**VSNW Funding & Commissioning Awards 2025**

**Introduction**

VSNW’s outstanding grant funder and commissioner awards recognise the organisations and individuals that have demonstrated exceptional commitment to fair and innovative approaches in funding and commissioning the voluntary, community, faith and social enterprise sector (VCFSE) in the North West.

Through these awards, we plan to not only recognise and celebrate strong public sector and grant funder partnerships but to build up our understanding of what good looks like in terms of commissioning and funding to guide VSNW’s work on building strong collaborative partnerships with our colleagues.

If you have had a positive experience with a commissioning and/or funding team based in the North West and wish to share and celebrate this story, please consider filling in this short form to submit your nomination.

Please submit your nomination to info@vsnw.org.uk no later than **9am Friday, 3 October 2025** with the subject line “VSNW Awards 2025”.

If you need help with your application or have any questions about the awards, please contact info@vsnw.org.uk with the subject line “VSNW Awards 2025”.

**Guidance**

To support you to put forward your nomination, a list of potential qualities that you might want to consider have been developed below. Nominees should address why they think the organisation a good funder or commissioner, whether they meet some or all of the outlined qualities and provide specific examples and evidence where applicable.

**Qualities**

* **Values the work and expertise of VCFSE organisations**
* **Provides sustainability and long-term vision**
* **Provides transparency and accountability**
* **Provides timely support and communication**
* **Promotes diversity and inclusion**
* **Embraces efficiency and effectiveness**
* **Consideration of current challenges and providing flexibility**
* Provides VCFSE organisations with financial resilience e.g., annual contract uplifts in line with inflation
* **Values positive community impact and social value**

**Submission criteria**

**Please ensure that your nominee submission meets the following criteria to be considered:**

* Must be a commissioning/funding experience from the last 18 months
* Please nominate the appropriate commissioning/funding organisation (with reference to the lead individual if appropriate)
* Can be for funding/commissioning experience of any value
* Must be funding/commissioning for a VCFSE organisation in the North West of England
* Please reference the above relevant qualities in your nomination submission – you do not need to include all of them.
* Your nomination should be no more than 500 words.
* Supporting Documents: We will be in contact to request evidence if required.
* Nominations must come from a senior manager within your organisation

**Awards process**

Once the deadline has passed, all applications will be reviewed by a panel that consists of VSNW Board Members. Successful nominations will be informed via email.

As part of your nomination, please consider whether you and the nominated person or team would be able to attend our annual conference on Thursday, 27 November to accept the award in person. While attendance is not essential, it does help us celebrate achievements properly and share your story with the wider sector.

**VSNW Commissioning Awards Submission Form**

**Your nomination categories. Please tick ✓ one.**

**Outstanding Grant Funder 2025**

**Outstanding Commissioner 2025 - Local Authority/Combined Authority**

**Outstanding Commissioner 2025 - NHS**

Please address why you think the organisation a good funder or commissioner, whether they meet some or all of the qualities listed in the guidance document and provide specific examples and evidence where applicable.

**Your nomination and explanation (maximum 500 words):**

**Additional Information**

Please provide any other information or comments that support your nomination if needed **(maximum 200 words):**

**Your information:**

**Name:**

**Organisation:**

**Job title:**

**Email:**

**Phone Number:**

**Contact information of Nominee**

**Name of team:**

**Name of organisation:**

**Name and job title of lead individual:**

**Email of lead individual:**

**Is this individual/team aware that you have nominated them? YES/NO**

**Do we have permission to contact them? YES/NO**

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