

The Derbyshire VCSE sector Alliance



Memorandum of Understanding

- VCSE sector key partner, (health inequalities, prevention, underpinning, new approaches, flexibility, engages communities etc)
- Challenges in building this relationship
- National Guidance and NHSE expectation that MoUs developed in each system
- MoU should set out how the VCSE is embedded in the ICS as a partner
- Each system MoU looks different
- VCSE Alliance; short, sharp, measurable and practical

Process





- Shared through VCSE networks, forums and infrastructure
- Shared with LPAs, City/County Place, IPE, MH/ND/LD Delivery Board
- Discussed with and approved by VCSE Alliance \blacksquare
- ICP Approval 7th June (postponed)
- ICB Approval 15th June ☑
- Launch at VCSE/System Event 26th June ☑

Feedback Examples

- Breadth of sector at outset in all planning cycle stages
- "We" statements, collective responsibility to make it work
- Language
- Lived and expert experience
- Power dynamics
- Co-production
- Sustainable relationships
- Impact on system work



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Principles, Culture and Behaviours (1)

Working together

- We will value everyone's experience and expertise equally,
- We will acknowledge and work to our respective strengths,
- We recognise the power dynamics that sometimes exist between partners and recognise that It is ok as partners to constructively challenge and disagree,
- We commit to collaborative working as equals, will follow commitments through and walk the talk,
- We will work to the values of co-production including co-design and co-learning,
- We will learn from each other, from what we do and from what happens elsewhere,
- We will work together to build sustainable VCSE sector services and organisations,
- We will be outcome focussed and willing to cede leadership to where it works best,
- We will take time to understand and take account of the ways different organisations and sectors work,
- We will work together to identify and remove barriers to joint working.

Principles, Culture and Behaviours (2)

Working within the system

- We will be creative and work differently to best engage VCSE organisations of all sizes, being careful not to undermine diversity through structure.
- We will promote more integrated and joined up ways of working,
- We will ensure that the breadth of the VCSE sector has the opportunity to be involved in all stages of the planning cycle at the earliest point. We recognise that VCSE organisations don't always fit neatly into structures and systems!
- We will take a strengths-based approach building on existing assets
- We will seek to put communities of place, shared interest and condition at the centre of our work.
- We recognise the independence of VCSE organisations including the right to campaign,
- We will commit the time and resources that are necessary to develop effective relationships,
- We will look to build sustainable relationships with approaches that are proportionate to the sizes of organisation involved,
- We will take the risks necessary to innovate and do things differently,
- We will recognise and work with VCSE Alliance and infrastructure systems, processes and structures, recognising that there are many different perspectives.
- Collaborative working should generate more accessible and effective services for those who use them. Evaluation should show whether this is happening.

Aspirations and Actions

- Intelligence and Data, (Population Health Management, Insight etc)
- Engagement (structures, approaches, stages)
- Strategy (engagement in earliest stages)
- Investment (sustainable, Procurement + Commissioning, small groups, new sources)
- Support and infrastructure (engagement, collaboration, skills)
- Workforce (paid and volunteers, recruitment, leadership development, volunteering)
- Data sharing
- Culture and behaviours

Outcomes

Strategies, plans and initiatives provide the opportunity for wide VCSE sector involvement at the earliest opportunity at all stages. This is demonstrated in initiatives such as Team Up, Social prescribing, Living Well and the roll out of Start Well, Stay Well, Age Well/Die Well activity.

Strategies, plans and initiatives reflect this involvement through new approaches and increased VCSE activity and engagement.

Qualitative intelligence from community engagement is shaping priority setting and design with the VCSE sector at the heart of the Insight approach.

VCSE representation on key existing and emerging system structures

Local VCSE infrastructure is embedded as a core partner within Local Place Alliances

Evidence of changes to procurement and commissioning that promote more collaborative approaches, build on existing assets and generate sustainable relationships.

Evidence of co-production approaches

Continued development of the VCSE Alliance and its relationship with other infrastructure

Clarity around how VCSE infrastructure functions can be focussed and delivered for the benefit of the Integrated Care System using existing investment.

Understanding of the nature of the VCSE workforce, the challenges it faces and a cross sector system plan of action to address these.

Cross sector data sharing protocol in place

Small grants available at Local Place Alliance level to support small community-based groups that contribute to initiatives such as social prescribing, hospital discharge and TeamUp

Going Forward

- Cross Sector Annual Review
- Fed in to Integrated Place Executive and Integrated Care Partnership
- Should be intrinsic to the work and behaviours of all partners



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