

Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Infrastructure Sector Service Support Grant

REPORT TO: Rachel Joyce, Assistant Chief Executive for Localities

DECISION DATE: 3rd September 2024

SUPPORTING ANNEX; None

PROPOSED RECOMMENDATION

To undertake a competitive grant process to award a grant for the delivery of the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Infrastructure Sector Service Support Grant.

BACKGROUND TO SUPPORT THE RECOMMENDATION

The VCSE Sector Infrastructure Support Grant has been in place since April 2017. The current grant agreement was awarded via a competitive grants process run in 2020 and is due to expire on 31st March 2025.

Infrastructure support or local support and development includes such things as the provision of funding advice, training for staff, volunteers and trustees, support for new groups in setting up; voice and representation; and networking activities among many others.

There are over 4,000 VCSE organisations within North Yorkshire, providing a variety of services, including contributing to improved health, economic and social outcomes for local residents. Infrastructure support ensures we have a robust, effective and quality VCSE sector that meet the diverse needs of our population.

The grant is funded by both the council and the NHS.

LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE COMPLIANCE

The competitive grant exercise will be undertaken in accordance with Section 23 of the Council's Procurement and Contract Procedure Rules.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Authority undertakes a competitive grant process to identify a provider for the Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Infrastructure Sector Service Support Grant.