

# VS6 – Working together to build a stronger Liverpool City Region

The Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) sector across Liverpool City Region is seeking to support the Mayor to shape local policy and implementation for the benefit of all of our communities.

We have a vision for our city region to be:

- ✓ The most vibrant, 'happening' and equal place in the country, where people feel connected, involved and included
- ✓ A place where success is shared and measured through economic, health and social outcomes
- ✓ A family friendly city region where people have a work life balance
- ✓ A place where everyone can have a job, progress in work, and improve their prosperity
- ✓ A region where small and large organisations work together to enable people to thrive
- ✓ Where the VCFSE sector, and its potential, is better understood and seen as essential to a thriving, attractive and inclusive economy

Liverpool City Region has 8,600 VCFSE organisations, with an economic impact of over £1bn GVA, and 180,000 volunteers contributing 500,000 hours per week. Working with the Mayor and Combined Authority, we can offer much more to our city region's future. The VCFSE sector is committed to:

- ✓ Engaging and involving communities in the co-design of strategy and delivery
- ✓ Working across sectors to address shared priorities in a holistic manner
- ✓ Utilizing the skills, experience and networks of our communities and organisations to innovate and build on what works
- ✓ Maximizing inward investment for our communities

In return, we are asking the candidates for Liverpool City Region Mayor to commit to the following:

- 1) **Champion an inclusive city region**, with communities at the heart of our economic, social and democratic future
- 2) **Promote exemplary equalities practice**, recognising the VCFSE sector's role
- 3) **Co-produce a VCFSE investment strategy by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2017**
- 4) **Embed social value, co-design and co-production** in public sector and LEP commissioning across the city region
- 5) **Ensure the sector has the capacity to contribute** to strategic economic plans and drive an inclusive economy, with genuine access to strategic funding streams including the Single Investment Fund
- 6) **Relentlessly insist on developing community and person-centred approaches** to health, social care and wellbeing
- 7) **Promote a culture where voluntary and community action is celebrated**
- 8) **Champion the voice of VCFSE groups**, on behalf of the people they work with, in decision-making