



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

A Borough to be proud of

Hinckley Area Committee

27 January 2020

WARDS AFFECTED: All Wards

**New signage for Hinckley & Bosworth Voluntary and Community Sector Partnership
and Volunteering Hub**

Report of Director Community Services

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.2. To set out the requirement for new signage at the Next Generation building, 108 Castle Street, Hinckley, to promote the VCS Partnership and Volunteering Hub offer
- 1.3. To seek approval from the Hinckley Area Committee to fund the new signage requirements

2. RECOMMENDATION

- 2.1. To approve the request seeking funds for new signage requirements

3.0. BACKGROUND TO REPORT

- 3.1. The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Partnership is a collaboration between the Council and the VCS, and has been in place since 2013, with the overall aim of helping to sustain and grow the vital work delivered by the VCS and its many volunteers. HBBC commissions Next Generation (one of the Borough's leading VCS organisations), to oversee the development and delivery of our local VCS support arrangements, which includes:

- overseeing the VCS Development Forum, which meets regularly, enabling learning and development, networking and collaboration, and acts a key link with the community

- overseeing and supporting the VCS Commissioning Board, which provides a robust and fair mechanism through which the council and other sectors, can commission services from the VCS

- maintaining a comprehensive VCS database, through which the different community groups can share information with each other, and a key mechanism for HBBC and other key partners to communicate, engage and consult with the VCS

3.1.1. The HBBC Community Planning team work in partnership with Next Generation, with the aim of continually improving our local offer to the VCS and its volunteers. Therefore 2018/19 saw the introduction of the following provision:

- The development of specific branding for the VCS partnership and its related work streams
- The development and launch of a new dedicated VCS partnership website, accessible at www.nextgenhinckley.org
- The introduction of a Volunteering Hub, offering a one point of contact service for anyone wanting to volunteer within the Borough, and for VCS organisations seeking to recruit volunteers - service is available on line via the website, as well as a face to face service based at Next Generation. The introduction of this important provision has been in response to feedback from our VCS, that fundamentally their sustainability is reliant on retaining a good volunteer base.
- In support of the above, the development and establishment of the Borough's first Volunteering Strategy, presented as a joint document setting out the aims and commitment of both HBBC and the VCS, in supporting our diverse volunteering offer.
- Subsequently, in role modelling effective workplace practice, HBBC has refreshed its volunteering policy enabling employees up to 2 days per year to undertake volunteering opportunities within the Borough.
- The ongoing development and delivery of the Borough Council's Annual Making a Difference Awards to recognise and celebrate our volunteers, which is now aligned with our VCS partnership work and branding.

3.1.2 The above developments have been enabled within the existing HBBC base budget for both the HBBC SLA with Next Generation and ring fenced VCS Commissioning funds.

3.1.3. Alongside this, Next Generation as part of its work as an independent charity, has also refreshed their branding.

3.1.4. Given the success of our now very well established VCS partnership, and specifically in relation to our most recent work aimed at enabling and sustaining volunteering, we are seeking funds to enable new signage at the Next Generation building, promoting both the VCS partnership, and the associated Hinckley based walk in Volunteering Hub, to include:

- A new sign for the front of the building and digital print running the full length of the windows, using our VCS partnership branding
- LED poster frames, wall prints and signage for the reception area promoting/creating a designated Volunteering Hub area

3.1.5. The costs for the delivery of the above, including removal and disposal of the existing old signage is £4000.00 inclusive of VAT.

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

4.1 The report is to be taken in open session.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS (DW)

5.1 The cost of the proposed signage (including removal and disposal of the existing old signage) would be £4,000 inclusive of VAT for which a supplementary estimate would be required as the signage requires replacement in the current financial year.

5.2 The proposal to be notified to the Hinckley Area Committee on 27th January 2020.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (MR)

6.1 Section 2 Local Government Act 2000 empowers the Council to do anything it considers is likely to achieve one or more of the following objects
-the promotion or improvement of the economic social or environmental well-being of its area

7. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The contents of the report relate to and support the People, Place and Prosperity corporate priorities, and will specifically support the delivery of the following ambition: 'Support an effective and viable voluntary and community sector.'

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 database.

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 visible central access point promoting the VCS partnership and Volunteering Hub, and therefore impact on enabling sustainability of VCS through recruitment of volunteers	Refreshed signage along with marketing campaign to promote the work/offer of the VCS Partnership and central access point for volunteering	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. These mechanisms also ensure resources are aligned with Borough priorities, and gives VCS organisations from all areas of the Borough, including rural locations, access to the VCS partnership provision and commissioning funds.

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
Contact Officer: Edwina Grant, Ext 5950
Executive Member: Cllr K Lynch