

PORTSMOUTH VOLUNTARY & COMMUNITY SECTOR PROVIDERS' NETWORK
Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 12 July 2006 at PCCS

Present:

Jackie Buckley	Relate
Adrian Clee	Salvation Army
Sue Dovey	Community Action Hampshire
Angela Etherington	Mind
Steve Glennon	PCC
Joe Hider	Alzheimers Society
Judy Hillier	PCT
Delyth Horsley	PCC
Vince Ibbs	Portsmouth CAB
Jennifer Kelsey	PCCS
Mandy Lindley	PCC
Liessa Mallinson	Victim Support Portsmouth and Havant
Paddy May	PCC
Sarah McDuff	PCC
Dianna McMahan	Richmond Fellowship
Sally Moger	The Elizabeth Foundation
John Moreton	Age Concern Portsmouth
Alison Newbon	PCC
Susan Newcombe	PCCS
M Newman	
Corrie Pither	Hampshire Constabulary
Claire Pond	Portsmouth City Primary Care Trust
Nick Ralph	PDCSR
Jane Robinson	Portsmouth Counselling Service
Marc Rostock	PCC
David Stephen Butler	PCC
Wendy Tolson	Beneficial Foundation
Theresa Wade	Off The Record
Paula Walker	Meridian Trust
Diana Warren Holland	PARCS
Robert Watt	PCC
Sharon Williams	Headway
Chris Wincott	B,D & M
Ken Wise	Probation Service
Liz Wood	Learning Links (Southern) Ltd

1.0 Chris Wincott welcomed those present and explained the agenda

2.0 **Production of minutes**

It was agreed that a record of the meeting should be produced and agreed at the following meeting. This will be particularly helpful for people unable to attend and to act as a means of distributing useful material presented during the meeting.

3.0 **Newsround**

Brief updates were provided by:

3.1 National and Strategic Issues - Mandy Lindley (Briefing paper attached)

3.2 **Service Provision and VCS - Susan Newcombe**

SN updated colleagues on the Local Infrastructure Development Plan (LIDP). She confirmed that the LION Sub Group had asked John Palmer, Management Consultant, NorthHarbour Consultancy Ltd to assist with the final stages of the Plan. Consequently, the Plan had been drawn up as a Priority Action Planning Matrix outlining 10 proposals/priorities. They were as follows:

Proposal 1: Improving coordination and collaboration between Generic and Specialist Local Infrastructure Organisations

Proposal 2: Better information and better access to frontline VCOs

Proposal 3: Improving Performance and Workforce Development in Frontline VCOs

Proposal 4: Improving Volunteering Support and Development in Frontline VCOs

Proposal 5: Improving Funding, Income Generation, Business Planning and Financial Management in Frontline VCOs

Proposal 6: Encouraging and supporting involvement in Social Enterprise and Public Service Delivery by frontline VCOs

Proposal 7: Developing ICT capacity in frontline VCOs

Proposal 8: Promoting networking, representation, lobbying and campaigning across the voluntary and community sector with statutory and private sector partners

Proposal 9: Improving availability and accessibility of infrastructure support to BME Minority Faith Groups, Refugees and

Asylum
Migrants

Seekers, Gypsies and Travellers and Economic

Proposal 10: Promoting an awareness of Human Rights and Community
equality orientation. Cohesion based on celebrating diversity and promoting
based on disability, faith, age, gender and sexual

SN advised colleagues that Portsmouth's LIDP (now to be known as the LIIP - Local Infrastructure Investment Plan - had reached Capacity Builders by the noon deadline on 30 June 2006 - just! SN acknowledged that time had been extremely short but it had been the same for all consortia. That said, she recognised that it had not been possible to get the agreement of all partners prior to the document being forwarded to Capacity Builders. To that end, PCC colleagues who had been unable to attend the last meeting had subsequently voiced reservations about elements of the LIDP. SN had apologised and duly advised John Marshall, Programme Manager, Capacity Builders, that the Portsmouth Plan may not have the full endorsement of the local authority but every effort would be made to ensure any comments or concerns would be circulated to all stakeholders with a view to incorporating any amendments or revisions, where appropriate. The next phase would be to put together a submission to Capacity Builders based on agreed priorities between partners. The deadline for the submission would be 21 July 2006. The next LION sub group meeting was scheduled to meet in September but this remains subject to confirmation - and the outcome of the bid process!

SN then went on to update colleagues on the Charities Bill (soon to be the Charities Act) and its implications for the sector particularly social enterprises.

Finally, SN advised colleagues that, although somewhat earlier than planned, she would be standing down from her post as Chief Executive, PCCS, within the next couple of months. The decision to stand down had not been lightly or easily taken but she felt it was the most appropriate course of action for personal and professional reasons. Although extremely sad to be leaving PCCS, SN thanked colleagues for their support and friendship during the last nine years. She had thoroughly enjoyed her time working in Portsmouth with colleagues from all sectors and the wider community. SN considered it had been an honour and a privilege to serve alongside them.

3.3 Update from the LSP - Adrian Clee

The main discussions at the last meeting were around the development of the LAA and Community Cohesion. There was a very successful LSP Conference focusing on what people want to see as Portsmouth's priorities for the LAA, the results of the feedback are being circulated by PCC Strategy Unit.

Pathfinder: Went to visit tower Hamlets, who have a very well developed Local Authority/VCS procurement practice. Notice of future contract opportunities up to a year in advance. As with elsewhere the term 'Third Sector' has been used to indicate the wider voluntary and community sector. Ed Milliband (Government Minister) will be visiting Portsmouth to meet the Portsmouth Pathfinder steering group, which includes VCs providers on September 7th 2006.

3.4 Update on LAA - Paddy May

- PM said that he assumed that he did not need to repeat what the LAA was and the benefits of doing an LAA. He said he was going to talk about the conference and then the forward process for developing the LAA.
- He mentioned that the recent LSP / Community Network Conference had been very helpful in prioritising the issues that should be addressed through the Local Area Agreement
- He thanked PCCS for their financial support towards the LSP / Community Network conference and said that without this support it would not have been possible to hold such a large event and at the John Pounds Centre. He also thanked Community Network members who had helped with the conference e.g. Adrian Clee on the Conference Steering Group and other members who had helped facilitate workshops
- In terms of the LAA he talked through the results of the conference and said which issues delegates had identified as the most important ones to address through the LAA. Delegates were able to provide their views through participation in workshops, questionnaires, star-rating sheets, graffiti walls etc. There seemed to be a fair range of consistent results across the different methods. He confirmed that the analysis of the conference consultation results report had been amended to reflect the fact that the workshop discussions had

highlighted the link to VCS service delivery and the pathfinder project

- In terms of future work, PM explained that the results from the conference would be going to the Local Area Agreement Project Broad on 18th July and that their recommendations as to what should be in the LAA would be considered at the LSP on 27th July. By the end of July we then needed to make a submission to GOSE on what our LAA would be looking at. GOSE would then come back to us with comments by early August and we then needed to submit a draft LAA by end of September. Our final LAA needed to be submitted by the end of December and the agreement should be in place for April 2007.
- PM also provided information on sources of information:
 - Report to LSP on issues etc. For the conference results people should look at section 4 and appendix 1, 2 and 3
 - For the proposed issues and why we are proposing them people should look at the table under section 7.4

Susan Newcombe (SN) asked PM about membership of the current LAA Project Team particularly voluntary and community sector representation. PM outlined the make up of the current team including lead officers. It was acknowledged that there were no VCS representatives on the project team at this time. Given the increasing role of the sector in strategic planning and service delivery SN asked if VCS representation could be reviewed with a view to appointing at least 1 if not 2 representatives. SN was aware that the Hampshire LAA Executive had 2 VCS representatives on the Board - and it would be a shame to let Hampshire get one up on Portsmouth!

4.0 **Full Cost Recovery - Sue Dovey** (Presentation slides are attached)

Sue provided an overview of the state of the Sector and some of the key issues relating to Full Cost Recovery (FCR). This was followed by a general discussion of: the difficulties associated with the lack of consistent definition of FCR; multiple models of calculations being available; inconsistent approaches being adopted by funders; confusion over the appropriate management of service delivery that involves the use of volunteers; and the difficulty in quantifying some aspects of service delivery and value added.

5.0 **Review and conclusion**

A plenary review of the meeting was facilitated by Chris Wincott to assist with planning future events under three headings:

What worked well?

- So many people - and new people
- Publicity
- Speaker - offered new ideas
- Good sense
- Informative
- Participation
- Newsround session
- Range of people and topics
- Independent facilitation
- Commercial thinking - outside partnerships

What did not work well?

- Room was stuffy for the numbers
- Advertised as Full cost Recovery, but the presentation was about the value of the sector
- Lack of minority community representation

What do differently?

- Video the meeting and issue a CD
- Use the quiriness of the sector in the meeting planning
- Improve the clarity of the agenda
- Still need information on Full cost Recovery
- Circulate the BME code
- Look at marketing for the VCS

- 6.0 The date of next meeting was agreed as Wednesday 6 September from 1230 to 1530. (Please note that this meeting has now been cancelled due to the Procurement Event - 'Developing the Dialogue' - taking place on 11 September. The next Providers meeting will now be 7 December 2006, 12.30 - 3.30 pm at PCCS).