

COVENTRY VCSE ALLIANCE MANIFESTO

Working together for Coventry

Our vision

A better Coventry for all who live in the city.

We believe

That creating a structure and support system at all levels which enables the VCSE to be active and equal participants in service planning, development and delivery, will enable us to reduce inequalities and improve the health and wellbeing of the residents of Coventry.



We come together to

- Share knowledge to ensure we are better informed and to provide mutual support
- Identify common causes or issues and to take collective action to result in greater impact
- Challenge inequality and champion fairness
- Value and promote diversity and difference
- Work to protect the services/support that empowers individuals and communities enabling them to become resilient and independent
- Be involved early in helping to define problems identified by individuals/communities in Coventry and help them determine their potential solutions/outcomes

Our context

- Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) organisations in Coventry are truly rooted in their communities and have a unique insight into the needs of local populations.
- We have developed to respond to specific local challenges faced by our citizens and communities. We have acquired local knowledge and devised our charitable offers to respond to real and abiding citizen need.
- We offer equitable access to citizens and communities, enabling people with protected characteristics to be able to use services effectively and play a fuller part in their community.
- We are committed to engaging effectively with local citizens, the Local Authority, NHS, universities, and other institutions.

Voluntary Action Coventry

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We ask statutory partners

- To recognise the VCSE sector is a key strategic partner with an important contribution to make in shaping, improving and delivering services, and developing and implementing plans to tackle issues
- To ensure Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise organisations are supported to be active and equal participants in decision making structures.
- To recognise the existing work that is being done by the VCSE sector to improve health and wellbeing outcomes and explore new and innovative ways of addressing any gaps
- To develop real collaboration by building relationships, awareness and trust across communities, organisations and sectors
- To proactively involve smaller community groups to provide a 'community voice' in development and design of provision
- To appreciate the contribution of the VCSE in terms of social return on investment, and the value in-kind of volunteers

We will

VCSE Alliance members will

- Champion and share the Manifesto through their organisations and wider
- Encourage others to join the Alliance and sign up to the Manifesto
- Work to avoid conflict and share best practice
- Celebrate the added value volunteers bring to organisations and ensure they are all valued and thanked for the unique contribution they make
- Respect and recognise the independence, views and values of other members

