



A VCFSE Strategy for Stockport: Overview and



Progress

August 2023



1 ONE STOCKPORT

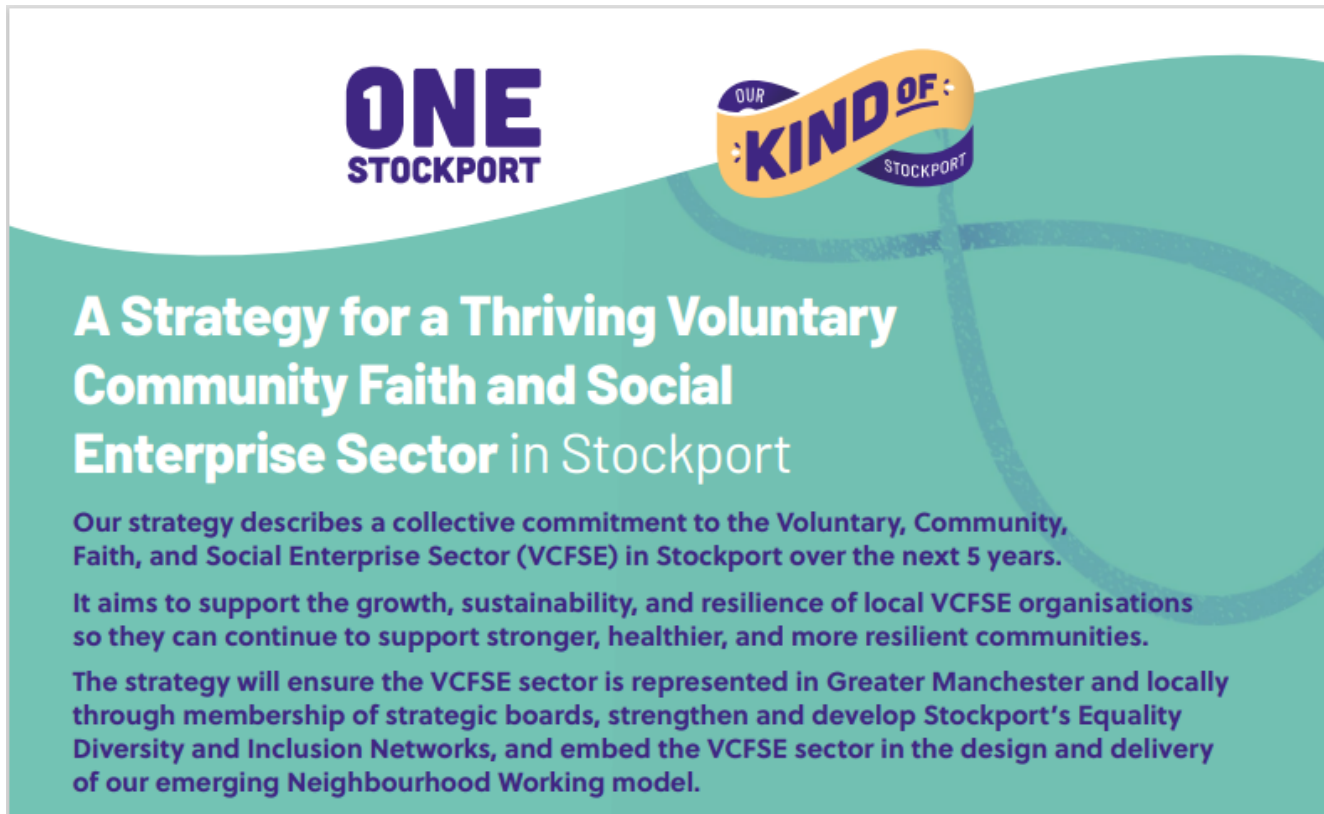
Purpose of this presentation

- A reminder of the strategy
- An update on work towards achieving our ambitions
- An overview of next steps and longer term goals

Overview of our VCFSE strategy

Our VCFSE Strategy was co-designed with stakeholders from across the One Stockport Health and Care Partnership and launched in July 2023. It focusses on 3 strategic priorities:

1. Investment
2. Capacity Building
3. Community Power



The image shows the cover of a strategy document. At the top left is the 'ONE STOCKPORT' logo in blue. To its right is a yellow ribbon graphic with the text 'OUR KIND OF STOCKPORT'. The main title is 'A Strategy for a Thriving Voluntary Community Faith and Social Enterprise Sector in Stockport'. Below the title are three paragraphs of text in a smaller font.

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OUR KIND OF STOCKPORT

A Strategy for a Thriving Voluntary Community Faith and Social Enterprise Sector in Stockport

Our strategy describes a collective commitment to the Voluntary, Community, Faith, and Social Enterprise Sector (VCFSE) in Stockport over the next 5 years.

It aims to support the growth, sustainability, and resilience of local VCFSE organisations so they can continue to support stronger, healthier, and more resilient communities.

The strategy will ensure the VCFSE sector is represented in Greater Manchester and locally through membership of strategic boards, strengthen and develop Stockport's Equality Diversity and Inclusion Networks, and embed the VCFSE sector in the design and delivery of our emerging Neighbourhood Working model.



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Priority One: Investment

The local VCFSE sector already deliver a range of services on behalf of statutory partners and through this strategy we make a collective commitment to transfer more existing funding to the sector, and to attract new sources of funding locally

63% of Stockport's VCFSE organisations have at least one source of non-public sector income and we want collectively to generate more external income to support Stockport residents. We will support partners to develop their service offer, for instance through the provision of room hire and training and we will increase the proportion of VCFSE organisations who make a successful application to the One Stockport Local Fund

When the fund was launched in 2018 the proportion of successful applications was 13%. We have worked hard, through better engagement with the sector, clearer application processes and targeted funding rounds, we predict this will have increased to at least 36% by the end of the 23-24 financial year



Investment

Date	Applied	Funded	Amount awarded (£)
2018 April	186	24	132,000
2019 May	94	19	110,913
2019 November	122	29	150,511
2020 June	111	27	88,358
2021 Feb	86	42	271,788
2022 Feb	95	33	257,665
2020 March	86	57	49,635
2021 Jan	49	26	22,728
2022 June	5	5	2,500
2022 Sep	76	76	72,671
2022 Dec	31	29	25,677
TOTALS	941	367	1,184,446

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Priority Two: Capacity Building

We will support the infrastructure of individual VCFSE organisations and the sector as whole, by focussing on workforce development and skills, volunteering, community buildings and assets and digital infrastructure

Almost 58,000 people in Stockport volunteer some of their time (including committee and board members). This equates to almost 215,000 hours of volunteering each year, the equivalent of at least £105million in labour costs

- There are 9758 Digital Champions in Stockport, who are trained to support more people to get online and improve their digital skills
- 470 people are currently registered with Stockport's Volunteer Hub
- Public health investments are supporting our Community Champion volunteers to help local people to stay healthy and well and to support our GP Practices



Capacity building

Supporting the digital infrastructure of our VCFSE Sector

Stockport's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Networks are made up of local professionals and residents, who work together to create a more equal borough. Our networks receive funding from Stockport Council and support us to develop more inclusive services, plans and strategies. In 2023-24 we have supported the digital capacity of our EDI networks through the donation of laptops, tablets mobile phones and software by our Digiknow partner, Community Computers

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Priority Three: Community Power

All of our One Stockport partners recognise the enormous value of the VCFSE sector, and we want to do even more to ensure that the sector is an equal and trusted partner and that in turn, they can empower people to have a say about the places in which they live and the services they use.

- We have continued to invest in our Equality Diversity and Inclusion Networks to empower communities of identity to have a greater say in how we design and deliver our strategies and plans.
- The Veterans Network is now a constituted organisation in its own right which has attracted external income to support more local people.
- Team Around the Place (TAP) is the community capacity strand of our emerging One Neighbourhood model which supports better collaboration between statutory professionals, individuals, groups, and VCFSE partners to understand priorities, harness strengths, coordinate services, and empower people and communities in each neighbourhood. There are 7 x TAPs aligned with our Area Committees

Neighbourhood working to put more money in people's pockets: Around 9000 Stockport residents don't claim the Attendance Allowance they are entitled to. Through Heaton's TAP, working closely with a local GP surgery we are reaching out to residents to put more money in their pockets to pay for help with daily tasks, transport and getting out and about, helping people to keep active and connected and stay healthy and well for longer



The One Stockport Fair and Inclusive Summit took place on 24th July 2023 and brought together partners from across organisations and sectors to discuss how we make Stockport a more equal place, and create opportunities for all of our residents



Community Power

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Measuring success

The success of the strategy in year 1 will be measured through:

- Number of volunteers, volunteer hours, types of volunteering activity
- Investment in the VCFSE sector across the One Stockport partnership and through external funding
- The equivalent ££ value of social value and corporate social responsibility activities which yield in kind support
- VCFSE representation across our Strategic Boards and the creation of a VCFSE Alliance
- Specific EDI network performance indicators
- Ongoing expansion of the Digiknow Alliance and Digital Champions programme

Next steps-to the end of the financial year

Activities which will support our VCFSE Strategic priorities in the current financial year include:

- **Town of Culture** investment in the sector: small grants to facilitate more opportunities for all of our communities to enjoy cultural activities aligned with the ToC priorities (Tastes, Sounds, Makes, Moves)
- **UKSPF investment in the sector:** grant funding to VCFSE organisations (and others) to support digital and financial inclusion, learning and skills development to support some of our most excluded residents to build their skills, confidence and connections so they can be healthier and happier and more resilient
- **Warm Spaces and Cost of Living grants:** building on the strengths and local insights of our Team Around the Place Networks, we will deliver an autumn One Stockport Local Fund grant round focussing on Cost of Living and creating more of our local Warm Spaces (watch this space! Stockport's Warm Spaces programme has been nominated for an award)
- **Joining up our digital and financial inclusion priorities:** Digital Champions are already being trained up to support more people to get online so that they can maximise their income, claim the benefits to which they are entitled, find help in a crisis and become more financially resilient
- **Creating our VCFSE Alliance:** we are working with Sector 3 to create a VCFSE Alliance as part of our partnership governance structures to oversee the implementation of our VCFSE Strategy and raise the profile of the sector across the One Stockport Partnership
- **VCFSE Reps on boards:** We will be recruiting a VCFSE rep to our Safer Stockport Board and an additional rep will be joining our Health and wellbeing Board
- **Engagement Strategy:** We are working on an engagement strategy which will support Council colleagues to better co-design, co-produce, engage and consult with residents, communities and the VCFSE Sector