

Refresh of Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord

Approach, Rationale & Structure – Aug 2025

Endorsed 15th July by Accord Commitment Delivery Group Chairs, and Accord Grant Leads.

Purpose of this document

To set out a roadmap for the refresh of the Greater Manchester (GM) VCFSE Accord Agreement through a collaborative process that will build from the existing position, meet the engagement and co-production expectations of key stakeholders, and enable meaningful shared 'system' ownership of the new version of the Accord from 2026.

Background

The GM VCFSE Accord is a collaboration agreement with the stated purpose of **improving working relationships** between the public and VCFSE sectors for the positive benefits of Greater Manchester's communities and citizens.

It is based on a relationship of **mutual trust, working together, and sharing responsibility**.

The current version of the Accord was signed in 2021 and lasts for a 5-year period until 2026.

Key Stakeholders

The GM VCFSE Accord is **jointly owned** by the public and VCFSE sectors in Greater Manchester - including NHS GM, GMCA, 10 local authorities, and the VCFSE sector.

The VCFSE sector is represented in the GM Accord Agreement by the GM VCFSE Leadership Group.

Individual localities will **also** have place-specific agreements, strategies and shared objectives for collaboration between the VCFSE and public sectors.

Scope of this refresh

The refresh of the GM VCFSE Accord will have the following outputs:

1. **A new Accord Agreement** - *for the public sector and VCFSE sector to work together in Greater Manchester in a relationship of trust, which has been jointly developed and endorsed, and contains shared purpose, principles/commitments, and values.*
2. **A clear and agreed implementation methodology for the GM VCFSE Accord** – *a description of the approach that will be taken by all partners in the Accord Agreement towards the implementation of the principles /commitments and values it contains – at a GM-wide, locality and individual organisation footprint.*
3. **An agreed programme of work to be funded and delivered at a GM footprint** – *this will include a small number of 'transformative projects' best delivered at a GM footprint, achieved collaboratively by GMCA, local authorities, NHSGM and the VCFSE sector, aimed at removing*

barriers and enabling more effective partnership working. This will be enabled through a long-term funding agreement aligned with the new Accord's intentions provided by the Accord's GM-level partners.

Approach to the refresh

The following principles will underpin the Accord refresh process:

- **Separate, but connected, lines of enquiry** – engagement that explores both the “what” (the content of the GM Accord Agreement) and the “how” (the delivery mechanisms for the Accord Agreement).
- **Joint ownership and accountability** – through structured engagement, stakeholder involvement and transparent development.
- **Joint recognition we are not starting from scratch** – building on the impacts of the current VCFSE Accord, on lessons learned, on existing values, and insight we have from the conversations we have had and continue to have under the current Accord.
- **Building from existing strategies and operating environment** – The Greater Manchester Strategy, NHS 10-year plan, and GM VCFSE Manifesto all set out ambitions for Accord stakeholders across the coming years. Most GM localities now have a set of shared objectives with their local VCFSE sector. Therefore, we need to see the GM VCFSE Accord Agreement as a lens for these, that in collaborative working between the public and VCFSE sector we employ the best ways of working to improve lives for GM communities and citizens.
- **Created to accommodate an evolving situation and to seize opportunities as they emerge** – the GM VCFSE Accord needs to be flexible enough to accommodate both the current and future demands placed on both sectors. These might include the development of a Live Well System, the shift towards prevention and inclusive growth, or continued race towards net zero, for example.
- **Respectful of challenges and risks faced by all stakeholders** – recognising that all sectors face ongoing pressures to their budgets, limitations on staffing resources and a high level of demand for front line services, but also acknowledging the need for ‘enabling’ functions such as workforce support, engagement and insight, learning and development and mentoring.

As of July 2025, it is clear that a huge amount has been achieved over the last 4 years through the 2021 GM VCFSE Accord. Furthermore, and as noted above, our refresh of the Accord Agreement must build from a baseline of ongoing activity right across GM.

Early Engagement

In April to June 2025, initial conversations have taken place between the three main Accord partners – GMCA, NHS GM and the GM VCFSE Leadership Group. These conversations have focussed on:

- Reflections on the success of the existing GM VCFSE Accord Agreement
- Conversations around the purpose and scope of a refreshed Accord

- Discussions about the ‘spirit of the Accord’ – the values and principles which might underpin a new Agreement
- The main barriers or blockages felt by VCFSE organisations when working collaboratively with the public sector (from both viewpoints)
- Changes to the ‘operating environment’ since 2021 – new strategies, policies, programmes and priorities – and what that might mean for the future of the VCFSE Accord
- Reflections from local authorities on how the Accord is working at a locality level

Baseline Position as at July 2025

Insight thus far indicates that the new GM VCFSE Accord Agreement might contain:

- A short set of **values and principles** – agreed ‘ways of working’ together
- **Small number of areas of change** – thematic headers where systems and relationships must evolve – *it is felt the current eight commitments as headers are too many*
- Clear **commitments** under each area of change, could take the form of a checklist, a framework that makes it clear if it’s happening or not
- Agreed **changes**, with specific and improved commitment to developing internal processes and policy within the public sector – *feedback to date has mentioned that the onus for delivery toward Accord agreement is too much on the VCFSE, the next accord needs to better reflect the shared responsibility for all partners*
- Clear and agreed **‘architecture’** for making changes happen - *the approach that will be taken by all partners in the Accord Agreement towards the implementation of the principles /commitments and values it contains – at a GM-wide, locality and individual organisation footprint.*

Desktop Research

It will be important to ensure that a refreshed GM VCFSE Accord Agreement has a good ‘fit’ with the strategic and policy objectives agreed with the sector at both a GM and locality footprint.

It is proposed that a piece of rapid research is carried out on behalf of the Accord’s key stakeholders by Voluntary Sector North West. This will draw together insight from locality VCFSE strategies and shared objectives with the sector, the interim evaluation of the Accord, and other relevant GM and national strategies, policies and programmes.

The result will be a research document in which conclusions will be drawn to steer the ‘strategic fit’ for the refreshed GM VCFSE Accord Agreement. This report will be completed by the end of August 2025.

This research will consider (but not be limited to) the following:

- Interim Evaluation of the Accord (autumn 2024)
- Greater Manchester Strategy, including its implementation plan and delivery pledges
- NHS 10 Year Plan
- NHS GM VCFSE Commissioning Principles and emerging Market Development Strategy

- GM Live Well System objectives, scope and programme outline
- Mayoral Priorities
- Integrated Settlement
- GM VCFSE Manifesto
- Locality VCFSE Strategies
- National Civil Society Covenant
- Local Transport Plan
- Greater Manchester Police & Crime Plan 2024-29
- Greater Manchester GBV Strategy
- Greater Manchester Tackling Gender Based Violence Against Men and Boys
- Greater Manchester Fire Plan 2025-29
- Greater Manchester Drug & Alcohol Strategy
- GM 5 Year Environment Plan

Broader Stakeholder engagement

Appendix 1 contains a full stakeholder analysis for the refresh of the GM VCFSE Accord. It is now proposed that the following broader stakeholder engagement should be carried out as part of the refresh of the GM Accord Agreement:

Key lines of enquiry

The key questions to be used through the engagement process include:

1. **Purpose and scope of the Accord Agreement** – The GM VCFSE Accord is a collaboration agreement which aims to put in place working relationships between the public and VCFSE sectors which will improve outcomes for Greater Manchester's communities and citizens. It is based on a relationship of mutual trust, working together, and sharing responsibility, and is jointly owned by the public and VCFSE sectors in Greater Manchester – including NHS GM, GMCA, 10 local authorities, and the VCFSE sector. The VCFSE sector is represented in the GM Accord Agreement by the GM VCFSE Leadership Group. Individual localities will also have place-specific agreements, strategies and shared objectives for collaboration.
 - a. *Do you agree that this statement accurately describes the future purpose and scope of a refreshed GM VCFSE Accord Agreement? Please explain your answer.*
 - b. *What do you think should be the overriding ambition for the GM VCFSE Accord?*
 - c. *Should there be any other additional partners to this agreement (E.g. universities)? If yes, please explain which other sectors / organisations might be included.*
 - d. *The new Greater Manchester Strategy will run from 10 years from 2025 – should the GM VCFSE Accord Agreement last for the same period? Please explain your answer.*
2. **Content of the new GM VCFSE Accord Agreement** – The current VCFSE Accord contains a set of 8 'commitments' for shared action, but only limited description of how these commitments might be achieved. It is proposed that the refreshed GM VCFSE Accord includes fewer values

and principles, headline areas for change, with clearer commitments and defined areas for action for each.

- a. **Values and principles** – early engagement has highlighted the following as being most important in terms of how the public and VCFSE sector works together – accountability and compliance, equity/parity of esteem, transparency, devolution of power, equity and involvement, genuine co-production, equity and empowerment, asset-based, and putting people and communities first

- i. *Do you agree that these are probably the most important values to underpin sector collaboration? If not, please could you suggest what else might be added to this list?*
- ii. *How might we understand whether these values and principles were being adhered to?*

- b. **Areas for change** – The GM VCFSE Accord Agreement could contain a set of areas where collaboration is required, and change is needed. Early engagement has identified that these areas might include – VCFSE sector involvement/empowerment, fair funding, valuing the VCFSE role, ecosystem and infrastructure, and integrated ways of working.

- i. *Are these broadly the right areas within which systems and relationships must evolve and develop?*
- ii. *Are there any other areas that you would suggest as being a priority at this time?*
- iii. *What is the one commitment to change we could make together that would have the biggest impact for the VCFSE sector over the next 3-5 years?*

3. **Implementation of the GM VCFSE Accord** – It will be vital to the success of the GM VCFSE Accord that it has a clear and agreed implementation methodology – a description of the approach that will be taken by all partners in the Accord Agreement towards the implementation of the principles /commitments and values it contains – at a GM-wide, locality and individual organisation footprint. Essentially, all stakeholders in the Accord should understand what it requires them to do. In order to put this in place, it is helpful to know:

- a. *What 'sector' or type of organisation you represent and what you think your role is in relation to the GM VCFSE Accord?*
- b. *Who should be accountable for implementing the Accord Agreement, and how might they demonstrate that they are taking action on the values, principles and commitments that it will contain?*

4. **Programme of work to be delivered at a GM footprint** – Funding will be set aside for a small number of 'transformative projects' best delivered at a GM footprint, achieved collaboratively by GMCA, local authorities, NHS GM and the VCFSE sector, aimed at removing barriers and enabling more effective partnership working. These projects will be incorporated into a Delivery Plan which will be jointly owned by GMCA, NHS GM and the GM VCFSE Leadership Group. In order to help develop this Delivery Plan, please could you tell us:

- a. *What are the main barriers or blockages to working collaboratively with the public sector across Greater Manchester?*

- b. *Ideas that you might have for specific pieces of work which must be delivered once for the whole of Greater Manchester, delivered and coordinated at GM level?*
- c. *What you think is better started or driven at a locality (or neighbourhood) footprint? This might include actions which could later be joined up/spread/shared through GM?*

Channels and methodology

Appendix 2 contains a detailed stakeholder engagement programme. This plan will involve:

- **Open engagement platform** – To assist in making shaping the future of the Accord as accessible as possible to all stakeholders and recognising the need for engagement outside the limitations of pre-arranged meetings and existing engagement structures, a digital platform has been put in place to allow broad and open engagement throughout the entire engagement process. The platform will centre around the key lines of enquiry outlined and will be added to, following the engagement with the various stakeholders. Contributors will be able to see what has been said already to promote transparency.
- **In person / online discussions** – Where possible the lines of enquiry outlined above will be taken into existing meetings and forums for discussion. This will be facilitated and recorded by officers working on the GM VCFSE Accord and all feedback retained centrally by VSNW on behalf of the Accord partners. The stakeholder analysis at Appendix 1 below will be used as a checklist to ensure that all stakeholders have the opportunity to take part in discussions around the Accord. Where necessary, additional, dedicated sessions will be arranged to ensure that this happens.
- **Regular communications** – a short slide deck will regularly be shared, to provide transparency around the lines of enquiry as they develop through the engagement programme. This will take the format of a short slide deck and be shared widely with Accord stakeholders and the wider VCFSE sector via established communication channels.

Considering feedback and writing the new Accord

The open engagement platform and in person / online discussions will take place between August and October 2025, after which the feedback will be collated into a single engagement responses report (**Appendix 3**), which will be considered alongside the report from the rapid desktop research (**Appendix 4**).

A new '**GM VCFSE Accord Refresh Steering Group**' will be convened to consider the results of the engagement and rapid research, to draw conclusions and make recommendations on what should be included in the refreshed GM VCFSE Accord Agreement, how it should be delivered, and which projects or activities should be taken forward at a GM footprint.

This Steering Group will be made up of no more than 10 people, being representatives from NHS GM, GMCA, one or more of the GM local authorities, TfGM, and the different membership types of the GM VCFSE Leadership Group (providers represented by Alternative Provider Collaborative, Equalities represented by GM=EqAl and LIOs).

The refreshed GM VCFSE Accord documents will be written by a team comprising the VCFSE Accord Programme manager from Voluntary Sector North West, the GMCA VCFSE Accord Principal and NHS GM Strategy Lead, who will all be jointly accountable for this work to the GM VCFSE Accord Refresh Steering Group.

Sign off process

The final version of the new GM VCFSE Accord must be approved through the following:

- GM VCFSE Leadership Group
- GM Integrated Care Partnership Board
- GMCA
- TfGM
- Individual locality-based governances as agreed – this might be a Locality or Health and Wellbeing Board, or Local Authority Executive arrangements.

This approval will happen in the spring of 2026 with the new GM VCFSE Accord coming into effect from 1st April 2026. A new grant funding agreement for the sector, which will cover the programme of work to be delivered at a GM footprint will also commence of 1st April 2026.

Timetable

A shared timeline is required so can ensure there's a fair and transparent window for input from all stakeholders. **Appendix 5** contains a Gantt chart and project timetable for the refresh of the GM VCFSE Accord, which will include the following milestones:

1. A new Accord Agreement -

- a. Engagement with stakeholders as part of the Accord refresh process to hear what stakeholders think should be included within the new Accord Agreement (Aug-Oct)
- b. Desktop research (July-Aug)
- c. Steering Group meetings (Aug-Dec)
- d. Drafting the new GM VCFSE Accord Agreement (Aug-Jan)
- e. 'Socialising' the draft Accord Agreement (Dec-Jan)
- f. Final version (Dec/Jan)
- g. Sign off (Jan-Feb)
- h. Launch (April 2026)

2. A clear and agreed implementation methodology for the GM VCFSE Accord –.

- a. Engagement with stakeholders as part of the Accord refresh process to hear how stakeholders think the GM VCFSE Accord should be implemented (Aug-Oct)
- b. Desktop research (July-Aug)
- c. Steering group meetings (Aug-Dec)
- d. Drafting the implementation methodology and governance (Aug-Dec)
- e. Socialising of draft (Dec-Jan)

- f. Final version (Feb-Mar)
- g. Sign off (Mar 26)

3. An agreed programme of work to be delivered at a GM footprint

- a. Develop outline business case for GMCA and NHSGM funding for the VCFSE Accord from April 2026 to secure budget (Jul-Sept)
- b. Provisional guarantee of funding (Letter of intent) in place by end of September (end of Sept)
- c. Engagement with stakeholders as part of the Accord refresh process to define what should specific work needs to be delivered at a GM footprint under a future Accord (Aug-Oct)
- d. Develop detailed business case and Delivery Plan grant agreement is based in this (Sept-Dec)
- e. Confirm funding model for programme of work to be delivered at a GM level (Sept-Jan)
- f. Grant agreement in place. (Mar 26)

Appendix 1 - Stakeholder analysis and engagement plans – **WORKING DOCUMENT**

Stakeholder Group	Existing intelligence on priorities and need	Plans - <i>Taken place already</i> - To come	Actions as of 15 July 2025	Roles & Responsibilities
Accord Commitment Delivery Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Previous meeting discussions Accord Interim Evaluation Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>April meeting on purpose and scope</i> Dedicated agenda item for each session 25/26 		
GMCA	Greater Manchester Strategy (GMS) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VCFSE Forums Policy Team Engagement sessions June Accord Paper Integrated Settlement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>19th May dedicated Accord engagement session with policy teams</i> <i>Commissioner meeting</i> VCFSE Forum Wigan in Sept 		Anne Lythgoe & Eve Holt GMCA policy teams? Reform team? NB. Anne Lythgoe leaving post in September
GM NHS	NHS 10 Year Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Three shifts VCFSE market development strategy & Commissioning principles Live Well locality conversations VCFSE Forums 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Commissioner meeting</i> GM ICB Paper 16th July Market Development Strategy Development Neighbourhood Model VCFSE Forum Wigan in Sept 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Need clarification from NHS GM how they will feed into the Accord planning process ➤ Need financial commitment clarification – including understanding when this will be known 	Sarah Harris, Paul Lynch & Warren Heppolette

Local Authorities	Local authority VCFSE strategies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VCFSE Forums – previous conversations Live Well locality conversations Previous Accord Locality Conversations 	- Need to organise collaborative LA & LIO plans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Need to organise collaborative LA & LIO conversations ➤ Anne has flagged w/ Local Authority officers the refresh is happening and will hear from LIOs 	Local infrastructure organisations & Local Authority officers
NHS Place leads	NHS 10 Year Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Neighbourhood model Live Well locality conversations Local health strategies? 	- VCFSE Forum Wigan in Sept	Contact with Deputy Place Leads via Sarah Harris, to link with LIOs and through their own networks.	Sarah Harris, NHS GM
Transport for Greater Manchester (TfGM)	Local Transport Plan (refreshing in 2025) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VCFSE Forums – previous conversations Accord Commitment Delivery Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19th May dedicated Accord engagement session with policy teams - VCFSE Forums 		Jody Smith, Strategic Lead for Partnerships & Engagement TfGM
GM Safer Stronger Communities	Greater Manchester Police & Crime Plan 2024-29 Greater Manchester GBV Strategy	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion with Victims & Justice workstream co-chairs mid Aug to discuss. 	Duncan Craig, We Are Survivors & Gail Heath, Pankhurst Trust

	Greater Manchester Tackling Gender Based Violence Against Men and Boys Greater Manchester Fire Plan 2025-29 Greater Manchester Drug & Alcohol Strategy			
GM VCFSE Leadership Group	GM VCFSE Manifesto <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accord Interim Evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June LG meeting July LG meeting September LG meeting 		Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
GM VCFSE Sector	GM VCFSE Manifesto <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accord Interim Evaluation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Manifesto engagement 		Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
Local infrastructure Organisations in 10 boroughs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> LIO Network conversations Live Well conversations 			10GM
Bolton	Living Our Bolton Story 2025–2030 (Bolton CVS)	➤ 05.08 End of November joint LIO and LA session on how this will be implemented.	Find out date from Bolton CVS/ 10GM and provide materials/attend to support	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Bury	Strategic Plan 2023–2026 (Bury VCFA) buryvcfa.org.uk ; Volunteering Strategy 2023–2026 (Bury VCFA) buryvcfa.org.uk .	-	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations	Local Authority Officers & LIO

Manchester	Building Stronger Communities Together” (BSCT) strategy for 2023–2026 in mid-2024 manchester.gov.uk .	-	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Oldham	Oldham has agreed a set of priorities with the local VCFSE sector and Action Together.	- VCFSE Forum in 2024	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Rochdale	VCFSE Strategy forms part of the ICP Locality Plan – including the neighbourhoods and cooperative communities’ model.		➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Salford	Salford VCSE Strategy 2018–2023 & refreshed Compact	-	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Stockport	Stockport VCFSE Strategy 2023–2028	- VCFSE Forum July 2025	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Tameside	Work between LA and Action Together on development of local Live Well model and neighbourhood working will provide strategic objectives.	- VCFSE Forum 2023	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Trafford	Trafford-VCFSE-Strategy-2022-27	-	➤ Need to organise LA & LIO conversations ➤	Local Authority Officers & LIO
Wigan	Wigan’s “Progress with Unity” Missions wigan.gov.uk	- VCFSE Forum October 2025	➤ Dedicated session or forum sufficient?	Local Authority Officers & LIO

VCFSE Equalities Organisations representing all protected characteristics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM=EqAl future priorities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>GM EqAl Away Day dedicated agenda Point</i> - <i>GM=EqAl July Working Group meeting</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Write up notes, feedback and get signed off ➤ GM ECN feed in. 	Ayisatu Emore GM=EqAl & Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
VCFSE Providers of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Provider Collaborative (APC) key messages • GM VCFSE Manifesto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Alternative Provider Collaborative (APC) – top recurring points</i> - Dedicated APC session w/c 13th October - LIO conversations 	➤	Franky Procter, APC & Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
Social Enterprise Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Enterprise Advisory Group annual priorities? • GM VCFSE Manifesto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - VCFSE Forum – upcoming on social enterprise in Stockport July - LIO conversations 	➤ Need to plan engagement with GM Social Enterprise Advisory Group	Will Clarke GMCA & Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
Faith Inspired VCFSE Organisations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • GM Faith Covenant • GM VCFSE Manifesto 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Faith & Belief Panel meeting September 2025 	➤	Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW
Accord Officers and Working Group Chairs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accord Interim Evaluation Report 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - <i>Accord Away Day</i> 		Anna Cooper, GM Programme Manager VSNW

Appendix 2 – Stakeholder engagement programme of dates *(working list)*

Engagement so far:

End of 2023	
-Mid 2024	GM VCFSE Manifesto 2024-28 Engagement on VCFSE sector priorities
30th April 25	Accord Commitment Delivery Group Q4 Meeting – early discussion
19th May	GMCA policy team feedback
2nd June	Early Commissioner Meeting
11th June	Accord Grant Leads Meeting
12th June	GM=EqAl Away Day conversation
18th Jun-25	In-person Leadership Group Meeting
23rd June	Accord Away Day with VCFSE working group chairs, officers and grant leads
24th June	GM=EqAl Working Group Meeting
29th July	GM VCFSE Leadership Group Meeting – online - feedback on findings so far

AUGUST

Jul-Aug – Desktop Research undertaken

Launch online open platform and survey

20 th August	LIO network agenda item on Accord refresh offer
21st August	Accord Commitment Delivery Group Q1 Meeting

SEPTEMBER

Sept – Dedicated open workshop - online

5 th Sept	GM Mental Health Leadership Group conversation
10th Sept	GM VCFSE Leadership Group Meeting – Caroline Simpson GMCA chief exec attending
22nd Sept	VCFSE Accord implementation plan w/ financial commitment to Combined Authority for approval
XXXX	Faith & Belief panel meeting
End of Sept	6 months before March 2026 – letter of intent on financial commitment

OCTOBER

Oct – Dedicated open workshop – in person

8th October - VCFSE Forum Wigan – dedicated agenda to Accord refresh

AUGUST – OCTOBER

Localities - VCFSE forum, VCFSE Strategies, testing conclusions through joint LIO and LA networks

- Providers - Alternative Provider Collaborative w/c 13th October
- Social enterprise – to set up dedicated session
- Equalities – existing GM=EqAl & linked network meetings
- Research Engagement Network – to set up conversation
- Public sector engagement – NHS side to define

OCTOBER-JANUARY: Drafting, socialisation and revisions

13th Nov Accord Commitment Delivery Group Meeting Q2

26th Nov Scrutiny Panel

End of Nov Bolton joint LIO and LA network event

DEC-MAR: Sign off, and finalise joint project plans & prepare for new Accord delivery

Jan-26 Accord Commitment Delivery Group Q3 Meeting

February Local authority deadline for budgets

Mar-26 Ready to move into Accord 2026 onwards agreement and Delivery

Appendix 3 - Engagement Responses Report – summary slide deck updated fortnightly

Download here: [https://cdn.prod.website-](https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6682c2b63024dc5fac17ec7d/689db521c776c01af38f209d_Accord%20Refresh%20Response%20Summary%20as%20at%207th%20August%20Final.pptx)

[files.com/6682c2b63024dc5fac17ec7d/689db521c776c01af38f209d_Accord%20Refresh%20Response%20Summary%20as%20at%207th%20August%20Final.pptx](https://cdn.prod.website-files.com/6682c2b63024dc5fac17ec7d/689db521c776c01af38f209d_Accord%20Refresh%20Response%20Summary%20as%20at%207th%20August%20Final.pptx)

Appendix 4 – Rapid Desktop Research – Accord Strategic Environment Scoping – *complete by end of Aug*

Appendix 5 – Gantt Charts & Project Timetable

Activity	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
1. A new Accord Agreement -										
a. Engagement with stakeholders on new Accord Agreement (Aug-Oct)										
b. Desktop research (July-Aug)										
c. Steering Group meetings (Sep-Dec)										
d. Drafting the new GM VCFSE Accord Agreement (Aug-Jan)										
e. 'Socialising' the draft Accord Agreement (Dec-Jan)										
f. Final version (Dec/Jan)										
g. Sign off (Jan-Feb)										
h. Launch (April 2026)										
2. A clear and agreed implementation methodology for the GM VCFSE Accord:										
a. Engagement with stakeholders as part of the Accord refresh process to hear										
b. Desktop research (July-Aug)										
c. Steering group meetings (Sep-Dec)										
d. Drafting the implementation methodology and governance (Aug-Dec)										
e. Socialising of draft (Dec-Jan)										
f. Final version (Feb-Mar)										
g. Sign off (Mar 26)										
h. Launch (April 2026)										

Activity	Jul	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr
3. An agreed programme of work to be delivered at a GM footprint										
a. Develop outline business case for GMCA and NHSGM funding for the VCFSE Accord from April 2026 to secure budget (Jul-Sept)										
b. Provisional guarantee of funding (Letter of intent) in place by end of September (end of Sept)										
c. Engagement with stakeholders as part of the Accord refresh process to define what should specific work needs to be delivered at a GM footprint (Aug-Oct)										
d. Develop detailed business case and Delivery Plan grant agreement is based on this (Sept-Dec)										
e. Confirm funding model for programme of work to be delivered at a GM level (Sept-Jan)										
f. Collaborative delivery plans for GM transformative projects drafted (Dec-Jan)										
g. Collaborative delivery plans signed off										
h. Grant agreement in place. (Mar 26)										
j. Launch (April 2026)										