

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Alliance

Highlight Report

Meeting Held: Tuesday 5 December 2023 2 pm – 4 pm Via MS Teams

Introduction

The purpose of the VCSE Alliance is to enable every citizen to enjoy their best possible health and wellbeing by bringing together local representatives of national and regional VCSE organisations working countywide to provide services to citizens and infrastructure organisations. The VCSE Alliance will act as a single point of contact to enable the generation of citizen intelligence from the groups and communities that they work with. This intelligence and insight will be shared across the ICB and ICS to ensure that the experiences and views of citizens are considered in the design and delivery of health and care services, enabling a two-way flow of information. Furthermore, where citizen intelligence has influenced changed, this will be shared back with citizens. If citizen intelligence has not resulted in a change, the rationale for this will be clearly stated to citizens.

The VCSE Alliance is an essential part of how the system operates at all levels. This includes involving the sector in governance structures and system workforce, population health management and service redesign work, leadership and organisational development plans.

5 December 2023 Update

Integrated Care Strategy and Joint Forward Plan

Members received a presentation from Joanna Cooper, Assistant Director of Strategy for Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) on the Integrated Care Strategy and Joint Forward Plan, to hear the views of members as part of the annual refresh of both documents.

Concerns were raised around the halting of the Health Inequalities Innovation Fund. Despite the group's alignment with the principles and aims of the strategy and plan, it was acknowledged the lack of funding will make supporting them difficult. The overall consensus was that this is a challenging situation, as the sector relies heavily on

funding, but there is a lot of positive work that is happening across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.

Research Engagement Network Funding Update

The NHS England funding for increasing diversity in research will run through the VCSE Alliance organisations. A three-part project is currently underway:

1. A mapping exercise to find out who is involved in engagement and where the gaps are.
2. Training six community research champions.
3. Development of a research engagement hub where collaborations between research organisations and communities can take place.

3rd Sector Commissioning Group Update

Daniel King provided an update to the Alliance around the initiative of the 3rd Sector Commissioning Group. It was formed to provide a more constructive relationship between Commissioners and the VCSE where they can create a shared understanding of what good commissioning looks like.

The group also aims to transform how the Alliance builds social value and is productive not only for the Commissioners and the VCSE organisations but also, and most importantly, the communities and places the organisations operate in as well. Alliance members were encouraged to feed into the group through those who are a part of it.

Prema Nirgude also mentioned that the ICB are currently establishing an Insight Hub that were Alliance members will be encouraged to share insight from their networks and communities. This Insight Hub is currently being developed and further details will be provided at a future meeting.

Future Topics

Daniel King provided members with a link to a Jam board to share ideas around two areas – Future Topics and content for the ICB Board report, to be shared in March 2024, included below:

Future Topics: -

- Commissioning and Processes for 2024/25.
- How does the Alliance evidence impacts?
- Better Care Reviews.
- Establish a Risk Register.
- Understand what is already happening at the ICB around Programmes of Work and at Place Based Partnership Level.
- Impact of the current Finance Situation across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire.
- Transformation Programmes (i.e. Mental Health).

ICB Board Feedback: -

- Evidence of what the Alliance is doing and how this supports the ICB.
- Funding issues for the Alliance (i.e. HIIF).
- Experience and Insight of the wider impact of the Alliance (Insight Hub).
- How do the Alliance escalate issues around access to services.

Summary

In summary, the December VCSE Alliance meeting outlined how the Integrated Care Strategy and Joint forward plans interconnect, how they will benefit the people of Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, and the process for updating them.

The meeting also touched on funding. Firstly, in respect to challenges regarding the Health Inequalities Innovation funding. Then the Alliance discussed the Research Engagement Network funding.

An update on the 3rd Sector Commissioning Group was provided, it included an overview of the group's aims and an invitation for Alliance members to feed in via those who are a part of the group.

The Insights Hub was introduced and marked to be discussed at a future meeting. It will be a resource that Alliance members can feed into and share insights and intelligence.

Finally, the meeting included a group discussion on potential topics for future meetings and suggestions for a report to be put to the ICB board at the end of March.