



North East and
North Cumbria

Developing an MOU with the VCSE Sector

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Chief of Corporate Affairs

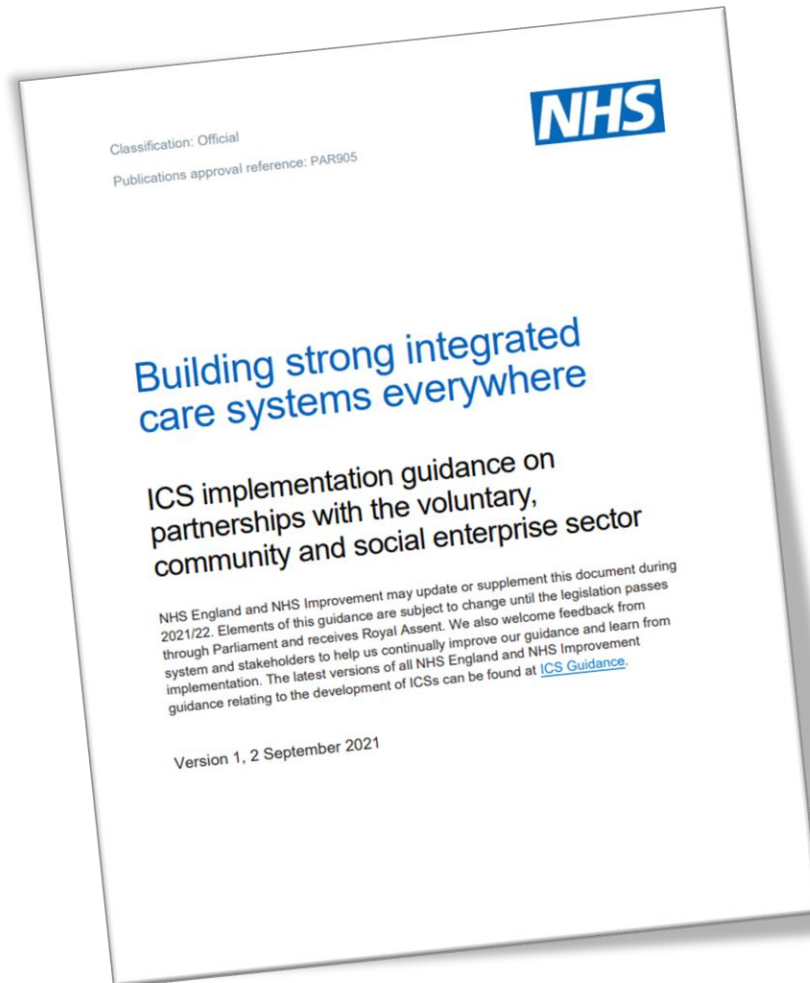
Lisa Taylor

ICB VCSE representative

Our ambitions for working with the VCSE sector

- Ensure that we continue to work with and support the VCSE sector as we develop our ICB operating model
- Utilise the ICS VCSE Partnership Programme to represent the views of our diverse VCSE sector shaping the design and delivery of health and care services
- Work with the VCSE Partnership Programme to ensure VCSE engagement in our work programmes and clinical networks.
- Help us identify priority issues for communities of interest and place, particularly communities that connect less often with health services and those experiencing health inequalities.
- Strengthen two-way communication and engagement mechanisms with the VCSE sector
- Utilise VCSE networks to strengthen our approaches to patient and public involvement and co-production, and the evaluation of health and care services

NHS England guidance for ICBs on working with the VCSE sector



Strategic engagement with the VCSE

- There are more than 11,000 VCSE organisations in NENC
- Organisations may be condition-specific (e.g. mental health or cancer) or organised around a geographical or virtual community.
- On the advice of NHS England, we were invited to work with lead partner VONNE (Voluntary Organisations' Network North East), the regional support body, known as an infrastructure organisation, for the VCSE sector.
- VONNE partnered with Cumbria CVS to ensure that work is carried out across the ICS footprint
- VONNE represents more than 1,400 members
- Also acts as the umbrella body for our place-based **local infrastructure organisations**.
- LIOs support the sector locally, including to influence decision-making, build partnerships and networks, and encourage volunteering opportunities.



Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs) in NENC

Voluntary Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Health Infrastructure Support...



North East and North Cumbria

North Cumbria

Cumbria Council for Voluntary Services (CVS)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://cumbriacvs.org.uk>

Northumberland

Northumberland Community and Voluntary Action (CVA)
 Blyth Valley Community and Voluntary Action (CVA)
 Community Action Northumberland (CAN)
 Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs)
www.northumberlandcva.org.uk
<https://cvabv.org.uk>
www.ca-north.org.uk

Citizens Advice Northumberland
 Non-Local Infrastructure Organisation
www.citizensadvice-northumberland.org.uk

North Tyneside

North Tyneside Voluntary Organisations Development Agency (VODA)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://voda.org.uk>

Newcastle and Gateshead

Connected Voice
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://connectedvoice.org.uk>

South Tyneside

Inspire South Tyneside
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://inspiresouthtyneside.co.uk>

North East

Voluntary Organisations' Network North East (VONNE)
 Regional Infrastructure Organisation
www.vonne.org.uk

County Durham

Durham Community Action (DCA)
 East Durham Trust
 Local Infrastructure Organisations (LIOs)
www.durhamcommunityaction.org.uk
www.eastdurhamtrust.org.uk

Sunderland

Voluntary and Community Action Sunderland (VCAS)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
www.vcas2020.org
 Sunderland Voluntary Sector Alliance
 Non-Local Infrastructure Organisation
www.sunderlandvsa.co.uk

Hartlepool

Hartlepower
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://hartlepower.co.uk>

Redcar and Cleveland

Redcar and Cleveland Voluntary Development Agency (RCVDA)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
www.rcvda.org.uk

Stockton-on-Tees

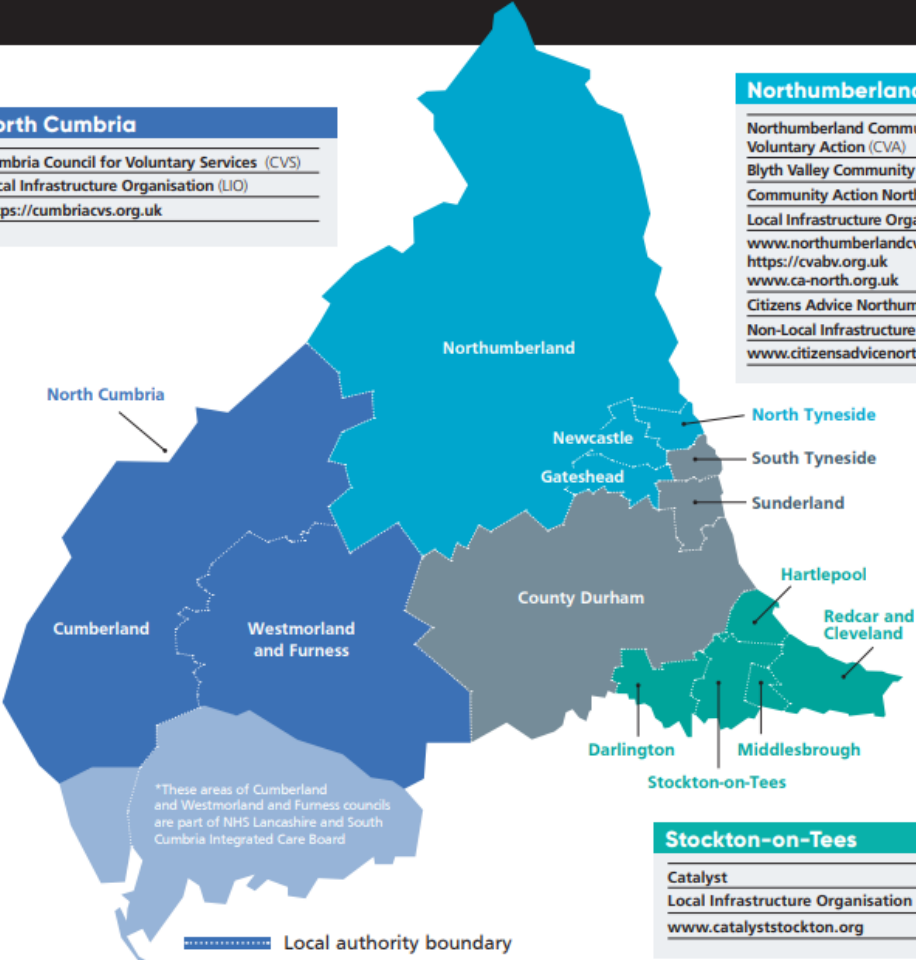
Catalyst
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
www.catalyststockton.org

Middlesbrough

Middlesbrough Voluntary Development Agency (MVDA)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://mvda.info>

Tees Valley inc. Darlington

Tees Valley Rural Action (TVRA)
 Local Infrastructure Organisation (LIO)
<https://teesvalleyruralaction.co.uk>



*These areas of Cumberland and Westmorland and Furness councils are part of NHS Lancashire and South Cumbria Integrated Care Board

**Developing our
North East and North Cumbria
VCSE Partnership Programme**

Challenges to overcome

- Our Partnership was established while the ICB was developing, with no set way of working between sectors
- The VCSE sector has limited capacity to engage in partnership activity (especially smaller organisations)
- All VCSE organisations are totally independent and there is no official hierarchy within the sector
- Competition between VCSE organisations for funding can be a barrier to partnership working
- VONNE and Cumbria CVS therefore designed a **system architecture rather than a sector-wide governance structure**
- This helps to build in-sector relationships as well as delivering against programme objectives

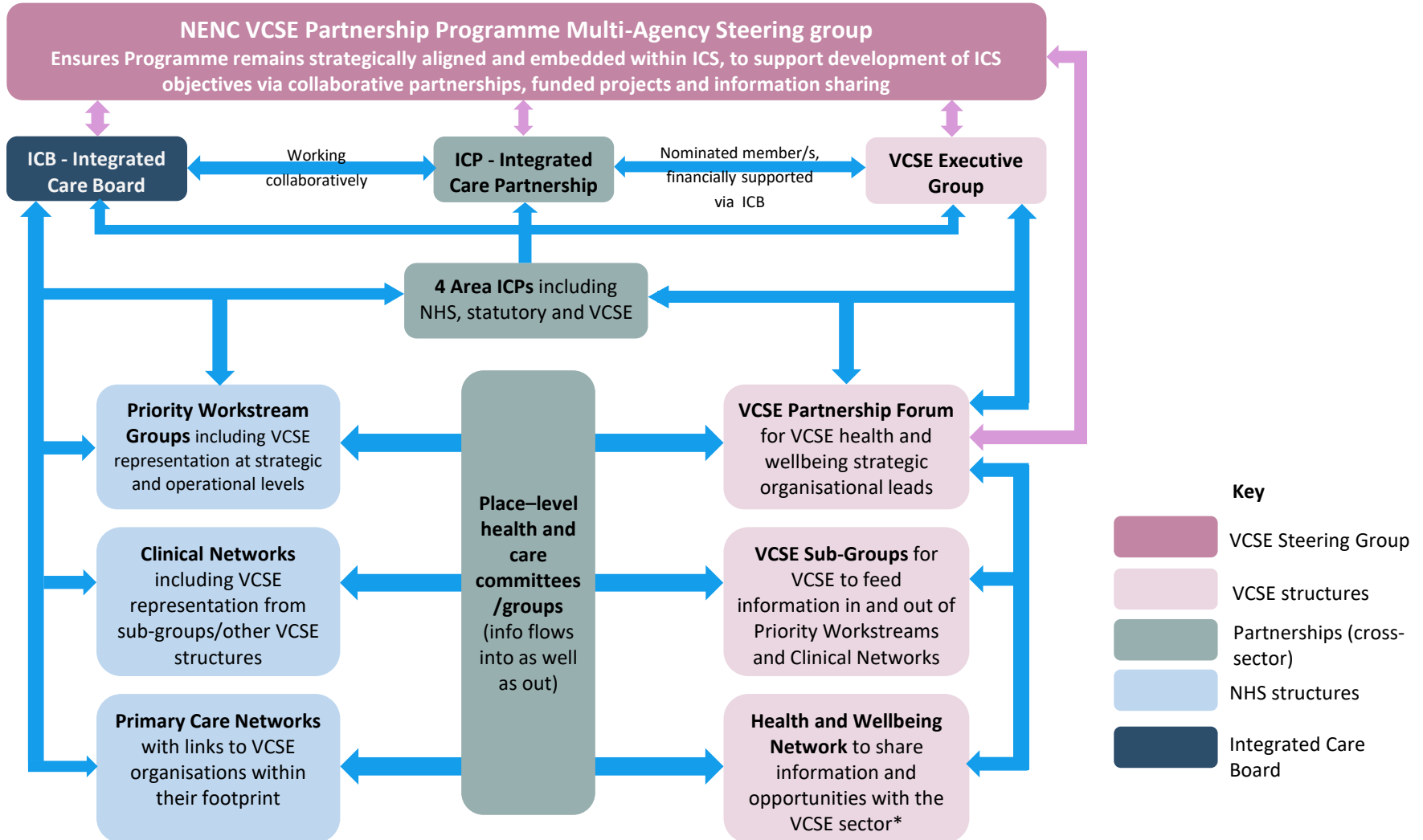



**Learn about our
Integrated Care
System
&
VCSE Partnership
Programme**

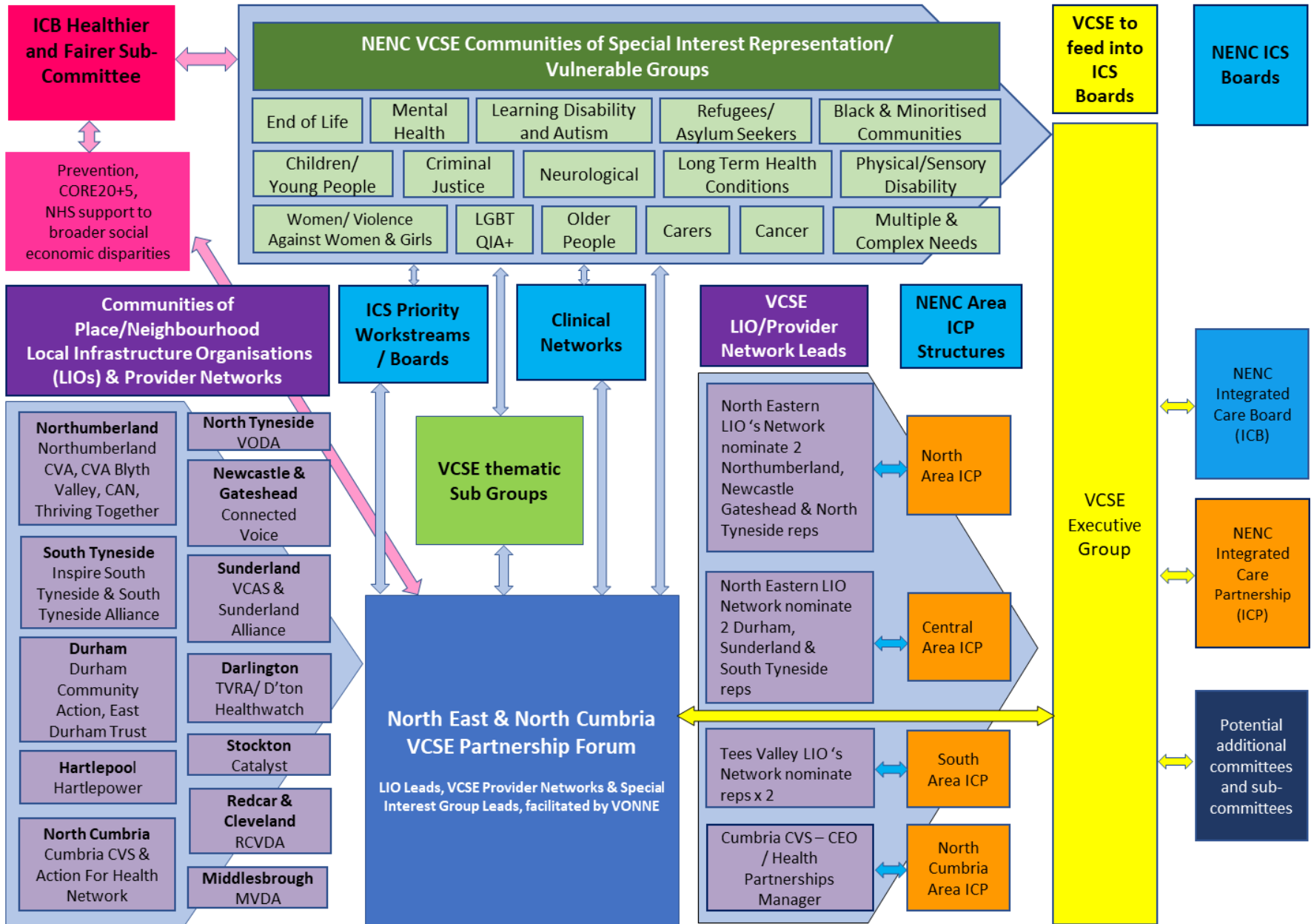


ICS and VCSE Partnership Programme Integration Structure



*Other sectors welcome to join Health and Wellbeing Network

North East & North Cumbria VCSE Partnership Structure- Into ICS Health structures



Making a difference

- The Maternal Mental Health Services (MMHS) Project grew out of initial discussions via the VCSE Partnership Programme, and aims to support the development of new maternal VCSE mental health services from preconception through to baby's 2nd birthday.
- With funding from the ICB and support from our Perinatal Mental Health Clinical Network, this project will help to build capacity and integrate VCSE sector link work provision and peer support into maternal mental health service pathways.
- The Maternal Mental Health project is currently delivering four prototype link work services in the four Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) areas of the NENC ICS, harnessing the innovation and community knowledge within the VCSE sector.

Supported by:
Ways to Wellness

Our Maternal Mental Health project has worked with over 65 families since July 2022

Many more families have benefited from maternal mental health **peer support** input connected to the project

Next steps



Jointly agree a Memorandum of Understanding between the ICB and the VCSE sector, via the VCSE Partnership Programme hosted by lead partner VONNE – For one year



Carry out a stocktake of current ICB spend on VCSE infrastructure services to inform our future investment priorities



Utilise the learning from pilot programmes, including our 'Back to Health' volunteering project with Helpforce and VODA in North Tyneside, and information from our regional and local VCSE infrastructure organisations, to inform future models of infrastructure support

MOU between the ICB and VCSE sector

Key points

- Recognises that the VCSE sector is a key and equal partner in achieving the ICB's shared ambitions
- Commits the ICB to action and the involvement of the VCSE at system and place level - including the ICB, ICPs and place-based partnerships
- Promotes connectivity, collaboration and communication between and within the VCSE sector and the ICB.
- Commits the ICB to support the VCSE Partnership Programme as the VCSE Alliance for the North East and North Cumbria

- **Values-based**, drawing on the commonalities between our sectors
- Created with input from a **wide range of VCSE organisations** to ensure good representation of sector voice
- Acknowledgement this **relationship between sectors requires a huge cultural shift**, and that the ICS is a **work in progress**
- **Built-in annual reviews** to support amendments, ensuring the MoU is always relevant
- Unique opportunity for **measurement of progress** as a “test and learn” site for the NHSE Quality Development Tool



Questions