

West of England AHSN

Transforming lives
through innovation

Natasha Swinscoe,
Chief Executive Officer



West of England
Academic Health
Science Network

“The innovation arm of the NHS”



We are one of 15 Academic Health Science Networks (AHSNs) across England.

Together we make up the AHSN Network.

The AHSNs were originally set up by NHS England in 2013, and relicensed from 2018, to operate as the key innovation arm of the NHS.

With core funding from NHS England and NHS Improvement and the Office for Life Sciences, our collective aim is to spread health innovation at pace and scale – improving health, transforming lives and generating economic growth.



Transforming lives through innovation

Improving our
innovation pipeline

Supporting digital
transformation

Building capability and
sharing knowledge

Enhancing engagement
with local integrated
care systems



Mental
health



Maternity and
neonatal



Medicines
safety



Long-term
conditions



Deterioration



People



Integrating
and optimising
care

Responding to the climate emergency

Our commitment to equality, diversity and inclusion

Our regional focus



As an inclusive network, our AHSN works hard to identify shared goals and build supportive relationships with all those in the West of England who need and want to contribute.

We bring together all the key players who play a role in innovating health and care, including:

- NHS providers and commissioners
- social care providers
- patients, carers and the wider public
- industry
- universities and research bodies
- local authorities
- the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector.

Together we have earned a reputation for our ambitious, joined-up vision and approach to healthcare innovation and transformation.

Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprise (VCFSE) Partnership for better health



Nigel Harris, Director of Innovation and Growth
nigel.harris7@nhs.net

NHS Reset campaign August 2020

“A new relationship between the NHS, People and Communities – learning from Covid-19”

- VCSE's are key system transformation, innovation and integration partners.
- VCSE sector are vitally important to recovery planning, supporting population health and reducing health inequalities.
- Partnerships with VCSE's will be essential in supporting communities to rebuild and recover following the coronavirus outbreak.
- NHS organisations should maximise the social value they generate by working more closely in partnership with the VCSE sector.
- Local VCSE organisations need to be included in health and care pathways and service redesign planning across systems

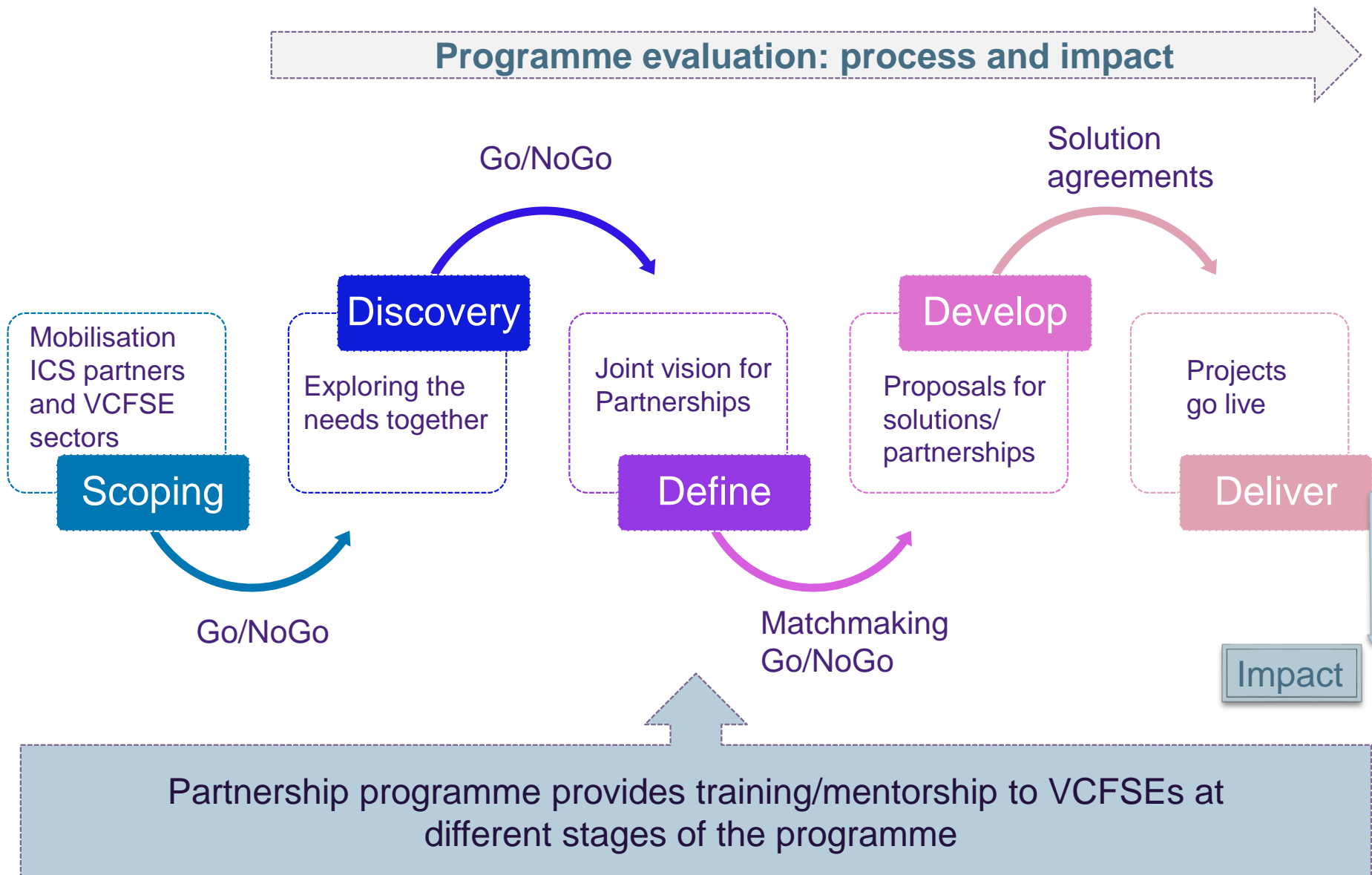
[NHS Reset How health and care systems can work better with VCSE partners](#)



VCFSE Partnership for better health- Aims

1. **To bring together Care and Health providers and VCFSE's** to discover new opportunities to work together.
Focus on place based and community of interest VCFSEs and start-ups
Challenge Care and Health providers to 'think outside the box' to improve health and wellbeing outcomes
2. **To provide a supportive environment** that will enable community organisations to develop new relationships; maximising the input from the lead VCFSE locality partners
3. **Access to advice, training and mentoring** to VCFSE's to nurture and support partnership working
4. **Facilitate the development of new approaches to contracting** between VCFSEs and Care and Health providers
5. **Assist with developing an evaluation framework** to monitor effectiveness of any new VCFSE & provider partnerships

Programme methodology





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www.weahsn.net

