

## Appendix 1

### VCS Commissioning 2013/14

#### **Introduction:**

This pilot year provides opportunities to test out the VCS Forum, VCS Commissioning Board arrangements, and VCS capacity and practice. It is recognised that this will be a learning experience, and we acknowledge there will be improvements identified to inform the approach going forward. Therefore we would encourage all VCS organisations to get involved so that you can be part of this ongoing learning and development process.

#### **HBBC Commissioning Theme:**

Supporting and maintaining good mental health and wellbeing for the community of Hinckley and Bosworth

#### **Evidence of Need:**

Many statutory front line workers are increasingly identifying members of the community who appear to have low level mental health issues, but who are likely to fall below the statutory thresholds, regarding eligibility for support.

Therefore, HBBC is seeking the support of the VCS to help members of the community achieve and maintain good mental health and wellbeing. The authority recognises that the VCS are well placed to both understand and deliver some of this support, but also likely to have a good understanding of what works well, and a perspective on gaps in support.

#### **Project Brief:**

VCS organisations are invited to put forward project proposals that are about:

1). Growing/developing/expanding an existing area of successful work. The submission must include evidence that the approach has been tested and evaluated

and/or

2). Delivering a new piece of work. The submission must include evidence of need.

The project must involve direct practical activity engaging with local people, to deliver outcomes for them, which can be tested, evidenced and evaluated, not research or consultation pieces of work.

In delivering the work, VCS organisations are encouraged to work collaboratively with at least one other VCS organisation, in order that this pilot year also provides an opportunity to test out collaborative/cost effective/new ways of working.

**Outcomes:**

For the purposes of this project, the definition of wellbeing and good mental health is defined as: 'a state of being in which every individual realises his or her own potential, can cope with the normal stresses of life, can work productively and fruitfully, and is able to make a contribution to her or his community'.

The commissioned piece/s of work must be able to evidence that wellbeing has been improved and sustained as a result of the intervention.

The evidence provided will help HBBC and other statutory agencies, gain a greater understanding of the contribution and impact of VCS delivery in supporting this increasing area of need.

We appreciate this is very much a starting point, and recognise there is likely to be a lot of overlaps and gaps in provision, and will welcome the opportunity through the VCS Forum going forward, for two way sharing and learning, to inform priority needs and future commissioning opportunities.

**Funding:**

Total funding available £20,000. Maximum funding per project £5000.

**Application Process:** There will be a formal application process, details will be circulated in early September 2013. In the interim you are encouraged to consider relevant projects and explore potential collaborative partners.

**Timescales:**

Projects to be commissioned by 1<sup>st</sup> November 2013. Projects to be completed by end of March 2014, with a written evaluation submitted within one month of completion of the project, detailing the positive change/impact/improvement/benefits for members of the community.