

Sussex Health and Care Glossary (A–Z)

Term / Abbreviation Used	Meaning	Why it matters to VCSE organisations
Acute Trust / Acute Provider	An NHS organisation that provides hospital services, including emergency care, planned operations and specialist treatment.	Works with community and VCSE partners to support people before, during and after hospital care.
Asset Based Community Development (ABCD)	A community-building approach that focuses on identifying and mobilising a community's existing strengths - skills, associations, institutions, and physical assets - to drive sustainable, locally led development	An approach used by organisations to help people shift from feeling powerless to gaining confidence, capability and control over their lives.
Brighton and Hove City Council – (BHCC)	The local authority responsible for services including adult social care, children's services, housing, public health, planning and environmental services in Brighton & Hove.	A key partner in planning and delivering local health and wellbeing services.
Brighton and Hove Health & Social Care Network - (H&SCN)	Local VCSE network bringing together Community Works members and statutory partners interested in health and care.	Shares information, influences policy and strengthens collaboration.

By-and-For Organisation	A VCSE organisation led by and for the community it serves.	Plays an important role in reaching communities experiencing the greatest inequalities.
Commissioning	Planning, funding, purchasing and monitoring health and care services (for further detail see NHSE Commissioning Cycle).	Determines what services are funded and who delivers them.
Co-commissioning	An innovative approach to commissioning. Planning, funding and purchasing services are decided between statutory partners and VCSE leaders as equal partners	Ensures the VCSE sector has an equal say in decisions about which organisations are best placed to deliver local services
Commissioning Intentions	The NHS's published priorities for future commissioning and investment.	Helps VCSE organisations align their work with NHS priorities.
Community Development	Working alongside communities to build on local strengths, relationships and assets to improve health and wellbeing.	A core approach used by many VCSE organisations.
Community Trust	An NHS organisation providing care in the community, such as district nursing, therapies and children's services.	Works closely with neighbourhood teams and VCSE organisations.
Co-production	Designing and improving services together with people who use them, communities and partner organisations.	Ensures services reflect lived experience and community priorities.
Core20PLUS5	NHS England's approach to reducing health inequalities by	Helps target action where inequalities are greatest.

	focusing on the most disadvantaged communities and priority clinical areas.	
Devolved power to Sussex region – (Devolution)	Change to local government, moving to larger area “Strategic Authority” = has responsibility for 9 areas of activity across Sussex. Mayor to be elected 2028.	Could influence how health, care, economic development and public services are planned and funded across Sussex.
East Sussex County Council	The local authority responsible for services including adult social care, children's services, housing, public health, planning and environmental services in East Sussex	A key partner in planning and delivering local health and wellbeing services.
East Sussex VCSE Alliance	Membership currently 32 VCSE sector organisations. We are committed to promoting the importance of our sector, the unique reach and experience we bring, and the vital preventative role and potential that exists locally.	VCSE sector organisations come together with a commitment to speak as one voice. We believe that with the VCSE at the heart of life in East Sussex our citizens have better lives.
GP Practice - (GP)	Your local doctor's surgery, providing primary healthcare. Several GP practices usually work together as a Primary Care Network (PCN).	Often the first point of contact for health services.

Health & Care Assembly	The statutory joint committee between the NHS and local government. Comes together to formally agree the strategic direction for our system: NHS Sussex, Brighton & Hove City Council, East Sussex County Council and West Sussex County Council)	It agrees the strategic direction and facilitate joint action across a broad alliance of organisations to improve the outcomes, equality of access and patient experience of health and care services for all communities across Sussex.
Health and Wellbeing Board – (HWB)	A local partnership bringing together councils, the NHS and VCSE representatives to improve health and wellbeing in each Place.	Influences local priorities and strategies.
Health Forum	A local engagement forum that brings together residents, VCSE organisations, community groups and statutory partners to identify local health priorities, share insight and influence neighbourhood health planning.	Enables VCSE organisations to influence neighbourhood health through community insight and partnership working.
Health Hub	A local partnership, aligned to a Primary Care Network (PCN) footprint, that brings together health, care and VCSE organisations to coordinate neighbourhood health, improve access to	Creates opportunities to work with NHS Primary Care and community partners to improve access, prevention and health outcomes.

	services and support local communities.	
Health Inequalities	Unfair and avoidable differences in health experienced by different groups and communities.	Tackling these is a major priority across Sussex Health and Care. The VCSE sector alongside other partners in the ICS can play a role in tackling health inequalities
Integrated Care Board – (ICB)	The NHS organisation responsible for planning, funding and commissioning NHS services across Sussex (formerly the CCG).	Makes decisions about NHS investment and services.
Integrated Care Partnership – (ICP)	A statutory partnership that develops the long-term strategy for improving health and wellbeing across Sussex.	Brings together NHS, local government, VCSE and other partners.
Integrated Care System - (ICS)	The partnership of NHS organisations, councils, VCSE organisations and others working together to improve health and care across Sussex.	Sets the overall direction for health and care services.
Integrated Community Team / Integrated Neighbourhood Team – (ICT/INT) - INT is the new name increasingly being used for what Sussex has previously called an ICT.	A partnership of NHS, council and VCSE organisations working together to support people in a local neighbourhood.	One of the main opportunities for VCSE organisations to work alongside statutory partners.
ICT Leadership Group	An ICT Leadership Group is the local leadership forum for an Integrated Community Team (ICT) (or	Shape neighbourhood health, prevention and integrated care through local partnerships.

	Neighbourhood Health team), bringing together senior representatives from organisations delivering services within that neighbourhood.	
ICT Programme Board	Merged leadership-provider collaborative led) SPC MD, PCPC MD, NHS Trust leads, NMHT Prog. lead, Social care reps, SVLA , Sussex Hospice Alliance, Place based programme leads	Oversees neighbourhood health delivery, shaping VCSE involvement, partnership working and integrated care across Sussex.
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – (JSNA)	An assessment of the health and wellbeing needs of the local population.	Informs local priorities, commissioning and investment decisions.
Lived Experience	Knowledge gained through personal experience of health conditions or life circumstances.	Essential for designing better, more inclusive services.
Local Government Reorganisation - (LGR)	Changes to the structure of local councils, which may involve councils merging or changing responsibilities to create new unitary authorities. “Unitary” authorities to be confirmed which areas, not clear what happens with Brighton & Hove or District & Borough authorities as yet. (Government consultation is open at present)	May change how VCSE organisations engage with local government and how services are commissioned and delivered.

Local Infrastructure Organisation - (LIO)	A VCSE organisation that supports, develops and represents local voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations through training, advice, networking and strategic representation. Examples include Community Works (Brighton & Hove & Adure and Worthing), Community People (West Sussex), Rother Voluntary Action, Hastings Voluntary Action & Community Action (all East Sussex)	LIOs help strengthen the VCSE sector and connect organisations with funding, partnerships, and strategic opportunities.
Mental Health Trust	An NHS organisation providing mental health, learning disability and specialist services.	A key partner for many VCSE organisations.
Neighbourhood	A local area, usually serving around 30,000–50,000 people, where services work together to support communities.	This is where much of the day-to-day partnership working happens.
Neighbourhood Health	A national approach that brings health, care and community organisations together to improve health locally.	Places communities and the VCSE sector at the heart of improving health.
Neighbourhood Integrator	A role supporting organisations to work together across a neighbourhood.	Helps connect services, communities and partners to improve coordination.

Neighbourhood Mental Health Teams - (NMHTs)	A team of NHS, local authority and VCSE partners working together to provide joined-up mental health support within local communities. Neighbourhood Mental Health Teams aim to make it easier for people to access the right support, closer to home, through collaborative and person-centered approaches.	VCSE organisations are key partners in delivering community-based mental health support, helping people access services, recover, build resilience and connect with local communities. NMHTs create opportunities for the VCSE sector to shape and deliver more integrated mental health care.
NHS Surrey and Sussex – (NHS)	The publicly funded healthcare system in England, providing health services free at the point of use for most people. In Sussex, services are planned and commissioned by NHS Sussex and delivered by a range of NHS organisations.	The NHS is a key partner for VCSE organisations in improving health, wellbeing and reducing inequalities.
Neighbourhood health framework	The framework describes neighbourhood health as putting the person at the centre of how local services are organised and delivered – including GP and community services, urgent care and outpatients, as well as services commissioned by local authorities such as social care and public health.	The framework states that ICBs and local authorities should have 'due regard' to the Civil Society Covenant's principles of partnership working when designing neighbourhood health. This is a formal lever for the VCCE sector to hold systems to account and to demand meaningful co-design

Primary Care Network – (PCN)	A group of neighbouring GP practices working together with community partners.	Often works closely with neighbourhood teams and VCSE organisations.
Primary Care Provider Collaborative	A unified voice for Sussex Primary Care, linking all partners working within Neighbourhood Health. Focus is on delivering the ICB Commissioning Intentions, making primary care improvements and system-wide developments	Connects partners together, including VCSE sector. Hosts the Neighbourhood Integrator roles within each ICT, that will facilitate partners working together, including linking to VCSE organisations.
Place	One of the three local areas within Sussex: Brighton & Hove, East Sussex or West Sussex.	Many decisions about local services are made at Place level.
Place Delivery Group	Oversees delivery of Place Plans and Neighbourhood Health.	Opportunity to influence how services are integrated locally, through VCSE representation and Integrated Community Teams
Population Health	Population health' holds that there are a wide range of determinants of health and wellbeing, many of which lie beyond the reach of health and care services, that determine the health of a population.	An emphasis on reducing inequalities in health as well as improving health overall is core to population health approaches
Population Health Management	Population health management (PHM) improves population health through data-driven planning and the delivery of proactive care to	PHM uses , both healthcare data from clinical systems and non-healthcare data from sources including local authority , social services and the VSCE sector

	optimise health outcomes.	
Prevention	Helping people stay healthy and preventing illness before it develops or worsens.	VCSE organisations play a vital role through early intervention, community support and tackling the wider determinants of health.
Provider	Any organisation that delivers health or care services.	Many VCSE organisations are providers of commissioned services.
Strategic Representative	A VCSE representative who provides expertise on a specific theme or community.	Ensures specialist knowledge informs health and care decisions.
Sussex Health and Care Partnership - (SHCP)	The partnership of NHS organisations, local authorities, VCSE organisations and other partners working together to improve health, wellbeing and care across Sussex. It is the collective partnership supporting the Integrated Care System.	Provides the strategic framework for collaboration and is where many system-wide priorities and transformation programmes are developed.
Sussex Hospice Alliance	Partnership of Sussex hospices.	Supports collaboration on palliative and end-of-life care.
Sussex Neighbourhood Health Alliance	Strategy & Assurance Contracted members - SCFT, SPFT, PCPC, ESHT MoU members - SVLA, Hospice Alliance & Local Authorities	Drives neighbourhood health, prevention and integrated community care.
Social Prescribing – (SP)	Connecting people to community activities and support to improve health and wellbeing.	Often delivered in partnership with VCSE organisations.
Sussex VCSE Leaders Alliance – (SVLA)	The strategic leadership body representing the VCSE	Ensures the VCSE sector has a voice in system-wide decision-making.

	sector within Sussex Health and Care.	
Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector – (VCSE)	Charities, community groups, social enterprises and voluntary organisations.	A strategic partner in Sussex Health and Care.
Wider Determinants of Health	The social, economic and environmental factors in which people are born ,grow, live , work and age and they account for about 80 % of an individual's health and wellbeing outcomes	Many VCSE organisations work directly to address these underlying causes of poor health.
West Sussex County Council (WCC)	he local authority responsible for services including adult social care, children's services, housing, public health, planning and environmental services in West Sussex	A key partner in planning and delivering local health and wellbeing services.