

Community Impact Assessment

Name of Proposal:

VCSE Capacity Building Recommission

Project Sponsor:

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Project Manager:

Adam Rooney, Senior Policy Officer

Date Completed:

21/10/21



Completing a CIA

- A CIA will help you to identify the potential impacts, risks and benefits
 of your proposed policy, service or project. Doing this at an early stage
 enables engagement and research to be undertaken to identify actions
 that will either lessen the risk or maximise the benefits. The
 assessment will also help you to identify mitigating factors whereby risks
 may be balanced out to an extent by the benefits.
- This template should be used to support the development of a proposal during the <u>planning stage</u>, therefore supporting the council's approach of <u>Achieving Commissioning Excellence</u>.
- A good CIA will involve input from more than one person. A **Project Team** should be identified with different, but relevant expertise to ensure that a full range of views are considered.
- Engagement and/or consultation should take place with appropriate and representative groups of people that are most likely to be affected. This must then be used to help shape the design/outcomes of the project. Please note that due to the publication of CIAs, it is advisable not to record personal details of members of the public, such as names or addresses.
- Once completed, the main findings from your CIA should be transferred to the 'Checklist and Executive Summary' template. Then both documents need to be approved/signed off by the appropriate people. Depending on the size of your project, this could be your manager, project lead, sponsor or SLT.
- For CIAs that are going to **Cabinet**, only the **'Checklist and Executive Summary'** will be uploaded as part of the **Cabinet Papers**. The full CIA document will be uploaded as a **Background Paper**.



Completing the CIA Template

This table describes what is required when completing the key sections of your assessment.

Which groups will be affected	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations		
Which groups of people will be impacted by the proposed policy, service or project? This could be people in a particular area, a street, or a group of people with similar characteristics	Think about the impact the proposal may have on each of the different category areas and identify the benefits of each decision.	Think about the impact the proposal may have on each of the different category areas, and identify the risks associated with the proposal.	Set out any recommendations as to how the benefits will be maximised and the risks minimised. Also highlight any trade-offs that may occur.		
e.g. older people, young people or people with care needs. Also consider staff, residents and other external stakeholders.	 Please note: Potential impacts should not be included if it is considered highly unlikely that they would occur. Where no major impacts have been identified, please state N/A. Due to the publication of CIAs, it is advisable not to record personal details of members of the public, such as names or addresses. 				
Evidence Base: (Evidence used/ likelihood/ size of impact) How certain are you about the assessment of each potential impact, and what evidence have you used to arrive at the decision? E.g. Data – population trends data, census data, service data. Research – national, regional, local research. Engagement/ Consultation – with partners, the public, the voluntary sector.					

Use the following template to highlight the impacts of your proposal on each of the following categories: The Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), Health and Care, the Economy, the Environment, and Localities/ Communities.



Community Impact Assessment

Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)

Use this section to identify if the proposal will impact on our legal obligations under the Equality Act 2010 for both residents and staff. In summary, those subject to the general equality duty must have due regard to the need to: Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity between different groups and foster good relations between different groups.

Please consider:

- Who is currently using the service, across the protected characteristics?
- What do we know about their experiences and outcomes?
- What relevant information is available from the Census and population trends data?
- What were the findings of the engagement/consultation?
- Is there any relevant national, regional and/or local sources of research/evidence available?
- Is there any relevant information from partners or voluntary, community, social enterprise organisations?
- What is the analysis of the impact on those with relevant protected characteristics?

Protected Characteristics:	Which groups will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
All / multiple protected characteristics	protected	The following benefits apply to multiple / all of the protected characteristics:	multiple / all of the protected	The following mitigations apply to multiple / all of the protected characteristics:
		 People with protected characteristics can benefit from a strong and sustainable VCSE sector, as well as the services provided by VCSE groups. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability of the VCSE sector. 	continuing to invest in VCSE



Protected Characteristics:	Which groups will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
		 A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework will support more residents and VCSE organisations to provide support to their local communities. This includes residents with protected characteristics. 	 It could also result in fewer VCSE organisations being available to provide community-based support for people with protected characteristics. Those organisations that remain could potentially have less access to training and support to ensure they deliver safe and effective services. 	 Ensure people with protected characteristics are considered when putting in place any new arrangements. Engage with the VCSE sector to get their views on any proposed new arrangements. Ensure the lessons learned from the response to Covid-19 are considered in any new arrangements.
Race	People of all races / ethnicities	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Disability	People with disabilities that do not require specialist care / support (in particular SEND).	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: The VCSE sector and community-based support are a central part of our Supportive Communities and Early Help approaches. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework could continue to ensure VCSE groups in these areas are supported to remain sustainable and continue to help their communities. 	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the delivery of key programmes that support people with disabilities. 	that work with people with disabilities as required as part of any future engagement activity on



Protected Characteristics:	Which groups will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
Sex	All	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Age	All (children and young people/ older people in particular).	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: The current contract provides specific support for Supportive Communities. A key element of this work is working with the VCSE to support older people to stay independent and resilient. This also includes specific work with VCSE groups to support potentially vulnerable people through the recovery from Covid-19. The current contract also supports the Council to evidence and deliver its statutory offer locally for young people. A new VCSE Groups in these areas are supported to remain sustainable and continue to help their communities. 	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the delivery Supportive Communities / community-based support for recovery from Covid-19. If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the delivery of our statutory offer for young people. 	 that work with older people as required as part of any future engagement activity on VCSE capacity building support. Further engage with VCSE groups that specialise in working with young people as required part of any future engagement activity on VCSE capacity building support.



Protected Characteristics:	Which groups will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
Religion or Belief	People of all faiths and beliefs. Religious based VCSE groups (e.g. church groups).	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Gender Reassignment	People who are transitioning / have undergone gender reassignment	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Sexual Orientation	People of all sexual orientations	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Pregnancy and Maternity	All	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Marriage and Civil Partnership The duty to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination also	No specific impact	N/A	N/A	N/A



Characteristics:	Which groups will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
covers marriage and civil partnerships in relation to employment issues.				
Impact on SCC Staff	Commissioner s / front-line	The VCSE sector play an important role in Supportive	• If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly	Consider the findings of recent online surveys with SCC
If the proposal affects SCC staff, consider the workforce profile compared against the protected characteristics pre and post change, the impact of job losses, available support for staff, and HR protocols.		 Communities, Early Help, and the Place Based Approach. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would help ensure that a strong and stable VCSE sector can provide important preventative support for communities to remain healthy, well, and independent. 	reduced / withdrawn, the Council could potentially see an increase in demand on front-line services.	 commissioners and officers on VCSE capacity building support. Further engage with commissioners and staff as required on any new arrangements.

Evidence Base: (Evidence used/ likelihood/ size of impact)

- 'Working with the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) in Staffordshire' online surveys (May June 2021)
- Performance Reporting / Contract management of existing VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership
- NCVO, 2021, Pandemic Impact on charities continues to be 'uneven' but funding challenges are on horizon, research shows. https://www.ncvo.org.uk/about-us/media-centre/press-releases/2793-pandemic-impact-on-charities-continues-to-be-uneven-but-funding-challenges-are-on-horizon-research-shows
- House of Lords Select Committee on Public Services, 2020. A critical juncture for public services: lessons from Covid-19. https://committees.parliament.uk/publications/3438/documents/32865/default/
- UK Youth, 2021. The Impact of Covid-19 on England's youth organisations. <u>https://www.ukyouth.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/UK-Youth-Fund-Report 1.pdf</u>



Health and Care

Use this section to determine how the proposal will impact on resident's health and wellbeing, and whether the proposal will impact on the demands for, or access to health and care services. Please consider the Care Act 2014 and the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Category Area (Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)	will be affected?	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
All	All	 A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework will support the Council to deliver its Supportive Communities and Early Help priorities. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would build capacity in the VCSE sector and continue to ensure VCSE groups are supported to remain sustainable and continue working in their communities. This includes groups that support people with: Mental health and wellbeing, Maintaining healthy lifestyles Preventing accidents / falls Help to live independently Accessing social care. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the delivery of key programmes that support people with health and wellbeing. This includes groups that support people with: Mental health and wellbeing, Maintaining healthy lifestyles Preventing accidents / falls Help to live independently Accessing social care. 	 Ensure that any future arrangements include working with the VCSE sector to help deliver the Council's priorities around Health and Care, such as the Supportive Communities programme. Ensure that support for Health and Care based VCSE organisations is a part of any future arrangements.



Mental Health and Wellbeing Will the proposal impact on the mental health and wellbeing of residents or services that support those with Mental Health issues?	All	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Healthy Lifestyles	All	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Will the proposal promote independence and personal responsibility, helping people to make positive choices around physical activity, healthy food and nutrition, smoking, problematic alcohol and substance use, and sexual health?				
Accidents and Falls Prevention	•	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Does the proposal reduce or increase the risk of: falls in older people, childhood accidents, road accidents, or				



workplace accidents?			
Access to Social Care Will the proposal enable people to access appropriate interventions at the right time?	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Independent Living Will the proposal impact on people's ability to live independently in their own home, with care and support from family, friends, and the community?	See first row for identified benefits.	See first row for identified risks.	See first row for mitigations / recommendations.
Safeguarding Will the proposal ensure effective safeguarding for the most vulnerable in our communities?	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: The current VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership includes support for VCSE organisations on safeguarding training and developing safeguarding policies. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework continue to commission this support for VCSE organisations. 	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on capability of some VCSE sector organisations to provide support for residents in the safest way possible. 	 In addition to information in the first row of this table, the following has been identified: Ensure any decisions regarding future VCSE support arrangements consider the impact of any changes on safeguarding.



Evidence Base: (Evidence used/ likelihood/ size of impact)

- 'Working with the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) in Staffordshire' online surveys (May June 2021)
- Performance Reporting / Contract management of existing VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership

Economy

Use this section to determine how the proposal will impact on the economy of Staffordshire and the income of residents.

Category Area	Which groups will be	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
(Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)	affected?			
Economic Growth	VCSE sector, including social	The VCSE sector is an important part of	If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly	Consider the findings of recent online surveys with VCSE sector
Will the proposal promote the county as a "go to" location for business, and make it easy for businesses to start up, innovate and expand?	enterprises.	 Staffordshire's economy, and the current contract supports the VCSE sector, including Social Enterprises. The VCSE across the county also currently receive support to grow and remain sustainable, including bringing additional funding into the Staffordshire. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would ensure the VCSE sector continues to receive support. 	could reduce the amount of additional funding brought into the Staffordshire VCSE sector.	5 5



Category Area (Areas highlighted	Which groups will be	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
(Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)				
Poverty and Income Will the proposal have an impact on income? Will it reduce the gap between high and low earners?	enterprisesResidents	 The VCSE sector plays an important role in supporting low-income families and individuals. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would build capacity and help ensure these organisations receive support to remain sustainable. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of organisations that support low-income families and individuals. 	 Ensure any future VCSE support arrangements are aligned to Council priorities around Early Help, the Place Based Approach and Supportive Communities.
Workplace Health and Environments Will the proposal impact on working conditions and the health of Staffordshire's workforce?	social enterprises	 The VCSE sector is a significant employer of both paid workers and volunteers. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would continue to ensure support was available for VCSE organisations with training, policies, governance and help with recruiting and supporting volunteers. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the ability of VCSE organisations to access support to improve conditions for their paid staff and volunteers. 	 Ensure any decisions regarding future VCSE support arrangements consider the wider impacts on the VCSE sector as an employer.



Category Area	Which groups will be	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
(Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)	affected?			
Access to jobs/ Good quality jobs Will the proposal create the right conditions for increased employment in more and better jobs?	 The VCSE sector, including social enterprises Young people 	 The VCSE sector is a significant employer of both paid workers and volunteers. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would support these VCSE organisations to remain sustainable and potentially support the creation of new VCSE organisations in Staffordshire. The current VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership includes support for VCSE groups working with young people. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability of VCSE organisations in Staffordshire. This could subsequently impact access to jobs in the county. 	

- 'Working with the Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise sector (VCSE) in Staffordshire' online surveys (May June 2021)
- Performance Reporting / Contract management of existing VCSE Strategic Capacity Building Partnership



Environment

Use this section to identify the impact of the proposal on the physical environment. How does the proposal support the utilisation and maintenance of Staffordshire's built and natural environments, thereby improving health and wellbeing and strengthening community assets?

Category Area	Which groups will	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations	
(Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)	be affected?				
Built Environment/ Land Use	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Will the proposal impact on the built environment and land use?					
Rural Environment	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Will the proposal impact on the rural natural environment or on access to open spaces?					
Air, Water and Land Quality	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Will the proposal affect air quality					



(e.g. vehicle, industrial or domestic emissions), drinking water quality or land quality (e.g. contamination)?				
Waste and	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Recycling				
Will the proposal affect waste (e.g. disposal) and recycling?				
Agriculture	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
and Food				
Production				
Will the proposal affect the				
production of				
healthy, affordable and culturally				
acceptable food?				
Transport	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Will the proposal				
affect the ability of people/				
communities/				
business to travel? Will the proposal				
impact on walking/				
cycling opportunities?				
opportunities:				



Noise	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Will the proposal cause disruptive noise?				
Climate Change	VCSE organisations	A future VCSE Capacity Building Framework will VCSE	N/A	N/A
Does this proposal have any Climate Change implications?		support / train VCSE organisations to operate in an environmentally sustainable way where possible.		
Evidence Base N/A	: (Evidence us	ed/ likelihood/ size of impa	act)	



Localities and Communities

Use this section to identify the impact of the proposal on communities. How will the proposal strengthen community capacity to create safer and stronger communities? It is important to recognise the different localities and communities your proposal may impact upon and identify any communities that could be more adversely impacted than others. Strategic Delivery Managers (SDMs) have a great deal of knowledge about their relevant locality and they must be engaged with as part of your Project Team at an early stage of the process.

Category Area	Which	Benefits	Risks	Mitigations / Recommendations
(Areas highlighted are suggestions only and there may be other impacts in these categories)	be affected?			
Community Development/ Capacity Will the proposal affect opportunities to work with communities and strengthen or reduce community capacity?	across the County.	 The VCSE across the county receive support from the current contract to grow and remain sustainable. This includes support to start new groups, access funding, training, IAG and networking support. In recent engagement activity with the VCSE sector, this support was valued by the vast majority of respondents. The current contract also provides VCSE groups with support through Covid-19, including interpreting government guidance and accessing additional funding. 	building is significantly	 Consider the findings of recent engagement activity with VCSE sector regarding VCSE capacity building support. Engage with partners locally on any opportunities to further coordinate work with the VCSE sector.



		•	This helps the sector to grow, remain sustainable and recovery from Covid-19.				
Crime/ Community Safety Will the proposal support a joint approach to responding to crime and addressing the causes of crime?	All	•	The VCSE sector plays an important role in supporting both victims of crime as well as ex-offenders and people at risk of becoming involved in crime, including young people. The current contract builds capacity in the VCSE sector and helps ensure these organisations receive support to remain sustainable. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would continue to provide support for these VCSE organisations, as well as those working with young people to ensure positive activities are available and accessible.		If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of organisations that currently support these groups.	•	Ensure any future VCSE support arrangements are aligned to Council priorities around Early Help, the Place Based Approach and Supportive Communities.
Educational Attainment and Training Will the proposal support school improvement and help to provide access to a good education?	Young people		The current contract provides support for Staffordshire's youth offer, including supporting VCSE organisations that work with young people and ensuring the views of young people are heard and contribute to decision making.	•	If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of organisations that currently support young people.	•	Ensure any future VCSE support arrangements are aligned to Council priorities around Early Help, the Place Based Approach and the priorities of the Families and Communities transformation programme.



Will the proposal support the improved supply of skills to employers and the employability of residents?		• A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would continue to provide support for these VCSE organisations, as well as those working with young people to ensure their views are heard and contribute to decision making.		
Leisure and Culture Will the proposal encourage people to participate in social and leisure activities that they enjoy?	All	 A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would build capacity and provide support for VCSE organisations that provide leisure and culture activities that support community wellbeing and children, young people, and families. 	• If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of organisations that provide this type of support for communities.	 Consider the findings of recent engagement activity with VCSE sector regarding VCSE capacity building support. Engage with partners locally on any opportunities to further coordinate work with the VCSE sector.
Volunteering Will the proposal impact on opportunities for volunteering?	All	 The current contract provides support for volunteering. This includes helping residents that are interested in volunteering find opportunities, as well as helping VCSE organisations to recruit volunteers. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would continue to provide this support for volunteering. 	 If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the number of volunteering placements across the County. 	 Consider the findings of recent engagement activity with VCSE sector regarding VCSE capacity building support. Ensure any future VCSE support arrangements are aligned to Council's Communities Delivery Plan and approach to working volunteers.



Best Start Will the proposal impact on parental support (pre or postnatally), which helps to ensure that children are school-ready and have high aspirations, utilising a positive parenting approach?	Children, young people, and families	•	The current contract provides support for Staffordshire's children, young people, and families, including working with the local VCSE on the Council's Early Help strategy and Staffordshire's youth offer. A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework would continue to provide support for VCSE groups working with children, young people, and families, as well as working with the Council and partners.	•	If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of VCSE organisations that can provide effective support for children, young people, and families.	•	Consider the findings of recent engagement activity with VCSE sector regarding VCSE capacity building support. Ensure any future VCSE support arrangements are aligned to Council priorities around Early Help, the Place Based Approach and the priorities of the Families and Communities transformation programme.
Rural Communities Will the proposal specifically impact on rural communities? Evidence Base	: (Evidence us	·	A new VCSE Capacity Building Framework could continue to ensure VCSE groups in each locality still receive support, including Rural Communities.	·	If support for VCSE capacity building is significantly reduced / withdrawn, it could potentially have a negative impact on the sustainability / number of VCSE organisations operating in rural communities.	•	Consider the findings of recent engagement activity with VCSE sector regarding VCSE capacity building support. Engage with partners locally on any opportunities to further coordinate work with the VCSE sector.

Submitting a CIA

Now transfer the main findings of this assessment to the **'Checklist and Executive Summary'** template. Then both documents need to be approved/signed off by the appropriate people. For CIAs that are going to **Cabinet**,



only the **'Checklist and Executive Summary'** will be submitted as part of the **Cabinet Papers**. The Full CIA document will be submitted as a **Background Paper**.