**VCSE Assembly**

**Tuesday 3rd December 2024 1pm-330pm.**

**Forum@PQ, Princes Quay, Hull, HU1 2PQ**

**Attendees**

Jason Stamp (Forum CIO), Pippa Robson (Forum CIO), Linda Conway (Forum CIO), Amy Hallett (Forum CIO), , Louisa Ingleson (Forum CIO), Chloe Buckley (Forum CIO), Carrie Duran (Hull CVS) Mark Baggley (Choices and Rights), Duncan Edge (Choices and Rights) , Steve Calvern (Sutton Methodist Warm Welcome), Phil Langdale (Sutton Methodist Warm Welcome), Kate Winstanley (Hull City Council), Christopher Stevens (Groundwork) , Sonia Jalal (Hull Sisters) , Francis Ahiakpa (HANA), Kia MacPherson (St Phillips) , Kate McDonald ( Time Bank) Jo Kent (CHCP Blossom) , Denise Robinson (Fit Mums & Friends), Phil Vincent (Homestart) , Alison Stannard (Sight Support) , Claire Balfour (Sight Support) , Theo Farrer ( HCC TP) , Carl Newsam (HCC TP), Emily Bendelow (HCC TP) , Scott Turner (HCC TP) , Margaret Bashir ( HCC TP), Jan Boyd (EMS ) , Judith Lund (British Red Cross), Jean Templeton (HCHFH) , Justina Oraka (TJ Training & Consultancy) , Julie Robinson (HRN) , Jane Winter (HCC) , Dawn Sullivan (HU4) , Terry Sullivan (HU4), Eric Cserna ( Groundwork) , Caroline Tomlinson (NHS) , James Baker(NHS)

**Apologies**

Luana Smith (Han Lok Senior Association / Hull Chinese Cultural Centre), Tracy Wharvell (Citizens Advice), Sharon Clay (HCC Partnership Development and Engagement Lead), Helen Grimwood (Hull CVS), Hannah Meadway (Hull CVS), Paul Hamnett (Hull KR Foundation), Harriet Jones (Storyboard), Iain Thompson (Storyboard), EmmaWaslin, Baz Pishardi, Nikki Anderson (Alzheimer's Society)

1. **Welcome & Housekeeping -Jason Pippa Robson**
2. **Check inactivity and discussion -All organisations**

A group discussion on how the budget and the NI contributions by VCSE would affect organisations.

1. **Customer Services -Cost of Living update -Kate Winstanley & Lisa Buttery**

[Cost of Living Hull CC Presentation](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fnorthbankforum.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F12%2FVCSE_Assembly_3_12_24_Here_To_Help_With_The_Cost_Of_Living_HCC.pptx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

The cost-of-living website is a template full of information along with the Community Hubs. It has links to support and help to support residents to negotiate difficult times.

Individuals can also access the Community Directory that includes information on groups and organisations that can offer community-based support.

1. **Impact of the Budget on the VCSE in Hull & East Riding -Jason Stamp**
* Jason Stamp talked about the impact of the recent budget proposals and the potential implications for VCSE groups and organisations. In particular the rise in Employer National Insurance contributions will increase salary costs and some organisations will have to make difficult decisions as to how to meet this increased cost.
* It will make organisations look at how they run.
* No matter how big or small an organisation is – if they are managing a grant-the ask is bigger, and we cannot deliver more for less. It was noted that the value of current contracts in the VCSE had not increased in line with inflation or cost of living rises and many organisations were delivering contracted work from a deficit position. Some of this is being picked up via the Commissioning Principles work which was shared at the last Assembly meeting.
* The Chief Executives of Forum CIO, Hull CVS and the HEY Smile Foundation have written to MPs across Hull and the East Riding to formally raise this issue, but no replies have been received to date.
* An online survey around the impact of the budget proposals has recently been shared via the Forum CIO bulletin.
1. **Green Doctors Hull -Groundwork- Christopher Stephens/Eric Cserna**

[Green Doctor Hull Presentation](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fnorthbankforum.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F12%2FVCSE_Assembly_3_12_24_Green_Doctor.pptx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

* Contact: greendoctorsyorkshire@groundworkhull.co.uk
* Leaflets were circulated to the group on the Green Doctors Hull programme
* The service is open to everyone who is in fuel poverty.
* Everyone is eligible for advice
* Anyone can be referred to the service
* We offer training to organisations all details on the flyer or email us.
* Warm packs are given at first visits.

**Action from a question:** Kia MacPherson (St Philips) asked if there was a check list of items that people needed to keep warm. The Green Doctors programme agreed to draft a Fuel Poverty checklist which can be shared with groups and organisations for information.

1. **Hull & East Riding Joint VCSE Assembly-Jason Stamp**

There will be a joint VCSE Assembly with East Riding on 5/2/25 at the Myton Hub 11am-3pm. Hull and East Riding will have an allocation of 40 tickets each.

1. **Sector Connect Updates - Louisa Ingleson (Forum CIO)**

[Sector Connect Hull Presentation](https://view.officeapps.live.com/op/view.aspx?src=https%3A%2F%2Fnorthbankforum.org.uk%2Fwp-content%2Fuploads%2F2024%2F12%2FVCSE_Assembly_3_12_24_Sector_Connect_Hull_Updates-.pptx&wdOrigin=BROWSELINK)

Louisa gave an update for Sector Connect:

* Training
* Funding opportunities
* Training
* Upcoming events
1. **VCSE Organisation Updates**

Organisations present gave updates on their groups and distributed leaflets to attendees.

**Next Meetings**

* 16/1/25 1.30pm Forum@PQ
* 5/2/25 11am at the Myton Hub – Joint Hull & East Riding Assembly