

VCFSE sector devolution manifesto

Coordinated by

Cheshire & Warrington

Infrastructure Partnership

CWIP members



What is CWIP?

- Bringing together local infrastructure organisations (LIOs) in the Cheshire and Warrington region, sharing best practice and resources and supporting the growth and development of the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise (VCFSE) sector
- Supported by: Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW)
- Members: Cheshire Community Action (CCA), Cheshire West Voluntary Action (CWVA), Community and Voluntary Services (CVS) Cheshire East, Warrington Voluntary Action (WVA)
- Coordinated approach to devolution, speaking with one voice

10 manifesto themes

1. Working together as equal partners

2. Supporting health and wellbeing

3. Tackling poverty and the cost of living

4. Skills, jobs and volunteering

5. Climate and environment

6. Giving communities a voice

7. Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion

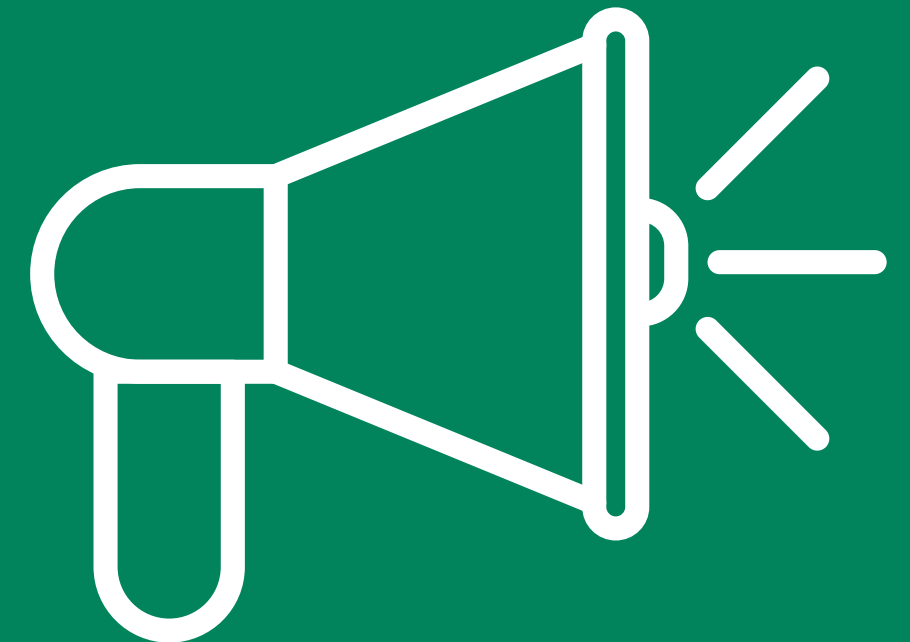
8. Fair and equitable funding and commissioning

9. Arts, culture and physical activity

10. Building stronger communities

1. Working together as equal partners

- VCFSE organisations will have a **real voice** in how decisions are made
- Create an agreement between the VCFSE sector and Combined Authority to ensure **genuine partnership working**
- The vital contribution the VCFSE sector makes to local communities will be **truly recognised and valued**



2. Supporting health and wellbeing

- VCFSE groups play a key role in helping people **stay healthy and tackling health inequalities**
- Secure **long-term funding** for services that prevent long-term conditions



3. Tackling poverty and the cost of living

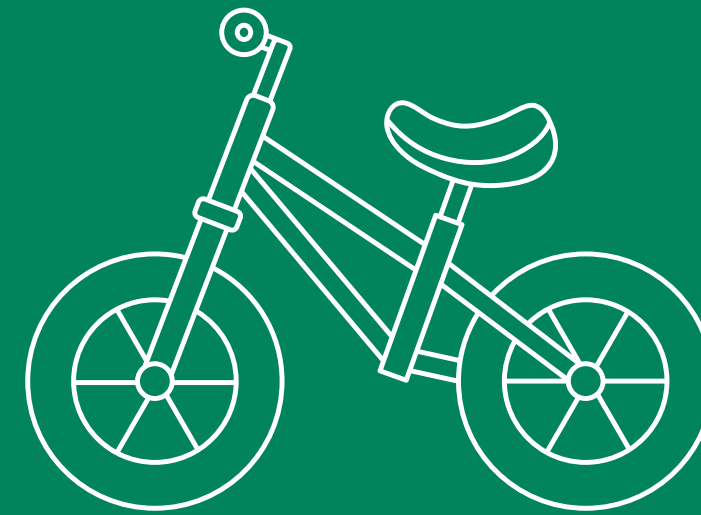
- Setting up a regional **Poverty Truth Commission**, with strong VCFSE involvement, to help tackle poverty across Cheshire and Warrington
- Together, we must **address key issues** such as child and family poverty, food insecurity, fuel poverty and digital exclusion
- We will contribute our sector's **deep understanding of issues** around poverty, housing and health to local strategies

4. Skills, jobs and volunteering

- VCFSE organisations are recognised as partners in helping people **develop skills and find employment**
- **Volunteering** should be supported as a valuable way for people to gain skills and move towards work
- Our sector is involved in planning and delivering relevant local **training and employment programmes**

5. Climate and environment

- More support for **community-led projects** that tackle the climate emergency
- **Local green transport and active travel initiatives** will be developed with community input



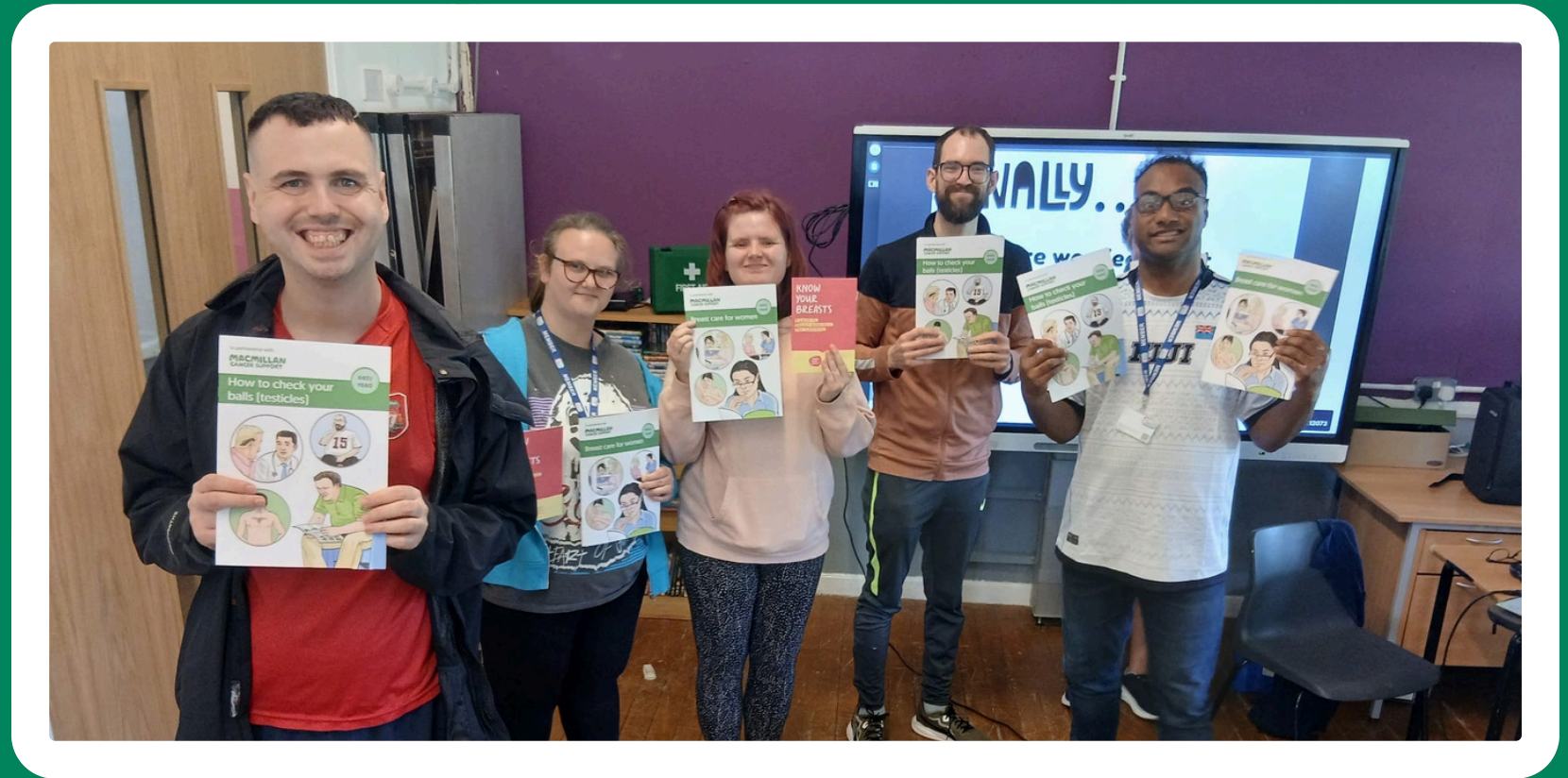
6. Giving communities a voice

- Local people, especially those with **lived experience**, will help shape services and policies
- **Invest** in community buildings, groups and local economies
- **Neighbourhood-level partnerships** supported to give communities more say



7. Promoting equality, diversity and inclusion

- All services should be **inclusive and fair to everyone**
- Support **local networks** and work alongside regional and national networks that support marginalised and disadvantaged groups, amplifying their voices



8. Fair and equitable funding and commissioning

- The way local authorities fund services should be **fair, transparent and sustainable**
- The VCFSE sector is properly involved when **funding priorities** are being set
- A **commitment to investment** from all public sector partners to help VCFSE organisations grow and thrive

9. Arts, culture and physical activity

- **Community-led arts, cultural and physical activity initiatives** should be funded as they bring people together and improve wellbeing
- **Everyone should have access** to cultural activities, regardless of background or income
- Culture and creativity should play a central role in **regenerating communities and improving health**

10. Building stronger communities

- Funding to help keep **community buildings open, safe, welcoming and suitable** for local groups and activities
- Support projects that **bring people from different backgrounds together** and promote understanding, community spirit and community cohesion

