

**The Voluntary, Community
and Social Enterprise sector**

Our Value, Our Vision.

**Strategy Vision for
Kingston Upon Hull**

2016 - 2019

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England has
163,000
Voluntary organisations.

Employing
827,000
People.

This is over half of the number of people working for the NHS and more than two and a half times the number Tesco employs.

National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) Almanac 2016,

Foreword.



Welcome to the first strategy developed by partners from Hull's Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector. It has been written and produced by the sector with the sector over the course of the past year.

This strategy sets out a clear direction for the sector over the next three years focusing on its unique and valued contribution to the future plans and ambitions of the City of Hull.

What is clear is that in times of extremely tight funding, or no funding, it is vitally important that the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector work closely together and alongside the Private and Public Sector. This requires a high degree of organisation and co-operation, but it also means developing a clear understanding of what each can do for the others to deliver aims and objectives and to avoid, where possible, unnecessary competition for ever scarcer resources.

Working in this way the sectors can complement each other and add very significant social value to our community here in Hull. The Council can help and support but in different ways to how we became accustomed to before we suffered huge cuts, not just to our core funding but to grants that were used to shore up other activities.

The challenge for this city is clear. Hull City Council will, unless the government changes direction, be reliant on income generation by 2020. Even if the direction of the government does change it is highly unlikely that it will return to adequate funding both for the Public Sector or the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector. Therefore we are and will remain focused on economic growth and jobs growth more than ever before. We knew this had to be the priority in the run up to 2011 and this Council's strategy quickly moved towards building the foundations of that growth. This is why we went out to pull Siemens here, why we vigorously chased down UK City of Culture 2017, why we have invested in redesigning and regenerating the public realm of the city.

The priorities for the city are outlined in The City Plan, a ten year strategy that we launched in the Summer of 2013. We need to deliver 7,500 new, good jobs as a minimum while also delivering on our responsibilities and recognising the enormous contribution to that success that the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector can and does provide. Only by working in a true partnership will the full vision be delivered for the people of Hull.

Councillor Stephen Brady
Leader of Hull City Council

Introduction.



OUR VALUE OUR VISION, is an ambitious and aspirational strategy written and published by members of Hull's Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise sector. It's the first strategy of its kind in Hull. It sets out to describe how we can all work collaboratively and improve partnership working between the sector's organisations and groups and the Public and Private Sectors in the City and across our boundaries.

The strategy sets out a vision and aims developed through consultation with the sector along with key priority areas which will be the main focus during the lifetime of this strategy these are; Capacity building & Communications, Regeneration community cohesion and engagement, The Compact, Procurement and Commissioning, External Funding, Volunteering and the use of Community Assets.

Further to this a key purpose of the strategy is to illustrate the economic, environmental and social impact the VCSE has as part of its diverse role in the City. The VCSE and public sector work together every day in different ways across the City in order to improve quality of life for local people. This involves many people and organisations working in local communities often in unseen or uncelebrated ways.

VCSE organisations have unique capabilities to energise local communities and build social capital especially in the most vulnerable communities. We provide opportunities for voluntary action and in doing so make use of the wealth of knowledge, skills, interests, beliefs and values of individuals and groups. As social businesses and employers the VCSE are also significant contributors to the local economy.

In 2011 the majority of public sector infrastructure funding was withdrawn in Hull. This decision has along with the challenges of finding funding for this work from other sources left existing infrastructure organisations ill-equipped to support the changing needs of Hull's VCSE sector. In the absence of traditional infrastructure support, the sector has become more fragmented with the Community sector anecdotally the biggest casualty. Voice and influence in the last five years has come in the form of VCSE Leadership and representation working on a voluntary basis across the many partnerships in the City. This approach has been welcomed and supported by the VCSE, and other sectors, but there is still a large amount of work still to do to ensure we have a fair and consistent approach to representation from our sector on all of the partnerships and boards which influence shape and take decisions about Hull.

Jane Stafford

CEO Child Dynamix and
Chair - Voluntary Community and
SocialEnterprise Sector Liaison Group.

Vision, aim & objectives.

The vision, aims and objectives came from a workshop held on 21st January 2016 with over ninety VCSE organisations who came together to develop the vision and ideas set out in this strategy.

Vision:

A recognised, diverse, sustainable and resilient Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Sector for Hull.

Aim:

To move the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector in Hull from the margins to the mainstream, so that our contribution and untapped potential is fully recognised and valued both within our sector, and across the public and private sectors.

Objectives:

- **Raise the profile of Hull's Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector**
- **Ensure that the sector is in a position to shape and influence the City's policy's and strategies**
- **Promote and improve collaboration and partnership**
- **Promote, influence and improve equality of opportunity, access and diversity**
- **Work together to create a sustainable infrastructure for the sector, that is fit for the future**
- **Focus on developing talent within the sector with a key focus on leadership skills**
- **Improve the effectiveness of working together across sectors for the benefit of the City of Hull.**

Strategy definition of Hull's Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise Sector (VCSE).

The use of the term voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector in this strategy refers to groups and organisations that are:

- Independent and constitutionally self-governing, usually with an unpaid voluntary management committee/Board of Trustees, sometimes accessing or receiving public sector funding for their day to day operations.
- Value-driven - they exist for the good of the community, to promote physical, social, environmental or cultural objectives in order to benefit society as a whole, or particular groups within it.
- Not for financial gain, re-investing any surpluses in order to meet their charitable objectives or social aims.

VCSE organisations are also sometimes referred to as 'the third sector' or 'civil society organisations' and vary enormously in size, from small local groups run exclusively by volunteers (Community sector), to larger, national charities that have branches in Hull. Overall Hull has a reputation for its home grown unique and independent VCSE.

VCSE organisations operate in diverse and wide-ranging fields including; humanitarian work, Safeguarding work, health and social care, community leisure and recreation activities, environmental work, arts and culture, sport, education, campaigning and advocacy, befriending, support groups, many are faith based organisations. They may be registered with the Charity Commission, and may include trusts and foundations, community interest companies, mutual and co-operatives.

The VCSE continues to see change and new legal structures including organisations formed from parts of the Public sector. These organisations might use the Community Interest Company's (CIC's) or other legal structures and can be retained as wholly owned companies or be total independent of their public sector parent. These organisations tend to be greater in size (both in turnover and as an employer) than the average VCSE organisation and often operate with many of the terms and conditions of the public sector. For the purposes of this strategy, we will use the term VCSE to refer to all of these different types of organisations.

"One of the most useful projects in Hull: they do what the job centre plus staff could only dream of doing. Pity I can only give them 5 stars."

Liam, 25.
Volunteer at
The Warren.

National Context Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Landscape:

According to the National Council of Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) Almanac 2016, England has 163,000 Voluntary organisations. Whilst the majority of the sector is made up of smaller locally based organisations, the sectors economy is dominated by larger charities.

827,000 people were employed in the voluntary sector in the UK in June 2015 this is equivalent to 2.7% of the UK Workforce. For comparison this is over half of the number of people working for the NHS and more than two and a half times the number Tesco employs.

14.2 million people volunteer at least once a month in the UK with the proportion of young people who volunteer continuing to grow. There have also been growth in the ESV Employer-supported volunteering.

NCVO use growth value added (GVA) or the value of output to quantify the value of the UK voluntary sector to the wider economy. In 2013/14 the voluntary sector's gross contribution to the economy was estimated to be £12.2bn. This is comparable to the GVA of the agricultural sector in 2013/14. In terms of the income during the same period this was 43.8bn with spending at 41.7bn. The sector received 43% of its income from government, the majority from local government.

The current government's vision is to strengthen the sector to meet demand for services. It advocates a strategic commissioning role for councils, with the VCSE delivering more (traditionally) public sector services. Funding of the sector has been driven largely by national state investment and by contracting services out to VCSE organisations. However, the recent manifesto of the NCVO has said that many VCS organisations are being detrimentally impacted on by the government's introduction of larger contract sizes, and often a focus on the cheapest price.

Social Impact Bonds (SIBs) are currently being rolled out across the country advocated by the Cabinet office. The idea is to bring Social investors together with Local Councils and VCSE organisations to focus on early intervention.

"The volunteer is just brilliant. Home-Start have made me feel part of their family. When she comes I can be normal around her. I don't feel like my house has to be clean, it's not like the others (services)"

Anon.
Home-Start

**827,000
people**

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In 2013/14 the voluntary
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Local Context;

Local Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise landscape.

Profile of Registered Charities.

This section of the strategy focuses on the analysis of data compiled from the Charity Commission website (April 2016 by Hull CVS)

The information supplied presents a profile of the range of Registered Charities which operate within Hull and explores how voluntary sector workforce contributes to the wider economy of Hull including the wider area. The information is based on evidence from the 472 registered charities in Hull and does not capture the many grassroots organisations not registered with the Charity Commission many of whom are run solely by volunteers. (Unless otherwise stated, all data refers to percentages. The results from this draft report should be used to form the basis of a larger piece of research / mapping across the city in order to capture a broader range of third sector organisations including grassroots groups, community hubs, Social Enterprises, Community Interest Companies etc.).

Hull Registered Charities by type as defined by UK Charity Commission

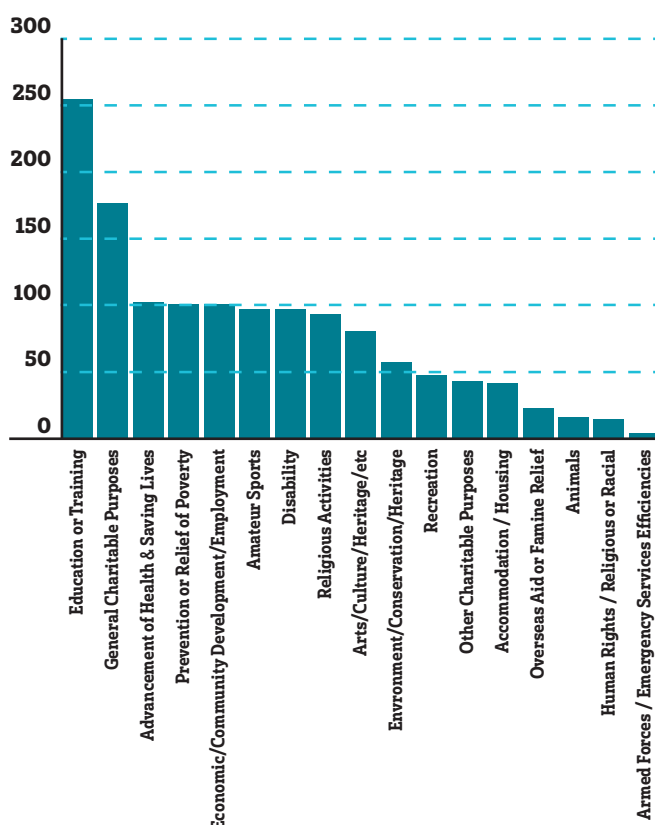


Fig. 1 source 472

Charities Registered in Hull

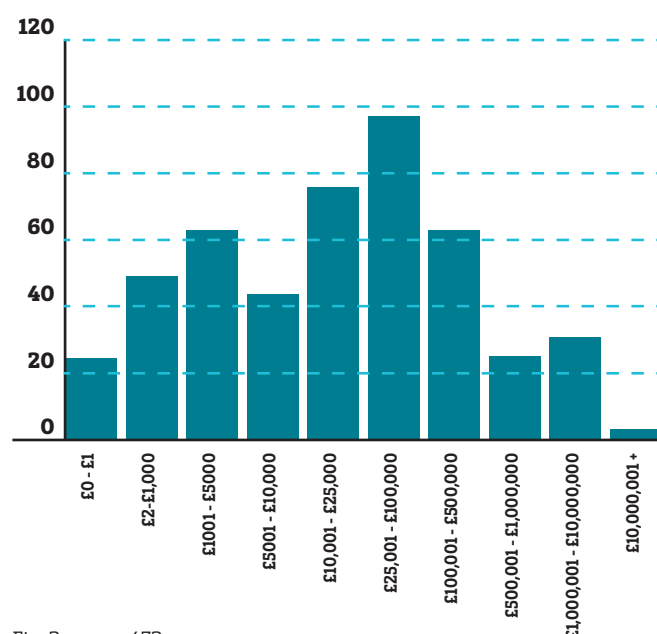


Fig. 2 source 472

General Characteristics of Charities.

In order to meet the requirements of the Charity Commission, charities registering in England and Wales must meet the public benefit requirement. The public benefit requirement has two aspects the 'benefit aspect' and the 'public aspect'. In general, for a purpose to be a charitable purpose it must satisfy both the benefit and the public aspects.

Benefit aspect – to satisfy this aspect 'a purpose must be beneficial – this must be in a way that is identifiable and capable of being proved by evidence where necessary and which is not based on personal views'. And a purpose must be beneficial - this must be in a way that is identifiable and capable of being proved by evidence where necessary and which is not based on personal views

Any detriment or harm that results from the purpose (to people, property or the environment) must not outweigh the benefit - this is also based on evidence and not on personal views

Public Aspect.

To satisfy this aspect the purpose must benefit the public in general, or a sufficient section of the public - what is a 'sufficient section of the public' varies from purpose to purpose and not give rise to more than incidental personal benefit - personal benefit is 'incidental' where (having regard both to its nature and to its amount) it is a necessary result or by-product of carrying out the purpose

Geography of Charities.

There are a lot of charities who are registered as operating in Hull however their geographical areas of benefit covers a wider area and encompasses the East, West and South Ridings of Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. For the purposes of this report data has been collated to reflect this:

Hull – Registered Charities whose geographical area is Hull (solely) (figure 3a)

Hull and East Riding – Registered Charities whose geographical area of benefit includes both regions (figure 3b)

Wider – Registered Charities whose area of benefit includes Hull, East, West and South Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.(figure 3c)

We know that there are 173 charities registered as operating in Hull (solely) and a further 137 charities whose geographical area of benefit encompasses the neighbouring East Riding of Yorkshire. In addition a further 162 registered charities are operating at a wider regional level. (as per graphs a, b & c)

The total revenue of 472 charities registered in Hull that employ staff is £171,839,035

- **£36,998,118 revenue from charities whose area of benefit is solely Hull**
- **£31,223,570 revenue from charities whose area of benefit is Hull and East Riding**
- **£103,630,347 revenue from charities whose area of benefit is Hull, Yorkshire and Lincolnshire.**

Area of Benefit Hull & East Riding

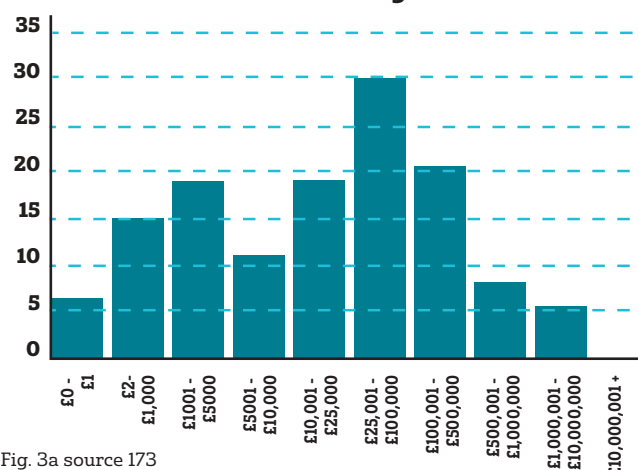


Fig. 3a source 173

Area of Benefit Hull

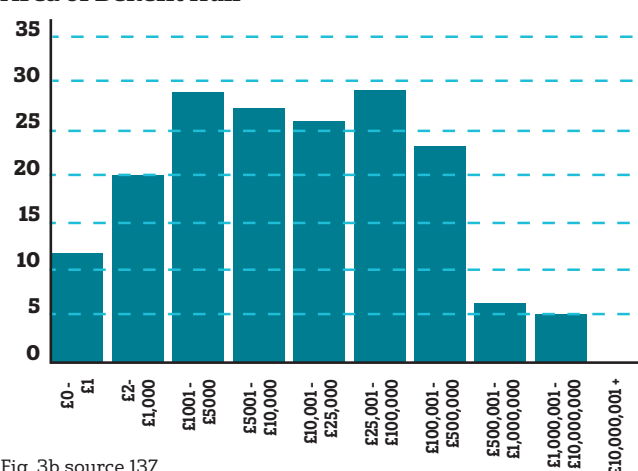


Fig. 3b source 137

Area of Benefit Hull, Yorkshire & Lincolnshire

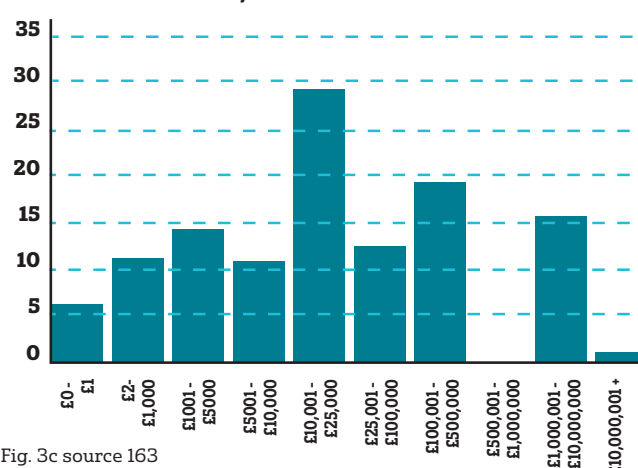


Fig. 3c source 163

Local Context; Local Voluntary, Community & Social Enterprise landscape.

Employment within Charities.

This section looks at those charities who employ staff. These statistics are always expressed as equivalent full time positions therefore the number of actual people employed is higher.

Of 486 charities registered in Hull with the Charity Commission, 139 registered charities reported that they employ staff within their organisation to enable them to carry out their charitable objectives.

There are, in total 3,646 full time equivalent employed posts across these 139 charities; the number of full time equivalent posts varies between 0.5 and 275 per organisation.

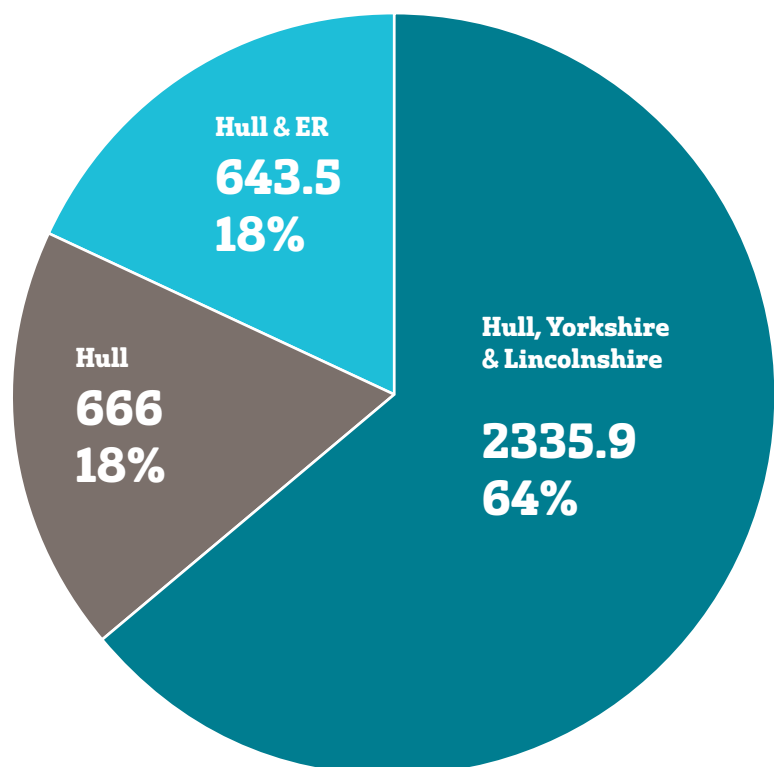
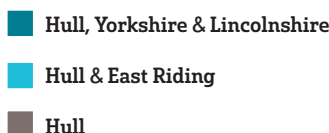
Where a charity's area of benefit also includes East Yorkshire/Lincolnshire there is no way to ascertain which of these posts are directly filled by people living or working

within the city of Hull. Adversely not encapsulated are employees of charities registered outside Hull whose area of benefit includes Hull. Of the 486 registered charities, 333 (70%) do not employ staff and are reliant solely upon volunteers to carry out their organisations purposes.

- 80 employ between 0.5 and 9 FTE members of staff
- 21 employ between 10 and 19 members of staff
- 23 employ between 20 and 49 members of staff
- 6 employ between 50 and 99 members of staff
- 6 employ between 100 and 199 members of staff
- 3 employ in excess of 200 members of staff

For those charities whose area of work extends beyond the city of Hull boundary, a much larger mapping exercise would need to be undertaken to ascertain which of these posts are directly linked to people carrying out roles within the city.

Staff Employed per area of Benefit



Local Context City of Hull:

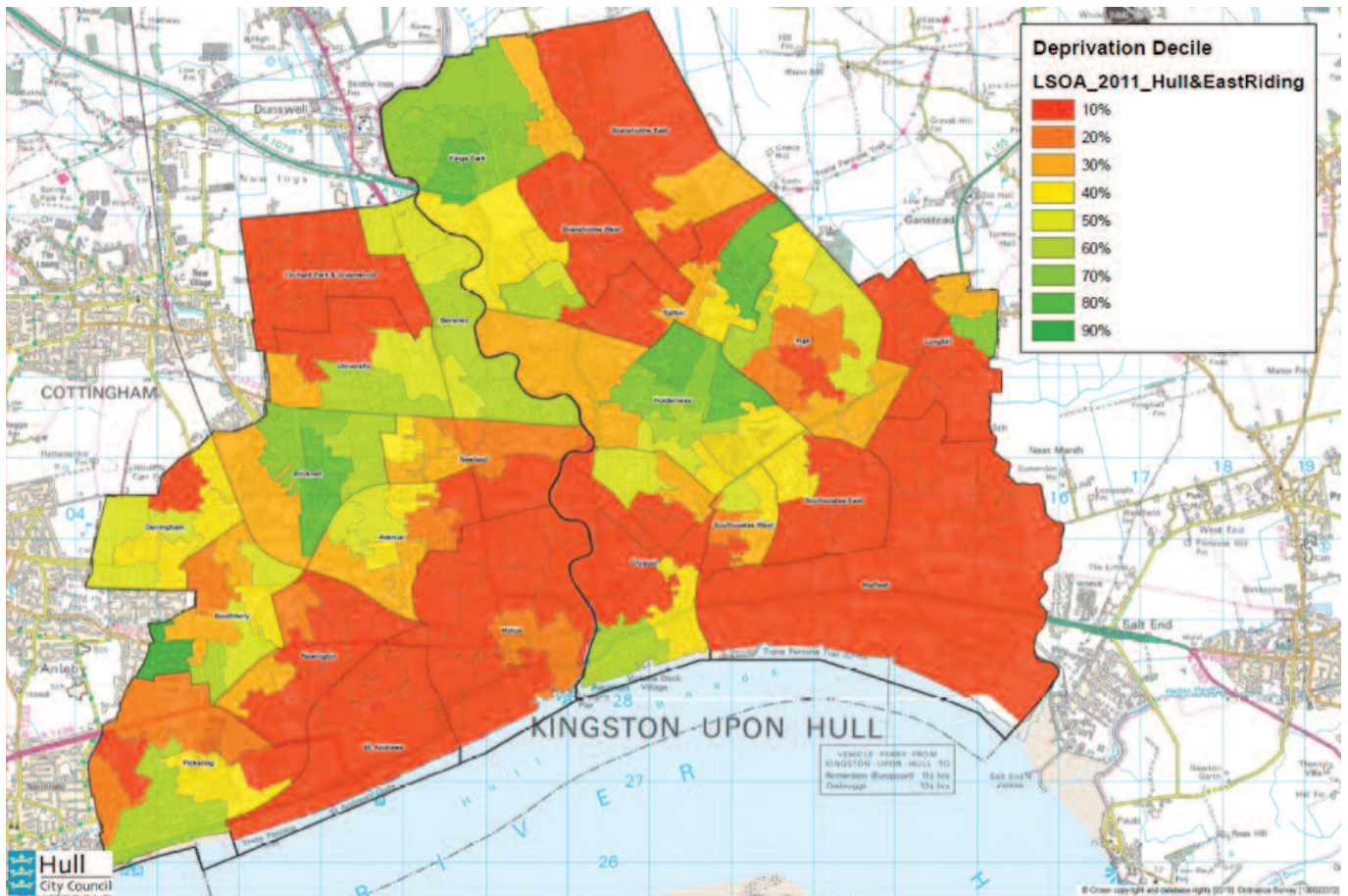
Hull is a unique city with a proud maritime heritage. As an 'entirely' urban island surrounded by the deeply rural East Riding of Yorkshire and the Humber Estuary; it serves a large hinterland of coast and countryside.

- Hull has a population of 257,700.
- Hull covers 27.59 square miles.
- In Hull 10% of the population come from an ethnic population background (half of the national average) although this has increased from 3% in 2001.
- In 2016 65% of children achieved a Good level of Development at the end of the Foundation Stage. This is a 4% increase from 2015. Although still below provisional national outcomes (69%) the increase from 2015 is greater than that seen nationally. The gap between the lowest 20% of children and their peers has narrowed by 3.3% from 2015 to 40% but is still likely to be much wider than that seen nationally.
- In the new School measure of A* - C in both English and mathematics, early indications show a city average of almost 55 per cent, a positive improvement on last year's figure of 49 per cent.
- In 2014, 12.1% of working age residents had no qualifications compared to 24.6% in 2005. Despite this improvement the figure is still much higher than the national average 8.8%.
- 21.1% of working age residents in Hull in 2014 had a NVQ4 or above compared to 13.1% in 2005, again this figure remains low in comparison to the national average of 36% and is the 18th lowest in any Local Authority in Great Britain.
- 78% of the population state they have good health. 19.6% identify as having a limiting long term illness or disability compared to 81.4% and 17.6% nationally.
- In 2011-2013 male life expectancy as 76.6 and female life expectancy was 80.7 in Hull. Both were significantly below national averages of 79.4 and 83.1.
- Health inequalities are particularly evident at ward level in 2010 -2012 males in Holderness ward could expect to live 10.3 years longer than males in St

Andrews ward. Similarly females in Boothferry ward could expect to live 9.5 years longer than females in Bransholme East ward.

- According to latest figures Jul 2014- Jun 2015 64.2% of Hull's working age population are in employment compared to 73.3% nationally.
- 28.4% are employed in low level occupations, this compares to just 17.1% nationally.
- Only 28.3% of Hull's working population are employed in higher level occupations compared to 44.8% nationally. In Hull there is a much higher proportion of jobs in manufacturing; 117.3% compared to 8.4% nationally. Conversely there is a much lower proportion of jobs in Financial and Business Services; 16.2% compared to 22.9% nationally.
- Average full time workers in Hull earn £466.30 a week; £57 less than the national average. Average annual household income is low at £26,165 with nearly a third (31%) of households earning less than £15,000 a year.
- Estimated total unemployment in Hull (10.5%) is almost twice the national rate (5.6%). The current JSA claimant rate (3.9%), whilst at the lowest it has ever been, is still over double the national rate (1.5%) and is particularly high among 18 to 24 year olds (5.4%).
- In total 16.2% of working age residents in Hull receive a DWP out of work benefit compared to 9.1% nationally.
- The largest proportions of residents (9.4%) are in receipt of ESA or Incapacity Benefit, nearly half of which are for mental and behavioural disorders.

2015 Indices of Deprivation



According to the 2015 Indices of Deprivation, published by Government, Hull ranked as the 3rd most deprived local Authority (out of 326) in England. This suggests Hull is more deprived than 99% of other Local Authorities in England.

85 of the 166 Local Super Output areas (LSOA) in Hull (52%) are amongst the 20% most deprived in England 75 (45%) are actually amongst the 10% most deprived in England.

Domain	Rank (Out of 326)
Income	3
Employment	4
Education	2
Health	32
Crime	8
Barriers to Housing and Services	160
Living Environment	41
Income Deprivation Affecting Children	6
Income Deprivation Affecting Older People	14

- Hull is in one of the most significant phases of physical change in recent decades, matched by unprecedented investment in the city from overseas and national companies. The City Leadership Board (CLB) oversees the development and implementation of the City Plan first launched in 2013. The City plan is about tackling these issues and seizing opportunity. It's about bringing the whole of Hull together and focusing on five key priorities:
- Harness all Hull's assets to become a leading UK Energy City
- Make Hull a world-class visitor destination
- Help residents to make their money go further
- Deliver early support and intervention to improve health and mitigate critical need
- Safeguard the most vulnerable and provide acute support.

The City plan is under review at the time of writing.



The Key priorities of this Strategy:

Capacity Building & Communication:

Capacity building could be described as improving skills confidence and awareness within VCSE organisations and expressed in terms of improving organisational effectiveness and / or performance.

Current position:

- There is no funding from local or central government for *VCSE infrastructure support in Hull.
- A small number of membership organisations based in Hull are offering minimal elements of infrastructure and crisis support to the VCSE.
- There are an increasing number of VCSE representatives working in a voluntary capacity across Boards and Partnerships in Hull.
- VCSE organisations and groups tell us they often struggle to find Trustees/Committee members.

Issues:

- The sector struggles to attract Trustees/ Committee members, who can create and sustain skilled competent boards/management committees.
- Further cuts to funding are leading to more VCSE organisations and groups closing down.
- Core costs of VCSE organisations are not always seen by funders as legitimate expenditure or are seen as an area which can be squeezed in contract negotiations. This weakens VCSE organisations.
- The VCSE sector in Hull does not have a single consistent voice this weakens its influence.
- The sector lacks strategy around communication within and across the sector.

Direction:

- We are improving the scope and use of groups like the VCS Liaison group, Building Health partnerships and the newly formed CEO forum, across the VCSE, strengthening our voice and influence of the sector.
- The sector continues to move into an increasingly diverse and competitive market for funding and contract delivery.
- No planned increase in availability of, or funding for, critical training and development around governance, structure and fundraising.

Actions:

- Encourage the local infrastructure organisations in Hull to review their operating practices by charging for membership across all sectors.
- Lobby to increase investment in infrastructure for the VCSE from across all sectors including VCSE.
- Develop a consistent and robust VCSE Representative system across all partnerships and Boards in Hull, which include regular open networking opportunities

"My telephone befriender calls every Thursday and is so nice and lovely. I look forward to her calls and they always cheer me up."

Mrs D
HERIB

* Infrastructure organisations exist to support the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector to achieve its aims, this could be through a range of activities not limited to; training, funding application support, sourcing volunteers, providing research and statistics on an area. A VCSE voice and influence on local policy and practices.

Regeneration, Community Cohesion & Engagement:

Regeneration of the city including physical economic and social activities, and how we can be involved at all stages.

Current position:

- Regeneration to enable growth
- The Localism Act 2010 (The aim of the act is to facilitate the devolution of decision-making powers from central government control to individuals and communities.)
- 40% of neighbourhoods in Hull are within the bottom 10% nationally on the indices of deprivation.
- Ring fenced funding for Gateway withdrawn along with housing PFI scheme to regenerate.
- Hull4 funding is a portal on the Hull City Council website creates access to most funding opportunities. <http://www.idoxopen4community.co.uk/hull/>

Issues:

- Lack of definition around the VCSE Sectors role as part of regeneration in Hull.
- Integration of services is not consistent
- No formal induction to VCSE for Councillors and Service Managers so they are unsure of our contribution, size, roles and diversity.
- Questions have been raised around Commissioning and consortia
- There is currently a concern over regeneration structures, there is a clear rationale for VCSE involvement

Direction:

- There is a move towards an emphasis on community development in public policy.
- We need to establish a central strategic overview to enable VCSE to have an active role in developing and executing policy.
- Ensure community ownership and participation is at the heart of local policy, so that opportunities are grasped and long term change is delivered.
- Funding in this area is unclear to many. Improvement in links between different funding which contributes to regeneration would be beneficial.

Actions:

- Consider how partnership working and coordinated use of the various "regeneration" funds could best support the delivery of sustainable regeneration.
- Examine the ways in which community partners could be supported to effectively "do regeneration themselves."
- Execute a regeneration mapping exercise.
- Establish an information portal of sources of regeneration funding, existing projects and possibilities for partnership working.

Compact:

The Compact is an established set of commitments between the public and VCSE sectors in how we will work together better to improve the lives of local people.

Current position:

- The Compact was first established nationally in 1998.
- The key principles of the Compact are around:
 - Commissioning of services
 - De-commissioning of services
 - Promoting equality
 - Consultation
 - Equalities
- The last review of the Hull Compact was 2011

Issues:

- The Compact is not actively in use in Hull.
- There is a lack of awareness of the Compact amongst both the public and VCSE sectors in Hull.

Direction:

- The VCSE needs to re-establish the Compact in Hull so that it becomes business as usual.
- This could be done by using established mechanisms where the VCSE and public sector already come together through partnerships.

Actions:

- To set up a joint tasking group to carry out a review of the Hull Compact.
- To establish the Compact as part of existing partnerships between VCSE and Public Sector. With a clear and regular review cycle.
- To educate people in what the Compact is.

"my self-confidence has gone from strength to strength – a fog has been lifted and I can now see a future. So much so, that I have just applied for a University place. "

Parent supported
by a mentor
Child Dynamix.

Commissioning:

Contracts commissioned through the public sector for services which may be delivered by VCSE organisations

Current position:

- Social value act has been implemented but has limited function within the current procurement and commissioning system in the City. (The key focus is on Apprenticeships)
- Commissioning of services is currently sat within each of the different parts of the Public sector, with little integrated commissioning in effect.

Issues:

- Concerns that the council's commissioning processes are unclear in particular around partnerships and consortia.
- Commissioned work and Contract sizes are often large and can therefore be beyond the reach of the small to medium VCSE organisations in the City.
- Work is ongoing to create integrated commissioning processes between partners within the Public Sector in and around Hull.

Direction:

- The VCSE must have a clear role in the development of specification for new and existing commissioned work, the sector needs to have clear voice and influence as work is designed to benefit communities and residents of Hull.
- The Public sector including Health and Hull City Council aims to create an integrated commissioning strategy for Hull.
- There has been increased involvement of the VCSE sector in Hull and the procurement team in Hull City Council as joint training programmes and sessions linked to Commissioning have been delivered.

Actions:

- To work in partnership across the VCSE and public sector to create an integrated commissioning strategy for Hull.
- To influence and improve the scope of Social Value throughout procurement and commissioning. Social Value which will create opportunity for unique partnerships between sectors and improved outcomes for local residents across Hull's communities.

**"It's a really
fantastic, a safe,
very flexible and
positive
service... well
managed and
professional, the
staff are lovely."**

Goodwin Development Trust

External Funding:

Funding which is available from outside hull but which can be applied for and used by organisations within the city.

Current position:

- Hull does not have a policy or consistent process for identifying and applying for external funding with its VCSE partners.
- External funding happens in an opportunistic way based on local knowledge of what is available.
- External funding for the VCSE is not consistently aligned to the policies, priorities and needs of the City.
- External funding for the VCSE is often identified by the funder making the first approach.

Issues:

- Communication on policies and priorities across Hull is not always linked to external funding opportunities.
- Funding revenues to support access to quality training and development for VCSE organisations to improve bid writing skills are not consistent or available to every organisation or group that would benefit from training.
- A balance is important in ensuring the VCSE organisations and groups are aligned to Hull's key priorities, however it is vital that this is not done to the detriment of the uniqueness and independence of the sector.

Direction:

- The Hull City plan is being refreshed during 2016 the VCSE are featured more prominently in this update.
- The partnership groups across the city are being reviewed by Hull City Council and VCSE representation is firmly on the agenda of the public sector in Hull.
- Hull's newly formed CEO forum and others could influence future development of an External Funding Strategy.

Actions:

- To identify who would be involved and where an External funding strategy could be positioned within the existing structures and partnerships in Hull.
- To create an external funding strategy for Hull based on jointly identified priorities across the public, Private and VCSE sector.

Volunteering:

Volunteering is fantastically beneficial to both individuals and the city.

Current position:

- Hull CVS produced a revised volunteering strategy for Hull which sets out their ambitions to 2018.
- The City of Culture Company has set out its ambitions for recruiting 4000 volunteers for 2017.
- Time bank Hull and East Riding scheme works online and provides opportunities for trading activities.
- It is possible for some people to volunteer through employee supported volunteering (ESV) which allows companies to donate their resources for the benefit of the community

Issues:

- Often there is not enough joined up working across Hull's VCSE organisations around volunteer recruitment
- It has been difficult to recruit new volunteers into VCSE Organisations in recent years.
- There are challenges around finding people willing to volunteer
- The overuse of volunteers linked to work programmes and national citizen services has created confusion and has changed the perception of volunteering to be a punishment with sanctions increasingly used.
- Employer supported volunteering (ESV) has over the past 15 years been more supported by the larger employers. SME's make up 99% of the private sector which is an untapped resource.

Direction:

- People are inspired to volunteer where volunteering is accessible and actively promoted
- Future improvements which create access to good practice including recognition and reward for volunteers need to be encouraged.
- Improved access for volunteer-involving organisations to gain adequate training related to volunteer management and supervisions.

Actions:

- Organisations leading on volunteering in Hull work together on the future strategy for Hull.
- To make it easier for all employers including SME's to allow employees time to volunteer.
- Make it easier for employers and individuals to know what volunteering opportunities are available across Hull.
- Support for volunteer involving organisations to measure the impact of volunteering and demonstrate volunteers as a valuable asset, not to be exploited.

"The support has enabled me to tackle my social isolation... I wish I had been able to access this kind of support thirty years ago."

Anon
Mind
Hull and East Yorkshire

Hull's Community Assets; Concessionary lettings:

Some buildings used by VCSE organisations across the city are owned by the public sector the future policy from the public sector will bring about changes and challenges for the continuation of VCSE in the heart of communities.

Current position:

- The most recent concessionary letting policy was implemented in 2009.
- It sets out the method by which the Council can issue below market rental leases to the "Third sector"
- The policy has a burden of monitoring and evaluation, attached to each lease issued, to ensure the outputs and outcomes from use of the building fits within the Council's priorities.
- Over the course of 2016 a review of this policy has taken place; at Cabinet on 25th July 2016 a motion was carried to charge commercial rates on full repairable leases to the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector.

Issues:

- There are currently State aid implications for VCSE organisations occupying buildings at no rent or a peppercorn rent, linked to EU funding however as Brexit is implemented this may no longer be an issue.
- There has been a lack of consistency in the use of the Concessionary lettings policy for different VCSE organisations.
- Properties made available to the VCSE through this policy have often not fit for purpose, with significant repairs and maintenance required.
- VCSE organisations and groups are not always able to keep properties in a good state of repair through the existing lease requirements due cuts in local and national state funding pots and restrictions from other funders.

Direction:

- The Council has now set in motion its intentions to set market rate rents for all community let properties, Hull does not have a Community Asset Transfer system currently.
- Creating a clear and transparent approach for VCSE to find and use appropriate and fit for purpose buildings from which to deliver their services.
- The VCSE would like to see a grant fund to support those VCSE organisations not able to pay market rate, or going through transition to the new policy
- Health buildings estate should be considered as part creating future spaces from which the VCSE could provide local services.

Actions:

- Consider the impact of the decisions taken at Cabinet in July 2016, on the whole of the VCSE sector.
- Wider engagement and awareness raising of the benefits of Community Asset transfer/Lettings.
- Work with the national agenda on Community Assets transfers/Lettings
- Work with the private, public (including Health and Emergency services) to consider concessionary lets or asset transfers of underused parts of their estate.

Monitoring & Evaluations:

This strategy is owned by the Voluntary, Community and Social enterprise Sector in Hull and will be monitored regularly by the VCSE Liaison group. Updates will be shared with the City Leadership Board, Public Sector and the VCSE sector. The latter through using the VCSE networks and the Council's Partnership Team.

An evaluation of the strategy's impact will be carried on each anniversary of its first publication; this evaluation will be determined by the VCSE Liaison group and will consist of broad consultation across the VCSE sector and also across our Public and Private sector partners. The evaluation will be published in the form of a review of the strategy's action plan.

Theme:	Action:	Who will carry this out?:	When will this be reviewed?:
Capacity building and Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of local infrastructure practices regarding charging for membership. Lobby to increase investment in infrastructure for the VCSE. Develop a consistent and robust VCSE representative system across partnerships and Boards in Hull. 	Hull CVS, NBF, Smile With the VCSE Liaison Group and CEO Forum.	November 2017
Regeneration, community cohesion and engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of how partnership working and coordination of funding can support regeneration. Examine how partners can 'do regeneration' themselves. Regeneration mapping exercise. 	VCSE Liaison Group	November 2017
The Compact for Hull	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint tasking group to review Hull Compact. Establish Compact as part of VCSE partnerships and a review cycle. Educate people in what the Compact and how it should and can be used. 	VCSE Liaison Group	November 2017
Commissioning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Partnership working to create a joint integrated commissioning strategy. Increase the range of social impact measures for commissioned contracts. 	VCSE Liaison Group	November 2017
External Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create an external funding strategy based on jointly identified priorities. 	VCSE Liaison Group	November 2017
Volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Work together on a volunteering strategy for Hull. Enable easier SME volunteering and highlight opportunities in the sector. Support for VCSE to measure the impact of volunteering 	VCSE Liaison Group And CEO Forum	November 2017
Hull's Community Assets and concessionary lettings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider the impact of the decisions taken at Cabinet in July 2016, on the whole of the VCSE sector. Wider engagement and awareness raising of the benefits of Community Asset transfer/ Lettings. Work with the national agenda on Community Assets transfers/Lettings Work with the private, public (including Health and Emergency services) to consider concessionary lets or asset transfers of underused parts of their estate. 	VCSE Liaison Group	November 2017

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Charity Commission

www.compactvoice.org.uk;

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*The VCSE Liaison group is a sub-group of the City Leadership Board (a cross sector group made up of leaders from, public and private and VCSE sectors) The Chair of the Liaison group sits on the City Leadership Board. The membership of the VCSE Liaison group is made up of the VCSE Representatives from across the many multi-agency Boards, Partnerships and Networks that make up the City of Hull. The group has taken on responsibility for the VCSE Strategy development and delivery.

**The CEO Forum's Terms of reference state: To work together to ensure a thriving voluntary and community sector in the Hull which is able to meet the needs of the local community. Membership is limited to twelve places. Prospective members are identified and invited to join by the Forum with the goal of ensuring a broad range of members who have something to contribute and want to work collaboratively.

*** The BAME Strategic group is a co-operation of Hull based BAME led VCSE front-line organisations, with shared values and goals, working together and delivering on common themes in order to have a stronger voice, increase representation and active participation in the decision making process, influence strategic decisions and policies that affect BAME individuals, their families and communities



**The Voluntary, Community
and Social Enterprise sector**

Our Value, Our Vision.

**Strategy Vision for
Kingston Upon Hull**

2016 - 2019