



Consultation for Better Care Stronger Communities Funding

In 2014 funding for voluntary sector partners was refocussed to support positive outcomes for people and complement the objectives of Children, Adults and Health services. Since 2015, the Better Care Stronger Communities has funded the following services/activities:

- Activities to support carers
- Stroke support
- Dementia awareness and support
- HIV support
- Volunteers to befriend older people
- Post-natal depression support
- Volunteers to support women that have suffered trauma

Since we commissioned these services the way that we work has focused on prevention, promoting equalities and improving outcomes for individuals. In South Gloucestershire we have introduced the 3 conversations model of practice. Existing partners have aligned their delivery to support this way of working and we aim to use this commissioning process to further embed these principles into support and services delivered across South Gloucestershire.

3 Conversations Model

The 3 conversations model focuses on peoples' strengths and community assets to change the way we deliver social care support." The aim is to move away from a process-led and service-led way of working with people to having a more natural conversational approach where staff work flexibly and creatively with people to build on their existing strengths and networks to connect them with their communities wherever possible in the spirit of the Care Act, 2014. The 3 Conversations Model uses positive language that is accessible to all people,

It focuses on prevention and wellbeing: finding out what is important for people and for their carers, and ensuring that workers use their own strengths, resources and skills to work alongside the person to come up with unique solutions to meet their goals and outcomes.

Conversation 1 - Listen actively and connect people and families/ carers to things that will help them get on with their lives.

Conversation 2 - When we meet people who need something to happen urgently to help them regain stability and control in their life, we use Conversation 2. This is to understand what's causing the crisis, put together a short-term plan and stick with the person to make sure that the changes happen quickly, and that the plan works for them.

Conversation 3 - Support people who need long-term care and support to build a good life.

Aligning BCSC to the Council Plan

This funding supports Priority 2 of the Council Plan to identify and support those most in need and helping people to help themselves. Working proactively with individuals and communities in a way which prevents the development of complex health and social care needs and reduces social and health inequalities. People will have the information they need to make decisions about their own health and wellbeing and will then be able to retain control over their day to day lives and wellbeing.

The funding will also help us to deliver the equality of opportunity in South Gloucestershire by supporting and working with vulnerable and isolated communities and individuals.

Delivering Differently

As part of the commissioning transformation programme and to support adult social care reform we are reviewing how we work with voluntary sector partners to develop the capacity to deliver services differently so that the support the care needs of individuals, in their own homes.

The contracts for these activities and services end on the 31st March 2023. We are recommissioning Better Care Stronger Communities support for new contracts to commence 1st April 2023.

The total budget is £286, 819 p.a.

Commissioning Assessment

We have completed a review of the existing contracts we commission and have undertaken an assessment to ensure resources are prioritised to meet needs in line with the Council Plan, Ageing Better Plan, Carers Strategy & Health and Wellbeing Board Plan. The assessment of needs looked at the demographics in South Gloucestershire and analysis of services required. We have identified gaps in services currently commissioned and would like to address some of these gaps with the BCSC commissioning. We have also identified where other funders are delivering services to meet specific needs.

We will use this information to support the funding allocated to each outcome for each cohort.

We will be commissioning outcomes-based services in November 2022 and are consulting on our proposals.

Outcomes Proposals

In 2019 we co-produced a suite of outcomes and principles to support future commissioning of the voluntary sector.

We will be looking to procure services which will deliver the following Outcomes:

- **Living well and enjoying life** – supporting people to enjoy life and feel in control of making their own choices.
- **Preventing ill health and promoting self-care** - preventing ill health conditions from developing (mental and physical), managing risk factors or preventing existing health conditions deteriorating further. Supporting people to feel confident managing their own health conditions and self-caring.
- **Healthy Ageing and Independence** - helping people stay active and healthy as they age and providing support to ensure they remain independent for as long as they want to.

There are 5 supporting principles:

- **Wider support** - ensuring people have support with wider aspects of their lives in order to maintain their health and wellbeing.
- **Access** - supporting people to access the things and people they need to manage their health and enjoy their lives.
- **Knowledge** - increasing people's knowledge of health, prevention or of available services/groups. Enabling them to find the right options and make confident, informed decisions
- **Right Service, right time** - using a proportionate service to meet people's needs, prioritising self-care and those available through the community before the use of statutory services.
- **Crisis Support** - preventing situations deteriorating into a crisis or helping people through a crisis and back on to their feet when one occurs.

Please take a look at our document on an Outcomes Framework, which shows the proposals

We propose that the activities/services will fall within the following Cohorts:

1. Carers peer support
2. Dementia Support and Awareness
3. Ageing Well
4. Long term conditions (HIV, Stroke)
5. Woman's Mental Health
6. Deaf and hearing loss

Procurement Routes

We are working in collaboration with the CVS South Gloucestershire to incorporate the national Keep It Local Principles*. It is likely we will have a mix of contracts via direct awards as well as through competition. This will be determined as part of our current partnership working with the CVS.

* For the purposes of this commissioning, direct awards will go to providers who are identified as the only organisation who deliver the service/activity in the South Gloucestershire or BNSSG footprint.

Please see our proposed simplified procurement process map

Assessment criteria

We would also like you to consider and comment on the criteria we will be using to evaluate the proposals we receive. These will be applied proportionally to reflect the level of funding being awarded

Our proposal is that funding submissions are assessed against the following general criteria:

- A. Alignment with the Council's Plan, Carers Strategy, Ageing Better Plan, Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy, Aspirations of the Locality Partnership, Supporting the South Gloucestershire Council Commissioning Transformation Plans and Support the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
- B. Principles of 3 conversations are demonstrated and embedded into the proposal
- C. Demonstrate how the proposal can be developed into business opportunities to increase the variety of options available to support individuals formal care needs.
- D. Taking active steps to promote the inclusion of protected, equalities, carers and vulnerable groups.
- E. Demonstrate quality: safe, reliable, effective and well led services.
- F. Demonstrate the beneficial impact the proposed service will have in reducing health and social care expenditure.
- G. Demonstrate innovative approaches to deliver outcomes that support people to live well and enjoy life, prevent ill health, promote self-care to manage their own health conditions and healthy ageing and independence.
- H. Demonstrate partnership working and a strengths and assets based approach
- I. Demonstrate capability or track record of delivering continuous improvement preferably in South Gloucestershire
- J. Demonstrate robust activities and monitoring to deliver outcomes throughout the life of the proposal
- K. Demonstrate a business plan to develop a sustainable service beyond the funding period which includes evidence of leverage of external funding into South Gloucestershire
- L. Demonstrate evidence of added Social Value (in line with council policy)

M. Demonstrate value for money

N. Demonstrate how their outcomes will be sustainable in the longer term

Monitoring

As part of the review we carried out with the existing contracts commissioned through the Better Care Stronger Communities, we received a lot of constructive feedback on the existing monitoring processes. We will be adapting our processes and reporting to make it more efficient and outcomes focused.

We are proposing we will use the following Monitoring Criteria:

	Small Grant (no objectives on Partners) Up to £3,000 per annum	Small Contract (Up to £10,000)	Large Contract (£10,000-£75,000)
Monitoring Objectives	No objectives	Yes, monitoring objectives required	Yes, monitoring objectives required
Frequency of monitoring	Annual	Annual	6 monthly
Criteria	Confirmation of spend in line with grant conditions and an annual report.	Questions on social value and climate change commitments. Monitoring report based on Outcomes and demonstrating how the contract has delivered against KPI's and agreed service deliver. What has gone well and not so well. Equalities information – how this is being used to improve the service for all members of the community. Case studies	Questions on social value and climate change commitments. Monitoring report based on Outcomes and demonstrating how the contract has delivered against KPI's and agreed service delivery. What has gone well and not so well. Equalities information – how this is being used to improve the service for all members of the community. Case studies

Timeframe for Commissioning Better Care Stronger Communities Budget

Action	Timeframe
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Commissioning Assessment, Demographics of Cohorts and Review of existing contracts	May and June 2022
Consultation	Mid July – Mid October 2022
Give notice to existing partners	September 2022
Tender Period Open	November 2022
Council Evaluation of proposals	December
Internal Council Approvals	January 2022
Notify Partners and begin Standstill	End January 2023
Award and complete contracts/grants	February – April 2023
New Contracts/ Grants begin	April/ May 2023

Engagement Events

We will be holding the following sessions where we will be collating stakeholders feedback and comments on our proposals. Please sign up to one of the events on the following links, to have your say on our proposals.

Thursday 18th August, 10.30-12noon on Microsoft Teams
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/377939706837>

Thursday 15th September, 10-11.30am, in person
 Kingswood Civic Centre, Kingswood. Meeting rooms F34/F35
<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/377943558357>

If you have any queries or questions please contact:

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