

Delivering Together

Shared Principles - Shared Priorities

Partnership Agreement between the
Third Sector
and
Conwy County Borough Council

2020-2023



Foreword

We are pleased, on behalf of Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC) and Conwy County Borough Council to introduce our fifth Third Sector Partnership Agreement, which is an agreed way of working together to consolidate our relationship for the benefit of the citizens and communities of Conwy.

We have already worked together for a long time and we are committed to continue to further strengthen our relationship. We have reviewed our shared principles and have developed new joint priorities which we will focus on over the next 3 years.

This agreement and its implementation will help us to continue to support and understand each other, so that we are better able to respond to the challenges ahead, given that we continue to have increasing pressure placed on our funding. It is therefore more important than ever, that we work well together to do the best we can working with our communities, stakeholders and partners.

We look forward to continuing to work together to lead and influence the change needed through a collaborative approach.

Iwan Davies, Chief Executive – Conwy County Borough
Council and

Wendy Jones, Chief Officer – Community and Voluntary Support Conwy (CVSC)

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Appendix 1 - Third Sector Partnership and how it links locally and regionally



Appendix 1 - Third Sector Partnership a

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Appendix 2 Key terms and links.doc

Appendix 3 - What we will do and how often



Appendix 3 What we will do and how

1. Introduction and how everything fits together

We have worked together to develop our joint vision:

“Working together to deliver sustainable services that the people of Conwy need and to empower communities to meet their own needs and improve well-being.”

The shift change that is required to deliver this, means that it is crucial that we work together for the benefit of our communities. This will impact on a range of areas of work, including wellbeing, prevention and care, environment, skills, community regeneration, economic development and the development of social enterprises and alternative service delivery models.

It is important that this agreement and the work partners deliver is undertaken collaboratively.

Strategically, it links in with the with the Wellbeing and Future Generations Act (2015) Wales and the work of the Conwy and Denbighshire Public Service Board (PSB); this agreement will add value, support the PSB and will actively try not duplicate any existing work undertaken locally or regionally. This agreement also supports the implementation of CVSC Priorities and Conwy CBC Corporate Plan Priorities.

In addition, this Agreement reflects the implementation of the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 and specifically the promotion of care and support services which are provided by social enterprises, co-operatives, user led organisations and third sector organisations with the aim of expanding the range of not-for-profit service models in the social care sector and increasing the diversity of provision.

The Conwy Social Value Forum has been integrated into the Third Sector Partnership; this has been developed using the Wales Co-operative [“Good practice guide on Social Value Forums”](#) The Third Sector Partnership will therefore link to the Regional Social Value Steering Group through nominated Local Authority, CVSC Officers and other Third Sector providers.

It is vital to have a sustainable Third Sector in Conwy, regionally and nationally. Funding contributes to this sustainability and Conwy CBC’s approach to funding the Third Sector plays a crucial role in this, from the principles that are used to how services are commissioned. The [Third Sector Code of Funding Principles](#) have been adopted by CVSC and Conwy CBC to set a clear way of working.

The voice of the Third Sector and Conwy CBC needs to be heard to identify new ideas and new ways of working to ensure that the vision is met.

If any engagement is undertaken we are committed to using the [10 National Principles of Public Engagement](#), which promotes good practice in engagement. We will publish all relevant consultation events.

The principles and priorities in this agreement have been developed together, will be delivered together and bound by our joint governance.

This agreement is managed by the Third Sector Partnership. How this partnership relates to local and regional organisational and partnership structures can be found in: **Appendix 1 - Third Sector Partnership and how it links locally and regionally**

Some of the terms used in this agreement and what they mean and links to the key documents can be found in: **Appendix 2 - Key terms used and links.**

2. Our 8 Shared Principles

The following principles have been identified to further the relationship between the Third Sector and Conwy County Borough Council, selected based on the challenges identified across all Partners:

- 1. Partnership**

A strong trusting relationship between the Partners is essential to achieving our shared commitments and delivering services for the benefit of the local community. All partners have complementary and distinct roles.
- 2. Independence**

It is recognised that the Third Sector is independent.
- 3. Diversity and Mutual Respect**

The difference, diversity and capacity between the partners should be respected and valued.
- 4. Accountability**

All partners have their own sets of responsibilities and constraints but are committed to acting transparently, with integrity and objectivity.
- 5. Equality**

The importance of promoting equality of opportunity for everyone is acknowledged and that all partners should be given equal consideration and respect.
- 6. Good Relationships and Wider Sector Engagement**

Good relationships involving open honest communication is crucial as is engaging wider than we ever have done before.
- 7. Co-production**

We will work together to promote the use of an asset-based approach to public services that enables people providing and people receiving services to share power and responsibility, and to work together in equal, reciprocal and caring relationships.
- 8. Challenge**

It is accepted that partners have the right to challenge processes and matters that affect them. All partners have to be open to challenge and change.

3. Our 6 Joint Priorities - developed collaboratively



<p>Joint Problem Solving</p>	<p>Identifying and working together to find solutions to issues relevant to our communities.</p> <p>We will develop and implement an inclusive improvement approach including all relevant stakeholders to enable us to do this.</p>
<p>New Models of Delivery</p>	<p>We need to work together to develop new models of delivery that result in sustainable services being delivered for our future generations.</p> <p>This includes the promotion of care and support services which are provided by social enterprises, co-operatives, user led organisations and third sector organisations</p>
<p>Funding</p>	<p>Maximising what is available and working to the Code of Practice for Funding of the Third Sector.</p> <p>Conwy CBC will hold themselves to account in meeting the Code of Practice and will use this Code as a benchmark to improve practice.</p>

Commissioning	There will be Third Sector involvement in the Commissioning Cycle (which is used to decide which products or services are needed to deliver desired outcomes for people) and in how we procure services, monitor and evaluate.
Social Value	Developing a Social Value Strategy. Embedding Social Value into the work that all partners undertake, including the sharing of good practice.
Locality Community Planning	To work together to ensure reach into our communities, and to work with communities in order to have positive social impacts.

4. Delivering the Partnership Agreement

a. Our delivery approach is based on:

- **Influencing and delivering - representation and consultation** - we have to have the right structures and support to enable individuals and organisations to be heard and to make any changes identified.
- **Relationship** - to continue the good relationship between CVSC and Conwy CBC, with support from the CO of CVSC and the CEO of CCBC and the wider sector.
- **Accountability** - what we do needs to make a difference and we have to show the impact of our work.

Please see Appendix C - What we will do and how often.

b. Third Sector Partnership

- The Third Sector Partnership is responsible for the implementation of these priorities.
- The Third Sector Partnership will meet quarterly to go through the delivery of the priorities.
- Progress will be reported to Partnership Overview and Scrutiny and CVSC Board of Trustees annually.

c. Resolving disagreements

There may be disagreements at times; please resolve these at Officer level first and then if there is no resolution to the disagreement please escalate it to the CO CVSC or the LA Third Sector Lead, who will support with a resolution. If no resolution can be found it can be escalated to the Third Sector Partnership so that the issues can be discussed and agreed between the partners with the aim of a resolution.

5. How to get involved, share your good practice or get more information

If you would like to get involved and be part of this Partnership Agreement, share your good practice or want some more information please e-mail: Community and Voluntary Support Conwy on mail@cvsc.org.uk or Conwy County Borough Council on sc.commissioning@conwy.gov.uk

6. Review of the Third Sector Partnership Agreement

The Third Sector Partnership Committee will formally review the Partnership Agreement every 3 years or sooner, if there are significant changes that would impact on the agreement.