Briefing note for the VCFSE on Local Area Partnerships (LAPS)

About Social Action West Northamptonshire:

Social Action West Northamptonshire (SAWN) is the Infrastructure Partnership of Voluntary Impact Northamptonshire (VIN) and South Northants Volunteer Bureau (SNVB).

We have come together under 4 pillars:

- To support our Community Groups with advice, training, networking and information.
- To provide Leadership and Advocacy.
- To build Partnerships and promote a collective voice for the VCFSE.
- To strengthen Social Action.

Local Area Partnerships:

Local Area Partnerships (LAPs) bring together residents, communities, services and organisations to improve health, wellbeing and quality of life across West Northamptonshire.

Working together at neighbourhood level helps us better understand local needs, build on community strengths and focus on what matters most to local people.

The Neighbourhood approach:

West Northamptonshire's Local Area Partnership model is based on five neighbourhood areas aligned with NHS neighbourhood boundaries.

This helps partners work more effectively together, reduces duplication and supports joined-up services for local communities.

The five neighbourhood areas are:

- Northampton Central
- Northampton North & East
- Northampton South & West
- Rural North & West
- Rural South & East

Rural Neighbourhood Priorities:

In Rural North and West, the priorities are:

Supporting Financial Wellbeing in Southbrook (Daventry).

Helping families access advice, support and opportunities that improve financial resilience and wellbeing.

Connecting people in Woodford Halse.

Support a growing rural community by strengthening local networks and fostering connections with local resources; helping residents to connect, contribute and thrive.

Helping People Age Well in Rural North

Reducing isolation, improving access to services and supporting older residents to remain healthy, active and connected across villages.

In Rural South and East, the priorities are:

Supporting Connected and Thriving Children, Young People in Deanshanger.

Building on strong community partnerships, local activities and youth provision to help children, young people and young adults develop positive relationships, access opportunities, and maintain good mental health and wellbeing.

Investing in Community Cohesion and Young People in Middleton Cheney.

Supporting children and young people to play an active role in their community while creating opportunities for different generations to connect, learn from one another and build stronger relationships.

Creating Positive Futures for Young People.

Building on Brackley's strong community partnerships and youth services to enhance opportunities for children and young people to connect, build positive relationships and make healthy choices.

In Northampton Central, the priorities are:

Building Stronger Communities in Kings Heath.

Working with residents and partners to strengthen community connections, improve wellbeing and make the most of local opportunities, including the neighbourhood hub and community centre.

Supporting Families in Spring Boroughs.

Focusing on helping families access support earlier, improving wellbeing and financial resilience, and creating more opportunities for children and young people to thrive.

Improving Wellbeing in the Town Centre and Semilong.

Working together to reduce loneliness and isolation with adults, improve mental wellbeing and ensure residents can access the support they need.

In Northampton North and East, the priorities are:

Supporting Older People in St David's and Kingsthorpe.

Helping older residents stay connected, active and independent through social and digital inclusion opportunities.

Building Skills and Opportunities in Blackthorn.

Working with young people and residents to raise aspirations, develop skills and improve access to employment opportunities.

Strengthening Community Connections in Bellinge.

Creating more opportunities for people to connect, reducing isolation and supporting healthy ageing within the community.

How can organisations join a LAP?

LAP dates are organised by West Northamptonshire Council and are notified via their website.

SAWN will also distribute LAP dates when notified and will endeavour to attend as many as we can.

Most LAP meetings are virtual, although some may be in person.

Any VCFSE organisation can attend if they wish but should note the relevant Health Inequality priorities listed above.

Where do LAPS report?

LAPS provide updates to the Executive Place Board of West Northamptonshire which meets every 6 weeks at present.

The Executive Place Board is viewed as the engine room for Place Based approaches.