



WORCESTERSHIRE

VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY & SOCIAL
ENTERPRISE ASSEMBLY 2023

CONNECTING & STRENGTHENING
THE VCSE SECTOR

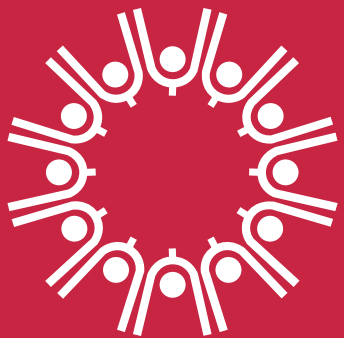
≡ 25TH OCTOBER ≡



Embedding the VCSE Sector in Integrated Care

Alex Boys

October 2023



navca
local focus national voice

The National Association for Voluntary & Community Action

- National membership body for Local VCSE Infrastructure Organisations
- 180 members predominantly working at “place” geography, delivering the Four Functions of Infrastructure
- Learning and Support partner for NHS England’s Embedding VCSE in ICS Programme
 - Peer Support Networks
 - Sharing Learning Programme
 - Direct Support to VCSE Alliances
 - Codesigning and piloting the “Quality Development Tool”



LEADERSHIP AND ADVOCACY

Mobilising and encouraging community action, strengthening our sector’s voice and influence on key decision-makers and funders.



PARTNERSHIPS AND COLLABORATIONS

Creating opportunities and driving effective joint working by building networks of local organisations and strategic partners.



CAPACITY BUILDING

Providing practical support and opportunities for people to develop skills in their local community, so that they can achieve their goals and aspirations.



VOLUNTEERING

Building an environment in which volunteers and their communities thrive, by encouraging and nurturing volunteering opportunities.

Anatomy of an ICS

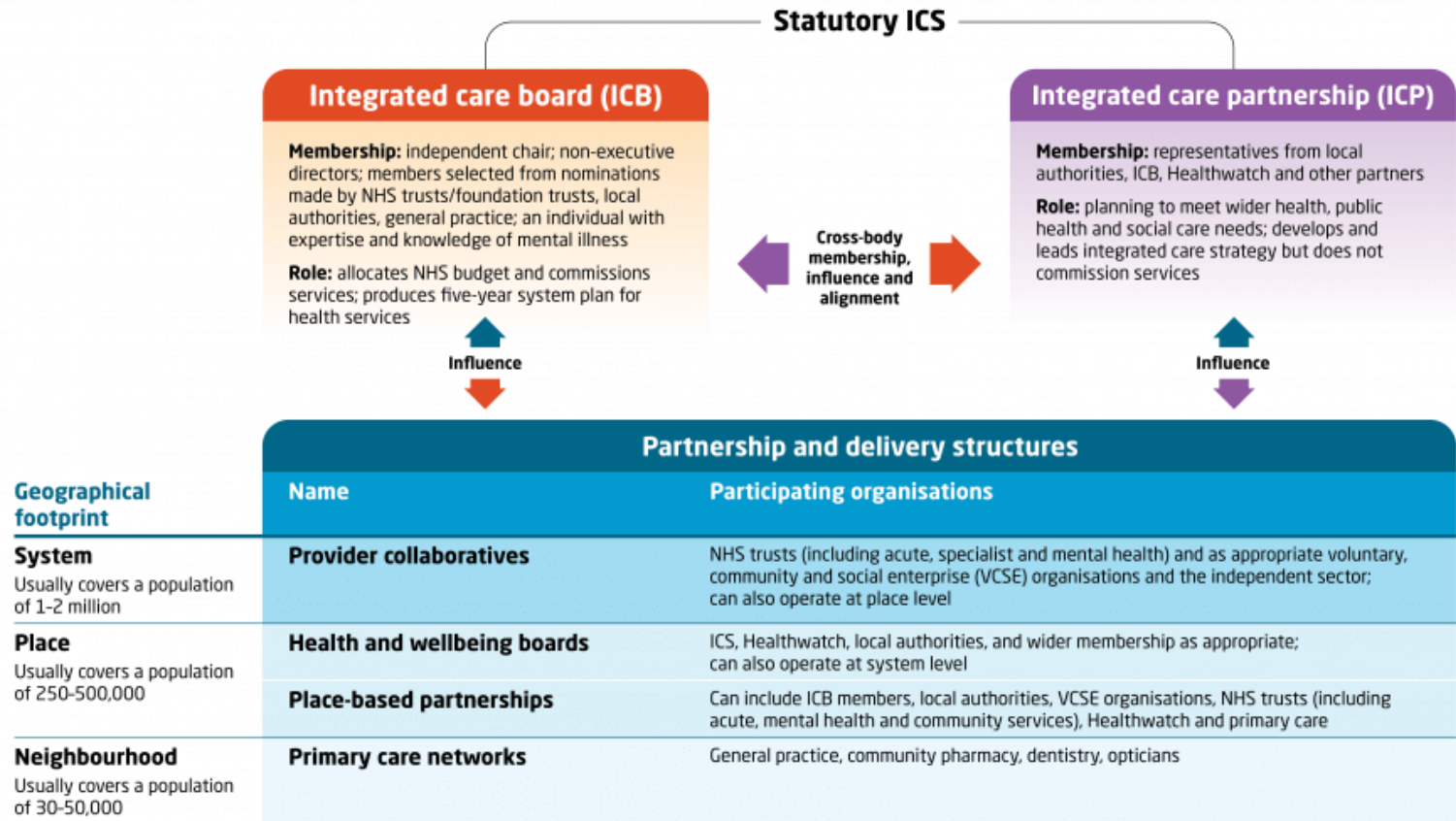
- improving outcomes in population health and health care
- tackling inequalities in outcomes, experience and access
- enhancing productivity and value for money
- helping the NHS to support broader social and economic development in the areas it serves

Integrated care systems (ICSs)

Key planning and partnership bodies from July 2022

NHS England
Performance manages and supports the NHS bodies working with and through the ICS

Care Quality Commission
Independently reviews and rates the ICS



TheKingsFund



A more realistic view

Credit: NHS Confederation (2022),
ICS: parliamentary briefing



Role of the VCSE Sector

“The VCSE sector is a vital cornerstone of a progressive health and care system. ICSs should ensure their governance and decision-making arrangements support close working with the sector as a strategic partner”

NHS England (2021), ICS Design Framework

- Service delivery
- Community voice and engagement
- Flexibility and innovation
- Prevention / health creation
- Partnerships and collaboration
- Mobilising wider resource

Role of VCSE Alliances

“A formal agreement between ICBs and the VCSE sector, ideally through an alliance to represent the diversity of the sector”

NHS England (2021), ICS Design Framework

- Coordinating contributions to service delivery
- Bring community perspectives into strategic development
- Facilitating collaboration and partnerships and fostering collaboration
- Representing and advocating for the interests of the sector
- Capacity Building
- Research and Evaluation



What does a successful Alliance look like?



Building from what exists

- Recognised need to bring VCSE into strategy development
- Existing links with two infrastructure organisations
- Built out from existing structures
- New Alliance has two main functions: Engagement and influencing & Informing
- Works at three levels: borough-based teams, strategic group, exec leadership
- A democratic and inclusive model



Now in process of
developing 3ST as a
recognised provider
collaborative

<https://www.3stnwl.org.uk/>

Impact of collaboration and investment



- Development of an inclusive Health Alliance group and specific working groups
 - regular meetings
 - representatives on key ICS workstreams
 - Regular published feedback
 - Reps remunerated for time spent
 - Clear terms of reference and role description
- VCSE “Working together” strategy one of the first approved by the ICB
 - Dedicated Programme Director funded by ICS
 - Action plan - Tackling prevention and supporting community engagement
 - Healthier Futures Fund - £2 million ICS investment



<https://supportcambridgeshire.org.uk/new/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/ICS-VCSE-strategy.pdf>



Future Aspirations

- Enhanced Integration
- Measurable Impact
- Greater diversity and inclusivity
- Greater Sustainability
- Resilience and adaptability

Long-term work for long-term impact

Links

- NAVCA: <https://navca.org.uk/what-we-do>
- NHS ICS Design Framework: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/B0642-ics-design-framework-june-2021.pdf>)
- NHS England Implementation Guidance: Partnership with the VCSE Sector: <https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/06/B0905-vcse-and-ics-partnerships.pdf>
- Snowballs and Eels (Funding VCSE Partnerships in health): <https://navca.org.uk/health-and-wellbeing>
- Addressing barriers to working with VCSE in integrated care: <https://www.kingsfund.org.uk/publications/actions-to-support-partnership>
- Gregg Fell's blog: <https://gregfellpublichealth.wordpress.com/>
- Supporting NHS to deliver social and economic development: <https://www.nhsconfed.org/systems-for-change>)
- NHS Futures (resources on VCSE Alliance development including Quality Development Tool: https://future.nhs.uk/system/login?nextURL=%2Fconnect%2Eti%2FVCSES%2Fgrouphome_ (email england.voluntarypartnerships@nhs.net to register)