**HCN VCS LOCAL ELECTION MANIFESTO**

1. Given 35% cuts to date the Council should not make any further cuts in local grants budgets
2. The Council should review further with Hounslow Community Network options where service delivery by voluntary groups could save the Council money
3. The Council should work in partnership with local voluntary groups on new joint external funding bids to bring in new funding to the borough
4. The Council should publish an annual public document showing all funding to local voluntary and community groups across all Council departments
5. The Council should take all decisions on funding for voluntary and community groups in an open and transparent way and all funding should be subject to re-commissioning at least every four years so new groups have a chance to bid
6. The Council should set up a multi-agency Commission, together with Hounslow Community Network and Hounslow CCG, to investigate inequality in the borough and make recommendations to reduce inequalities
7. The Council should ensure bodies such as Lampton 360 remain publicly accountable and develop partnerships with local voluntary groups
8. The Council should agree with Hounslow Community Network social value questions to be included in all contracts so local voluntary groups have a chance to bid against large private contractors
9. The Council should provide training on the new Compact for new Councillors and for senior managers
10. The Council should stop recent practice of cutting voluntary sector projects to bring them in-house without first doing a proper cost-benefit analysis