

APPENDIX 2

OFFICER DECISION RECORD 2 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions which have a financial impact (income/expenditure) between £25k - £100k.

Decision Reference No: AHWB.075.2018 Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Coordination Project

BOX 1.

DIRECTORATE: Corporate Services

DATE: 15th October 2018

Contact Name: Katy Turner

Tel. No.: 01306 736881

Subject Matter: Voluntary Community and Faith Sector Coordination Project

BOX 2 DECISION TAKEN: Approval has been granted from the Joint Commissioning Management Board to use non-recurrent BCF funds to establish a short term design team constituted of five individuals from the Voluntary, Community and Faith (VCF) Sector.

The process to select these VCF representatives will entail an Expression of Interest form which will be evaluated by an independent panel.

The chosen individuals will not be reimbursed directly, rather a grant payment will be made to their aligned organisation.

Upon completion of the selection process, this decision record is seeking permission to award a grant of £10k respectively to the five successful organisations (who agree to release the individual to take part in the project).

BOX 3

REASON FOR DECISION AND ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

REASON FOR THE DECISION:

This project has come as a direct product of the engagement and discussions which have taken place between Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Doncaster Council and VCF colleagues. It has been a fully co-produced endeavour and VCF colleagues presented the project business case at the Joint Commissioning Operation Group board.

Over the past three months, NHS Doncaster CCG and Doncaster Council have been working with the local VCF sector to explore how they can better work in partnership to deliver health and social care outcomes.

Doncaster's Place Plan is predicated upon early intervention and prevention and community-led support services. The local sector needs to be at the core of this but has thus far been detached from strategic decisions and commissioning intentions. There is patchy representation on strategic boards and engagement often defaults to relationships formed through contract management and ad hoc projects, which is not fair, equitable or effective. The main reason for this is that Doncaster's VCF sector lacks co-ordination; at present, there is no central co-ordinating function with which commissioners can engage.

The Innovation Unit, an external service-design and research organisation, was commissioned to undertake research with the VCF sector to understand their views, strengths and challenges.

They produced a report entitled 'Working together to ensure Doncaster and its people thrive: *Insights into the experience of the Health and Social Care landscape for VCF sector organisations*'.

The main findings of the research (and ongoing dialogue with the sector) were as follows:

- Despite the difficult climate, there is a real desire for genuine co-production and a new kind of partnership working that allows organisations to flourish
- There is a desire to influence decisions about what is commissioned, when and how, underpinned by a belief that the VCF community has huge insight into what is needed, what works and how it should be delivered

- **The VCF sector recognises the difficulty of coordinating so many organisations and there are efforts to self-organise. There is a desire in the sector to create new platforms for coordination and engagement but a lack of capacity to achieve this easily**
- **Austerity and the loss of former infrastructure providers such as Doncaster CVS and Meeting New Horizons has left some VCF organisations feeling vulnerable**
- **The lack of support and funding available has left some organisations feeling disheartened, unsupported and without a voice**
- **The VCF are worried about their sustainability and with an increasing focus on finance, losing the core value of what voluntary services deliver**

Moving towards the establishment of a democratic co-ordinating structure which unites the diverse and fragmented VCF sector in Doncaster and would help to address these concerns.

Moreover, it would help Doncaster's landscape to align with the national Civil Society Strategy which advocates for collaborative commissioning (where all local players are involved in a consistent and cohesive way) and a stronger role for the VCF sector in strategic agendas.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED:

Option 1: Do nothing

Option 2: Impose a coordination structure on VCF to meet requirements of statutory bodies

Option 3: Empower, upskill and enable VCF to design their own structure of co-ordination which is mutually beneficial for both sectors

Option 3 is the preferred option as the success of the Place Plan is dependent on fostering a strong 'provider market' within the VCF sector, which can help to deliver health and social care outcomes for Doncaster. This can only be achieved if strong and genuine cross-sector partnerships are formed. If we do not take action to work towards creating strong partnership structures which can underpin the Place Plan, there is a substantial risk of us not achieving the fully integrated health and social care landscape we have set out in the vision.

This project has been done with a true partnership ethos, around shared

values and co-production. The formative engagement work which has led to this project proposal has begun to form trusting working relationships which will underpin the eventual partnership structure. If action is not taken, this progress will be undermined and will result in a more fragmented VCF sector, disengaged and mistrustful of commissioners and statutory bodies.

**BOX 4
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

YES

- **BCF Outline Business Case**
- **Project Specification**
- **Innovation Unit report - 'Working together to ensure Doncaster and its people thrive: Insights into the experience of the Health and Social Care landscape for VCF sector organisations'.**
- **Evidence of workshops and engagement with VCF**

**BOX 5
INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION:**

In accordance with the Freedom of information Act 2000, it is in the Public's interests for this decision to be published in full, redacting only the signatures.

Name: Gillian Parker Signature: by email Date 12/11/2018

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 6
AUTHORISATION:** ^{redaction}

Signed: _____ [<] _____ **Date: 12/11/2018**

Director/ [REDACTED] of People – Damian Allen

Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer?

[REDACTED]/NO

If yes please authorise below:

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____

Director/Assistant Director of _____

Consultation with Relevant Member(s)

redaction

Signed: _____ **Date:** 14th November 2018

Designation Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair)

Declaration of Interest **NO**

If YES please give details below:

PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

Once completed a PDF copy of this form along with any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk who will arrange publication.

It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.