



Greater Manchester VCFSE Leadership Group

Terms of Reference

Purpose, Vision & Functions

The GM VCFSE Leadership Group was set up as a coalition of the willing seeking to promote the role and involvement of the VCFSE sector and communities in Greater Manchester devolution.

Members should be '**catalysts and connectors**' for the sector.

The Leadership Group has a dual purpose of 'ending inequality in Greater Manchester in a generation' and 'represent and promote the VCFSE sector'.

Its vision is:

1. A future where the leadership group supports the VCFSE sector to play its full part in creating a more equal Greater Manchester.
2. A connected VCFSE sector delivering a more equal Greater Manchester that is addressing the priorities of its communities.
3. A greener, fairer, more prosperous city with a connected and coordinated VCFSE sector that works together to identify priorities and coordinate action.
4. A sector that is involved in and influences relevant decision-making — with public, private and voluntary sector partners.

The Leadership Group has the following key functions:

1. Space to Meet Public Sector
2. Space to share information, link reps and develop responses
3. Space to think and develop propositions/catalyse change
4. Campaigning/Voice Model
5. Accountability and Governance: providers, equality organisations and local infrastructure
6. Coordination/Decision making

2022/23 saw the Leadership Group working on the first year of delivery of a refreshed GM VCFSE Accord, whilst setting out the plans for a further three year agreement between the Greater Manchester Mayor, Combined Authority and the Greater Manchester Integrated Care System with the VCFSE sector, based on a relationship of trust.

Membership/ Secretariat

The GM VCFSE Leadership Group (herein referred to as 'The Group') will be chaired by Warren Escadale, Chief Executive of Voluntary Sector North West (VSNW).

Secretariat support will be provided by Cassandra Banks, Partnerships Officer of VSNW

The Group will comprise the following 36 members:

- 10 from GM local infrastructure support organisations (CVS)
- 1 from VSNW (non-voting)
- 5 from equalities groups
- 2 from GM Faith Communities

- 5 GM Health Board Representatives (ICB, ICP and JPDC boards)
- 4 from Social Enterprise
- 11 from GM VCFSE Provider organisations

The Group also includes a number supporting officers, this includes lead Accord officers at GMCA and GM NHS Integrated Care.

Where members hold a related role in addition to their nominated sector or a specific expertise area, they are encouraged to provide input from both roles/areas.

These members will be expected to sign up to a simple Protocol and will be selected via nomination / election processes from either their own constituencies, or The Group.

Membership of the group will be subject to review on a yearly basis.

If any member fails to attend three consecutive meetings, they can be removed from the group, assuming no extenuating circumstances.

Meeting arrangements

The Group will meet every six weeks, with meetings arranged by the Secretariat.

Only members of The Group, officers and the Secretariat shall have the right to attend meetings. However other individuals may be invited by the Chair to attend all or any part of any meetings as and when appropriate.

Notice of each meeting confirming the venue, time and date, together with an agenda of items to be discussed and supporting papers, shall be forwarded to each member of The Group no later than five days before the date of the meeting.

Actions and minutes shall be circulated to members of The Group no later than the mid-point between meetings.

Decision-making

The quorum for such meetings shall be six excluding the Chair.

Decisions will be made by consensus, whenever reasonably practicable.

If a decision requires a vote, then each member of The Group present will have one vote, with the Chair using a casting vote if necessary in order to achieve a simple majority.

Protocols

Members of The Group will:

- work in partnership to develop a stronger voice for the voluntary, faith, community and social enterprise sector in Greater Manchester.
- seek to be transparent, accountable, fair, consultative and inclusive in all of its activities.
- respect confidentiality at all times.
- declare any conflict of interest arising from any matter discussed at any meeting, and where appropriate withdraw from the debate.
- abide by all decisions made by The Group, providing they have been reached in a democratic manner, as above.

- participate proactively in the development and delivery of The Group's activities, including sharing out the workload arising from meetings fairly and evenly.
- promote innovation, transformation and best practice delivered across and by the sector; and foster effective knowledge transfer to enable the sector to thrive in Greater Manchester.