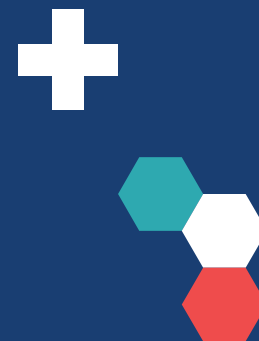
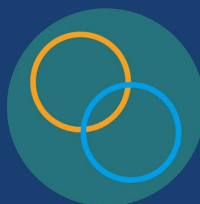


Supporting partnerships for health & wellbeing research



Greta Brunskill

North East & North Cumbria VCSE Health & Wellbeing
Research Partnerships Co-ordinator



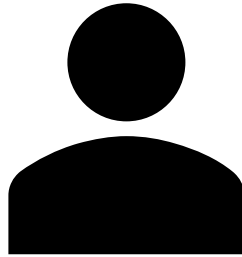
Background

- Involving the users or potential users of health and care services is an established part of good quality health and wellbeing research
- Research needs public and community involvement to inform
 - The research topic / question
 - How the research is done
 - How the research findings are shared and communicated
- **Voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations** play an important role in **reaching and engaging communities** for research

Current experiences of partnership

Experience of researchers	Experience of communities & community organisations
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Limitations on time, resources and/or experience in working with communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Researchers dipping in & out• Lack of reciprocity & remuneration
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Difficulty finding and/or connecting with communities• Reliance on known connections	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Overwhelmed with requests or a lack of research involvement

Some good news!



VCSE Research Partnerships Co-ordinator role

Community engagement toolkit

This toolkit is aimed at supporting researchers who are developing grant applications with, and for, diverse communities. It has evolved from what our community partners in the Reaching Out Projects taught us about how they would like researchers to engage with them to build sustainable community relationships. We have transferred their knowledge and experience to the world of health and social care research into ten guiding principles.

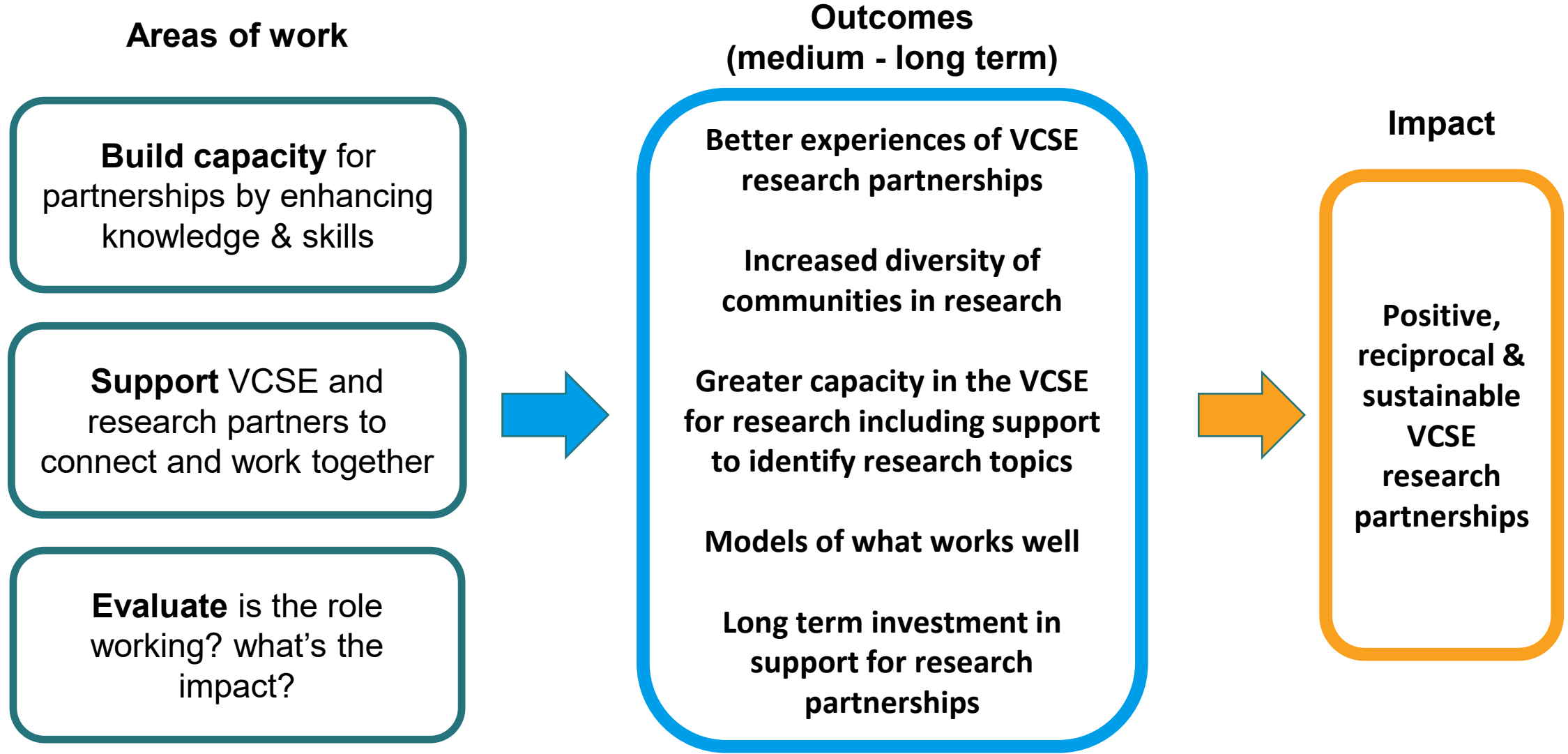
Community engagement, in this context, goes beyond simply 'involving' people. It relies on building ongoing, meaningful relationships between the community and organisations for mutually beneficial outcomes. It is a collaborative process between groups who are brought together as neighbours or through sharing a common interest or concern. It is a powerful vehicle for bringing about environmental and behavioural changes to improve the situation and wellbeing of the community. (Community Engagement for Social Inclusions)



A new community engagement toolkit

<https://www.rdsresources.org.uk/ce-toolkit>

Research Partnerships Co-ordinator: An initial plan



An invitation to you

- Get in touch if you are interested in connecting for research
 - Would your VCSE organisation like support to think about research topics that would benefit you your community?
 - Would your research benefit from support to connect with communities?
- Share your experiences & ideas
 - What works well, what are the challenges
 - What is needed for successful partnerships
- Highlight any training needs and opportunities to develop skills/knowledge

Thank you

greta.brunskill@vonne.org.uk

