DEMONSTRATING THE IMPACT OF THE SALFORD THIRD SECTOR FUND GRANTS PROGRAMME

A SUMMARY - OCTOBER 2016

INTRODUCTION

Over the course of the last two years, the Salford Third Sector Fund Grants Programme has provided grant funding to a range of voluntary and community sector organisations and schools in Salford to support activities around health and well-being. In 2014/15 and 2015/16, over £1.6million has been awarded by NHS Salford CCG and Salford CVS in grants. 158 Salford voluntary organisations, community groups and social enterprises plus a consortium of 84 VCSE organisations have received funding through the Programme. In addition, 69 Salford Primary Schools have also received funding, as have 13 partnerships between Salford schools and VCSE organisations.

This document presents the findings of an independent evaluation of the Salford Third Sector Fund Grants Programme, undertaken by the Centre for Local Economic Strategies and Voluntary Sector North West. The evaluation of the Third Sector Fund Grants Programme was designed to report back upon three things: the effectiveness of the partnership and the relationships utilised to deliver the Programme; the impact of the Programme as a whole, and of individual grant awards; and the future linkages of the Programme to wider agendas including Health and Social Care Devolution in Greater Manchester.

PROCESS EVALUATION

The process evaluation included a series of interviews with senior officers at the CCG and CVS and panel members involved in the grant awards. The findings are shown opposite.

An effective partnership

- NHS Salford CCG and Salford CVS have worked well together
- The Programme has increased the importance of grant funding in Salford
- There has been a clear understanding of partner roles and responsibilities

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A well designed programme

- The Programme has clear aims and objectives linked to the issues facing Salford
- It has enabled the CCG to recognise the importance of the Third Sector
- The design has enabled innovation to be fostered and enabled a wide range of outcomes to be delivered

A robust application process

- The application process helped develop the capacity of the Third Sector
- It has ensured all applicants meet certain criteria
- The panel process was effective in both support and engagement across sectors



An effective Salford CVS to grant recipient relationship

- The relationship between Salford CVS and grant recipients is ongoing
- The programme has become a cornerstone of Third Sector capacity building
- Learning events enable recipients to demonstrate impact



A challenge with monitoring

- A difficulty in finding the correct balance around monitoring
- A challenge in demonstrating impact and social value
- There has been key change in behaviour of CCG employees as a result of Programme







IMPACT EVALUATION

The impact evaluation consisted of two activities. First a review of monitoring information across all grants associated with the Salford Third Sector Fund Grants Programme was undertaken, in order to identify the following common impacts across the Programme (amongst others):



Second, 16 grants were chosen for undertaking full impact evaluation activities with. In this, interviews were undertaken with grant recipients and beneficiaries with one metric of impact detailed, utilising a Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA) approach. To derive the metric, values have been gathered from the Global Value Exchange (GVE). For the findings please see the infographic on the next page.

QUOTES FROM THE EVALUATION

"The course really helped when my son was in hospital, as it gave me more confidence to talk to the Doctor"

"The Volunteer Fund really helps as it contributes to my bus pass, I don't think I would be able to attend without the support"

"I'm alright when I come here, if you do have any problems there's always someone to talk to"

"It made me more confident in growing things at home to cook, and I am trying easy but healthy recipes at home more often"

"I wanted to attend as I took early retirement, and I wanted to meet people and didn't want to feel isolated"

"I feel happier at the end, because it brought us closer together"

"I feel healthier. I feel more full so I don't eat as much, because healthier food makes you feel fuller"

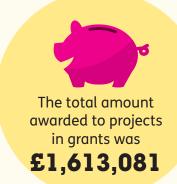
"It is really important for the community, it is here for everybody"

"Their emotional confidence has seriously been boosted by the work that they produced with their parents which has given them a sense of pride"

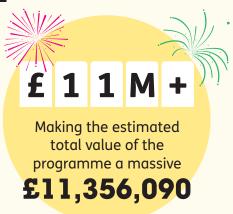
"I had been out of work since 2001, started to volunteer and now I have two part-time jobs"

THE IMPACT OF THE

SALFORD THIRD SECTOR FUND GRANTS PROGRAMME







SPOTLIGHT ON THE VALUE **CREATED BY 16 PROJECTS**

The estimated **value** created for the whole programme was based on the 16 projects chosen for impact evaluation. The estimated value created for each of these 16 projects is shown below:

Improving peoples health and well-being Organisations

Supporting **Third Sector**

Projects with economic and social benefits

Helping children and families

Wai Yin Society

£11,250

GAYDIO

£29,738

Lower Kersal Young People's Group

£3,600

African Rainbow Family

• £12,995

Salford Heart Care

£16,244

Salford Third Sector Consortium

£13,759

Start in Salford

£84,403

Europia

£17,160

DIY Theatre CIC

£28,680

Mustard Tree

£18,000

Eccles Ladies All Rounders

£11,080

Claremont Cluster A, St Charles Primary School

£47,800

St Augustine's

£14,400

Fiddlers Lane Mums and Dads Club

£18,480

Lark Hill Parents Club

£47,787

Broadoak

£286,800









RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1 – roll out Programme for three years



CLES and VSNW recommend that NHS Salford CCG and Salford CVS roll out the Third Sector Fund Grants Programme for the next three years with an annual fund of £1million. The evaluation has demonstrated the effectiveness of the partnership working between the CCG and the CVS; a three year programme enables sustainability for voluntary and community sector organisations.

Recommendation 2 – acknowledge key role of CVS



CLES and VSNW recommend that NHS Salford CCG acknowledge and promote the key role of Salford CVS in the Third Sector Fund Grants Programme. The evaluation has identified the competency of Salford CVS in managing the programme from design, through to delivery; and in strategically developing the capacity of the voluntary and community sector.

Recommendation 3 – recognise importance of grant-making



CLES and VSNW recommend that NHS Salford CCG recognise the importance of grant making for the voluntary and community sector. The evaluation has demonstrated that grant making is important in developing the skills of small organisations, delivering outputs and outcomes around health and well-being, and in achieving value for money.

Recommendation 4 – develop more effective monitoring and evaluation



CLES and VSNW recommend that NHS Salford CCG and Salford CVS develop a more effective means of monitoring and evaluating the Third Sector Fund Grants Programme. The evaluation has highlighted the need for improvement, as monitoring and evaluation needs to be built in from the outset of the programme for the next three years.

Recommendation 5 – embed wider understanding of value of grants



Grant-making should not just be the domain of the CCG and CVS, but should be recognised across the diversity of organisations in place. The findings of this evaluation must therefore be disseminated widely across place based organisations in Salford and wider Greater Manchester, including Salford City Council and those engaging with the Health and Social Care devolution agenda.

Recommendation 6 – join up the Programme to other agendas



CLES and VSNW recommend that the roll out of the Third Sector Fund Grants Programme becomes more closely aligned to other agendas and priorities in Salford. This means that the Programme should be joined up specifically with the evidence and objectives detailed in the Locality Plan, the activities of Salford City Council and other health and social care providers.

Recommendation 7 – ramp up the voluntary and community sector



This evaluation has demonstrated the important role that the voluntary and community sector plays in Salford. However, there is a gap in terms of Salford having a voluntary and community sector strategy, demonstrating this diversity of activities and contribution to agendas. This should be developed in a coordinated way with the sector itself, NHS Salford CCG, and Salford City Council.

Recommendation 8 – Promote values of Programme across Greater Manchester



CLES and VSNW recommend that NHS Salford CCG and Salford CVS promote the findings of this evaluation and the effectiveness of the Programme to the Greater Manchester devolution agenda. This is to ensure that Greater Manchester has an appreciation of the value of collaborative working around health and well-being, and the value of grants for the voluntary and community sector.



AGREED



IN PROGRESS

For more information about the Salford Third Sector Fund Grants Programme please contact Salford CVS on 0161 787 7795 or grants@salfordcvs.co.uk