

Organisation	1. Do you agree with the vision of this strategy?	2. Do you think the following objectives will deliver the overall aim?			3. Have the right actions been identified to support the delivery for each of the objectives?			4. Any other comments on the strategy	Response to comment
		2.1 Deepen Partnerships	2.2 Build Capacity	2.3 Enable participation	3.1 Deepen Partnerships	3.2 Build Capacity	3.3 Enable participation		
Harrow Gingerbread	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	Our organisation is quite small and we would hope that we could link up with a larger organisation for the commissioning and delivery of services. HAVS as a representative of voluntary groups should be strengthened and developed with the possibility of allocating small grants to voluntary groups. It is a good idea to improve the management of grant funding auditing of small grants will not be cost effective. Larger and smaller organisations working together on projects. Training should be an extremely important part of this aim and priority should be given to the training of a significant number of leaders. Joint bidding should be an important priority of small organisations may close down if they are not given help in the commissioning of services.	The strategy identifies actions to facilitate joint bidding and collaborations and the training of leaders. It also acknowledges the need to strengthen HAVS. Improvements to the grants process have been implemented this year.
Community Link Up	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES	YES	Prefer On-Line rather than meeting - based networking. Select a compact champion who is well known in the Voluntary Sector, available any time. Fundraiser must have experience of larger lottery bids of 300K or more. The compact champion must have the confidence to tell Harrow Council when they are failing to deliver. Well written, but some of it is very repetitive,	Comments are acknowledged and will be considered as part of the implementation of the strategy
Ashiana Charitable Trust	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	Although the overall strategy is correct and can be delivered in partnership with the third sector, many issues have been identified as the process moves forward. The council will need to ensure that they have appropriate level of resources, both people and financial to ensure full implementation of the strategy. We believe it will work but need to re-emphasise strong working relationship with appropriate third sector organisations. The Federation Network idea looks interesting and would like to see what's involved.	The comments are acknowledged and will inform the implementation. The council has identified resources to implement the action plan
Asian Foundation for Help	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		
Huntington's Disease Association	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES		YES		
Citizens Advice Bureau	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	YES	I am aware of the likely pressures on council spending over the next CSR period. However, the third sector uses volunteers which add value & can deliver cheaper services than council staff - given, for example, the huge pension costs. I feel therefore that when considering cuts these should first fall on council provided services, not the third sector which is already managing on a shoestring. For example, we are the lowest funded CAB in the whole of London - there is simply no room for further savings - it is time to invest in the third sector & the strategy offers us an opportunity to do this. Each paid member of staff here can support about 7-8 volunteers, so bringing in around 112 hours a week of services to the public for the price of a 28 hour a week post. That's value!	The Council recognises the need to identify strategic Third Sector service providers and this will be given further consideration.

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Headstone Residents Association	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	NO	<p>Whats wanted from the council is fewer pie-in-the-sky visions like this and more concrete ideas for getting in touch with local voluntary organisations and persuading them that there is a worthwhile project behind all this. The smaller organisations, the ones the council must have contact with, to get to hard-to-reach residents, simply dont have the time to spend reading this kind of thing. Unless the council and HAVS have the willingness and capacity to make judgments and take responsibility (nowhere apparent in this document) only the most vocal local groups will benefit. As before, the likelihood is that the most vocal groups will benefit. Perhaps we could see some examples of recent contracts with ways in which they could have benefitted from Third Sector involvement? Residents are already unhappy with the current compact between the council and businesses. Nothing in this document addresses that. Commission a study, Conduct a feasibility study, Establish a new body, Establish a delivery group - More money to be spent on studies by expensive consultancy firms? Yet more groups and bodies producing more strategy documents and compacts?</p> <p>Why not a small, dedicated team within the council who will run this from start to finish, be responsible for ensuring that the council and HAVS do what they are already supposed to be doing in supporting small local voluntary groups. After the 18 months we understand it has taken to produce this document, we would expect the council to know about the voluntary organisations in Harrow; who they represent or serve, what their aims are, what they can or could do, how they are funded. Instead, all it can tell us is that it doesn't know. The programme Area is a list of 28 tasks, mostly internal to the council. It is of very little interest to volunteers/residents, except in that it helps to explain why everything takes so long. The strategy is little more than a plan to make a plan. Many of the tasks have no clear outcome which can be readily measured. Just over a year ago, Harrow Council made a commitment to deal with the public in plain English. Its time for the council to take this seriously, otherwise any real idea of public consultation will be empty.</p>	<p>The Council has identified actions that will improve transparency in the way it relates to the Third Sector. The strategy reflections actions that are both internal and external to the council. Point taken on plain English - we will try to do better.</p>
Consultation workshop								<p>The actions in the Deepening partnerships sections relate mainly to the compact, the outcomes are not clear.</p> <p>There should be further identification of strategic groups. There is a lot of jargon. In section on capacity building it was suggested that action 9 is moved to section one and that this should be undertaken by an external organisation. It was suggested that similar actions should be grouped together and undertaken in a phased approach. Council to identify key partnership priorities for working with the Third Sector. Actions 13 and 11 are linked and action 12 is a subset of number 13. Actions need clear outcomes. Role of HAVS – will it change to represent the whole sector.</p> <p>Strategy needs to be clearer that it is about the whole sector. Need to strengthen the existing consortium. Harrow in Business should be added as one of the leads for action 23. Action 26 – larger groups should support and enable small groups through their core funding.</p>	<p>The Council recognises the need to identify strategic Third Sector service providers and this will be given further consideration. The strategy acknowledges the need to strengthen the role of HAVS and the consortium. Reference to Harrow in Business added as suggested. Action 9 likely to be undertaken externally.</p>

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VCS Forum								<p>Would like to see it building capacity and dealing with the issue of premises so organisations can access suitable premises, sharing where necessary. Premises for regular meetings. Long-term funding - uncertainty of funding an issue. One year funding for projects means that organisations cannot plan for more than 1 year. Should acknowledge that different groups have different needs. Strategy needs to be owned by all partners but driven by voluntary and community organisations. There needs to be respect for us and our contribution needs to be valued. Strategy needs to address issue of self sufficiency. Promotion of HAVS as the central information conduit for VCS but some raised the question of whether HAVS was capable of meeting the needs of all organisations. As 3rd sector is large and diverse needs to be an effective and strong method of representation. Success of strategy depends on strong HAVS but no indication of how this to be achieved. Need to deal with out of pocket expenses. Strategy is driven by council and organisations dependent on council funding and does not capture the voice of small organisations or BME organisations.</p>	<p>A decision has been taken that this will be a council strategy and it is hoped that HSP partners will adopt the strategy in the future. Strategy acknowledges the need to strengthen the role of HAVS. Sentence added to para 1.1 about groups representing specific clients.</p>
Mike Coker								<p>Should it be LBH strategy or HSP wide? Needs to be owned by HSP and other partners. Strategy needs to be less paternalistic. No mention of social capital. Need to look at how we empower community at grass roots to develop self help and local owned and run services on a local basis. Wording is public sector jargon needs to be expressed in plain English. Can we explain what the Transformation Agenda means? Point 2.2 not sure its just HAVS other community reps need capacity to provide leadership. 2.4 should include something on innovation.</p>	<p>A decision has been taken that this will be a council strategy and it is hoped that HSP partners will adopt the strategy in the future.</p>
Grants Advisory Panel								<p>Essential to seek to build and strengthen existing networks. Essential to provide services at required standards.</p>	<p>Strategy seeks to strengthen existing networks and ensure Third Sector is able to deliver services to the required standard.</p>
Overview & Scrutiny Committee								<p>Would like to see: Further work on using a Third Sector organisation to deliver the Council's grants scheme. Positive use of the West London Alliance in the mapping exercise and a defined role for the proposed Compact Champion</p>	<p>These points will be addressed in implementing the Action Plan</p>
<p>NOTE: Five anonymous responses have not been included</p>									