

## Summary of the 16 Recommendations – Appendix 1

**The following recommendations will be implemented in the short term from September to March 2021.**

### **Transition Recommendations:**

**Recommendation 1 – A Managed Transition:** That all partners put in place a managed transition for people supported by the Covid-19 Community Hub, stepping down support where it is no longer needed and ensuring people who need ongoing assistance are matched with the appropriate support.

**Recommendation 2 – The Emergency Operating Model:** The council and partners should agree a Covid-19 community support plan that sets out the emergency operating model in the event of a further spike in Covid-19 or a further lockdown.

**Recommendation 4 - Embedding services in neighbourhoods:** Partners should embed access to existing service provision within neighbourhoods. This should include testing new ways of providing housing, employment, skills, money, social care and immigration support in local communities – including testing how support from established public & VCS providers can be made accessible in partnership with local community ‘anchor’ organisations rooted in each part of the borough.

**Recommendation 5 – Making the Most of Social Prescribing:** Health partners should explore how social prescribing can become a central element of the community support alliance.

**Recommendation 6 – Building effective referral systems:** The council, VCS and health partners should develop and embed a social support referral system– building on the success of the work Community Southwark have been leading using the Airtable platform.

### **Recommendation 8 – Aligning plans for emergency food provision:**

Partners should work with the Southwark Food Action Alliance to develop a stronger common approach to emergency food provision, including establishing aligned criteria/thresholds, ways of avoiding duplication of service to individual people and shared relationships with food suppliers.

### **Recommendation 15 – Principles for working together:**

The partnership

Should adopt the following principles in working together:

- Mutuality and reciprocity – people and organisations contributing what they can as well as receiving support when they need it.
- Co-design – all partners and residents working together to design the alliance and share approaches and tools.
- Clarity of purpose - working to a clear common purpose.
- Collective resources – working to make the best uses of the resources we have in Southwark across the system and across all partners.
- Operations not just strategy – getting on with practical work together across the system.
- Relationships and communication - a partnership of equals across sectors.
- Data and technology - Effective use of data and intelligence to achieve more.
- Both this and recommendation 16 are key enablers to the longer-term approach.

**Recommendation 16 – Principles for providing support:** The partnership should adopt the following principles for providing support moving forward:

- Mutuality and reciprocity – people and communities contributing what they can as well as receiving support when they need it, and being valued for what they contribute.
- People are fully involved in identifying their needs and planning the support they receive.
- People have the opportunity to build on their strengths – planning of support helps individuals to identify their strengths at a personal and community level.
- People have access to the information, advice and guidance they need to meet their needs.
- People feel that they have access to services and less formal groups that improve their lives and wellbeing.

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**The following recommendations will be implemented in the Long term from March 2021 to March 2022**

#### **43. Legacy Recommendations:**

##### **(i) Governing Recommendation: Building a Borough where everyone can contribute**

**Recommendation 3 – A new alliance:** The council, VCS and health partners should work together to strengthen and further develop a Southwark community support alliance. This should be focused on providing social support that delivers long-term reductions in inequality, combining resources, building on the successes of the Community Hub, and founded on the vision, outcomes, principles and framework set out below.

##### **(ii) Recommendations on related work**

The issues raised at the review group have been wide-ranging and has touched on a range of issues that relate to work taken forward by other groups and initiatives. Here we set out a range of recommendations that would bring these workstreams into line with the framework and vision of our governing recommendation.

**Recommendation 7 – Encouraging and Supporting Volunteering:** The review recognised the significant role that volunteers have played in supporting vulnerable people in the borough. The review group recommends that Community Southwark should work with partners to find ways to celebrate and support volunteering.

**Recommendation 9 - Developing a common long-term approach to tackling food insecurity:** Partners should scale up community run low cost food projects - working through the Southwark Food Action Alliance to develop options for affordable food provision that support people's dignity and independence (including community supermarkets, pantries etc.), linked to the review of the food security plan.

**Recommendation 10 – Understanding Southwark's hidden populations:** Research should be undertaken to better understand Southwark's population who do not have full recourse to public funds – to identify the scale of the population and the issues they face. Working with the VCS groups that are currently supporting large number of people in this situation to undertake the research.

**Recommendation 11 – Tackling Digital Exclusion:** There is an urgent need to prioritise connecting digitally excluded people, including identifying how access to devices and data can be improved for people who cannot currently afford them and strengthening digital skills.

**Recommendation 12 – Supporting grassroots organisations:** Community Southwark should review how capacity building support in the borough can best support the development of Southwark social/ community support alliance together with development/implementation of a formal partnership model of delivery with Voluntary and Community Sector organisations.

**Recommendation 13 – Leveraging existing funds:** Funders in Southwark and beyond should consider how they can best use their existing resources to support the delivery of these recommendations.

**Recommendation 14 – Tackling inequalities:** The review group heard evidence on the significant disproportionate impact on some communities. The review therefore recommends that all partners should:

- Undertake joint work to understand those who were and remain worst affected by Covid-19, for example BAME groups.
- Improve the way they collect, use and act on data moving forward, covering all equalities groups.



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