

# Rural Services Network Creating Capacity and Opportunities in the VCS



# Agenda

1. Redefining roles and relationships in a post Brexit / Age of Austerity
2. Challenging perceptions of the VCS
3. Maximising opportunities that remain
4. Discussion

# Rural Services Network – Redefining a Council’s strategic relationship with its VCS

## New Strategic Relationship with the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) 2017-2024

### Aims

- 1 Residents come together to help themselves and each other
- 2 Residents are better able to manage their wellbeing and health
- 3 Residents have improved opportunities and are not held back because of background, circumstance or identified community
- 4 Public sector agencies in Camden and the VCS are better able to identify, articulate and meet residents needs through services and assets
- 5 Strong, diverse VCS better able to shape and deliver Camden services

### Community Outcomes

#### Medium term Outcomes 2017-2019



- Geographical communities with high levels of need receive appropriate local services
- Residents better able to access the support they need regardless of background, circumstance or identified community
- More people living and working in Camden volunteer to support Camden residents.

#### Long Term Outcomes 2020-2023



- Residents are better able to come together to help themselves and each other
- Communities are increasingly more connected and involved in positive social action
- Mainstream services are more accessible to all residents of Camden

### Shared Council and Voluntary and Community Sector Outcomes

A stronger relationship between VCS and council leads to more collaborative working and new approaches to meet residents’ needs	Better joined-up use of public and community space to meet residents’ needs	Public and community buildings and facilities occupied by the VCS are used collaboratively by the VCS to maximise assets and benefit residents	VCS expertise, knowledge and data considered by the council and VCS in the design and delivery of services to benefit Camden’s diverse residents
Increased ability of VCS to understand, navigate and contribute to council decision making on behalf of communities they service	Council and VCS better able to articulate community needs and evidence the impact of their interventions	An increase in new funding into Camden through increased collaboration between council and VCS	Commissioning of council services more accessible to Camden’s VCS
<b>VCS</b>	<b>Council</b>	<b>VCS</b>	<b>Council</b>
VCS have more robust structures and diverse funding base Increased collaboration between VCS orgs	Understanding of what works and lessons learnt feeds into flexible council decision making	VCS form beneficial and flexible partnerships to meet needs of Camden residents Organisations are more robust and independent and able to meet existing and emerging needs	Council better able to listen and respond to changing and unmet needs of residents

### key inputs

Funding	Buildings and facilities	Skills and capacity building for VCS organisations	Evaluation framework	Joint Council/ VCS decision making	Data and intelligence	Commissioning opportunities	VCS reference group
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# Does Brexit change everything?

## PRESSURE ON INCOME, COSTS

### Regions Demand UK Govt Matches Lost EU Funds

Cornwall and some towns in Yorkshire want guarantees they will not miss out on cash they were due to receive from the bloc.

19th UK, Saturday 20 June 2016



Projects in Wales were among those supported by millions in EU funding



Regions of the UK being supported by European Union funding are seeking guarantees that grants they will now not receive will be provided by the UK Government.

Councils in Yorkshire were due to be given £600m of EU grants to help boost the area's economy before 2020, while Cornwall was expecting a further £400m.

In total, £3.6bn was due to be spent in the UK under the EU's European Regional Development Fund between 2014 and 2020.



- Short-term hits to income are unlikely, but in the long-run are more likely.
- Brexit might result in reduced income for the sector: grantmaking foundations rely upon investment income
- Falls in sterling, rising inflation might hit disposable income and charitable giving
- Move overseas of some corporates/major donors risks sponsorship and large gifts
- Government may reduce spending on public services, with variable geographic impact
- Longer-term, end of EU structural funds most significant direct hit should government not establish alternative programmes
- Economic/social distress inevitably places cost pressures on voluntary orgs

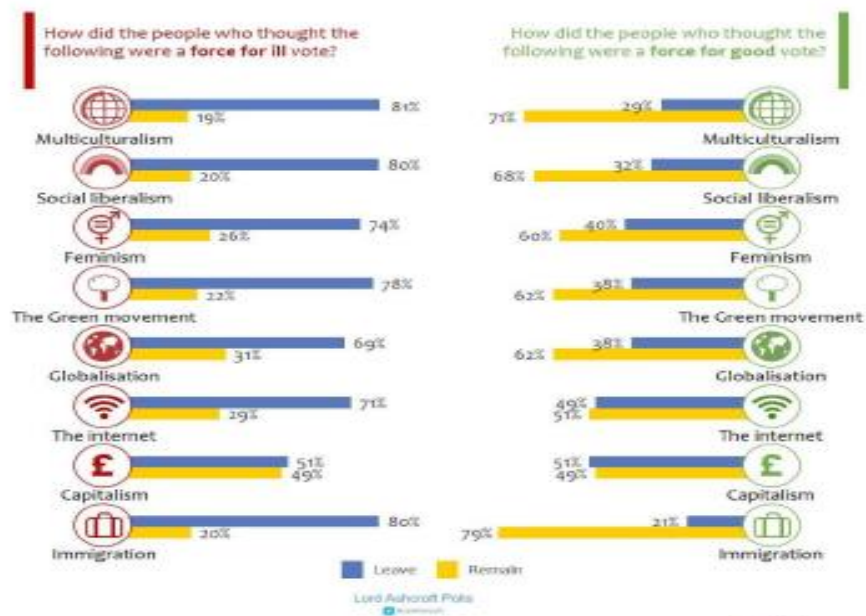


# Does Brexit change everything?

## A NATION DIVIDED?

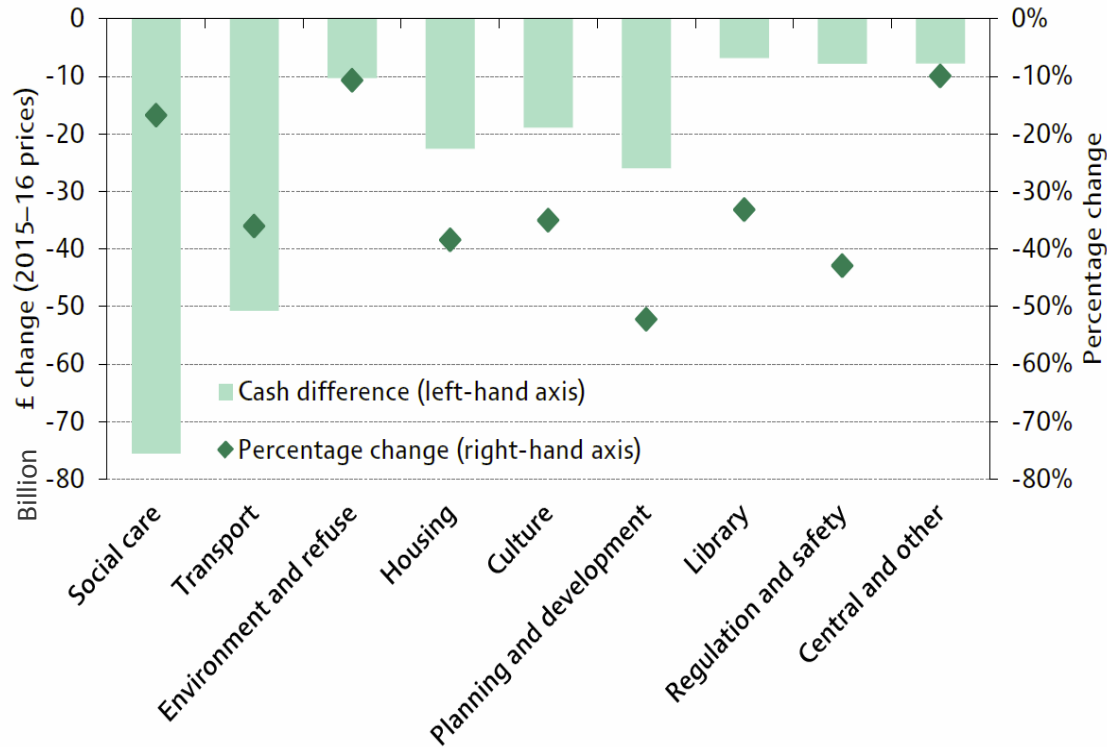
- A close referendum result has exposed **divisions in society** (age, education, income) that do not easily map onto traditional party politics
- Anecdotal evidence of post-referendum rise in **social tensions**, with reports of racist incidents across the country
- Some signs of **inter-generational conflict** as young and old simultaneously blamed for Brexit
- The Brexit vote may not fundamentally change immigration levels – leaving some disappointed and angry

Do you think of each of the following as being a force for good, a force for ill, or a mixed-blessing?



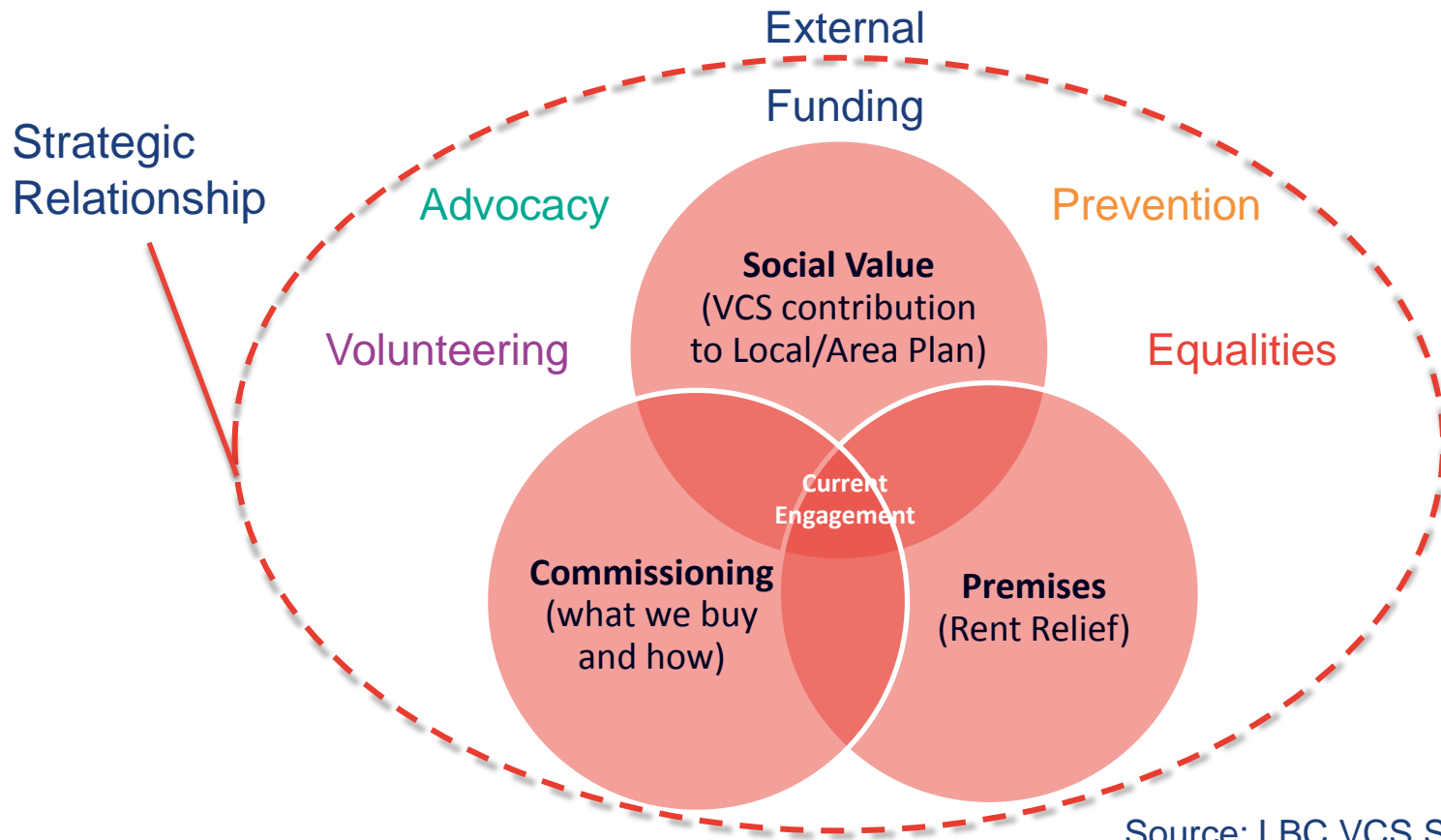
## National outlook for Local Government remains . . .

Average change in net service spending per person, by service area (2009–10 to 2014–15)



Source: Institute for Fiscal Studies

## Resourcing a new strategic relationship with the sector

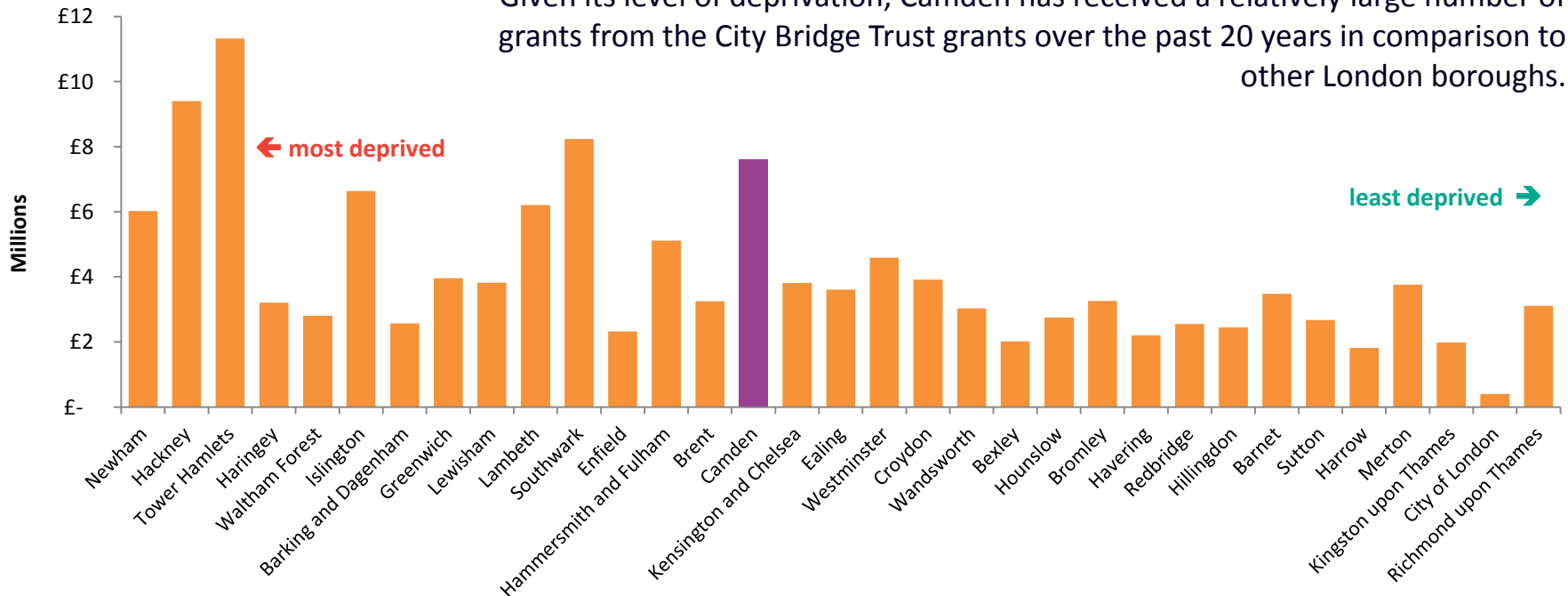


Source: LBC VCS Strategy Review

# Mapping and benchmarking external funding of the VCS

Eg. City Bridge Trust Grants 1995 – 2014

Given its level of deprivation, Camden has received a relatively large number of grants from the City Bridge Trust grants over the past 20 years in comparison to other London boroughs.



Source: IMD & City Bridge Annual Report

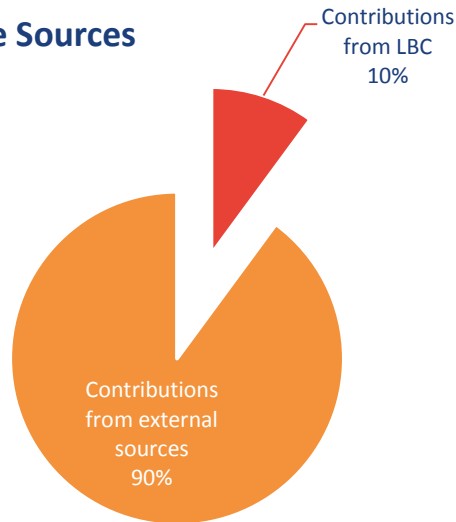


# Johari Window of Perception

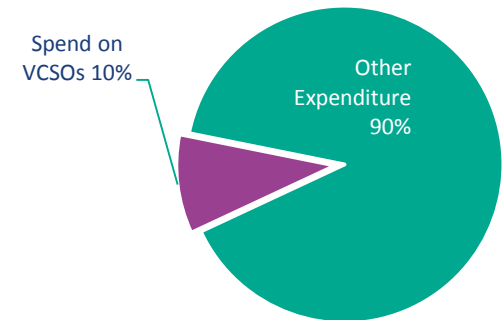


## VCS income in relation to LBC budget

VCS Income Sources



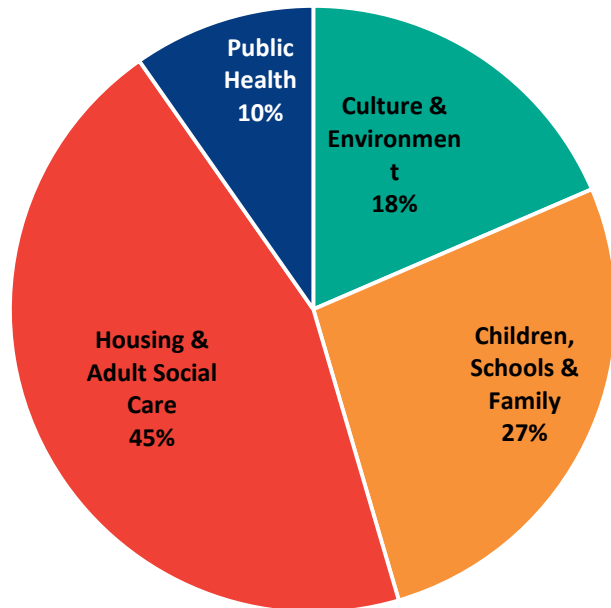
LBC Budget



Source: Charity Commission

## How does LBC currently fund the sector?

Expenditure by Directorate



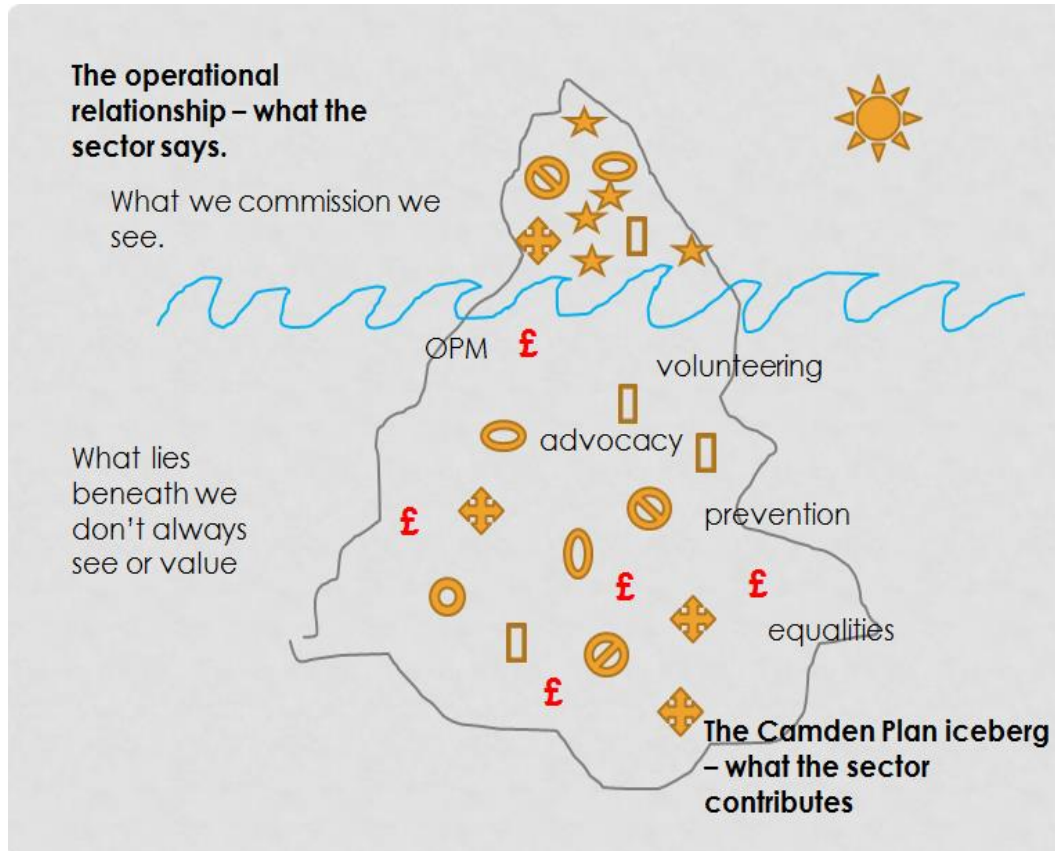
	Value (2014 - 15)
C&E	£7,307,117
CSF	£10,624,572
HASC	£17,680,563
Public Health	£3,838,058
<b>Total</b>	<b>£39,450,310</b>

Source: LBC 'Mothership'

## Developing a strategic procurement approach (2016-19)

1. Procurement activity makes a key contribution to delivering Medium-Term Financial Savings
2. We deliver a quality procurement service for both internal and external customers
3. Risk is well managed and services are supported to take risks that support innovation
4. The Council is operating with a greater commercial focus and maximizing income opportunities
5. There is greater participation and involvement from VCS and SME organisations
6. Procurement activity contributes to delivering the Local Plan and social value outcomes

# A Social Value-based Approach to Commissioning



Source: LBC VCS Strategy Review

# Discussion

1. VCS relationship with the state has changed irrevocably
2. Local authorities are redefining how they engage & support the sector
3. New instruments, models and infrastructure . . . Largely unproven
4. What role for the private sector . . . Philanthropy, placebased giving initiatives, BIDs etc.

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