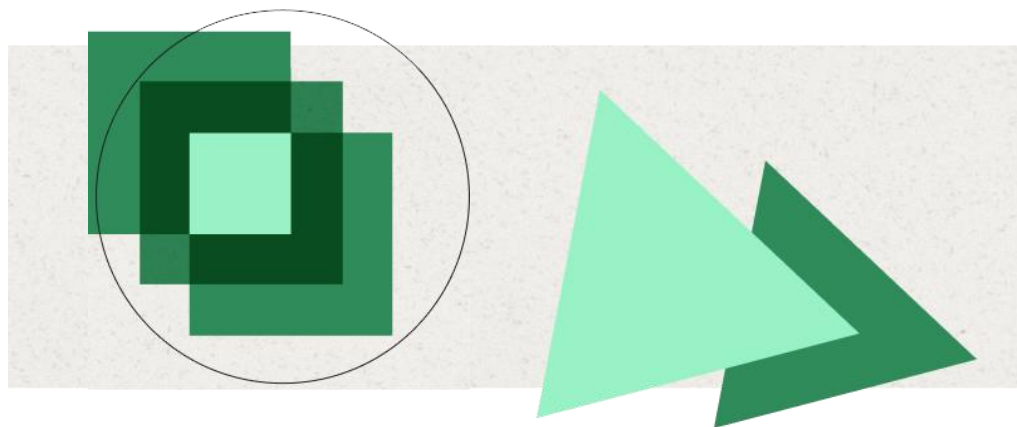




Greater Manchester VCFSE Accord Refresh

Consultation findings as at 20th October

Greater Manchester
VCFSE Leadership Group

The sector's voice in devolution

GMCA

GREATER
MANCHESTER
COMBINED
AUTHORITY



Transport for
Greater Manchester

Greater
Manchester
Integrated Care
Partnership



Greater Manchester
Integrated Care



The GM VCFSE Accord

The Accord is an agreement for how the Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector works together with the public sector to **improve outcomes for Greater Manchester's communities and citizens.**

It's a **collaboration agreement** between the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Combined Authority and the Greater Manchester Integrated Care System and the VCFSE sector based on a relationship of trust.

Formally approved by the GMCA, NHS and **all 10 Local Authorities individually.**

It's delivered through:

- A **shared understanding** of the contribution that VCSE organisations make
- By **building effective partnerships** and relationships between the statutory sector and VCFSE
- Through a **5-year iterative programme of enabling work** driven at a GM-wide footprint, which aims to maximise the ability of VCFSE organisations to achieve better outcomes.

The agreement so far

An agreement has been in place since September 2021.

It's built from early collaboration with the VCFSE sector during the creation of GMCA in 2016 & 2017 Memorandum of Understanding.

Greater Manchester VCSE Accord Delivery Plan 2023-26

#VCFSELeadershipGM

“We will renew and expand our VCFSE Accord, fully implement the Fair Funding Protocol and increase the value of the services we collectively commission from the third sector.”

Pledged in the
**Greater Manchester Strategy
2025-2035**

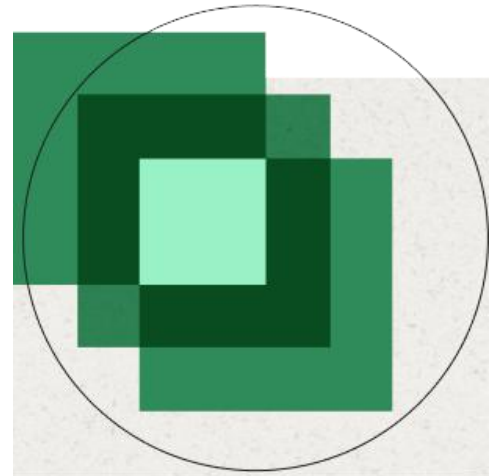


These are the **three areas** which are being looked at are the **scope** of the refresh:

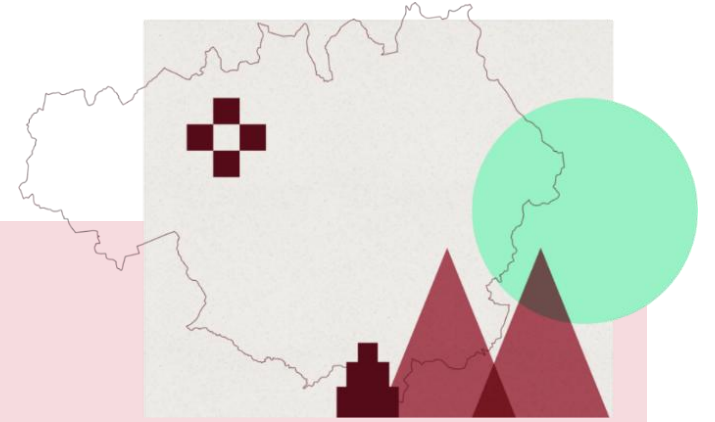
1. Values & Principles (the agreement)

2. Taking action (the implementation)

3. GM-level transformational projects
(delivery)



Accord Consultation Headlines:



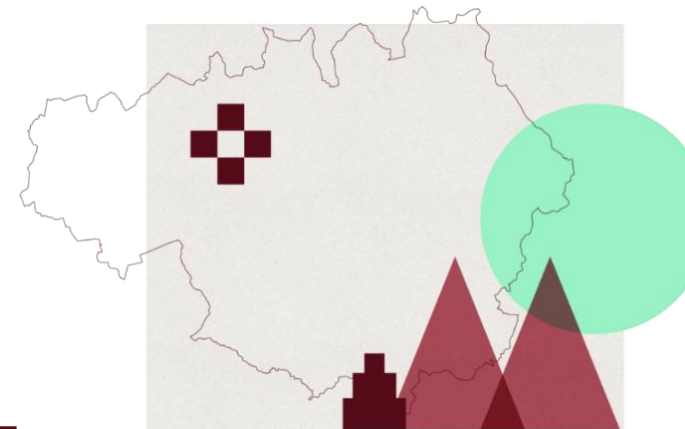
- ❖ **Agreement 10 years, with 3-year review & implementation plans.**
- ❖ Suggestion to **explore** expanded **partnership** e.g., universities, NHS Trusts, GMP, FRS, housing providers
- ❖ Agree to be **GM version of National Civil Society Covenant.**
- ❖ Want of greater understanding of how ***all* partners are contributing to delivery** of working with the VCFSE sector to improve outcomes for communities and citizens in GM.

Developing 'Areas of Change'

Engagement so far has suggested the following:

- 1. Involve and devolve**
- 2. Fairly Fund**
- 3. Partnership and recognition**
- 4. Transparency and accountability**

1. What do you think are the **key values and/or principles** that should underpin any new agreement?



1. Values & Principles (the agreement)

Engagement so far has highlighted the following:

1. Involve and devolve

- **Equity and involvement** – ensuring that the most excluded are centred
- **Devolution of power** - shift decision-making and resources to communities
- **Putting people and communities first**, with an **asset-based approach**
- Genuine **co-production with local people**, as active participants in shaping their futures
- **Courage and Leadership**
- **Lived experience** and intersectional perspectives paramount

2. Fairly fund

- Partners are **resourced to act** – commitment to investment and joint working

1. Values & Principles (the agreement)

Engagement so far has highlighted the following:

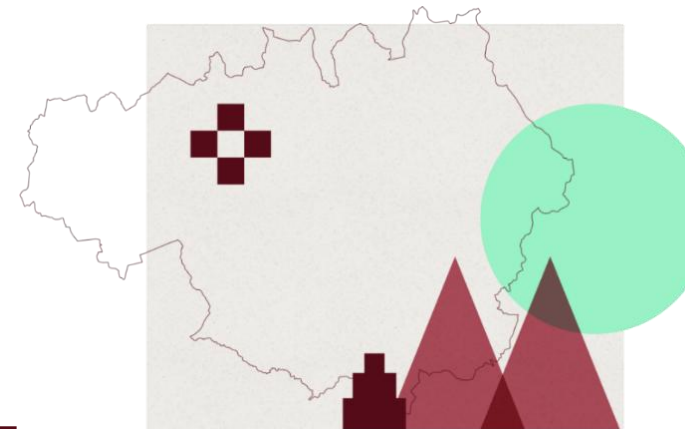
3. Partnership and recognition

- **Valuing the VCFSE sector, recognising the role the ecosystem and the roles different types of VCFSE organisations play** - not just public service delivery, but independent and campaigning voice, leadership, driving change, the infrastructure role in link to grassroots, equality organisations role in addressing structural inequity.

4. Transparency and accountability

- **Being authentic and honest**, using real-time data, learning from challenges together
- **Accountability mechanisms** – a way to raise concerns when Accord values/principles are not upheld
- **Transparency** in where decisions are taken and who is making them
- **Integrity, trust and respect**
- **Turning values into practice** – measurable impact and actions at all levels not just intention and words at strategic levels

2. How might partners in the Accord demonstrate that they are **taking action** on the values, principles and commitments that it will contain?



2. Taking action (the implementation)

1. Involve and devolve

- **Devolution of power, equity and involvement** – genuine shift of decision-making and resources
- More **assets in community ownership**
- **Shared participatory approaches implemented** which include **co-design** and **co-production** - recognising the voice of lived experience

2. Fairly fund

- **Fair Funding Protocol** implemented across whole of GM
- More **investment in VCFSE control, with a clear framework** to implement the shift
- Not just increasing “market share”, but **increasing pathway share**
- **1% community levy** for large public sector contracts
- Shift of **resources to follow Live Well principles** – e.g. number of Live Well Centres owned by VCFSE sector as a metric
- **Improved procurement processes** such as improved **Social Value** that gives weight and recognition to inherent social value of VCFSE and a **better use of Provider Selection Regime**
- VCFSE **trusted to manage funding** and influence commissioning

2. Taking action (the implementation)

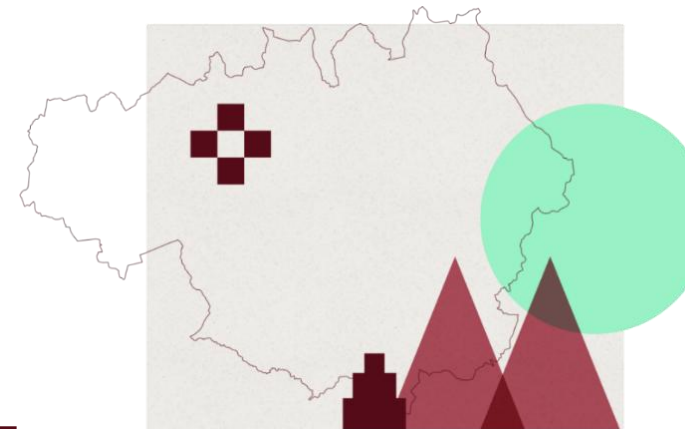
3. Partnership and recognition

- Better **measurement and recognition of VCFSE impact data** within the system
- Recognition of **VCFSE expertise**
- **Challenging outdated systems together**, whilst addressing the power imbalance – e.g., commissioning reform
- **More co-commissioning and grants** and equal commissioning voice for VCFSE organisations
- Partners are resourced to act – commitment to **investment in joint working**
- **Adoption of ‘keep it local’ principles** to prioritise local partnerships and investment
- Better **embedding co-ops and inclusive economy** into strategy

4. Transparency and accountability

- **Improved processes** to align to the Accord values
- **Accountability mechanisms** – a way to raise concerns when Accord values/principles are not upheld
- **Transparency** in where decisions are taken and who is making them
- **Turning values into practice** – measurable impact and actions at all levels not just intention and words at strategic levels
- **A focus on social, economic, and environmental outcomes** for citizens and communities, with the impact of people having greater control over their lives
- **Public sector staff induction module** about Accord and VCFSE sector, Accord ways of working embedded in job descriptions

3. What are the **specific pieces of work** we need to deliver that are coordinated at **GM level**?



3. GM-level transformational projects (delivery)

Engagement so far has suggested the following:

1. Involve and devolve

- Implement and embed **shared participatory** approaches to improve citizen voice which include **co-design** and **co-production** - recognising the voice of lived experience
- **A diversity of strategic VCFSE representatives in governance positions** - meaningfully invited, respected, supported, and mapped. VCFSE sector leaders well briefed for influencing e.g., key message briefings.
- Specific support to **encourage uptake by underserved communities** into governance positions across Accord partners.
- **Influencing GM systems** – specifically around Integrated Settlement, NHS 10 Year Plan, Live Well, Acute Trust direction of travel
- **Activism academy** – **nurture community power** to more successfully challenge system from the outside



“We need to do less to achieve more”

2. Fairly fund

- Implement a **Fair Funding Protocol** across all of GM
- Joint work to improve **procurement processes**, for example to improve the way the inherent social value of VCFSE organisations is recognised.
- Funding for **impact and evaluation** – to better demonstrate outcomes, good work and lessons could be shared and good practice replicated.



“Must be impact led with measurable outcomes”

3. GM-level transformational projects (delivery)

Engagement so far has suggested the following:

3. Partnership and recognition

- Improve **measurement and recognition of VCFSE impact data** within the system.
- Better **collection of insight & evidence**, economic and other **data** for lobbying.
- Challenging private-equity owned public services or community assets through **VCFSE market development** and/or adoption of '**Keep it local**' principles
- **VCFSE trusted to manage funding** and influence commissioning
- **Influencing national policy together** for the benefit of our communities
- Support to assist a **broad collaboration of VCFSE providers** to win contracts together



4. Transparency and accountability

- **Improve communication mechanisms** within VCFSE sector **beyond existing structures** - More open forums and sector-wide summits
- Improve the **sharing of data** between Accord partners
- **Equalities impact assessments using intersectional equity** and inclusion organisations for consultancy and accountability
- **Accountability spaces** to bring up where barriers or issues to partnership occur
- **Public sector staff induction module** about Accord and VCFSE sector, Accord ways of working embedded in job descriptions

