

Associated guidance for this document can be found [here](#). Each section has a link to the relevant section within the guidance document.

1 Details of the activity (i.e. the policy, strategy, service, project or function)

1.1 Directorate	Health, Housing and Communities
1.2 Service	Housing and Communities

1.3 Title of the activity (i.e. the policy, strategy, service, project or function):
Creating a procurement solution to enable the commissioning of services from the voluntary sector in Sunderland

1.4 Brief description of the activity:
To seek cabinet approval to procure a solution to enable the engagement and commissioning of services from the voluntary and community sector.

1.5 If the activity involves working with other directorates, partners or joint commissioning please state who is involved:
Sunderland Voluntary Sector Enabling Services – Procurement

1.6 Will all or part of the activity be delivered through a provider external to the Council? If Yes, please refer to the Corporate Procurement Processes
No

1.7 If Yes, please explain what element(s) of the activity will be delivered through an external provider:
No the procurement solution will be developed by the Council to enable the Council to then commission voluntary sector to deliver services within Sunderland to support communities

1.8 Which areas of the city will be impacted?	
Whole City	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Coalfield	<input type="checkbox"/>
East	<input type="checkbox"/>
North	<input type="checkbox"/>
Washington	<input type="checkbox"/>
West	<input type="checkbox"/>
Internal Council Activity – Impact on employees	<input type="checkbox"/>

1.9 Is the activity targeted at protected characteristics or any other key groups?	
All of the below	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Age (e.g. older people, younger people/children, a specific age group)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Disability (e.g. mobility, long term health conditions, sensory impairment or loss, learning disability, neurological diversity or mental health)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Marriage and civil partnership	<input type="checkbox"/>
Pregnancy and maternity (including breastfeeding)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Race	<input type="checkbox"/>
Religion or belief (including no belief)	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sex	<input type="checkbox"/>
Gender reassignment	<input type="checkbox"/>
Sexual orientation	<input type="checkbox"/>
Human Rights	<input type="checkbox"/>
Care Experienced People	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other vulnerable groups and people with complex needs (e.g. veterans, children and young people who are cared for or care experienced, carers, domestic abuse victims and survivors, ex-offenders etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>
People vulnerable to socio-economic deprivation (e.g. unemployed, low income, living in deprived areas, poor/no accommodation, low skills, low literacy etc.)	<input type="checkbox"/>

Completed by: Helen Peverley

Version	Status	Author	Comments	Date Issued
1		H Peverley		23/06/2023

2 Data and Intelligence

[Guidance for this section](#)

2.1 What data and intelligence has informed the activity?

The VCS have in recent years supported the delivery of many local and community-based projects and activities. Through the Pandemic the VCS were engaged to deliver many local services to support the Council in providing much needed services to residents.

The VCS have been instrumental to the success in local service delivery with things such as Covid Community Hubs, Household Support Fund grant assessment and provision and more recently the Warm and Welcoming spaces.

The VCS are fundamental to the future delivery of key services and programmes and many services for the Council as well as wider partners.

To ensure that there is a compliant procurement arrangement in place allowing the Council and wider partners to engage and commission services from the VCS, it is necessary to establish a procurement solution that will align to the future delivery needs of services from the VCS.

With the Sunderland Voluntary Alliance now being an independent organisation they will focus their work on supporting those organisations that need support due to lack of capacity so that they can progress with any future procurement opportunities

2.2 Summary of data / intelligence / consultation outcomes to inform understanding of differences in:

- the way people use, access or experience your activity;
- how the activity may impact; and/or
- outcomes for different groups?

Based on delivery of services during the pandemic and the cost of living crisis, there is a clear need, focus and commitment within the city to delivering programmes and projects locally through the VCS. Therefore, a formal procurement solution is necessary.

We have with our partners recently run a “Big Breakfast” event which was hugely popular and very successful. During this meeting a session was held to inform the VCS of the intended procurement process and a detailed presentation was given by the Corporate Procurement Team. This session provided advice on the procurement portal, the registration process, the types of documents that would be used and needed, where to get help and advice and the timeline for future procurement processes. The VCS provide an invaluable opportunity to deliver services within local communities to residents in many ways. The VCS have proven that they can deliver high quality services and make a huge difference to people’s lives locally

3 Equality and Human Rights

[Guidance for this section](#)

3.1 Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.2 Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.3 Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.4 Age (older ages, children and young people, middle ages, an age range or a specific age)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.5 Disability (mobility, long-term health conditions, sensory, learning disability, neurological diversity or mental health)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.6 Gender reassignment (the process of transitioning from one sex to another)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.7 Marriage and Civil Partnership
What impact will the activity have?
Not Applicable
Explain how/why:

3.8 Pregnancy and maternity (including breastfeeding)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.9 Race (colour, ethnicity, country of origin, culture, etc.)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.10 Religion / Belief (including no belief)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.11 Sex (male or female)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.12 Sexual orientation
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

3.13 Will the activity impact on an individual’s Human Rights as enshrined in UK law?
What impact will the activity have?
Not Applicable
Explain how/why:

3.14 Other vulnerable groups and people with complex needs (e.g. veterans, children and young people cared for and care experienced, carers, domestic abuse victims and survivors, ex-offenders, homeless or multiple complexities/characteristics)
What impact will the activity have?
Positive
Explain how/why:
A strong and sustainable VCS across the city, with security of income from formal commissioning will ensure wider and more accessible services and support for residents

4 Reducing socio-economic and digital inequalities

[Guidance for this section](#)

Will the activity:

4.1 Impact on residents’ financial circumstances?	Positive
4.2 Impact on housing, including type, range, affordability, quality and/or condition?	Not Applicable
4.3 Impact on digital inclusion or access?	Positive
4.4 Impact on education, skills and lifelong learning?	Positive
4.5 Impact on employment, including quality and access?	Positive

4.6 Outline the impact your activity will have, including how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts and maximise positive outcomes
Through the commissioning of the VCS the Council will be able to coordinate funding and investment opportunities to maximise capacity for the sector in Sunderland, enabling them to deliver activities which: 4.1 –support people to access benefits, employment, training and volunteering 4.2 –improve green spaces around housing estates 4.3 – improve community assets to become digital hubs and supporting residents to improve digital skills 4.4/5 – support people to gather more skills and experiences, connecting them with work experience and businesses.
4.7 Outline how you will measure the anticipated impact(s)
The procurement framework will be monitored by the Council’s procurement service and the Council’s Area Arrangements will ensure all commissions which involved the VCS in Sunderland support residents positively to reduce socio-economic and digital inequalities

5 Improving population health and reducing health inequalities

[Guidance for this section](#)

Will the activity:

5.1 Help promote healthy living?	Positive
5.2 Help promote safe and inclusive environments?	Positive
5.3 Impact on children, young people and families?	Positive
5.4 Impact on natural and built surroundings?	Positive
5.5 Impact on accessibility and active travel encouraging active behaviours?	Positive
5.6 Impact on living independently?	Positive

5.7 Outline the impact your activity will have, including how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts and maximise positive outcomes
<p>Through the commissioning of the VCS the Council will be able to coordinate funding and investment opportunities to maximise capacity for the sector in Sunderland, enabling them to deliver activities which:</p> <p>5.1/5 – enable the provision of social prescribing activities 5.2/4 – improve green and open spaces within communities 5.3 – further develop of Community Hubs and the delivery of youth activities and family projects, i.e. cooking/ exercising together as a family 5.4/5 – improve parks and open spaces and walking and cycling activities 5.6 – improve digital inclusion in communities, supporting families to support each other. Community Hubs will reduce social isolation. Community transport is being considered in the Coalfields area via the Alliance working in local accessible services and support points across the city with VCS partners with digitally supported programmes will reduce travel requirements and provide more electronic service access.</p>
5.8 Outline how you will measure the anticipated impact(s)
<p>The procurement framework will be monitored by the Council’s procurement service and the Council’s Area Arrangements will ensure all commissions which involved the VCS in Sunderland support residents positively to improve population health and reducing health inequalities</p>

6 Carbon reduction and sustainability

[Guidance for this section](#)

Will the activity:

6.1 Impact on carbon reduction or the use of renewable energy?	Not Applicable
6.2 Impact on the effects of climate change adaptation?	Not Applicable
6.3 Impact on reducing, re-using and recycling resources?	Not Applicable
6.4 Impact on construction?	Not Applicable

6.5 Outline the impact your activity will have, including how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts and maximise positive outcomes
<p>Through the commissioning of the VCS the Council will be able to coordinate funding and investment opportunities to maximise capacity for the sector in Sunderland, enabling them to deliver activities which:</p> <p>6.1/2 – support community assets to reduce their energy bills. As well as secure funding to improve assets to be carbon neutral and or support offsetting 6.3 – Asst Director of Economic Regeneration will attend VCS meetings to discuss local electric charging points and tree planting activities and enhancing green space</p>

local accessible services and support points across the city with VCS partners with digitally supported programmes will reduce travel requirements and provide more electronic service access.
Future development of community assets will take account of sustainability as part of any work or improvement programmes

6.6 Outline how you will measure the anticipated impact(s)

Not applicable

7 Community wealth building

[Guidance for this section](#)

Will the activity:

7.1 Impact on community wealth and social value?	Positive
7.2 Impact on social inclusion, integration, and fostering good relations?	Positive
7.3 Impact on crime reduction, anti-social behaviour and community safety?	Positive
7.4 Impact on access to services?	Positive

7.5 Outline the impact your activity will have, including how you propose to mitigate any negative impacts and maximise positive outcomes

Through the commissioning of the VCS the Council will be able to coordinate funding and investment opportunities to maximise capacity for the sector in Sunderland, enabling them to deliver activities which:
7.1/2 – secure investment for the voluntary sector and enable the sector to become accredited real living wage employers
7.2/3 – secure investment for the sector to enable the delivery of activities which integrate communities, reducing crime and anti-social behaviour
7.4 – secure investment for the sector to enable the delivery of additional and sustained activities will improve access to services.

7.6 Outline how you will measure the anticipated impact(s)

The procurement framework will be monitored by the Council’s procurement service and the Council’s Area Arrangements will ensure all commissions which involved the VCS in Sunderland support residents positively to grow community wealth and resilience

8 Key Actions

Any key actions identified throughout the IIA should be recorded here. This will be the action plan linked to your activity and should be implemented to ensure all inequalities or negative impacts are mitigated.

Key Actions	Timescale	Responsible Officer	Review Date
Secure cabinet approval to develop procurement framework to enable the council to commission services from the voluntary and community sector in Sunderland	8.7.23	Helen Peverley	09/07/2023
Develop procurement framework	September 2023	Helen Peverley	01/10/2023
Support all voluntary sector organisations in Sunderland to register with NEPO	December 2023	Helen Peverley	01/01/2024

Responsible officer sign off:	
Name	Graham Scanlon
Job Title	Assistant Director Housing and Communities
Responsible officer for reviewing actions:	
Name	Helen Peverley
Job Title	Area Arrangements Strategic Manager

Once the Integrated Impact Assessment is complete, please send to IIA@sunderland.gov.uk.

