

Breast Cancer UK Response to Pro-Bone Economics Survey on the Impact of Covid-19 on the Charity Sector (November 2020)

Demand

Q1. Roughly what impact do you expect Covid-19 to have on demand for your organisation's services in the next 12 months relative to your pre-crisis expectations?

- A Negative Impact
- Zero Impact
- **Increase of up to 25%**
- Increase of 25% to 50%
- Increase of 50% to 75%
- Increase of More than 75%

Q2. In the last six months, has any increase in demand for your services as a result of the Covid crisis been from existing clients needing more help, or an expanding group of clients needing help?

- **NA- we do not deliver frontline services to people in the UK**
- We have not had an increase in demand for our services
- There has been an increase in demand as a result of existing clients needing more help
- There has been an increase in demand as a result of more new clients
- There has been an increase in demand as a result of both new clients and greater need among existing clients.

Q3. What level of demand for your services are you currently experiencing, compared to this time last year?

- Increase of over 25%
- **Increase of up to 25%**
- No change
- Decrease of up to 25%
- Decrease of over 25%
- Don't know.

Financials

Q4. What impact do you expect Covid-19 to have on your organisation income over the next 12 months, relative to your pre-crisis expectations?

- A positive impact
- Zero impact
- A reduction of up to 25%
- **A reduction of 25-50%**
- A reduction of 50% to 75%
- A reduction of more than 75%

Q5. How long do you expect it will take your organisation to return to pre-crisis income levels?

- Less than 6 months
- 6-12 months
- 1 year – 2 years
- **More than 2 years**

Q6. How many months' reserves do you currently hold?

- Less than 1 month
- 1-3 months
- **4-6 months**
- 7-12 months
- More than 12 months
- Don't know.

Q7. On a scale of 1-10 (where 1 is "entirely insufficient" and 10 is "entirely sufficient" how would you score the financial help being provided by the government to civil society during the crisis?

- 1
- 2
- **3**
- 4
- 5
- 6
- 7
- 8
- 9
- 10

Q8. Following the recent extension of the Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme (CJRS) to March 2021, which of the below best describes your organisation's use of it?

- **We are not using the CJRS currently, and do not intend to use it**
- We are not using the CJRS currently, but we intend to start using it
- We are using the CJRS currently and intend to continue using it into 2021.
- We are using the CJRS currently, but we intend to bring staff back by the end of the year
- Don't know.

Q9. If you currently have staff on furlough, what impact is this having on your ability to deliver services?

- **N/A – we do not have any staff on furlough**
- More capacity to deliver services
- More capacity to fundraise
- Other
- None of the above.

Q10. If furloughed staff were able to choose to volunteer back to your charity, what difference would that make?

- **N/A we do not have any staff on furlough**

- More capacity to deliver services
- More capacity to fundraise
- Other
- None of the above.

Delivering against your objectives

Q11. How easy do you expect to find delivering on your objectives during the second lockdown, relative to the first lockdown?

- Substantially easier
- **Slightly easier**
- Neither easier nor harder
- Slightly harder
- Substantially harder
- Don't know

Q12. How do you expect Covid-19 to affect your charity's ability to deliver on its objectives in the next 12 months.

- Large Positive
- Small Positive
- No Impact
- **Small negative**
- Large Negative
- Don't know.

Q13. Which, if any, of the below changes to do you want to make to your working practices over the next 12 months?

- **Identifying alternative sources of income**
- **Becoming more efficient in how we run our organisations or deliver services**
- **Making more services digital/delivering more services remotely.**
- More internal/back office use of tech/digital.
- **Collecting more data about our services/programmes**
- **Collaborating more with other charities**
- **Collaborating more with businesses**
- Merging with another charity
- None of the above.

Q 14. How important do you feel impact measurement is for delivering on your organisation's objectives?

- **Very important**
- Quite Important
- Neither Important nor unimportance
- Quite unimportant
- Very unimportant
- Don't know

Q.15 How would you describe your charity's in-house knowledge and use of impact measurements?

- Very good
- **Good**
- Average
- Poor
- Very Poor
- Don't know

Comments and Contact

Q16: Please provide any further comments on the outlook for your organisation over the next 12 months.

Since the start of the pandemic, Breast Cancer UK has experienced an estimated 45% downturn in income which resulted in the charity being forced to furlough 70% of staff between May and October. The ongoing uncertainty and projections of income losses resulted in the charity making the regrettable decision to cut staff by a quarter and axe all of our ambassador outreach work. This decision was made to help the charity address the key challenges exacerbated by the crisis which include diversifying our income, delivering on our charitable objectives and sustaining the size and cost of the charity.

Since October, all staff have returned to full-time working and we experienced a very positive Breast Cancer Awareness Month (a key fundraising month for BCUK). We continue to prioritise our fundraising activities to help improve our financial position. We are currently in the process of working on our Christmas activities and have put together a new 12-month business plan to adapt to the new operating environment. At this stage, the outlook for the next 12 months still remains unclear. The UK's recent return to lockdown will naturally begin to increase pressure on our fundraising and engagement activities. Accordingly, we continue to conduct regular reviews of our future activities.

Due to the financial pressure on the charity sector and the return of restrictions we welcome the announcement of the extension of the furlough scheme until March and will consider whether to take advantage of the scheme if we feel it is necessary. Despite this, we face immense challenges with work capacity and without further support to enable us to work whilst benefiting from the scheme it's hard to see that BCUK can deliver on its charitable objectives by furloughing staff. We continue to call on the Treasury to introduce a gift aid emergency relief package and adopt a flexible approach to the Job Retention Scheme to enable charities like us to continue our essential work to prevent breast cancer whilst benefiting from financial support.