

Voluntary Sector NW



VSNW Bulletin #129

Warren's Words

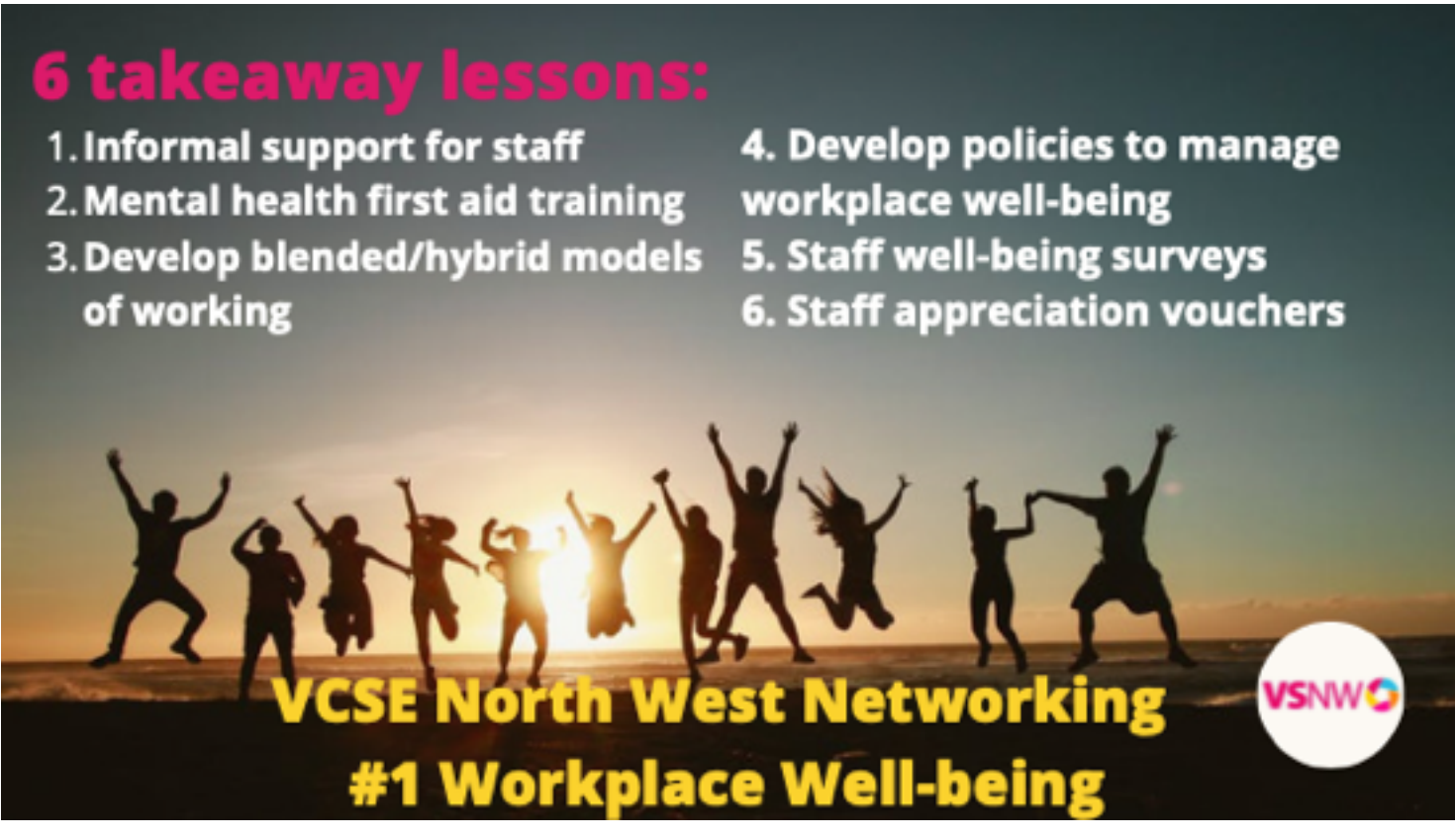
Warren Escadale, CEO VSNW

Dear Colleagues,

Thank you to all those who attended the first event in VSNW's **VCSE North West Networking Series #1 Workplace Well-being** which we held during **Mental Health Awareness Week**. The VCSE sector has worked tirelessly over the last year often having profound affects on our mental health. As we navigate our way out of the pandemic, these issues that have come to the fore in this challenging time must be addressed. We were very happy to hear during the networking event about all of the positive strategies that have been implemented across the region to safeguard employee mental health. Find a detailed summary **here** and see below for our 6 takeaway lessons.



6 takeaway lessons:
1. Informal support for staff
2. Mental health first aid training
3. Develop blended/hybrid models of working
4. Develop policies to manage workplace well-being
5. Staff well-being surveys
6. Staff appreciation vouchers



Upcoming VSNW Events

- **19th May 4pm-5pm 'Employing Ex-offenders in the VCSE Sector'**
The chance to hear from three speakers with experience working with and employing ex-offenders.
More info & BOOK NOW.

- **15th June** VCSE North West Networking Series #2: Changes in the NHS - details TBC

Cheshire

VSNW is working with the leaders of infrastructure bodies, the **Community Foundation** and the LEP in Cheshire to collect data exploring the use of community buildings, food banks, CAB services & volunteer opportunities and how things have changed since the pandemic began. This insight will then be used to **influence funding and investment decisions**. More details to follow.

Greater Manchester

Andy Burnham has been re-elected as the Metro Mayor of Greater Manchester and has agreed to sign up to the GM **VCSE Manifesto 2021**, which is **available** to read.

GMCVO have published a new report from their project **'Ambition for Ageing'**: "Pandemic Pressures: How GM equalities organisations have responded to the needs of older people during the Covid-19 crisis."

GMCA **Skills for Growth** programme is underway, which has been designed to fill occupational skills gaps identified from employers



Lancashire

We have entered our final phase of the **LOCAL** conversation. We are still encouraging input from Lancashire-based organisations in order to increase our mandate in creating this collective sector vision. You can still input on our website and keep an eye out for future events.

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



Liverpool City Region

Steve Rotheram was re-elected as Metro Mayor of Liverpool City Region. During the VS6 organised VCFSE LCR Hustings, Steve Rotheram agreed to sign up to the sector's manifesto. A full recording of the Hustings & manifesto can be found **here**.

Steve Rotheram delivered his promised £150m **Covid Recovery Fund** in the LCR on his first day back in office. The idea of this fund is to create jobs and support businesses post-pandemic.

VS6 were extremely happy to invite **Jermain Jackman** from the **Baobab Foundation** and Clint Agard from **Wirral Change** to their latest meeting. They spoke about the need for minoritised voices to be heard in strategic decision-making conversations and improving the availability of funding.

Sector News

- **Cause4** in conjunction with the Clothworker's Company are delivering the 'Trustee Leadership Programme', with the aim of training those taking on trustee roles. **Registration is available now.**
- **Tips and guidance** available for recruiting trustees and diversifying your board are available.
- **The Postcode Lottery Trust** is accepting bids from June and is focusing on charities in the North of England.
- Gendered Intelligence are hosting an **"Introduction to Trans Awareness"** professional development training.
- **SignHealth** have worked with other deaf organisations to create a COVID vaccination **information video**.
- IPPR North published their paper titled **"Women in the North: Choosing to Challenge Inequalities"**.
- LGBTQ+ Inclusion Matters are holding an online summit on the 9th June 2021. **Book places now.**
- The Institute for Economic Development (IED) will be hosting a national online conference: 'Understanding Building Back Better' 25th-26th May. Get tickets **here**.

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**

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