

Local Challenge 2: “To actively work in partnership with voluntary sector and other local partners to address support, education, employment and training needs”

Area of Assessment	Key Elements	Areas to Consider
<p>We actively work in partnership with our Voluntary Sector stakeholders and other local partners to address support, education, employment and training needs.</p>	<p>A. Local authority is aware of/has mapped (including gap analysis) all Voluntary and Community organisations and other key local partners in their area</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Service mapping including details of all Voluntary and Community organisations and other key partners (Link to Local Challenge 8) along with active ongoing work to engage with these partners (Link to Local Challenge 4) 2. Plans, developed in partnership, are in place to address any gaps identified during service mapping.
	<p>B. Designated contacts per partner to support regular liaison and updates</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Named/lead homelessness contacts within each Voluntary and Community Organisation, registered providers, local authority and other statutory services operating in the district? 2. Regular forums/meetings in place which are attended by Voluntary and Community Organisations and other key partners (these may be face to face or virtual supported by technology) 3. Housing represented on local Health & Wellbeing board (or local alternative) <p style="text-align: center;">(Link to Local Challenge 4)</p>
	<p>C. Voluntary and Community Organisations and other key partners have agreed to a structured approach to working together (e.g. monitored contracts, joint working agreements and / or protocols)</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitored contracts / Service Level Agreements with partners are in place and regularly reviewed (setting out clear goals, service standards, and to facilitate performance monitoring) 2. Timely access to money and debt advice (in house or through external provider) (Link to Local Challenge 5) 3. Statutory and voluntary partners are involved in local authority's local improvement initiatives, strategies, changes to policies or practice and plans including seeking views from their customers 4. P1E prevention and relief of homelessness (E10) data is captured by partners and included in wider returns where appropriate (and within the Department for Communities and Local Government E10 reporting guidance parameters) 5. Partners report all other relevant statistical information to the local authority to support the development of local strategic plans to prevent and tackle homelessness 6. Local authority engaged with job clubs, volunteering, training and skills opportunities for customers 7. Successful engagement with social landlords, hostels and Private Rented Sector to fulfill legal duties

	<p>D. Wider evidence of joint working</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Local authority website includes links to Voluntary and Community Organisations and how they can be accessed (link to Local Challenge 3) 2. Local authority is engaged with the 1st tier (county or unitary) authority ensuring that housing related support (resettlement and sustainment of accommodation) is aligned to the local delivery model and the prevention of homelessness (Link to Local Challenge 5) 3. Joint work with local housing providers in relation to digital and financial inclusion e.g. Credit Unions, local financial inclusion strategy 4. Evidence that national strategies, policies and legislative changes are reflected in local service delivery
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