

An update of the Recommendations in the Wiltshire Council / NHS Wiltshire Review with the Voluntary and Community Sector

Recommendation 1

The Council, NHS Wiltshire and the VCS together determine the most effective way of mapping and assessing the economic and social impact of the voluntary and community sector in Wiltshire

Still to be addressed – on work plan for VCS Unit - possibly with placement input 2010/11. N.B. This work is being undertaken for South West Forum, but with a longer timescale.

Recommendation 2

The Wiltshire Infrastructure Consortium- WIC, the Council and NHS Wiltshire jointly explore the potential for clear proposals that will lead to the creation of a single infrastructure gateway.

Still to be addressed – in discussions with VCS currently.

Recommendation 3

WIC, the Council and NHS Wiltshire jointly initiate/explore the potential for the development of a single VCS Assembly for Wiltshire with an agreed timescale.

WIC created a proposal which the VCS accepted at its first meeting with the wider VCS in 2008. Two VCS Assemblies took place in 2009 and one on 2nd March 2010. Another is planned for later 2010. Date tbc.

Recommendation 4

The Council and NHS Wiltshire review the arrangements for day to day working with representatives of the VCS ensuring as far as possible there is ease of access, continuity of officer relationships and problem solving assistance.

This links to Recommendation 10 and the development of the VCS Support Unit. The new corporate VCS Working Group is agreeing a common standards framework.

Recommendation 5

Wiltshire Council / NHS Wiltshire adopt the ‘shopping’, ‘giving’, ‘investing’ framework set out in the report.’

Margaret West from Voluntary Action Kennet has been seconded to take the lead on this piece of work and is consulting with the sector now. Paper to Cabinet on funding framework 25th May 2010.

Recommendation 6

The Council and Wiltshire PCT develop a transition plan for moving all existing funding arrangements with the VCS to the proposed framework within an agreed timescale.

This will follow on from Recommendation 5. From 1/4/2010 PCT Grant Funding is coming through VCS Support Unit via section 256 agreement.

Recommendation 7

The Council and NHS Wiltshire conduct further detailed work to scope and implement the outline performance assessment framework.

Margaret West is seconded to work on this and is currently working in partnership with WIC development manager.

Recommendation 8

The Council and NHS Wiltshire in consultation with the VCS adopt the principles and practice of the full cost recovery framework

A paper has already been drafted, which will form an appendix to the Funding Framework.

Recommendation 9

The Council and NHS Wiltshire with the VCS will evaluate the potential and assess the implications of PQASSO quality assurance framework to support accreditation of VCS organisations

Margaret West is working in partnership with WIC. Any system will be proportionate based on the principles of an organisation being 'fit for purpose'. Many organisations have a national quality system to attain and a variety of other options are available to meet specific needs related to the customer base.

Recommendation 10

The Council to scope and implement arrangements for a VCS Support Unit

The VCS Support Unit opened in July 2009. The email address is vcs@wiltshire.gov.uk the telephone number is 01225 713510.

Recommendation 11

The Council and NHS Wiltshire review the function and remit of the internal Compact Steering Group

This function has been incorporated into the Corporate VCS Working Group

Recommendation 12

The Council, NHS Wiltshire with the VCS together review the current Compact and its future operation in the context of the framework of partnership working.

The Compact Board has developed an action plan which addresses the need to revise the Compact and its codes of practice. This is due to go out for consultation in June 2010. A new Compact Board Chair takes up post in May 2010, (Peter Baxter)

Recommendation 13

Plan and implement a programme to increase the profile and awareness of the Compact

This forms part of the Compact action plan following Recommendation 12.