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VCS Priority	Directorate	Service Area	Action
Collaboration and Networking	People, Transformation and Performance	Children's Services	1.1 We will continue to ensure that our own workforce has the right information available to them for effective signposting and referrals to VCS organisations that can support our residents.
	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Policy and Strategy	1.2 We will pro-actively support the Cabinet Member for Public Health and Inequalities in engaging and building relationships with the local VCS.
	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Policy and Strategy	1.3 We will build on our relationship with the VCS sector, working with OCVA to establish regular OSCA (Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance) partnership meetings.
	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Policy and Strategy	1.4 We will oversee implementation of the VCS Strategy across the council and help ensure service area actions are delivered and reported on internally and to OSCA.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Customers and Cultural Services – Libraries	1.5 We will commit to renewing our existing partnership agreements with volunteers and Friends Groups in acknowledgement of the critical support they provide to local library services. We will explore widening this activity across the whole branch network.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Adult Social Care	1.6 We will continue to develop and build upon existing partnership structures within the Oxfordshire Way, such as Communities of Practice to extend the reach and range of community-led prevention strategies.
	Environment and Place	Environment and Circular Economy	1.7 We will support the Community Action Group Network to deepen links with other relevant OCC teams to enhance and extend the impact of relevant projects, by holding and reporting on a minimum of two cross-departmental meetings per year.
	Public Health and Community Safety	Trading Standards	1.8 We will explore how we can best communicate and cascade consumer issues and advice to local community groups to improve resilience against fraud and consumer

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			issues, identifying those groups or areas of the county who appear to be underrepresented in the available data we have.
Volunteering and Social Action	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Communications and Engagement	2.1 We will develop an external communications plan to promote the importance and benefits of volunteering in 2023/24, including events such as Volunteer Week.
	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Communications and Engagement	2.2 We will develop an internal communications plan, in conjunction with HR, to promote the council's volunteering policy and volunteering opportunities, and celebrate the volunteering achievements of our employees.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Customers and Cultural Services – Libraries	2.3 We will widen participation and strengthen volunteer voices across our Libraries by exploring new development opportunities and celebrating the key role our volunteers play in delivering services for our residents.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Customers and Cultural Services – Museums and Heritage	2.4 We will develop opportunities to broaden volunteer participation across Heritage services and work to better capture the benefits of volunteering in improving wellbeing and combatting loneliness.
	Environment and Place	Environment and Circular Economy	2.5 We will further develop community volunteers through town and parish councils such as volunteer flood wardens, highways maintenance and school crossing patrols.
Capacity and Skills	People, Transformation and Performance	Children's Services - Youth	3.1 3.1 We will offer £50,000 of our surplus apprenticeship levy to enable the development of a skilled youth workforce. 10 Youth Work Level 3 Apprenticeships will be funded through this offer.
	Public Health and Community Safety	Public Health	3.2 We will engage smaller VCS organisations in delivering domestic abuse training contracts for professionals and expanding the champions network for professionals and in local communities.

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	People, Transformation and Performance	Partnerships and Delivery	3.3 We will deliver grant support of £300,000 to strategic VCS advisory services to provide additional capacity
	Environment and Place	Highways	3.4 We will train and develop 100 new FixMyStreet Super Users and network volunteers, over the next three years, across the County with the skills to support their local network and community. We will expand our work with communities in managing biodiversity sites.
	Environment and Place	Environment and Circular Economy	3.5 We will support the Community Action Groups to engage local communities across the county on environmental topics by delivering community activities, training and information sharing through the Community Action Groups network. We will report on the number of activities and events delivered annually across our service areas including waste reduction, climate resilience, public rights of way and tree planting.
Supporting a Sustainable Sector	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Policy and Strategy	4.1 We will refresh the Community Asset Transfer Policy.
	Communications, Strategy and Insight	Policy and Strategy	4.2 We will promote the Councillor Priority Fund to the VCS and implement a more streamlined approach to administering the fund.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Adult Social Care	4.3 We will work with NHS, District and City Council and the voluntary and community sector to develop social prescribing and community capacity and capability. This will include development of grant provision for anchor organisations and community groups to support people in the community and avoid admission to hospital or care placements.

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	Public Health and Community Safety	Public Health	4.4 We will work with VCS partners to co-produce our public health research governance processes and strategy. This will include setting up a Community Research Network and support/training for Community Research Champions.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Partnerships and Delivery	4.5 We will partner with OCF to run a second round of VCS grants, providing a further £240,000 of funding to those groups supporting residents in the cost of living crisis.
	Environment and Place	Highways	4.6 We will explore the possibility of supporting the VCS by providing parking permits for volunteers that deliver core services across the county.
	Public Health and Community Safety	Trading Standards	4.7 We will promote Friends Against Scams as a community-led approach to scam harm reduction. In 2023/24, we aim to train 200 'Friends' across Oxfordshire communities to increase resilience against scams, with a view to prioritising a train-the-trainer approach in future years, recruiting 'Scam Champions' to take such learning into their communities.
Reducing Inequalities	People, Transformation and Performance	Children's Services – Youth	5.1 We will ensure that the DfE grant funding allocated to us each year is used to provide our Holiday Activities and Food programme (HAF), to support children from disadvantaged backgrounds and other vulnerable groups throughout school holidays.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Customers and Cultural Services – Libraries	5.2 We seek to further develop the Home Library Service with external funding and volunteers, to better support independent living, combat loneliness and widen participation for residents, as well as monitor and celebrate volunteer impact and achieve improved sustainability.
	People, Transformation and Performance	Customers and Cultural Services – Museums and Heritage	5.3 We will work with local communities and partners to enhance engagement with heritage collections and increase participation, specifically addressing diversity, inclusion and underrepresented communities.

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	Public Health and Community Safety	Public Health	5.4 We will support signposting to the VCS with the promotion of social prescribing and through the Better Housing Better Health service. The Better Housing Better Health service will provide training to the VCS on fuel poverty and potential solutions to residents.
	Public Health and Community Safety	Public Health	5.5 We will fund two VCS organisations to lead and deliver community insights reports to create the final two community profiles in 23/24, utilising the expertise and insight of our partners to steer this essential strategic work.