

**Agenda Item: 6.2**  
**One Nottingham Board**

**Title of Paper: VCS Strategic Reference Group Update and Future Voluntary Sector Representation on the One Nottingham Board**

**Date: 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 This paper updates the Board on the recent meetings of the new Voluntary Sector Strategic Reference Group (SRG) and the views expressed by the SRG on the future VCS representation on the One Nottingham Board.

**2. Recommendations**

- The One Nottingham Board is asked to:
- 2.1 Note the update on recent meetings of the SRG.
  - 2.2 Note the views of the SRG regarding future representation on the ON Board from the VCS.
  - 2.3 Comment on the views and if endorsed, agree for a more detailed proposal to come to the Board in January.
  - 2.4 Comment on the future representation from the BME and Faith sectors, and any process for appointment; this will be subject to further discussion.

**3. Update from the VCS SRG**

- 3.1 Since the update report to the last Board, two more meetings of the SRG have now taken place.
- 3.2 The group has agreed a work plan, leads for the different priorities, and a programme of meetings for the first year. 6 priorities were agreed to form the basis for a work programme:
  - 1. VCS voice to be heard clearly and taken seriously so that there can be equality of discussion.
  - 2. Mental Health, particularly young people.
  - 3. Commissioning Strategy particularly with the Clinical Commissioning Group.
  - 4. Influencing the objectives of the new Nottingham Plan.
  - 5. Young People.
  - 6. System change.
- 3.3 The last meeting in October included a discussion on commissioning, and it was agreed to progress a number of areas to support the development of effective commissioning with the VCS in Nottingham.
- 3.4 The SRG identified a gap in their membership around VCS groups working on Equalities and this will be considered further. NCVS are looking at setting up an Equalities Network, from which a representative could be appointed. In the meantime it was agreed to forward enquiries to and discuss further with the Chair.

3.5	<p>The group has also discussed how to communicate with the wider voluntary sector and other partners and partnerships. Membership of the group and contact details have now been published on the One Nottingham website <a href="#">VCS SRG</a>. The group as a whole is happy to be consulted on strategic issues, and members are happy to be contacted individually.</p>
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<b>4. Future Representation on the One Nottingham Board</b>					
4.1	<p>As part of the One Nottingham Governance Review in September 2016, the following representation was agreed for the VCS and Faith sectors on the One Nottingham Board.</p> <table border="0" data-bbox="226 627 1471 1030"> <tr> <td data-bbox="226 627 766 851">Voluntary and Community Sector</td> <td data-bbox="766 627 1471 851">           Two representatives:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated to represent BME organisations</li> <li>• one nominated to represent the general voluntary and community sector</li> </ul> </td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="226 851 766 1030">Faith Sector</td> <td data-bbox="766 851 1471 1030">           Two representatives:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated by the faith sector</li> <li>• one nominated appointee from the Faith Leader's Group</li> </ul> </td> </tr> </table>	Voluntary and Community Sector	Two representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated to represent BME organisations</li> <li>• one nominated to represent the general voluntary and community sector</li> </ul>	Faith Sector	Two representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated by the faith sector</li> <li>• one nominated appointee from the Faith Leader's Group</li> </ul>
Voluntary and Community Sector	Two representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated to represent BME organisations</li> <li>• one nominated to represent the general voluntary and community sector</li> </ul>				
Faith Sector	Two representatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one nominated by the faith sector</li> <li>• one nominated appointee from the Faith Leader's Group</li> </ul>				
4.2	<p>Current BME, general and faith sector representatives were appointed through an election process run jointly by One Nottingham and NCVS, with support from the Elections Team at Nottingham City Council (NCC). This was felt at the time, to be the most effective way of engaging with smaller organisations and of having a fair and legitimate process. It did however, take a lot of time, administration and resources to run, and there is now reduced capacity in One Nottingham, NCVS and NCC to support this in future.</p>				
4.3	<p>As a result of the work around improving the Strategic Voice for the Voluntary Sector it was agreed that the number and method of appointment for the VCS representatives would be reviewed, following the conclusion of that work and the setting up of a strategic group. To enable this, the membership of the current representatives on the Board was extended in July 2017, for a maximum of 12 months to enable a proposal to be agreed and implemented.</p>				
4.4	<p>The SRG has now considered representation at its last two meetings and have suggested that the following be recommended to the board to cover representation from the general voluntary and community sector in the city:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- One representative from the SRG, agreed and nominated by the group.</li> <li>- One representative from the wider VCS appointed through the organisation of the various VCS networks in the city. This was felt, given limited resources, to be the best way of including and engaging with smaller organisations. This could be through a call for Expressions of Interest and a panel interview.</li> </ul>				
4.5	<p>The ON Board is asked to support this recommendation and enable a more detailed proposal and timescale to be developed.</p>				

## 5. Future Representation on the Board from BME and Faith Sectors

- 5.1 The SRG did not feel able to comment on the future representation for these sectors, and felt it was up to the Board to agree what representation was appropriate, from which sectors, in consultation with relevant groups.
- 5.2 Board Members are therefore asked to give any initial comments, and further discussion will take place to enable a proposal to be developed. Current Board representatives will also be consulted on their views.

## 6. Contact Details

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**Minutes of the VCS Strategic Reference Group Meeting**  
**29<sup>th</sup> June 2017**  
**13:00 – 15:00**  
**0.06 Loxley House**

**Present:**

- Nigel Cooke, Director, One Nottingham - **NC**
- Mike Khouri-Bent, Business Representative - **MKB**
- Andrew Redfern, Framework HA, VCS Advocate - **AR**
- Linny Beaumont, The Princes Trust - **LB**
- Jules Sebelin, NCVS - **JS**
- Mark Garner, Opportunity Nottingham - **MG**
- Janet Lewis, Base51 - **JL**
- Lisa Buono, Framework HA - **LB**
- Colin Bradley, Groundwork - **CB**
- Dave Brenan, Castle Cavendish – **DB**
- Andy Coppins, Nottingham Trent University - **AC**
- Michelle Battlemuch, SSBC - **MB**

**In Attendance:**

- Dawnay Robinson, One Nottingham – **DR**

**Apologies received:**

- Lorel Manders One Nottingham
- Sarah Collis Self Help UK
- Claire Richmond

Item	Agenda Item	Action
1.	<p><b>Welcome and Introductions</b></p> <p>NC welcomed everyone to the meeting, introductions were made.</p>	
2.	<p><b>Purpose of the Group</b>  <b>(Agreeing arrangements for first year – Terms of Reference, Chair and Vice Chair, admin support including minutes and rooms)</b></p> <p>AR gave background and purpose of the SRG <i>“To influence and act at a strategic level through discussions from key VCS people in different voluntary organisations in the city”</i> He went onto further explain that the setting up of the SRG wasn’t to just feed into the One Nottingham Board, but making it wider to connect VCS to different agendas such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, etc.</p> <p>MKB felt that Nottingham has a good voluntary sector but there is a</p>	

	<p>need for the SRG to recognise and prioritise key issues, to work towards a better voluntary sector.</p> <p>NC to chair this meeting.</p> <p>AR to chair all future SRG meetings, and be the VCS representative on the One Nottingham board. If he resigns his role on the One Nottingham Board, new chair for SRG will be discussed and decided.</p> <p>Colin Bradley appointed Vice Chair of SRG.</p> <p>One Nottingham happy to organise, and facilitate the next two SRG meetings.</p> <p>Discussion surrounding the representation of members of the SRG.</p> <p>It was decided and confirmed that members of the SRG are not representing their organisation; they are representing themselves as individuals.</p> <p>LB wanted to add to the Terms of Reference, that if a member of the SRG leaves the organisation they signed up with that their seat at the SRG is reviewed, and this is put to the SRG.</p> <p>One Nottingham to create rota for admin and arranging venues.</p> <p>JL volunteered admin and venue for next meeting (Base51). JS also volunteered admin and venue for another SRG meeting (NCVS). LB also offered admin and venue for another SRG meeting (Prince's Trust).</p> <p>Discussion on how often SRG should meet. SRG decided to meet bi-monthly to follow up on actions. It was felt that holding SRG meetings quarterly might cause a lack in following-up of actions, due to length of time in between meetings. The next meeting should take place sooner to create more momentum.</p> <p>NC – SRG need a project plan to keep on track, and date actions to make those actions are completed, and followed-up.</p>	<p>ON</p> <p>ON</p>
<p><b>3.</b></p>	<p><b>Proposal for future One Nottingham VCS reps</b></p> <p>NC – One Nottingham Board no longer statutory, more voluntary. Need to consider the method of recruiting One Nottingham Board Members.</p> <p>DB wanted there to be a space for another member of the SRG to become a member of the One Nottingham Board representing VCS SRG.</p> <p>LB &amp; JS felt it should be put to the wider voluntary sector, to get a better representation of voluntary groups in Nottingham including the smaller voluntary organisations, as well as the larger ones (who are members of the SRG).</p>	

<p><b>4.</b></p>	<p><b>Developing a work programme and immediate priorities</b></p> <p>NC introduced the Nottingham Plan to SRG, and informed group that SRG can have influence over the future. The meeting split into two groups to discuss what issues they would like to prioritise, why, what could this group contribute, who would you want to engage with, and what would you hope to achieve.</p> <p>Both groups had separate discussions surrounding the Nottingham Plan and what they would prioritise.</p> <p>Summary of discussions (priorities) – 6 areas prioritised all cross-cutting, potentially with some overlap. 1. VCS voice to be heard clearly and taken seriously so that there can be equality of discussion. 2. Mental Health, particularly young people. 3. Commissioning Strategy particularly CCG, 4. Influencing the objectives of the new Nottingham Plan, 5. Young People and 6. System change.</p> <p>SRG members to consider the priorities identified above to enable a more informed discussion at the next meeting. This will enable the development of a work programme.</p> <p>LB to electronically distribute the Youth Index report.</p> <p>JS to share single points of contact for mental health referral with the SRG</p>	<p>All</p> <p>LB</p> <p>JS</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Future Meeting Dates</b></p> <p>SRG wanted the next meeting to be within 6 weeks or so.</p> <p>DR to send Doodle poll to see which dates suit everyone best.</p> <p>SRG informed DR that the best time for the meeting will be end of August/Start of September, and preferably not on a Friday.</p> <p>DR to send contact details of members of the SRG, to SRG.</p> <p>One Nottingham to set up drop box for the use of the SRG.</p>	<p>DR</p> <p>DR</p> <p>ON</p>