



Vision for Volunteering



Today's session:

- **What is the Vision for Volunteering?**
- **What are the 5 themes?**
- **Who is involved with the Vision?**
- **How you can get involved**



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What is the Vision for Volunteering?

The Vision for Volunteering is a collaborative project designed to create a better future for volunteering.

We launched the Vision on 6th May 2022.
This is just the start of the journey.



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Who is involved with the Vision for Volunteering?

The Vision is a collaborative project. NCVO worked in partnership with NAVCA, the Association of Volunteer Managers, Volunteering Matters and Sport England. We received support from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). It has a steering group of small, large, local and national charities and public bodies.

Over 350 organisations have been involved in the project so far, providing insights, evidence, expertise and sharing their solutions for the future.



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The Vision for Volunteering

The Vision for Volunteering has five key themes:

- Awareness and appreciation
- Power
- Equity and inclusion
- Collaboration
- Experimentation

In each theme we describe what we want to see change for volunteering by 2032 and what it should feel like for volunteers. We also share examples from organisations already doing great work to support their volunteers.



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Awareness and Appreciation

- We want volunteering to be recognised for the value and impact it has, with awareness of the huge spectrum of its forms and activities.
- We want to ensure volunteering is built into the collective psyche, and recognised as part of our everyday lives.
- Organisations will better understand how and when volunteers want to get involved, and will design activities which meet their needs and interests.
- Volunteering is measured by common metrics, and appreciated and supported by policy makers.



Power

- Volunteers and communities have power, and that policy makers and the voluntary sector can do more to share and build this power.
- We want to see more power devolved from the state and decision makers, to causes, volunteer involving organisations and communities.
- Organisations, funders and decision makers invest time, energy and resources to understand and reduce barriers.



Equity and Inclusion

- We want volunteering to be accessible and welcoming for everyone, where the experience of volunteering is positive for all.
- Volunteering will build social capital and provide opportunities for personal and community wide growth and development.
- Volunteering will be better able to support our aims to build a more equal society, where our individual and collective strengths are brought to the fore.



Experimentation

- During the COVID-19 pandemic we have seen experimentation, flexibility and innovation in volunteering. We want to see opportunities to continue and develop this culture of adaptation and change.
- We want to build recognition of the volunteering landscape as dynamic, and open to change.
- We will move away from rigid, inflexible, ineffective and problematic ways of engaging volunteers.



Collaboration

- We are better and stronger when we work together, sharing our knowledge, resources and power.
- We want to build a future where collaboration is the norm, where it is seen as a natural part of volunteering.
- We will recognise how communities are essential in driving and supporting collaboration, building more community-led coalitions of interest and moving away from rigid hierarchical models of partnership working.



What needs to change?

Volunteering currently isn't accessible or equally enjoyable for everyone.

We saw huge changes happen for volunteers and their activities during the Covid-19 pandemic, not all of this was positive.

We also see changing patterns in who volunteers, how and in what activities and roles.



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Creating positive change

- We see the Vision as a fantastic opportunity to come together to build the change we want to see.
- Many barriers and challenges for volunteering will persist, so how can we work together to overcome them, or to limit their impact?
- How will we build this movement, sharing power and working collaboratively to create change?



A Vision for change

#VisionForVolunteering **THREE HORIZONS**

#1 Business as Usual

For example:

- the idea of a 'volunteer army'
- the notion of a 'civic core'
- 'paint a fence' CSR volunteering

#2 Disruptive Innovation

For example:

- Covid-19 local mobilisation partnerships
- digital technology's role in brokerage
- growth in informal volunteering

#3 Emerging Futures

For example:

- decentralised power
- people-driven activism
- open data

By 2032

Over to you



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Small Group Discussions

- This is an opportunity to reflect on the Vision, and to consider how it relates to the volunteering you support.
- We want this to be your space to consider how you can help to shape this positive future.
- We will have 15 minutes, and will use jamboards to capture the conversation.
- Please nominate a member of your group to be ready to feedback one key point in summary.





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Feedback and reflections

What do we want to see change by 2032?

- We want it to be easier for people to give their time and energy to the causes they care about.
- We want volunteering organisations to work better together, to collaborate effectively in different ways
- We want power to shift to and build in volunteers and communities, so that they can lead on change that matters to them.
- We want to see organisations experimenting more, testing out different ways of engaging and supporting volunteers.



What will you commit to?

Thinking about everything you have heard today, what will your commitment be for achieving the Vision?





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Sign up to the newsletter
on the website to keep up
to date on the next steps.

**Find out more at:
visionforvolunteering.org.uk**

