

**(Stage 1 application)**

**1. Give key outcome(s)**

KEY OUTCOME(S) (Measurable and time specific):

1. Improve the economic vitality of the VCS with the enhanced delivery of networking, training and IAG to build the capacity and quality of VCS provision through
  - a. Funding surgeries, funding searches and support with applications to bring additional funds into the area
  - b. Health checks for organisations to identify areas for development
  - c. Capacity building training and development to improve the effectiveness and sustainability in the management of VCS organisations
  - d. Support to work towards and achieve a Quality Standards Award
  - e. Provision of VCS Locality Networks to share good practice, develop peer support, encourage collaborative and partnership working, identify and tackle local issues
2. Reduce inequalities through targeted community development activity
  - a. support for “hard to reach” organisations and communities that are not already engaged with infrastructure support agencies
3. Increased involvement & impact of Community Led Planning Activity
  - a. 2 events to support the implementation of action plans providing information, resources and networking necessary
4. Increased number of people able to access volunteering opportunities
  - a. Volunteer surgeries for individuals can find out about local opportunities and be supporting to engage
  - b. Work with local businesses to promote volunteering and create additional volunteering opportunities
  - c. Support initiatives that require cohorts of volunteers
  - d. Run campaigns throughout the year to increase awareness of and involvement in local volunteering opportunities
  - e. Research the need for a pilot supported volunteering programme to enable individuals with additional needs to engage in volunteering
5. Improved outcomes for community development through enhanced partnership working within ESRN
  - a. Provision of a secretariat to organise and facilitate bi monthly ESRN meetings to build and develop on this exemplar of partnership working

**2. How has the need for this outcome(s) been identified?**

Building on the exemplar working and outcomes from the partnership working with the Suffolk Coastal Resource Network, the ESRN partners namely SCDC, Community Action Suffolk, WDC, ESP, SCC, Halesworth Volunteer Centre, Groundwork, and Public Health, have developed an action plan for 2014 – 15 which will deliver above and beyond each partners’ core activity. Officers working in Community Development have highlighted the key issues which need to be addressed and will enhance the partners’ core work for the benefit of the communities and community groups.

**3. Who will benefit from the outcomes(s)?**

- Voluntary and Community Sector Organisations and their service users
- Communities
- Service Providers
- Local Authorities

**4. How will the outcomes(s) be sustained after the funding has run out (if appropriate)?**

Funding is sought for 2014 -15 with match funding already identified and secured. Community Action Suffolk was formed following the merger of 10 legacy organisations in April 2013. Throughout 2013/14 CAS undertaken a complete review and transformation of its infrastructure services and is now developing a business plan that will identify how these services will continue to be delivered in the future with less reliance on grant funding but it should be acknowledged that income generation may take a little time to establish. Thus the funding request for 2015 -16 shows a 25% reduction.

**5. Name of Project/activity that will deliver the outcome(s)**

Community Action Suffolk will be responsible for ensuring that the outcomes are delivered through direct provision and as secretariat to the ESRN

**6. Brief description of the project / activity that will deliver the outcome(s).**

DESCRIPTION (up to 150 words):

The ESRN is a network of infrastructure and public sector partners. ESRN members have a shared vision of improving the quality of people's lives and communities, especially for the most disadvantaged, through the provision of a network of infrastructure services to frontline VCS in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney.

The values that underpin the ESRN:

- Believe in the value of the Voluntary and Community Sector to improve the quality of life for people in Suffolk Coastal and Waveney
- Improve delivery through Innovation and creativity
- Celebrate the diversity of the sector and support their needs
- Strive for best quality in all work
- Promote integrity and independence of the Voluntary and Community Sector
- Uphold values of equality, diversity and social inclusion.

Partners aim to improve the provision of high quality, accessible and relevant 'frontline' services to local VCS groups by working together.

Project / activity START DATE April 2014

END DATE March 2016

Who will deliver the project/activity:  
Community Action Suffolk

ESP Board member supporting the project:

Nicky Thompson

Project / activity lead: ESRN

Name: Chris Abraham

Organisation: CAS

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**7. Give information about match funding here:**

Source of match funding	Funding confirmed?	Amount (£)
SCC for one year	Yes	28,800
SCDC/WDC Community Led Planning for one year	Yes	15,500

Total project / activity cost for one year	£ 75,100
Total of confirmed match funding	£ 44,300
Total amount of ESP funding required Year 12014/15	<b>£ 31,300</b>

Total Amount required for Year 2 2015/16 – 31,300 minus 3000 research with a 25% overall reduction for income generation	21,225
<b>Total Required over 2 years</b>	<b>52,525</b>

**8. How will the project / activity be monitored and outcomes reported (including project risks)?**

There will be a clear project plan with key milestones and targets as well as risk assessments. Regular updates will be made to each ESRN meeting and quarterly reports made to the ESP. CAS will monitor progress internally also through 1:1 supervision and performance management

Community Action Suffolk (CAS) will be the lead accountable body but will be supported by each partner of the ESRN who will help to deliver the plans.

**9. Identify where the ESP money will be spent here:**

Description of activity or item (by who and by when where appropriate)	Cost (£)
1. Community Field Officer 2 days per week, office costs and travel	<b>12,800</b>
2. Volunteering Field Officer 1.5 days a week office costs and travel	<b>9,600</b>
3. Secretariat role for ESRN	<b>2,500</b>
4. Venue, admin and resources for training and events 12 @ £200 Plus 2 CLP events @500	<b>2,400</b> <b>1,000</b>
5. Research for supported volunteering, officer time, and report	<b>3,000</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>31,300</b>

**Declaration:**

I confirm that this proposal contains accurate information and is supported by the Programme Officers Group.

Name: Nicky Thompson

ESP Board member

Date: 12.3.14