

NORTHUMBERLAND

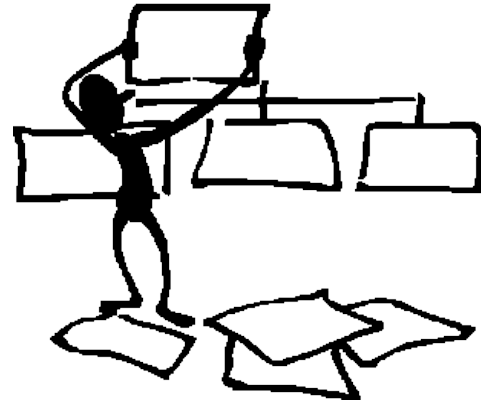
Northumberland County Council

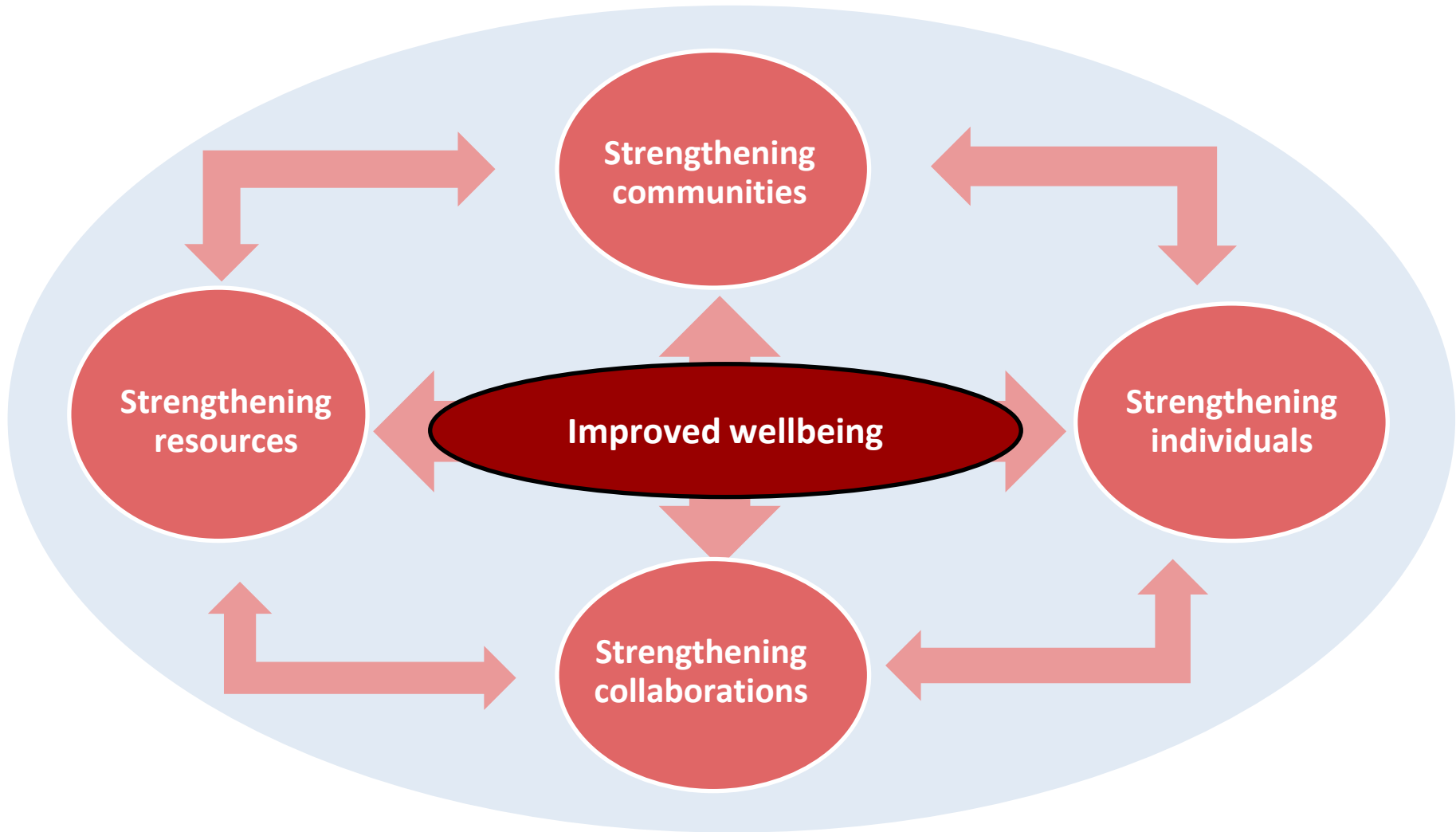
Moving forward using asset based approaches

Northumberland VCS Assembly 14th March 2017

Who am I? Why am I here?

- Working alongside Public Health team Sept - March
- Help bring to life the vision of community-centred, asset based working in Northumberland
 - Identify how public health can add value
- Share findings





**Strengthening
communities**

**Strengthening
resources**

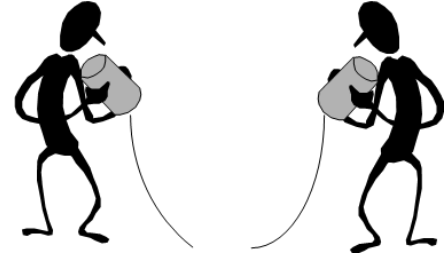
Improved wellbeing

**Strengthening
individuals**

**Strengthening
collaborations**

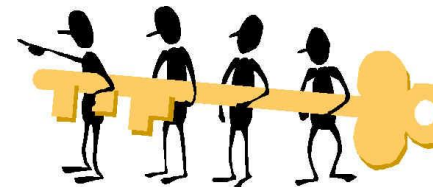
What am I doing?

- Gathering learning from other North East areas
- Making connections with people & organisations working within/across Northumberland
 - Some asset mapping
- Collating learning, sharing findings, facilitating discussions



Learning from other NE areas

- Holistic, person & community centred approaches are positive
 - Be mindful of the scale
 - Expect frustrations and tensions
 - Give it time - results won't be immediate
- Time is needed for planning and development
 - Approach needs to fit as a coherent whole
 - Value of asset mapping and community engagement
 - How will success be measured



Making connections

- 24 voluntary and statutory organisations working across & within Northumberland
- 2 Network meetings - 46 people from 35 organisations
 - Organisation & remit
 - What people come to you with, referral and gaps
 - Community involvement in your organisation
 - Key assets
 - Networks



What has emerged

- People and communities are complex
- Issues faced link to wider determinants of health:
 - Unemployment
 - Poverty and hardship
 - Social isolation and community cohesion
 - Housing
 - Access to transport
 - Family breakdown
 - ❖ **Combinations of these issues and the impact of this**

What has emerged

- Some identified gaps
 - Veterans health / Digital skills / Advocacy under 50 / Domestic abuse Young carers / ESOL
- Lots already happening
- Universally welcomed

Key Assets

- **Individuals**

- Proud, resilient, motivated
- Passionate & resourceful
- Willing to give & value supporting others

- **Communities**

- Strong & resourceful
- Good community spirit
- Local knowledge is key

- **Collaborations**

- Strong and diverse VCS
- Keen to collaborate
- Similar outcomes
- Networks

- **Resources**

- Staff and volunteers
- Venues
- Northumberland
- Funding

Moving forward

- Findings will inform discussions and decision making
- Developing an approach to wellbeing that:
 - Underpinned by principles to strengthen individuals, communities, collaboration and access to resources
 - Capitalises upon existing assets
 - Joined up not fragmented
 - Representative of communities across Northumberland

