CONSULTATION BY HOUSING & MODERNISATION DEPARTMENT’S COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

With: Southwark’s Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) groups, networks and organisations

About: Council for Voluntary Service (CVS), infrastructure & volunteering service

Introduction

The current contract to deliver these services is held by Community Southwark (CS) based at Cambridge House ends in March 2019. We welcome your views on how best to shape the new service

This consultation is seeking your views in the following areas:

• The future requirements for leadership and representation, capacity building, and volunteering services

• The outcomes to be delivered by a new service

• How these outcomes could be delivered and the types of services needed to do so

Who is this consultation for?

The full range of voluntary and community sector organisations that exist in the borough, not just those which currently receive grant funding from the council or provide commissioned services.

By ‘voluntary and community’ organisations, we are referring to:

• Registered charities
• Community groups
• Community associations
• Tenants and residents groups
• Green spaces friends groups
• Co-operatives and social enterprises
• School/parent groups
• Faith organisations
• Sports, environmental, arts and heritage organisations
• Grant making trusts
• Housing associations
• Non-constituted groups of residents working together to make a difference in their local communities
What is the CVS for?

The National Association for Voluntary and Community Action (NAVCA) defines the purpose of local CVS bodies as:

• To provide services, support and advice to, and promote, local charities, community groups and social enterprises that deliver social action

• To offer the right mixture of support, challenge, leadership, resource, skills and knowledge

• To foster relationships between the local voluntary sector, public bodies and local business

• To promote social action and make sure local communities have a voice

Next steps

A new Service Specification will be drawn up after this consultation is closed incorporating ideas as appropriate.

A new contract will start on 1 April 2019.