

CASE STUDY: DURHAM CHRISTIAN PARTNERSHIP



Background

Durham Christian Partnership operates several different projects run primarily by volunteers; the largest one being a foodbank with 27 distribution centres across County Durham. Other projects include the County Durham Money Advice Centres, a Grandparents Support project, a listening service in Durham Cathedral, Healing on the Streets and the Streetlights project which supports people in Durham on Saturday nights to be safe. Volunteer numbers across all the projects have increased from 50 in 2010 to just under 500 currently.



Support from DCA with community growing

They regularly attend the County Durham Volunteer Coordinators Forum organised by DCA which they have found very useful to network with others in similar roles and to share best practice. They contact DCA when they have any issues around volunteering, and have completed the County Durham Kite Mark which is a quality standard accessed through DCA which shows that an organisation meets standards to overcome barriers to volunteering. They found this a very useful process and have updated their policies and procedures as a result. They have also worked with DCA to promote volunteering opportunities and feel the relationship has made a positive difference to the volunteering support they offer.



"We needed to ensure that our policies and procedures were fit for purpose. DCA gently helped us through the review as part of the Kite Mark process which was invaluable. Our relationship with DCA continues to bring us benefits and is highly valued." Peter MacLellan, CEO



**DURHAM
COMMUNITY
ACTION**