

Minutes of the North Yorkshire Liaison Group Meeting

30 January 2018 at Chain Lane Community Hub, Knaresborough

	<p>Present:</p> <p>Neil Irving Leah Swain David Sharp Jan Garrill Sam Alexander Dave Ingham Avril Hunter Rachel Miller Angela Crossland David Watson Liz Meade Claire Lowery</p> <p>Apologies:</p> <p>Ann Byrne Jo Ireland Joanne Crewe Hazel Kirby Karen Weaver</p> <p>Richard Webb Marie-Ann Jackson Kathy Clark Tony Appleton Claire Slater Amanda Bloor Emma Lonsdale</p>	<p>NYCC (chair) Community First Yorkshire North Yorkshire Youth Two Ridings Community Foundation Your Consortium NYCC NYCC NYCC Selby DC North Yorkshire Sport NYCC NYCC</p> <p>Harrogate BC Scarborough BC NHS Harrogate & Rural District CCG Hambleton Community Action Harrogate and Ripon Councils for Voluntary Service NYCC NYCC NYCC Selby AVS Ryedale DC NHS Harrogate & Rural District CCG NYCC</p>	
1	Minutes of last meeting – 19 June 2017 – and matters arising	Action	
	<p>The minutes were agreed as an accurate record.</p> <p>Social Prescribing – Leah has been involved in work at district level looking at the links between social prescribing and living well.</p> <p>North Yorkshire summit meeting with the Big Lottery – Leah has spoken to the Big Lottery and now is not a good time for them to take this forward.</p> <p>Prevention strategy – Consultation has taken place.</p>		
2	Social inclusion partnership	Action	
	<p>Sam provided a hand out (copy attached) which she discussed.</p> <p>The social inclusion group is a task and finish group of the LEP's Skills and Employability Board. It was set up to oversee the LEP European funding and making sure that the work that is funded links together. Ideally the group would inform the funding for the second half of the funding but due to Brexit this will not happen as projects as not at an appropriate place for evaluation.</p>		

	<p>Sam highlighted the membership up of the task group. She is the chair, the vice chair is a Further Education representative from Hull, other members come from DWP, NYCC and JRF, there is also an older people's rep.</p> <p>Avril queried who the older people's representative on the group was. Sam said she would find out and let the group know.</p> <p>Sam was asked if the group would like any help in filling the vacancies in the membership. She said that as the group was set up for a limited period only and there are only 2 meetings left they are not actively seeking new members. However, they would be interested in hearing from people who may be interested in filling the roles. There will be a review to see if the group should continue after July.</p> <p>Leah highlighted that Community First Yorkshire can help to fill representative positions.</p> <p>Sam wrote a think piece for the LEP on social inclusion, If we want an inclusive society, let's stop defining people by what they don't have. Work is ongoing on how we can support people who have traditionally been excluded from employment. They are looking to the work carried out in Humber on support to organisations to take on young people traditionally excluded from employment and are aiming to apply it to all groups.</p> <p>Neil highlighted feedback he had received from the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Programme. The audits are keen to gain experience to be able to get into work. They are not keen on volunteering with charities and would rather volunteer with local businesses such as a butchers. This has worked well for both sides. Sam has been involved with work experience placements with private sector organisations and has found it works well.</p>	<p>SA</p> <p>ALL</p>
3	<p>North Yorkshire Wider Partnership Conference</p> <p>Claire gave a presentation on feedback from the 2017 conference (presentation attached).</p> <p>It was agreed that the strength of the conference is the networking opportunities. David Sharp felt that the moving forward of the VCS Q&A session had meant those attending it had felt rushed, particularly those involved in the community awards.</p> <p>Sam who has facilitated workshops said that she found the one longer workshop to be much better.</p> <p>The group were supportive of the community awards. They are seen as inspiring and a good way of sharing stories and ideas.</p> <p>There was a discussion around possible titles, topics and speakers for this year's conference.</p> <p>Possible topics to cover:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset based stuff – housing, loneliness, show case activity • Brexit – changing local dynamics in the labour market / hate crimes • Community engagement around community organisers / community asset based approach • Hambleton How to guides • Loneliness • Mental health in relation to loneliness • Neighbourliness - Social prescribing and creating communities • Outcomes of a community lead approach – reduction in loneliness etc. and community led housing 	<p>Action</p>

	<p>Possible title – New Neighbourliness</p> <p>Possible speaker: Big Lottery Fund Abdou Sidibe, Head of Regional Funding, Yorkshire and the Humber.</p> <p>Other local conferences this year:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community First Conference in May – Opportunities in times of change • Ripon cathedral – Rural Summit on Brexit 	
4	Community Learning Partnership Strategic Refresh	Action
	<p>Sam presented the report on the Community Learning Partnership Strategic Refresh.</p> <p>The North Yorkshire Community Learning Partnership (NYCLP) was founded in 2012 as an integrated partnership approach by the 9 organisations delivering for the skills funding agency (SFA). They started to share information on their own offer to reduce duplication and co-ordinate the provision of community learning. Each organisation involved put money in to support the partnership. In addition district groups were set up for more local providers.</p> <p>The partnership was reviewed last year and it was felt that due to the group being made up of SFA organisations the focus was on skills development and economic outcomes. A decision was taken to look more at learning in the community and membership has been opened up to none paying members including YNYER LEP, Stronger Communities, Public Health, North Yorkshire Police, the Library Service and North Yorkshire Sport.</p> <p>The group will look at synergy in outcomes, try more approaches, and consider new areas for community learning such as the move from plastic / increasing recycling. The group may be able to apply for national funds.</p> <p>The group is looking at a digital platform to act as a single point of contact for all courses in eth county rather than having to look at each provider separately. NY Connect is good at listing the organisations but does not provide the opportunity to search in this way. Neil offered the group the use of this group’s mailing list to gain input.</p>	SA
5	Jo Cox Agenda for Loneliness	Action
	<p>Leah raised the Jo Cox Agenda for Loneliness and the need for a North Yorkshire response. She has already had an initial conversation with Richard Webb.</p> <p>There is a lot of talk about loneliness, lots of different activities by different organisations but no overall approach. In addition in North Yorkshire is very focused on older people but the Jo Cox Commission Report highlights that loneliness affects many different types of people such as younger people in rural areas, farmers and young mums. The appointment of a ministerial lead and the plan for a cross-Government strategy suggests that there will be money available.</p> <p>The discussion highlighted a number of areas to consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilising community organisers to identity the issues • Utilising NY Connect to provide the relevant information • Understanding how we can get staff to understand how to respond • Understanding the issues, many lonely people will not admit it and will not be able to engage without support • A learning event to bring together evidence of what works and what does not in preparedness for any future funding opportunities. • How to galvanise intermediaries e.g. publican, betting shop staff, newsagent 	

	<p>Avril highlighted the Norfolk example in the commission report. Leah to talk to her equivalent in Norfolk to find out more.</p> <p>Leah to organise an initial discussion on how to take this forward. Jan and Angela volunteered. Any other volunteers to get in touch with Leah.</p>	<p>LS</p> <p>LS ALL</p>
6 The Procurement Process		Action
	<p>Dave Ingham asked the group as to whether or not the NYCC procurement service are doing enough to support people in the procurement process.</p> <p>David Sharp raised a few issues that arose during his recent experience:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He did not feel able to ask a question as he thought the answer would be shared with everyone and this would give his competitors information on his approach • He included a large number of appendices to provide information as he felt the word counts were insufficient • He highlighted that the pre procurement event was very useful especially the session on what needed to achieve score <p>Dave replied:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is important to ask questions so that we can understand if the question is not clear. If the question is of a general nature it and the response will be shared with everyone but if a question is related to a commercial aspect of your bid it can be kept confidential. If you say this question contains information that is commercially sensitive to our bid it will not be shared with everyone. • If the documentation asks for supporting documentation feel free to add it in <p>Leah highlighted the support Community First Yorkshire provide training on how to do trust / funding bids and respond to council bids. They are also working with the commissioning team for prevention and mental health about how to make sure organisations have the skills to bid.</p> <p>There was a discussion about different aspects of the commissioning / procurement process that could be improved. This highlighted the importance of getting VCS organisations involved as early as possible in the design of the specification, giving organisations bidding for multiple lots an opportunity to say why they and consideration as to the use of a grant.</p> <p>The NYCC forward procurement plan and contract register is available on Data North Yorkshire at http://hub.datanorthyorkshire.org/dataset/contracts-and-framework-agreements</p> <p>Dave to discuss with Leah how NYCC procurement could compliment what Community First Yorkshire do.</p> <p>VCS organisations to feedback on their experience of the procurement process and what they would like to see changed. Leah to put note out to sector asking for feedback.</p>	<p>DS/LS</p> <p>LS</p>
7 Any other business		Action
	<p>Homelessness – Jan has been asked by City of York to look at Homelessness. The group informed her that there is a county partnership for homelessness which includes VCS organisations. Avril and Angela offered to provide Jan with some contacts.</p> <p>VCSE Strategic Leaders Group – Leah wanted to highlight to VCS colleagues that she would be looking at the group composition at next week’s Strategic Leaders meeting.</p>	

8	Future meetings	Action
	<p>Future agenda items were discussed and the following suggestions made:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Procurement – lessons learnt from VCS • Social value • Impact measurement <p>Claire will look for an appropriate date in June.</p>	<p>CL</p>