

# Voluntary Sector NW



## VSNW Bulletin #129

### Warren's Words

#### Warren Escadale, CEO VSNW

Dear Colleagues



We hope this monthly update finds you all well and many of you vaccinated. We are now seeing some light at the end of this difficult period in our lives, and it is a time to reflect on the past year. Our sector has played an integral part in supporting our communities, despite coming under increased strain; it is vital that we use this strength and resilience we have built upon as a sector, to carry us forward. **April's update showcases important news, insights and visions regarding the sector across the North West and relevant resources from beyond our region.**

### Lancashire

The LOCAL vision has been featured in **The Lancashire Times**. We are **still encouraging involvement** in the VCFSE Lancashire vision. If you are a **Lancashire based VCFSE organisation** (including Blackpool & Blackburn with Darwen), we want to hear from you. We have endeavoured to create a **shared sector vision**, discussing what is important to us over the next few years and how we can actively achieve these goals. Although many online events discussing this vision have already occurred, there are still more coming up. Furthermore, on the **LOCAL website**, there is a platform to input into the conversation via a comment forum for any of those unable to attend a virtual event.

- **13th May 1pm: Abolishing Poverty in Lancashire** - with **Lancaster CVS: Book here**
- **End of May- Bringing the Vision Together:** More info tbc
- **more tbc**



**If you are a Lancashire based organisation please help make some noise about this fantastic opportunity & keep up to date with the process live, follow LOCAL on Twitter: @local\_lancs**

**www.localancashire.org.uk**

### Cheshire

In collaboration with NHS England and Improvement, Public Health England & Champs Public Health Collaborative, Cheshire & Merseyside Health & Care Partnership have implemented a research project to provide an **in-depth understanding of the impact of Covid-19 has had on BME communities**. With this report, each locality will have a better understanding of the ethnic makeup of their population so that **place-based interventions can thrive**. The full ethnicity profile **report** is available now to read.

### Cumbria

**Cumbria CVS are appointing a new Independent Chair**. They are looking for an individual with a strong interest in the VC sector and a clear comprehension of how it works. It is important that those applying have no conflicts of interest that would infringe on the applicants ability to be a voice for the sector if successful. Closing date: 19th April 2021.

### Greater Manchester

- **Sector3 and Stockport Council** have launched a new **VCFSE & third sector fund** in Stockport, offering **up to £1,000 to projects**. They are interested in projects especially that aim to:

- Reduce isolation
- Improve health and wellbeing - such as helping people to be active
- Help people and communities to recover from the impact of covid on their life and community
- Inform people about COVID safety, including vaccinations

Apply **here**, before Thursday 6th May.

- The **GM VCSE Leadership Group** have devised an **'economic vision' for GM**; they hope this vision will guide future conversations in the VCSE, private, statutory sectors and in communities. Full vision can be read **here**.

- The **GMCA** are seeking organisations in the following **equality panels**:

- LGBTQ+ Equality Panel
- Women and Girls Equality Panel
- Race Equality Panel
- Faith Advisory Panel
- Older Peoples Equality Panel

Deadline 30th April. **More details and registration.**

- The GM **VCSE Manifesto 2021** is now **available** to read.

### Liverpool City Region

V56 Partnerships will be hosting the VCFSE sector Metro Mayoral Hustings on the 20th April. The Hustings will follow a **question-and-answer style structure**, with candidates also given the chance to address the sector during their opening statement. **Sally Yeoman, Chief Executive of Halton and St Helens VCA**, Vice-Chair of V56 will be hosting the event his year.

The following candidates will be attending:

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- **Steve Rotheram** (Labour)
- **David Newman** (Liberal Democrat)
- **Gary Cargill** (Green)
- **Katie Burgess** (filling in for Jade Marsden) (Conservative)

**Sign up here to attend the Hustings.**

The V56 VCFSE **manifesto has also now been finalised** and can be read **here**. The manifesto showcases the aims and ambitions of the sector over the next 3 years and follows 12 months of engagement and collaboration across the sector.

### Sector News

- **The Boabab Foundation** have released their report **'Digging Deeper: Insights on tailored funding to organisations led by black people and communities experiencing racial injustice in 2021'**. Available **here**.

- Barclay's report **'Reshaped by the pandemic: the way forward for charities'** is available **here** - it looks at the challenges faced by the sector in the current environment, exploring how they've adapted and evolved.

- The report **'Positive Change: the outcomes of an unprecedented year'** written by leading sector journalist **Liza Ramrayka** looks at the last year, the key challenges, the solutions and what has been learnt.

- The government has released a selection of **Covid related resources**

- AskDoc have released **Covid Vaccination queries** and resources in an **array of different languages**.

- **CharityComms** offer a selection of **training for communications professionals** in the sector. They will be holding a conference on 'The New Rules of Audience Engagement' 28th/29th April. **Register here**

- The BBC Asian Network has created some **fabulous resources** exploring **vaccine scams** in Urdu, Syheti, Punjabi, Tamil & Gujarati.

The British Islamic Medical Associations (BIMA) has **information and graphics** for circulation regarding **Ramadan & Vaccines/Covid-tests**. It is important for this information to be spread far and wide so that even throughout Ramadan, Muslims can keep safe and protect themselves from the Coronavirus.

**As always you can find more sector news, comments and important information on our website.**

### Surveys

We understand that the sector is suffering from "survey fatigue", however they serve an important purpose; it is vital that during this time we **continue to gather information about the experiences** of organisations and communities so that we can collectively build back a better region.

**The New Economics Foundation (NEF)** have launched **The Living Income campaign**, whereby they want to improve incomes and reform the benefit system. They are asking for people to complete their **3-minute survey** about how the pandemic has affected your income in order to further inform their campaign.

### Are you interested in becoming a member of VSNW and joining a strategic network of organisations across the North West?

[Join Here](#)



If you would like VSNW to promote anything via our website or Twitter for your organisation such as job vacancies, funding, reports etc please email **alana.tucker@vsnw.org.uk**.

Thank you & stay healthy,  
From the VSNW Team

