**VSCE(F) sector survey briefing document September 2023**

*VCSE(F) = Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (Faith) (VCSE(F) and voluntary sector mean the same thing)*

*Infrastructure organisation = providers who deliver support to build the capacity of the VSCE(F) sector, more information is included*

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| **High level timeline - VCSE survey** | | | |
| Oct-23 | Nov-23 | Dec-23 | Jan-24 onwards |
| Survey window 31/10/23 - 31/12/23 – here is the survey [link](https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=slTDN7CF9UeyIge0jXdO4zmkGtA4bthMiZbv45Zw6IJUN0Q0SVdUTUxFMU5OWkJKQlAwVjVSNjVNUC4u) | | | Derbyshire County Council consultation team review the results  Report summarising the results to be circulated |

s survey has been created by the Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board (IC

This survey has been created by the Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Derbyshire County Council to explore the current support on offer and the needs of small voluntary and community groups and larger voluntary organisations. This covers a wide range of organisations from small self-help groups with no paid staff to large charities.  Respondents could be a paid staff member, or volunteer or a trustee.

We are doing this because:

* We intend to introduce an annual VCSE survey, let's call this one the first prototype, we want to have a clearer understanding of the needs of the sector, where they are accessing support and whether the current support is meeting their needs.
* We want to explore how we use our investment in VCSE infrastructure in the future to meet the changing needs of VCSE organisations and statutory partners.
* We want to be clear about the desired future priority outcomes for VCSE infrastructure. This will mean exploring the perceptions of VCSE organisations, statutory stakeholders and VCSE infrastructure providers themselves.
* We also want to be clear about some guiding principles. For example, could some support services be provided across more than one area building on existing expertise? Can VCSE infrastructure retain their “honest broker” role whilst delivering direct services?

Note that some of the questions ask about the support needs of the sector beyond that which infrastructure organisations are commissioned to deliver, and we do not expect infrastructure organisations to deliver all the functions included. Some of the support needs may be more appropriately met elsewhere. We also recognise that not all the questions are relevant to all respondents, none of the questions are mandatory and such questions can be skipped.

The steps above will help to define priority support needs and principles that can define a way forward for the commissioning of infrastructure functions. The results of the survey will be circulated in a report and will help to inform a codesign approach with existing infrastructure providers.

Please use the below link to access the survey:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=slTDN7CF9UeyIge0jXdO4zmkGtA4bthMiZbv45Zw6IJUN0Q0SVdUTUxFMU5OWkJKQlAwVjVSNjVNUC4u>

**If you have any questions please email** [**haseena.slack@nhs.net**](mailto:haseena.slack@nhs.net) **and** [**Clare.burgess1@nhs.net**](mailto:Clare.burgess1@nhs.net)

**If you or the people that you work with do not have access to the internet please use the below paper copy version, completed paper surveys should be scanned in and returned to** [**Haseena.slack@nhs.net**](mailto:Haseena.slack@nhs.net) **or returned to the following address: Haseena Slack, NHS Derby and Derbyshire ICB, Scarsdale Nightingale Close, Off Newbold Road, Chesterfield S41 7PF**

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**Further information about Derbyshire Infrastructure Organisations (aka LIO Local Infrastructure Organisation)**

Infrastructure organisations are based across Derbyshire, they are often called CVS's (Council for Voluntary Services) or volunteer centres. The purpose of local infrastructure bodies is to provide services, support and advice to local charities, community groups and social enterprises that deliver social action in their local area to unlock social capital and build cohesion. Volunteer centres/bureaus promote and facilitate volunteering. We often refer to this group as VCSE(F) (Voluntary, Community, Social Enterprise and Faith) or the voluntary sector. A good infrastructure organisation offers a range of support, challenge, leadership, resources, skill, and knowledge. They also help develop relationships between the local voluntary sector, public bodies, and local businesses, and ensure that local communities have a voice.

The ICB (Integrated Care Board) and DCC (Derbyshire County Council) commission 14 infrastructure organisations across the county. Some offer specialist infrastructure support such as the mental health forums commissioned by the ICB or the BME forum commissioned by DCC. Derbyshire has a consortium of 17 infrastructure organisations called DDIA (Derbyshire Infrastructure Alliance, formerly 3D). See the two diagrams at the end of the document for more information about Derbyshire Infrastructure Organisations.

**The functions and priorities for Infrastructure**

NAVCA is the National Association for Voluntary and Community Action, they are the national membership body specifically for local sector support and development organisations (also known as local infrastructure) in England. The current infrastructure framework used by the ICB and Derbyshire County Council is based on NAVCA principles. NAVCA have identified four broad categories that local infrastructure organisations work within, these are called the ‘Four Functions of Local Infrastructure’. The four function are:

* Leadership and advocacy – *Mobilising community action*
* Volunteering – *Encouraging and nurturing opportunities*
* Capacity building – *Practical support*
* Partnership and collaboration – *Bringing people together*

# DCC / DDICB infrastructure priorities for 2023/24

The combined framework and monitoring form builds from the following 5 priorities:

* Priority 1: Sector Support - Maintain a local presence by developing and maintaining a variety of local communications and signposting opportunities
* Priority 2: Build Sector Capacity by supporting voluntary and community sector organisations to develop
* Priority 3: VCS Volunteer Support - Increased pathways to volunteering gives opportunities to individuals to contribute to their community and is accessible to all
* Priority 4: Strategic Support - Voluntary and Community Sector has a strong voice and is actively engaged in the decision-making processes of Derbyshire County Council and Derby and Derbyshire ICB
* Priority 5: Effective information and collaboration within the sector



