

KINGSTON VOLUNTARY ACTION

Our Impact
2024/25



WELCOME

I am proud of the resilience, creativity, and collaboration that have defined KVA's work in 2024/25 which has brought challenges and opportunities.

Kingston thrives when we work in partnership, especially now, with limited resources and major system changes.

The VCSE sector plays a vital role in driving change and influencing new ways of working. To achieve that role, it leans on strong infrastructure to build capacity, unite organisations, provide leadership and foster partnerships with other sectors. KVA remains committed to being that reliable and strong support.

Sanja

Sanja Djerić Kane
CEO, KVA



WHO WE ARE

Our vision

Communities and people, that Kingston Voluntary Action works with are **empowered** to drive social change towards a fairer, more inclusive, healthier and happier society

Our mission

To meet the needs of community organisations and individuals by equipping them with relevant tools, skills, knowledge, confidence and voice to **drive positive change**

Our values

We are **Collaborative, Resilient and Creative**

Two main areas of work:

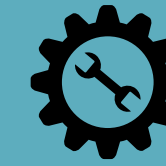
- **Healthy Organisations**
- **Healthy Residents and Communities**

“ KVA have always had the 'back' of the voluntary sector in Kingston and continue to do so. ”

Local VCSE organisation

Our Strategic Aims

Building



We want to enable stronger and thriving VCSE organisations

Bridging



We want to enable effective collaborations and partnerships

Sustaining



We want to ensure KVA is a robust and sustainable organisation

Advocating



We want to amplify the voice of the VCSE sector in bringing about change and influencing policy

Thriving



We want to improve health and wellbeing outcomes for residents and communities

Look out for our strategic aims throughout this report!

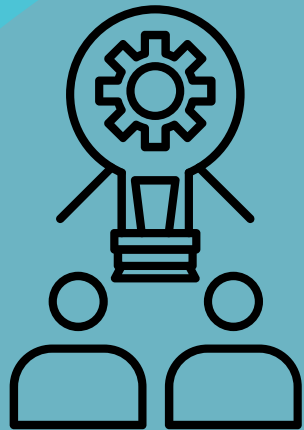


Healthy Organisations



CAPACITY BUILDING AND ONE-TO-ONE SUPPORT

Empowering Kingston VCSE organisations to establish, expand, and thrive



We supported

128

unique organisations by providing one-to-one tailored support, group facilitation, training and other activities



We delivered

224

one-to-one sessions



96

sessions on Finance



89

sessions on Fundraising

“ We have received support from KVA on a number of areas and they do **excellent work on all fronts**, always supportive, professional and super efficient. They are doing a great work and represent us and the voluntary sector brilliantly. ”

VCSE survey respondent



DIGITAL, DATA AND TECH SUPPORT – SUPERHIGHWAYS

Supporting small charities and community groups across London to gain the essential digital and data skills, backed by the right tech, to achieve their goals

“Thank you for your **remarkable work** helping small charities and BAME communities access valuable learning and training opportunities. **Your efforts remove barriers** created by limited budgets and knowledge, making these essential resources accessible to organisations and communities that would otherwise go without.”

Annual Impact Survey response

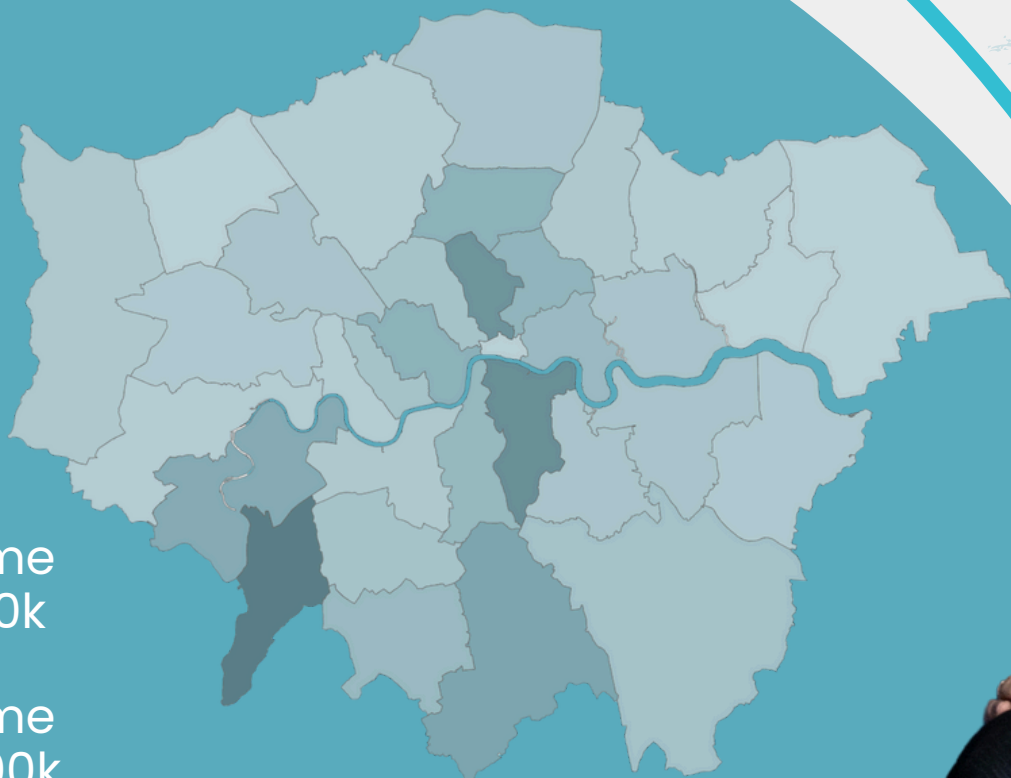
406

unique organisations supported across all London boroughs



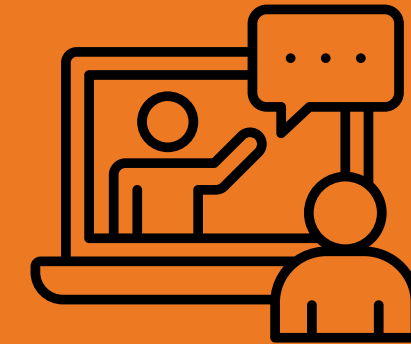
32% with income under £100k

65% with income under £500k



165

unique organisations receiving one to one support



317

unique organisations accessing training

44

unique organisations receiving tech supportt



E-news subscribers up by

250



511

one to one
support
sessions

939

tech support
queries



“The trainer was **amazing, knowledgeable, patient** and took time to arrange one to ones and explain elements in more detail. As a developing CIC with no funding, **we are really grateful for the opportunity to get a free website.**”

Digital Foundations
participant

CELEBRATING 25
YEARS WITH OUR
'FROM EMAIL TO
AI' CONFERENCE

“I've **really enjoyed** the courses I've done with Superhighways. They've introduced me to a lot of tools that I wasn't aware of at all and **different ways of recording and showing information**, for capturing feedback from my members.”

Realities of Poverty participant.



182

training sessions
& events, including:

VCSSCamp

M365

Cyber security basics

Excel

Power BI

Google workspace

Data essentials

BYOT
tech
day

canva

Voice websites



4.7 average star rating



FUNDING SUPPORT

Advice and support provided to organisations to enhance their ability to secure funding and improve their financial sustainability

“
KVA helped us with providing funds through Kingston Community Fund which enabled us to put on drop ins for people to help with their debts and benefits and it has been **a great success helping over 50 people.**”

Local VCSE organisation

“
Without your advice, I don't think we would have got the bid right, and I know I wouldn't have kept going; I would have thought it was rejected and that was that. **We are so grateful to KVA.**”

Local VCSE organisation



We helped

37

organisations
secure

£474,670



5,555

visits to our website
funding page



89

one to one
funding sessions



We employed a new Fundraising Officer!



TRAINING AND EVENTS

Free to affordable training designed specifically for the voluntary sector to promote learning and develop the skills needed to be effective

88

training sessions delivered by our partners



38

KVA training sessions





325

training participants



“This training was essential and **provided valuable insights** into effective leadership, communication, and team dynamics, equipping me with the skills to better support and motivate my team.”

Attendee,
‘Managing Unpredictability in Your Teams’

The **KVA Strategy 2025–2028** was launched at our 56th Anniversary and Launch event where we also celebrated the 25th Anniversaries of Superhighways and the Buddy Scheme, and the 15th Anniversary of Kingston Eco-op.



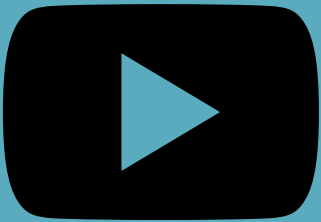
We organised the **Celebrating Communities Awards 2024** together with RBK, Volunteering Kingston and the Kingston VCSE Sector

COMMUNICATIONS

Sharing vital information, celebrating impact, and advocating for stronger communities

“ KVA newsletters provide our members with useful local information and help us **stay connected**. ”

VCSE Survey participant



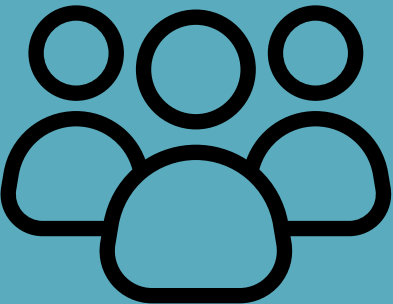
9

videos produced



49

e-bulletins/newsletters sent to



675

subscribers



Over

500

social media posts



3,928

unique visitors per month to kva.org.uk



86

website news stories



44%

increase in unique monthly website visitors

REPRESENTATION AND PARTNERSHIPS

Be the voice and advocate for the sector, celebrate its successes and influence stakeholders



We established the Compact partnership between the VCSE sector, RBK, and Health



We negotiated an uplift to contracts for the VCSE sector in difficult times



We partnered with Surplus to Supper and Places Leisure addressing food poverty and reducing waste



We amplified Kingston VCSE's voice within the SWL VCSE Alliance, so every decision reflects our perspective



We partnered with universities, RBK and four VCSE organisations to research health inequalities for global majority communities in SWL



We reignited cross-sector Kingston Provider Forum for Learning Disability, Mental Health and Older People services

“

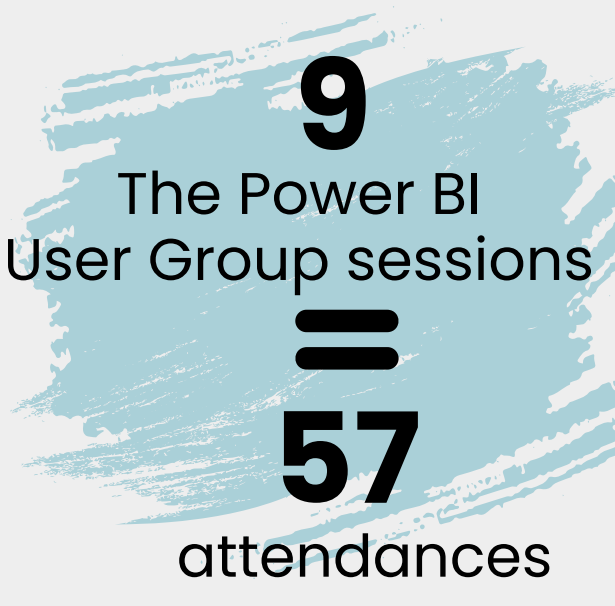
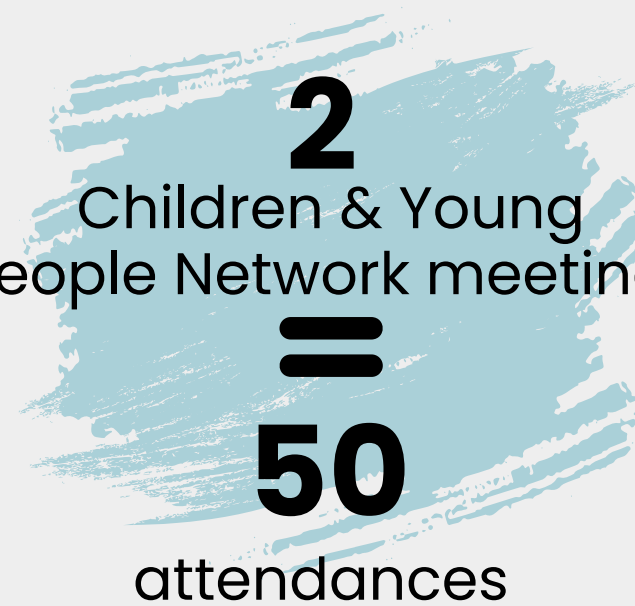
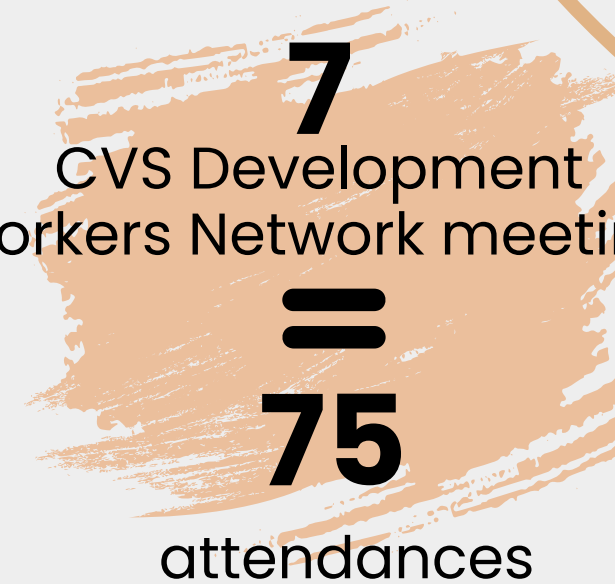
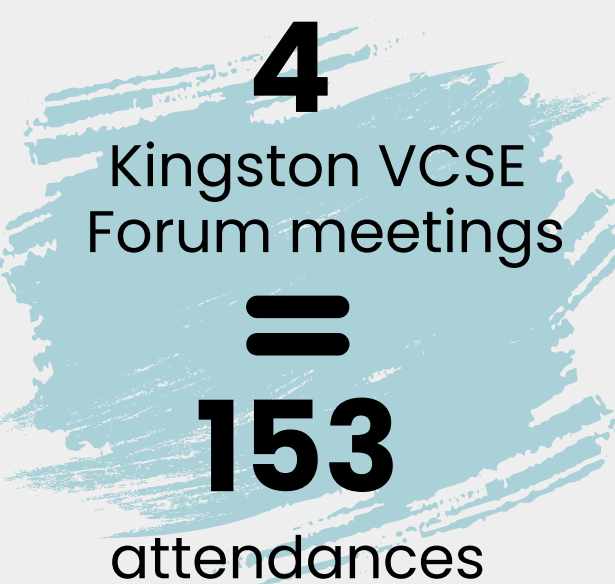
*KVA plays a crucial role in **strengthening the voluntary sector** locally, and their support has directly contributed to our ability to reach and support more young people. We truly value the partnership.*”

Local VCSE organisation

NETWORKS AND GROUPS

We bring people together to enable effective collaborations to share information, network, and discuss topics that impact on the VCSE sector

“KVA events and networking opportunities are brilliant. Colleagues there are inspiring and make connections. We have hugely appreciated the opportunity to attend and present at sessions. We always come away with **an unexpected nugget**.
Local VCSE organisation”



Healthy Residents and Communities



Thriving



Bridging



SUPPORTING OUR NEURODIVERSE COMMUNITY



“
I enjoy socialising and just
having a break from having
to **blend in all the time in
the neuro-typical world.**

Member, The Larch

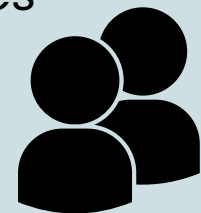


Kingston Buddy Scheme

*Befriending for adults with learning
disabilities and/or autism to take
part in leisure activities*

21

Buddy pairs



Volunteer hours:

591

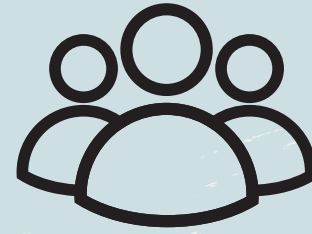
Referrals up by:



53%

Kingston Eco-op

*A community project that offers
physical and wellbeing activities
for adults with additional needs*



39

clients

Ages:

30-80



The Larch

*A social club for adults with
autism - the only one of its kind
in the borough.*

19

active members



“

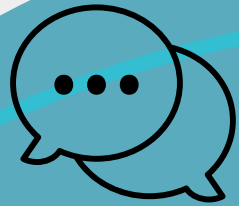
*It's great for not only her
[my Buddy's] wellbeing
but also my wellbeing. It
makes us both **feel
really good** after we've
had an outing together.*

Buddy Scheme
Volunteer

”

CORE20 AND COMMUNITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING WORKERS (CHWWs)

Our Community Health programmes link residents with their communities and Kingston services



307

meaningful conversations



with 152

people



1,100

household visits by CHWWs

“

Since meeting you both it's like my Mum is watching over me

Resident feedback to CHWWs

”

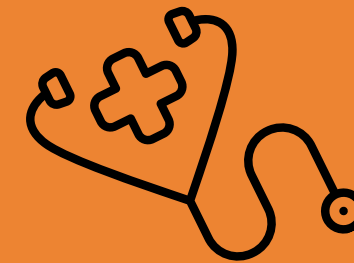


Over 1,000

people engaged

150

health checks



“

I found the Health check very beneficial and Kathy, the Community Health Project Worker was very friendly and gave me some constructive advice.

”

Community member feedback



KINGSTON COMMUNITY FOOTBALL

Our FREE Sunday football project for men 18+ of all abilities

100

players in the
WhatsApp
group



20-30

players
attending every
Sunday

Ages

18-80



- Builds **confidence**
- Tackles **social isolation**
- Coach trained in **health coaching, mental health, First Aid** and **Connected Kingston**



100%

found that
sessions
supported their
mental health

“ The **powerful** thing
about this session is that
we **welcome all**.
It's so diverse.
I'm so **proud** to say that
we're part of this group... ”

Player, Kingston
Community Football



GOOD FOOD GROUP AND SURPLUS HUB

Working together to combat food insecurity in Kingston

192

cooking sessions



424

unique
participants including

99

older people



“ We really enjoy
being a member
of the Good Food
Group... ”

Good Food
Group Member

92

partner organisations



73

member organisations



- Improves economic and social health outcomes in Kingston
- We recruited a Surplus Hub Manager
- We had a refrigerated container installed for our Surplus Hub

“

*The Good Food Project has been **a great resource** and **an inspiration** to us, we are excited to see how this work develops further.*

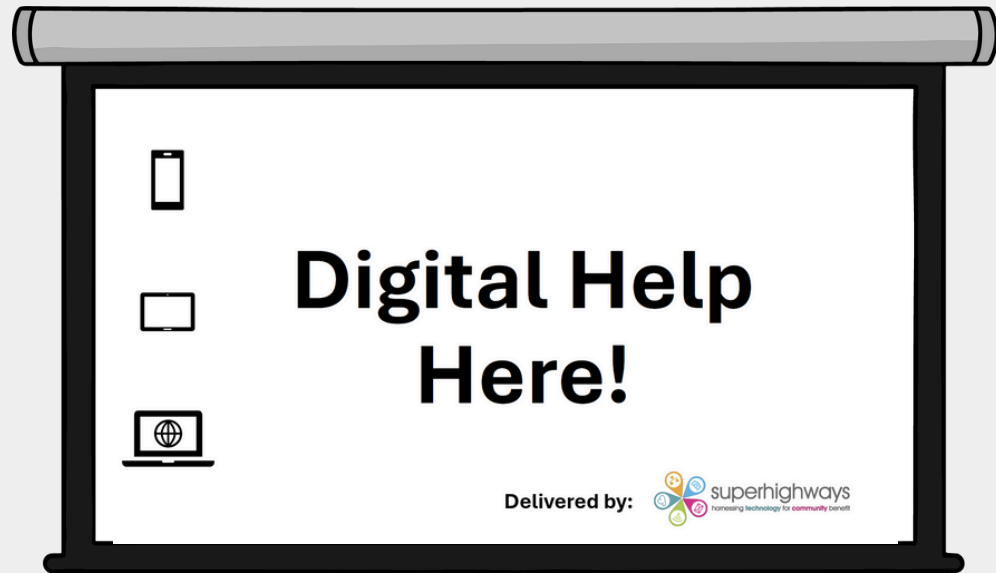
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Good Food Group Member



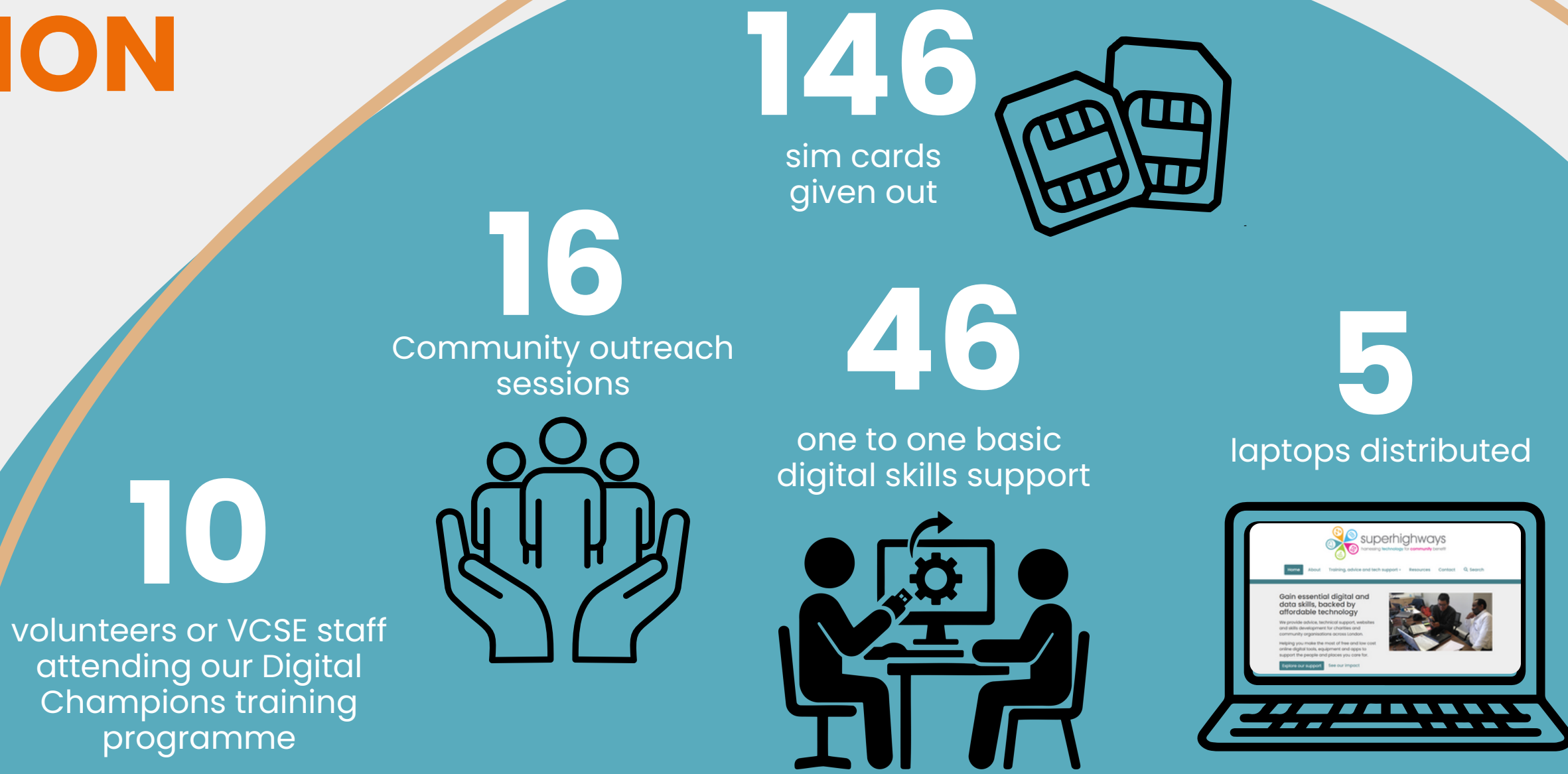
DIGITAL INCLUSION

Helping local people get online



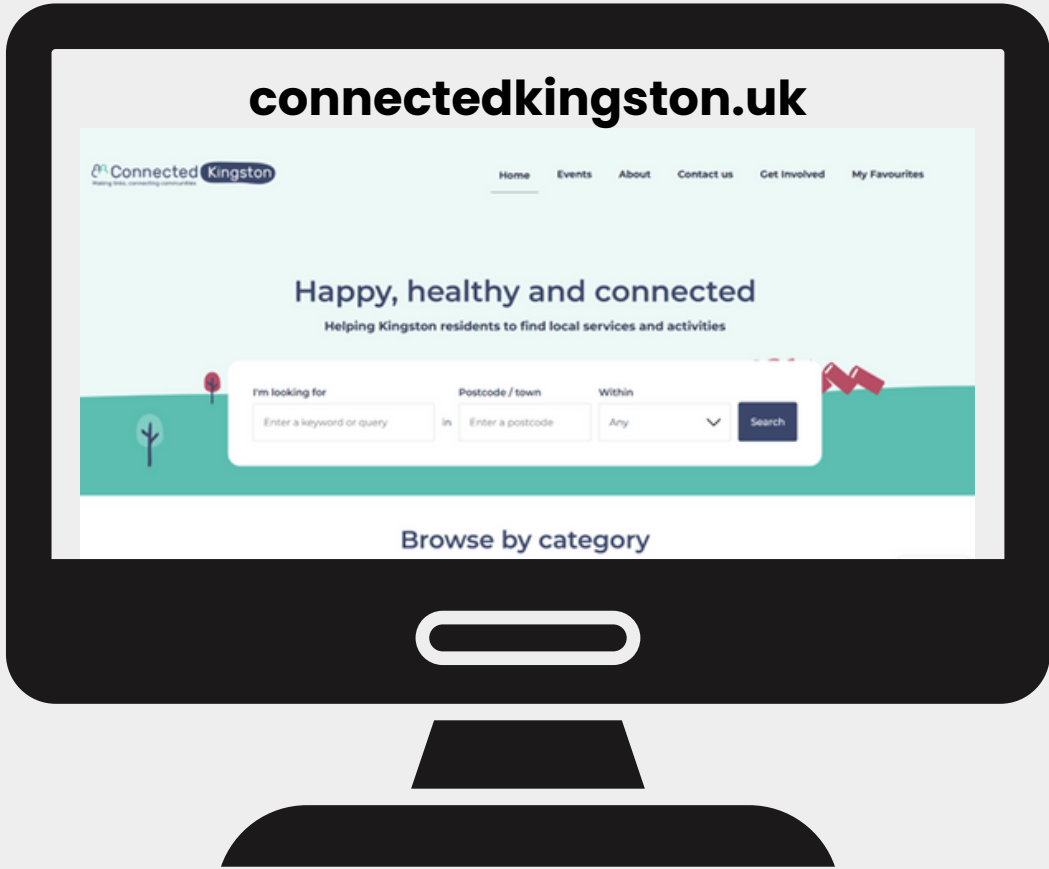
“We’re incredibly grateful to you for providing digital one-to-one and group sessions over the last two months. Many local residents, not just the elderly, have **benefited greatly**. I truly hope we can continue this valuable work.”

Kingston community group



CONNECTED KINGSTON

A social prescribing platform run by the Royal Borough of Kingston Council and Kingston Voluntary Action in conjunction with local charities and statutory organisations dedicated to helping Kingston residents find local activities and services so they can stay happy, healthy, and connected



8

CK Newsletters



100%

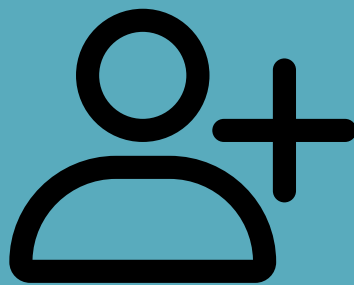
increase in
Instagram followers



65,900

peak Facebook views

New opportunities
onboarded:



299



THANK YOU

Thank you for supporting Kingston Voluntary Action this year.

We truly value every interaction – every piece of support and funding, every new subscriber, follower, website visitor, and event attendee.

We're grateful for every organisation we've had the privilege to support, and every partner and colleague who has worked alongside us.

Thank you for being part of our journey.

**SIGN UP
FOR OUR
NEWSLETTER**



Scan the QR-codes
with your smartphone
camera!

**VISIT
OUR
WEBSITE**





kva.org.uk