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## Press Release

### Embargoed until 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020

Fox Hollies Community Association CIO has been awarded the Queen's Award for Voluntary Service.

Fox Hollies Community Association has a group of volunteers based in the Acocks Green area of Birmingham who have been honoured with this year's Queen's Award, the highest award a voluntary group can receive in the U.K. and is the equivalent to an MBE.

Started over 30 years ago the Association became a registered charity and is now a well-established community group providing vital services to a large deprived interwar estate.

Whilst public services have reduced over the years in our community we have grown to meet local needs.

We are entirely led by local people who understand the needs of the area and are passionately ambitious for the area's future.

Providing and running a range of activities and services for residents, our volunteers offer ongoing support and friendship.

Last year we had 102 people volunteering on a wide range of activities. The volunteers' age ranges from 14 to 84 years old. The total number of volunteering hours worked during the year was 10,658 and represented over £87,502 of unpaid work.

The Fox Hollies Community Association CIO is one of 230 voluntary groups nationally to receive this prestigious award. The Queen's Award for Voluntary Services aims to recognise the outstanding work volunteers have done to benefit their local communities.

David Swingle Chairman of the Association says "We are greatly honoured to receive the Queen's Award for Voluntary Services 2020 in the recognition of our work and that of our many volunteers both past and present. People of Acocks Green must feel immensely proud of their achievements in supporting their local community."