

VCS Strategy Action Plan 2013-2014				
No.	Outcome Focussed Action	Lead	Outputs/Activities	Target Date
Objective 1: To increase the sustainability of the Voluntary and Community Sector by building capacity to meet identified needs and be flexible enough to meet future needs				
1.1	Support the growth and viability of frontline VCS groups to meet the needs of local people and to play a key role in preventing the need for acute services in the future	Lead Infrastructure Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provision of appropriate county wide infrastructure support offering relevant advice, support and development opportunities for frontline VCS groups Enhancing and updating Welfare Reform Directory of Support Organisations Monitoring effects of Welfare Reform on service users and developing appropriate responses to support frontline groups 	<p>March 2014</p> <p>June 2013</p> <p>Quarterly Reports via Grant Funding Agreement July 2013; October 2013; January 2014; April 2014</p>
1.2	Create a forward looking and adaptable VCS to ensure it is fit for the future by working in partnership to identify potential future needs and opportunities and build potential future projects	Lead Infrastructure Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure a clear understanding of current local, regional and national developments and their implications through training workshops and online resources Increase knowledge, skills and qualifications of VCS organisations by developing shared learning and building on good practice through training workshops and online resources 	<p>March 2014</p> <p>March 2014</p>

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of training, mentoring and skills utilising the expertise of Partner organisations 	June 2014
1.3	Strengthen the ability of VCS organisations to demonstrate their impact and social value in order to win public contracts	DCC Corporate Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the transparency and clarity of commissioning and procurement processes in the public sector through engagement workshops Increase support to VCS organisations through networking events and workshops to enable them to work collaboratively to win public contracts through consortia bids working in partnership with the VCS led Sustainability and Funding Project 	Training Programme of networking events and workshops: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> September 2013 January 2014 April 2014
1.4	Create a climate for entrepreneurship to grow and generate value for money	Business Enterprise and Skills Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steering Group to discuss with Business Enterprise and Skills Working Group the extent to which members can support the creation of a long term investment plan for the sector and to identify practical actions which they could take to assist the sector to become more enterprising in its ways of working. 	June 2014

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Objective 2: To improve communication within the VCS and between sectors				
2.1	Enable all partners to be well informed, responsive and collaborative	Lead Infrastructure Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline communications plan to enhance Communications which : <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Facilitates a flow of information and views across and within organisations b) Raises awareness about the expertise, role and value of the VCS c) Provides information about groups, networks and opportunities • Improve understanding of Compact commitments for all partners through e-learning and workshops 	<p>September 2013</p> <p>November 2013</p>
Objective 3: To increase the number, diversity and quality of volunteer opportunities and recognise the impact and value of volunteering in local communities				
3.1	Increase the range of volunteering opportunities across all sectors	VCS Volunteering Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification and removal of barriers that may prevent people from volunteering or organisations from offering volunteering opportunities • Increase proportion of the local population who volunteer formally 	<p>December 2013</p> <p>March 2014</p>

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3.2	Improve employability through the enhancement of personal skills	Business Enterprise and Skills Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Steering Group to discuss with Business Enterprise and Skills Working Group the extent to which members can identify practical actions which they could take to assist the sector to increase support to volunteers to enhance employability. 	June 2013
3.3	Encourage employees in the public and private sectors to volunteer and contribute to community life.	VCS Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increased take up of Employer Supported Volunteering schemes within private and public sector organisations Increased Promotion of access to volunteering opportunities and benefits of volunteering through a range of communication channels and online resources 	March 2014 September 2013
3.4	Improve the quality of volunteering experiences	VCS Volunteering Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good practice in Volunteer Management shared across all sectors through a range of communication channels and online resources 	December 2013
3.5	Demonstrate the value of volunteering in local communities	Lead Infrastructure Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Celebration and recognition of volunteer achievements and the positive difference that volunteering brings to individuals and communities 	March 2014

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Illustrate the impact of voluntary activity through case studies 	Quarterly Reports via Grant Funding Agreement July 2013; October 2013; January 2014; April 2014
Objective 4: To develop the capacity and resilience of individuals to manage and shape change in their lives and their communities				
4.1	Facilitate individual choice and self-determination to enable individuals to be resilient and better able to adapt to change	Health Improvement Partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Roll out of an asset based approach to community development and community health and wellbeing Improved Knowledge of networks and opportunities to be involved in local decision making through a range of communication channels and online resources Provision of appropriate training , mentoring and skills development 	November 2013 October 2013 June 2013
Objective 5: To strengthen the influence and effectiveness of the VCS in strategic and local decision making				
5.1	Ensure the VCS has a strong strategic voice	VCS Working Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establishment of a consistent effective strategic involvement mechanism for the VCS that disseminates information and ensures a good flow of communication 	December 2013

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Development of individual and organisational capacity through training resources 	March 2014
5.2	Enhance the delivery of the priorities of the Sustainable Community Strategy	Lead Infrastructure Organisation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optimising the role of VCS partners through networking events and workshops 	March 2014