



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND DECISION MAKING

Executive 29 June 2016

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL WARDS

HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH VCS ARRANGEMENTS – END OF YEAR PROGRESS REPORT 2015/16

Report of Deputy Chief Executive – Community Direction

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To inform members of progress and outcomes arising from our locality voluntary and community sector (VCS) arrangements during 2015/16, and specifically,
- VCS commissioning outcomes 2015/16, and
 - Proposed focus for VCS commissioning 2016/17.

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1 Note the progress, achievements and outcomes 2015/16.
- 2.2 Endorse the proposed focus for VCS commissioning 2016/17.

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

- 3.1 Historically Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council (HBBC) has supported a number of Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) organisations within the locality, through grant funding and ‘in kind’ arrangements. However, in the context of ever reducing public sector budgets and subsequently grant funding, during 2012, the authority recognised the need to find a more sustainable approach to VCS support, development, and delivery within the Borough, in order to continue to meet the needs of our diverse, and most vulnerable members of our community.
- 3.1.1. Therefore, from April 2013, HBBC commissioned one of our leading VCS organisations, Next Generation, to lead on the development of new VCS arrangements for our locality, with the aim of sustaining our front line VCS service delivery organisations, through the establishment of arrangements to enable **locality based commissioning of the VCS**.
- 3.1.2. The arrangements we now have in place for Hinckley & Bosworth, which are unique to Leicestershire, include:

- An **overarching VCS Development Forum**, comprising 40 VCS organisations (both large and small), enabling learning and development, collaboration, communication, and a key mechanism for listening to and capturing the voice of the local people of the Borough. The Forum meets on a regular basis, to help inform overall developments for our local arrangements, for focused development sessions on topical issues, and importantly, as a vehicle to enable networking and collaboration.
- A **VCS database and Directory** detailing the type of provision and geographical location of VCS organisations across the Borough – comprising approximately 1,200 entries. This provides the key access route for the Borough Council and other key partners, for communicating, engaging and consulting with the VCS.
- A **VCS Commissioning Board**, made up of VCS representatives, (and two HBBC Executive Members – Cllr M Hall and Cllr C Ladkin) which provides a robust, fair and accessible mechanism through which the **local authority and other sectors can commission the VCS**
- To date, three rounds of **VCS Commissioning over 3 years, totalling £94,300, allocated to 42 projects**, to deliver a range of front line VCS service provision. From 2013/14/ HBBC has ring fenced £20,000 annually, to support VCS Commissioning, aligned to health and wellbeing priorities. In addition WLCCG and Public Health have also commissioned the VCS through our local arrangements. Full breakdown as follows:

Period	Commissioning Brief	Funding Source	Funding allocated	No. of lead Service Providers supported
2013/14	To sustain good mental health & wellbeing in the community	HBBC	20,000	10
2014/15	To reduce the impact of social isolation and loneliness	HBBC	15,000*	6
		Early Help	3,000	5
2014/15	Staying Healthy Community Grant	Public Health	13,000	7
2014/15	Bespoke Befriending Scheme	WLCCG	10,000	1
2015/16	To support delivery of priorities set out in the H&B Health and Wellbeing Strategy	HBBC	20,000	13
		Public Health	13,300	
Total			94,300	42

*Please note during 2014/15 £5k of the £20k HBBC funding was allocated to support a part time mental health co-ordinator role (jointly funded by HBBC, WLCCG and Public Health), a dedicated resource to undertake mapping of mental health provision and pathways of support, within Hinckley and Bosworth.

- Successful establishment of **VCS collaboration** through the development Forum, in submitting joint commissioning bids, and subsequent joint delivery, which has in turn enabled sustainability

- Effective **representation of the interests and offer of the VCS** at key delivery partnerships within the Borough, including: Think Family Partnership, and Health & Wellbeing Partnership, and others as and when required. This has enabled a greater understanding of the opportunities for both commissioning and improved joint working between the statutory and voluntary & community sector.
- 3.1.3. It is important to note that the ongoing development of our local VCS arrangements, is enabled through the commitment of our VCS, who continue to given considerable time to informing, reviewing and developing this model of working.

3.2. **Commissioning Outcomes 2015/16**

- 3.2.1. In 2015/16, **£33,300 of funds were allocated to support 13 projects**. (Funding source £20,000 – HBBC, £13,300 - Public Health Staying Healthy Community Grant Fund)

Appendix 1 provides a summary of the projects commissioned in 2015/16 and key outcomes delivered

Appendix 2 provides feedback from some of the beneficiaries of projects commissioned during 2015/16.

3.3. **Proposed focus for VCS Commissioning 2016/17**

- 3.3.1. In informing the proposed focus for VCS Commissioning for 2016/17, we have reflected on the learning, and outcomes arising from VCS commissioning over the last 3 years. Notable factors include:
- 3.3.2. In terms of service delivery, the VCS are well placed to support the Borough's health and wellbeing priorities, providing cost effective practical frontline provision, that complements statutory provision, and specifically in relation to
- Reducing the impact of social isolation and loneliness
 - Helping maintain good mental health and wellbeing within our communities
- 3.3.3. The VCS are often closest to the community, and based on this insight, have the flexibility to tailor their delivery approaches to meet customer needs, in a timely way, not always afforded by the statutory sector.
- 3.3.4. We have a number of really good examples of work commissioned, where several VCS organisations have worked collaboratively, which has increased capacity, enabled an enhanced offer for the community, and importantly secured sustainability of the work being delivered. Examples of these projects include: The Markfield Mayflower Project, Hinckley Baptist Pathways Journey Well with Dementia Project, and the Hinckley & Bosworth Community Transport and Multiple Sclerosis Project – **detailed at Appendix 1**
- 3.3.5. Therefore, it is proposed that commissioning for 2016/17 should continue to be focused in supporting health and wellbeing related priorities. However, importantly we need to ensure that our approach to VCS commissioning, supports sustainable models of delivery.

3.3.6. Following Council's decision to allocate a further £25,000 to the existing £20,000 funds p.a. to support VCS commissioning, it is proposed that this is allocated as follows for 2016/17:

i). £25,000 commissioning pot to sustain existing/or new 'collaborative models', at a maximum of £5,000 per project (as described in paragraph 3.3.4.)

ii). £20,000 commissioning pot to continue to support smaller VCS organisations to establish or grow projects, at a maximum of £3,000 per project, with the longer term aim of building more collaborative and sustainable delivery models

3.3.6. In relation to the further £25,000 agreed by Council, to support Community Safety priorities, the focus of this commissioning will be to support vulnerable perpetrators and victims of ASB, offering early intervention and prevention support, with the aim of proactively seeking to address some of the underlying causes.

4. EXEMPTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACCESS TO INFORMATION PROCEDURE RULES

4.1 This report is to be taken in open session.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (TF)

5.1 Proposed allocations can be met from existing VCS budgets.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (MR)

6.1 None

7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The contents of the report relate to and support the following strategic aims:

- Cleaner and Greener Neighbourhoods
- Thriving Economy
- Safer and Healthier Borough
- Strong and distinctive communities

8. CONSULTATION

8.1 This report has taken account of the ongoing consultation undertaken by Next Generation through the established VCS Development Forum, Commissioning Board, and broader VCS database, to inform the proposals for 2016/17.

9. RISK IMPLICATIONS

9.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
Lack of sustainability of key VCS organisations within Hinckley and Bosworth, resulting in no VCS infrastructure arrangements within the locality, and significant reduction in frontline delivery of essential provision	Sustainability of the H&B VCS locality arrangements	Edwina Grant

10. KNOWING YOUR COMMUNITY – EQUALITY AND RURAL IMPLICATIONS

10.1 The utilisation of up to date evidence sources and data, informed via the VCS Development Forum, and VCS database, has helped to inform the ongoing development of our VCS arrangements, and approaches to the sustainability. These mechanisms also ensure resources are aligned with Borough priorities, and enables VCS organisations from all areas of the Borough, including rural areas, access to the VCS commissioning arrangements.

11. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

11.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety implications
- Environmental implications
- ICT implications
- Asset Management implications
- Procurement implications
- Human Resources implications
- Planning implications
- Data Protection implications
- Voluntary Sector

Background papers: None

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