

ROUNDABOUT

Working to overcome disadvantage and waste

Charity Registration Number: 1104867

Company Registration Number: 5065046

Annual Report April 2018-March 2019

Directors/Trustees

Mr John Lashley (Chair)

Mrs Pauline Clarke

Mrs Pearl Bennett

Ms Marlene Sale

Mrs Gabrielle Falkiner

Mr John Barton

Company Secretary: Mrs Teresa Brimm

Treasurer: Mrs Pearl Bennett

Manager: Mr Peter Andrews

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Foreword by the chair of Roundabout

Welcome to this year's Annual Report.

This is my last year as Chairman and Trustee of Roundabout and it is good to note that Peter can report on another successful year, both helping local residents in financial need and providing a place of work and friendship for all our volunteers. This latter aspect is well demonstrated in the contributions by volunteers later in the Annual Report.

Nothing could be achieved without the commitment of staff and volunteers, led by Peter, Teresa and John Meadows, my thanks to one and all.

Finally my thanks to colleagues on the management committee, I am sure under your guidance Roundabout will continue to be successful and go from strength to strength.

John Lashley

Managers' Report

Once again 2018/2019 has proved to be very eventful and the following is a short summary of some of the significant events.

Throughout the Spring of 2018 I grappled with the complexities of GDPR leading up to the implementation date in May 2018. I am pleased to confirm that Roundabout is now fully compliant.

In May Roundabout primarily through Teresa's efforts Roundabout achieved the Worcestershire Works Well Level 1 accreditation. This award is a Worcestershire County Council initiative to improve health and well-being in the work place. As part of the submission of evidence I updated the Roundabout equal opportunities policy

Also in May the annual skittle match took place at Doubleton social club the Van 1 team made up of would be skittle professionals were victorious once again.

In June 2018 Roundabout entered into a formal arrangement with Wychavon District Council to provide essential furniture items to residents of Wychavon and Malvern Hills district councils in financial need or who are under threat of being made homeless. Wychavon are prepared to pay a maximum of £80 per eligible household. The agreement will run until March 2020. This arrangement has come about

because of Wychavon DC responsibilities under the Homelessness Reduction Act 2017

Dan Taylor Roundabout apprentice has continued to make steady progress towards achieving his NVQ level 2 in Customer Service through Heart of Worcester College. Dan attends the college on a Friday morning to undertake additional functional skills (English and Maths)

In August Teresa completed a Manual Handling Instructor/Assessor refresher course

Also August the annual BBQ took place at Roundabout

In September we received very sad news that one of our most committed volunteers Dan Pitts had passed away. Dan had joined Roundabout in September 2017 and had worked primarily in the contact centre. Dan was a very popular member of the Roundabout team.

In December Teresa, John Meadows and myself completed a Fire Marshal/Warden training refresher.

In December our Fiat Ducato delivery van required a new engine following irreparable damage to the engine block, the cost of repairs was in the region of £6500.

Also in December the annual Christmas meal took place at Raphael's Restaurant, Hampton Ferry which was a change to our normal venue. The feedback from guests was very favourable.

Roundabout has continued with the new mattress for referral clients initiative which entails giving away brand new mattresses to individuals and families in financial need except for a small admin charge.

During the period under review there has been a significant increase in the use of social media in order to promote Roundabout. I have managed to get several stories printed in the Journal publications most notably one on the front page of the Cotswold Journal however we are very reliant on the disposition of the Editor/Reporter whether our stories get published whereas with social media we are in control.

2019 is the 25th Anniversary of the founding of Roundabout and we will be marking this significant milestone in July with a celebration of past and current volunteers.

Finally, I would like say thank you to all of the Roundabout volunteers and Trustees along with the small group of part time paid staff. I would like to pay a special tribute to the outgoing Chairman John Lashley who is stepping down at the AGM

Thank you John for your support and distinguished service to Roundabout.

Performance

Roundabout continues to be self-funding we receive no grant support what so ever.

During the period under review Roundabout has collected donated furniture in the form of 1294 furniture collections made up of 7617 furniture items. This figure compares with 1336 (Audit adjustment figure) furniture collections and 7557 furniture items collected for the period 2017-2018.

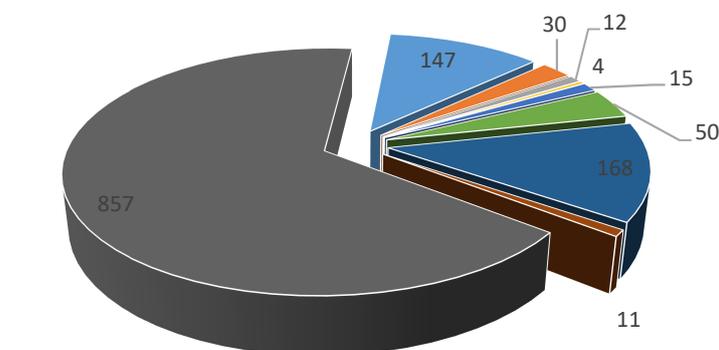
During the period under review we have diverted 143 tonnes of furniture items which may have been destined for landfill. The 2017-2018 figure was 141 tonnes.

We are far more discriminating with regard to the furniture items we will collect in particular the condition of the furniture item offered as a donation. The contact centre staff are encouraged to obtain photographs of certain items such as sofas offered as a donation before we commit to collecting the item. We are also insistent that if the furniture item offered as a donation has any degree of upholstery or cushioning then the item must comply with the furniture and furnishing fire safety regulations.

The furniture reuse sector in our area of operation is very congested with numerous charities and organisations vying for donated furniture. I have noticed when we go the extremity of our collection area donors have often tried several other furniture reuse organisations before contacting Roundabout.

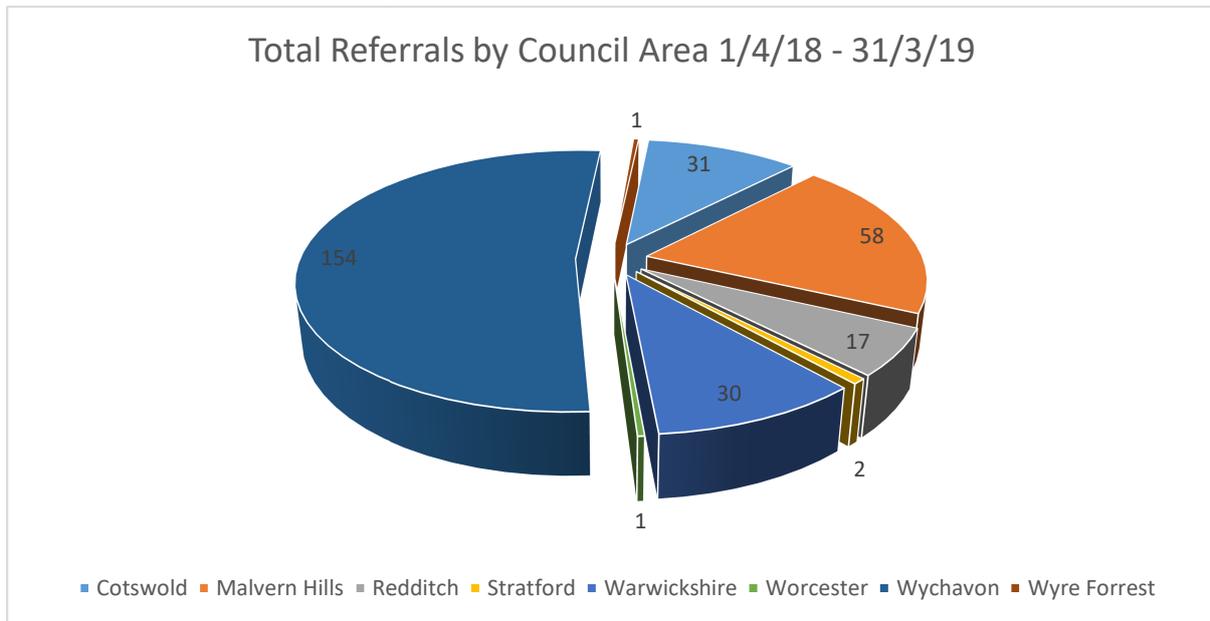
The majority of furniture donations originate in the South of the Wychavon District Council area. At the beginning of the of the year I wrote to all of the referrals agents who refer clients in the Malvern area asking for ideas and assistance as to how we can generate more furniture donations as there is an inconsistency between the number of referrals we undertake and number of furniture collections. During the period under review we completed 58 furniture referrals in the Malvern area and only 30 furniture collections. Unfortunately, the exercise achieved very little other than to reinforce the perception that the majority of referral agents take Roundabout for granted and that they assume we will always have ready supply of furniture available for referrals.

Total Collections by Council Area 1/4/18 - 31/3/19



- Cotswold
- Malvern Hills
- Redditch
- Stratford
- Tewkesbury
- Throckmorton Waste
- Warwickshire
- Worcester
- Wychavon

During the period under review Roundabout has completed 294 referrals of furniture and other essential items such as bedding packs and kitchen starter packs to those in financial need across Worcestershire, North Gloucestershire and West Warwickshire. This figure compares with 272 referrals completed last year.



Volunteers

Roundabout is indebted to the volunteers who contribute so much of their time and energy. As in previous years I am keen to feature a selection of volunteers who have joined Roundabout during the period under review and have contributed to the success of the organisation.

Adam Smith

I joined Roundabout in March 2019 having been referred by Connect Evesham. I have autism and paid work opportunities have been limited because of my condition. I like repairing and renovating furniture and so I have been in my element working in the Roundabout workshop. I attend Roundabout on Tuesday and Thursday and I really enjoy working with the other volunteers, everyone is very friendly and I like working in a team.



Tommy Adams

I joined Roundabout in March 2019. I heard about Roundabout from a friend. I have cerebral palsy and so paid work opportunities have been limited. I have volunteered previously at the British Heart Foundation in Evesham. I attend Roundabout on a Monday and Thursday and I generally help out in the warehouse, I enjoy working with my volunteer colleagues everyone is very friendly.



Alex Whiston

I joined Roundabout in November 2018. I have a mild learning disability and I live in supported accommodation and one of the carers suggested going to have a look at Roundabout. I originate from Worcester and I moved as I was always getting into trouble. At Roundabout I help out on the warehouse, I have also been out on the delivery van. Since volunteering at Roundabout I have completed my key skills level 1 in Maths and English in order to prepare me to undertake a traineeship. I am hopeful of moving on to the next level in relation to Maths and English.



Nigel Heath

I joined Roundabout in November 2018 having visited Roundabout to donate some furniture items. I was formerly a teacher of visually impaired children where I taught Music and Religious Education, I now realise I should have considered volunteering years ago. I work primarily in the work shop at Roundabout and I enjoy the comradery and having a worthwhile purpose repairing and renovating furniture.



Health and Safety

The Health and safety Committee is chaired by the Roundabout company secretary Mrs Teresa Brimm. Teresa is very active in ensuring all of the volunteers and staff are kept safe and that the potential for harm is minimised. Health and safety meetings take place quarterly with the committee made up of volunteer's/staff representatives from all areas of the organisation. Every year the organisation is assessed by an external Health and Safety consultant.

Are we on track?

At each quarterly board meeting the Roundabout Trustees/Directors are invited to review Roundabout's financial status to ensure the charity is viable and that the funds are being used appropriately and to ensure Roundabout's charitable objectives are being achieved. It has been extremely rewarding that throughout the period under review the Trustees/Directors have considered Roundabout to be on the right track.

Peter Andrews

Roundabout Manager

