# **GREATER MANCHESTER VCSE ACCORD**

# Report of the Cabinet Member for Inclusive Neighbourhoods

#### 1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

1.1 This report provides an overview of the recently agreed the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Accord which was agreed at the Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) for further local consideration. This report considers Stockport's progress against the accord commitments and makes a recommendation for local adoption of the commitments for a resilient and thriving Voluntary Community Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector.

#### 2. OVERVIEW OF THE GM ACCORD

## **Background**

- 2.1 The Greater Manchester (GM) VCSE Accord was originally a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between GMCA and the VCSE sector signed in 2017 to cover the period to November 2022 but expanded to now include the GM Health and Social Care Partnership.
- 2.2 The current Accord replaces the previous MoU and is a tripartite agreement between GMCA, the VCSE sector represented by the GM VCSE Leadership Group, and the GM Health and Social Care Partnership. It covers a period of 5 years commencing on 1st October 2021.
- 2.3 The Accord has been co-produced with stakeholders and developed following consideration of learning and reflections from the Covid-19 pandemic; the 2021 report of the GM Independent Inequalities Commission; and the Marmot report 'Building Back Fairer in Greater Manchester'. The high-level agreement builds on existing good practice to embed effective ways of working with the VCSE sector across all places in GM.

2.4 The Accord is accompanied by a technical annex that further describes the context of its development and explains how it will be delivered<sup>1</sup>.

### **Context**

- 2.5 During the Covid-19 pandemic, the response of VCSE organisations has been incredible in its strength, its depth, and the speed at which it has mobilized. Furthermore, community volunteers have offered and continue to provide their support and are integrating with emergency support structures at this time. The VCSE sector has been quick to adapt at pace and with a huge degree of accuracy and efficacy to meet the needs of GM communities.
- 2.6 As part of the recovery from the pandemic and to facilitate both the refresh of the Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and the development of the Integrated Care System, the new Accord aims to develop a unified way of working between local authorities, GMCA, the Integrated Care System and the GM VCSE sector, represented by the GM VCSE Leadership Group.
- 2.7 It is anticipated that this will allow for a single conversation with the sector in relation to all aspects of the GMS and its partner strategies and enables a focus on sustaining the valuable work in communities and creating a more resilient VCSE sector.

## Purpose of the Accord

- 2.8 The purpose of the Accord is to further develop how we work together to improve outcomes for Greater Manchester's communities and citizens. It is intended to work in the following ways:
  - Through a shared understanding of the contribution that VCSE organisations make towards tackling inequality in society, creating a more inclusive economy and addressing the climate crisis.
  - Through the building of effective partnerships and relationships between the statutory sector with VCSE organisations across different geographies (for example GM-wide, district-wide, or in neighbourhoods and communities).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Greater Manchester VCSE Accord, GMCA meeting – item 11 <a href="https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s16715/11%20Annex%201%20-%20GM%20VCSE%20Accord.pdf">https://democracy.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk/documents/s16715/11%20Annex%201%20-%20GM%20VCSE%20Accord.pdf</a>

- A shared vision, ways of working principles and set of 8 commitments which underpin these partnerships and relationships.
- Through a 5-year iterative programme of enabling and developmental activities driven at a GM-wide footprint, which aims to maximise the ability of VCSE organisations to deliver beneficial outcomes in communities and localities.
- 2.9 The Accord will act as a framework for collaboration involving VCSE leaders and organisations in the delivery of the Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) and in the thematic strategies and delivery plans that will exist to deliver the GMS vision, including the development of the strategic plan of the new GM Integrated Care System.
- 2.10 The Accord will also deliver the ambitions set out in the VCSE policy paper, which was published by the GM VCSE Leadership Group in 2020 and sets out a developmental ambition for the VCSE sector.
- 2.11 It aims to achieve consistency without losing the uniqueness and innovation of voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises.

## Implementation, governance and evaluation

- 2.12 The 5-year iterative programme of enabling and developmental activities driven at a GM-wide footprint will be outlined in an Implementation Plan supported by annual delivery plans which contain actions, responsibilities, timescales, targets and outcomes for delivery.
- 2.13 The implementation plan will be used as the basis for a partnership funding agreement between the GMCA, GM Health and Social Care Partnership and the GM VCSE Leadership Group, which will cover the length of this Accord agreement, but be subject to annual review and confirmation of budgets for the GMCA and GM Integrated Care System.
- 2.14 It is intended that the VCSE Accord be signed off through individual 'governance' structures but will be owned jointly by the GM Combined Authority, the GM Health and Social Care Partnership (with approvals through the GM Partnership Executive Board and Health and Care Board) and the GM VCSE Leadership Group.
- 2.15 Representatives from the three parties will meet every 3 months as a VCSE Accord Management Group to review progress made towards the shared objectives and targets

- set out in the Implementation Plan, to monitor the budget and spend, and to make any necessary adjustments to delivery.
- 2.16 The VCSE Accord Management Group will be jointly and equally accountable for the delivery and risk associated with the work in this agreement and will also be responsible for evaluation of the effectiveness of the Accord.

#### 3 STOCKPORT VCSE ACCORD COMMITMENTS

- 3.1 The VCSE accord includes eight commitments, these are:
  - We will work together to achieve a permanent reduction in inequalities and inequity within Greater Manchester, addressing the social, environmental and economic determinants of health and wellbeing.
  - We will embed the VCSE sector as a key delivery partner of services for communities in Greater Manchester.
  - We will build a financially resilient VCSE sector that is resourced to address our biggest challenges of ending poverty and inequality in Greater Manchester.
  - We will grow the role of the VCSE sector as an integral part of a resilient and inclusive economy where social enterprises, co-operatives, community businesses, charities and microsocial business thrive.
  - We will build on our existing strengths to build the best VCSE ecosystem in England.
  - We will put into place meaningful mechanisms to make co-design of local services the norm, including expanding channels for service design to be informed by 'lived experience'.
  - We will fulfil the potential for building productive relationships between the
     VCSE, public and private sectors to address inequity and build back fairer.
  - We will put in place a comprehensive workforce programme to support organisational and workforce development for VCSE employers based on and facilitating a more integrated public facing workforce.

3.2 The voluntary sector in Stockport plays an increasingly important role and are well placed to respond to social challenges. The commitments set out in the GM Accord will help realise the opportunities and potential for the sector to be key partners. An overview of actions already in place or planned under each commitment are outlined below:

Commitment 1: We will work together to achieve a permanent reduction in inequalities and inequity within Greater Manchester, addressing the social, environmental and economic determinants of health and wellbeing.

- 3.3 The One Stockport Borough Plan was developed in partnership with the sector. This included targeted engagement allowing us to ensure equitable representation of different views and experiences which has helped shape our ambitions for the future. Inequalities and inequity is a strong theme throughout the Borough Plan's development and we have a clear shared commitment to Fair and Inclusive Society and inequalities outcomes framework which will need to be delivered across sectors in Stockport.
- 3.4 Locally VCSE commitment to tackle inequalities is strong and there is a multi-agency approach under the Borough Plan to tackling a range of determinants of inequalities such as health and wellbeing, financial and digital inclusion, and abuse and hate crime. Colleagues across the Council are working collaboratively with communities across Stockport to shape services and co-design programmes to tackle inequalities. The Council has also provided a direct investment of £110k into Sector 3 to develop equalities, diversity and inclusion programmes of work alongside a £500k Cabinet investment in digital and financial inclusion<sup>2</sup>.

Commitment 2: We will embed the VCSE sector as a key delivery partner of services for communities in Greater Manchester.

5

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Stockport Local Fund – update report for scrutiny committees, October 2021: https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/s192496/Enc.%201%20for%20Community%20Investment%20Report%202021.pdf

- 3.5 Working with the VCSE sector to deliver services is an integral part of our One Stockport approach and fundamental to our Council Plan and future One Neighbourhood model ambitions. Stockport Council has taken a practical approach where responsibility and risk are shared and has pioneered approaches with communities across directorates. There are many examples where services have worked with the sector to improve outcomes for Communities in Stockport. From: Friends of the Park Groups; Community Champions; ASC day care services to Childrens and Youth provision.
- 3.6 Throughout Covid, communities played an integral part of the local response, providing meals, helping with shopping, and picking up essential medicines. As we emerge from the pandemic we are working to ensure that we embed this collaborative approach and support these groups of volunteers so that communities are more cohesive and resilient. Training with the sector on how to improve existing provision is ongoing with support provided through our commissioned voluntary sector provider. This will improve delivery and strengthen the sector opening further opportunities for commissioned services.
- 3.7 We have developed a Cross Sector Forum to bring together VCSE partners and services to connect on strategic objectives and collaborate on delivery. The forum meets fortnightly and is well attended. It has delivered a range of initiatives working collaboratively with partners on the refugee response, humanitarian response, supporting each other to set up Equity Partnerships on Race Equality and LGBTQ+. The forum has provided a space for collaboration and the sharing of ideas to shape Stockport's first Equality Month and offers opportunities for partners to involve the sector on key developments such as Social Value, Stockport Stockroom, Economic Plan and One Stockport borough plan. As well as the forum there are multi-agency thematic networks including Mental Health, Digital Inclusion, Covid response, Food Poverty and Inequalities. The VCSE sector are also represented on key partnership forums such as: One Health and Care Shadow Locality Board, Age Friendly Stockport; Supporting Families Executive.

3.8 We are working with VCSE partners to deliver projects<sup>3</sup> that achieve shared objectives and have targeted investments in priorities including Climate Action, Food poverty and Holiday Hunger.

Commitment 3: We will build a financially resilient VCSE sector that is resourced to address our biggest challenges of ending poverty and inequality in Greater Manchester.

- 3.9 We have developed our approach to funding the VCSE across commissioning and grant giving. We are working to better harness the social value within our spend and work collaboratively for best value. The Local Access Programme<sup>4</sup> will open up new types of investment products to our VCSE through a blend of grants and loans. Stockport is one of the six places in the UK and will be financed through 10 million of dormant funds and around 15 million of repayable finance provided by Big Social Capital.
- 3.10 The Funding Alliance across local grant giving partners (including Stockport Council, Sector3, Stockport Homes amongst others) have secured over 1.6 million in external grants since the start of the year.
- 3.11 The strategic investment in Sector3 to provide infrastructure services for VCSE totalling £240k over 3 years. We have distributed £340k of funding through the One Stockport Local Fund and maintained the preventative recommissioning budget of £4,458,841 per annum.

Commitment 4: We will grow the role of the VCSE sector as an integral part of a resilient and inclusive economy where social enterprises, co-operatives, community businesses, charities and microsocial business thrive.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Stockport Local Fund – update report for scrutiny committees, October 2021: https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/s192496/Enc.%201%20for%20Community%20Investment%2 OReport%202021.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> https://access-socialinvestment.org.uk/blended-finance/local-access/

- 3.12The Social Enterprise sector in Stockport is growing, and the sector is diversifying funding streams. The needs and value of third Sector organisations are built into our economic plans from recognition at business awards to design of the Future High Street.
- 3.13Over the past 18months, VCSE organisations were supported via the Business Recovery Grants and Marketing Stockport Recovery support. As well as being able to access wider support such as webinars made available to local businesses.
- 3.14More widely, Partners are currently developing a new Economic Plan for Stockport. A representative of Sector3 is actively involved in the steering of this work and experiences from across the VCFSE will be involved during the engagement period.
- 3.15Finally, we are also developing the Social Value Framework collaboratively with the sector to ensure that we are shaping commitments to Stockport communities.

Commitment 5: We will build on our existing strengths to build the best VCSE ecosystem in England.

- 3.16 We have VCSE anchor organisation, key voluntary organisations that support local activity in specific neighbourhoods or thematic areas, which are integral to place and neighbourhood infrastructure. Our VCSE is actively involved across a full range strategic partnerships and networks. VCSE leadership drove the infrastructure development of Sector3 to support, lead and develop the voluntary sector in Stockport.
- 3.17 We have a developed a place-based approach to facilitate the co-design of local services by having the Team Around the Place embedded in all eight neighbourhoods. This is a partnership led approach where services including the NHS, Greater Manchester Police, local statutory services and the voluntary sector meet to share information and collaborate on projects in the local area.
- 3.18 We are working to identify VCSE sector organisations delivering vital services to vulnerable people in our communities and to put them on the right pathway to securing the long-term future of their services. To do this we have developed a funding alliance of partners to secure larger external grants for the sector including projects that tackle Domestic Abuse and programmes of work that reduce permanent exclusion of children.

We also provide support for organisations to connect with each other, support with training, policy development and incorporating into a legal structure such as a Community Interest Company.

Commitment 6: We will put into place meaningful mechanisms to make co-design of local services the norm, including expanding channels for service design to be informed by 'lived experience'.

- 3.19 We have put lived experience and co-production at the heart of service design from early help and prevention recommissioning to SEND and social prescribing. Practice Champions, Community Champions, Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) Champions/Parents and Carers Together Stockport(PACTs), Digital Champions are all examples of how we are working with our communities. Specific examples include:
  - We have worked collaboratively with the VCSE SEND organisations and leaders in the co-production of the SEND improvement plan and wider improvement journey.
  - We have developed Practice Champions models and social prescribing across
     Stockport through The Prevention Alliance.
  - We have co-designed Stockport's Community Champion programme with representatives across the Sector.
  - The Council has also invested in user experience (UX) skills and technology to design new digital services and content around individual's experience.

Commitment 7: We will fulfil the potential for building productive relationships between the VCSE, public and private sectors to address inequity and build back fairer.

3.20 Strong cross-sector relationships were identified as key components to the successful achievement of our Borough Plan. As already noted under 'commitment 1' above, we

have a shared commitment to a Fair and Inclusive Stockport articulated in the Borough Plan, this sits alongside other priorities which support ambitions to address inequity within Stockport such as around skills, employment, economic growth, early years and education.

- 3.21 Particular examples of productive cross sector work include:
  - We have worked to make it easier for organisations to connect with each other, collaborate and link with private business through our Sector Connector<sup>5</sup> partnership. Events are run each quarter for the sectors to come together to listen, to connect and work together.
  - We are working to promote and make the most out of social value commitments
    through the local public services commissioning and procurement processes.
     Employee Supported Volunteering (ESV) is progressing rapidly and encouraging
    the sharing of time, skills and knowledge across the VCSE, business and services
    to support local communities.

Commitment 8: We will put in place a comprehensive workforce programme to support organisational and workforce development for VCSE employers based on and facilitating a more integrated public facing workforce.

- 3.22 We are supporting VCFSE organisations with access to Council training systems to build capacity this includes recently submitting a cross-partnership Workforce Collaboration bid to the GM Health and Social Care Partnership. This approach will support VCSFE organisations and leaders to access workforce and leadership development support and place them in a stronger position in commissioning and procurement opportunities.
- 3.23 The size of many organisations means they are heavily reliant on volunteer capacity and we are supporting volunteer programmes through Sector 3 and the volunteer hub. Specific examples of work underway includes:
  - The established volunteer hub mobilised 300 new volunteers during Covid and is aligned to jobs match creating a routes into employment. The volunteer hub

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> https://www.stockport.gov.uk/sector-connector

has received further investment as noted earlier in this report to support a longer-term legacy of volunteer development and mobilisation across the Sector and borough.

 The Apprenticeship levy is driving sector growth and supporting the sector to become local employers.

# 4 STOCKPORT'S VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY, FAITH AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SECTOR

- 4.1 The contribution of our voluntary sector in Stockport is often measured in numbers, but often underestimates their impact on people's lives. The tremendous contribution of communities was never stronger felt than during the pandemic, when people from across Stockport set up Mutual Aids and volunteered for the NHS, at a time of crisis communities came together and shone a light on just how valuable the sector is<sup>6</sup>.
- 4.2 The recent State of the Sector<sup>7</sup> report gives an insight into the current position of the sector compared to GM. This identified some important trends about Stockport's sector which are important in how we work together with the Sector as well as identifying areas of opportunity but also risk. Key takeaways include:
  - **Scale of VCFSE organisations:** 77%\* of Stockport's 1672 VCSE orgs are micro (annual income under £10,000) compared to Greater Manchester 71% of the VCSE sector are micro-organisations with an annual income under 10,000.
  - Sources of funding: 63% of organisations in Stockport have at least one source of non-public sector funds, which is slightly lower than GM where 75% of organisations have at least one source of non-public sector funds, bringing significant value to the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Update on the Stockport Local Fund, Communities and Housing Scrutiny Committee (September 2020). https://democracy.stockport.gov.uk/documents/s178816/Enc.%202%20for%20Stockport%20Local%20Fund.pdf

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> State of the Sector report was commissioned by Greater Manchester and published in 2021. The Stockport report is available here:

https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ead7d6edd29096153c7a80a/t/61275409b3f1544a87650a54/1629967375284/SoS+Stockport+2021.pdf. The whole Greater Manchester report is available here: https://www.gmcvo.org.uk/system/files/publications/GM%20State%20of%20the%20VCSE%20Sector%202021%20-%20full%20report.pdf

economy. This indicates a slightly higher dependency on public sector funding within Stockport. In terms of public sector funding sources:

- o Greater Manchester local authorities were the most frequently identified sources of funding (65%). 65% of respondent organisations in Stockport receive some form of funding from Stockport Council. With 42% of respondent organisations receiving funding through Direct Payment this too is mirrored at GM as the second most common source of funding at (42.5%).
- 33.3% of organisations do however receive less than 10% from Stockport Council.
- Other sources of funding include Charging (22%) Fundraising (20%)
   Membership (15%) Stockport Council provided at least 50% but less than
   75% of the total income for 5% orgs.
- Sector works across the Borough 57% of organisations work across specific neighbourhoods and communities across Greater Manchester, in Stockport 48% indicated that they worked across specific Stockport neighbourhoods and communities.
- **Social Enterprises** 11% of the sector in Stockport now identify as a Social Enterprise compared to 3% in 2017/17.8
- The sector as an employer and economic contributor -
  - £114.7 million is the total income of the sector in Stockport (2019/2020). The total income of the sector across GM is £1.2 billion.
  - GM has around 17,000 VCSE groups and organisations, In Stockport the estimate is 1672.
  - At a GM level we have almost 500,000 volunteers giving a total of 1.4 million hours each week. In Stockport there are 57,488 volunteers giving 213,536 hours per week.

-

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Stockport.pdf (10gm.org.uk)

- The ONS data suggests that there are a total of 75,610 paid employees in the sector (46,122 FTEs) in Stockport we estimate that there are 10.932 employees of which 6,669 are FTE.
- 4.3 The report evidences the pivotal role the sector plays in the local economy and reducing inequalities but does also indicate areas for us to work collectively for Stockport to reach further and we anticipate that growth will continue to accelerate. The Accord resonates with the key findings across Stockport and can play a role in strengthening and underpinning our strategic plans.

## 5 AREAS OF FURTHER OPPORTUNITY AND CONSIDERATION

5.1 There are a number of considerations for further implementation of the accord including: emerging opportunities; potential risks that may require careful considerations; and, areas where we could seek to further the commitments for the VCSE in Stockport.

## Opportunities for further collaboration and sector development

- 5.2 There are opportunities to involve the sector into the Integrated Care System as a key partner, Priorities have been set through the One Health and Care Plan on collaboration creating a genuine and tangible opportunity to embed VCSE within the delivery model.
  VCSE representation on the shadow board ensures a voice at the table to realise the ambition of the role the sector can play in Stockport.
- 5.3 The development of the Economic Plan as well as specific regeneration ambitions already underway (such as Future High Street plan) provide the platform for further cross sector representation and the sector could play a crucial role in supporting our ambition for a thriving town centre and economy. Ongoing cross-sector engagement in our Economic Development Plan and Future High Streets plan (such as Stock Room) alongside further opportunities to influence town centre and neighbourhood developments. In particular these provide helpful opportunities to work together to understand and shape spaces for communities to learn, discover and connect in the centre of town. Including particular opportunities for the VCSE sector to work together and alongside other businesses to

- explore ideas, collaborate and grow business ventures (for example through the Mersey Way Innovation Centre).
- 5.4 Access to social investment through The Local Access Programme<sup>9</sup> can make the sector in Stockport more financially resilient and diversify their income making a more self-sustaining sector. Looking longer term whilst this is a potentially complex area it may warrant further exploration.
- 5.5 As noted earlier, Stockport's sector has a higher proportion of micro-organisations than GM, 77% vs 71%, (State of the Sector report, 2021) with many expressing a need or desire to grow in the context of pandemic related demand. A stronger commitment to sector specific business development support would be welcomed, mobilising local assets such as the Growth Company or localising national support e.g., through school for Social Entrepreneurs.
- 5.6 Over the course of the last 18months the GM Resilience Hub<sup>10</sup> has increasing provided a central point for mental health advice and support. This support has helpfully expanded access to this support to the VCSE sector across GM. The Hub is a digital space and there is an opportunity not just for the VCSE to access support, but also to begin to showcase local Stockport voluntary providers to complement and reduce demand on our frontline services as well as to increase potential income streams for the Sector.
- 5.7 There are also opportunities to work more closely with the sector on social value and the work of the social value steering group. This includes setting clear priorities to ensure that contracts and commissioning benefit local communities and the VCSE sector.
- 5.8 Our wider ambitions around the development of our One Stockport Neighbourhood model, as outlined within the Borough Plan, also provide a further opportunity to develop stronger relationships between local communities and services. Community relationship roles, working with local areas and services, can help identify gaps in provision and support the development of micro-organisations and community groups to respond to this. This would be accompanied by close working with commissioning and procurement managers to ensure funding follows referrals where organisations are not already commissioned or grant funded for provision.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Local Access - ACCESS (access-socialinvestment.org.uk)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Greater Manchester Resilience Hub :: Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust

## Considerations for effective achievement of the Accord

- 5.9 The proposals in the Accord are consistent with the experiences, opportunities and plans in place locally. However, while we strongly support the Accord and the role of the sector, it is important that we turn commitments into tangible, easily interpreted, actions and that the local VCSE sector, alongside other public sector organisations are fully involved. Support for and involvement of services across the Council will be key to successfully progressing actions. As will effective evaluation and review to demonstrate both the extent to which commitments are being realized and the resulting impact in Stockport.
- 5.10To this end it is proposed that in the first instance a local Accord leadership group should be established in partnership with Sector3 with the opportunity to extend to wider partners. This group, represented by the Council under the Service Director for Strategy and Commissioning, would oversee progress of the commitments and opportunities within the Accord and would be accompanied by annual progress reporting to Scrutiny and Cabinet.
- 5.11The successful implementation of the Accord will rely on robust and proactive cross-sector infrastructure support. The progress of Sector 3 over the past 18months, alongside the further development of established thematic sector led networks, is positive and the Council remains supportive of Sector led support. However, during this critical phase of responding to the Accord, ongoing pandemic response and local sector infrastructure development it will be important to ensure Sector infrastructure support.
- 5.12Resourcing, over and above existing aligned resources (grant, staffing and other support) will need to be considered as implementation plans are developed to ensure the commitments are met in Stockport. As well as to take into account the implications on current service delivery and practices. We are confident the commitments do not shift the general direction and work already happening in Stockport and are confident in the implementation of actions.
- 5.13Whilst appreciating how extensively this has been co-developed with the sector it still feels like there is a gap around Commitment 8 in the GM VCSE Accord and the need for organisational support. The proposed actions focus on leadership/ workforce development and not organisational development which has been regularly identified by local VCSE organisations as a gap.

5.14The Accord will support the ambition and potential role of the voluntary sector, we have found that Stockport has a relatively new and emerging voluntary sector and good practice exists across the council. There is more to do, and we recognise the challenges ahead but as a Council we should be proud of the work so far and confident in implementing the 8 commitments set out in the GM VCSE Accord.

#### 6 NEXT STEPS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As outlined in paragraph 2.14 the GM VCSE Accord has been circulated to local areas for local adoption. It is proposed that this report is circulated to scrutiny committee in November for comment ahead of Cabinet Meeting.
- 6.2 In line with our local commitments as well GM reporting against the accord it is proposed to bring an annual VCSE sector update in line with annual sector investment reporting and triennial State of the Sector reporting which would include reporting against progress on the Accord.
- 6.3 Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
  - Note the updates on progress against the Accord commitments outlined in section
     3 above.
  - Endorse the GM Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Accord and agree that this progresses to be adopted locally
  - Comment upon and support the Stockport approach to the implementation of the eight commitments set out in the VCSE Accord

# **Appendices**

State of the Sector Stockport State of the Sector Stockport

Greater Manchester Accord <u>GM-VCSE-Accord-FINAL.pdf</u>

(vcseleadershipgm.org.uk)

State of the Sector GM GM State of the VCSE Sector 2021 - full

report.pdf (gmcvo.org.uk)

Community Investment Scrutiny Report 6<sup>th</sup>

AGENDA ITEM NO (stockport.gov.uk)

September 2021