

Appendix B: VCSE contributions to the Corporate Plan

The organisations were asked to identify how they helped to meet the priorities of the SMDC Corporate Plan: Their responses are provided below:

Organisation	Health Inequality	Food & Fuel Poverty	Mental Health	Loneliness	Community Safety	Supporting Access to Services	Supporting Local Businesses	Protecting the Environment	Uses of parks/open spaces	Access to physical and leisure activities	Supporting the enhancement of the Districts creativity, culture and heritage
Staffordshire North and Stoke on Trent Citizens Advice	Advice in relation to claiming disability benefits to maximise income and improve clients circumstances.	Support with national and local welfare provision as well as tariff checks/advice on changing suppliers.	Support with disability benefit claims.			Advice in all aspects of the claims process incl. up to the upper tribunal.					
Support Staffordshire	We support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be. Social prescribers and V4A encourage people to take up activities and opportunities which may improve their health and well-being.	Support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support social businesses, also known as social enterprises or community businesses and have a dedicated officer to support them.	Support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	support many local groups who deliver services that contribute to this priority. We help the to be the best they can be.	As well as supporting the many voluntary and community groups who are involved in this area of activity, we host the Outside project funded by Ats Council England

<p>Haregate Community Centre</p>	<p>Hosted Everyone Health whilst they held their health checks open to the over 40s in the area.</p>	<p>The community cupboard and café continue to support families and individuals in the area. The café provides small menu of items to choose from at a affordable costs, also free breakfasts for all children, free food to those that need and a full cooked meal each Tuesday. In the period Feb 23 – Jan 24 we provided 1158 of these dinners and 100 Christmas dinners. The community cupboard provided 1497 bags of fresh fruit and vegetables to residents and supported 1513 families with free and / or donated food items. We also host a number of cookery days for individuals and families</p>	<p>Hosted Changes mental health group and Samudra Meditation and wellness group. Provided a safe space where people can meet and talk without judgement at the café. Providing a listening ear and support for residents by not only signposting them to find the help they need but making sure that they receive that help and feel listened to.</p>	<p>The community café continues to bring people together creating not only new friendships but new activity groups. The centre is staffed at all times and doors open at all times to people to come along providing a drink and chat for anyone needing someone.</p>	<p>We host regular police surgeries and continue to develop good working relationships with all agencies to be able to support and guide people to the help they need. We provide a safe space where people can report problems away from their home address. Community events held at the centre bring lots of people from different backgrounds together, creating that sense of community which helps an area feel more secure.</p>	<p>Not only do we support residents by signposting to relevant agencies and individuals that can offer specialised help with this aspect of life. We also support residents with online benefit calculations to ensure they receive all the help that they need and are entitled to, also support those who struggle with IT, reading and writing to complete online forms when necessary. When necessary we help those without the ability to access online services, from online shopping to applications for vital benefits.</p>	<p>We support a number of local businesses who support us. We have encouraged start ups from groups that have begun at the centre, supporting them with basic knowledge to help them to further their ideas and aims of their organisations</p>	<p>We recycle where we can. The community cupboard is a vital local resource is limiting food waste and encouraging sustainability in the area. Community Essentials relies heavily on recycling unwanted items from peoples home and repurposing them to new families and individuals. We have supported the local swift group by working with YHG to install swift boxes to the centre encouraging the annual swift migration to nest and continue to return. The centre has 4 large planters to the back of the premisses that are used to grow fruit and vegetables, these are looked after</p>		<p>We host regular dance classes at the centre and a regular group of people who met at the community café continue to walk regularly after setting up their own informal group meeting here at the centre.</p>	<p>We hold many craft events over the year, each with new and varied activities for all. Over the Christmas period last year we held 24 days of activities varying from film nights to take away craft packs, suitable for all ages and totally free of charge. Making sure that all activities were fully inclusive. We rely on peoples creativity to create decorations and activities for all our events.</p>
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		across the area.						by group attendees, volunteers and local residents, the food grown in these planters is picked and used when ready by local residents and the community cupboard.			
Borderland Voices	Despite government initiatives, mental health still does not have parity with physical health and we help redress the balance		All our services are geared to supporting participants' mental well-being	Many participants live alone and attending our sessions makes them part of a supportive community		We regularly circulate information from e.g. Police, Staffs CC. Informally, we often point participants to services, both statutory and voluntary			Occasionally our activities take place outside, but some of our participants have mobility issues which can make it difficult to take part		Our activities are founded on creativity, frequently inspired by local heritage, and often contribute to exhibitions and events
Biddulph Youth & Community Zone	Offer free health and wellbeing sessions and access to our community gym, work around access to health provisions . support lower income families and individuals . As well as social support , no matter what age and access to	We offer , community pantry , food bank support	We run Adult, Men's, and young people Mental health and wellbeing projects once a week	We run a variety of social projects to reduce isolation and loneliness	Work with groups of young people to reduce ASB, visits form local police etc	Drop in advice		The Zone have a environmental and climate sustainable working environment with recycling and conservation.	We run projects in these community areas and open spaces	We have community fitness sessions, and community gyms, and wellbeing's support	

	health care , and support with economic and finance support										
Keatesys Boxing Academy	offering fitness classes	free fruit to children and young people	Exercise is known to improve Mental Health	building a community and allowing people to make new friends							
The Green Tree house (Biddulph)		We provide a social supermarket	Social - Weekly group	Community café	Local PCSO drop in sessions			We collect surplus food from Aldi, Sainsburys, Tesco and Morrisons. And give the food away free each day			
Biddulph Churches Together	By providing food and sign posting to other services either by making them available at the point of contact or by direct referrals.	Food and fuel poverty have been and continue to be a main element.	We often come into contact with people with mental health brought on by financial crisis. We signpost to other services which help resolve issues.	By working closely with Biddulph Works Together and associated groups we are able to sign post to places of welcome which will help address the issue.		By signposting and by offering direct access at the point of contact. Food bank Sessions often are attended by other agencies such as Money Matters, Social Prescribers or the energy Doctor					