skills, governance and data readiness.
- Strengthen cyber resilience support to protect charities, their beneficiaries and sensitive data.

Civil society and HM Government share an ambition to deliver lasting, positive change for communities across the UK. The Civil Society Covenant provides a framework for turning that ambition into a stronger and more effective partnership. Together, these proposals would make public spending more effective, support fiscal discipline, enable good growth in every postcode, unlock additional resources and investment, and build stronger, more resilient communities across the whole of the UK.

Grants, Contracts and Procurement

Civil society's value to public service delivery

Civil society delivers billions of pounds worth of public services every year. Between April 2019 and March 2024, VCSE organisations won 17,656 contracts, worth a total of £23.7bn from the public sector in England. This is around £4.7bn per year.[4] Data from the DCMS Civil Society Spine further shows how deeply embedded the sector is across health, social care, housing, and justice.[5] Charities and voluntary organisations deliver the majority of frontline interventions in critical areas such as homelessness, employment support, addiction recovery, and youth mental health, providing a lifeline for those in need and helping to prevent more costly acute interventions. Every pound invested in the sector is reinvested into frontline delivery, while philanthropic grants, community support and volunteer networks help stretch public funds further and drive continuous innovation.

Ensuring funding meets rising costs

Inadequate funding is compounded by higher costs, including the increase to employer's National Insurance Contributions (eNICs) and National Minimum Wage,

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[4] DCMS, *Public procurement through VCSEs, 2019/20 to 2023/24*, 2026. Analysis of Tussell contract data. Between April 2019 and March 2024, VCSEs won 17,656 public-sector contracts worth £23.7 billion in total, an average of approximately £4.7 billion per year. [DCMS: Public procurement through VCSEs, 2019/20 to 2023/24]

[5] *Mapping and Understanding the UK Civil Society Sector: Research Report*, commissioned by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), 28 May 2026.

which raised staffing costs, adding more pressure onto the voluntary sector and local government. While we welcome the increase to the National Minimum Wage and the National Living Wage, there is a need to ensure voluntary organisations are resourced to cover the full costs of employing staff. Councils were partially compensated for the eNICs increase but there are concerns that external service providers will pass their increased operational costs back to councils through higher service costs. In Wales, councils received 85% of the eNIC increase covered through a combination of the funding provided by the UK Treasury and a £36m top up from Welsh Government's reserves, but that still left another £36m shortfall across all public services. While in Scotland, SCVO estimates that eNICs increases will cost medium and large voluntary sector employers in Scotland over £78 million per year. Some organisations face additional costs of hundreds of thousands of pounds. Increased employer National Insurance contributions costs also have a disproportionate financial impact on devolved administrations due to the higher proportions of public sector workers in Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales, when compared with England.

In Spring 2026, 97% of organisations reported facing challenges in the Scottish Third Sector Tracker, up from 95% in Autumn 2025.[6] The most reported challenges included difficulty fundraising, rising costs and inflation, and volunteer shortages. Rising costs remain a major constraint on growth. Among organisations not planning to expand, two-thirds (66%) identified rising costs and inflation as a barrier, while 48% cited delays or reductions in funding. Many respondents feel they are being asked to do more with fewer resources while simultaneously filling gaps left by shrinking public services.

Approved Mileage Allowance Payments

In the Autumn Budget, the Chancellor should ensure that charities and community groups have the resources they need to implement the new AMAP rate and ensure volunteers are not left out of pocket as cost-of-living pressures continue.

The AMAP rate is an essential tool for local charities and community groups enabling them to fairly reimburse devoted volunteers who use their own vehicles to deliver lifeline services in every postcode. Services such as transporting older and disabled people to hospital appointments or delivering emergency food parcels to families in poverty. However, many local charities and community groups simply cannot afford to implement the new AMAP rate. Voluntary organisations' budgets, contracts and grant awards for 2026/27 were finalised before the welcome uplift to 55ppm was announced and therefore agreed on the basis of the previous rate of 45ppm. Volunteer drivers up and down the country who go the extra mile for their neighbours continue to be left out of pocket.

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[6] SCVO, *The Scottish Third Sector Tracker: Wave 12 (Spring 2026)*, July 2026, and *The Scottish Third Sector Tracker: Wave 11 (Autumn 2025)*, January 2026.

Going forward, all central, devolved and local government contracts and grants should cover the full costs of delivery, including reflecting the new AMAP rate of 55ppm to fully cover the costs of implementation. The Autumn Budget must invest to ensure that there is Fair Funding for the UK's voluntary sector to protect their vital work.

The Autumn Budget can and should action the UK Government's commitments to the voluntary sector by recognising and supporting the many contributions of voluntary organisations including:

- Recognising the VCSE sector as a significant employer and contributor to economic development.
- Removing barriers to collaborative delivery, shifting away from adversarial tendering processes.
- Ensuring grants and contracts cover full costs, including the full costs of employing staff, reimbursing volunteers, and increased costs from changes to employer National Insurance Contributions.
- All central and local government multi-year contracts and contracts renewed on a rolling annual basis should have annual full inflationary uplifts built into them to reflect the increasing costs in delivery experienced by providers.
- Ensuring transparent consequentials for any cost-of-living measures and wider policy commitments, with funding allocated sufficient to cover the full costs of policy delivery in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.
- The current increase in AMAP to 55ppm must be fully funded for charities in receipt of central and local government contracts and from other statutory services such as health.

The principles of the Civil Society Covenant recognise the need for sustainable commissioning. It is our view that statutory commissioning must evolve beyond transactional relationships. It requires a fundamental pivot toward multi-year funding settlements, transparent full cost recovery, and genuine co-designing of services alongside the sector experts who actually deliver them.

Sustainable public service delivery depends on funding that fully reflects the real costs of employment, volunteering, inflation, and policy change. By providing transparent consequentials, ensuring adequate funding for devolved administrations, and strengthening the collaborative relationship between government and the VCFSE sector, the Autumn Budget can help secure the long-term sustainability of essential services and the support that millions of people across the UK rely on.

Philanthropy and Giving

Philanthropic giving has enormous, untapped potential to support communities, strengthen civil society and complement public investment at a time when finances remain under pressure. Unlocking more of this giving, and ensuring it reaches every part of the country, should be a priority for the Government. DCMS - including the Office for the Impact Economy - should lead this work, but it will only succeed with genuine collaboration across Whitehall.

Place-based giving is one of the most powerful levers for achieving this: it builds on local knowledge and relationships to attract new donors and direct resources to where they are needed most, but its growth depends on sustained government support to build the infrastructure, partnerships and funding mechanisms that allow local giving schemes to thrive.

Government should implement and build on the actions already committed to in *Our Place to Give*, the Government's plan for growing place-based giving, including:

- Strengthening the provision of philanthropic advice in the financial services sector
- Implementing a 'think philanthropy' approach to Government place-based funding programmes, including through "playbooks" that set out reusable approaches for Government for working alongside and attracting philanthropic funding
- Investing directly into a place-based match funding scheme to support place-based giving schemes – attracting new donors and building community wealth for the long term in every postcode

Preserve the fiscal incentives for charitable bequests

Amidst a challenging giving and fundraising environment, charitable gifts in wills are proving an essential source of long-term sustainable income. It is estimated that in 2025 legacy giving raised £4.4 billion, with forecasts expecting it will reach £5 billion by 2029.

One of the key drivers of this growth is the fiscal incentives in the inheritance tax (IHT) framework. Currently, legacy gifts are tax free and if someone donates more than 10% of their net estate to charity, their inheritance rate reduces from 40% to 36% (known as the "10% rule").

We believe these measures have been instrumental in growing the volume and value of legacy gifts, particularly from estates that would otherwise be liable for IHT. HMRC estimates that relief for charitable gifts had a tax cost of £1.28bn in the year ending April 2026, illustrating the significant role charitable giving plays within the IHT system. The incentives play an equally vital strategic role in normalising legacy giving by providing professional advisors the impetus and opportunity to raise the topic of charitable giving during the Will-writing process. Remember a Charity's tracking study of professional advisors in 2023 found IHT incentives are the most prevalent reason they give for raising the topic of legacy giving, with 8 in 10 solicitors and Will-writers saying they always or sometimes discuss the IHT benefits with clients. [7]

Against this backdrop, we ask that any changes to the IHT framework consider the inevitable impact on charitable income. Any fiscal reform should also be developed in consultation with charities, donors and professional advisers, to ensure that appropriate incentives are in place to encourage and reward legacy giving so this vital income stream can maintain its growth trajectory.

Gift Aid

Gift Aid is a world-leading tax incentive for charitable giving, but it is still too administratively burdensome for many donors and charities. The most recently available estimates suggest that £560m of Gift Aid on eligible donations is going unclaimed annually. Managing the administration of Gift Aid can be particularly difficult for smaller organisations without dedicated finance or fundraising teams.

Government should modernise Gift Aid so that it is simpler, more digital and easier for donors to use consistently, baking this into plans for the future digitisation of HMRC's systems.

A more ambitious long-term approach could include:

- allowing donors to make a single, reusable Gift Aid declaration covering all their charitable giving;
- enabling donors to view and amend their Gift Aid status through their HMRC Personal Tax Account;
- developing a secure way for charities to verify Gift Aid eligibility digitally;
- creating better infrastructure so small charities can claim relief with less administrative burden.

Government should also review the Gift Aid Small Donations Scheme. This scheme allows charities to claim the equivalent of tax relief on small donations where individual declarations are harder to collect. Increasing thresholds in line with inflation would support organisations that rely on small donations from local supporters.

Community Ownership

Community ownership has never enjoyed greater political support. Across successive governments - from New Labour's community asset transfer mechanisms to the coalition's Community Right to Bid, from the Conservatives' Community Ownership Fund (COF) to the current Labour Government's Community Right to Buy (CRTB) - a

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[7] Remember A Charity, 'One in four professionally written Wills now include a charitable gift', 11 May 2023, available at: Remember A Charity (accessed 24 August 2026). (rememberacharity.org.uk)

durable cross-party consensus has formed. Community ownership is increasingly recognised as foundational to community power and essential for building thriving neighbourhoods.

Yet financial support has consistently lagged behind this political commitment. The COF closed prematurely and no replacement was prioritised in the 2025 Spending Review. The recent announcement of a "Pride in Place Community Right to Buy Fund" (CRTBF) establishes the principle that rights without resources are not enough and provides some crucial cash. But at £61m, it can't come close to addressing pent up demand already in the system, let alone a fresh wave of projects unleashed by the CRTB.

We support the calls developed by Locality and Power to Change, as part of their recent research into the current landscape and a roadmap for the future. These are grounded in two crucial insights:[8]

Community ownership matters

The case for community ownership goes far beyond protecting buildings. Community-owned assets contribute nearly £220m annually to the UK economy,[9] with every £1 generated creating approximately £2.50 in local economic value. [10] Projects supported by the COF leveraged an additional £2.26 in local investment for every £1 of government grant.[11] Community spaces also reduce social isolation, improve health outcomes, strengthen social cohesion, and provide inclusive employment - particularly in areas of high deprivation. [12] [13] [14] [15]

However, these positive benefits have been hidden behind an "austerity framing" - focused on saving assets at risk rather than realising their transformative potential. Community ownership should be understood as a proactive tool for growing economies and creating strong, healthy communities, not merely a reactive response to public

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[8] Locality, *Keys to the Future: How We Build a New Era of Community Ownership*, available at: Locality report

[9] Archer, T., et al., Power to Change, 2019, "Research Institute Report No, 21 - Our assets, our future: the economics, outcomes and sustainability of assets in community ownership". Available at: https://www.powertochange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/07/Assets-Report-DIGITAL-1.pdf

[10] Locality, 2018, "Powerful Communities, Strong Economies: The final report of the Keep it Local for Economic Resilience Action Research Project". Available at: https://locality.org.uk/assets/images/LOCALITY-KEEP-IT-LOCAL-ONLINE_revised-260318_full.pdf

[11] Analysis conducted for this report.

[12] Rowell, A. et al., Ortus Economic Research with Miller, S. for Power to Change, 2025, "The Economic Contribution of Community Business: From local impacts to national growth". Available at: https://www.powertochange.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/05/Power-to-Change-Economic-Contribution-Final-Report-v2.pdf

[13] Social Care Institute for Excellence, 2011, "SCIE Research Briefing 39 - Preventing loneliness and social isolation: interventions and outcomes". Available at https://www.researchgate.net/publication/273445886_Preventing_loneliness_and_social_isolation_interventions_and_outcomes

[14] Locality, 2024, "The VCSE sector in Prevention and Primary Care: Improving practice through real world learning". Available at: https://locality.org.uk/assets/images/Locality-The-VCSE-sector-in-prevention-and-primary-care-July-2024.pdf

[15] Bagnall, A. et al., What Works Wellbeing, 2018, "Places, spaces, people and wellbeing". Available at: https://whatworkswellbeing.org/product/places-spaces-people-and-wellbeing/

sector decline. This is borne out throughout the report in case studies on the real-world impact of community ownership in places across the country.

Demand is vast; supply is failing

The scale of unmet demand is striking. The analysis shows that the COF received approximately 3,800 eligible expressions of interest totalling £1.8bn - more than 12 times oversubscribed on available funding. Partners from the COF support provider consortium[16] report over 1,000 groups (and likely growing) at varying stages of readiness, with capital requirements typically ranging from £50,000 to over £800,000.

The CRTB will intensify this demand considerably. An estimated 190,000 potential assets could fall within scope under new definitions. Based on conservative projections, 1,200 to 1,600 Asset of Community Value (ACV) applications are likely to be inspired by the CRTB over the next one to two years - representing funding requests that could exceed the entire CRTBF allocation by more than nine times.

The possible futures for community ownership support have been mapped and assessed against five tests: whether they foster economic and environmental as well as social benefits; whether they are inclusive of diverse asset types; whether they offer patient, flexible funding at scale; whether they provide complementary non-financial interventions like advice and support; and whether they clarify and promote local government's role and complement national government priorities.

The following ambitious scenario, is the only one that meets all five tests.

It involves central Government developing a National Community Ownership Strategy and catalysing a £1bn community assets fund over the next five years, drawing together philanthropic capital, social investment, and public funding. It includes early-stage development funding, a coordinated non-financial support infrastructure, and community ownership embedded across Government priorities - from housebuilding and neighbourhood health to renewable energy. This scenario could support several thousand asset projects over five years - with an estimated £475m in net gross value added (GVA) to the economy - and kickstart a decade of transformative investment.

Calls to action:

To achieve this, we are calling on a range of partners to act over the next five years.

This includes national Government building on the CRTBF to achieve a total commitment of £200m at the Autumn Budget 2026, catalysing cross-sector investment to achieve a broader £1bn fund. It should also develop a National Community Ownership Strategy through the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government working cross-government. Community ownership should be mainstreamed, including across the Pride in Place Programme, the Community Wealth

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[16] Architectural Heritage Fund, Community Shares Unit, Coops UK, Cwmpas, Development Trusts Northern Ireland, Development Trusts Association Scotland, DTA Wales, Locality, Plunkett UK, Shared Assets, Sporting Assets

Fund, neighbourhood health centres, housebuilding, and the Local Power Plan. The Office for the Impact Economy should play an active role in crowding-in investment.

AI and Digital Divide

Co-design a Civil Society AI Adoption and Resilience programme with the sector

AI adoption is accelerating faster than much of the sector's capacity to manage it safely and effectively. The 2026 Charity Digital Skills Report[17] found that 79% of charities were using AI in some form. However, adoption does not necessarily indicate readiness: 56% of charities identified limited skills and technical expertise as a barrier, 45% lacked sufficient training and upskilling support, and 43% were concerned about data privacy, GDPR and cyber security. More than four in ten organisations had taken none of the steps identified in the report to develop their use of AI or manage its risks, rising to 55% of small charities.

Financial pressures are limiting charities' ability to respond. Almost two-thirds identified squeezed organisational finances as a barrier to digital progress, while 69% had received no funding for digital costs during the previous year, rising to 73% of small charities. Small charities identified training, software and licences, IT equipment and support to develop their use of AI among their most pressing funding needs.

While funders and foundations have backed expert digital support programmes in infrastructure bodies such as SCVO for around a decade, the rapid development of AI has pushed up demand significantly. Infrastructure bodies have been able to convene, develop and share AI expertise, but there is a real need to scale this further. Government investment and support should build on and complement these tried and tested programmes.

These findings demonstrate why Government support must go beyond standalone training. A co-designed Civil Society AI Adoption and Resilience Programme should meet the real costs of responsible adoption, particularly for small and medium-sized organisations. This includes the staff capacity needed to test and embed new approaches, alongside training, suitable technology, data readiness, independent advice and proportionate governance and cybersecurity support. Without this investment, existing inequalities within the sector will widen and many charities, and perhaps more importantly the people and communities they serve, will be unable to benefit fully and safely from AI.

Government should work with charity infrastructure bodies[18], funders, and charities of all sizes to agree the scale, design and delivery of a Civil Society AI Adoption and

[17] Based on responses from 807 voluntary organisations

[18] This should include organisations such as the Charities AI Task Force which represents many stakeholders in the sector.

Resilience programme to meet the real costs charities face when adopting AI, with small and medium-sized organisations the priority. That means funding for:

- training for staff, volunteers, senior leaders and trustees
- software, licences, data readiness and essential technology upgrades
- independent advice on procurement and adoption
- AI policies, risk assessments and Data Protection Impact Assessments proportionate to the size of the charity
- controlled 'test and learn' pilots, with human oversight and independent evaluation
- cyber risk assessments, secure configuration, incident response planning and progress towards Cyber Essentials

Co-design should settle how much investment is needed and over what period, how support reaches the smallest organisations, and how to draw on expertise the sector already has rather than build new infrastructure.

Give charities parity of access to mainstream AI and digital adoption programmes

The SME Digital Adoption Taskforce identified capability, cost and awareness as the principal barriers facing SMEs which evidence from the 2026 Charity Digital Skills Report demonstrates are the same barriers reported by charities. Yet in many instances access to Government schemes is not provided to civil society organisations. Previous AI support has been narrowly drawn around particular commercial sectors, excluding charities.

The Budget and supporting documents should explicitly state that charities are eligible for government programmes covering AI skills, digital adoption, innovation, cyber resilience and AI assurance. Where scheme rules do not apply to charitable organisations, government should open an equivalent route for civil society.

That includes the support package now being developed in response to the SME Digital Adoption Taskforce. Government has already accepted that cost, capability and awareness are the main barriers to adoption among SMEs. Charities run into the same barriers but are often shut out of business-focused schemes because of their legal form or operating model.

Develop a dedicated cyber resilience offer for charities

Charities hold sensitive financial, donor and beneficiary data, and need support that reflects that. Government should work with the National Cyber Security Centre and sector partners to co-design a continuing programme of practical, affordable cyber support. The Funded Cyber Essentials Programme offers useful lessons here: technical help works best when charities also have the resources to act on the advice they receive.

The need for a dedicated offer for the charity sector is demonstrated by the Government's own cyber-security statistics.[19] In 2025/26, 28% of charities (an estimated 57,000 organisations) identified a cyber breach or attack. Yet only 27% had carried out a cyber-risk assessment, 19% had a formal incident-response plan and only 13% had all five technical controls associated with Cyber Essentials.

This offer should align with existing initiatives including the Scottish Government's cross-sector Cyber Resilience Partnership, which includes a dedicated third sector action plan and co-ordinating resources that provide charities with a first point of contact for strategic cyber resilience advice. There is currently no equivalent resource in other UK nations.

The urgency of this support is increasing as frontier AI capabilities advance. Recent evaluations by the UK AI Security Institute (AISI) found that Anthropic's Mythos Preview could autonomously find and exploit weaknesses in realistic test networks. Subsequent testing found that OpenAI's GPT-5.5 may be the strongest model AISI had tested on advanced cyber tasks. AISI has also reported that the length of cyber tasks frontier models can complete autonomously has been doubling every few months, with both models substantially exceeding previous trends. AISI research shows that frontier models can automate a growing number of steps in cyber-attacks. This means that malicious actors can carry out commodity cyber-attacks at very low cost. So, it is critical that charities can identify and patch vulnerabilities and ensure that their data and systems are well protected. Mid to small sized charities, many of which lack dedicated cyber staff, formal incident-response plans or the resources to remedy weaknesses, are particularly exposed to this changing threat environment.

The Funded Cyber Essentials Programme demonstrates that practical assistance can work. In Scotland, a grants-based Cyber Essentials support programme for charities outperformed a parallel voucher scheme for SMEs, because some financial resource and specific advice were available up front. The programme initially prioritised charities and legal-aid organisations because of the sensitive information they hold and the consequences if their systems are disrupted. In its first cohort, 78% of participants were charities and 91% reported greater confidence after completing the programme. A successor offer should retain funded technical support while also enabling charities to pay for the upgrades, staff time and remedial work needed to implement its recommendations.

[19] Cyber security breaches survey 2025/2026 - GOV.UK

The Civil Society Group is a collaboration of over 80 civil society infrastructure and membership organisations. The following members have aligned around this Budget submission:

Ali Harris, Chief Executive, Equally Ours

Anna Fowlie, Chief Executive, Scottish Council for Voluntary Organisations (SCVO)

Antonia Swinson, Chief Executive, Ethical Property Foundation

Brian Dalton, Chief Executive, Irish in Britain

Carol Mack OBE, Chief Executive, Association of Charitable Foundations (ACF)

Caroline Siarkiewicz, Interim Chief Executive Officer, Charities Aid Foundation

Clare Mills and Sarah Lomax, Co-Chief Executives, Charity Finance Group

Deborah Layde, Chief Executive, The Seafarers' Charity

Debra Allcock Tyler, Chief Executive, Directory of Social Change

Donal Watkin, Chief Executive, Association of Charitable Organisations (ACO)

Fadi Itani OBE, Chief Executive, Muslim Charities Forum

James Banks, Chief Executive, Funders Together

Jane Ide OBE, Chief Executive, Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations (ACEVO)

Karen Loftus, Chief Executive, Community Action Network – Dorset/BCP Council (CAN)

Kate Lee OBE, Chief Executive, National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO)

Katie Docherty, Chief Executive, Chartered Institute of Fundraising

Kunle Olulode MBE, Director, Voice4Change England

Lindsay Cordery-Bruce, Chief Executive, Wales Council for Voluntary Action (WCVA)

Maddy Desforges OBE, Chief Executive, National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA)

Nik Hartley OBE, Chief Executive, Spinal Injuries Association

Rhidian Hughes, Chief Executive, Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG)

Robin Osterley OBE, Chief Executive, Charity Retail Association

Sandra Beeton, Chief Executive, Social Benefits Consortium CIC

Steve Butterworth, Chief Executive, Neighbourly

Summer Alston-Smith, Chief Executive, Clinks

Victoria Armstrong, Chief Executive, Community Transport Association (CTA)

Vivienne Hayes OBE, Chief Executive, Women's Resource Centre

Will Haydock, Chief Executive, Collective Voice: The National Alliance of Drug and Alcohol Treatment and Recovery Charities