

Bassetlaw VCSE Grants Community Engagement

Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the current status of the Bassetlaw grants?

All recipients of grants have received an extension until October of the current year. A six-month extension was awarded for the majority of grants and a twelve-month extension for two grants aligned with different pathway model development within the wider ICB and ICS system. Any decisions about future investment will apply after this period, within the current financial year.

2. Why was there a need to revisit the investment into VCSE organisations?

Funding for the NHS in Nottingham and Nottinghamshire has gone up again this year but so has demand and the cost of providing services – so all NHS organisations continue to need to make savings in order to live within our means and deliver on the Government’s expectations on access to NHS care. This includes reviewing all spend from the NHS and that includes these grant funding arrangements to the VCSE sector in Bassetlaw.

3. What was the outcome of the paper submitted to the ICB earlier this year regarding Bassetlaw grants?

The outcome was that a six-month extension was awarded for the majority of grants and a twelve-month extension for two specific grants. A full review is now taking place in relation to the 10 grants that were awarded a six-month extension.

4. What organisations are affected by the review?

The review covers the following voluntary organisations which currently receive NHS-funded community grants:

- Bassetlaw Action Centre
- Bassetlaw Community Voluntary Service
- Bluebell Wood Children’s Hospice
- Barnsley Premier Leisure
- Citizens Advice North Nottinghamshire
- Royal Voluntary Service
- Children’s Bereavement Service
- In Sam’s Name
- Muddy Fork
- The Sleep Charity

5. What proposals are currently being put forward?

At this stage, no final proposals have been made. All options are still being considered. The ICB is still gathering feedback, and this engagement will help feed into the proposals as well as a full EQIA (Equality and Quality Impact Assessment) to assess the consequences of any decisions. The ICB is collecting public views, service evidence, and performance data and avoiding premature proposals until a well-rounded understanding is achieved. We encourage public input to shape future proposals.

6. Are these service reviews only happening in Bassetlaw?

No. The ICB is reviewing a range of services across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire, as part of a broader integrated care approach, aiming to ensure best use of limited resources. All services are being assessed for alignment with the Integrated Care Strategy, focusing on prevention, integration, and equity.

As a result, the ICB must review every service line to ensure value for money. The ICB is allocating the resources in the places that need them most, thinking about how we could do this differently and ensuring that the services deliver the very best possible value for money for the NHS.

7. Who is supporting the engagement piece of work?

NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB Engagement Team are supporting the engagement piece of work together with colleagues from our Place Based Partnership.

8. Is there an opportunity for further questions and discussion regarding the grants?

Four online public briefing sessions have been arranged on the following dates:

- Friday 16 May 2025 from 2pm
- Monday 19 May 2025 from 12.30pm
- Wednesday 22 May 2025 from 6.30pm
- Tuesday 27 May 2025 from 2pm

All sessions have been recorded. If you wish to submit any questions which were not answered or are not contained in this document then please submit these to the engagement team at: nnicb-nn.engagement@nhs.net or call Katie Swinburn on 07385 360071 or text.

Topics such as the purpose and potential impact of the grants have been covered during these sessions, and participants have had the opportunity to voice their concerns or seek clarifications in the Q&A sections. These interactive sessions are designed to foster transparent communication and ensure that all stakeholders have a comprehensive understanding of the review.

9. What engagement activities are planned or have taken place?

You can get involved in a number of ways:

[Complete our survey by clicking here.](#)

- By sharing feedback over the telephone by ringing 07385 360071.
- Attending community group meetings by those most impacted by the proposed changes.
- Attending the organisations involved in the review to understand the experiences of service users.
- Attend one of our online public meetings:
 1. Friday 16 May 2025 from 2pm - 3pm
 2. Monday 19 May 2025 from 12.30pm - 1.30pm
 3. Wednesday 22 May 2025 from 6.30pm – 7.30pm
 4. Tuesday 27 May 2025 from 2pm - 3pm

[Click here to register your attendance at an online session.](#)

Further details of the engagement can be found on our website: [Current and Previous Engagement & Consultations - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB](#)

Following feedback from our stakeholders an additional evening session was put in place to take place on Wednesday 21 May 2025.

10. Are decisions based on the number of survey responses?

No. While the number of responses is noted, quality of feedback is equally, if not more, important.

The ICB will consider:

- case studies and testimonials from VCSE colleagues
- Feedback from community events and group visits
- One-to-one and group discussions, including anonymous telephone interviews.
- Ongoing data analysis and qualitative insights.

11. How can I submit feedback and case studies on the services included in this engagement?

You are encouraged to submit feedback and case studies to help illustrate the impact of the services involved in the engagement. and explain the services. These contributions are valuable for shaping understanding and informing decisions.

You can share via:

- Email: nnicb-nn.engagement@nhs.net
- Phone/Text: 07385 360071

The ICB is very open to visiting organisations to observe services and understand their impact. If you know of any groups or individuals who should be involved, or if there are communities without internet access, the NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB Engagement Team is happy to arrange telephone or face-to-face conversations.

12. Has consideration been given to the impact and overall cost to the NHS if these services no longer continue?

Yes. The ICB is committed to understanding the broader implications of any service changes. This includes working with colleagues across services to assess potential impacts, using citizen stories and pathway analysis to estimate costs and consequences and ensuring that any proposals reflect a full understanding of service implications.

13. What are the risks to the VCSE Sector not only in Bassetlaw but across Nottingham and Nottinghamshire?

Due to recent changes in National Insurance, National Minimum Wage, and National Living Wage rates, GPs and local health and care providers, including smaller entities and the voluntary sector, may face increased financial strain. This could lead to contracts being handed back, non-delivery of services, and practice closures, impacting service maintenance and local healthcare sustainability.

14. If funding is reduced or removed, are other funding sources available?

The ICB is committed to working with Place-based partnerships, local authorities, CVS, and other providers. Organisations are encouraged to join the VCSE Alliance to stay informed about funding options.

15. What other services are provided and available for citizens to access?

[Notts Help Yourself](#) has information about services that are available to citizens living in Nottinghamshire.

16. Where has the information been shared?

A comprehensive communications and engagement plan has been prepared together with a stakeholder mapping exercise to identify key community groups, networks and professional colleagues to participate.

We have reached out through various channels, including local media, social media platforms, and direct emails to stakeholders. Additionally, posters have been distributed to maximise awareness and participation.

17. Can the engagement period be extended to reach more people?

The ICB want to hear from as wide a group of people possible. The intention is to work to the current set timetable. However, if more information is needed, the timeline may be reconsidered. Suggestions for better community outreach for specific groups are welcomed and will be acted upon where possible.

18. What are the next steps after the engagement?

The ICB aims to share the outcomes of this engagement by the end of July. Updates on timelines will be provided as the process progresses.

A full engagement report will be produced at the end of this engagement period. This report will be submitted for consideration at the ICB Committee Meetings. A copy of the final report will be published on our website and shared with those who have participated.

The collected information will be crucial in evaluating the impact of the proposed changes and ensuring that the voices of the community are heard. All data will be meticulously analysed to identify key themes and significant insights.