

Report to:	STRATEGIC COMMISSIONING BOARD
Date:	18 December 2019
Reporting Member / Officer of Strategic Commissioning Board	Councillor Eleanor Wills – Executive Member Adult Social Care and Population Health Dr Ashwin Ramachandra CCG Governing Body Chair Stephanie Butterworth – Director of Adult Services
Subject:	CORE FUNDING – VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY, FAITH AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE SECTOR (VCFSE)
Report Summary:	Further to funding of the VCFSE sector in previous years to support the sector to grow and develop community services to support the work of the Strategic Commission, this report is to summarise and seek authorisation for the continuation of previous arrangements for the core funding for the period 2019-2022.
Recommendations:	<p>That SCB approve funding with Age UK (Tameside) and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind is continued for one year from 1 April 2019.</p> <p>That an additional sum of £100,565 non recurrent grant funding is awarded to Age UK for 2019/20 only.</p> <p>That funding with Action Together is continued for a further three years from 1 April 2019.</p> <p>That the level of funding identified in Section 6.1 (table 1) of the report is agreed for the specified period from 1 April 2019 in line with the standard conditions of the Council.</p> <p>That market testing is undertaken during 2019/20 to inform future funding decisions with a view to awarding funding for three years. On completion of the market tests consideration is given to delegate authority to the Director of Adult Services to award the core funding.</p>
Integrated Commissioning Fund Section	Section 75
Decision Required By	Strategic Commissioning Board
Organisation and Directorate	Tameside MBC and Tameside & Glossop CCG
Budget Allocation	Tameside MBC – Adult Services : £ 367,568 Tameside MBC – Population Health : £ 79,400 Tameside and Glossop CCG : £ 34,140
Additional Comments	<p>Section 6.1 (table 1) of the report provides details of the existing agreement annual values per provider, together with the associated funding arrangements.</p> <p>The total annual value of all three agreements is £481,108</p> <p>The sum of £ 380,543 is within 2019/20 directorate budget allocations.</p> <p>The proposed additional 2019/20 non recurrent grant allocation of £100,565 for Age UK will be financed via additional Better</p>

Care Fund inflation funding allocated to Adult Services via NHS England. The inflation funding was awarded subsequent to the 2019/20 Council budget approved by Members on 26 February 2019.

It is essential that Members have assurance that the stated providers are fundamental to health and social care integration across Tameside and Glossop, are delivering required outcomes and that the proposed grant values demonstrate value for money.

The report also recommends that market testing is undertaken during 2019/20 to inform future funding decisions with a view to awarding funding for three years. On completion of the market tests consideration is given to delegate authority to the Director of Adult Services to award the core funding

Members should therefore note that the award of funding from 1 April 2020 will be subject to the available budget in each financial year. It is therefore essential that funding agreements include an appropriate termination notice period should this need to be enacted.

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

The previous partnership agreements came to an end on 31 March 2019 therefore resulting in a breach of CPR Rule 9.

There is a risk of challenge from other organisations that this funding is made available to the three organisations to support their key functions, but this risk will be reduced in respect of the two one year contracts as the intention is to market test those areas. Members need to be satisfied this is the most appropriate way of funding this support to vulnerable people, and should also be aware that should other proposals be put forward from other parts of the voluntary sector that they do not close their minds to potential support for them.

The Council's general responsibilities for the care and support of vulnerable persons are set out in Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. Promoting individuals' wellbeing with assistance from the voluntary sector is therefore an important tool for local authorities who must always ensure that their overriding fiduciary duty to the public purse is well served when complying with their statutory duties, in this case the care and support of vulnerable persons.

**How do proposals align with
Health & Wellbeing Strategy?**

The proposal aligns with the Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well programmes

**How do proposals align with
Locality Plan?**

The service links into the Council's priorities for People: -

- Help people to live independent lifestyles supported by responsible communities.
- Improve Health and wellbeing of residents
- Protect the most vulnerable

**How do proposals align with
the Commissioning
Strategy?**

The service contributes to the Commissioning Strategy by:

- Empowering citizens and communities;
- Commission for the 'whole person'.

**Recommendations / views of
the Health and Care Advisory**

This report has not been presented to HCAG

Group:

Public and Patient Implications:

Those accessing the service have been identified as having eligible needs under the Care Act 2014, or are assessed as requiring preventative services to delay eligibility and entrance to eligible services.

Quality Implications:

These services support quality outcomes for people to be able to continue living well in their own homes and local communities.

How do the proposals help to reduce health inequalities?

The service delivers whole life support to vulnerable adults including ensuring individuals have access to a healthy lifestyle.

What are the Equality and Diversity implications?

There are no negative equality and diversity implications associated with this report, see Appendix 1

What are the safeguarding implications?

There are no safeguarding implications associated with this report. Where safeguarding concerns arise as a result of the actions or inactions of the provider and their staff, or concerns are raised by staff members or other professionals or members of the public, the Safeguarding Policy will be followed.

What are the Information Governance implications? Has a privacy impact assessment been conducted?

Information governance is a core element of all contracts. The necessary protocols for the safe transfer and keeping of confidential information are maintained at all times by both purchaser and provider.

A privacy impact assessment has not been carried out.

Risk Management:

Risks will be identified and managed by the implementation team.

Access to Information:

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer Janine Byron, ATM Community Engagement and Market Development:

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1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 There are a wide range of voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) organisations operating in Tameside which provide a variety of services and reflect the cultural diversity of the community. The organisations range from small, informal, self-help organisations which operate entirely through voluntary effort and fund raising, to large organisations providing specialist services with funding from the Council and other sources.
- 1.2 The voluntary sector in Glossop receives some funding from Tameside and Glossop CCG primarily for service delivery with a small contribution to High Peak CVS for infrastructure. However, the main funding for the VCFSE falls within the responsibility of Derbyshire County Council (DCC) and is funded through devolved Public Health Budgets to form part of the Public Health locality programme. Partners are brought together across the statutory sector and VCS to determine what local priorities to invest in, look for opportunities to join-up work locally and bring in additional external funding. This local partnership, of which the Bureau is a member, can decide where to invest the time limited grants.
- 1.3 The Bureau for example was awarded grant funding to support delivery of the life skills project, a service that provided support for people with mental ill health, complex life issues and autism. This service provided an onward referral route for the Social Prescribing team. Grants are awarded every 12 months, with funding for this particular scheme ending in June 2019. This report only covers the VCFSE in Tameside.
- 1.4 The local VCFSE organisations provide a variety of individual and group services. Individual services include advice, information, domiciliary and social care services. Group services include day services, self-help groups, specialist support, recreational and social services which are complementary to the Council's offer.
- 1.5 The voluntary sector also make a considerable contribution to collective services such as advocacy and campaigning work, the development of community awareness, and supporting community initiatives.
- 1.6 The VCFSE sector therefore provides a very substantial contribution already to the delivery of community services in the borough. There are also many organisations providing general advice on a range of welfare issues that do not relate to a specific user group but are often the initial point of contact for people needing help. Many of these organisations meet the needs of particular ethnic groups and therefore fulfil a special role in supporting people's needs for some form of welfare provision.
- 1.7 The key aspects of the VCFSE sector's role in providing services in the local community are that they often involve service users in running the services; they are generally informal; they rarely deter members of the public because of any perceived official status; and can be flexible, innovative and respond to needs identified in the community.
- 1.8 The Care Act 2014 confirmed duties in relation to information and advice (including advice on paying for care), prevention and well-being; market shaping; assessments (including carers' assessments); national minimum threshold for eligibility; personal budgets and care and support plans; safeguarding and universal deferred payment agreements. The VCFSE sector is crucial in supporting the Council in meeting its responsibilities, particularly in relation to prevention and well-being, information and advice, market shaping and carers.
- 1.9 The Council faces significant budgetary challenges over the coming years and has reviewed its models of service delivery, looking at new and innovative approaches to deliver services whilst reducing the cost of provision significantly. The VCFSE sector is an important element in helping the Council deliver savings and looking at delivering support in different ways to support people to live well at home.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Statutory and independent agencies have increasingly come to work in an environment where partnership agreements for the delivery of some services have been utilised.
- 2.2 In Tameside, three partnerships have been operating for many years with Age UK Tameside (Age UK), Action Together, and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind (Mind).
- 2.3 Partnership agreements, from a national perspective, tend to be with larger, national organisations that have well developed infrastructures. This is borne out with the agreements the Council has in place with both Age UK and Mind – both organisations have a very firm local base but are linked both practically and reputationally with their national bodies and as such can draw on their national resource whilst delivering a grounded local response. The other consideration was that both organisations had clear profiles in relation to specific service user groups i.e. older people and mental health.
- 2.4 In Tameside, however, the principle of entering into a partnership agreement was extended to a key local organisation in relation to Action Together (previously Tameside Third Sector Coalition (T3SC), the Volunteer Centre Tameside (VCT) and Community Voluntary Action Tameside (CVAT). The partnership was agreed in recognition of the key function they have delivered over many years as an infrastructure organisation, working closely with the Council to support and develop the local voluntary sector to increasingly provide a variety of supports to local citizens. Whilst not working with a specific user group, Action Together was very much associated with the voluntary sector and has been recognised widely as the umbrella organisation for the sector in Tameside.
- 2.5 Notwithstanding the above, in each case the justification for entering the partnership agreement was the close working relationship that had developed with each organisation over many years and the mutual benefits this close working had brought to the citizens of Tameside. The agreements recognised the scope working with key voluntary organisations can have in influencing joint development; policy and practice are worked out in tandem; shared risk where innovative projects are being developed; a sharing of expertise and resources; and an enhancement of the credibility of any project. The agreements and ongoing working relationships ensure there is clarity of purpose and objectives, a sharing of common values, and clarity of responsibilities between agencies.
- 2.6 With each of the three agreements, the central theme was the confirmation of the Council providing some core funding, which for many years prior to the partnership agreements had been provided via grant arrangements, which afforded each organisation a level of security in terms of longer term planning as the funding underpins their core infrastructure operating costs. However, in agreeing the funding the three organisations in discussion with the Council agreed the delivery of some core activity – all of which was detailed in the agreement and is set out in Section 3 of this report.
- 2.7 It is proposed that in relation to Age UK Tameside and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind funding continue for the period April 2019 to 31 March 2020 to continue the excellent work delivered to date whilst supporting the Council in meeting its responsibilities under the Care Act. It is proposed that arrangements commence to facilitate market tests for the wider VCFSE sector to ensure appropriate consultation and consideration is made to other providers with the award being given to the best bid and offer of provision.
- 2.8 It is proposed that funding for Action Together continue for the next three years due to the organisation being the only infrastructure support agency for voluntary, faith and social enterprise groups in Tameside and also the accredited volunteer centre in the borough.

3. CURRENT SITUATION

Age UK Tameside

- 3.1 The Council has a proud history of working with Age UK Tameside over the past thirty years. Age UK Tameside is committed to serving the needs of older people across the borough and works proactively to review service models and make adaptations to service options in order to meet the changing needs of the growing population locally of older people. The Council has worked closely with Age UK and this has been formalised in previous partnership agreements, the last being to run for a period of two years until 31 March 2019.
- 3.2 Age UK Tameside was established for the following purposes and for the benefit and well-being of the public and/or older people of Tameside:
- Preventing or relieving the poverty of older people
 - Advancing education
 - Preventing or relieving sickness, disease or suffering in older people (whether emotional, mental or physical)
 - Promoting equality and diversity
 - Promoting the human rights of older people in accordance with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights
 - Assisting older people in need by reason of ill-health, disability, financial hardship, social exclusion or other disadvantage
- 3.3 Age UK has worked with the Council to redesign its service offer over the years, often responding to the changing profile of needs being presented along with the tightening of financial resources available. Over the last few years Age UK has been providing the following range of services to older people:
- Information and Advice
 - Community Dementia Service
 - Community Support
 - Falls Prevention
 - Mental Health Recovery Support Service
- 3.4 The ambition to develop Age UK's base at Katherine Street, Ashton, into a Centre for Independent Living or 'Lifestyle Centre' moving away from the perception of delivering 'services' determined by diagnosis or contractual obligations, and instead offering a range of solutions centred around the needs and circumstances of the individual has been achieved and is well established.
- 3.5 The Centre offers an information and resource point which incorporates demonstrations, access to IT and support to build confidence in the use of the internet and social networking using hand held technology. This is in partnership with O2 and commenced in April 2019. The target market is older people who do not meet the threshold of statutory support; however, their health and lifestyle may put them at risk of losing their independence and ultimately need more costly interventions. Age UK make full use of their cafe and food provision providing an opportunity for 131 club members to meet together, socialise and enjoy a range of activities.
- 3.6 The Centre offers variety, fun and companionship, a place to learn new skills and maintain existing skills. It is a place where people make a positive contribution and build a sense of community within the broader community. Age UK involve a range of community groups, voluntary and health care organisations to support their work thereby providing a choice of activities designed within the "5 Ways to Well-Being". Examples include:

- Offering a balanced menu of food, prepared to meet people's needs
- Light exercise e.g. balance and stability, indoor bowling, armchair exercise, music and dance
- Social occasions e.g. tea dances, members coffee mornings, trips and social outings e.g. donkey sanctuary, nature trails etc.
- Receive information and advice on matters that affect them including financial resilience
- Facilitate organised activities offering social activity or interest e.g. dog therapy, theatre groups, personal trainers etc.
- Arrange transport if this will facilitate engagement
- Work with families if concerns about an individual are identified
- Development of an outside dementia friendly garden space which will include a sensory garden, an opportunity to plant, grow to use produce in the kitchen to improve health and wellbeing.

- 3.7 The existing Community Support Service will identify and support people in the community who may lack the confidence or ability to engage with the lifestyle centre, by the delivery of signposting, referral and intervention to relieve/prevent loneliness and isolation within the community where they live. The aim of the Service is to provide appropriate levels of support, as determined via an assessment to people, to all client groups, aged 50+, who may be at risk of isolation or are struggling to maintain daily living with a view to supporting them to regain their independence, reconnect with the community, develop skills, have a safe discharge from hospital, regain confidence etc. in order to live the life that they wish.
- 3.8 Age UK is committed to work with community groups, who, by their own admission would benefit from the support of Age UK Tameside in terms of engaging new members and supporting group leaders. Community groups will be invited to share Age UK's building thereby developing it as a resource to be fully used outside traditional office hours and in the interests of the wider community
- 3.9 The partnership between TMBC and Age UK has for many years driven change in how services to older people are best delivered – the work in delivering the "Lifestyle Centre" is just the most recent example of this in action.

3.10 Information and Advice Service Performance and Outcomes 2018/2019

- During the financial year 2018/2019 the Information and Advice Service worked with 800 older people with 200 of these clients case work undertaken in the home due to their limited ability to access the service in the community.
- The Service secured a total of £1,260,095.72 in unclaimed benefits directly to older people which related in the main to Attendance Allowance, Disability Living Allowance, Carers Allowance, Personal Independence Allowance and Employment and Support Allowance, this work involves intensive case management.
- The service also helped older people secure housing benefit and pension credits as well as blue badges and other types of non-monetary assistance to support their ability to live independently.
- The service is delivered from the Age UK Tameside Ashton Centre with other drop in type surgeries offered at Diversity Matters North West and the Grafton Centre both based in Hyde, this enables them to offer a more localised service for older people living in these areas.
- The Service is also available in a range of community languages to be able to meet the needs of black, asian, minority ethnic and refugee (BAMER) communities these include Urdu, Punjabi and Spanish within Age UK Tameside's own staff team and Bangla provided through a partner organisation. The service is delivered from an established partner charity already providing a range of services to BAMER communities as such the service benefits from the existing trusting relationships that exists.

- The service provides telephone support and advice on a range of issues including consumer rights, legal support and Age UK Tameside work with people to identify the best service for them whilst retaining their status as an independent advisor, this has included power of attorney, will making and securing care home and other types of respite support.
- The service supports older people to access financial entitlements to help them live safe and well in their own homes as long as they are able to and part of the service delivery supports older people to understand their entitlements as they can feel uncertain and anxious to claim the financial support and assistance they need.
- As a result of accessing the service older people tell us they are better able to manage their household budgets, pay for care and housekeeping support, fund outside activities where they can meet other people and socialise, feel safer in their homes and make informed choices when living in their own home is no longer an option.

3.11 Dementia Support Services Performance and Outcomes 2018/2019

- During the financial year 2018/2019, the Dementia Support Service supported 106 people living with dementia and their carers from across Tameside and reached 200 people through road show activities, group talks and events raising awareness of issues around dementia, help seeking and support services.
- The service offered advice and information about living with dementia through drop in sessions offered at the Ashton Centre and the Graton Centre on a regular basis with other pop up drop ins at The Together Centre @ Loxley House and Ashton Market. These sessions are used to listen to older people about their own unique experience of either living with dementia or caring for a loved one and people are referred and sign posted for screening, to other carers support service and community resources that may be helpful to them now and in the future.
- Age UK Tameside provide more intensive support for people who feel unable to access the help they need immediately and need time to come to terms with the diagnosis and help to understand what it is they need, how and where they can access it. This can range from accessing courses about dementia, making changes in the home to create a dementia friendly environment, tools and techniques to de-stress or making some adjustments so they can continue the hobbies and interests they had prior to the diagnosis.
- Age UK Tameside house a monthly carer's information session in partnership with the memory clinic and provide an activity session for people living with dementia in another part of the Centre so that carers can access the support knowing their loved one is being looked after and not too far away from them.
- An evaluation of a pilot carer's course which was developed with Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind was completed towards the end of last year. Throughout 2018/2019, 30 carers of people living with dementia attended the course and the evaluation feedback was used this to shape the content and the focus of the course for the future.
- The course focuses on the needs of carers, how they can maintain their resilience and emotional wellbeing and not become lost and alone in the role and responsibilities of caring.
- The service offers a weekly wellbeing activity session for people living with dementia and their carers, all of which are aligned to the 5 Ways to Wellbeing and have included music making, singing, cake decorating, dance classes, creative arts and memory games. Activities are offered on an 8 week rolling programme, the group is member led in terms of them shaping the next 8 week programme with new activity ideas so they get to try different activities.
- The service links in with the Alzheimer's Society and Carers Centre through established referral pathways with access to shared resources to enable people are able to access the right services as their needs change.

3.12 Community Support Services Performance and Outcomes 2018/2019

- The Community Support service supported 132 older people in their own homes, the Service has an open referral system and older people in need of hospital aftercare support are prioritised.
- The Service offers up to 6 hours support and is person-led with clients choosing how best this will work for them which can be 6 weekly 1-hour sessions. The service has its own wellbeing assessment to enable clients to think about and identify their support needs and how best to use the time they have with the service, the broad categories are hospital aftercare, support to maintain independence at home, support to access social or leisure activities, support to access local community facilities, support to due to a fall and befriending type support.
- During the assessment clients identify up to two support goal outcomes they want to achieve, and these are assessed again at the end of the support so clients can see the progress they have made.
- Clients who access this service are often lonely and isolated and may have become stuck because of this, others have experienced a bereavement or another life changing event that has made them anxious and unsure of themselves or their routines and lives have become disordered.
- Over the course of the year the service has helped older people to establish their routines like taking medication, healthy eating plans and mealtime plans. The service has also assisted older people to use local transport again, shop for groceries, attend local clubs and activities, access falls prevention programmes, access counselling and improve their self-care.
- For clients who need practical types of support once this is underway and clients feel things are changing for them because they have regained control of their lives, they are able to move on from the service and build on their success.
- The service does continue to work with people whilst they are waiting to access more specialist support like counselling or falls prevention as often, they have other issues going on that the service can support them with.
- For those older people who move into clubs and activities the service offers transition support, by attending the club for the first time with them, practicing the route if using public transport, talking to organisers to ensure they receive a great welcome and provide follow on calls to ensure the club or activity is working out well. Some clients start to attend clubs and activities provided by the charity and as such transition support is carried out within the Centre alongside the wider Be Well Team.
- These are older people who access the service in need of longer term support as identified through the assessment, for these clients the service has designed a "My Life" story book to encourage clients to revisit happier times and to think about themselves in the now and where they would like to be. There are also some subtle activities around barriers and resistance to encourage change. The service works with clients over the 6 week period and refers to other befriending type services once this is completed.

Action Together

- 3.13 The Council has a longstanding and positive working relationship with the voluntary sector and Action Together. Historically, the Council has supported Action Together with core funding to support the delivery of their roles as the only infrastructure support agency for the VCFSE sector in Tameside.
- 3.14 The 'core infrastructure offer' is funded by both the Council and the Clinical Commissioning Group. The funding pays for staffing, on costs and overheads that enables Action Together to provide an infrastructure service for VCFSE groups and potential volunteers in Tameside and give the basic infrastructure to attract additional funding and develop new projects for our local population. In 2018-19 Action Together were able to bolster this initial investment by £758,000 through additional commissioned work, external grants projects and services giving well over a £1:4 return on investment.

- 3.15 Based on the Council's Corporate Plan in relation to Starting Well, Living Well and Ageing Well, and also the Local PACT agreement, the vision is to enable:
- A new relationship between public services and citizens, communities and businesses that enables shared decision making, democratic accountability and voice, genuine co-production and joint delivery of services. Do with, not to.
 - An asset-based approach that recognises and builds on the strengths of individuals, families and our communities rather than focussing on the deficits.
 - Behaviour change in our communities that builds independence and supports residents to be in control.
 - A place-based approach that redefines services and places individuals, families, communities at the heart.
 - A stronger prioritisation of wellbeing, prevention and early intervention
 - An evidence led understanding of risk and impact to ensure the right intervention at the right time.
 - An approach that supports the development of new investment and resourcing models, enabling collaboration with a wide range of organisations.
- 3.16 In delivering the Health and Wellbeing service it is agreed that there are three key stakeholders to whom Action Together aims to support:
- Small Voluntary, Community and Faith Sector (VCFS) groups (with an annual income, approximately, of under £100,000)
 - Medium to large VCFS organisations (with an income above £100,000),
 - Commissioners and strategic leads from statutory partners (including TMBC/Public Health, CCG) and Healthwatch
- 3.17 Each will require a different level, type and/or frequency of support from the Partner Provider depending on their needs, aspirations, competence and capacity at any given point. For example a small group may require significant intense capacity building support during its early stages to decide on an appropriate structure to ensure it has the appropriate policies and procedures in place, whereas they may subsequently require less support once they begin their delivery. Larger groups often require only limited support until they are looking at significant investment opportunities through, for example, tendering and collaboration.
- 3.18 The key elements of the Health and Social Care Service traditionally provided by Action Together is as follows:
- Capacity Building Support for VCFS Groups and Organisations
- Encourage and support VCFS organisations to deliver health, wellbeing, social care services
 - Signpost organisations towards appropriate sources of support (funding, specialist support, quality assurance, tendering, policy etc.), internally and where appropriate externally
 - Provide funding information and advice to VCFS providers, including support with tendering opportunities
 - Promote training opportunities for VCFS service providers that increase their knowledge and skills
 - Work with VCFS providers to implement quality systems, develop business plans and improve governance, to ensure that they are more robust and able to maintain and increase delivery of services.

Support to Health and Social Care Joint Planning and Commissioning Structures - the voluntary sector as a conduit to communities and as a service provider.

- Facilitating and supporting appropriate VCFS health and social care providers to feed into and feedback within health and social care partnership arrangements, including:
 - e-based communication
 - Identifying and supporting VCFS sector representation (where appropriate)
- Supporting and facilitating opportunities for VCFS groups and public sector commissioners and policy makers to discuss and develop service solutions
- Provide opportunities for VCFS groups to develop relationships with one another in order to consider their contribution to the health economy and in addressing health inequality in the borough
- Ensure that equalities, diversity and under-represented groups are represented in local health and social care planning, development and commissioning through consultation

Access to Information, Consultation and Engagement

- Actively deliver an e-based policy and communications function for VCFS service providers that will include:
 - Appropriate research and policy briefings and information; de-mystifying NHS/Public Sector language and informing VCFS providers of important developments that affect them and their users
 - Consulting and engaging appropriately on health and social care developments with VCFS networks and where possible wider communities

3.19 In addition, the agreement incorporated the following in relation to the activity previously delivered by Volunteer Centre Tameside:

- To provide support to prospective and actual volunteers to maximise the number of active Tameside volunteers.
- To provide support for volunteer co-ordinators to help develop and sustain the volunteering experience for Tameside Volunteers.
- To provide infrastructure support for organisations and projects (from the voluntary, community and statutory sectors) that involves volunteers to maximise the number of opportunities available for Tameside Volunteers.
- To undertake strategic developmental, policy and promotional work and continually develop and review the Tameside Volunteering Strategy to enable a flourishing Volunteers culture across Tameside

3.20 Whilst incorporating these key elements the Council and Action Together agreed that the revised agreement would additionally emphasise some key roles that the work would include:

- A pro-active approach to stimulating the market within the voluntary and community and faith sectors to build capacity, with the aim of being more specific about its role within the sector
- Promotion of a leading role in the development of the voluntary, community and faith sector.
- Develop performance monitoring models to provide clear outcome indicators, supporting the influence the merged organisation has on the sector
- Creation of a clear and recognisable identity and brand for the new organisation.

3.21 The Council restated its aim to work in partnership with Action Together to continue to develop the local VCFSE sector recognising that the local market has a key role to play to support the Council to deliver against the current drivers nationally, the greater emphasis on personalised services in the future and the continuing focus on prevention and early intervention.

3.22 The partnership between the Council and Action Together has, for many years, driven significant sustainable growth of voluntary organisations operating in the borough, providing essential support to a wide variety of user groups both above and sub-threshold, as well as supporting the growth and support of volunteering opportunities.

3.23 Performance and Outcomes 2018/2019

- Creating fostering and utilising partnerships

The partnership resource enables Action Together to contribute to systems change, working with leaders from the public sector and VCFSE to develop thinking about strategy, delivery and impact. Recent examples include

- Action Together have worked with the Council, the wider public sector and VCFSE to develop a PACT for Tameside which is the agreement around how we will work together to have the maximum impact.
- They work across GM to influence policy that affects the offer in Tameside. e.g. working at the GM moving executive to ensure the Local Delivery Pilot (LDP) reflects the Tameside picture and works locally with partners to develop this further in the borough.
- Direct work with local teams and initiatives that contribute to the Corporate Plan e.g. working with population health around alcohol reduction, supporting local engagement and design, working to develop the food network, the research around this and engaging key local agencies in this work. Working with the Community Safety Partnership to develop routes for engagement with local homeless charities; and support the development of local place-based networks 'Community Explorers' for engagement and intelligence purposes.

- Organisational Development

Action Together work directly with local VCFSE groups to help to build their governance, financial capability, policies and practice, and to identify and secure resources. During the financial year 2018-19 Action Together directly supported 141 VCFSE groups through the core offer with:

- information, advice, and guidance.
- intensive or specialist organisational development support.i.e business planning / strategic planning and asset transfer.
- training, learning and support to improve their skills e.g. safeguarding, basic bookkeeping, GDPR.
- funding advice and support.

- Volunteering

Action Together provide a volunteer brokerage service that enables residents wanting to volunteer with routes into opportunities either face to face (for people who cannot access online opportunities easily) and online. They work with organisations that have volunteers to support them to improve their support, and raise the profile of volunteering through their networks and outreach with key agencies in the borough including colleges, Ingus and the Job Centre.

- During 2018-19 Action Together received 1,137 volunteering inquiries online, and via the volunteer centre.
- 611 people were matched to volunteering roles or given a 1:1 appointment.
- In total 429 people went on to volunteer.

- Representing a conversion rate of over 70%.

- Investment

Over recent years Action Together has developed its grant giving mechanisms, and portfolio to encourage a more strategic approach to small grant giving in the borough.

- During 2018-19 Action Together distributed a total of £71,000 in small grants to local VCFSE groups.
- This funding came from a variety of sources, including their own projects (Tameside 4 Good and Ambition for Ageing), and Council funding from Children, Young People and Families and Community Safety. In addition to this, the investment monies under the Community Wellbeing Programme, invested an additional £408,000 into projects that support wellbeing in the borough.

- Added Value

- The core funding provided by the Council enables Action Together to develop complimentary workstreams that bolster their capacity to deliver the core offer and meet additional needs by attracting additional investment, recent examples of this include:

- Healthwatch Tameside

Action Together are commissioned to deliver the Healthwatch contract, and the NHS Complaints element of this. As the local consumer champion for health and care services Healthwatch benefits from their independence, and links to both local people and the health and care economy. With the link, there is a benefit to having a clear and simple way to refer people to services in communities, and via VCFSE groups. Last year Healthwatch collected 229 patient stories about the service they have received, responded to 142 requests for information on health and care services from members of the public.

- Community Wellbeing Programme.

Action Together are commissioned to deliver the Social Prescribing, and Asset Based Community Development (ABCD) programmes for Tameside, including a significant VCFSE investment programme. This has been an opportunity to deliver a social prescribing programme that has the right elements to make it most effective, i.e. genuine links and capacity building for the VCFSE groups being referred to, and investment to ensure they can deal with the new demand. It has also enabled them to focus on community development so that they can genuinely catalyse more community action in our neighbourhoods. This project has bolstered the core offer and provided much more capacity to deliver better infrastructure as well as quality ABCD. Action Together have worked directly with over 800 clients with long term conditions over the last 18 months, and has supported hundreds of local community projects, and VCFSE groups to deliver more.

- Ambition for Ageing

This was the forbearer for the Community Wellbeing Programme including each of the same elements, but on a smaller scale and with a focus on older people. The project has been a resounding success, supporting 70+ VCFSE groups per annum to create sustainable projects, and 120 local people per annum who have experienced social isolation and/or loneliness.

3.24 Priorities for this financial year

- Action Together are currently working on developing several key workstreams that will contribute to the delivery of the Corporate Plan, and continue to develop the infrastructure offer for the future including:
 - **PACT** – creating a development plan that embeds the ways of working together as business as usual. One example of this is the ambition to use the learning from the Community Wellbeing Programme to develop a strategic investment programme for the VCFSE, pooling the grant investment to respond to the needs of VCFSE groups, and the local population.
 - **Embedding social prescribing** in the local health and care system, working with the newly formed Primary Care Networks (PCN's) and local commissioners to develop a longer-term plan for this, that doesn't lose focus on supporting the VCFSE to respond.
 - Cementing the role of Action Together and the wider VCFSE sector in the public sector reform work happening locally and at GM in order to use their expertise and that of VCFSE colleagues to shape local plans.

Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind (Mind)

3.25 Over the past three decades the Council has provided core funding for Mind working at all times very closely to design and deliver services that would benefit people experiencing mental health difficulties. Originally, this work has often been in conjunction with Tameside and Glossop Clinical Commissioning Group (and its predecessor organisations) and Derbyshire County Council – this has at times been a difficult arrangement as the agreements with Mind have had, throughout the period, needed to adjust to pressures felt by one, two or all the commissioning partners. Due to a number of factors and changes within the commissioning landscape, funding previously contracted to Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind from both Derbyshire CC and T&G CCG no longer form part of this funding. The Council has been working to support Mind in their ability to continue with their purpose within Tameside.

3.26 Mind had, for many years, delivered various service responses to the people of Tameside – these responses had become rather traditional in their nature. Following a national review of mental health services it became clear to commissioners that a wellbeing centre should be one of the cornerstones of a modern mental health service with a focus on wellbeing and prevention for all people. Given the profile and expertise of Mind, along with premises close to the centre of Ashton, a decision was made to work in partnership with the organisation, already one of the key stakeholders in the review process, to provide the necessary resources and guidance to shift the provision to that of a wellbeing centre.

3.27 Since then the focus of Mind's services has become increasingly preventative with a focus on wellbeing, co-production, social inclusion and recovery.

3.28 Furthermore, Mind has become increasingly proactive in seeking out alternative funding streams and partnership working with a range of third sector and other mainstream providers. On the back of funding received from National Mind some two years ago to employ an allotment worker, Mind has expanded its Kitchen Garden project and has since successfully delivered a two year pilot to widen this provision out to people with learning disabilities and other marginalised groups across a number of sites. This project is now listed on the approved list of day services and is operating on the basis of funding from personal budgets and direct payments. Whilst this service is still running it is now done so via Greenscape Bloom project who lead and work with Mind for Mental Health input. Recent additional funding bids Mind have secured are to deliver a suicide prevention

service via a Reaching Communities bid, a children, young people and family activities via a Children in Need bid and counselling to blue lights personnel via National Mind.

- 3.29 Mind provides a non-stigmatised wellbeing centre, promoting early intervention and prevention of mental health issues and improved wellbeing for all. The service will include information, support and signposting, recruitment of volunteers, partnership working and public events to achieve these objectives.
- 3.30 The service is available to people of all ages in Tameside, and is “person-centred” which means it will not give advice or tell someone what to do but rather offer support and space for people to work through issues at their pace in their own ways and will include:
- Information and signposting face-to-face and phone support – at least 5 days a week from 10.00 – 16.00
 - Recruitment of 25 volunteers from Tameside and Glossop population and mental health training and support provided to these volunteers
 - At least 12 open-access health and wellbeing events delivered from the wellbeing centre
 - Income of £20k+ generated to support additional mental health and wellbeing services for Tameside residents
- 3.31 The partnership with Mind, as with both Age UK and Action Together has been successful over many years. The work the Council has done with Mind to deliver in partnership their current range of services has been recognised by National Mind as really good practice and has been held up for development across local Mind organisations nationally. However, the priority in the work has always been that delivered locally and the citizens of Tameside have been the real beneficiary of the partnership work the Council has been engaged in with Mind over many years.

3.32 Performance and outcomes for 2018/2019

- Core funding supports some of the work with population health providing multimedia access to information, advice and mental health related services in Tameside. In the past year Mind have distributed 2,800 information sheets and resource booklets around mental health and related issues through the wellbeing hub and over 600 copies of the bimonthly wellbeing column. Social media presence has increased with currently 1,750 subscribers to the weekly E-update.
- Mind have also been able to leverage the capacity provided by the Council wellbeing agreement to bring additional funding to benefit Tameside residents such as the Together Project, bringing in over £200,000 of Big Lottery funding to provide innovative support services for people at risk of suicide.
- This year, Mind has hosted nearly 2300 visitors to the wellbeing hub of which over 1200 went on to access services.

Wellbeing Hub

- The Hub is available to callers and visitors to the office/café and meets the needs of nearly 500 telephone callers a week and 1000's of visitors every year. These people call to find out about support for mental health needs, to find information on services for adults and to seek someone who will listen and help them through the complex world of health and social care. Additionally, the Hub provides an affordable community venue for those looking to hire rooms.
- The welcome offer includes a team of volunteers and staff members and the provision of multiple wellbeing events.
- In the last year Mind have hosted 15 micro sessions on a wide range of subjects including origami, sleep and relaxation, self-empowerment, drumming, Fire Service

home safety, healthy eating, food labelling, meditation, Tai chi, numerology and lifestyle coaching.

- In the current year so far Mind have supported the recently bereaved, people at risk of losing custody of their children and many people completely new to the field of social care in understanding what's available to them and their loved ones. This can be done in safety with the added value of being sited with trained counsellors and clinical staff so that the help on offer can change as people's issues present themselves.
- Mind have a good awareness in BAMER communities, 40% in a recent survey said they had attended the Wellbeing centre, and this is built upon to continue co-designing and co-producing wellbeing solutions that are sustainable and reach everyone in Tameside who may need them.
- A focus group ('service advisory group') is being developed to help plan a programme of improving the experience of anyone who needs help, by looking again at the information on offer, the resources used, working practices and achieved outcomes.
- In 2019/2020, plans are in place to deliver the following wellbeing sessions to clients and members of the general public. These will commence September 2019 and attendance is expected to be 5-10 clients per session:
 - Gentle yoga
 - Mindfulness
 - Drama
 - Arts and crafts
 - Horticulture sessions
 - Good mood food cookery
 - Anger management
 - Confidence and self-esteem
 - Stress and anxiety
- Plans are in place to introduce new technological solutions to help people efficiently receive information about mental health. Opportunities will be given to volunteers and apprentices to work in the welcome team which will assist in achieving paid work in the future. Many volunteers have successfully gained employment through this pathway.
- Integral to this will be embedding the fundamental ethos of listening and talking. The belief that a conversation with people is the start of the journey of self-recovery which can lead to preventing social isolation, it challenges the stigma of needing support and can stop situations escalating.

Café

- The café serves an average of 7,000 home cooked healthy meals each year. This will be increased over the next year by the introduction of the new college and more courses being run by the Training Academy.
- The café has hosted 24 volunteers over the last 3 years with 4 going on to paid employment in hospitality and 2 have set up their own business using the skills that they have learned at Topaz Café. The remaining are either still volunteering, retired or have gained other employment. Volunteer capacity in the kitchen will be increased by 4 this year.
- Volunteers will be provided with relevant training in food safety and customer service and the full complement of 15 will be maintained through normal recruitment channels.
- In terms of outcomes, volunteers who have been living with anxiety and/or depression have since gone onto employment or have built enough confidence to start to seek employment. Volunteers range from school leavers; students; older

people; people with mental health issues; learning disabilities; or retired people who are socially isolated.

- Training includes; how to cook; how to save money by not wasting food and quick and simple meals for the family.
- The Hive serves food to families while they are waiting for counselling, courses or activities. This offer includes a £1.00 meal to help people who are on low income or food poverty.
- Support with the facilitation of a number of community groups such as; diversity café to help with language barriers when going out to eat and build confidence to ask questions; a menopause café so ladies can get information and understanding of the menopause and a Natter Chatter café to encourage people to talk to one another.

4 OPTION APPRAISAL

Cease Arrangements with the Identified VCFSE Sector Providers

4.1 Whilst a consideration, the cessation of the close working arrangements developed (either formally or informally) over many years and the associated funding is not viewed as being a realistic option. The people offered support by these three providers are among the most vulnerable groups supported in the community by the Council, and the support they offer fit centrally with a number of the responsibilities covered by the Care Act including promoting personal well-being, prevention (stopping problems before they start or get worse), and providing information, advice and advocacy.

4.2 The Council has invested a great deal of effort and financial support to these key voluntary organisations over many years to ensure their continued presence and delivery of support to the people of Tameside which is viewed as being essential. The return on this investment continues to be high (regularly delivering over and above mutually agreed service delivery levels) and provides the Council with good value for money. On this basis the ceasing of funding and the close partnership working would indicate ceasing these arrangements would have a very negative impact on the people of Tameside.

Tender the Work Out

4.3 The undertaking of a tendering exercise in relation to the existing relationships with the three providers would not be considered appropriate given the high investment made by the Council to develop the current levels of service provision.

4.4 Age UK, Action Together and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind are recognised nationally and by the local community as key organisations providing support to vulnerable people in their specific user area and no other organisations operating locally have such a profile, or anywhere near the same level of recognition, in Tameside. In relation to Action Together, who are very much a locally based organisation, no other organisation in the area is in a position to provide the network support to the VCFSE sector that it currently does.

4.5 All three organisations provide services that surpass the agreement requirements and are considered by the service user group to be of a high quality.

4.6 All three organisations contribute essential elements of the preventative agenda. Service User feedback indicates that people who use the services report consistently high levels of satisfaction with the service and support offered by the projects. Case studies and data is available from the author if required.

Continue Partnership with VCFSE

4.7 The three existing arrangements have proved very successful for both the Council and the three organisations. However, it is recognised that a further market test is required in order to ensure that all VCFSE organisations are considered and have the opportunity to express

an interest in the provision of these services. This will ensure both best value outcomes for people in the borough and supporting the financial viability of local VCFSE organisations.

- 4.8 In relation to Age UK Tameside and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind, it is proposed that arrangements commence to facilitate market tests for the wider VCFSE sector to ensure appropriate consultation and consideration is made to other providers with the award being given to the best bid and offer of provision. It is proposed that funding is approved for three years to provide the successful providers some financial security upon which to plan their service offer.
- 4.9 On completion of the market tests, consideration is given to delegate authority to the Director of Adult Services to award the core funding.
- 4.10 In relation to Action Together, it is proposed that funding continue for the next three years effective from 1 April 2019 due to the organisation being the only infrastructure support agency for voluntary, faith and social enterprise groups in Tameside and also the accredited volunteer centre in the borough.
- 4.11 Conversations regarding the core agreements have taken place with STAR procurement. The process of completing the exemption request forms and associated documentation has been completed and supporting documents are included in the final report for Strategic Commissioning Board. The Council will work jointly with STAR procurement to meet governance requirements.
- 4.12 STAR procurement will be included in the market test facilitation and all governance procedures and processes will be adhered to.

5. PROPOSAL

- 5.1 That existing funding arrangements with Age UK (Tameside), Tameside, Oldham and Glossop are approved for one year from 1 April 2019.
- 5.2 That existing funding arrangements with Action Together are approved for three years from 1 April 2019.
- 5.3 Given the continued reductions of funding available to the Council over the last few years, and the ongoing uncertainty of funding in the future, any new arrangements will have a clear three month "no fault" termination clause that will allow either party to withdraw from the agreements. This would allow the Council to withdraw from the proposed arrangements if required at any point in the future.
- 5.4 The agreements with the three organisations will be based on the current contractual terms and conditions used within the Council, with slight modifications to reflect the spirit of partnership. It will include the majority of the standard clauses, safeguarding, general data protection regulations, freedom of information, equality & non-discrimination, and termination clauses (fault and a three month no-fault termination clause), etc.
- 5.5 The agreements will be drafted to allow the Council to modify the services required based on the needs of the population of Tameside, i.e. the inclusion of additional schedules for specific pieces of work which will be delivered under the overarching terms and conditions. It is intended that the structure of the agreements will be based on the following format:
 - The Agreement including contract particulars
 - The terms and conditions
 - Schedule 1 – The organisations charitable objectives

- Schedule 2 – Core services required
 - Schedule x – additional specific piece of work (as appropriate)
 - Schedule y – additional specific piece of work (as appropriate)
- 5.6 Each specific piece of work will have its own value and clearly defined outcomes to allow the Council to check the performance of the organisation.
- 5.7 Performance management meetings will be quarterly but may be amended based on a risk assessment of the organisation and the value of work/partnership agreement.

6. FINANCIAL SUMMARY

- 6.1 The proposal is to progress agreements on the basis of existing annual levels of the Council and Clinical Commissioning Group's core funding being maintained as detailed in table 1 :

Table 1

Provider	Organisation / Directorate	Budget £ 000
Age UK	Tameside MBC – Adult Services	141,863
	Tameside MBC – Adult Services (one year grant)	100,565
	Tameside MBC – Population Health	34,400
	Total	276,828
Tameside, Oldham and Glossop MIND	Tameside MBC – Adult Services	50,000
Action Together	Tameside MBC – Adult Services	75,140
	Tameside MBC – Population Health	45,000
	Tameside & Glossop – CCG	34,140
	Total	154,280

- 6.2 In addition specific funding has been identified for voluntary sector organisations to support them at a time where funding has been seriously challenged, at the same time that the development of the community offer is a mainstay of the Care Together programme. Many organisations are reporting that they are facing significant financial challenges, among them Age UK, who have reported that they have had to review, redefine and significantly reduce their offer locally in order to stabilise the business. It is proposed that an additional grant £100,565 is made to Age UK for the current year to finalise their work on stabilising the business and complete their restructure and embed their new local offer.
- 6.3 Any risks to the ongoing functioning of Age UK would place significant pressure on the local economy and potentially on the local health and social care economy. Age UK have provided clear plans on how they will invest the funding to maximise the impact of the funding on their new offer.
- 6.4 In relation to inflationary uplifts, the agreement with Action Together will state clearly that the Council will review the funding with effect from 1 April in each year, but that there will be no guaranteed increase to the funding as any review will need to take account of the budget available.

7. CONTINUATION OF FUNDING

- 7.1 Performance monitoring over the last few years confirm that all three providers have delivered good quality, personalised services to a variety of vulnerable service users. Each organisation has impressed in the way they have delivered increasingly progressive and flexible services. As shown in Section 3 of the report, such has been the quality of the performance monitored that approval has been given to extend the existing agreements over many years, with discussion agreeing ongoing service development and improvement, working very much in partnership to highlight the best ways to deliver against changing need, changing expectations, and reductions in funding locally.
- 7.2 The proposal in this report will require approval for the continuation of funding arrangements with all three voluntary organisations. This extension would allow for the continuity of provision by the key VCFSE organisations who have worked closely with the Council to develop high quality responsive service responses for vulnerable people in Tameside.
- 7.3 The core funding is included in the budget for the current financial year in line with the detail outlined in Section 6.1.
- 7.4 The report recommends that market testing is undertaken during 2019/20 to inform future funding decisions with a view to awarding funding for three years. On completion of the market tests consideration is given to delegate authority to the Director of Adult Services to award the core funding.
- 7.5 Members should note that the award of funding from 1 April 2020 will be subject to the available budget in each financial year. It is therefore essential that funding agreements include an appropriate termination notice period should this need to be enacted.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 The conclusion is that given that the proposed changes are largely contractual in nature and designed to facilitate the improved functioning of key organisations locally there is not expected to be anything other than a positive impact upon people who fall within the protected characteristics of gender, pregnancy and maternity, age, sexual orientation, disability, gender reassignment, ethnicity, religion or belief and civil partnership and marriage. See the EIA at Appendix 1.

9. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 9.1 Any risks of poor service delivery will be mitigated by close monitoring of the service to ensure that assessed need is being met.
- 9.2 There is a significant risk that ceasing the provision of this service will mean that the Council would not fulfill its statutory and legal duty to provide the service and meet eligible needs.
- 9.3 In order to ensure that there is no risk of challenge and to ensure that all CPR rules and regulations are met, the funding for Age UK Tameside and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind will be for a period of one year. Plans will be put in place to ensure that arrangements to carry out the necessary market research and tests will take place within this financial year to ensure that there are no other organisations in Tameside which could match the profile or have the existing infrastructure in place to deliver the activities required.

10. CONCLUSION

- 10.1 This report sets out a case for funding arrangements arrangements with Age UK, Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind and Action Together.
- 10.2 The justification for continuing the agreements reflect the close working relationship that has developed with each organisation over many years and the mutual benefits this close working has brought to the citizens of Tameside.
- 10.3 With each of the three proposed agreements, the central theme is the confirmation of the Council providing some core funding which will afford each organisation a level of security in terms of longer term planning as the funding underpins their core infrastructure operating costs. The funding will be provided on the basis of delivery of the core activity set out in Section 3 of this report.
- 10.4 These three organisations as representatives of the local VCFSE sector are key organisations in the supporting the Council in delivering its responsibilities in relation to the Care Act and in particular the changes introduced from April 2015, specifically their significant contribution to:
 - The duty of prevention and wellbeing to prevent or delay the need for care
 - The duty to provide information and advice, including about paying for care
 - The extension of eligibility criteria to include carers
 - The duty to shape the local care & support market

11. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 11.1 As set out at the front of the report.

APPENDIX 1

Equality Impact Assessment

Subject / Title	Core Funding Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE)	
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Team	Department	Directorate
Joint Commissioning and Performance Management	Adults	Adults

Start Date	Completion Date
9 May 2019	9 May 2019

Project Lead Officer	Trevor Tench
Contract / Commissioning Manager	Janine Byron
Assistant Director/ Director	Stephanie Butterworth

EIA Group (lead contact first)	Job title	Service
Trevor Tench	Head of Commissioning	Adult Services – Commissioning and Performance
Janine Byron	Assistant Team Manager – Market Development	Adult Services – Commissioning and Performance

PART 1 – INITIAL SCREENING

An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is required for all formal decisions that involve changes to service delivery and/or provision. Note: all other changes – whether a formal decision or not – require consideration for an EIA.

The Initial screening is a quick and easy process which aims to identify:

- those projects, proposals and service or contract changes which require a full EIA by looking at the potential impact on, or relevance to, any of the equality groups
- prioritise if and when a full EIA should be completed
- explain and record the reasons why it is deemed a full EIA is not required

A full EIA should always be undertaken if the project, proposal and service / contract change is likely to have an impact upon, or relevance to, people with a protected characteristic. This should be undertaken irrespective of whether the impact or relevancy is major or minor, or on a large or small group of people. If the initial screening concludes a full EIA is not required, please fully explain the reasons for this at 1e and ensure this form is signed off by the relevant Contract / Commissioning Manager and the Assistant Director / Director.

1a.	What is the project, proposal or service / contract change?	Further to funding of the VCFSE sector in previous years to support the sector to grow and develop community services to support the work of the Council, this report is to summarise and seek authorisation for the next round of core funding for the period 2019-2022.
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1b.	What are the main aims of the project, proposal or service / contract change?	That funding with Age UK (Tameside) and Tameside, Oldham and Glossop Mind is continued for a further two years. That funding for Action Together is continued for a further three years. That the level of funding identified in Section 6 of the report is agreed for the three year period in line with the standard conditions of the Council.
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1c. Will the project, proposal or service / contract change have either a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, any groups of people with protected equality characteristics? Where there is a direct or indirect impact on, or relevance to, a group of people with protected equality characteristics as a result of the project, proposal or service / contract change please explain why and how that group of people will be affected.				
Protected Characteristic	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Age	✓			The service is primarily for adults 18+. Those under 18 will have access to care and support via children's services
Disability	✓			The service is for adults who primarily don't have an eligible need.
Ethnicity			✓	
Sex			✓	
Religion or Belief			✓	
Sexual Orientation			✓	
Gender Reassignment			✓	
Pregnancy & Maternity			✓	
Marriage & Civil Partnership			✓	

Other protected groups determined locally by Tameside and Glossop Strategic Commission?				
Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
Mental Health	✓			The service is for adults who primarily don't have an eligible need.

Carers	✓			The service supports carers to identify support options for people who do not meet criteria for statutory services.
Military Veterans			✓	
Breast Feeding			✓	

**Are there any other groups who you feel may be impacted by the project, proposal or service/contract change or which it may have relevance to?
(e.g. *vulnerable residents, isolated residents, low income households, those who are homeless*)**

Group (please state)	Direct Impact/Relevance	Indirect Impact/Relevance	Little / No Impact/Relevance	Explanation
N/A				

Wherever a direct or indirect impact or relevance has been identified you should consider undertaking a full EIA or be able to adequately explain your reasoning for not doing so. Where little / no impact or relevance is anticipated, this can be explored in more detail when undertaking a full EIA.

1d.	Does the project, proposal or service / contract change require a full EIA?	Yes	No
			✓
1e.	What are your reasons for the decision made at 1d?	The continuation of these existing sub threshold services will allow access to appropriate provision, offer more choice and control over the support individuals need to improve and better manage their wellbeing, contributing to improved experiences and outcomes. The service is open to anyone but primarily to those people who do not meet the need for statutory services.	