



The Work Programme in the North West

The view of the Voluntary and Community Sector

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North West Third Sector Special Purpose Vehicle

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- Opportunities for VCS
- Strengths/Offer of VCS
- Issues for VCS
- Tackling Issues
- Consortia - SPV

Opportunities for VCS



Threefold:

- For thematic groups who support target groups e.g health, disability BME
- For thematic groups who provide services to target groups as well as support
- For groups who provide broad range of work related support as core activity

Strengths/Offer of VCS



- Reach/Engagement – VCS groups in touch with people furthest from job market
- Local Reach/Localism – VCS connected to and embedded in local communities Key aspect of Govt agenda
- *“Large contracts Vs local Priorities”*
Derek French – Head of Provision Management, DWP
17th Nov 2010
- Trust – led by and accountable back to service users and communities

Strengths/Offer of VCS



- Holistic approach – work with individuals long term, with the focus on respect for person rather than solving a “problem”
- Additionality – besides helping person towards work, will help them deal with other issues such as housing, health, offending etc
- Partnerships – able to draw in tailored packages of support using other voluntary organisations and/or volunteers
- Links to other funds: European Social Fund (inc ESF Community Grants) a good example

Issues for VCS



- Scale of contracts
- Appropriate level of engagement
- Finance esp. cashflow
- Mission drift for organisations
- Exploitation – poor contract terms

How do VCS groups enter the supply chain?



- Some organisations will be able to enter the supply chain in their own right
- Other (usually smaller) organisations might enter via partnerships and consortia

Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)



- To enable North West based Third Sector Learning, Skills and Employability providers to access, obtain and deliver large scale contracts that have

either

- not been previously available to them for reason of size and/or delivery requirements

or

- because the organisations holding the contracts are unable to offer a viable subcontract for delivery

Partner organisations involved in the North West Third Sector SPV Ltd



- Voluntary Sector North West
- North West Network
- Merseyside Network for Europe
- Community Network for Manchester
- Learning Together Cheshire and Warrington
- Lancashire Learning Consortium
- Cumbria CVS
- VOLA Merseyside
- Greater Manchester Centre for Voluntary Organisation
- 51 Delivery member organisations

Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)



- Identify suitable contracts for delivery by the SPV inc. sub-contracts in the WP
- Demonstrate sufficient combined strength of financial stability and management expertise to obtain large contracts
- Using economies of scale and a not dividend distributing business model ensure fair sub contracts and sustainable delivery agreements for partner organisations
- The SPV will positively co-ordinate, support and utilise smaller local delivery organisations, brokering partnerships where necessary

Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)



- Engage employers throughout the region to provide sustainable, local employment to participants
- Develop a common standard of quality for the SPV (already developed Quality Toolkit)

Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV)



For further info about the NW Third Sector SPV

– www.nwnetwork.org.uk/update-nw-third-sector-spv-1t

- In addition some research by Third sector European Network
- Third Sector European Network (TSEN) are conducting a survey to find out the extent to which the local voluntary sector in England has been included in the Department of Work and Pension's Work Programme bids
 - <http://tinyurl.com/6z9wv4g>