Mission Statement

The Voluntary Sector Strategy Group (VSSG) provides the mechanism for strategic consultation and partnership working between the London Borough of Enfield and the Enfield voluntary and community sector (VCS). The VSSG forms the Council’s main strategic interface with the voluntary sector for this purpose.

Aims and Objectives

- The VSSG members are committed to working positively together to best serve the local community in Enfield.

- This relationship is characterised through an agreed understanding that the business of the VSSG is conducted in the spirit of positive and inclusive partnership working, across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors within a spirit of mutual recognition and respect.

- That relevant strategic documentation can be brought before the VSSG for discussion and direction to assist with developing best fit approaches.

- The VSSG is a prime opportunity for meaningful consultation between LBE, partner organisations where appropriate and the VCS so that all the implications of funding decisions can be taken into account.

- The opportunity for clear and constructive communication between VCS representatives, LBE elected Members, and Officers

- The opportunity for debating issues of mutual concern and devising solutions to strategic problems.

- Sustain linkages and connections with other statutory authorities

- Review progress of issues raised by partners

- Explore and collaborate on joint funding opportunities

Membership – please see attached

- Representatives to feedback to their organisations
• Representatives can nominate a Deputy to ensure representation at all meetings

• Non attendance will elicit a letter from the Chair of the VSSG (unless prior notification has been given)

• Failure to attend on 3 consecutive occasions will result in the organisation being removed from the Group

• Other officers as well as statutory and commercial partners will be asked to attend as and when appropriate

• The elected element of the Group will be revisited every 3 years and an election for those seats enacted accordingly.

• Resources

The facilitation and support provided by Enfield Council to the VSSG forms part of its overall approach to supporting partnership working with the VCS and is incorporated into the remit of the Policy, Partnerships, Engagement & Consultation Team accordingly.

Any additional requests for resources will be based upon discussions arising from Group business on an 'exception' basis.

Frequency of Meetings

The Voluntary Sector Strategy Group will meet quarterly with provision set aside for the option of additional 'extraordinary meetings' to be called if circumstances dictate and with the agreement of the Joint Chairs.
Voluntary Sector Strategy Group – Membership

Joint Chairs of the VSSG

Cabinet Member for Community Cohesion
Chief Executive of Enfield Council

Voluntary Organisations (to provide one representative each)
Age UK Enfield
Enfield Carers Centre
Enfield Children & Young Persons’ Services
Enfield Citizens Advice Bureau
Enfield Disability Action
Enfield LGBT Network (inc Faith)
Enfield Racial Equality Council
Enfield Voluntary Action
Enfield Women’s Centre
Friends of Parks Representative

Elected Representatives
Micro organisation (No paid workers)
Small organisation (2 or less full-time paid or equivalent workers – income less than £80,000)
Medium organisation (income between £80,000-£500,000)
Large organisation (income over £500,000)

Officers Serving VSSG
Head of Policy, Partnerships, Engagement & Consultation
Third Sector & Partnerships Development Manager
Director of Adult Social Care (inc CCG Business) (or nominee)
Director of Children’s Services (or nominee)
Director of Environment and Operational Services (or nominee)
Administrator (Third Sector Development Team)