



VSNW **Impact Review** 2023

Welcome to our Impact Review 2023

We hope that you find our review of the year an opportunity to see how we have made a difference and are delivering on the priorities set out in our Strategic Plan 2022-2025:

- Increase connectivity within the sector.
- Enable influence and be an effective voice for the sector.
- Demonstrate the value of VSNW and the sector as a whole.

Context

As with the COVID19 pandemic, the VCSE sector has played vital role in helping

communities to respond to the cost of living crisis. However, the nature of the current crisis has meant that the voluntary sector is finding itself under pressure from multiple directions, while thinking about fundamentals like the climate crisis. Next year's upcoming elections, both mayoral and general, present opportunities and risks. Again, we must work together to speak with one voice on the key issues we want politicians to hear.

Within this context, our work across the North West has developed and continued. Please read on for highlights of our work across the North West and with our partners.

Increase connectivity within the VCSE Sector

Through our members, working with and connected to over 40,000 groups across the North West

Driving connections and action through supporting, contributing to or working with the North West's VCFSE partnerships:



(Logos: VS6, GM VCSE Leadership Group, CWIP, C&M VCFSE Health and Care Leaders Group, Lancashire VCFSE Alliance, Cumbria Third Sector Network)

Secured National Lottery Community Funding for 4 years to scale up our regional work to connect and support the voice of the sector – this will deliver these 8 Impacts

Shaping the Future of the North West: Eight Impacts

1. Set standards in defining codesign and coproduction
2. Fair Funding protocols or agreements become the norm
3. NW VCSE Commissioning Review Panel to support improved commissioning, procurement and collaborative working
4. £20m investment secured for NW VCSE groups
5. Rebuild VCSE pipelines for skills and employment across the North West
6. Develop a Centre of Excellence for the VCSE Role in Health Creation
7. Support the sector's role in the Convention of the North
8. Transformation in VCFSE-Academic joint working

Enable influence & be an effective voice for the sector

Develop collective strategies and implementation plans to strengthen the sector's voice

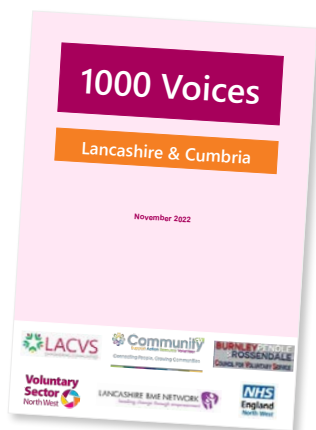


(Images: LCR VCSE Manifesto, GM VCSE Accord, LOCAL Lancashire VSF Manifesto)

Secured £17.8 m for the sector over the last 2 years

Support VCFSE equalities representatives to network and influence

Secured investment for GM=EqAI, supported the sector role in the GM Equalities Panels, worked with Lancashire IREP to support strategic priority setting, the development of the VS6 Race Equalities Partnership and an emerging piece of work across Cheshire and Merseyside led by VS6 and One Knowsley linked to the Phoenix Way Fund.



Campaigning: Good Employment Charter, Living Wage, Cost of Living Crisis, Sustainable Food Strategy, Digital Inclusion, Equal access to Cancer Screening, and Bee Seen Get Screened.



Social Prescribing: deliver the Thriving Communities programme, published a statement on Principles of working with the VCFSE sector (SP9), campaigned for increases in hosting and link worker pay, helped develop the national Social Prescribing Network manifesto.

Local economic development: secured substantial UK Shared Prosperity Fund investment for the sector, building evidence base around sector role in skills and employment, supporting sector representation on LEPs and economic boards, developed the GM Accord.

Health inequality: championing VCFSE role in population health programmes, secured investment for pilots and mainstream VCFSE programmes, modelling links to PCNs, supporting VCFSE equalities delivery mechanisms.

Health & Social Care systems: supporting sector representation, investment, intelligence and delivery across the North West.

NHS Provider Collaboratives: Supporting sector innovation in health and care collaborative delivery: helped establish the sector's own Greater Manchester Alternative Provider Collaborative (collective turnover of around £150m, 2000 plus staff and a 1000 volunteers), place delivery models with MerseyCare and Cheshire & Warrington Partnership, Healthy at Home hospital

discharge pilot, and supported the GM Mental Health Leaders Group.

“GMPA are delighted to receive a grant from VSNW to help build a sustainable VCSE ecosystem across Greater Manchester. The funding will strengthen existing anti-poverty activity in Greater Manchester by creating a space that builds on the current strength of VCSE organisations from across the city-region to organise anti-poverty strategic and policy development and influencing.”

Graham Whitham, Chief Executive Officer, GMPA

Championed the VCSE Ecosystem:

Supporting strong CVS networks across the North West, as well as thematic and equalities networks, including through an Ecosystem Fund, and published our own White Paper on VCSE Ecosystems.

VCSE Workforce: Secured investment to develop an evidence base that led to the innovative Greater Manchester VCSE Workforce Programme delivered by 10GM.

Demonstrate value of VSNW and the sector as a whole

Each sub-regions now has access to a recent ‘State of the Sector’ summary:

Sector impact

- Building on the work in the North West, the sector is now embedded in national guidance as part of Health Systems, and championed by the Kings Fund and the NHS Confederation

Social Value: working with Social Value Portal to develop evidence (see diagram to the right)

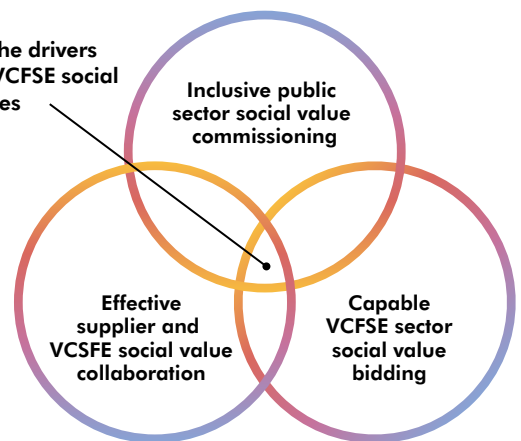
- Baseline public sector spend pilot complete in Warrington
- Building the evidence base on economic, health and social care models of working with the sector from hospital discharge to digital inclusion, community wealth building to perinatal wellbeing, early years to ageing better report

- Sefton Transformation Report

Launching a partnership programme to build VCSE-Academia research partnerships starting (working with local National Institute for Health Research agencies).

VSNW-NHS Cheshire and Merseyside Social Value Project

Focusing on the drivers to maximise VCFSE social value outcomes



VSNW is the regional voluntary sector network for the North West. Our mission is to enable the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector to positively shape the future of the North West.

Voluntary Sector North West

3rd Floor, Swan Buildings,
20 Swan St, Manchester
M4 5JW
Tel: 0161 276 9300
Email: info@vsnw.org.uk
www.vsnw.org.uk

