

Statement

Voluntary Sector Support Services contract extension

For over a decade Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) has been committed to providing support to the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) by commissioning local providers to provide developmental and strategic support to small, medium and large VCS organisations. The current provider for these services is Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire.

During the summer of 2017, NCC undertook a consultation to better understand the views of the sector in relation to these services and to help inform the shape of any future contract. We would like to thank all those who took the time to participate in this consultation.

After reviewing the findings of this consultation, it is clear that there needs to be a more substantive review to ensure any new contract works for the Voluntary and Community Sector as well as being compatible with the strategies and objectives of statutory services.

In order to allow appropriate time to make a proper assessment of the requirements, Northamptonshire County Council (NCC) will be extending the contract with the current provider, Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire, for one year to March 2019.

During this period NCC will conduct an internal review to assess the requirements, and also consult with statutory partners and the voluntary sector with a view to making decisions on the future shape of any arrangement by the autumn of 2018.

The importance of the consultation needs to be stressed as it has triggered the need for this further review. The outcomes of the consultation remain valid for a further two years and they will be included as part of the review.

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