

Get out what you put in? Volunteering and the big society

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Outline



1. Background and context

2. Drivers, motivations, facilitators

3. Understanding impacts

4. Implications – a virtuous circle?

Background and context





Volunteering in the UK

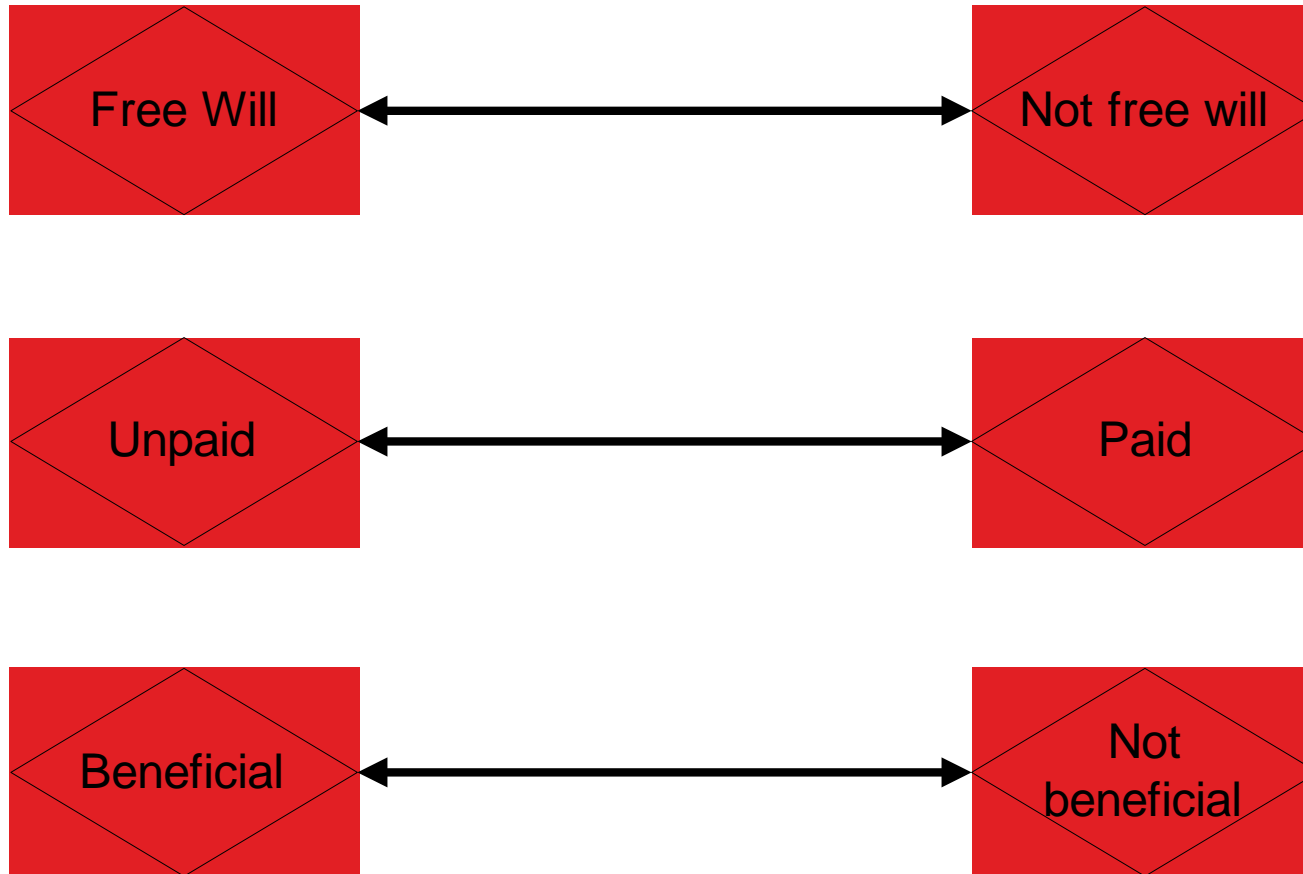


Key element of the Big Society

Favourable international comparisons

But...on the decline? Is it fully inclusive?

Changing definitions



Ellis Paine et al 2010

NatCen's research

case: the culture and
sport evidence
programme

Secondary analysis of the
Taking Part survey

Department for
Education

Exploring factors influencing
adult volunteering in the
youth sector

Formative evaluation of v

vinspired

national
CITIZEN
service

Evaluation of NCS for
the Cabinet Office

Drivers, motivations, facilitators



Who are volunteers?

General	Sporting and cultural	Young People
<p>More likely to be female</p> <p>Positive correlation with education, employment, income</p> <p>More volunteering among older age groups</p> <p>Links with participation</p>	<p>Sporting sector – more likely to be male, younger, have children, ethnically diverse</p> <p>Cultural sectors – more likely to be female, older, single</p> <p>Links with participation</p>	<p>Roughly equal amongst men/women</p> <p>More ethnically diverse</p> <p>Different patterns in relation to education and employment</p> <p>No strong link with ethnicity, income, disability, deprivation</p>

Facilitators

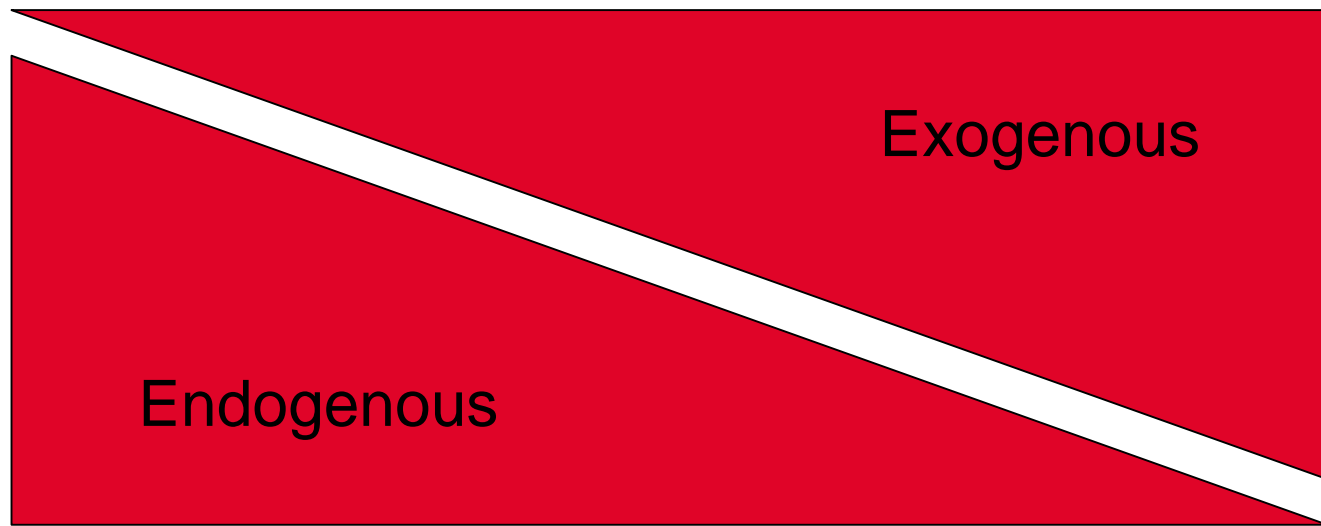


Motivations amongst young people

Motivations linked to achieving some form of benefit



Changing motivations



Time spent volunteering

Understanding Impacts



Impacts as forms of capital

Human Capital

Life Skills

Employability, career progression

Ontological Capital

Confidence and self-esteem

Feeling of self-worth

Social Capital

Bonding and bridging links

Social awareness

Civic Capital

Sense of community and belonging

Influence in local decisions



Impacts as drivers, motivators, facilitators



Human capital – *positive relationship with employment, income, education*

Ontological capital – *self-confidence and self-esteem predictors of pro-social behaviour*

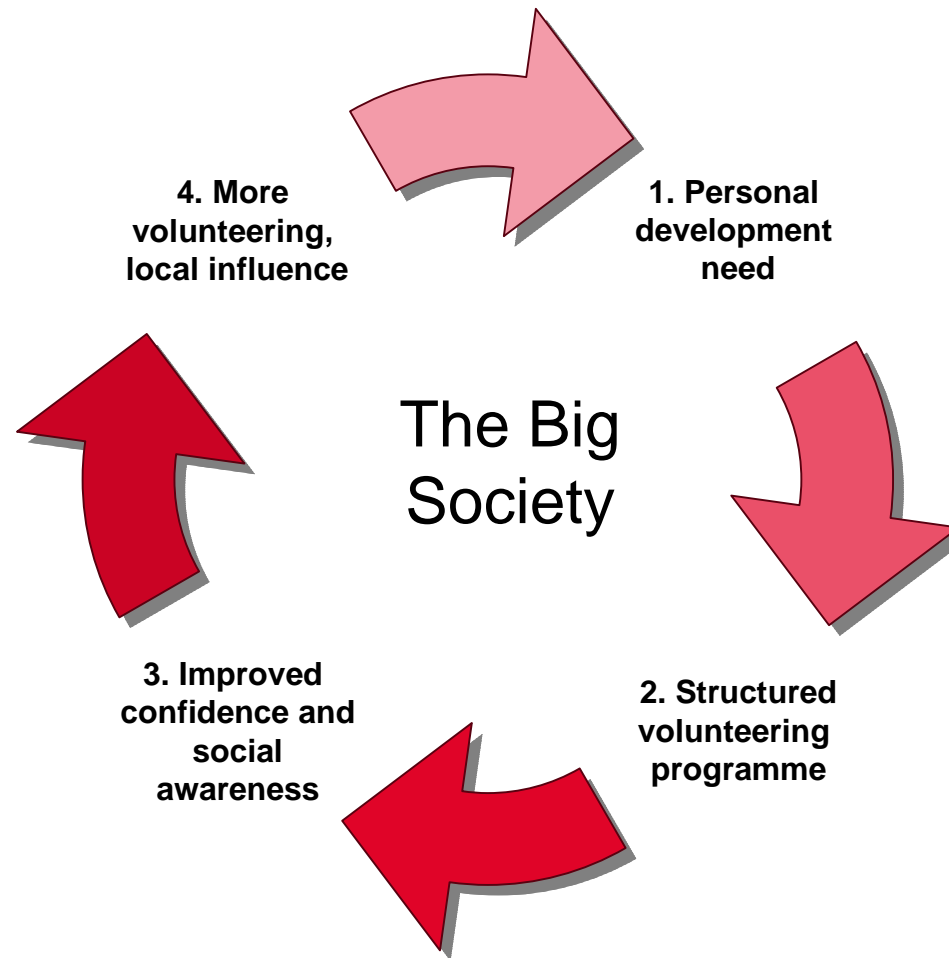
Social capital – *can act as both a motivator and a facilitator for becoming a volunteer*

Civic capital – *volunteers motivated by feeling of responsibility to wider community*

Implications - a virtuous circle?



The virtuous circle?





The engine of a Big Society?



Design

Types of volunteering opportunities, supportive environments

Inputs

Understanding motivations and facilitators to attract more (diverse) volunteers

Outputs

Exit routes for volunteers to avoid satisfy desire to continue pro-social activities

Thank you

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Reports available from: www.natcen.ac.uk

