



Norfolk and Waveney VCSE Assembly

NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2025

To receive these updates each month, please email: nwicb.vcseassembly@nhs.net

VCSE Assembly Webinar Event

The VCSE Assembly is launching its first sector wide event on **Wednesday 15th October, 10am-12pm**. This event will take place online, which should allow all organisations from across the region to engage easily.

Agenda:

- VCSE Assembly Updates
- "Changing NHS Landscape"
- Neighbourhood working plans for Norfolk and Waveney
- Social Impact Framework - Can we use this to make commissioning easier for VCSE organisations?

Click the link to sign up: [VCSE Assembly Event October 2025](#)

ICB Model Region Update

An update on the makeup of ICB's across the country has been sent out to NHS leaders recently and although the document is not available, there is some insight via the NHS confederation webpage: <https://www.nhsconfed.org/publications/model-region-blueprint-what-you-need-know>

We are hopeful that there will be further updates via the Norfolk and Waveney ICB at the VCSE Assembly event in October.

Social Enterprise Day Showcase

Social Enterprise Day Showcase on **Thursday 20th November 2025**, with doors open for drop-in visits **between 10am and 2pm at Carrow House, King Street, Norwich**.

Held to mark Social Enterprise Day, this event is a collaboration between [FUSE Network](#) and [Norwich Unity Hub](#) to celebrate the brilliant organisations across Norwich and Norfolk using business as a force for good by tackling inequality, supporting wellbeing, creating jobs, and strengthening communities.

Join for coffee, conversation, and the chance to meet up to 50 fantastic local social enterprises! Whether you're already connected to the sector or simply curious to learn more, we'd be delighted to welcome you!

[Book your place now!](#)

Tackling Poverty Together

Are you a professional working in or around the housing sector?

Join people with lived experience of poverty at a free hands-on workshop on **Wednesday 24th September**, exploring how we all can build on the findings from our Tackling Poverty Together report, co-produce impactful change, and help make housing support the best it can be for everyone. Taking place at **Kesgrave War Memorial Community Centre, IP5 1JF from 9:30am to 12:30pm**, we will examine proposals directly shaped by those affected by poverty. We will explore proposals directly shaped by those affected by poverty, such as:

- connecting tenants to support services early to prevent poverty and repeated homelessness
- assigning specific contacts to assist tenants when they receive their keys
- reviewing housing application systems to make improvements
- exploring how community spaces can be improved

Conversations will not be limited to these areas, and we invite anyone to bring forward any ideas for change you'd like to explore, especially those drawn from the Tackling Poverty Together report.

Secure your place by completing our sign-up form ([linked here](#)).

If you have any questions, feel free to call us at **0800 448 8234** or email info@healthwatchesuffolk.co.uk.

Annual Safeguarding Reports – Adults and Childrens

The reports should show what the two safeguarding board has done over the past year to achieve their objectives and what it has done to implement its strategy along with the findings of safeguarding reviews which have concluded in that year.

Its also an opportunity to share other things that the board has been doing, such as events that they have held and the activities that they have supported.

You can find the reports here -

Adults: <https://www.norfolksafeguardingadultsboard.info/about-us/what-we-do/annual-reports>

Childrens: <https://norfolkscp.org.uk/about/annual-report-business-plan>

ICS Shared Training for VCSE colleagues

Norfolk and Waveney Enhance Generalist School:

Opportunities open to colleagues working in the Norfolk and Waveney Integrated Care System, across health, care, voluntary and community support services. Workshops and opportunities for professionals in Norfolk and Waveney to develop generalist skills and build connections to support in the development of integrated care for our communities.

Link for all sessions here: <https://improvinglivesnw.org.uk/norfolk-and-waveney-enhance-generalist-school/>

Community Psychology Festival Norwich

The 9th Community Psychology Festival is coming to **The Forum, Norwich on 17-19th October 2025**. This year's theme is 'Untold Stories: Tales of Community Strength'. Community Psychology is a branch of psychology that is about recognising people exist in a social context, and the importance of understanding and tackling the social determinants of poor mental and physical health, such as poverty and marginalisation. Community Psychology recognises that healthy communities are connected communities, and community empowerment and social justice are core values of community psychology approaches.

The Festival was founded in 2014 by the British Psychological Society Community Psychology Section as an accessible and engaging alternative to an academic conference. Since then, it has given platform to work by community organisations, collectives, artists, academics, students, activists and charities; in short, psychologists and non-psychologists. Beyond showcasing community psychology, the Festival has one mission: to sustain and replenish us as we continue working towards transformative social change.

The festival has collaborated with a range of local VCSE organisations and hopes to reach others who may be interested in the various events.

All details including a full borchure of events can be found here: <https://www.bps.org.uk/event/9th-community-psychology-festival>

Planning framework for the NHS in England

The latest planning framework for the NHS in England has been published this month.

Two key highlights for the VCSE sector are:

- 1) "This includes joint planning sessions with local authorities to align with their strategies at place, and structured collaboration with the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector, who often have deep community roots and provide vital services."
- 2) "The plan should set out how the NHS, local authority and other organisations, including social care providers and VCSE, will work together to design and deliver neighbourhood health services."

The VCSE Assembly will to work with ICB colleagues to continue to develop how we can facilitate and support working with the VCSE sector on this framework and other key workstreams.

You can find the full report here: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/long-read/planning-framework-for-the-nhs-in-england/>