

## **Minutes of the Thriving Third Sector Steering Group Meeting**

**15 July 2014 at County Hall, Northallerton**

### Present:

Alex Bird	Age UK North Yorkshire
Amanda Bloor	NHS Harrogate & Rural District CCG
Judith Bromfield	Richmondshire CVS
Ray Busby	NYCC (minutes)
Jon Carling	NY&Y Forum
Neil Irving	NYCC (Chair)
Marc Mason	NYCC
Milton Pearson	Craven CVS
David Sharp	NYCC
Leah Swain	Rural Action Yorkshire
Richard Webb	NYCC

### Apologies:

Hazel Kirby	Northallerton & District VSA
Nigel Staton	Whitby DAG
Sue Vasey	Your Consortium

### **1. Minutes of the meeting held on 23 September 2013.**

These were agreed as an accurate record.

### **2. Health & Social Care Issues**

Amanda Bloor's presentation focussed on developments in health and the integration agenda with Social Care, including: the background to Better Care Funding and the state of discussions and arrangements between the County Council and CCGs; systems of governance regarding CCGs; how intervention and prevention (of people from being admitted to hospital) were being replicated in all CCG plans; efforts to improve the sharing of IT systems through organisations and development streams; and the integrated personal commissioning pilot.

Sector representatives emphasised the desirability of improving information sharing between CCGs and health agencies with voluntary sector organisations.

Richard Webb explained that he had not been able to be in direct contact with voluntary sector representatives – although he planned to address this. Having only been in post for 3 months, much of his time had been necessarily absorbed by staffing restructures. In this short time however, he had been impressed by the determination to build up relationships between health and social care.

The NYCC requirement upon HAS to achieve £21.5m of savings by 2020 had prompted a revisit of all previous budget assumptions, especially in the following areas:

- Independent support and care where it was needed.
- Care and support where I live
- Better value for money
- A prevention strategy including improving re-ablement

Thinking about the future he highlighted three areas:

1. The movement towards stronger communities.
2. The Public Health Grant, whereby the Council would have a distinctive approach how to allocate.
3. The significant implications of the Care Act including the way information advice was made available, commitments to carers, the need for assessments and financial matters regarding costs of care.

Primarily HAS would be a commissioning organisation, but would most likely retain an element of provider services, notably START.

Sector representatives emphasised the value of continuing to stimulate the market. In this context, there was widespread support within the sector for continuing to work together around the commissioning framework.

Points raised included:

- i. In a planning and commissioning environment how can the voluntary sector punch its weight and aim for a more meaningful debate with CCGS and HAS to help shape support in the community?
- ii. A perceived lack of clarity regarding governance and working relationships between the voluntary sector, Healthwatch and the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- iii. How the sector is changing and innovating and how the public sector can help make that change.

#### **AGREED:**

That the relationship between Health and Social Care, the integration agenda and its impact upon the VCS be revisited in 6 – 9 months' time.

### **3. Preventative Strategy CYPS**

Marc Mason reported on the North Yorkshire CYPS review of preventative services, including: changes to the working environment;

and an increasing public health focus on prevention and the Healthy Child Programme.

Proposals for a restructured service around 12 area teams had been agreed with greater use of volunteers and improved and developed contracting with other sectors. Changes to youth work were planned. There would be more targeted work around children's centres with increasing use of community premises.

The timetable for implementation ran from a consultation held on 23 June to decisions being taken in September. The new service was to operate from 2015.

Referring to contracting arrangements, David Sharp expressed the hope that procurement arrangements would recognise that few organisations locally were structured in a way to deliver a sustainable youth service to the whole of the County. He also said that there was a desperate need for improved IT compatibility and interoperability between the public and provider organisations from the community and voluntary sector.

Marc Mason explained how the specifications for contracts would vary, and would range from universal to targeted approaches.

Sector representatives pointed out what they perceived to be various flaws in the way the procurement of County Council contracts was carried out, particularly the way contracts could be publicised.

#### **4. Revising the North Yorkshire Compact**

Judith Bromfield talked through the appendix including the various recommendations within the report. In addition to the changes proposed in the report, other alterations were agreed during discussion including:

- Alteration from 'can survive' to 'can be sustainable services' under para. 2.4.
- There be reference to government consultation principles under para. 3.4.
- Under para. 3.8 add monitoring and evaluation with links to regulation full cost recovery method under para. 3.8 mentioning prompt payment.
- That the revised Compact, as approved, be made available for organisations in order that it could be processed through those organisations' approval processes.

#### **AGREED:**

- i. **The national compact be adopted as a framework for a New North Yorkshire Compact.**

- ii. **The draft enclosed with amendments made and suggested be adapted as the revised Compact.**
- iii. **Judith be thanked for her tireless work on this which had produced an excellent outcome.**

## **5. Work Programme and Future Meetings**

### **AGREED:**

- i. **It was agreed that ideas be canvassed for topics for a meeting to be held sometime early in the new year.**
- ii. **It would be helpful to return to the discussion around health and social care issues, integration and the role of the sector in commissioning generally.**

## **6. Additional Comments**

Jon Carling made reference to the LEP and governance arrangements regarding voluntary sector input. A strategy group had been established which had contributed ideas for the LEP Strategy and maximising the benefits of the Big Lottery. This group would be an ideal reference point for deciding which matters might be brought forward to meetings.