

Humber, Coast and Vale Health and Care Partnership

Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) Leadership Programme Steering Group

Update Report – end September 2020

Update on Steering Group meeting, 14th September

The monthly meeting of the VCSE Leadership Programme Steering Group took place Monday 14th September with an agenda containing the following items:

- Notes of the last meeting and Action Tracker;
- Programme Finance update from Two Ridings Community Foundation;
- Chair's update from Jason Stamp;
- Partnership update delivered by Linsay Cunningham as HCV Lead;
- Investment and Sustainability workstream discussion led by Jan Garrill;
- Volunteering update led by Alison Semmence;
- Workstream updates and arrangements for future reporting – the group postponed the updates but agreed the arrangements for future reporting.

The group discussed the upcoming Health Inequalities / Black, Asian and Minority Ethnicities (BAME) inclusion development session they are arranging, with input to come from West Yorkshire and Harrogate Health and Care Partnership, statutory partners, and the HCV People Lead for Workforce. There is an interest in improving trustee representation from BAME backgrounds.

The group agreed to support Jan's proposal paper around Investment and Sustainability and Jan would take this away for further development for an update at the October meeting. It is anticipated that further resourcing may be required for this work.

Work Plan Update

The Steering Group has opted to develop a Work Plan as part of their role and to help drive forwards the work of the Leadership Programme towards its aims and ambitions. The Work Plan priorities and their named leads were agreed at the July meeting of the Steering Group and are provided below for reference:

Workstream Priority	Named Lead
System Transformation	Jason Stamp (Hull)
Digital	Susan Oliver (North Lincolnshire)
Commissioning	Pippa Robson (North East Lincolnshire)
Workforce (including Volunteering)	Leah Swain (North Yorkshire)
Health Inequalities and Prevention	Andy Barber (East Riding)
Mutual Understanding	Alison Semmence (York)
Sustainability and Investment	Jan Garrill

Progress is underway across the various workstreams and the group is considering where they can best add value across the Partnership's operating arrangements, including appropriate membership of various governance groups. This will be supported by a stock-take/mapping exercise to understand the



current picture. There have also been talks to extend membership of groups to VCSE provider organisations where this is more appropriate and effective than a member of the Steering Group attending. Funding in the format of participatory payments would be provided to additional voluntary sector organisations to complete work which is related to any of the above and or newly emerging workstreams on behalf of the Partnership.

The 'Sustainability and Investment' workstream is new and Two Ridings Community Foundation will lead on this under Jan Garrill's leadership. The focus will be on the establishment of a baseline of the economic value of the VCSE across HCV, including existing grants and public investment across the region. Talks are underway with West Yorkshire and Harrogate, South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw and Lancashire and South Cumbria ICSs who are interested in similar work should there be the possibility of a consistent approach.

Workstream Leads will present their first formal round of updates at the next Steering Group meeting on 12th October.

Clinical and Professional Leaders Group, 18th September

Jason Stamp as Chair joined the weekly meeting of the Clinical and Professionals Group, chaired by Dr Nigel Wells (HCV Clinical Lead), to provide an overview of the programme and progress since its restart in June 2020. This was met with much interest from the group, with a particular focus on the voluntary sector's role in reducing health inequalities, supporting the waiting list backlogs that have built up during the pandemic, and moving the sector to a level playing field with other NHS and social enterprise providers. Jason hopes to provide similar updates and have similar discussions across other HCV groups/boards which will contribute to increased awareness of the sector and what it can do.

NHS Volunteer Responders

The Steering Group has been receiving regular updates relating to the NHS Volunteer Responders (NHSVR) programme. This programme was developed and launched within the space of a few weeks back in April 2020 to support the nationwide effort to tackle the first wave of Covid-19.

Due to the speed and scale at which NHSVR was introduced, VCSE colleagues have reported various issues and challenges on the ground with the rollout and deployment of this number of volunteers at short notice. Issues/challenges have included inadvertent duplication with existing local provision (e.g. Local Authority-led provision or existing volunteer centres); volunteer recruitment, training and management; demand outstripped by supply (some volunteers left with no tasks to complete); mixed messaging on the ground; the 'command and control' approach.

NHSVR has since improved engagement with VCSE stakeholders and partners across the country, to report on the progress of NHSVR, its plans for the future, and its weekly statistics and trends. This has included bi-weekly regional calls and monthly national calls for voluntary sector and ICS/STP colleagues to join. They have also identified the NHSVR scheme moving forwards as a "back-up safety net" especially in regions of England where the existing local provision is poorer or less well-resourced. It has also been confirmed that the scheme is to be extended to end March 2021 to support a second wave and winter flu season.

Beyond March, NHS England would like NHSVR to continue in some form and is in the process of development talks with some regions of the country where it has been particularly well-utilised e.g.

Middlesbrough, to explore the addition of new volunteer roles and further integration across STPs/ICSs. These pilots would then inform the future direction long-term of the programme.

All in all, NHSVR is here to stay and the Steering Group are in the process of exploring what this will mean in Humber, Coast and Vale and how to ensure that this can be an opportunity for the voluntary sector and the wider system.

Covid-19 Sector Resilience Survey and Report

Following the formation of the Steering Group, and in coordination with wider colleagues across the Yorkshire and Humber led by Voluntary Action Leeds, voluntary sector partners agreed to collectively work together across the region to produce a Covid-19 'Sector Resilience Survey' aimed at capturing the impact of the pandemic on VCSE organisations and measures put in place to respond to it. Rose Regeneration was later commissioned to analyse and report on the results of this survey.

The report is intended to provide a detailed picture of the strength of the sector, key trends, and associated challenges to inform a strategic discussion around how the sector can continue to play a vital role in the health and care landscape as we continue to live with Covid-19 and its impacts across HCV.

It is hoped that this survey can be used with a diverse range of funders, commissioners and key stakeholders and partners across the HCV Partnership to support the continued development of collaboration with the voluntary sector.

A draft version of the report has been received and Rose Regeneration is in the process of reviewing the Steering Group's feedback on this to incorporate into the final version. This will then undergo some HCV branding and final edits before being shared across the Partnership, hopefully in late October. We will ensure this is shared alongside these bulletins.

The Steering Group have agreed to promote a follow up survey which is being coordinated by Voluntary Action Leeds on behalf of the Yorkshire and Humber region. This new survey has been circulated through existing communication networks in each place and groups and organisations are encouraged to complete this by 30 September 2020. [See link to survey here](#).

We hope that you have found this to be a useful update and can share with your networks and colleagues across the Voluntary Sector in Humber, Coast and Vale.

If you have any queries relating to this report please do not hesitate to contact Jason Stamp (Steering Group Chair) jason@nbforum.org.uk, Linsay Cunningham (HCV Partnership Lead) linsay.cunningham@nhs.net or Candice Dowson (HCV Programme Management) candice.dowson@nhs.net.