



## **Chairman's report – October 2023**

I am delighted to report that due to the hard work of our Co-ordinator and our generous funders we have been able to continue the excellent progress of Charity Mentors in both East and West Sussex over the past year.

The primary aim of our work remains, to provide mentoring support for voluntary sector leaders who want to make a difference in their communities.

At present we are managing 21 'live' projects and have 27 volunteer mentors drawn from a wide range of expertise to offer charity leaders or social entrepreneurs their skills and advice on a pro bono basis. During the last year we have completed 31 projects and since Charity Mentors began back in 2017, we have now passed 100 for projects and organisations supported with 121 mentoring.

The feed-back we get from those mentees is overwhelmingly positive and it is how we measure our success as an organisation.

Our website and social media channels are managed by Youbiquity Ltd to whom we are very grateful. This is an invaluable resource in reaching the wider community and reflects how many in our society nowadays rely on this form of medium for current information.

I would like to thank our funders, the Ernest Kleinwort Charitable Trust, the Chalk Cliff Trust, and the National Lottery for their support and to the Lord Lieutenants of East and West Sussex for their encouragement.

I would like to express my appreciation to Ian Noble, CMS Co-ordinator for his energy, drive, and enthusiasm. His task of matching the perceived needs of each charity with the right mentor is pivotal to success.

Lastly and by no means least I wish to thank my treasurer, Tim Hancock for his financial expertise and to my fellow trustees for their collective wisdom so critical in running a charity, and finally to welcome our latest trustee Chantal Wilson to the Board.

**Chris Gebbie OBE DL [Chairman]**