

RESPONSE TO SCRUTINY COMMITTEE ON IMPLEMENTATION FOLLOWING SCRUTINY REVIEW

Title of Review:	Review of Voluntary & Community Sector Grant Allocations					
Timescale of Review:	August 2021 – April 2022		Post-Monitoring Period:	12 months commencing August 2022. Interim report due January 2023.		
Date agreed by Scrutiny:	July 2022		Date agreed by Executive:	August 2022		
Total No. of Recommendations and Sub Recommendations	Achieved	5	On track	4	Extended	3
	Achieved (Behind target)	0	Overdue	0	Alert	0

Key Achievements:

- The contract with the existing VCS Infrastructure provider has been extended for a further 3yr period.
- The SV calculator tool was procured as planned, with Member input, and is being trialled among a small number of officers across departments.
- Performance reports continue to be produced on a six-monthly basis and will now incorporate presentation by the CEO of BCVS to Council on an annual basis.
- A VCS consultation took place as part of Better Bolsover event, this will shape the further development of the revised commissioning and allocations over the coming months.

Reasons for non-implementation of Recommendations:

- 3 recommendations are currently extended to allow for completion of the design of the commissioning process and to ensure all required consultation and negotiation with VCS partners takes place prior to the new financial year.
- 4 recommendations are currently on track for completion in line with the launch of the new VCS grant allocations.

PERFORM Code	Recommendation	Lead Officer	Target Date	Completion Date	Status	Resources	Progress/Action
CCCSC21-22 2.1	That further communication takes place as part of the refresh of the allocation scheme to ensure new contracts are aligned to the Council's new Ambitions and Priorities, in order for VCS organisations to submit valid applications.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Aug 22 - Dec 22			Officer time	Mid to end January organisations will be aligned with the Council's new Ambitions and Priorities and completed by the end of March 2023.
CCCSC21-22 2.2	That as part of any revised allocation scheme, the additional areas outlined in the report are listed as areas the Council wishes to see additional local delivery via grant allocation, and that the revised scheme remains flexible to accommodate emerging issues.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Aug 22 -Dec 22			Officer time	The revised schemes will utilise the commissioning process established to identify need current and emerging.
CCCSC21-22 2.3	That BDC move to a commissioning process outlining set clear areas of delivery which assist achievement of BDC Ambitions and Priorities, with local organisations able to tender for contracts/SLAs.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Aug 22 - Dec 22			Officer time	The revised schemes will utilise the commissioning process established to identify need current and emerging. Including any additional or new allocations the council may wish

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							to add to the existing budget.
CCCSC21-22 2.4	That following the review, a consultation process takes place with existing recipients and wider sector on the proposed changes to allocation, as required by the Best Value Guidance.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Jan 2023	October 2022		Officer time	<p>Consultation took place on the 17th October as part of a wider CVS event “Better Bolsover” (Bolsover Conference 2022 Report Bassetlaw CVS (bcvs.org.uk)).</p> <p>The key messages from this event for funders / commissioners particularly were:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Big contracts are not possible or cost effective for smaller providers. 2. Grants not commissioning works better for smaller organisations. 3. Require support to understand the

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							<p>commissioning frameworks.</p> <p>This would require consideration within this review to ensure recommendations do not negatively affect smaller organisations which represent the majority of organisations we support.</p>
CCCSC21-22 2.5	That the current contract with a VCS Infrastructure provider is extended and integrated in to the wider VCS grants allocation process, to ensure all grants and monitoring are centralised.	Executive and Partnerships Team	July 22	July 2022		Officer time	<p>Completed</p> <p>This was completed during the course of the review due to a requirement to address the expiring contract. The current contract has been extended for a further 3yr period to allow current infrastructure development to continue. The</p>

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							contract is performance based enabling release of funding based on achievement of agreed outcomes
CCCSC21-22 2.6	That other VCS grants from across the Council are incorporated in to the main VCS Grants process, in compliance with the HRA ring-fence where required, to centralise allocation and monitoring, with appropriate involvement of services outside of the Executive and Partnerships team in relation to monitoring of any grants.	Executive and Partnerships Team Assistant Director of Housing Management & Enforcement Finance team	Aug 22 – Mar 23 – development of revised scheme. Monitoring from Apr 23 onwards			Officer time	Working with lead officers: ongoing
CCCSC21-22 2.7	That the Council clearly define set allocations to a single organisation for the following areas of delivery to avoid any further chance of duplication: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Debt advice/benefits claim support • Employment advice/case support • Housing advice/case work – General 	Executive and Partnerships Team Assistant Director of Housing Management & Enforcement	Mar 23			Officer time Revised grant allocation guidance/ criteria	Working with lead officers: ongoing. Request to extend this and commence from May 2023. The purpose of this is to allow careful management of any changes to long term grant funding, the

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	<p>housing/homelessness (General Fund)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Housing advice/case work – Council tenants (HRA Fund) 						current Corporate aims are soon to be out of date so it would be sensible to pause this until we're clear on any new aims.
CCCSC21-22 2.8	That the new process includes a clear section where applicants must declare other funding and evidence there is no duplication.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Jan 23 – Mar 23			Officer time (production/processing of form)	Information relating to this will be incorporated within the monitoring.
CCCSC21-22 2.9	That consideration be given to the Council negotiating positions as a representative on the management committee of grant recipients, to ensure there is transparency for the duration of the grant period.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Apr 23 onwards			Officer time Member time	This will form part of the Member appointments to outside bodies following the Election in May.
CCCSC21-22 2.10	That Officers ensure the procurement process for a SV calculator tool takes in to account the criteria identified by Members during the review process.	Executive and Partnerships Team Development Team	May 2022	May 2022		Officer time	This was completed during the course of the review with the criteria agreed by Members forming part of the RFQ for the procurement of the evaluation tool.

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CCCSC21-22 2.11	That the Council completes the required procurement process for an improved social value evaluation tool which will support improved analysis and reporting functions, and enable wider use across multiple service areas and by external partners.	Executive and Partnerships Team Development Team	May 2022	May 2022		Officer time	Procurement process complete in May 2022. Initial training and roll-out of software to commence in July 2022.
CCCSC21-22 2.12	That performance reports for the VCS allocations be submitted to Executive/Council on a six-monthly basis, with periodic attendance of the individual recipients.	Executive and Partnerships Team	Oct 22 onwards	Oct 22 onwards		Officer time VCS partner time (attendance)	Performance monitoring reports are currently produced six-monthly and it is proposed the CEO of BCVS is invited to present to full council on an annual basis to cover the position of the CVS sector and on behalf the recipients identified.