

## Local Resilience Action Plan

	Action	Output/ Outcome	Lead	Timescale	Progress	Comments
<b>1. Research and Assessment</b>						
1.1	Complete analysis for VCSA Recession Survey	Develop an understanding of the impact of the recession on the VCS in Shropshire.	VCSA Coordinator	May 2009	Green	On original action plan 7.4 -Complete
1.2	Hold VCSA Recession Workshop	Further understand the impact of the recession and identify actions for the Local Resilience Action Plan.	NAVCA	June 2009	Green	Complete
1.3	Complete 2 <sup>nd</sup> Recession Survey and update LRAP	Assess how the impacts of the recession have developed and changed over time.	VCSA Coordinator	May 2010		Add to action plan
1.4	Maintain links with the Economic Recession Committee and WAG in order to collect and report recession statistics.	Up to date information concerning local circumstances to help VCS groups and organisations respond to emerging issues.	VCSA Coordinator	Ongoing		Add to action plan – (representation needed on sustainable communities block)
1.5	Establish links to the Community Profiling work being carried out by the Council's research team.	Up to date information concerning local circumstances to help VCS groups and organisations respond to emerging issues.	VCSA Coordinator	Ongoing		Add to action plan
1.6	Undertake a VCS Survey designed to gather data highlighting the value of the VCS in Shropshire.	Assist partnership working and input to evidence base work used for key Strategies.	VCSA Board, FOI and Coordinator	March 2010		Add to action plan – (opportunity to contribute to JSNA established)

1.7	Use annual meeting to identify priority VCSA issues and concerns.	Assess changing issues, needs and circumstances.	VCSA Board	March 2010		In current plan 1.3
1.8	Work to collect national and regional information and to share this with the VCSA.	Put Shropshire's situation into context with regional/national picture.	VCSA Chair /Coordinator	Ongoing		Add to action plan

Note: Progress column and comments to be updated as actions are implemented and the LRAP is monitored.

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## 2. Communication and Involvement

2.1	Continue to develop VCSA Assembly membership	Improve dissemination of information across the Sector	VCSA Coordinator	Ongoing		In current action plan 2.10
2.2	Maximise use of VCSA information sharing tools – Website etc.	Improve dissemination of information across the Sector	VCSA Coordinator	March 2010		In current action plan 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 2.5, 2.6
2.3	Develop VCSA promotional materials to develop membership.	Improve dissemination of information across the Sector	VCSA Coordinator	March 2010		Not specifically in current plan – but being developed in response to 2.10, 2.2 & 5.4
2.4	Further develop the VCSA Database	Maximise ability to undertake targeted information sharing.	VCSA Coordinator	March 2010		In current action plan 1.7,1.8
2.5	Promote joint working and partnership opportunities.	Encourage development of support and joint working arrangements.	VCSA Board FOI	Ongoing		In current action plan 4.6, 6.7
2.6	Publish information on good practice and different models of	Encourage development of support and joint working within the VCS	VCSA Board Coordinator	Ongoing		Add to action plan

	joint working.	and with local partners.				
2.7	Investigate methods of improving signposting.	Improve dissemination of information and access to services.	VCSA Coordinator	December 2009		Add to plan
2.8	Recognise that improving performance against NI7 may help the VCS respond to the recession.	Strengthening partnership working and maintaining links with partnership bodies.	VCSA Board	Ongoing		June board mtg received & responded to report - additional action?
2.9	Identify link with mental health leads and work together to determine method of sharing information and referral process.	Improve referrals for people with low level mental health needs and relieve pressure on non specialist VCS groups and organisations.	VCSA Chair and Coordinator	November 2009		Item has been put in newsletter highlighting access to counselling via GP
2.10	Work with Infrastructure Partnership- training to support people with multiple needs.	Improve referrals processes and relieve pressure on non specialist VCS groups and organisations.	VCSA Chair and Coordinator	March 2010		Add to plan
2.11	Communicate Shropshire issues at a regional level.	Influence regional and national policy.	VCSA Chair	Ongoing		Not specifically in action plan – but part of assembly remit
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### 3. Representation

3.1	Maintain close links to the countywide Economic Committee work via representation on the Leadership Board	Ensure sector recession issues are understood by other partners. Influence local Strategy Development.	VCSA Chair and Vice Chair	Ongoing		Part of current work plan 3.1
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3.2	Via representation on LAA Block Boards to ensure influence within local Strategy Development	Strengthen sector voice and ensure sector recession issues are understood by other partners.	VCSA Board reps	Ongoing		Part of current plan 3.2
3.3	Maintain ongoing VCSA representation at the Worklessness Action Group/sub groups	Maintain strong VCS involvement in work to respond to the recession in Shropshire.	VCSA Vice Chair	Ongoing	Green	Established representation No further action required
3.4	Encourage ongoing VCSA involvement and support within Neighbourhood Employment and Skills Plan areas.	Maintain strong VCS involvement in work to respond to the recession at a very local level/ in targeted communities.	VCSA Reps – inc. Anne Seymour	Ongoing		See comment to 3.6
3.5	Maintain VCS input into and delivery of the Connections to Opportunities programme.	Maintain strong VCS involvement in work to respond to the recession in Shropshire.	VCSA Vice Chair and other VCSA members	Ongoing		Part of current action plan 7.5
3.6	Via representation work to achieve understanding of recession issues in all Area Partnership Areas.	Keep up to date with recession issues as they develop and change over time.	VCSA Board	Quarterly monitoring		Feed back from reps is standing item on board agenda – consider putting recession issues as standing item to remind?
3.7	Feed emerging VCSA issues into the VCSA Board via FOI.	Keep up to date with recession issues as they develop and change over time.	VCSA Board/ FOI	Quarterly meetings		Standing item on board agenda – amalgamate with 3.6

3.8	Consider links between the LRAP and VCSA Annual Action Plan	Recognise that many of the actions necessary to respond to the recession are core activities.	VCSA Board	Ongoing	Green	September board paper – no further action required
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#### 4. Infrastructure support and volunteering

4.1	Promote Community Council led collaboration event - June 25th	Maximise VCS input into event, sharing of information and sector support.	VCSA Coordinator	June 2009	Green	Complete
4.2	Promote support being offered via the Infrastructure Partnership and individual organisations such as the Community Council.	Maximise opportunities for VCS to gain support.	VCSA Coordinator via email updates	Ongoing		On current work plan to make max. use of e-mail bulletins etc.. 2.4, 2.5
4.3	Work to support the Community Council's activities to train and share information with trustees/Board members.	Indirectly support responses to concerns highlighted through the recession workshop.	All	Ongoing		Add to plan
4.4	Provide appropriate support to volunteering in Shropshire e.g. Generations Together Programme	Indirectly support responses to concerns highlighted through the recession workshop.	VCSA Board and Coordinator	Ongoing		Add to plan
4.5	Access volunteering information gathered via NI6 and report to the VCSA Board.	Indirectly support responses to concerns highlighted through the recession workshop.	VCSA Board and Coordinator	September 2009		Add to plan - Full information not released yet

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<b>5. Compact development</b>						
5.1	Undertake Compact consultation via VCSA Forums of Interest.	Respond to concerns and improve joint working with Shropshire Council.	VCSA Board and FOI	By November 2009		In current action plan
5.2	Support the identification of Compact Champions.	Respond to concerns and improve joint working with Shropshire Council.	VCSA Board	By November 2009		Add to plan – under 'Compact'
5.3	Support the establishment of a Compact disputes and resolution process/mechanism.	Respond to concerns over VCS funding and other issues and improve joint working with Shropshire Council.	VCSA Board	By November 2009		In current action plan 6.4
5.4	Provide guidance concerning commissioning and the VCS at the local level.	Respond to concerns over VCS funding and improve joint working with Shropshire Council.	VCSA Board and Coordinator	March 2009		In current action plan 6.9
5.5	Ensure appropriate funding news is shared with the VCSA.	Respond to increased concerns over funding by improving information sharing.	VCSA Coordinator	Ongoing		In current action plan 6.5
5.6	Attend funding meetings in order to feed information back to the sector.	Respond to increased concerns over funding by improving information sharing.	VCSA Coordinator	Ongoing		In current action plan 6.5 & 6.6
5.7	Provide coordination support for consortia bids and collaborative working.	Support joint working as necessary in order to maximise opportunities to build resilience.	VCSA Board	Ongoing		In action plan 6.7
5.8	Develop a system to advertise procurement and tendering opportunities to the VCS.	Respond to concerns over VCS funding and improve joint working with Shropshire Council.	VCS Board and Coordinator	December 2009		In current action plan 6.8

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## **Implementation of the Local Resilience Action Plan**

### **Responsibilities and Lead Roles**

There are close links between the Local Resilience Action Plan and the VCSA Annual Action Plan. Some of the activities necessary to build resilience within the sector closely relate to the core activities of the VCSA Board and its Forums of Interest. Other activities are more specific with a strong link to the work taking place to develop and implement the new Compact.

There is also a close link to the Beating the Recession Workshop held by the Community Council and work will take place to ensure the Local Resilience Action Plan reflects and complements the outcomes of that work.

### **Monitoring and Evaluation**

The ongoing monitoring of the Local Resilience Action Plan is important in order to ensure the plan is implemented and updated as issues change and pressures upon the VCS are identified. It is recommended that a separate section on the annual action plan is created to highlight actions specific to the LRAP. The annual action plan is currently monitored quarterly via the VCSA Board. The

# Appendix 1

## Recession Resources

### **NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action)**

NAVCA has a wealth of information concerning the recession on its website at:

<http://www.navca.org.uk/localvs/recession/key/>

### **NCVO (National Council for Voluntary Organisations)**

The NCVO website has a section with [tips on how to survive the downturn](#):

<http://www.ncvo-vol.org.uk/downturn.asp>

<http://www.3s4.org.uk/>

### **ACEVO (Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations)**

ACEVO has information on supporting the Third Sector in the Recession on its website visit:

<http://www.recessionsupport.org.uk/main/>

### **Development Trust Association**

The Development Trust Association has an early warning guide to help VCS groups and organisations assess how the recession is impacting upon them:

<http://www.dta.org.uk/resources/publications/earlywarningguide>

### **RAWM (Regional Action West Midlands)**

Regional information concerning the recession is available from:

[http://www.rawm.org.uk/page/our\\_work/category/projects/call\\_to\\_action\\_a\\_third\\_sector\\_response\\_to\\_the\\_economic\\_downturn](http://www.rawm.org.uk/page/our_work/category/projects/call_to_action_a_third_sector_response_to_the_economic_downturn)

## **Shropshire Council**

Shropshire Council has published recession information in the form of advice for Shropshire businesses and advice for Shropshire residents. For details and links to a range of information sources visit:

<http://www.shropshire.gov.uk/needalittlehelp.nsf>

## **Appendix 2**

### **Acknowledgements**

With particular thanks to:

National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA)

Rural Community Council of Shropshire

Shropshire Partnership:

- Economic Recession Committee
- Worklessness Action Group
- Shropshire Business Board

Shropshire Council

- Learning, Employment and Training Services
- Shropshire Council's Fairer Charging Welfare & Income Team