

Norfolk and Waveney VCSE Assembly

CHAIRS UPDATE NOVEMBER 2025

Hi all,

As promised I wanted to make sure you get updates on my work over the past month:

- Attended Patients and Communities Committee and Quality and Safety Committee. The latter gave me an opportunity to highlight some of the work within the sector including sharing resources for carers within Norfolk with ICB commissioners.
- Met with Claire, Creative Health Lead for Norfolk and Suffolk about her role and the importance of Creative Health organisations within the health and care system.
- Supported a conversation regarding VCSE collaborative's, especially in regards to specialist charities for sight and vision impairments, and how this may fit within the partnering opportunities within the ICB.
- Attended Health Inequalities Strategic Steering Group to help shape work moving into 2026.
- Had the pleasure of delivering a workshop at the ICS conference regarding Engaging Communities. This included sharing case studies from across the VCSE sector about engaging and working with communities. A huge thank you to all those organisations who support this, by sending in slides and videos. This was shown to ICS leaders throughout the conference and helped shape the conversation moving forward. More work will be done and I am co-producing a piece of work with ICB colleagues to bring back to the Integrated Care Partnership in early 2026.
- Had the pleasure of attending the Norfolk Social Enterprise Showcase at the Norwich Unity Hub to see a range of social enterprises and their work. Really interesting to see the diverse work going on in our region.
- Attended the Norfolk Men's Health Strategy network meeting, to discuss the recently launched National Men's Health Strategy and discuss what this could mean for Norfolk. You can find the strategy in the newsletter.
- We had a VCSE Assembly Strategy Group meeting this month. We had a presentation from Emma Bugg, from the ICB regarding Place working for Norfolk and Waveney. This was early engagement and as a strategy group, keen to develop and co-produce some guidance with the wider VCSE sector, on how we can engage and work at place level. I will make sure to share updates and engagement opportunities in the near future.

I am hoping that this helps provide a little transparency about my work, and help highlight the role of the VCSE assembly within the system.

As always, I am always happy to speak to colleagues from across our sector, about the VCSE Assembly and its work, please feel free to email me.

Many thanks
Tim Gardiner
Chair, VCSE Assembly