



GM VCSE Infrastructure Development Autumn Update 2024/25



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The Greater Manchester VCSE Infrastructure Development Programme is funded through the The UK Shared Prosperity Fund, and aims to improve the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) locality infrastructure support for community activity, by building on the strengths of locality infrastructure, identifying gaps and best practice to accelerate developments where they are needed. The programme runs until March 2025, and is being delivered by the partnership of Local Infrastructure Organisations (and other organisations with reach) across all 10 boroughs of Greater Manchester.

Priority areas of activity include Membership Models and Promotion; Website and Information Strategies, Social Enterprise and Social Investment; Voice and Influence; and Training and Development.

This briefing will update you on the activity that has taken place from July - September 2024, and outline some of the plans for the next 3 months.

Oldham

Action Together in Oldham have been influencing the Integrated Health and Care System this quarter, which has secured an investment of £500K to a community-led health approaches grant programme for the VCFSE sector. Work has also taken place to successfully deliver a Town Centre Volunteering Showcase Event where the Refugee and Asylum Seekers volunteering 'uplift' pathway grants were launched and have started to award grants.

They have also reviewed the work of the Oldham Poverty Action Network (OPAN) and the associated test and learn projects to inform an investment and delivery plan.



Bolton CVS Strategy Development at Staff Away Day

Wigan

Wigan Borough Accord Group members continue to meet with the 14 members still continuing to advocate for the sector and represent Wigan, as with the recent Wigan Borough VCFSE event, The Big Event.

The Group plans to bring in a coordinator role to support communications and engagement with the VCFSE sector as well as supporting the creation of a website to bring the work together and evidence to the wider VCFSE sector.

They have also maintained links with Our Business Cooperative and Proper Good for capacity support to the Social Enterprise sector. Also, links have been developed with the Private Sector to provide greater capacity.

Bolton

Bolton CVS' Equality, Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging (EDIB) working group and Trustees have completed and signed off reviews of the strategic document. This is a public statement that details Bolton CVS' views and aims when it comes to EDIB-related activities. Alongside this they ran an internal session with all Bolton CVS staff to discuss Allyship.

Bolton CVS Project team have continued to attend, develop relationships, and engage with cross-sector partners and allies on the GM Systems Change and Leadership development sessions to discuss how they better align priorities in a world where they often compete. Alongside this, Bolton's co-designed VCSE strategy has been shared with the sector - focussing on prevention, with leaders of both Bolton's VCSE sector.

Salford

This quarter, Salford CVS have continued to organise and facilitate Salford's Social Value Alliance and have been working with the Steering Group on the website refresh, organising a networking event for Alliance Members and developing a Social Value Brokerage Offer.

They have continued to support VCSE organisations to get onto Salford City Council's Alternative Education Framework, in particular assisting them to demonstrate their Social Value through the Social Value Portal.

Next quarter they plan to continue to support the Steering Group, launch the new website, and hold a membership networking event as well as launching the Social Value Brokerage Offer.

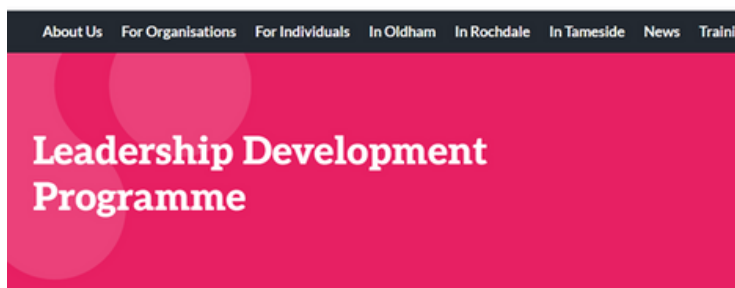


Rochdale

This quarter, Action Together in Rochdale have been awarded funding to co-ordinate and lead the system wide response to community development in Freehold. They have also launched applications for their new leadership programme starting in the next quarter.

They also held an initial co-design session with CEOs of local commissioned charities to develop a new peer support and leadership space.

Action Together in Rochdale also launched a power shifting group for key system leaders to support the work of the anti-poverty network and enable the shift in power and decision-making



Action Together in Oldham, Rochdale and Tameside launch their new leadership development programme.

Tameside

Action Together in Tameside have found there has been a significant shift in the area of partnerships and collaboration given the UKSPF E11 investment. As a result, the core training is high quality and embedded across all localities and Tameside have been able to provide bespoke training for groups that have identified particular needs and on topical areas that groups are responding to.

Next quarter they will focus on what will happen post UKSPF funding, what the legacy will be e.g. all of the training has been developed as a train the trainer model to ensure we are able to carry this on without additional investment.

Trafford

Thrive Trafford launched the new Thrive Trafford website this quarter, along with a new branding/ corporate identity. The new website aims to improve access to Thrive Trafford services and provides information about the projects and programmes they are developing to help meet VCFSE sector needs. A key feature of the new site is also to help clarify and signpost VCFSEs to the services and support provided by partners.

The corporate identity includes a refreshed/ modernised Thrive logo, and sub branding/ logos for the new Trafford Social Enterprise Network (TSEN), Trafford VCFSE Strategic Forum (TSF), Trafford Friendly Funders Partnership (TFFP), and Trafford Volunteer Managers Network (TVVN).



Bury VCFA's upcoming training offer

Bury

In this quarter, Bury VCFA have continued to focus on strengthening their Capacity Building offer now there is a new team in place. Organisational development support is a core part of the offer along with grants support, training offer and volunteering development offer.

In this quarter they have delivered 8 training opportunities to 42 participants from the VCFSE sector. There has also been a pulse check online survey completed on funding and finances. Results are being analysed for dissemination in quarter 3.

BURY VOLUNTARY COMMUNITY & FAITH ALLIANCE

TRAINING SCHEDULE

12 December 2024	Bury Inclusive Economy Network 6:00pm - 8:00pm Wax & Beans Cafe, Bury
16 December 2024	Exploring Social Enterprise 10:00am - 4:00pm Whitefield Bowling Club
16 January 2025	Social Impact Reporting 10:00am - 1:00pm The Met, Bury
28 January 2025	Business Planning 6:00pm - 7:00pm Online

www.buryvcfa.org.uk/training/

Stockport

Sector3 Stockport facilitated the first VCFSE Alliance meeting, with strong attendance of councillors and members of Stockport's VCFSE sector.

They have also developed a training calendar, including monthly Meet the Funder and Bidwriting sessions. Launched 'Our Business' for new & emerging Social Enterprises, offering tailored support. The Sector3 Funding Development Lead has also started 1-2-1 meetings with VCFSE's, training them to use the library's free offer of GrantFinder and diversifying their funding streams.

Manchester

This quarter, Macc successfully delivered a Real Living Wage themed in-person Community Explorers event in collaboration with the GMCA, Manchester City Council and the Living Wage Foundation.

They have also conducted mapping of existing strategic boards and forums, identifying the gaps and holding conversations with Council colleagues as to how they can put forward VCFSE leaders to represent the sector in these spaces. Additional VCFSE representatives have also been recruited and a new online directory of VCFSE representatives has been launched.

Next quarter, Macc plan to hold a Community Explorers event focusing on Health Determinants Research Collaboration, and publishing VCSE Strategic Boards on their website.

COMMUNITY explorers
Zoom Meetings
18th-20th November

North Manchester	Central Manchester	South Manchester
Mon 18th 1-1:45pm	Tues 19th 10-10:45am	Weds 20th 10-10:45am

Come along to connect with other groups in your community & share updates.
This month, we also want to hear your reactions to the Autumn Budget & what it means for your organisation.

Macc's Community Explorers events this quarter

To learn more about our work with VCSE Infrastructure partners, or to discuss how we can work together, please get in touch - we'd love to hear from you.



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