

**TITLE OF REPORT:**           **Performance Monitoring: Agreement with Newcastle CVS for the provision of support, development, networking and representation to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead**

**REPORT OF:**                 **Paul Dowling, Strategic Director, Communities and Environment**

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## Summary

This report provides an overview of the performance of Newcastle Council for Voluntary Service (NCVS) between January and September 2017, under the auspices of the Agreement it entered into with the Council in June 2016 for the provision of support, development, networking and representation to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead.

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## Introduction

1. In April 2016 Council agreed to enter into an Agreement with NCVS for the provision of support, development, networking and representation to the voluntary and community sector in Gateshead.
2. The Agreement covered the period until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2017 and was established as an interim arrangement following the demise of GVOC to ensure there was continued provision of infrastructure support and representation for the Borough's voluntary and community sector (VCS).
3. The interim arrangement was established to enable the Council to consider options for the provision of support and representation for the VCS in Gateshead for 2017/18 and beyond, the prime feature of which is the ambition to explore a joint procurement approach with Newcastle City Council. This was agreed as an approach to explore by Cabinet in December 2016.
4. The Agreement with NCVS was extended, as provided for with the Agreement's terms, until September 2017 whilst the two authorities explored the procurement opportunity, with Gateshead Council acting as lead partner. At its meeting on 17<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Cabinet will be asked to agree to a further extension to the Agreement until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2018 to allow a joint procurement exercise to take place with Newcastle City Council.
5. During this extended interim period, NCVS has continued to deliver advice, guidance and support to Gateshead's VCS alongside the Council's other community-facing services, and has played a key role in the Council and GSP partnership structures, and coordinated VCS participation in Council budget consultations.

6. The report attached at Appendix 1 has been provided by NCVS and sets out the activities they have provided within Gateshead between January and September 2017, and follows on from the last performance report which was presented and agreed by Committee in February 2017.

### **Recommendations**

7. Overview and Scrutiny Committee is asked to:

- Comment on the attached report with reference to the performance and activities delivered by Newcastle CVS under the Agreement with the Council.

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