

Voluntary Sector NW



VSNW Bulletin #128

Warren's Words

Warren Escadale, CEO VSNW

Dear Colleagues



Welcome to our March update. VSNW continues to congratulate the incredible work of the VCSE sector across the North West, whose vital role has been further highlighted as we navigate our way through this global pandemic. We now have a roadmap, a hopeful vision out of lockdown, and an opportunity to really push for change, by addressing the systemic inequalities that sadly exist in our society. VSNW has continued to drive conversations across the sector and our partnerships to make sure the sector is at the forefront of change in the North West.

From April, VSNW will host a **VCSE networking event** every other month. Our aim is to have a different **'light touch' theme** each event. The rest of the event will be dedicated to discussion and a chance to meet other organisations. The event series will **bring organisations together from across the region**; it is a chance to have conversations and share best practices. We want **YOUR** input.

Which of the following event themes would you be most interested in attending for our first event? Please pick **ONE**.

1. Minimum Wage & the VCSE workforce
2. Well-being in the Workplace: Mental Health Support in the Return to Work
3. Digital Inclusion- Service Users & Small Organisations
4. Supporting the Sector to "Go Green"
5. The Community Renewal Fund
6. Health System Changes (Whitepaper)

Lancashire

The launch of LOCAL, a conversation across the VCFSE in Lancashire (inc. Blackpool & Blackburn with Darwen) has been met with initial success. However, we still want to encourage as much input from the sector as possible and we have decided to extend the deadline of involvement to the end of May. You can keep up-to-date regarding upcoming events, information on how to organise your own and help with comms via the **LOCAL website**.



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

This month's **Cheshire & Merseyside VCFSE Health and Care Leaders** meeting, co hosted by **Caroline Whitney & Sally Yeoman** welcomed **Becky Mellor**, Senior Public Health Manager in Wirral. She discussed personalised care and the VCFSE sector. Conversations pertained to how the sector can better engage with the programme and feed in important community level insights and help inform place based care, and improve person-centered outcomes. **Steve Jones** also joined the meeting, Senior Project Manager at Cheshire & Merseyside Cancer Alliance to discuss how the sector can work together to improve cancer outcomes.

Cumbria

Cumbria CVS are hiring!

- **Independent Chair – Cumbria Third Sector Network (PT)**
Salary: Volunteer Expenses Closing date: 19th April 2021
- **Senior Manager – Finance and Resources**
Salary: £33,799- £37,849pa Closing date: 19th March 2021
- **Health and Care Project Funding Officer (North)**
Salary: £29,636 (FTE) Closing date: 19th March 2021
- **Senior Manager – District North (Carlisle and Eden)**
Salary: £32,029-£34,788 Closing date: 19th March 2021
- **Communications Manager**
Salary: £26,999-£28,878pa (FTE) Closing date: 19th March 2021

Greater Manchester



We have been working on behalf of **Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership** to recruit **Digital History Makers** for **#nosmokingday2021**. Above are some of the creative examples from **Megan & Zainab**. **More info**.

Liverpool City Region

Using a lot of the information collected throughout the V56 assemblies, V56 partnerships have written a **draft VCFSE manifesto** ahead of the Metro Mayor elections in May. V56 are hosting **two consultation events** in March to discuss the manifesto, before it is then further edited. Organisations will then be able to sign up and endorse the manifesto, before V56 ask the LCR Metro Mayor candidates to commit to its implementation, at a **Mayoral Hustings event in April**. There are 12 manifesto asks which have been split into the following headings:

1. **A Healthy VCFSE Ecosystem**
2. **Driving an Inclusive Economy**
3. **Championing our Communities**

Sign up for the **second consultation**, where discussion will focus on the 3rd heading **here**.

The **Mayoral Hustings** will be held on the **20th April 2pm-4pm**, keep an eye on the V56 **Twitter & website** for more information.

Sector News

- **The Baobab Foundation** has been newly created as a mechanism to **secure long-term funding for black and ethnic communities** and for those organisations that support them. They need **help reaching BAME organisations** and networks to build up their membership base and are asking local infrastructure organisations to **'spread the word'**.
 - **vHelp**, the **payment app for charities**, is offering local charities supporting the Covid-19 vaccine rollout a **free six weeks trial** of its new expenses service for volunteers.
 - The government has released a selection of **Covid related resources**
 - AskDoc have released **Covid Vaccination queries** and resources in an **array of different languages**.
 - Pilotlight have released their new report **'Learning and Listening for Mutual Action: surfacing and building the evidence base to support Black African, Black Caribbean, Asian and other Minoritised Ethnic led voluntary sector organisations'**, in which they explore and ask what the **specific support needs of organisations in BAME communities and led by BAME individuals** are.
 - The BBC Asian Network has created some **fabulous resources** exploring **vaccine scams** in Urdu, Sylheti, Punjabi, Tamil & Gujarati.
- 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 so that we can collectively build back a better region.
- The Centre on the Dynamics of Ethnicity (CoDE) have launched **a survey** to help understand **realities facing ethnic & religious minorities** during the pandemic.
- **#RespondRecoverReset Barometer survey: the largest UK study exploring the impact of Covid-19 on the VCSE sector. Deadline: 22nd March 2021.**
- Humanly and The Centre for Ageing Better are exploring designing new ways to get **people aged over 50 into work**. They have a **survey** for those over 50 living in Manchester, Trafford or Wigan.

New Trustee

VSNW are delighted to welcome **Circle Steele** as a new member of our **board of trustees**. Circle is CEO at the **Wai Yin Society**. We are looking very forward to working together.

New Members

We would like to give a huge welcome to our new members who joined either last or this quarter: Age UK Cheshire, Lancashire LGBT, Cheshire Without Abuse, YMCA Crewe, Knowsley Disability Concern, Lancashire Association of Boys & Girls Club, Take Part, Cumria Youth Alliance, Employment People, Wigan Borough Community Partnership, Merseyside Youth Association, Action for Children, Altrincham & Bowdon Civic Society, Cheshire Community Foundation, Citizens Advice Blackpool, Transition Northwich, Merseyside Civic Society, Mental Health Independent Support (MHIST), Mile Shy Club, MPH Training, The Prince's Trust, Salford Foundation, St Joseph's Hospice, The First Step, Worker's Educational Association (WEA), YKids Ltd, Rhythm Reaction, & Elaine Smithies

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, please email alana.tucker@vsnw.org.uk.

Thank you & stay healthy,
From the VSNW Team

