



CREATE STRENGTH
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

Group Report

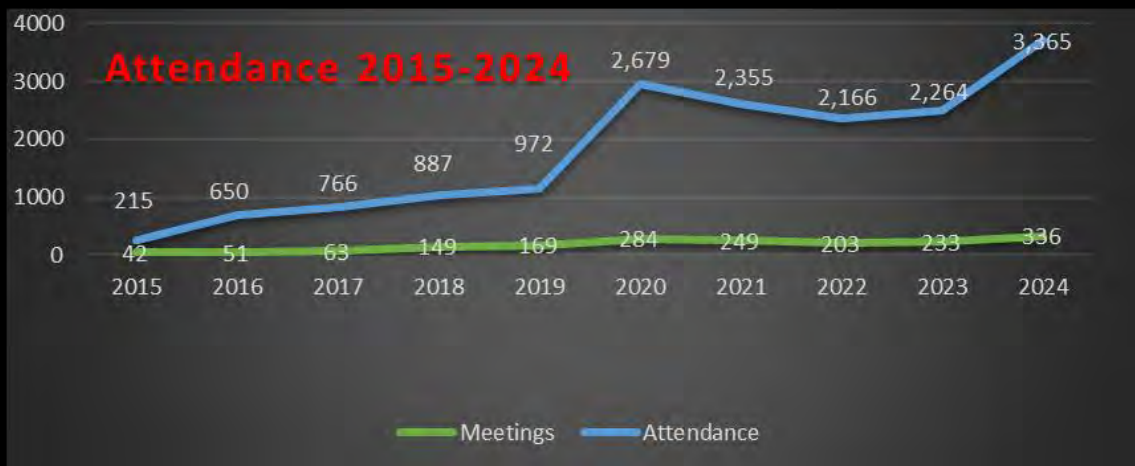
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CREATE STRENGTH GROUP
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

GROUP REPORT 2024





Principles, Values and Objectives

Create Strength Group (CSG): Founded in March 2015, provides support to long-term chronic users of cannabis, spice, and legal highs, CSG has quickly evolved beyond this core focus and now delivers essential information, advice, assistance, and support to anyone whose life is affected by their own, addictive behaviour or that of someone close to them.

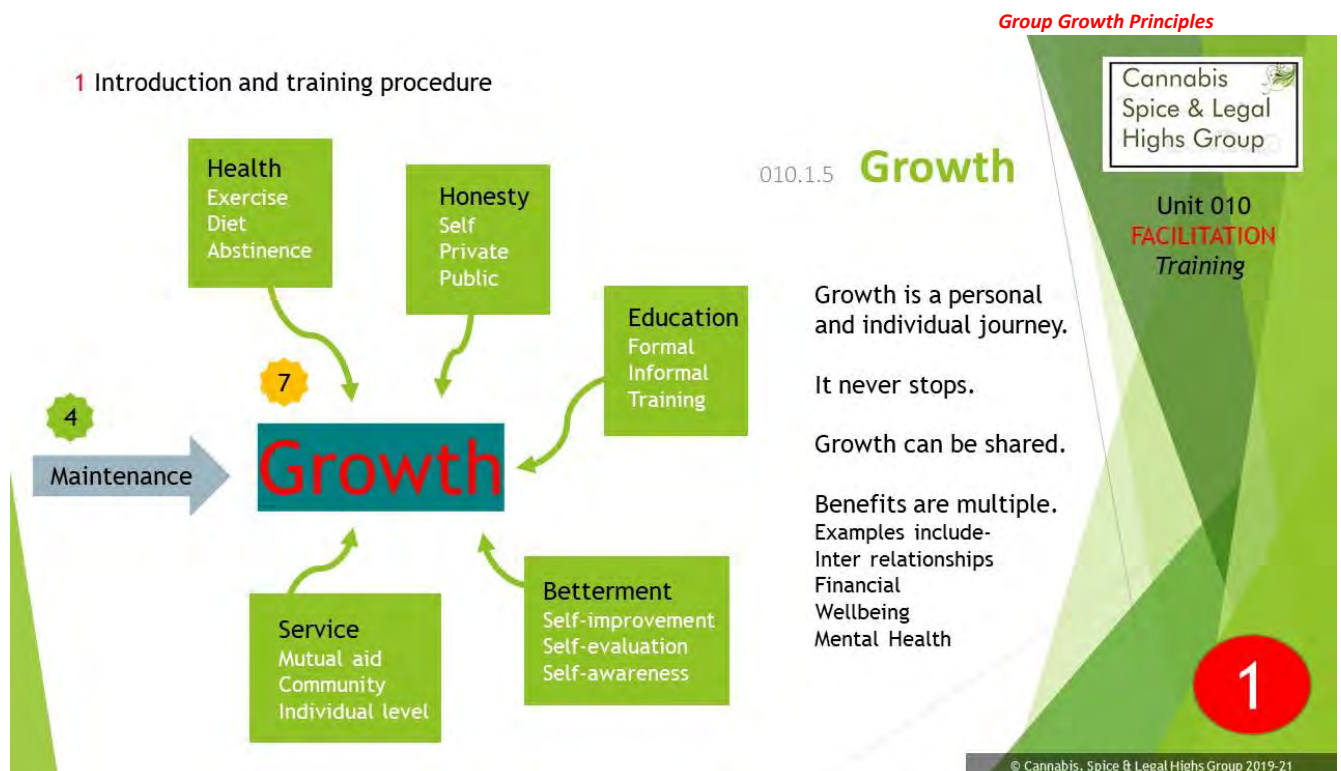
We believe all drug users have the ability to turn their lives around and make positive, sustainable changes to their personal circumstances and the communities they live in.

We host dynamic mutual aid support groups in local venues and online where experience and advice are shared in a safe non-judgmental abstinence-based user led environment. We use psychosocial interventions, web, social media, and emerging technologies to promote our proven delivery model.

The serious issues we address include anxiety and depression, unemployment, homelessness, and poverty, in addition to offending and child custody issues. Our associates might be living isolated, anxious, and unfit for work or social activity.

We have consistently achieved transformative improvements in our hard to reach and seldom heard diverse cohort, supporting members with serious lifelong addictions, and have helped them grow and develop into volunteering, employment and general health and wellbeing.

The group's services include-peer-led support, training, and research.





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Group meetings



createstrengthgroup.org/meetings



Governance, Services and Direction

As a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) we have adopted the Foundation Model, making the trustees, who are also directors of the charity responsible for the governance of the organisation and answerable to the charity commission.

The objects of the CIO are-

The relief of the physical and mental sickness of persons in need by reason of addiction to Cannabis, Spice, Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS – previously referred to as 'legal highs') and other substances and to promote their rehabilitation in particular but not exclusively by:-

- (1) The provision of mutual aid group support and the distribution of information, guidance and assistance to those close to or with an interest in such addictions, their families and concerned others;
- (2) Delivering a series of local meetings to promote abstinence from drug use, share best practise and provide support information and advice;
- (3) Working with groups of a similar nature and exchange information, advice and knowledge with them, including cooperation with other voluntary bodies, charities, statutory and non-statutory organisations to achieve our objects;
- (4) Supporting social interaction / inclusion and awareness of; the reasons, symptoms and consequences of contemporary drug use, particularly regarding the three main specialist knowledge bases found within our membership; namely cannabis, spice and legal highs;
- (5) Promoting a range of transferable skills within our membership and the community, such as; employability skills, confidence and social skills, IT and media skills and responsibility and organisational skills. To encourage, develop and support the pursuit of education and training within our membership.





1.0 Context

Latest statistics from ONS Drug misuse in England and Wales: year ending March 2024

- Cannabis-**
 6.8% of people aged 16 to 59 years and 13.8% of people aged 16 to 24 years reported having used the drug in the last year.

SOURCE:

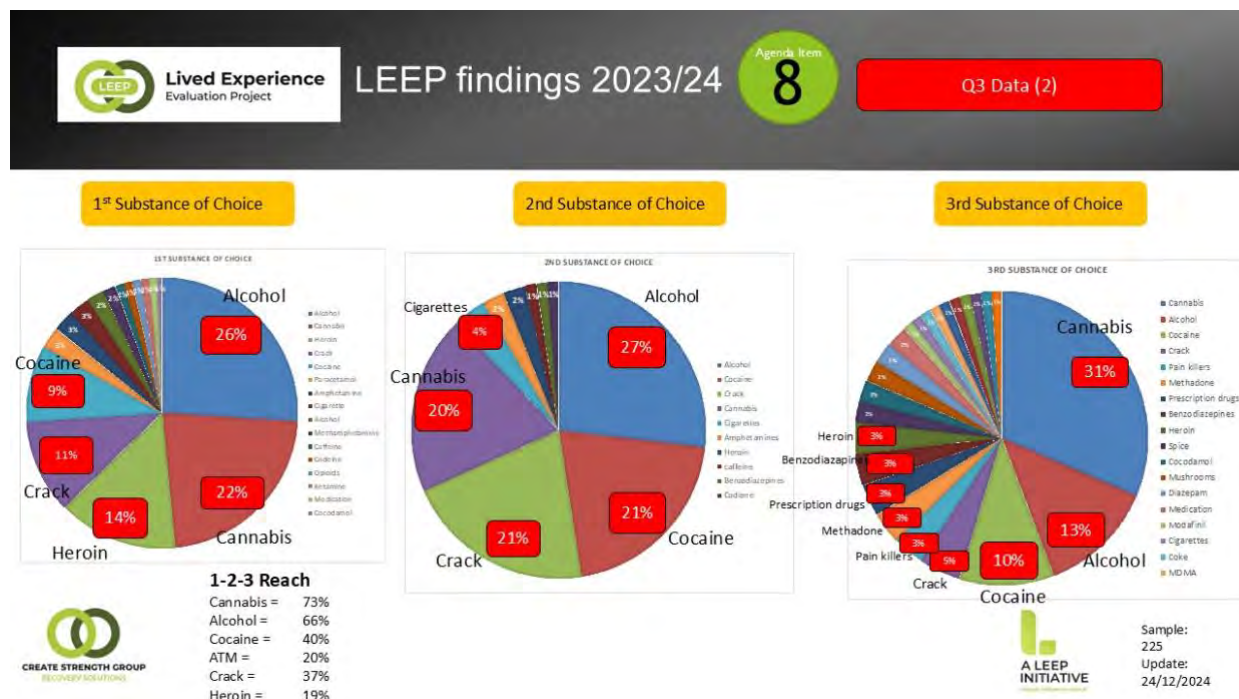
<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/crimeandjustice/articles/drugmisuseinenglandandwales/yearendingmarch2024/pdf>

Local Data

The Bradford Lived Experience Evaluation Project, surveys residents across the Bradford district seeking views regarding Lived and living experience of drugs & alcohol

Create Strength Group continue to provide addiction support to anyone who can demonstrate a desire to change, in addition we support loved ones of those affected by someone else's addiction. We view the addiction condition as a temporary recoverable condition and approach solutions in a holistic manner supporting the drivers and causation factors such as poverty, trauma and lack of opportunity. We promote education and raise awareness whilst tackling stigma. We also act as lived experience advocates influencing strategy and co-design of treatment systems.

Findings/data from LEEP 2024





2.0 Overview 2024

CSG has continued to build on the development and growth achieved in 2023 making 2024 a record-breaking year in so many areas.

With both the **New Vision Bradford (NVB)** contract and the **Lived Experience Evaluation Project (LEEP)** now firmly established, we consolidated our position increasing our exposure across both projects. With the addition of the **Dependency and Recovery contract (D&R)** delivering short cannabis interventions via the **Cannabis Awareness Group (CAG)** to people on probation and an uplift in LEEP assignment we managed to expand our core activities. Other projects executed in 2024 included- causation projects centred around **adversity, trauma and resilience (ATR)**, **mental health, MH24** and **nitrous oxide use (NOP)**

2024 ended with **6 full-time staff, 3 sessional workers** supporting development and delivery. In addition we operate **the CSG Recovery Academy** a volunteer plus scheme that supports associates into work by providing introduction into paid employment with CSG in meaningful roles

As a project-based organisation, CSG executes development within a scalable model framework. Projects such as CAG, LEEP, and the mental health and nitrous oxide projects offer the opportunity to be duplicated in other geographic areas incorporating lessons learned and best practice.

Our core **support networks** of face-to-face (f2f) online, physical and hybrid meetings were complemented by offering one-to-one (1-2-1) appointments both online and f2f in our dedicated room at 29 Salem Street. This is enhanced by the services of an experienced trauma therapist and facilitator dedicating 2 days per week to CSG delivery.

Income has continued to rise in 2024 with **expenditure** proportional to revenue, with positive signs of improved cost controls and more favourable contributions to reserves. Specialised personnel with accounting experience contribute greatly with fiscal planning and financial controls, leading to better financial forecasting and planning whilst producing clear measurable outcomes.

CSG has continued to focus efforts into **the development and the winning of new business**. 2024 saw the announcement awarding the Bradford & District **domestic and sexual violence contract. (D&SV)** commencing in April 2025, this contract is a joint collaboration with our trusted partners, the Bridge Project, delivering behavioural change programmes as part of victim and perpetrator support. This service will add another 2 staff to our full-time team and will reinforce our drive to tackle the underlying and supporting causation factors contributing to addiction. In addition in 2024, we managed to secure a further 3 years funding via **the National Lottery Reaching Communities Fund**. Our NLRC2 Project will fund key posts and core costs to July 2027, allowing us to build on the NLRC1 foundations established between 2021-24.



**MENTAL
HEALTH
MATTERS**
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2024 Milestones include:

- Exceeding the hosting of 1,770 support meetings since our formation
- The production of a suite of LE and ATR films to high standard
- The development of a recovery app
- Increasing membership to 764
- Attracting 167 newcomers in the period
- Achieving 3,365 instances of attendances in 2024
- Offering 229 1-2-1 sessions to 26 individuals
- Increasing income by 37%
- Managing expenditure to 77.6% of income
- Increasing workforce to 6 x full-time, 3 x part-time
- 78% Lived Experience (LE) workforce



 **Lived Experience**
Evaluation Project

**Want to help
shape the future of
treatment & recovery
in Bradford?**

Do you have
experience of
substance use?

We need your
help with the
lived experience
evaluation project.



 **CREATE STRENGTH GROUP**
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

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BRADFORD**
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL



3.0 Support and Statistics



Since our formation in March 2015, over **764 associates** and their families have benefitted from our services. We have for example, hosted over **1,779 regular mutual aid meetings** in 6 different venues. We regularly host face-to-face (f2f) physical and hybrid meetings in addition to **one-to-one** (1-2-1) sessions and 3-way interventions with family members and professionals.

The **active cohort statistic (ACS)** is a statistical analysis metric based on the associates who regularly engage with us, this parameter is currently set to 5 or more unique attendances. This is now our fourth year of recording the ACS and as the current trend shows we are attracting more newcomers, creating greater regular engagement, and achieving increased retention. Associates who achieve this status will be encouraged to become more involved with the group, volunteering and seeking upcoming

opportunities.

Our data of reported first choice substance is now dominated by **alcohol** (2023 **cannabis**) used by 42.7% of our active cohort. This change from 2023 is partly a reflection of the extension of our activities to new areas of Bradford and the establishment of new mutual aid groups. **Alcohol** as the drug of first choice is mirrored in data from our LEEP survey where **alcohol** is stated by 28% of respondents. **Cannabis** is now the second most significant drug of first choice for our cohort which again mirrors our LEEP survey results where 23% of respondents state **cannabis** as their drug of first choice. **Heroin** is reported as the drug of first choice by 20.7% of our active cohort, this compares to 14% of our LEEP survey respondents, but still in third position as drug of first choice.

Our commitment to attract more **women** into our support network continues to have a positive impact within our active cohort, this is illustrated by a 63% growth of our women's active cohort versus 2023's end of year results. There is still much further to go to achieve our diversity aims in terms of the underrepresented South Asian and LGBTQ+ communities.

(i) 2024 Cohort Drug of choice Statistics	(ii) 2024 Gender Breakdown										
<p>1ST DRUG OF CHOICE**</p> <table data-bbox="357 1574 632 1693"> <tr> <td>ALC</td><td>42.7%</td></tr> <tr> <td>CAN</td><td>23.2%</td></tr> <tr> <td>HER</td><td>20.7%</td></tr> </table>	ALC	42.7%	CAN	23.2%	HER	20.7%	<p>ACTIVE COHORT ATTENDANCE MIX</p> <table data-bbox="927 1583 1259 1662"> <tr> <td>MALE</td><td>65.9%</td></tr> <tr> <td>FEMALE</td><td>34.1%</td></tr> </table>	MALE	65.9%	FEMALE	34.1%
ALC	42.7%										
CAN	23.2%										
HER	20.7%										
MALE	65.9%										
FEMALE	34.1%										
<p>All figures based on ACS adherence.</p> <p>** Family members and visitors not included in calculation. All data correct at 31/12/2024</p> <p>ALC-Alcohol, CAN-Cannabis, HER-Heroin</p>											



CREATE **UNDERSTANDING**
CREATE **KNOWLEDGE**
CREATE **STRENGTH**

CSG RESEARCH

3.1 2024 Attendance data

Confidential data is recorded using individual attendance over the year. Figures included cover online, face to face and hybrid meetings with recorded 1-to-1 outcomes and workshop and event attendances.

Snapshot of attendance register 2024

[illegible]

Support meeting figures since lockdown had followed a gentle trend of reducing attendance which 2023 saw a turning of the curve, showing increasing attendance numbers. 2024 attendance continued this recovery trend and shows a pleasing 48.6% uptick vs. 2023's attendance. Significantly 2024 is also up vs. 2020's record attendance, +25.6%.

Create Strength Group CIO

Charity number: 1193551

- Report 2024 -



Meeting yields are reflecting a positive move confirming the ACS data of improved engagement traction. **1-2-1 figures** too are mirroring increased resourcing with the addition of Michael Ritchie as a qualified trauma counsellor contributing part-time hours to this provision.

	2024	
AVERAGE ATTENDANCE PER MEETING	10.01	Includes 1to1's
NUMBER OF MEETINGS	336	Excludes 1To1's
TOTAL ATTENDANCE	3365	Includes 1to1's
1-2-1 MEETINGS	229	
GROUP ATTENDANCE	3136	Excludes 1To1's

The table below illustrates historic attendance from 2015-2024:

Historic Meeting Data

TOTAL	Meetings	Attendance	Ratio
2015	42	215	5.12
2016	51	650	12.75
2017	63	766	12.16
2018	149	887	5.95
2019	169	972	5.75
2020	284	2,679	9.43
2021	249	2,355	9.46
2022	203	2,166	10.67
2023	233	2,264	9.72
2024	336	3,365	10.01
TOTAL	1,779	16,319	9.17

The table below illustrates 2024 attendance by month compared to the previous year:

	2024		2023			
Month	Total	Cumulative	Total	Cumulative	Month Variance	Cum Variance
Jan	351	351	217	217	61.8%	61.8%
Feb	298	649	168	385	77.4%	68.6%
Mar	300	949	163	548	84.0%	73.2%
Apr	300	1249	233	781	28.8%	59.9%
May	246	1495	196	977	25.5%	53.0%
Jun	237	1732	143	1120	65.7%	54.6%
Jul	267	1999	103	1223	159.2%	63.5%
Aug	267	2266	224	1447	19.2%	56.6%
Sep	260	2526	139	1586	87.1%	59.3%
Oct	343	2869	180	1766	90.6%	62.5%
Nov	256	3125	244	2010	4.9%	55.5%
Dec	240	3365	254	2264	-5.5%	48.6%
Total	3365		2264		48.6%	



4.0 Active Projects in 2024

In 2024, the group continued to actively work on various projects supporting our key themes of addiction and the underlying causes such as trauma, and mental health within a supportive environment specialising in lived/living experience (LE) and community engagement.

4.1 Development Overview

CSG have developed into a project-led organisation incorporating an ADPE methodology (Analysis, Design, Production, and Evaluation). This allows us the flexibility to bid for grants and awards and then rapidly develop recovery solutions.

The following projects are all the fruit of this approach. A brief overview of each follows-

4.1.1 Bradford Alcohol & Drug Treatment Service (New Vision Bradford- NVB)



2024 was the second year of CSG's role as the local LERO (Lived Experience Recovery Organisation) partner of the NVB consortium that includes Waythrough (formerly Humankind), The Bridge Project, and Project 6. Our role is providing recovery and aftercare through a series of educational courses geared towards an awareness of addiction and recovery. The funding for our part in this contract includes 2 posts (working exclusively on this service). Our two recovery workers are based across the Flourish recovery café, Project 6 in Keighley and in communities across Bradford as part of their community outreach objectives.

During 2024 we were able to expand our role as part of the Bradford council commission to deliver Dependency and Recovery Services to People on Probation who reside within the Bradford and Airedale district. CSG's role is to deliver cannabis interventions which consist of a weekly check-in group, group therapy, courses covering cannabis addiction & recovery, complimentary workshops e.g. mental health resilience, and 1-2-1's. This commission includes 2 Full time equivalent posts and is run by a Senior practitioner who is based at the City Courts in Bradford





4.1.2 Lived Experience Evaluation Project Commission (LEEP)



The Lived Experience Evaluation Project (LEEP)

(<https://createstrengthgroup.org/leep/>) is a Bradford District

Metropolitan Council (BDMC) commission to seek the views of

those with lived experience (LE) of addiction in the Bradford district.

This project is being executed using 2 main vehicles of an online questionnaire conducted by volunteers with LE and by self-referrals and an LE forum that meets monthly to listen to views and comments in the presence of representatives from the treatment sector.

In addition, this positions CSG's role within the NVB consortium as the main service user representative which is a key part of the contract in terms of both representation and co-design.



Recommendations and insights from LEEP are provided and feed into the treatment sector plans for delivery and identification of service improvement opportunities.

Monthly LEEP forums

Our monthly LEEP forums continued throughout 2024. The forums are a key success factor in our LEEP project and stimulate vibrant debate. The LEEP forums are already having a positive impact on improvements to addiction recovery services in the Bradford district. Plans for 2025 include expanding forum reach and community voice with a focus upon taking the forums out into communities in Bradford.



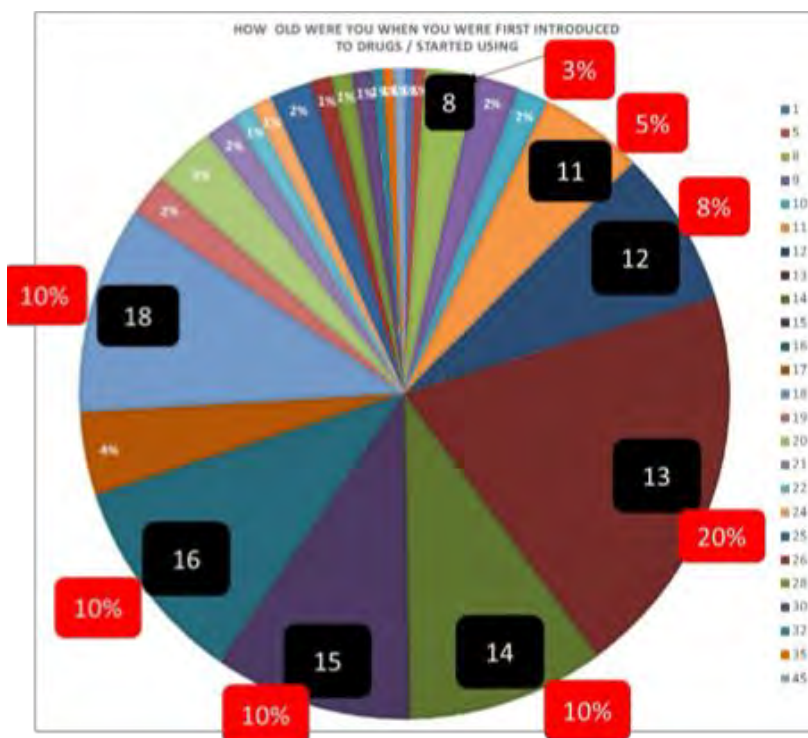


LEEP Questionnaires



With over 200 individual respondents our main LEEP questionnaire continues to grow in importance for both quantitative and qualitative data. For each respondent we provide a voucher for Greggs or Amazon as an incentive and a thank you. Insights from our analysis include information such as drug of 1st, 2nd and 3rd choice and age of introduction to drugs.

As well as continuing the main LEEP questionnaire in 2025 we plan to increase our focus upon the opinions and experiences of communities, businesses, and family members of those affected by someone else's addiction. We have designed additional questionnaires for this purpose which will add value to our existing insights and help us to understand the implications with regard to recovery service improvement opportunities.

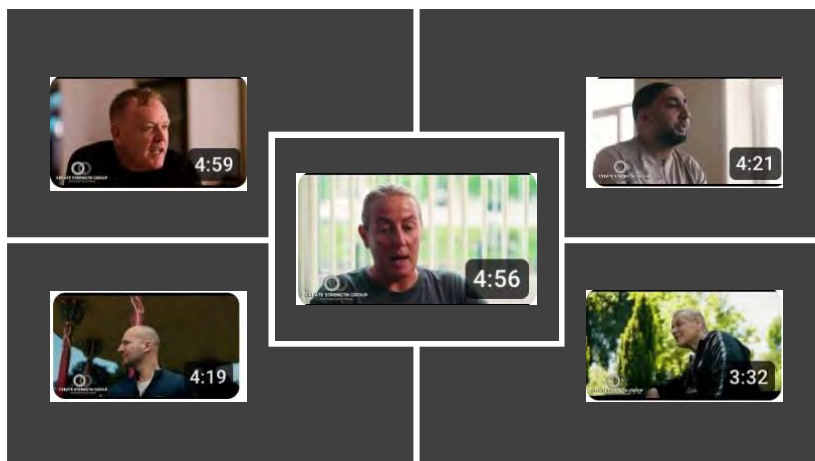


LEEP questionnaire data provides important insights: analytics demonstrate the key age groups when people were introduced to drugs: **62% under the age of 16** with 20% at age 13. In school terms this translates to 63% secondary school age 11-16 and **43% years 7-9, the 11-14-year-old age bracket.**



LEEP Storytelling films

The ATR project gave us an insight into the power and impact of telling the stories of people with lived experience through film. We applied this insight and developing capability towards telling the addiction and recovery stories of 5 associates. The films have been used extensively with service users and service providers and form an inspiring collection of stories that show hope and resilience through structured recovery.



LEEP stories



LEEP Recovery App development



Building upon the success of our Nitrous Oxide App 2024 saw the development of a Recovery App. Very much led by feedback from LEEP forum attendees we have developed and successfully tested the Recovery App with a wide range of users. Results have been very positive with users in our test group.

Key features include:

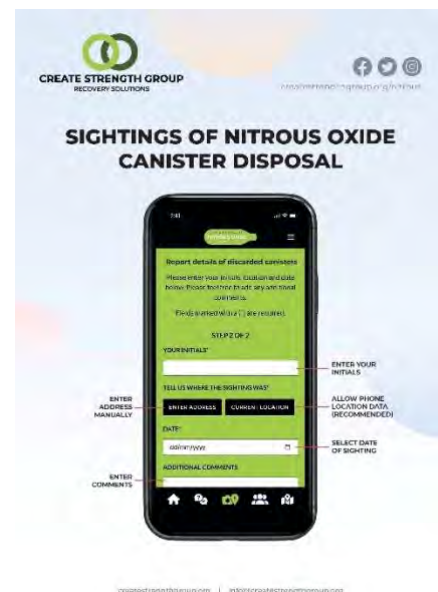
- Support groups, dates and times with a google maps location finder and ability to add to your personal recovery calendar
- Crisis Lines information
- Treatment signposting & referral
- Harm reduction substance information
- Personalisation
- Recovery Journey goals and rolling achievements

Plans for 2025 will focus upon additional functionality and a full launch and deployment of this much needed new tool.

4.1.3 Nitrous Oxide Commission (NOP2324)



The Nitrous Oxide App developed by Create Strength Group enables citizens of Bradford to be a driving force in mapping of N₂O canister disposal sites. This innovative solution is helping to raise awareness of hotspot disposal sites. In addition to the App and the awareness raising campaign we developed in 2023 we implemented a series of diversion events in 2024. The diversion events are aimed at young people and highlight the potential health harms associated with Nitrous Oxide use, especially use whilst driving. The diversion events included working with the fire service to demonstrate what it's like to be cut out of a car that's been involved in an accident and taking a group of young people from Bradford to a tree top adventure park. We plan to run more diversion events for young people in 2025 such as track days and visits to local motor industry businesses.





4.1.4 CSG Mental Health Project 2024



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Building on the success of running mental health projects throughout 2023 delivered around, skills workshops, social and walk and talk events we managed to secure additional funding from our local authority to continue to offer our associates these much needed and appreciated activities.

We know from our addiction support work and from our LEEP questionnaire; certain themes are close to the surface. Trauma, particularly childhood trauma, debt, lack of social and employment skills but none so much as mental health issues, particularly anxiety, depression, and psychosis. The combination of mental health workshops and walk and talk events in green spaces is a proven model that continues to help our associates to build greater resilience through education, exercise and socialising with others with similar lived experience of addiction and recovery. 2025 will see us continue to develop this initiative.



4.1.5 Adverse Childhood Experiences, Trauma & Resilience (ATR) Grant



The commission awarded to CSG in 2023 to investigate and deliver reporting and consultation on- Community Awareness Raising Community Insight, Awareness Raising Campaign, and Safe Spaces provision continued into 2024. Deliverables achieved in 2024 included a comprehensive report that documented findings and recommendations and a Community Awareness Raising Campaign. During our ATR focus groups we captured the voice of communities around Bradford. As part of what we heard about experiences of adversity, trauma and ultimately resilience we created a campaign centred on real stories which included both video and still assets.

We fully recognise the strong connection between trauma in childhood, addiction and life-time physical and mental health issues. Our awareness comes from work with people who have or are struggling with an addiction. This commission and project has been an important additional learning experience that underlines the importance of early interventions. We are enthusiastic about the opportunity to do more work in this area.

ATR Still Assets

Let's talk about...
Adversity, Trauma & Resilience

Adverse Childhood Experiences or ACEs can have a huge effect on your health.

The more ACEs a child experiences the greater the risk of full-life impact.

1 in 8 people have four or more ACEs, this can mean you are:

- 3 times more likely to develop heart disease.
- 5 times more likely to experience depression.
- 12 times more likely to die by suicide.

Six or more ACEs can reduce life expectancy by 20 years.

ACEs must be addressed to build resilience

There is help. There is hope.

35 Salem Street
Bradford, BD1 4QH
Recovery Support - 07759 053653
Email - info@createstrengthgroup.org

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www.createstrengthgroup.org

CNET
COMMUNITIES
NORTH EAST

CITY OF BRADFORD
BRADFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

I've had problems with alcoholism, depression and my mental and physical health.

There is help.
There is hope.

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CITY OF BRADFORD
BRADFORD DISTRICT COUNCIL

Kids' mum left. I'm getting evicted from me house. I don't get enough money on universal credit.

There is help.
There is hope.

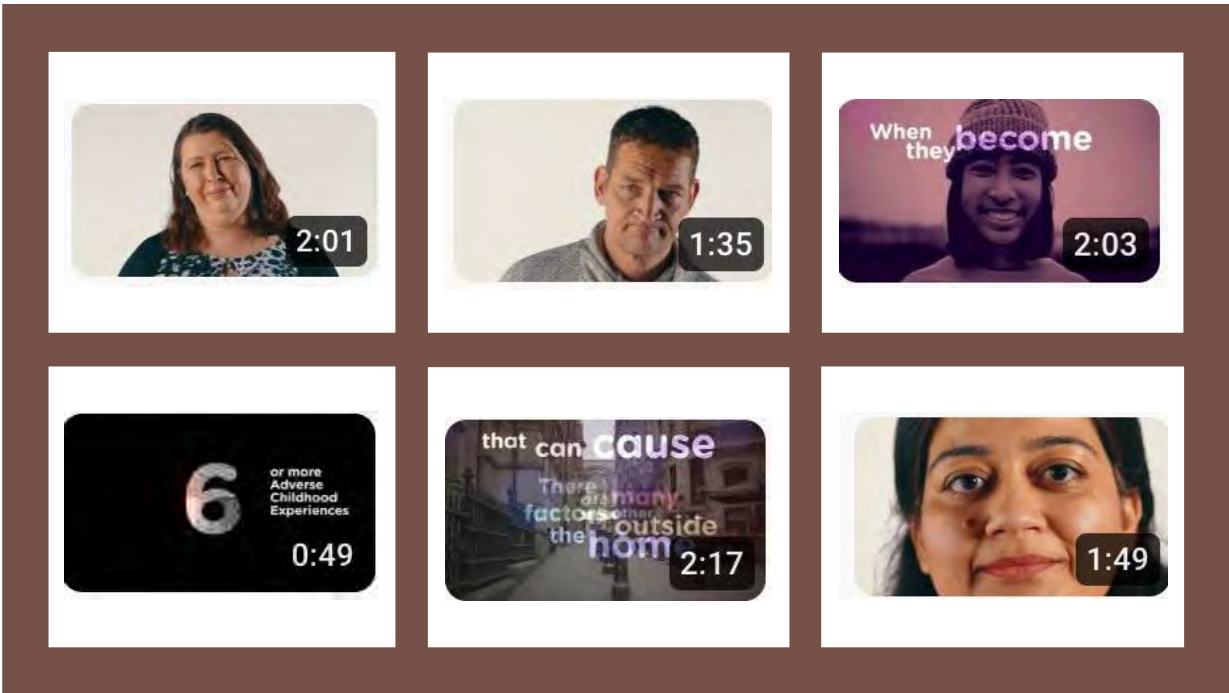
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ATR Videos



Laura's story



Richard's story



ATR Building resilience



Bradford's ATR statistics



Impact of adverse childhood experiences



Madiha's story



4.1.7 National Lottery (NLRC) Foundation Project

The first 3-years of charity status from 2021 – 2024 (July) were supported by the NLRC Foundation Project. Closely allied to our development plan and a core driver in building a strong foundation to support our future growth ambitions. The NLRC funding has supported 2 full-time posts, sessional workers and our Recovery Academy. We were keen to continue with our great working relationship with the regional team, and we were delighted that our continuation bid was successful and will support the next 3 years of our development.



Performance is monitored by progress meetings annually and a set of KPIs jointly agreed during the application process. For the purpose of NLRC Foundation Project and in order to substantiate the data, we introduced a metric that only counts associates who attend our support groups for minimum of 5 instances.

4.1.2 2024 NLRC KPIs (M) Mutual Aid Outcomes:

Change indicators	What amount of change do you expect to see?	When will this amount of change happen by?	Current Outcomes
(M1) Returning attendance to pre-Covid attendance	1,800 attendances* 2,400 attendances* 2600 attendances	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	2156 +356 2264 -136 3,365 +765
(M2) Returning newcomer referrals to pre-Covid attendance levels	45 new members 55 new members 65 new members	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	64 + 19 116 +61 167 +102
(M3) Assisting our associates in gaining employment	15% of associates 25% of associates 28% of associates	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	46% +31% 41.4% +16.4% 27.1% -0.9%
(M4) Increasing the number of our associates who become involved with volunteering	20 associates 30 associates 30 associates	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	20 22 -7 28 -2
(M5) Encourage and support our associates into formal education Level 2/3	Target 10% of learners into level 2 and 3 learning 15% of associates 15% of associates	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	20% +10% 31% + 16% 10% -5%
(M6) Provide workshops/short [skills] courses and encourage informal learning to our cohort	Offer 25 places in skills workshops 30 associates 30 associates	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	46 +21 132 +102 82 +52
(M7) Encourage and support our associates into a formal reduction plan	Minimum 15 associates actively	31 st December 2022	3 -12



	reducing with a view to abstinence. Minimum 15 associates Minimum 20 associates	31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	21 +1 25 +5
(M8) Encourage and support our associates into an abstinent lifestyle	Help 10% of associates to reach and maintain the group goal of abstinence. 15% of associates 20% of associates	31 st December 2022 31 st December 2023 31 st December 2024	64% +54% 75.9 +60.9% 42.7% +22.7%

4.1.2 2024 NLRC KPI Outcomes

M1 attendance 3365 +765 ●●

This KPI, as anticipated, has returned to a positive outcome for 2024. Average attendance of just over 10 per meeting is very encouraging.

M2 newcomers 167 +102 ●●

This KPI shows newcomer numbers increasing by 51 on 2023's achievement. Our reach and reputation are growing positively and this is reflected in 2024's results.

M3 employment 27.1% -0.9% ●●

Associates in employment in 2024 reached a record 26 (27.1% of the ACS). We were slightly down on the target 28% of the ACS but still a positive result in absolute numbers in employment.

M4 volunteering 28 -2 ●●

In 2024 we increased our volunteer base to 28 from 2023's 22, this represents a small deficit of 2 to target.

M5 formal education 10% -5% ●●

10 associates of our associates embarked on formal education courses at level 2 or higher this is a reduction on the previous year's high of 18 and 5% points down on our 15% target.

M6 informal learning 82 +52 ●●

In 2024 82 of our associates were introduced to informal learning through workshops covering mindfulness, trauma, mental health, nutrition, fitness and drug awareness / recovery maintenance.

M7 reduction plan 25 +5 ●●

2024 saw 25 successful reduction plans to lasting abstinence completed versus a target of 20 (success is determined by achieving abstinence).

M8 abstinent lifestyle 42.7% +22.7% ●●

Abstinence for this KPI must last a minimum of 3 months and to be included in this metric, the associate must also be abstinent of their substance of choice on 31/12. 2024's result demonstrates resilience in recovery and the willingness of our abstinent cohort to remain engaged with our groups and provide continued assistance to their peers.





5.0 *Finances*

In 2024, Create Strength Group continued a positive growth trajectory surpassing the previous year's performance to deliver **our strongest financial growth** year.



The commencement of the NVB D&R probation contract combined with the existing NVB monies and the continuing LEEP funding were key drivers of 2024's income growth story. NLRC contributions continue to be a significant and important part of our success that saw us deliver a 61% increase in our income. We continue to explore appropriate funding and revenue opportunities to ensure financial stability and a sustainable delivery model.

Whilst still a relatively small part of our income we are pleased with the progress we have made through the delivery of our training modules. We expect income growth from our training offer to continue and look forward to another positive performance in 2025.

Our 2023 submitted accounts are available via the Charity Commission website at [Charity Commission - CSG Annual Report & Financial Statements 2024](#)

5.1 *Income 2024*

Ref		Income (£)
(i)	Grants/Bids	£143,410
(ii)	Contracts	£274,820
(iii)	Other income	£5,195
(iv)	Additional income	£1,671
	Total	£425,096

- (i) **Grants/Bids**
 - NLRC Foundation £ 122,904
 - BDMC ATR Project £ 15,000
 - BDMC MH Project £ 5,000
 - Donations £ 506
 - £ 143,410**
- (ii) **Contracts**
 - NVB / LEEP £ 274,820
- (iii) **Training**
 - CASANOVA £ 5,195
- (iv) **Additional income**
 - Refunds/interest/donations £ 1,671

Total £425,096





5.2 Expenditure 2024

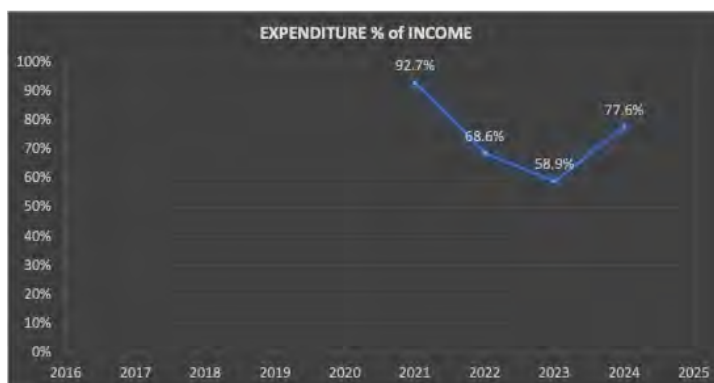
Ref		Outgoings (£)
(i)	Employment costs	£179,866
(ii)	Project Expenses (minus salaries)	£148,039
(iii)	Bank charges	£60
(iv)	Additional expenditure	£1,842
	Total	£ 329,807

5.2 Notes

- (i) **Project Expenses**
All completed projects were delivered to budget within the timescale. Current projects are within budget.
- (ii) **Additional expenditure**
Spending from reserves- non project related costs.



2024 Expenditure figures demonstrate the full year benefits and costs of the funded NVB recovery worker roles and part year benefits of the funded Senior recovery worker (probation contract) role. 2024 also reflects the part-year cost impact of the appointment of a deputy for the CEO, this role is majority funded as part of the LEEP commission.





6.0 2025 Future Plans

2023 was our **busiest year for development** since our formation. Our plans for 2024 however are more ambitious. Our intention is to maximise our involvement with **New Vision Bradford** and increase our **training provision** to a broader market. Furthermore we expect to deliver a new criminal justice contract around cannabis interventions. The CSG **D&R (Dependency & Recovery) Probation Cannabis Provision project** will be funded with 2 x cannabis workers at its core. The **National Lottery** have been central to the last 3-years of growth and our plans are to continue this successful partnership for another 3-years, funding our core activities and capacity development. Another successful partnership is being forged with **BDMC Public Health and Commissioning** teams, with projects such as LEEP, Nitrous Oxide and ATR we are keen to develop this relationship further.

We have plans for a **Bradford Recovery App** that will transform the treatment & recovery community of Bradford. Further investment is planned to address our organisational structure. Formally introducing a pathway at a **senior leadership** level to address operational management and business and commercial roles. Allied to this will be the canvassing of a **Team Leader role for our NVB staff**.

CSG has developed 2 internal pilots that we hope to attract funding and expand. The **Recovery Academy Scheme** has provided 5 associates with part-time employment while assisting CSG and learning new skills while gaining sector experience. The popular **Gym Buddying Scheme** has guided 6 associates through a fitness programme at a local gym, coached by a CSG volunteer.

Finally, CSG are keen to **acquire property** as part of our drive to self-sufficiency and operational stability. We are keen to seek investment and expertise within this area and happy to hear from interested parties and supporters.





7.0 Contact Details



Voice mail: 07759 053 653



Email: createstrengthgroup@gmail.com



Web: <https://www.createstrengthgroup.org>



Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/cslhg/>



Twitter: <https://twitter.com/cslhginfo>



8.0 Acknowledgements

The group is immensely grateful for the continuing support we receive from the community. We owe a sincere debt of gratitude to **Gordon Roscoe, Tracey Hogan, Jon Royle, Martin Brook, and David Calcott** of The Bridge Project., **Liz Barry, Richard Porter, Matt Birch** and **Joe Kean** of BDMC PH and commissioning team. **Sue Northcott** of HumanKind/Waythrough. **Gabriel Stoltz, Rosemary Philips, Nicola Shaw, Colin Stansbie, Donna Cordingley, Tom Partyka, and Donald Unsworth.** **Rachel Helliwell, Helen Watson, Christine Cooper, Alex Ferrier & Beth Maguire** of the National Lottery. **Safoora Uddin, Yaseen Baz, Arfan Naseer, Michael Ritchie** and **Paddy Gallagher**

Thank You



9.0 How you can help.

Our group is an independent, self-managing user led organisation born from a need to support abstinence and empower individuals to beat addiction through sustained recovery. We believe all drug users have the ability to turn their lives around and make a positive contribution to the communities they live. If you are like minded and feel you want to contribute your support, we welcome contributions in many forms.

- (i) **Financial contributions** can be made in various ways. Section 10.1 Donations & Contributions outlines ways to do this.
- (ii) **Giving while shopping** Retailers will donate a percentage of your purchases at no extra cost to you. (<https://www.giveasyoulive.com/charity/create-strength-group>)
- (iii) **In Kind contributions** such as office supplies, help with printing, photocopying, laminating etc or you can donate warm clothing, sleeping bags and food in support of our homeless outreach campaign.
- (iv) **Recycling**- you may wish to support one of our campaigns by donating mobile phones and IT (<https://www.cslhg.org/mobile-donations>)
- (v) **Giving your precious time**- We always need capable volunteers with the mix of skills and experience to help us with our important work. Please send an email to cslhginfo@gmail.com for more information.

Direct Donations

Direct donations can be made by BACS transfer by using the details below. REF: DONATIONS



A/C Name: Create Strength Group
Sort Code: 405240
Account Number: 00033929





10.0 Notes:

Create Strength Group CIO

Charity number: 1193551

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CREATE STRENGTH
RECOVERY SOLUTIONS

**Online &
Face-To-Face
Support
Groups**



**Help with Cannabis,
Spice, Legal Highs and
all Addictive Behaviours.**

Create Strength Group is an organisation which runs support groups for like-minded people to share their experiences. Hosted by people who have recovered from problematic drug use.

FOR MORE DETAILS OR INFORMATION

Email: info@createstrengthgroup.org
Call/Text: 07759 053653

It's not about what we do, it's what we do next.



Create Strength Group



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