

APPENDIX 1 - VCS Grants Impact and Outcomes

6.1 The following table summarises the findings from the review work conducted by officers:

Name	Evidence of identified need	Purpose of WLDC VCS core funded activity	Corporate plan 19-23	Social impact	Economic return on investment for
Citizens Advice	<p>West Lindsey residents need accessible advice and support for issues they face, including financial and related challenges.</p> <p>Nine of West Lindsey's 52 neighbourhoods are within the top 20% most income deprived neighbourhoods in England.</p> <p>A total of 11,854 people, or 12.3% of the district's population, are classed by the Office for National Statistics as income-deprived (classed as out of work or on low-earnings).</p> <p>In the most deprived neighbourhood (within Gainsborough South-West ward), this figure rises to 45.3%. ¹</p>	<p>1. Advice and support to residents in West Lindsey wishing to access advice and support commensurate with services offered through the Citizens Advice.</p> <p>2. The provision of face-to-face services through existing premises.</p> <p>3. The provision of telephone services accessible to West Lindsey residents.</p> <p>4. To work in partnership with the Council to support joint projects and delivery such as surgery support in West Lindsey.</p> <p>5. Funding to be split between Citizens Advice Lindsey and Citizens Advice Lincoln for services provided to West Lindsey residents at a percentage agreed between the two organisations.</p>	<p>- Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents.</p> <p>- Greater quality of life and levels of independence among vulnerable residents.</p> <p>- Reduced levels of poverty and deprivation.</p>	<p>1,576 clients were supported with as many as 7,303 issues.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 41% of issues related to help with benefits, Tax Credits and Universal Credit • 30% of issues related to help with debt and financial capability • 50% of clients had a disability or long term health condition. <p>During January to March 2022, CA dealt with a 50% increase in calls compared to the same quarter the previous year, in part due to Household Support Fund queries.</p>	<p>For every £1 of local authority funding, £1.45 in fiscal benefit to the local authority² including through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing homelessness • maximising the income for those we help which prevents more costly intervention <p>In addition, the core services provided by CA means a reduction in calls to WLDC customer services, benefits or communities teams.</p>

¹ Index of Deprivation (2019)

² Calculated by Citizen's Advice

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The Conservation Volunteers	<p>Green space management WLDC owns 4 green spaces that require management:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mercer Wood • Pit Hills Plantation • Theaker Avenue Nature Area • Thonock Meadow <p>Mental health in West Lindsey. By 2035, 2,730 residents (8.3%) aged 65 and over are predicted to suffer from depression, with 897 (2.7%) of these predicted to suffer with severe depression.³</p> <p>In West Lindsey, the rate of hospital admissions as a result of self-harm is 157 (per 100,000 of the population). At 9.1 (per 100,000), the suicide rate is in line with the national average. Volunteering in nature addresses multiple needs and is evidence-based.⁴</p>	<p>1. Maintain Council owned woodlands and green spaces with volunteer led activity. Sites and work schedules to be agreed and maintained in the on-going delivery plan.</p> <p>2. Provide conservation volunteering opportunities for all sector of society with a particular focus on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2.1 People with health issues 2.2 The educationally disadvantaged 2.3 The unemployed 2.4 The isolated, vulnerable and/or disabled <p>3. Promote local conservation and volunteering through relevant publicity, marketing activity and social media.</p> <p>4. Support the Council on other environmental projects as appropriate.</p>	Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents.	<p>TCV maintain 4 sites for WLDC</p> <p>Over 18 months, TCV completed 650 volunteer days and 3900 volunteer hours.</p> <p>Volunteers report various outcomes including improved mental health, increased physical fitness and reduced isolation. The impact on well-being of TCV programmes is evidence-based.</p>	<p>It is estimated that the cost of providing core support to TCV including management of WLDC green spaces is at least 5 times less costly than standard green space contractors which would be required in the absence of TCV.⁵ Therefore for every £1 spent with TCV, there is an estimated fiscal saving of £4 on green space management.</p> <p>The estimated value of the volunteer hours contributed to West Lindsey by TCV over 18 months is £37,050.⁶</p>

³ State of the District 2020 <https://www.west-lindsey.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-02/State%20of%20the%20District%20Report%202020.pdf> (Accessed November 2022)

⁴ Smyth N (2022) Increased Wellbeing following Engagement in a Group Nature-Based Programme: The Green Gym Programme Delivered by the Conservation Volunteers

⁵ Based on a quotation for Ashcroft Green Footpath. TCV quoted £5000. Other quotes ranged from £25,000-£35,000.

⁶ This is calculated utilising minimum wage at April 2022 – £9.50.

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Lincoln Area Dial-a-ride	<p>West Lindsey residents need accessible and affordable transport options, in particular those with chronic and long-term health conditions, people living with disabilities and older people.</p> <p>West Lindsey has an ageing population with an average age of 47.⁷</p> <p>Nationally, one-third of people living with a disability or long-term health condition do not access public, commercial and leisure goods or services and one-fifth experience regular difficulties accessing public transport, a problem that is particularly prevalent in rural areas.⁸</p> <p>By 2030, 4,274 adults in West Lindsey will have a moderate physical disability or sensory impairment; 1,319 adults will have a serious disability or sensory impairment, and 1,237 adults are predicted to have a learning disability.</p>	<p>1. To support the continued provision of the Dial-a-Ride service.</p> <p>2. The Dial-a-Ride service provides an accessible and affordable door to door transport for people in Lincoln and the surrounding area who are not able to access public transport. Service users include the elderly and those with a physical or mental disability that prevents them from using public transport.</p> <p>3. The main objectives of the Dial-a-Ride service are to improve the quality of life and promote the social inclusion and independence of those individuals in the coverage area that are disadvantaged through age and/or disability.</p>	<p>Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents.</p>	<p>Dial-a-ride runs a fleet of 9 minivans – 8 of which are adapted for wheelchair use.</p> <p>Main measurement of impact are case studies as outlined case studies in this report.</p>	<p>The cost of utilising dial-a-ride by a service user is £9 when the equivalent taxi ride would be £28. This makes transport generally affordable.</p>

⁷ State of the district 2020

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Gainsborough Adventure Playground Association (GAPA)	<p>Children need places to learn, play and thrive in particular in the most deprived parts of our district.</p> <p>Gainsborough East has the highest child poverty in West Lindsey at 30.1%.⁹</p> <p>Opportunities for play, learning and physical activity in green space are crucial for child development and the prevention of future youth and young adult behavioural issues.</p>	<p>To use funding for the following areas of work and delivery:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A safe environment for children of school age to undertake adventurous play 2. A structured play environment to assist child development, learning and experiences 3. Positive parenting experiences through family activities and events 4. Opportunities for children to make a positive contribution to their community 5. Pre-foundation stage learning and outreach activities 	<p>Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents.</p> <p>Increased education and training opportunities for young people.</p> <p>Increased physical activity across the residents of the district.</p>	<p>500 children on the GAPA register</p> <p>During school holidays, GAPA are seeing up to 65 children per day</p> <p>The majority of children are between the ages of 5-11</p> <p>Critical early prevention for criminal behaviour and ASB in the Gainsborough East Ward.</p> <p>Site for training and development of Gainsborough Young people to get them into childcare work</p>	<p>A detailed SROI would need to be undertaken to calculate the long-term economic investment of child development in this ward.</p> <p>Any reduction of GAPA services is likely to result in increased expenditure on ASB, crime and disorder and other related issues.</p>

⁹ State of the District 2020

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Voluntary Centre Services	<p>There are thousands of charities and community groups (2517 registered charities) in West Lindsey that require funding support, volunteers and governance advice.</p> <p>Volunteering is recognised as an important contributor to physical and mental health and well-being.</p> <p>In the 12 months to December 2019, the unemployment rate in West Lindsey stood at 3.8% which equates to 1,800 adults.¹⁰</p>	<p>1. Volunteer Centre management and development</p> <p>2. Provide support to the local voluntary and community sector (VCS)</p>	<p>Greater quality of life and levels of independence among vulnerable residents.</p> <p>Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents.</p> <p>Increased education and training opportunities for young people.</p>	<p>During 2021-2022, VCS supported over 200 volunteers to volunteer in the district.</p> <p>During 2021-22, VCS supported around 130 local organisations to develop and deliver their services to West Lindsey residents</p> <p>The funding of core services enables VCS to access funding and deliver other services with critical social impact including:</p> <p>Facilitating 459 West Lindsey residents to benefit from social Prescribing support services</p>	<p>VCS reduces:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Requests for support by VCS organisations on the communities team. • Increases the sustainability of the voluntary sector, reducing pressure on public services.

¹⁰ State of the District 2020

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West Lindsey Churches Festival	<p>West Lindsey churches are an important part of the heritage and communities of West Lindsey.</p> <p>Churches across West Lindsey were closed during the pandemic and were unable to raise income.</p> <p>A reduction in congregations is seeing churches in West Lindsey struggle to maintain their buildings.</p> <p>The festival promotes people to visit, engage with and support their local churches as important community and heritage assets.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To increase awareness of Church and Heritage Tourism in West Lindsey 2. To encourage additional out of county visitors 3. To promote wider usage of all local tourism facilities during the festival dates and encourage repeat visitors to the area 4. To engage more people from the local community to enter and celebrate the history and significance of churches 5. To promote the festival as an example of good practice regionally and nationally 	Improved health & wellbeing across the district's residents	<p>In 2022, the Festival raised £24,000.</p> <p>There were 7642 visitors to our local churches and 656 volunteers.</p> <p>Over the 2 weeks of the festival, there were 754 visits to churches from people outside of West Lindsey postcodes. These included visitors from Greece, Switzerland, Canada and Australia.</p>	<p>WLDC receives grant funding requests from funding for church repairs and it is estimated that these will increase.</p> <p>Enabling churches to fundraise for themselves and build fundraising skills reduces requests to WLDC for financial support as well as fundraising support.</p>