



Connecting.

Supporting.

Promoting.



www.cornwallvsf.org

Who is the VCSE and what do we do?



Some numbers -

- 5,769 VCSE orgs
- 9,600 paid staff
- £219 million income
- 150,000 volunteers
- 3.7 million hours of volunteering per annum.

Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations range from small community groups cleaning their local beach or operating a community fridge to National Trust and Eden Project.

Cornwall VSF - who we are and what we do

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Our vision

A connected, supported, and well-promoted VCSE that is sustainable, flexible, and resilient.

What do we do

- Communications, marketing, campaigns and research
- Manage and support strategic and thematic alliances
- Act as conduit between VCSE and public sector
- Collaborative bid writing and contract management
- Receive and allocate grant funding
- Provide funding for training and development
- Support with impact measurement and evaluation.

VSF alliances

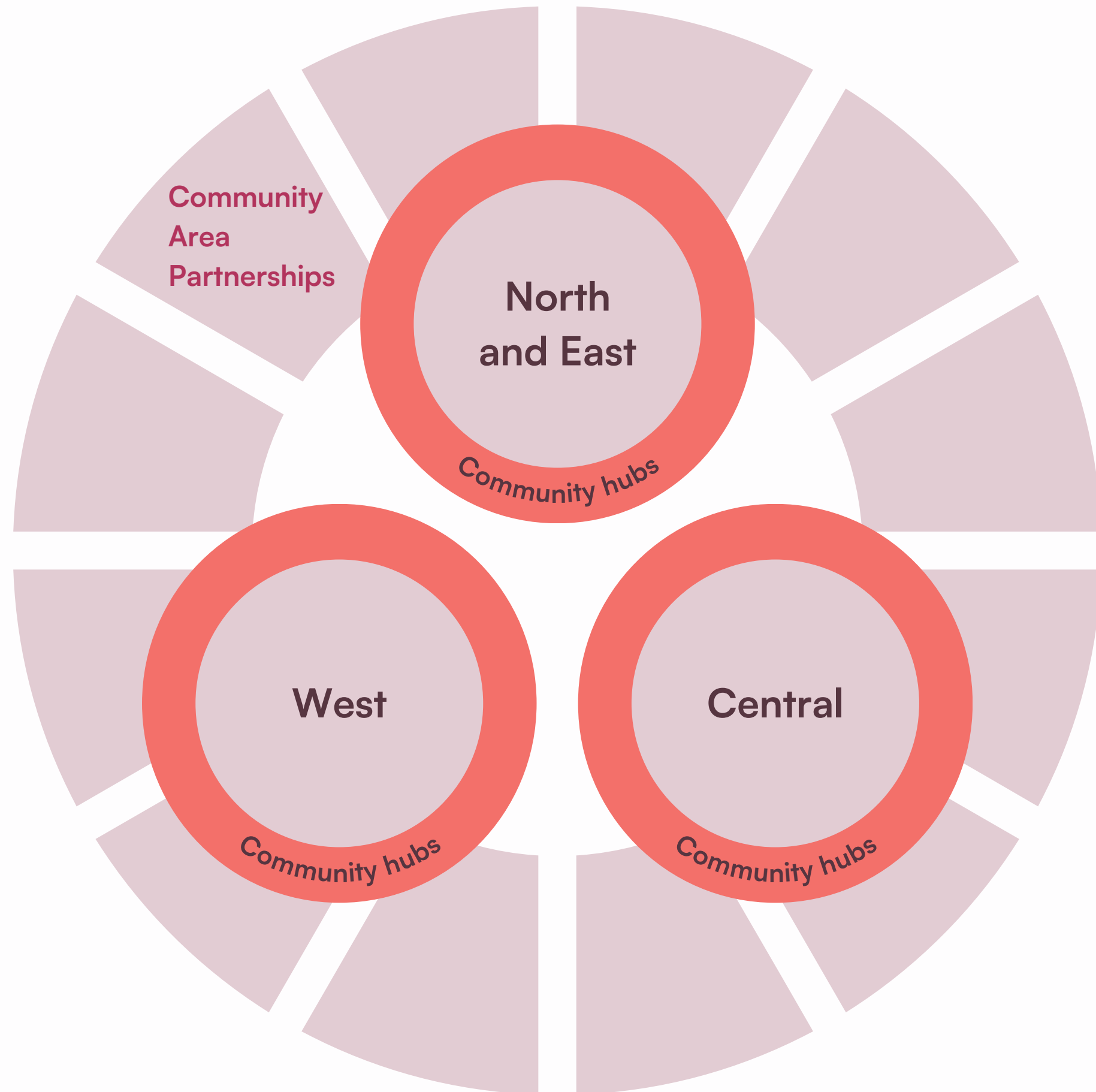
Strategic Alliance

- Cross sector issues
- Strategy and direction for the sector.

Thematic alliances

- Organisations with a shared expertise
- Set their own agenda
- Budget to support objectives
- Between 10 – 60 organisations in each alliance.





At Place

12x Community Area Partnerships

3x Integrated Care Areas

Community hub network:

- Approx. 50 hubs across Cornwall
- Funded by ICB
- Network of local place based VCSE organisations
- Shared learning, good practice and peer support
- Advice and support to local people
- Evaluation report found hub network relieves pressure on NHS

Community Hub Development

- The community hub network aims to support people to start well, live well and age well in their communities
- Creating a network of hubs has enabled organisations to share learning and solutions and identify gaps
- Hubs across the same town and villages have come together to work across hubs to maximise the support they can offer to all ages
- The hub development fund from Cornwall and Isles of Scilly Integrated Care Board is supporting the community hubs to provide a variety of support in communities through 2023-24, building on last year's winter support funds.

Hub development funding allocation

- Funding is available to support a range of delivery in hub areas
- It is expected that the fund supports at least 40 community hubs
- The total ICB fund is £700k for April 2023 until March 2024
- Volunteer Cornwall are administering the grants and supporting the hubs with other VCSE partners.

Activity in the hubs

- There have been 2,419 personalised conversations with individuals to identify their needs
- 1,200 people have been signposted to access additional support to meet their needs.

Feedback has also been sought from people using the hubs. Over 400 people were asked: “If you weren't able to get to the hub today, which service would you have approached for support?”

- 26% of 437 hub attendees would have accessed mental health services if hub support was not available
- 39% of 455 hub attendees would have accessed their GP if hub support was not available.

Map of community hub locations

A map of the locations of community hubs (currently being updated) can be found on Cornwall VSF's website at: [Community hubs - Cornwall VSF](#)

Some of the challenges facing VCSE organisations include:

- Competitive commissioning
- Short-term funding and reliance on EU programmes
- Cost of living
- Workforce resilience and wellbeing
- Trustee skill and expertise.



However, the opportunities that we can explore includes:

- Collaboration
- Longer-term, sustainable funding
- Amplifying the voice of VCSE and People with Lived Experience
- Personalisation.

Examples of the work of VSF alliances

Children, Young people and Families Alliance

- Member of OSCP board
- Coordinate the safeguarding forum
- Coordinate trauma-informed network
- Produced film on Community-based Early Help
- Creation of Young Cornwall Foundation.

Food Access Alliance

- Working with Public Health and Sustainable Food Cornwall
- Enabled engagement with VCSE for development of a Food Access Strategy.

Community Safety Alliance

- Sit on Community Safety Partnership
- Strong relationship with Council commissioners.



Examples of the work of VSF alliances

Housing and Homelessness Alliance

- Development of Council's Homelessness Strategy
- Strong relationship with Head of Housing.

Health and Wellbeing Alliance

- Led on Community Hubs development
- Community Gateway development
- Development of ICB grant fund allocation.

Mental Health Alliance

- Input into joint ICB/PH service design
- Successful tendering of ICB/PH £1million contract.

Disability Alliance

- £1million COMF funding
- Largest fleet of all-terrain chairs in UK
- £1.2m household income maximised in the last 9 months.



Linking with Cornwall VSF



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