

2024-28

Greater Manchester

VCSE Manifesto

GREATER MANCHESTER
VCSE LEADERSHIP GROUP
the sector's voice in Devolution

This manifesto summarises the voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) sector's ambitions and key asks of our public sector partners over the next four years. These are the high-level areas identified by the GM VCSE Leadership Group, but we want to hear what Greater Manchester's 17,000 groups think.

Key policy areas

- **Arts and culture:** dedicated health and arts funding for VCSE activity
- **Green communities:** Invest in VCSE buildings and groups to become greener and energy resilient and support green action in our communities
- **Homelessness:** coordination with VCSE organisations to end homelessness
- **Planning:** Recognise community centres on the spatial strategy
- **Refugees and Asylum seekers:** integrated and meaningful support across the City Region

1. Continue to embed VCSE sector as an equal partner

- a. Working collectively to tackle poverty, inequality, and social injustice
- b. Invest in meaningful VCSE engagement, participation, infrastructure and networks
- c. Core to delivering devolution for our communities
- d. Embed fair funding principles across Greater Manchester and implement the VCSE Commissioning Framework

2. Listening City Region

Make GM a leading force in co-design and co-production

3. Embed VCSE in public service delivery by building on the sector's role in...

- a. Prevention and early intervention
- b. Services for early years, children and young people
- c. Mental Health Support
- d. Hospital discharge
- e. Healthy neighbourhoods
- f. A full partner in NHS GM's Provider Collaborative

4. Build caring, resilient communities

- a. Build VCSE capacity to tackle prejudice, discrimination and violence
- b. Champion our volunteers and carers, and recognise the resources needed to do this
- c. Agree a socio-economic disadvantage action plan
- d. Action for racial justice

5. A 'Community Wealth' City Region

- a. Long-term commitment to driving greater community ownership
- b. Full discretionary rate relief for charities on business rates
- c. Build VCSE role in skills and employment opportunities for our communities
- d. Make Greater Manchester a Social Enterprise City Region

6. Champion and value our workforce

- a. Long-term VCSE workforce support programme
- b. Make Real Living Wage for our staff a minimum