

ISSUES DISCUSSED AT THE VCS RELATIONSHIP MANAGEMENT GROUP (RMG) MEETING

Wednesday 26th September 2018, 10.30am to 11.30am

ERNEST SAVILLE ROOM, CITY HALL

CBMDC		Bradford District Assembly Steering Group	
Name	Department	Name	Assembly Steering Group (ASG)
Cllr Abdul Jabar (Cllr AJ)	Chair and Executive Portfolio Holder	Javed Khan (JK)	CNet
Ian Day (ID)	Department of Place	Soo Nevison (SN)	CABAD
Heather Wilson (HW)	Children's Services	Tony Dylak (TD)	Community Economic Forum
Sarah Possingham (SP)	Health and Wellbeing	Peter Homer (PH)	Young Lives
Kathryn Jones (KJ)	Office of the Chief Executive	Dave Forrest (DF)	Volunteering Bradford
Nazrul Meah (NM)	Office of the Chief Executive	Helen Davey (HD)	Health & Wellbeing Forum
		Nasim Qureshi (NQ)	Community Economic Forum
		Ranjit Arora (RA)	Equalities Forum

APOLOGIES

Jenny Cryer (JC)	Children's Services	Helen Speight (HS)	Health & Well-Being Forum
Martin Stubbs (MS)	Corporate Services		

Item 1: Budget Consultation

A detailed update was provided with regards to the forthcoming budget setting processes. Although the consultation methodology for this year is yet to be finalised conversations with the sector will continue to take place. The VCS were welcomed to provide suggestions for specific types of engagement.

Budget proposals for 2018/19 and 2019/20 are yet to be finalised and are likely to be published at the end of November 2018. Some of the budget decisions for 2018/19 were already consulted on last year and took in to consideration the views provided by VCS partners.

Equality assessments will also continue to be undertaken to help shape the proposals and their implementation. Updated assessments will continue to be published at key stages for transparency and comment, alongside public documents such as Committee Reports.

Discussion with regards to co-design and different types of consultation methodology took place. The primary concern from a VCS point of view was the lead in time to be consulted upon as it was felt that sufficient time was not allowed.

As explained on a number of occasions the Budget Setting process is a two year time frame therefore conversations can (in some instances) start early. However, due certain to legal duties and political processes it is not always possible for such discussions to take place and therefore is not a viable option.

However all partners, including the VCS, are encouraged to maintain a regular dialogue with service leads not just focusing on the formal budget process, as this is the best means of influencing and shaping outcomes.

Item 2: Anti Poverty Strategy

The Strategy was used as an example of the discussion which had taken place in the previous item with regards to the sector being allowed sufficient time to allow to make contributions to the draft strategy. There were no detailed discussions with regards to the Strategy itself.

Item 3: VCS Conference Feedback

The VCS Conference took place in March and explored ways collaborative working. The idea was to try and understand as a sector (alongside CCGs) how wider collaborative work could be undertaken and recognise what the benefits could be.

Outcomes envisaged included identifying any issues which prevent collaborative working and how better to undertake co-design and co-production work. These can then be set as a series of principles and guidance.

It was suggested that such guiding principles could be embedded into the Compact as a set of processes and principles on how we better work together, it was recognised that the Council and VCS do generally collaborate well.

It was also recognised that further developed collaborative working would allow for a greater understanding of certain high profile issues and work programmes.

Item 4: People's Powerhouse Convention

This was an information item. The People's Powerhouse Convention is scheduled to take place on 20th November with a drop in session on 27th September. As this is not a Council led event the information we have available is minimal, further information is available on the website.

The People's Powerhouse is calling for contributions from the local community as it believes decision making across the Northern Powerhouse needs more local voices to be heard. The idea is to do a '7 Minute Inspiration' showcase or an hour-long interactive session. Arts organisations, social enterprises, charities, voluntary and community groups are particularly welcome.

Confirmed keynote speakers include Susan Hinchcliffe, Leader of Bradford Council and chair of West Yorkshire Combined Authority; Andy Burnham, Mayor Greater Manchester, and the People's Powerhouse Chairman Edna Robinson.