



WORCESTERSHIRE

VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY & SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE ASSEMBLY 2023

CONNECTING & STRENGTHENING
THE VCSE SECTOR

≡ 25TH OCTOBER ≡



Connecting and
Strengthening
Worcestershire
VCSE Sector



Understanding and Strengthening the VCSE Sector in Worcestershire – **Research Update**

Peter Rose, Tiller Research Ltd



Project Aims

- To produce a more in-depth picture of the VCSE Sector in Worcestershire identifying: reach, strengths, impact and challenges
- To provide a strong evidence base for a VCSE strategy that:
 - Builds on the strengths of the sector in Worcestershire
 - Supports the sector to address gaps in geographical coverage, delivery capacity (funding/ workforce) or skills
 - Enhances practice and impact

Project Outline

Phase One:

Intelligence gathering and scoping

Identifying VCSE organisations based in Worcestershire

Phase Two:

Identifying strengths, opportunities and gaps

Research to better understand the sector's:

- Reach
- Workforce
- Capacity
- Social Impact
- Financial Value

Project Output:

A robust evidence base to inform a VCSE strategy to strengthen the sector as a whole

Phase One Focus

Phase One:

Intelligence gathering and scoping

Identifying VCSE organisations based in Worcestershire

- Collating information on VCSE organisations throughout Worcestershire
- Presenting in formats that will be useful to inform, guide and shape future planning
- Identifying the research priorities for Phase Two

Relevant Research



Assessing the Direct Economic Impact of the Voluntary and Community Sector in Worcestershire

Research conducted by MRE Unlocking Enterprise CIC for Worcestershire LEP

October 2017
Updated March 2018
V10 Final

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UK CIVIL SOCIETY ALMANAC 2023
DATA, TRENDS, INSIGHTS

Research conducted by MRE Unlocking Enterprise CIC

Organisation	Name	Number of organisations	Number of employees
LocalGov-01000	Local	7720	4714
020000-050000	Small	5187	8000
050000-100000	Medium	2000	1000
100000-200000	Large	800	400
200000-500000	Very Large	70	500
500000-1000000	Super Large	21	200
All organisations	Total	16200	7000

14.2M PEOPLE VOLUNTEERED THROUGH A GROUP, CLUB OR ORGANISATION IN 2021/22

More than half of the population volunteered their time informally to help others at least once in 2021/22. This is down from when it peaked in 2010, but still higher than in the earlier stages of the pandemic.

After a long period of recovery from the impact of the 2008/09 financial crisis, the number of all types of charities in the UK has fallen by 10% since 2008. This is due to a combination of factors, including the impact of the pandemic. In 2020/21, the drop-off in the number of charities was particularly sharp, with a 10% fall in the number of charities in the UK.

Internal volunteering at work has seen a steady decline since 2008, with 10.1% of employees volunteering in 2020/21, down from 11.1% in 2008/09. This is a reflection of the impact of the pandemic, with many employees working from home and unable to participate in workplace volunteering activities.

Small businesses are more likely to volunteer and are more likely to be impacted by the pandemic. The number of newly registered charities fell below average in 2021, and many saw their income fall.



THE IMPACT OF THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC ON THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR IN WORCESTERSHIRE



Systematic Search of Available Data

Initial Analysis Completed:

Charity Commission
(cross-referenced with Charity Base)

Companies House

Mutuals Public Register
(Community Benefit Societies,
Industrial Provident Societies)

HMRC
(Community Amateur Sports Clubs)

Focus: Incorporated Organisations

Data Review in Progress:

Countywide VCSE leads
(e.g. Active HW, Young Solutions)

District VCSE LIOs

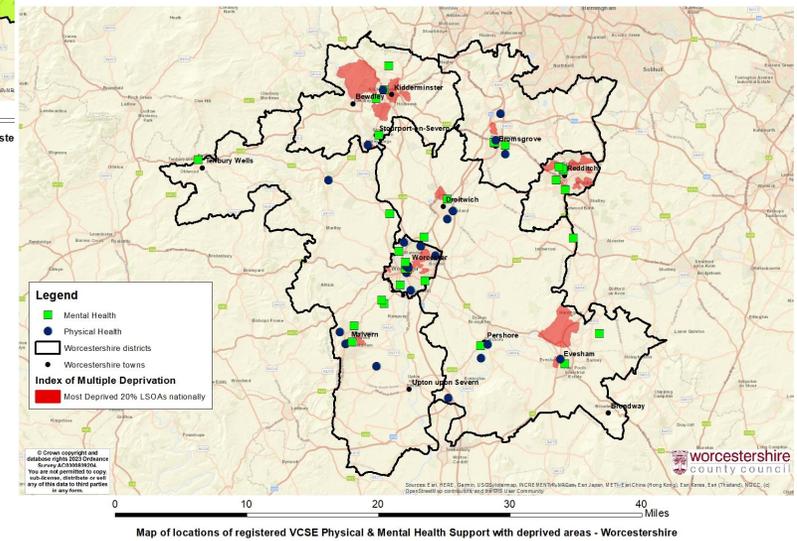
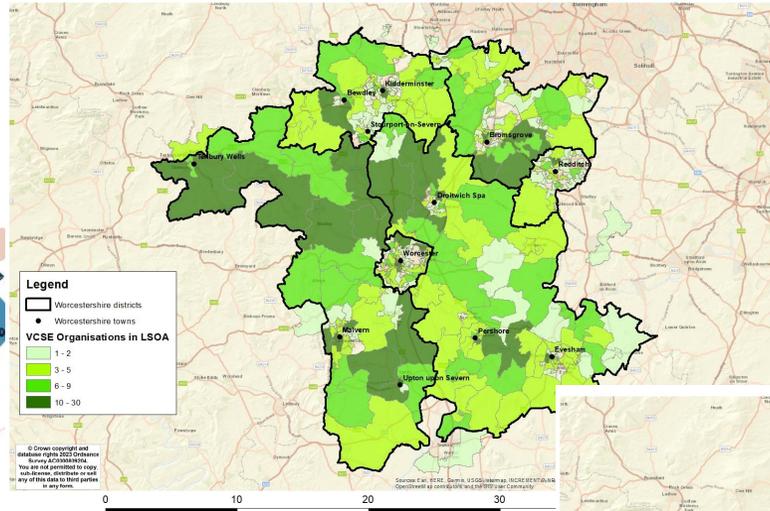
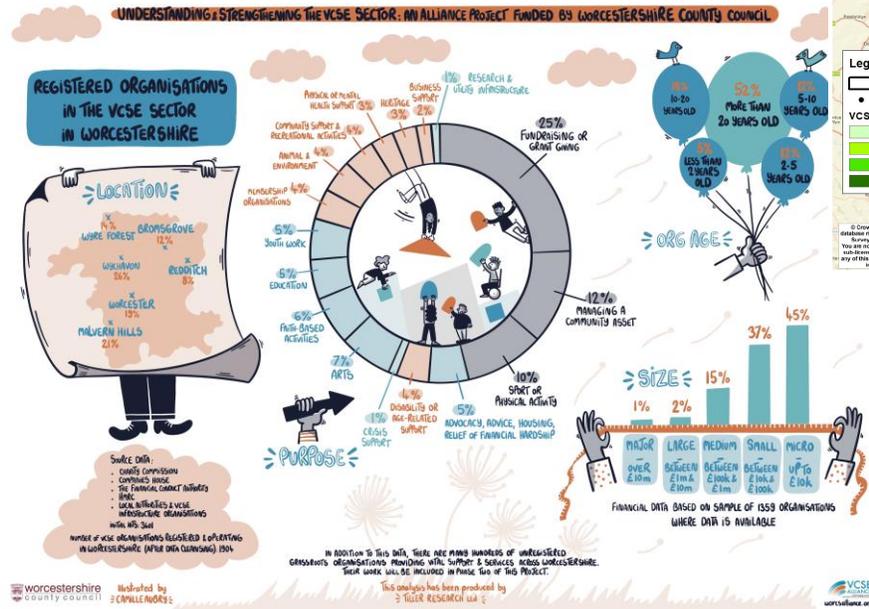
WCC Data

District Council Data

Grant Awards

Focus: Unincorporated Organisations and
Informal Community Groups

Initial Findings- Registered Organisations



Notes

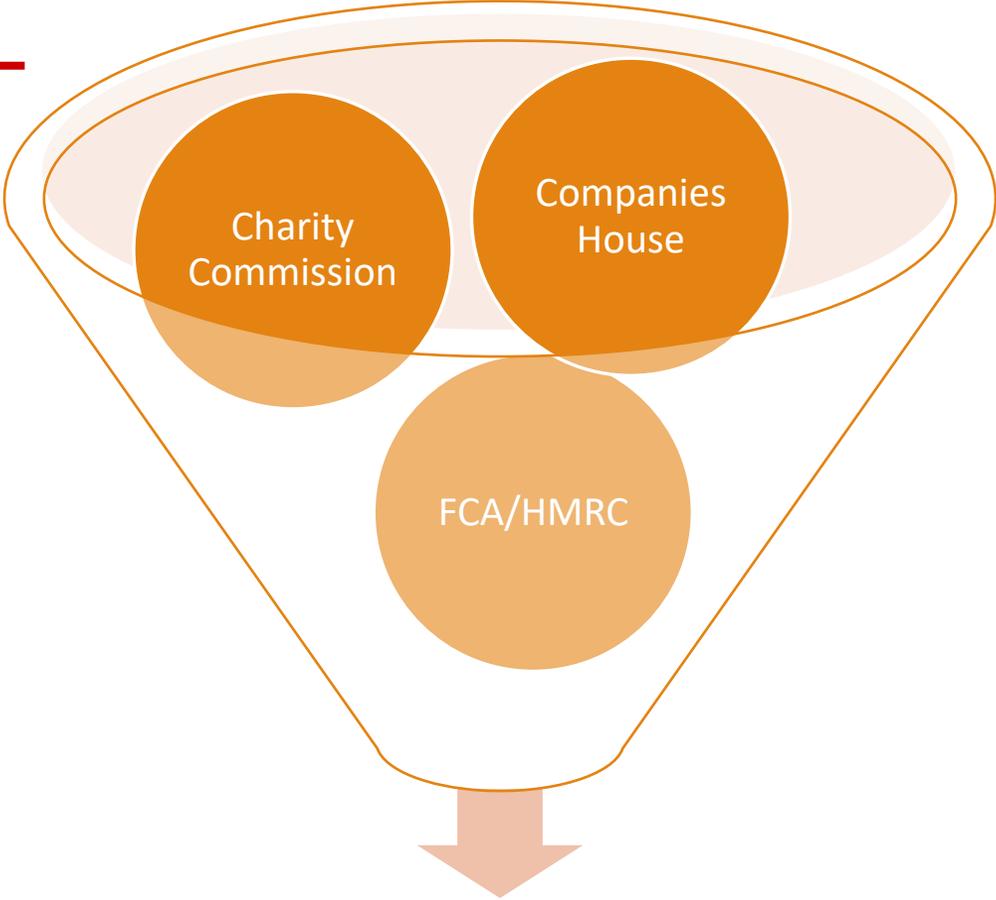
- Organisations Included:
 - Registered Office postcode within Worcestershire
 - Based in neighbouring areas, but working in Worcestershire
- Organisations Excluded:
 - Based in but working wholly outside Worcestershire
 - Non-VCSE purpose, e.g. property holding Companies Limited by Guarantee
 - Zero income or significantly overdue accounts (dormant?)

Notes

This is a work in progress based on the data sets analysed so far

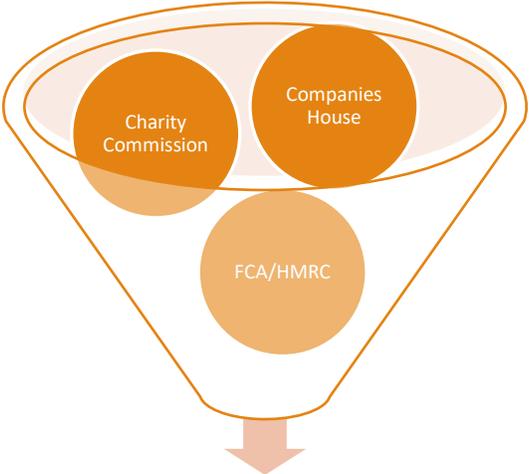
- Allocation of 'nature of business'
 - 19 categories identified from stated purpose
 - Assigned to one 'best fit' category
- Key omissions:
 - Unincorporated/ informal community groups
 - Worcestershire operations of national organisations
 - Services delivered from multiple sites are not fully represented
- An iterative and ongoing process!

Initial Data Set



3,601 initial hits

Initial Data Set

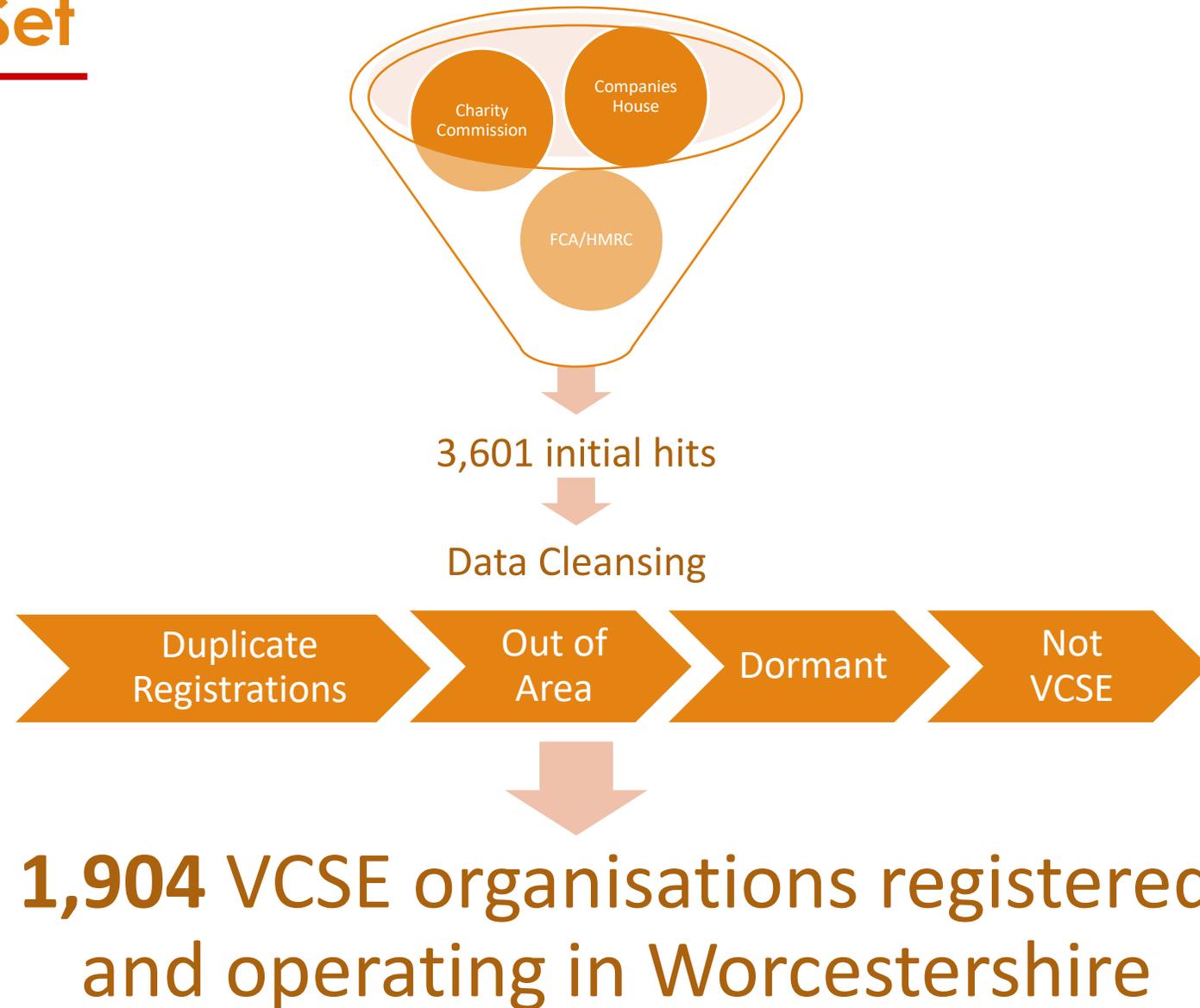


3,601 initial hits

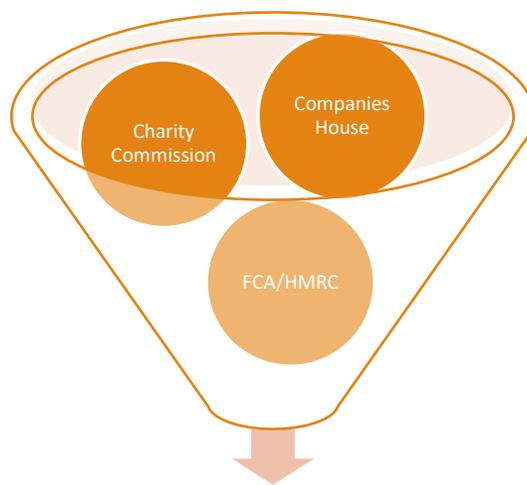
Data Cleansing



Initial Data Set



Initial Data Set



3,601 initial hits

Data Cleansing



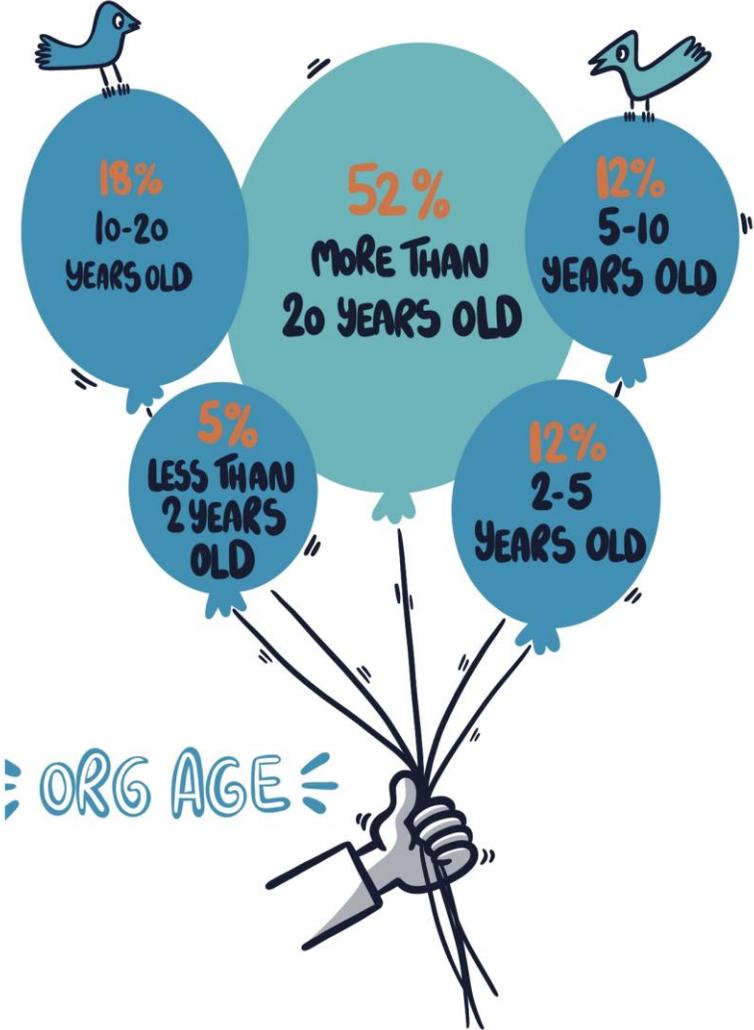
1,904 VCSE organisations registered and operating in Worcestershire



Initial Findings

- District geography
- Size based on income
- Age of organisation based on registration date

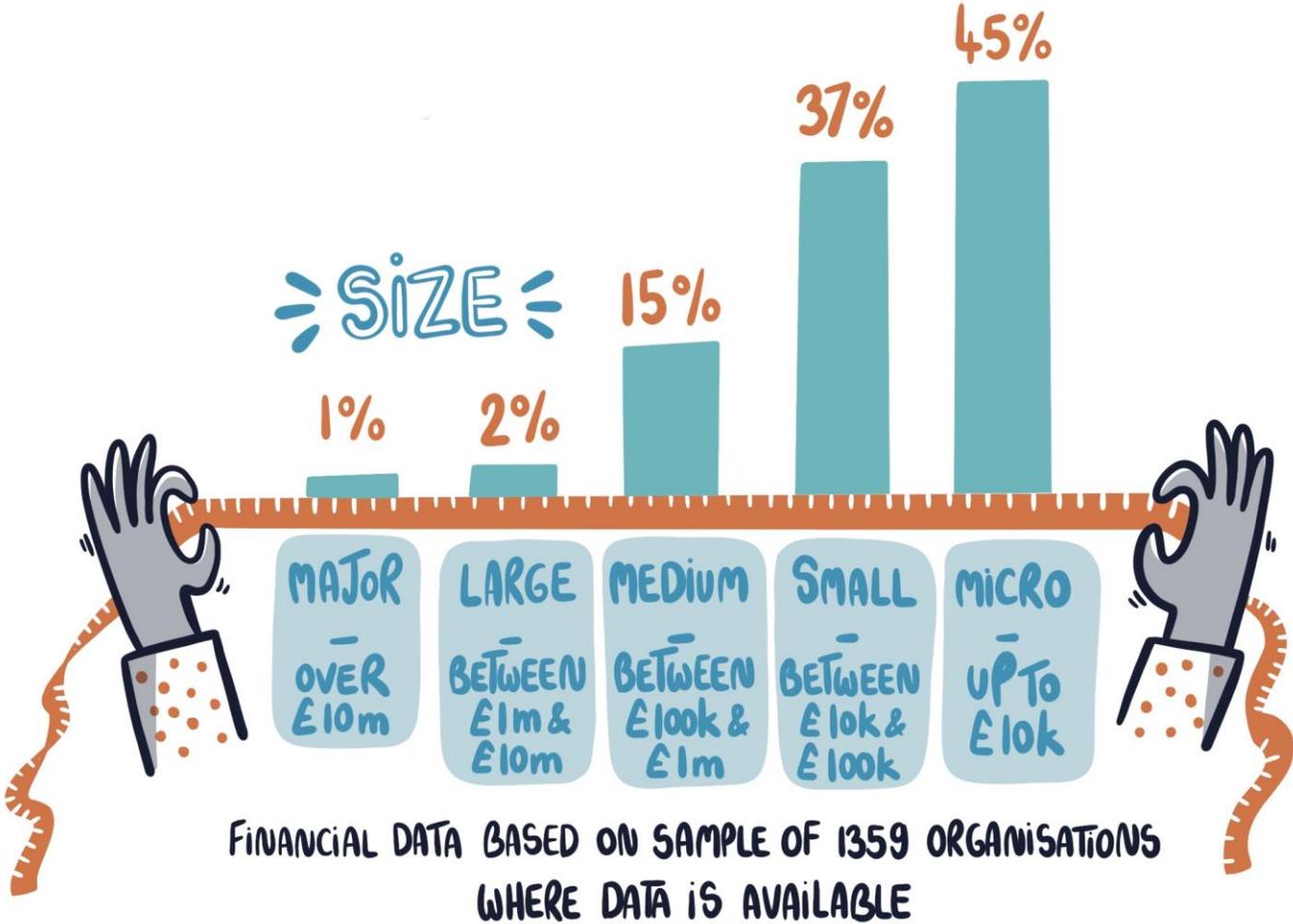
Initial Findings

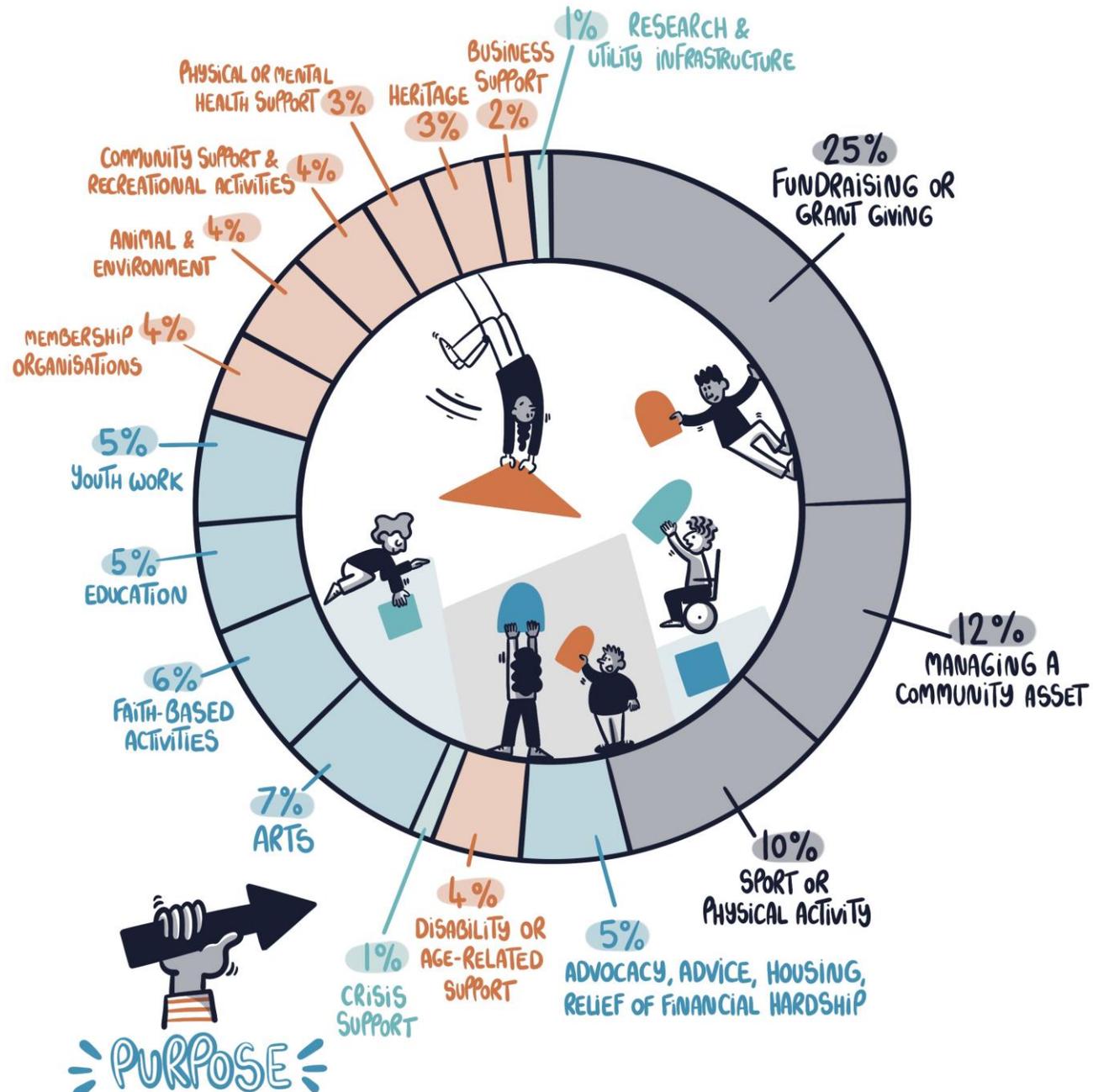


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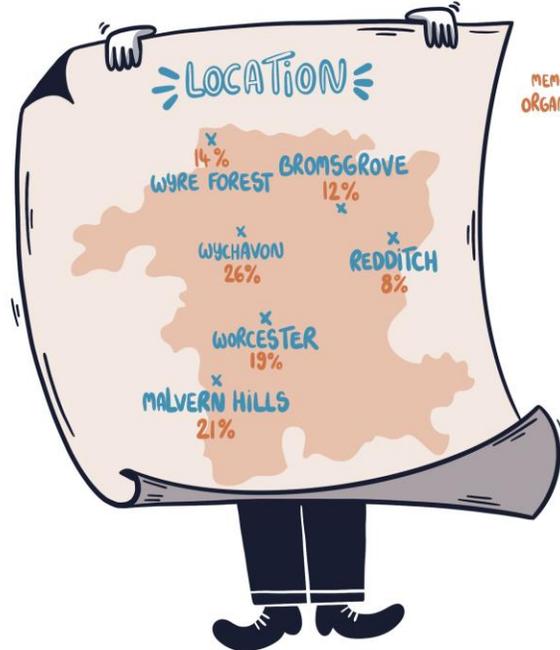


Initial Findings



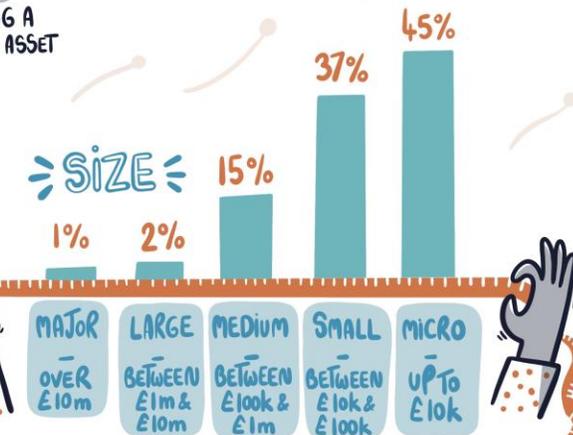
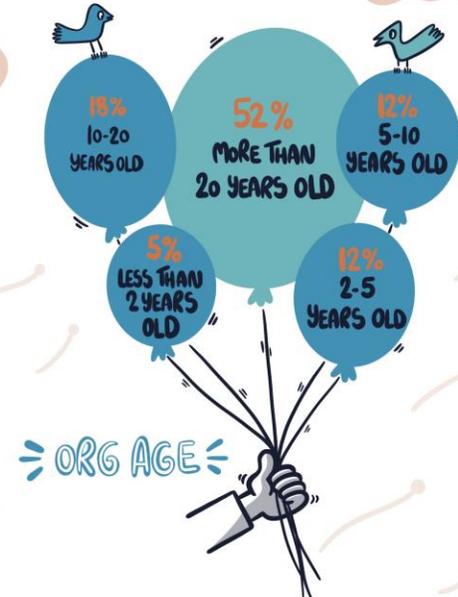
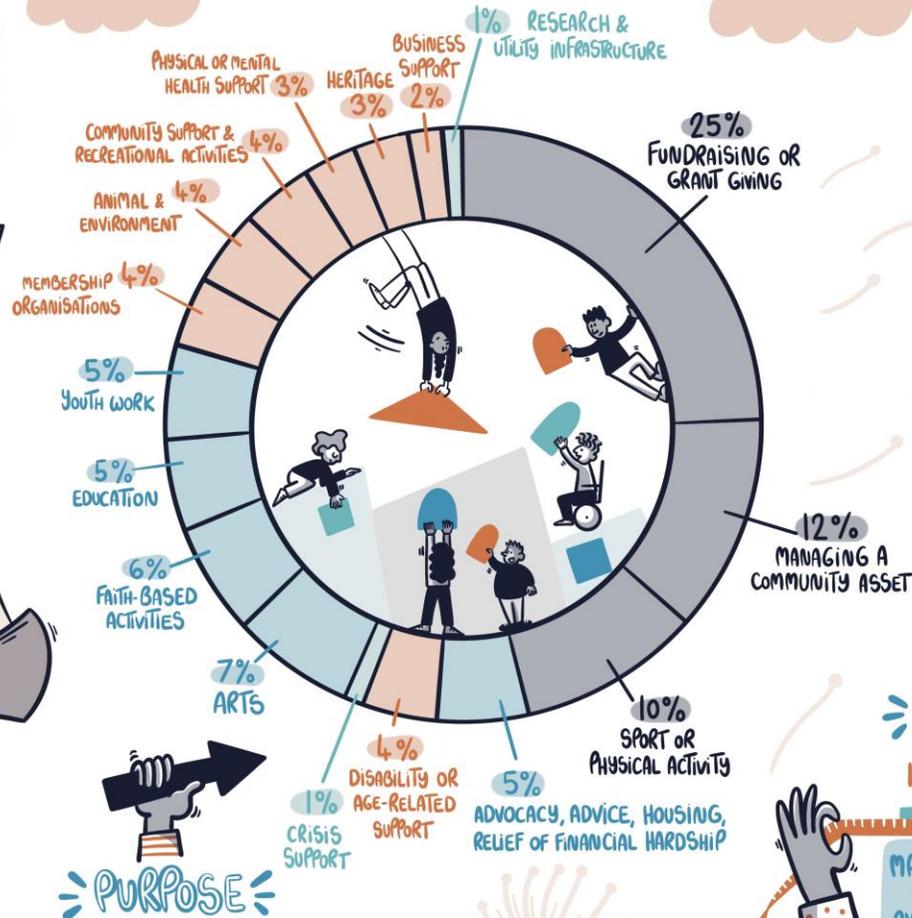


REGISTERED ORGANISATIONS IN THE VCSE SECTOR IN WORCESTERSHIRE



SOURCE DATA:
 • CHARITY COMMISSION
 • COMPANIES HOUSE
 • THE FINANCIAL CONDUCT AUTHORITY
 • HMRC
 • LOCAL AUTHORITIES & VCSE INFRASTRUCTURE ORGANISATIONS
 INITIAL NTS: 3601

NUMBER OF VCSE ORGANISATIONS REGISTERED & OPERATING IN WORCESTERSHIRE (AFTER DATA CLEANSING): 1904



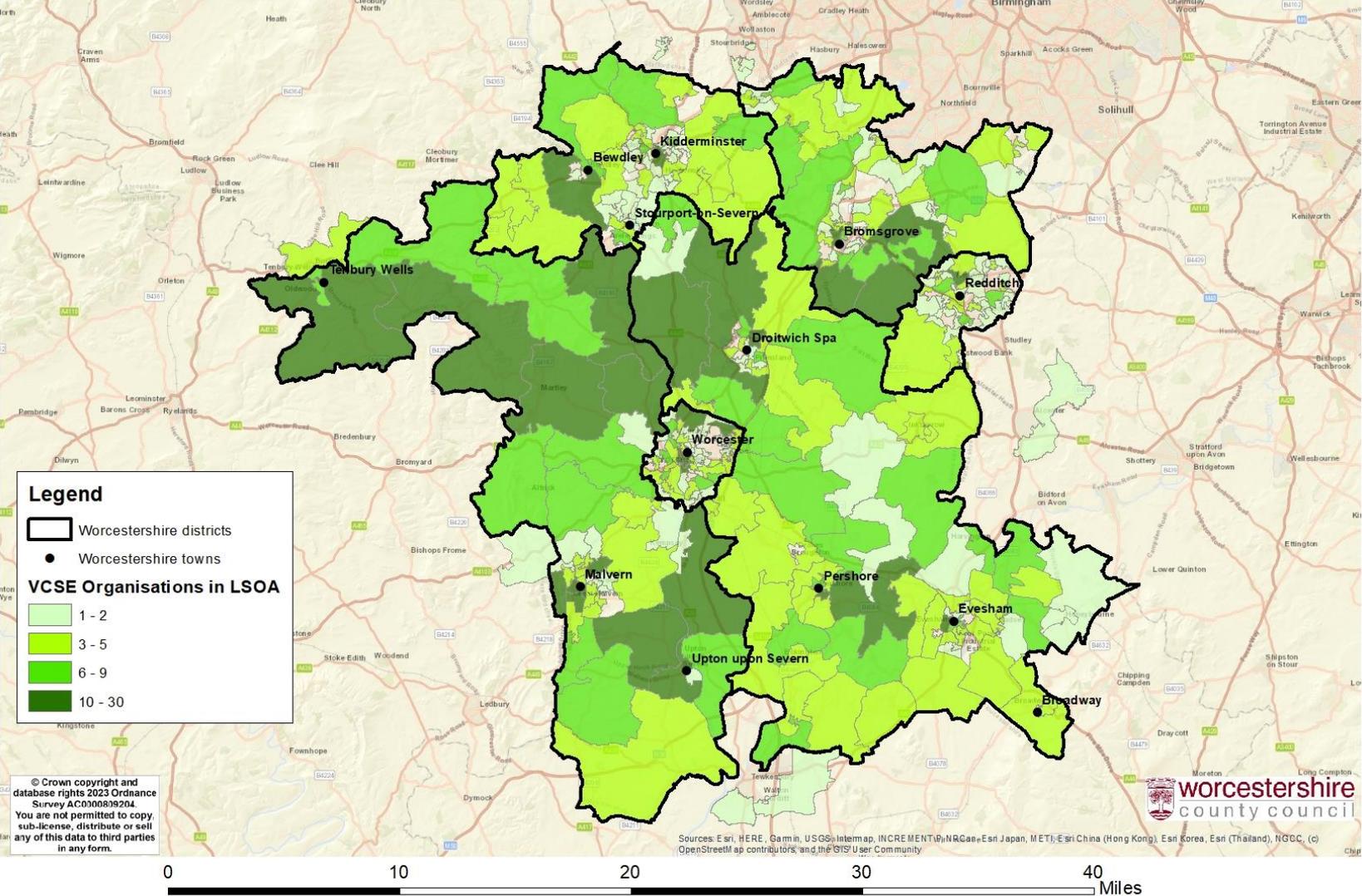
FINANCIAL DATA BASED ON SAMPLE OF 1359 ORGANISATIONS WHERE DATA IS AVAILABLE

IN ADDITION TO THIS DATA, THERE ARE MANY HUNDREDS OF UNREGISTERED GRASSROOTS ORGANISATIONS PROVIDING VITAL SUPPORT & SERVICES ACROSS WORCESTERSHIRE. THEIR WORK WILL BE INCLUDED IN PHASE TWO OF THIS PROJECT.

This analysis has been produced by
 TILER RESEARCH Ltd

Illustrated by
 CAMILLEAUBRY

Initial Findings



Map of counts of registered VCSE locations at LSOA level - Worcestershire

Initial Findings

Legend

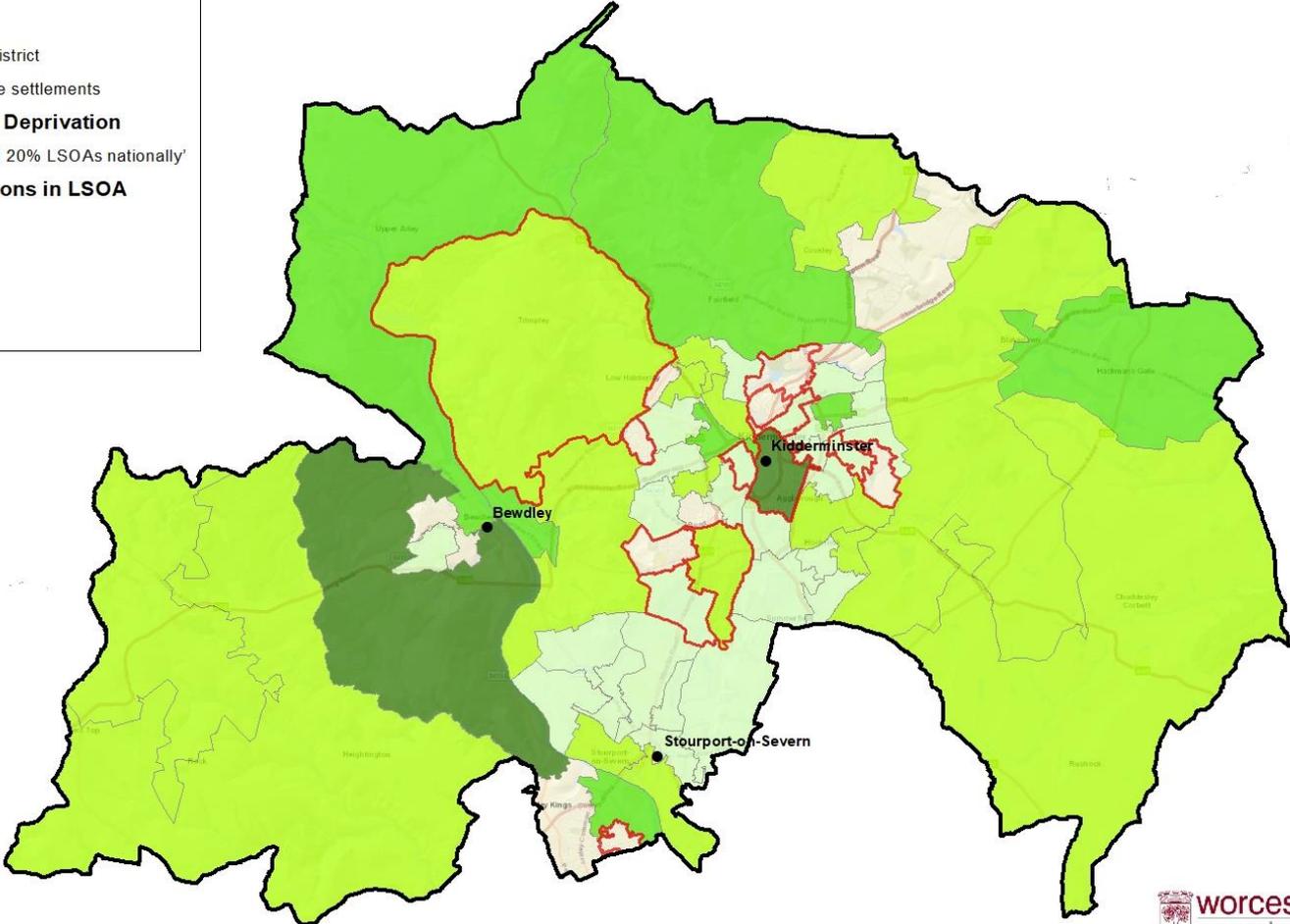
- Wyre Forest district
- Worcestershire settlements

Index of Multiple Deprivation

- Most Deprived 20% LSOAs nationally

VCSE Organisations in LSOA

- 1 - 2
- 3 - 5
- 6 - 9
- 10 - 30



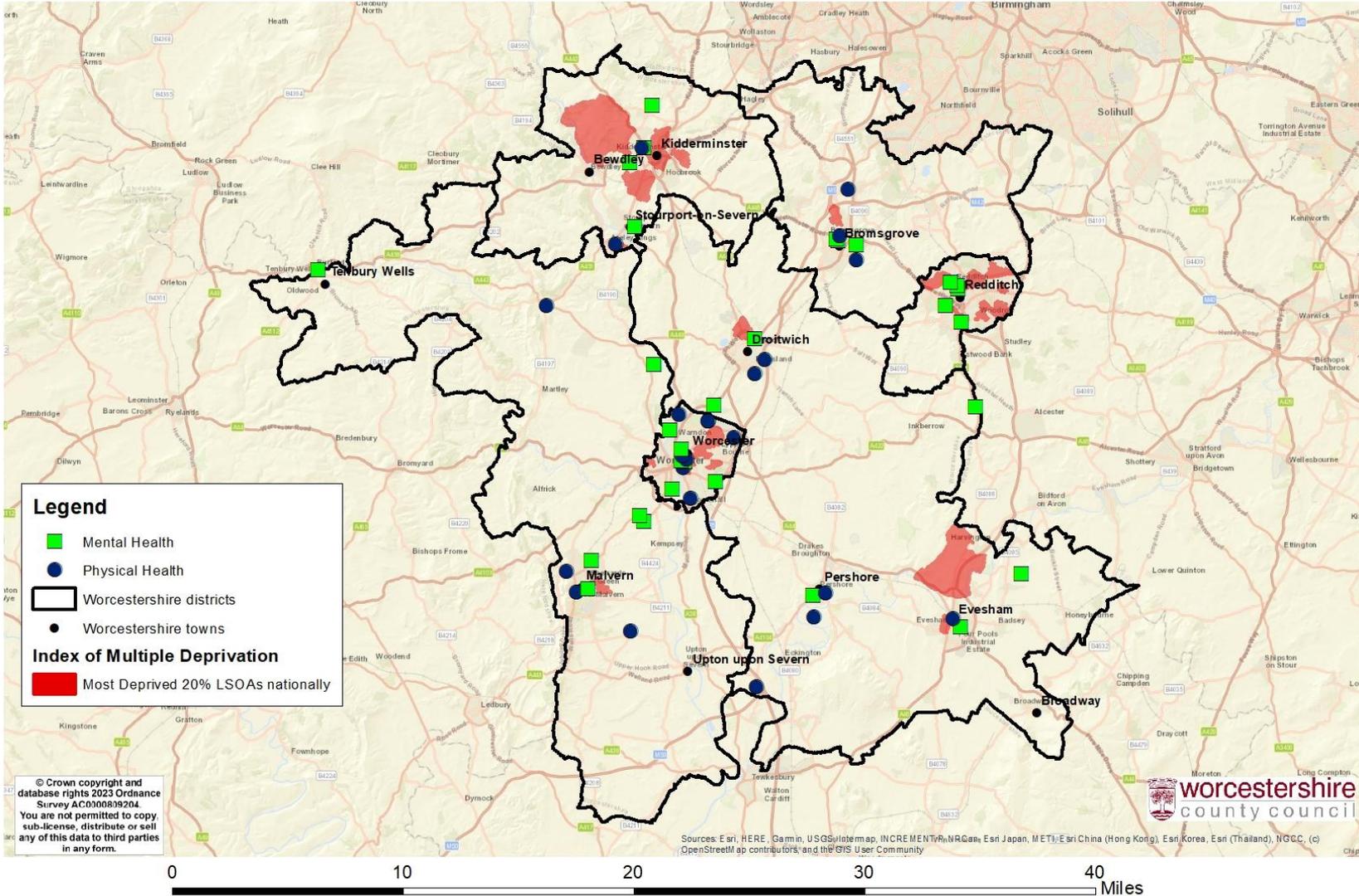
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Map of counts of registered VCSE locations at LSOA level - Wyre Forest

Initial Findings



Map of locations of registered VCSE Physical & Mental Health Support with deprived areas - Worcestershire

Discussion Questions

1. How might these initial findings be helpful for:
 - a. Your organisation?
 - b. The VCSE Sector in Worcestershire as a whole?

Possible factors to consider:

- *Helping to develop action plans*
- *Communicating with stakeholders and funders*
- *Engaging communities*

2. What **additional information** would most help to strengthen:
 - a. The impact of your organisation's services on health and wellbeing?
 - b. The VCSE Sector's contribution to the ICS?