



Norfolk and Waveney VCSE Assembly

VCSE Assembly Newsletter: July 2025

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to share the inaugural monthly newsletter from the VCSE Assembly. Our aim is to provide you with regular updates from across the Integrated Care System (ICS) and highlight opportunities for engagement.

This edition includes important updates regarding recent changes within Integrated Care Boards (ICBs) and insights into the newly published NHS 10-Year Plan.

The VCSE Assembly is actively collaborating with colleagues across the Integrated Care System to facilitate the implementation of the 10-Year Plan and support the development of neighbourhood working initiatives.

Below, you will find opportunities for VCSE leaders to contribute to discussions on neighbourhood working and learn more about a new procurement framework adopted by the public sector across the region, alongside further engagement on the "Get Norfolk Working Plan" and opportunity to become a Health Inequalities Ambassador.

We will continue to communicate these monthly updates. To ensure you receive future editions directly, please email nwicb.vcseassembly@nhs.net

Best Wishes
Tim Gardiner
Chair, VCSE Assembly

UPDATES

NAVCA Rapid Summary of NHS 10 Year Plan

NAVCA, an organisation to support the VCSE sector nationally has produced a guide on the newly published 10 year plan. This is a nuts-and-bolts summary of the paper, with a focus on the key themes relevant to the local VCSE sector and the role of Local Infrastructure and ICS-VCSE Assembly. [NAVCA Rapid Summary](#).

You can also find a link to the full 10 Year Plan here: [Fit for the future: 10 Year Health Plan for England](#)

The VCSE Assembly will be looking to work with our local ICS to understand how we work together as a system to work with the plan, and a key focus on the role of our local VCSE sector in this work.

Norfolk and Waveney VCSE Assembly Action Plan

The VCSE Assembly has highlighted a number of key actions to help embed and strengthen the role of the VCSE sector within the ICS. The plan was designed to help provide mitigating actions in line with a risk register, which has been put forward to the ICB.

The action plan outlines key actions for the next 6-12 months, with some work already started. We will continue to provide updates on the action plan and as this moves forward, will be looking for wider VCSE sector engagement on key projects in near future.

The action plan can be found on the [VCSE Assembly webpage](#)

ICB Blueprint Document

NHS England recently shared its vision for Integrated Care Board's Operating Model. Highlighting their importance within the system with a focus on Strategic Commissioning.

This document will help leaders within the Norfolk and Suffolk ICB's shape what our new ICB looks like within the region.

You can find the document here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/update-on-the-draft-model-icb-blueprint-and-progress-on-the-future-nhs-operating-model/>

NHS Social Impact Framework – Information Session

The East of England NHS Collaborative Procurement Hub intends to establish a multi-lot framework agreement to support the commissioning of services that address health inequalities and the wider determinants of health. The framework will offer a compliant, structured route for NHS organisations, Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), local authorities, and other public sector bodies to procure community-based services. It is designed to strengthen collaboration with VCSEs, SMEs, and specialist providers, with the aim of improving early access to support and reducing pressure on acute services.

Opportunity to apply to be on the framework opened on 1st July and will close on 26th August.

More details can be found here: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/038570-2025>

A session will be ran by the EoE Procurement Hub on 29th July at 10am via teams.

The session will also be recorded for those that cannot attend.

If you are interested in joining, want to request the recording or have questions you can email:

mandy.emery@eoecph.nhs.uk

The Microsoft Teams meeting details and link to join are also below:

Join the meeting now

Meeting ID: 331 794 126 776 1

Passcode: Wy7Q3rQ6

Neighbourhood and Place – VCSE Working Group

As part of the NHS 10 year plan, Neighbourhood Health is at the centre of the future of healthcare services in the future. As part of this, the creation of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams, which aim to bring together all system partners to help deliver and design services for our communities at a local level;. The VCSE sector are a vital part of this work, and as part of the VCSE action plan, want to bring together sector leaders to help design key mechanisms to help the sector engage with these partnerships.

A working group will be pulled together to help with this work from across the sector. If you are interested in being involved in this work, please email: nwicb.vcseassembly@nhs.net

All-Age Carers Strategy for Norfolk and Waveney

[Carers Voice Norfolk and Waveney](#) have worked with Carers and staff working across health and social care to co-produce the All-Age Carers Strategy for Norfolk and Waveney. This was endorsed by the Integrated Care Partnership for Norfolk and Waveney on 4th December.

They are currently working to build a systemwide picture of the support for Carers. They would really appreciate if you could take a few moments to complete a short survey. They're not looking for extensive details- just a brief overview to help them understand the work ongoing to support Carers.

Here is a link to the survey: <https://www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/2TJ8V/>

Director of Public Health's Annual Report: Climate Change and Health

The report sets out how a changing climate may affect the health and wellbeing of Norfolk's residents – through risks such as extreme weather, poor air quality, and flooding – while also highlighting the benefits to health that can result from climate action.

It includes case studies of work already underway in Norfolk, and outlines a broad range of opportunities for individuals and organisations to improve health outcomes and build resilience.

Please find the report here: [Director of Public Health Annual Report 2024/25](#)

NHSE Core20PLUS Ambassadors Cohort 4

Norfolk and Waveney ICS is committed to supporting Health Inequalities Advocacy, as set out in the [Health Inequalities Strategic Framework for Action](#). The long-term aim is to support staff and leaders to tackle health inequalities through the services they deliver to our communities, the contacts they have with communities, as well as how they are set up as organisations.

To support this, we have set up a local network for all of those in Norfolk and Waveney who are part of the NHSE Core20PLUS Ambassador Programme to help share learning and make connections. The network is ever evolving and led by the needs and interests of the network members – with speakers, subject matter experts and opportunities to trouble shoot.

Recruitment for the fourth cohort of NHS England's [Core20PLUS Ambassadors Programme](#) will open on the 14th July and close on 12th September 2025. It is ideal for those who work with/are committed to improving access, experience, and outcomes for our underserved communities (including our Core20PLUS communities), or those who would like to learn more.

Eligible organisations include anyone working across the Integrated Care Systems (ICSs) – this includes the NHS, local authorities, the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, Primary Care, those in industry, and many more.

If you would like to hear from current and previous Ambassadors, you can view their [Testimonials](#). If you are interested in becoming a Core20PLUS Ambassador, you can apply by completing the [expression of interest form](#) (available from 14th July). If you have any questions, please email england.core20plusambassador@nhs.net

If you are interested in applying, you can also reach out to nwicb.healthinequalitiesconversation@nhs.net to let us know and we will keep in touch.

Get Norfolk Working Plan VCSE Engagement Event

On 11 June, we hosted a 'Get Norfolk Working' event with the local VCSE sector, which was attended by a broad range of organisations. The event generated a lot of energy and ideas, which we would now like to build on by inviting you to a follow-up event, to be held on **Thursday, 14 August, between 1:30 and 4:30pm at County Hall**

The event will help to identify our shared priorities, providing the foundations for a VCSE Action Plan to drive forward the Get Norfolk Working Local Plan. In addition to the VCSE sector, we will be joined by colleagues from Norfolk's district councils and the DWP. The event will be chaired by Tom Humphries, Strategy Manager for Adult Skills at Norfolk County Council.

Early registration for this event is recommended. Please email: christina.daytona@norfolk.gov.uk
