

## REVIEW D: THE VOLUNTARY SECTOR'S RESPONSE TO THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC IN HILLINGDON

Committee name	Corporate Services, Commerce and Communities Policy Overview Committee
Officer reporting	Kevin Byrne, Head of Health Integration and Voluntary Sector Partnerships
Papers with report	None.

### HEADLINES

This item will focus on the second witness session regarding the Committee's next review into the Voluntary Sector's response to the Covid-19 Pandemic in Hillingdon.

### RECOMMENDATION:

**That the Committee note the evidence heard at the witness session.**

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

At the October 2020 meeting, Members agreed the scoping report for the next Committee review on the Voluntary Sector's Response to the Covid-19 pandemic in Hillingdon.

The review will hear from key witnesses on the response and consider how the voluntary sector and Council worked together to help residents; in particular the Borough's most vulnerable residents, during the pandemic.

At this meeting, the Committee will hear evidence from two external bodies who played important roles in response to the pandemic

- Diane Faichney, Foodbank Chair and Manager and Centre Director of Bell Farm Christian Centre; and
- Tunde Balogun, Senior Pastor Kingsborough Family Church – representing Hillingdon Foodbank

Council officers who played an important role in the Council's response will also be present to answer relevant questions.

### **Terms of Reference**

The following Terms of Reference were noted for this review, subject to any changes agreed by the Committee:

1. *To consider how the voluntary and community sector (VCS) in Hillingdon was able to respond to needs of residents during the Covid-19 lockdown period.*

2. *To hear how the pandemic impacted on the VCS sector and its ability to deliver services, raise funds, and recruit volunteers.*
3. *To review how the Hillingdon Community Hub worked with the VCS to meet emergency needs.*
4. *To make any recommendations that would increase resilience of VCS to respond to any future lockdown or restrictions.*

### **How this report benefits Hillingdon residents**

Policy Overview Committees directly engage residents in shaping policy and recommendations from the Committees seek to improve the way the Council provides services to residents.

### **Financial Implications**

None at this stage.

### **Legal Implications**

None at this stage.

### **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

NIL.