Untapping Community Potential

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Intro

1. About VSNW - draft vision
2. VCFSE sector in Sefton
3. Untapping community potential – why?
   • ‘... because people deserve better ...’
   • Community empowerment should be at heart of devolution and Public Service Reform
   • Funding environment
   • Business case:
     • either £1.30 cashable savings on £1 investment, or
     • inward investment/asset mobilisation
     • NB: likely to need a System Offer, or ...
   • Need to get more sophisticated at making the case for a mix of different approaches
Draft vision for sector in NW

By 2020...

1. There will be clear and concise evidence, business cases and materials about the potential role of the sector, with communities at the heart of our identity and purpose.

2. The sector will be embedded as an equal partner in key subregional strategic discussions.

3. The sector powerfully speaks out about and addresses social and economic inequality.
VCFSE Sector in Sefton

• Over 1,500 VCFSE groups operating in Sefton
• There are over 17,000 formal volunteers supporting these groups on a regular basis
• Volunteer Centre Sefton alone formally monitored, through its volunteer certification scheme, 148,000 hours of volunteering in 2014/15. Based on the average earnings for Sefton, this equates to an investment of around £1.9 million in the borough by volunteers over the 12-month period.
• Nationally, between 80% & 90% of sector below £10k funding.
IFS illustrative example of a spending allocation

Real change in total departmental budget, 2015-16 to 2019-20 (%)*

- Development assistance
- Health
- Defence
- Transport
- Devolved
- Education
- Business
- Justice
- Home Office
- Local govt

*Assumes all unprotected depts have a 27.2% cut to resource budget but capital budget is raised 12.3% for all depts. Scotland/Wales/NI determined according to the Barnett formula

Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies
Closing the NHS funding gap
Estimates, NHS England, 2020/21 prices

Efficiency savings
None
0.8% a year
1.5% a year
2-3% a year

Shortfall by 2020/21*
£30 billion
£21 billion
£16 billion
£8 billion

*assuming NHS funding rises in line with inflation

Source: the Five Year Forward View, 2014
Principles of community-centred approaches

1. Recognise and seek to mobilise assets within communities. These include the skills, knowledge and time of individuals, and the resources of community organisations and groups

2. Focus on working in community settings, rather than service settings using non-clinical methods

3. Promote equity by working in partnership with individuals and groups that face barriers

4. Seek to increase people’s control over their lives

5. Use participatory methods to facilitate the active involvement of members of the public
Family of community-centred approaches

Four main strands... identified by Prof Jane South (PHE and NHS England):

1. Strengthening Communities
2. Volunteer and Peer Support
3. Collaboration and Partnerships
4. Access to Community Resources
Strengthening Communities

• **Community development:**
  - C2 Connecting Communities project (Plymouth): seven step programme that develops community sustainability through building up people involved, and establishing the right conditions for future capacity building.

• **Asset based methods:** “place-based, relationship-based, citizen-led”: eg asset mapping work; ABCD; asset profiling (local asset investigators); appreciative inquiry.

• **Social network approaches:** Timebanks (time credits), Southwark Circle model, Click Nottingham (mix), Recovery Communities eg Our Sheds Project (in Sefton).
Volunteer and Peer Support

**Bridging roles – connectors, signposters, supporters**
- Dementia Friends Initiative (Alzheimer's Society): short, certified training, where individuals stay in touch with someone they know living with dementia, campaign, or promote the initiative.

**Peer interventions:**
- Self-Help groups
- Merseyside Offender Peer Mentoring Project – highly successful at reducing reoffending rates.
- Home-Start model

**Volunteer Health roles:**
- Walking for Health (10k vols, 70k taking part in health walks)
- Befriending schemes – often community-led
Collaboration and partnerships

**Community-Based participatory Research**

**Area based initiatives:**
- Healthy Cities; Age-Friendly Zones; Social Action Zones; Well North Sefton;

**Community engagement in planning:**
- Lots: Joint neighbourhood boards with a regeneration remit; participatory budgeting; neighbourhood community budgets; residents committees; fairness commissions.
- **The Forges of Hoogeveen, the Netherlands** -- the police, three local housing associations, a welfare organisation and local citizens so that they can all have a direct say in the short and long term planning of their community. Citizens then have the opportunity to get involved in aspects of delivering local projects.

**Co-production projects**
Access to community resources

Pathways to Participation – referral systems:

Community Hubs:
• Community centres, faith settings, children’s centres, healthy living centres, libraries, schools, etc.
• Community-based commissioning – may or may not tap into local VCFSE expertise:
  • Holistic models of community-based commissioning: eg homeless, sex workers, gypsies and travellers
  • Care pathways linking medical care with social support
Figure 2. The family of community-centred approaches for health and wellbeing

Community-centred approaches for health & wellbeing

- Strengthening communities
  - Community development
  - Asset-based methods
  - Social network approaches

- Volunteer and peer roles
  - Bridging roles
  - Peer interventions
  - Peer support
  - Peer education
  - Peer mentoring
  - Volunteer health roles

- Collaborations & partnerships
  - Community-Based Participatory Research
  - Area-based Initiatives
  - Community engagement in planning
  - Community-based commissioning
  - Co-production projects

- Access to community resources
  - Pathways to participation
  - Community hubs
  - Community-based commissioning

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1 The family of community-centred approaches for health and wellbeing (South, 2014)
Question ....

How do these approaches fit in with what your organisation currently does?