

Fairer Stockton-on-Tees Coordinator

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Mapping the VCSE Sector

- **FSOT Framework – Coordinator role – SBC/lottery funded**
- **Health Inequalities National Lottery funding**
- **Identify gaps and how to address**
- **Role of VCSE**
- **Themes to map:**
 - Food Poverty,
 - Skills and Employment,
 - Fuel Poverty,
 - Money and Debt
 - Health and Wellbeing



Approach to the Mapping Exercise

- Catalyst existing directory
- Many services had changed or ceased operating
- Benefit of visiting services – knowledge, relationships, connections
- Visited around 100 different organisations and services
- Balancing benefits with capacity



Mapping Health and Wellbeing

- Joint approach with Sarah Jones
- Visits and discussions to feed into our shared document
- Shared out services to visit to be more effective – huge number
- Collaborative working – e.g. Lakota Hub
- Health and Wellbeing and Mental Health Forums
- Community Wellbeing Champions



What has the mapping achieved?

- Understanding of VCSE and how it works alongside commissioned services.
- Strong working relationships with a range of partners.
- Gaps identified and connections made to bring organisations together to meet needs.
- Built up contacts on mailing list – allows me to share information easily with VCSE and SBC colleagues
- Examples of themes – transport, social isolation



Partnership Work – Transport

- Several organisations stated transport was a barrier to accessing services.
- Discussions with SBC – agreed to part fund volunteer driver scheme.
- Tender for organisation to lead this.
- An agreement has been issued with a view to them delivering this service.
- Intend for service to start in the new year.

Partnership working – The Clarences

- Clarences – Working Group
- HAF provision – linking up BCT, Family Action, Iron Guidance – increased capacity from 15 to 60+ children in HCP.
- Building on assets – linking BELP to school to set up an education programme.
- PCP linked in to deliver Well Aware.
- Relationship with BCT led to Fun Fridays – around 200 people attended.
- Met with residents' group to help them constitute and access funding sources.



Partnership Working

Thornaby Warm Welcome

- Need identified by Community Partnership
- Learning and development of the group
- Sustained attendance of over 30 people per session, often up to 50
- Meeting needs – other organisations attend
- Support workers
- Constituting to achieve sustainability
- Developing further venues – Five Lamps, The Youthy
- Central Stockton – visit planned, funding needed





"As the weeks have gone by,
and more people have
joined, it has become even
friendlier."



"I really enjoy coming here as
it helps me to relax and relieve
the tension. Plus, I really like
the company of the people I sit
with! We have a good laugh
and sometimes win some
chocolate on the Bingo!"

"This venue is one of the
highlights of the week for
me and my wife."



"I have not met anyone who
isn't friendly."



"It is lovely to see friends
and play games together. All
for free and it gets us out
and into company."

"It's a good thing for people
to get together as there's
nothing else like it in the area.
It helps lonely people who
wouldn't get out."

"I think it's a good thing to
come together."



"I like the atmosphere.
Nobody is pushing you to
do something that you
don't want to do."

Partnership working

Bike Recycling Project



- Met with colleagues from Refugee Futures, Probation Service, Police, Men's Shed, SBC and Sustrans to find a way to increase capacity to get more discarded or confiscated bikes refurbished and given out to those who would benefit from cheap, healthy transport options.
- Knowledge of sector – identified Men's shed as a potential partner
- Issues with leading and the building.



Partnership working - Fairer Stockton-on-Tees SBC

- Contributions to shared initiatives, representing, informing and connecting VCSE to council's work
- Community Spaces – helped identify venues, gathered feedback and brought services to venues – MH training
- Here to Help events – used contacts to get good range of organisations to attend
- Cost of Living Hub, newsletter and annual booklet – VCSE news contributions.
- Community Partnerships – key areas



Beyond the mapping

- Stockton Information Directory – development as most up-to-date resource
- Focussed mapping services – part of the Conversation, Early Years Provision
- Information sharing via mailing lists, colleagues at Catalyst and our e-bulletin, providing point of contact
- Connecting People
- **Further gaps identified:**
 - Furniture Poverty – since FRADE
 - Support for hoarding – needs further exploring
 - Funding/governance for small groups – record numbers