

## **Manchester TLI Grants Programme Case Study: Manchester Community Reporters**

Between 2012 and 2013 £26,455 was invested by the Manchester TLI programme in the development of the Manchester Community Reporters project.

Community Reporting is about people having a voice and telling their stories. The Institute of Community Reporters website (<https://communityreporter.net/>) gives a platform to tell the story to a large audience and be part of a Europe wide network of over 1,700 (and growing) Community Reporters.

The Manchester Community Reporters project was jointly developed and managed by Macc and Peoples Voice Media (PVM). Through the training of a team of Community Reporter Trainers the project aimed to showcase the work of the Manchester VCS. PVM began training members of the TLI partnership (<https://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/transforminglocalinfrastructure/partnerorganisations>) in late 2012 to provide them with the skills and knowledge to enable them to train others in community reporting. As a result of this support Community Reporters were then equipped with the skills to enable them to capture and showcase the work of local VCS groups, assist them with highlighting specific issues and needs, raise awareness and funding and provide a voice or campaign focus. The content collected was used in the following ways:

- Written content – fed into newsletters and case studies on the Manchester Community Central website (<https://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/>)
- Written content – sent to local press
- Film and audio – posted online to MyManchester (<http://mymanchester.net/>) and the Institute of Community Reporters website
- Films and audio – posted on Manchester Community Central website (<https://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/>) and commented on by networks
- Film – shown at events
- Audio – sent as content for local radio stations

The Manchester Community Reporters project continues to be managed by Macc and provides access to training, information, support and equipment to Community Reporters active in Manchester.

Training can be tailored to individual needs and can involve any aspect of Community Reporting – written content, audio, video or photography. It can be used for VCS groups to raise their profile, showcasing their work and highlighting their impact. Or it can be a way for running a consultation with tenants or service users to say what they think and tell their personal story or conducting evaluation of a project. The Community Reporters training is accredited by the Institute of Community Reporters (<https://communityreporter.net/>).

### Further Information

Institute of Community Reporters (ICR): <https://communityreporter.net/>

Manchester Community Reporters:

<https://www.manchestercommunitycentral.org/support-groups/manchester-community-reporters>

People's Voice Media: <https://peoplesvoicemedia.co.uk/>