

**1,079**

people sold  
**BIG ISSUE NORTH**  
last year

**10,989**

magazines  
were sold by  
vendors each  
week



**36**

vendors were  
supported into  
education

Our staff  
provided health  
and wellbeing  
support

**188**  
times

Our staff provided  
finance support

**553**  
times



We reached

**2,192,779**

people on  
social media



Our staff provided  
crisis support

**1,580**  
times

"I love it - just to feel like a normal person, have some money and have a good future for my children, so that they do not have to go through what I went through."

*Leventica, Big Issue North vendor*

**20**

artists played  
Street Noise  
events

**156**

vendors were  
supported into  
employment

Our staff  
provided  
accommodation  
support



**121**  
times

**Big Issue North** provides people with a means to earn an income and develop skills to improve their lives, by selling a weekly street paper. Vendors get support from Big Issue North Trust, a charity that provides signposting and advice, help getting ID, home furnishing packages, projects such as breakfast clubs and much more.

***Leventica,  
former Big Issue North vendor***

Leventica first came to England from Romania with her aunt in 2010 at the age of 16. The following year, they moved to Liverpool, where she met and married her husband. He persuaded her to return to Romania, but there he became abusive, and she returned to the UK with her three children.

Back in Liverpool, Leventica began selling Big Issue North while she planned a better life for herself and her family. Through their strong local knowledge and relationships with other organisations, Big Issue North staff helped her to register for a Fair Work event at Liverpool John Moores University, which aims to help members of the Roma community to achieve their aspirations.

At the event, Leventica produced a CV, drawing on all the skills she developed through selling Big Issue North, from personal management to interaction with customers. Within a week, she had an interview with a fast food restaurant, where she now works.

“I just want to work normally,” she said. “I love it – just to feel like a normal person, have some money and have a good future for my children, so that they do not have to go through what I went through.”

She is now undertaking an interpreting course and learning to drive. “When I come here in the Big Issue North office, I never felt like I needed to close my heart. I never felt scared, I never felt different. I was always welcomed here. I love the people in the office,” she said. “For years I did my best, and thanks to the support I got from the Big Issue North office, this year was mine. My dreams are becoming reality!”

