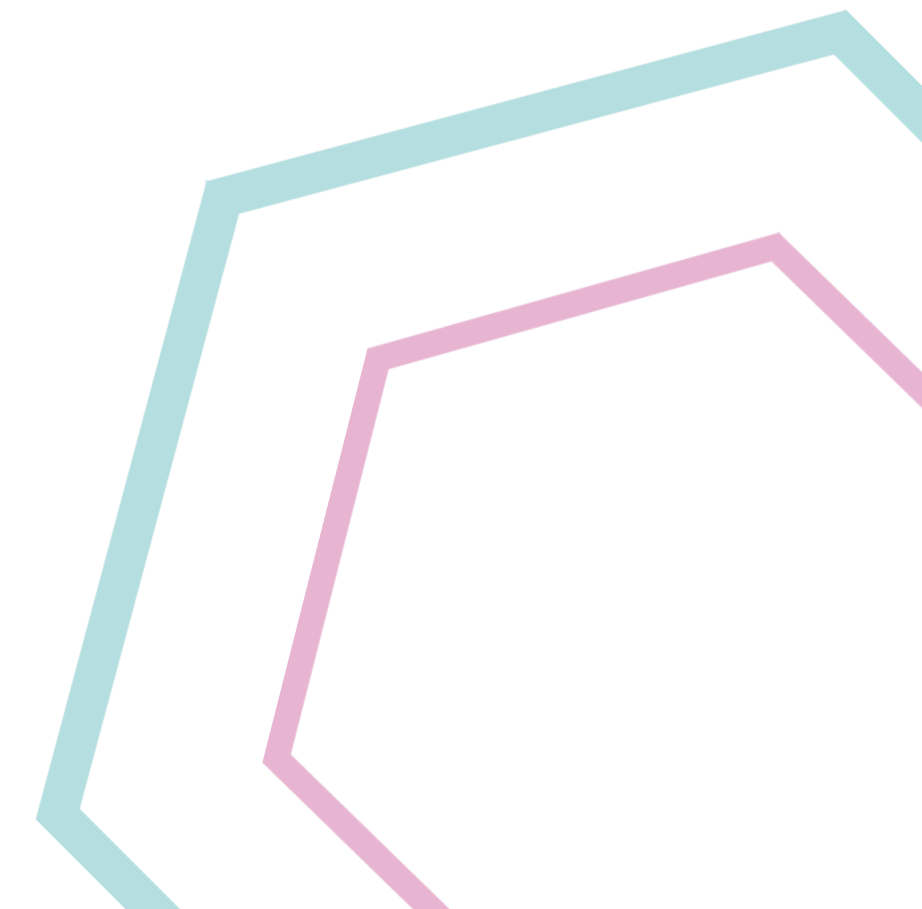


Frimley Health and Care



Building sustainable partnerships across Frimley Health and Care

Frimley VCSE Alliance



Summary

- Frimley Integrated Care System (ICS) is required to have a voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) alliance, as a strategic partner in the system.
- In the coming year (23–24) our ambition is to co-design an alliance structure and vision and establish clear ways of working. This will ensure the VCSE sector is realised as a strategic and delivery partner as part of the new ICS structures, to support the reduction of health inequalities and transform health and care services for local people.

"The VCSE sector is a key strategic partner with an important contribution to make in shaping, improving and delivering services, and developing and implementing plans to tackle the wider determinants of health. VCSE partnership should be embedded in how the ICS operates, including through involvement in governance structures in population health management and service redesign work, and in system workforce, leadership and organisational development plans."

ICS implementation guidance:
Partnerships with the voluntary, community and social enterprise
sector
NHS England, September 2021

Why a VCSE Alliance for Frimley?

- The VCSE plays a key role in the joint transformation of systems and services improving the health of people & communities. An Alliance can ensure that the full potential of the VCSE sector is maximised as part of the new ICS structures
- The VCSE Alliance can build the sector as a strategic and delivery partner to transform health and care services for local people – unlocking access to resources and capacity
- Strengthen sector partnerships, governance processes and drive effective commissioning
- The structure will allow the system to address health inequalities and engage with communities and amplify the voices of the most vulnerable and unheard
- Supporting delivery of strategic ambitions (workforce, CYP, mental health prevention, EDI etc)
- The sector will have a stronger voice and more coherent relationship with other stakeholders
- The Alliance will provide a 'front door' and a unified 'voice' for the sector
- VCSE required to be strategic partner in ICS (NHS England guidance)

What are the unique challenges in Frimley?

System Geography and relationships

- Frimley unique geography across 3 counties
- Sector has not needed to be organised on this footprint before therefore relationships require development
- Lack of understanding in some parts of NHS on scope, breadth and value of VCSE
- RBWM does not have a funded CVS but does have an established partnership

Leadership

- No mechanism to give one organisation the mandate to step forward
- Focus on other systems, (BOB, HLOW and Surrey Heartlands) because the organisation's constituency is sometimes predominantly in that area

Capacity, investment, resources

- All VCSE stretched (inc. pandemic response, cost of living crisis, funding shortage and other factors)
- Reduced investment in VCSE by Local Authorities and NHS
- Increasing asks of the sector to be involved at system and place activity
- Lack of investment in VCSE infrastructure function and strategic engagement

SOURCE: NAVCA report on conversations with infrastructure CEOs, 27 April 2022, conversations with neighbouring ICS Engagement/VCSE Leads and national working groups led by NHSE.

What have we done so far?

We know from previous work in system transformation that there are five essential components of successful alliances:

Building sustainable relationships

- We have a well established relationship with the VCSE sector
- We have an active VCSE sector across all Frimley places
- Good relationships and structures at neighbourhood and place level
- A Voluntary Sector ICS Leads group formed in 2018

Creating a truly shared vision and values

- Ongoing engagement with VCSE leads over past 18 months – now have an established 'design group' meeting monthly

Working out principles of joint working, and getting these recorded in policy documentation

- Independent input from NAVCA and ongoing input into NHSE via their Voluntary Partnerships team

Investment and resources

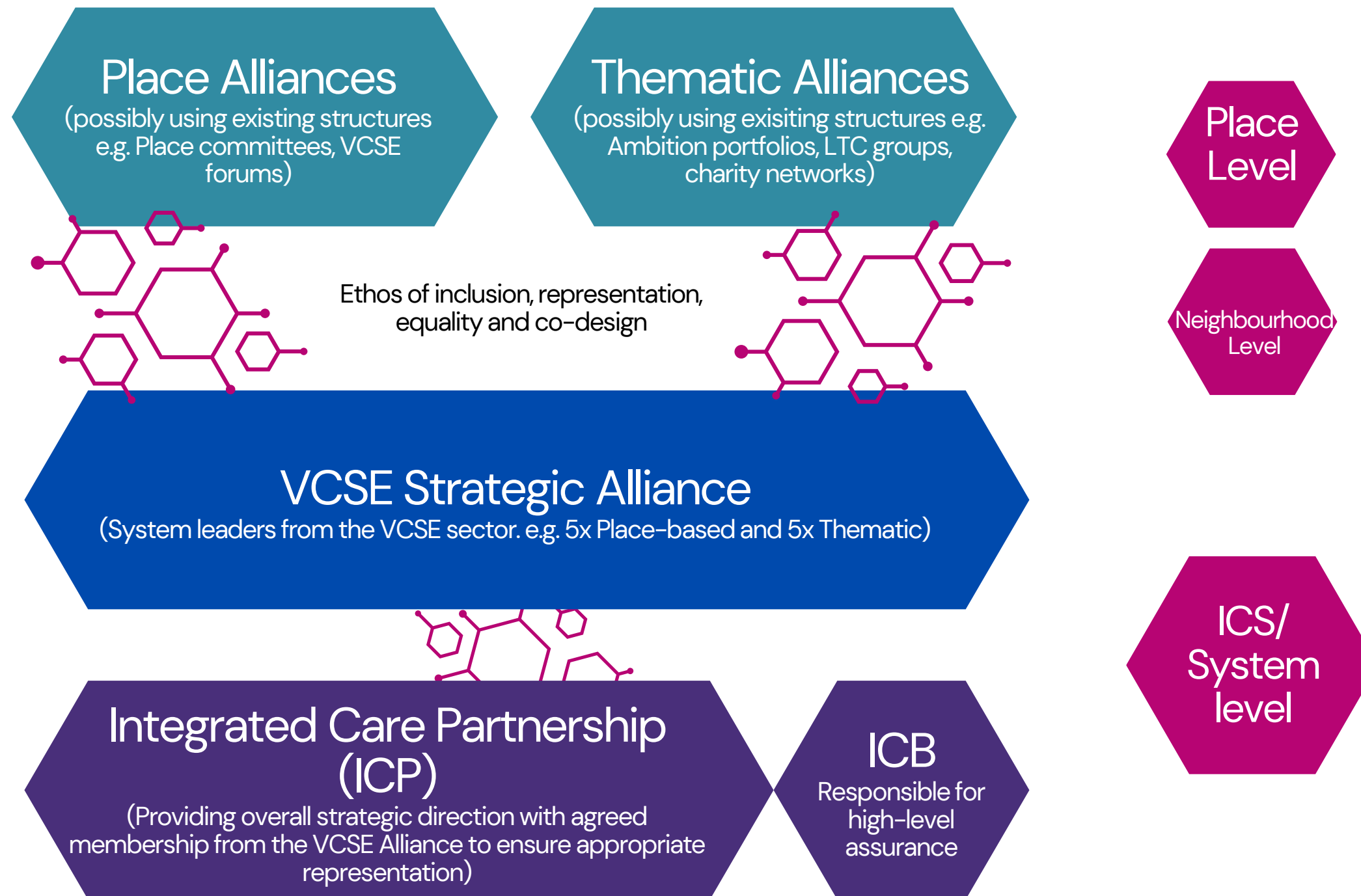
- One year funding now secured to support development in 23/24 following business case to Senior Leadership Team

Strong leadership

- Willing leadership within VSCE organisations
- Limited capacity within current NHS structure



Possible Model



There is an expectation that the VCSE sector will be an integral part of the place-based partnerships developed in ICSs.

VCSE partnerships at place & portfolio

- Jointly plan and deliver health, social care and public health services alongside other services that promote health and wellbeing
- embed decision-making and strategic planning at a local level (geographically and thematically)
- identify and nurture local community groups and support.

VCSE partnerships at ICS level

- provider collaboratives will continue to leverage the expertise of VCSE organisations to support co-design and delivery of health and care services.
- strategic partner in shaping, improving and delivering services and plans to tackle the wider determinants of health.

A model for VCSE engagement will be co-designed alongside a commitment to a policy of reimbursement that will support this model.

DEVELOPMENT FUNDING

➤ Funding has now been agreed that will ensure the following:

- One year fixed term VCSE Development Post / Function (hosted within the voluntary sector)
- Management costs and programme expenditure (including costs incurred by the VCSE Alliance Design Group)
- Community and stakeholder engagement (wider sector involvement in Alliance related structures and co-design activity)

➤ The development post will be key to the success of the work in the coming year and will:

- Lead the development of the VCSE alliance and Leadership group
- Develop the leadership group and its infrastructure, including terms of reference and onboarding strategy.
- Act as a liaison between the VCSE, the NHS and the local authority, supporting effective dialogue and communication between all partners.
- Oversee all communications within the VCSE relating to the ICS and VCSE alliance and support the flow of information and intelligence around the system.
- Provide expertise and information on ICS priorities, strategies and processes, to the VCSE sector.
- Ensure changes within the ICS on behalf of the VCSE are in line with national policy and ensure that the programme maximises the use of national opportunities.

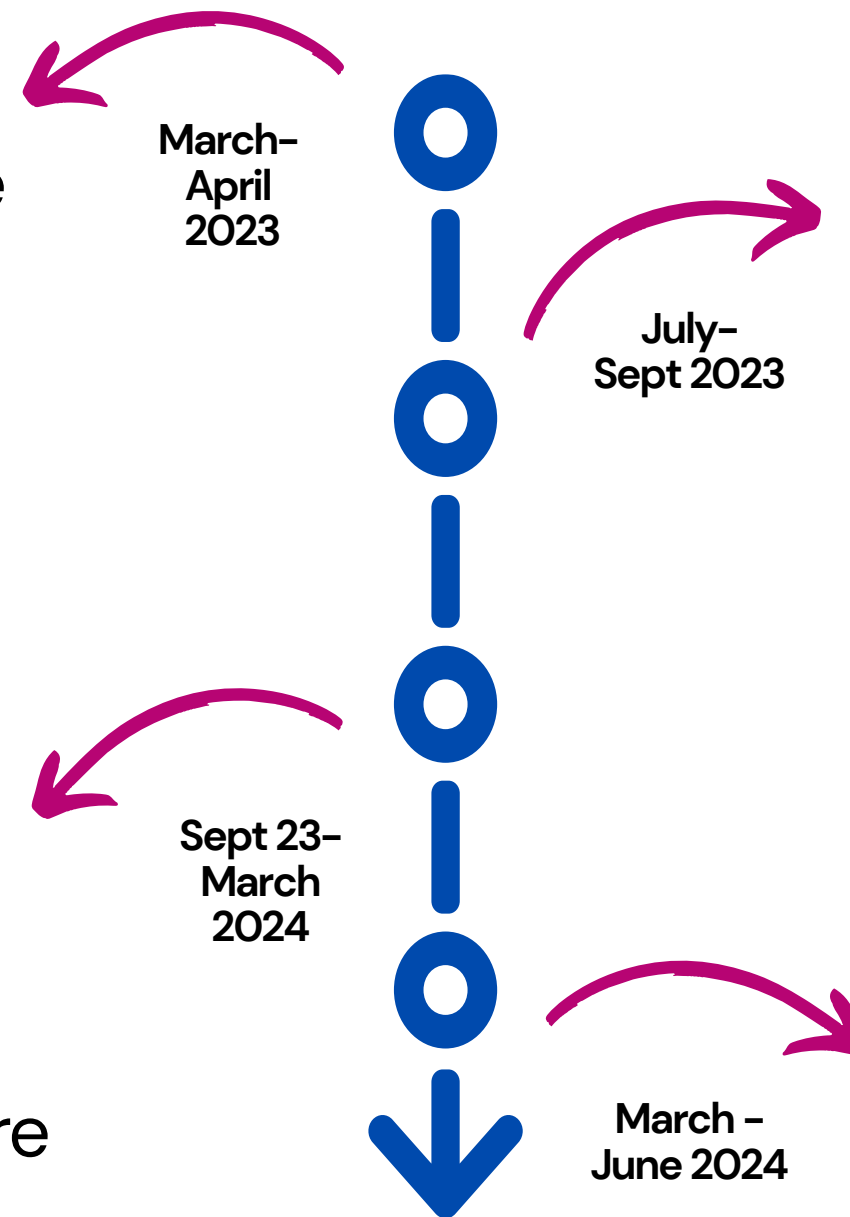
Timeline

Reset (March–June 23)

- Review and approve business case
- Receive expressions of interest from voluntary sector
- Explore and agree 'host' organisation for development role

Implementation (Sept 23 – March 24)

- Holding initial Alliance meetings and workshops
- Delivery of the alliance model to ensure thematic and place delivery



Exploration (July 23 – Sept 23)

Develop VCSE alliance design group and establish the development role to :

- Co-design vision and values for VCSE alliance
- Co-design alliance structure (building on existing place structures)
- Lead development of cross-sector MoU /Partnership agreement
- Support local infrastructure to engage at system level

Review (March – June 24)

- Continued delivery and evaluation
- Sustainability planning for 2024–25



VCSE in Frimley



Chess in schools and Inter-generational music projects in care homes

Examples of projects funded via our Innovation Fund and NHS Charities funding that support small community and voluntary sector organisations with projects that improve health and wellbeing

#OneSlough

A network of volunteer Community Champions is growing with over 1,500 in Slough. The aim is to address and reduce health inequality, promote healthy living and wellbeing, by building on the skills, experience and knowledge within the community.

"My wellbeing circles client has been a real joy to be involved with. He realises and is extremely appreciative of all the volunteer groups time and effort. A polite and thoroughly positive gentleman and everyone that had contact with him remains happy to continue to support in a variety of ways."

-WELLBEING CIRCLE VOLUNTEER



Wellbeing Circles (RBWM)

Local Authority and NHS working closely with Voluntary Sector organisations to support and improve the wellbeing of residents by helping them retain/build connections and to stay engaged in their local community.