



**Community &
Voluntary Services**
cheshire east

VCFS Response to COVID-19

20th March 2020

Welcome to the Meeting

Welcome – Overview of the Session

- Overview of what we know at the moment

Key Issues - Discussion –

- Currently everyone is muted
- Ask Questions through the Q&A box
- If you want to speak or respond raise your hand and I will unmute you

Nationally

- Strategic Volunteering Response group which includes NCVO to respond to the increase in need – we are having weekly webinars with them
 - Aiming to undertake mapping and look at other online support they can provide
- NCVO and NAVCA are lobbying government for funding to support the sustainability of the sector
- Regular guidance is coming from organisations like ACAS, Public Health England

Locally

- Advice and Guidance on our Website – under Group Support – COVID Page
- Local Facebook Groups - sharing community support – Are you linked to one of these.
 - Webinar Monday 23rd 10am and 6pm targeted at these groups – invites out today
- Many taking a lead locally e.g. Age UK Cheshire East, ADCA, Alsager Community Support Centre, The Welcome

Locally

- Cheshire East Council has launched a new [Covid-19 information hub](#) – which includes essential information and updates on changes to council services as a result of the pandemic.
- The council is also launching [‘Cheshire East – People Helping People’](#) – a place for people to offer and request help.

https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/council_and_democracy/council_information/coronavirus/cheshire-east-people-helping-people.aspx

Digital Resources

Recommend – Charity Digital – Lists the tech offers available

Charity Digital Exchange – Can buy the tech from at a discounted rate (charities only)

Speak to your/an IT Company – Remote Phone systems

Funding Available

Short Term

- Small amounts of funding aimed at ensuring your service can be continued – from CEC – being administered by CVS e.g. DBS Checks, Leaflets, remote working software
- Steve Morgan Foundation - £1m per week. – covers new services and support to fill fundraising gaps
- Waitrose – through local stores
- Martin Lewis - £5,000 - £20,000 for COVID-19 only projects – deadline 25th March

Funding Issues Medium/Long Term

Group Discussion