

Report to: Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC)

Date of meeting: 16 November 2022

Report author: Contract & Partnership Manager

Title: Review of the Voluntary Sector Strategy and Watford and Three Rivers Trust (W3RT) Overview and Scrutiny Committee and recommendations

1.0 Summary

1.1 The appendix to this report provides an update on the progress and implementation of the Voluntary and Community Strategy (VC Strategy) and OSC Task Group review of the Watford and Three Rivers Trust (W3RT).

1.2 The council adopted the VC Strategy on 9 November 2020 which contained 24 recommendations.

1.3 The VC Strategy focused on moving forward from the Covid-19 pandemic. The strategy has 4 themes:

1. Post-Covid Recovery and Renewal
2. Engaging Volunteers
3. Diversifying Funding
4. Information Sharing

1.4 The appendix also reflects the findings of the Member-led Watford and Three Rivers Trust Task Group which presented its final report to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 22 October 2020 which contained eight recommendations.

1.5 Progress against the recommendations has been monitored via the regular liaison meetings between W3RT and WBC officers.

1.6 All recommendations are now actioned and closed

2.0 Risks

2.1

Nature of risk	Consequence	Suggested Control Measures	Response (treat, tolerate, terminate or transfer)	Risk Rating (combination of severity and likelihood)
Voluntary Sector recommendations are not delivered	The wellbeing of vulnerable residents will be detrimentally affected by a less resourced, less informed and less coordinated Voluntary and Community Sector	Detailed delivery plan developed	Treat	2 x 2 = 4

3.0 Recommendations

- To review the progress against all recommendations and close the report. On-going monitoring arrangements will continue through Partnership meetings

Further information:

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Report approved by: Paul Stacey Associate Director of Environment

4 Implications

4.1 Financial

4.1.1 The Shared Director of Finance comments that there are no financial implications for the Council arising from adopting the Voluntary and Community Strategy.

4.2 Legal Issues

4.2.1 The Group Head of Democracy and Governance comments that there are no legal implications.

4.3 Equalities, Human Rights and Data Protection (Extract from November 2020 Cabinet report)

4.3.1 In November 2020, an equalities impact analysis was undertaken. The main conclusions of that analysis is that the strategy will actively aim to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation, or any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Equality Act 2010, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between people.

4.4 Staffing

4.4.1 There are no changes to staffing arrangements identified in this report.

4.5 Accommodation

4.5.1 There are no changes identified in this report relating to WBC office/town hall accommodation.

4.6 Community Safety/Crime and Disorder

4.6.1 There are no Community Safety/Crime and Disorder issues identified in this report.

4.7 Sustainability

4.7.1 There are no Sustainability issues identified in this report.

Appendices

1. Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy & OSC Task Group review of W3RT – update on the recommendations

Background Papers

- Voluntary and Community Sector Strategy – October 2020