

Report to: **HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

Date: 8 March 2018

Executive Member / Reporting Officer: Councillor Gerald P Cooney, Executive Member (Healthy and Working)
Liz Windsor Welsh, Chief Executive Action Together
Anna Moloney, Consultant in Public Health

Subject: **A NEW RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN TAMESIDE VCFSE AND PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS: 3 COMMITMENT PLEDGES**

Report Summary: To provide an update on progress to date with developing a new relationship between the communities and the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sectors (VCFSE) with public sector services. This was formerly known as the Compact and has now been developed into three Commitment Pledges. The draft Commitment Pledges are included and set within the context of current Greater Manchester partnership agreements between these sectors. In addition, the relationship of this work with the developing Population Health Investment Plan is referenced. The draft Commitments are based on the principles of equal partnership and co-production. Next steps are outlined for discussion.

Recommendations: The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

1. Note and comment on the draft Commitment Pledges.
2. Comment on the process to develop SMART objectives for each Commitment's Pledge and consult with our colleagues across the economy to ensure we have a robust means of promoting system enablers; and a mechanism for resolving blocks and fundamentally providing assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Links to Health and Wellbeing Strategy: This work will support listening to citizen voices; building healthier and more resilient communities; promote health and wellbeing enabling self-care of the individual and enabling communities to be supportive of each other.

Policy Implications: There are no immediate policy implications but as the work progresses with the Health and Wellbeing Board's approval there is likely to be an impact on approaches to :

- Citizen and Patient engagement;
- VCFSE involvement in commissioning strategies and plans;
- Sustainability and investment strategies.

Financial Implications: There are no direct financial implications arising from the report at this stage. Associated implications will be included within the Population Health investment plan as proposals are confirmed.

(Authorised by the Section 151 Officer)

Legal Implications:
**(Authorised by the Borough
Solicitor)**

Achieving this 'new relationship' will require clear leadership, governance and accountability. It would be helpful to set out expectations in a MOU.

Risk Management :

There are no risks associated with this report.

Access to Information :

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting Anna Moloney, Consultant in Public Health,



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1. BACKGROUND

1.1 Two key agreements are in place between the voluntary and statutory sectors across Greater Manchester:

- The Memorandum of Understanding between GM Health and Social Care Partnership and the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sectors (VCFSE). It runs for 5 years until April 2021 and underpins the partnership between the sectors; recognising that transformational programmes are dependent on the VCFSE organisations given their critical role in supporting people to self-care and look after each other collectively.
- The GM Combined Authority Accord: This is a 5 year agreement between the GM Mayor and Greater Manchester Combined Authority (GMCA) that began on 27 November 2017. It is a living document which will be reviewed annually.

The two agreements form the basis of a framework for new ways of working but in each locality there remains a need to demonstrate how this plays out in practice.

1.2 The September 2017 Health and Wellbeing Board endorsed recommendations to:

- Establish a new and progressive way of working between statutory organisations and the VCFSE.
- Relevant senior staff to participate in the development of “principles” that will detail our commitments.
- Establish a senior leadership group from key agencies across the system to ensure progress is made and identify and have a mechanism to resolve system blockers.

1.3 To this effect a senior leaders had an inaugural meeting on 22 November 2017. This was chaired jointly by the Chief Executive of Action Together and the Director of Population Health. Terms of reference were agreed with a view to extending current membership; and the elements of a draft commitments document were discussed. The latter has subsequently been developed and is included below for comment. The Leadership group will meet monthly and it is envisaged that following the joint agreement of a Commitments document it will continue to have a role in providing system assurance that the new relationship is being honoured and we are experiencing the benefits of parity between the sectors.

3. TAMESIDE VCFSE AND PUBLIC SECTOR PARTNERS – OUR COMMITMENT TO A BETTER FUTURE FOR TAMESIDE

3.1 The Leadership Group reviewed the old COMPACT and expressed a desire to move away from using this language with a view to a more dynamic and living framework involving active participation from the sectors. It was cognisant of the conclusions from the State of the Sector report that highlighted the need for sustained and coordinated leadership to ensure continued support for and partnership with, Tameside’s voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector. The draft Commitments Pledge is based on the principles of equal partnership and co-production. Therefore the following 3 Commitments and are included here for discussion.

3.2 “This agreement is between Tameside’s Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise Sector VCFSE and Tameside’s public sector agencies who hold seats across Tameside Partnership. We are all committed to Tameside and improving the life chances of the people that live here. We care deeply about their future, especially focussing on those people that face additional challenge, inequalities, and lack of opportunity. Tameside is a place to be proud of, a place where there is a commitment to striving for better. We all want to build on the strong foundations, within neighbourhoods and within communities of

geography and identity in Tameside and recognise that there is enormous potential for us to harness.

- 3.3 We want to be ambitious, we want the spirit of the people of Tameside to be with us on this change to ensure we take bold steps forward in the way we work together and achieve better outcomes as a result. This commitment should be visible, a living pledge to our promise to working together differently. Something to remind each other of, to be used as a guide and as an indication of the steps forward we take together and the shared ambitions we have.
- 3.4 **Commitment 1 – Hear local voices more directly and more often**
We want local people to have a meaningful opportunity to be involved in decision making and local priority setting. In Tameside we want to embed ways to capture the voices of local people in decision making processes and co-design solutions. VCFSE groups are good at listening to, gathering insight from, and working to strengthen the voices of local people, with a particular focus on social inclusion. We are committed to working together to create the environment, support and recognition for a range of diverse local voices in decision making.
- 3.5 **Commitment 2 – A partnership built on trust**
Tameside embraces creativity and difference and we want this to be reflected across our ways of working and partnership structures. We know that VCFSE organisations and Public Sector Partners bring different strengths to the Borough and that we must harness all our assets to fully realise our shared potential. Relationships built on openness, honesty and integrity will be the key to our success and we must find more opportunities to have open dialogue with brave, respectful and professional communication across the full spread of governance and operational partnerships. We know there are barriers in our way sometimes, but we are committed to finding ways for genuine partnership working where we can re-dress the power imbalances, respectfully challenge each other when needed and come together to achieve our shared ambitions.
- 3.6 **Commitment 3 – Investment that matches the vision**
The VCFSE in Tameside brings significant investment into the Borough both through their ability to lever in gifts in kind – volunteering and donations, but also through securing grants, contracts and trading. A significant contributor to many VCFSE organisations is the investment and support of public sector agencies, both in kind and in strategic, long term investment. We want Tameside to be a place where this contribution and the role of VCFSE is fully realised, one where being local with deep roots and adding social value into communities is fully acknowledged and where we can truly strengthen and grow the VCFSE’s capacity to meet local needs and aspirations.”
- 3.7 The Leadership Group requests that the “Commitments Pledge” is signed off by all members of the Tameside Health and Wellbeing Board. SMART objectives are in the process of being jointly developed by the VCFSE and public sector colleagues. It is envisaged there will be 2 to 3 measurable ambitions implemented for each Commitment Pledge to provide assurance to the Health and Wellbeing Board that we are working to improve our collaborative advantage for population wellbeing. We are beginning discussions with Derbyshire County Council regarding this work and potential alignment with their COMPACT agreement. There is already active involvement from the Glossop VCFSE representatives in the Leadership Group.
- 3.8 The practicalities of living the Commitments Pledges would involve changes to the day to day business of our organisations such as the greater involvement by the VCFSE in the commissioning cycle and procurement processes; policy and workforce development; and representation in senior statutory sector decision making forums. Working together to implement outcome and place based focussed approaches to funding; and maximising the

impact of services and systems working across sectors, where these exist, will bring improved return on investment and a better experience for our residents.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1 As stated on the front of the report.