

Devolution in the North East Opportunities for the VCSE

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What's Going On ?

1. Combined Authorities
2. Devolution Deals - Decentralisation:
centralised control to local control
3. Health Devolution
4. Public Service Reform – reducing role of state



Public Service Reform

Councils

- Significant Budget Cuts
- Pressures on social care
- Lack of room to innovate and manoeuvre

Significant shortfall in NHS funding

- Demographic & technological impact – NHS
- 5YFV: greater community involvement & shift from acute to preventative & community based care
- New Models of Care
- Integration with social care



Opportunities

- Address inequalities
- Local community empowerment
- Use local knowledge & community capacity
- Create local ownership
- Develop local solutions
- VCSE as equal partner



Due North: Independent Inquiry into Health Equity for the North

- **Health Inequalities due to differences between socioeconomic groups in poverty, power and resources needed for health**
- Those who have less influence are less able to affect the use of public resources to improve their health and well-being



Due North: Recommendations

- Tackle poverty and economic inequality
- Promote healthy development in early childhood
- **Share power over resources and increase the influence that the public has on how resources are used**
- Strengthen the role of the health sector in promoting health equity



Due North: Recommendations

- Devolution of power and resources needs to be accompanied by greater public participation in local decision-making
 - Help develop the capacity of communities to participate in local decision-making and developing solutions
 - Develop community-led systems for health equity monitoring, accountability, involvement in how local budgets are used
 - Support setting up publicly owned mutual organisations to provide public services – social enterprise



Devolution - Why involve the VCSE?

- Rooted in communities and trusted
- Understands their needs, social & economic challenges – often working to address them
- Mechanism to engage communities of interest and place - Especially those most excluded and hardest to reach
- Facilitate co-production and design of services
- Can deliver innovative ‘community’ led social enterprise solutions in environment of reduction in public sector services & resource



How can we be involved?

- Greater Manchester –VCSE Reference Group to support sector engagement in devolution planning
- Liverpool City Region VCFSE partnership
 - 15 infrastructure agencies with links back to the 8,000 plus groups operating locally.
- Tower Hamlets Community Intelligence Bursary



What networks can we draw upon?

- NELEP Area Infrastructure/ LDA's Group
- NELEP Area VCSE Skills and Employability Focus Group
- VONNE VCSE Health & Wellbeing Network
- VONNE/CLINKS Criminal Justice Network
- Local Community Networks
- Interest Group Networks



Human Capital Development

- North East Employment and Skills Board
- Brings together NECA, Government, Schools and Business reps to address key challenges:
 - Review and redesign post 16 education & training
 - Devolved responsibility for adult skills
 - Promote vocational training, apprenticeships and traineeships, work experience and business start ups
 - Co-design all future employment support from April 2017 for harder to help claimants (including Work Programme)



Human Capital- Why involve the VCSE?

- Due North - use greater devolved powers and resources to develop, at scale, locally integrated programmes to support people into employment.
- North East - more charities concerned with development/regeneration, employment and training, and providing services for young people, compared with the UK as a whole



Human Capital Development.

How can we be involved ?

- North East Employment and Skills Board -
VONNE VCSE rep
- NECA Employment, Inclusion and Skills Steering
Group – VONNE VCSE rep
- NELEP Area VCSE Skills and Employability Focus
Group – VONNE facilitates
- Framework to facilitate genuine involvement &
opportunity for co-production and co- design of
skills support, training and employment solutions



NECA / NHS joint Commission for Health and Social Care Integration

- Integrated system for acute care, primary care, community services, mental health services, social care and public health
- Financially sustainable
- Improve health outcomes across the NE
- Ensure local democratic accountability



Devolution – NHS Proposed Principles and Decision Criteria

- Ensuring that commissioners, providers, patients, carers and wider partners, **including the voluntary and community sector**, are able to work together to shape the future of the local area, supported by regular communication and engagement from development to implementation.



VCSE role in Health & Care

- ‘VCSE sector has significant expertise that is invaluable in helping us achieve improvements across the health, social care and public health system’
Department of Health, NHS England and Public Health England
- VCSE organisations are an integral part of the wider health and care system
 - Key to early intervention & prevention - holistic
 - Key to NHS strategic shift - acute care > community care & support



What can we draw on?

- VONNE Health & Wellbeing Network
- Local VCSE networks with health & wellbeing focus
 - Sunderland Wellbeing Network, Healthnet
- Condition Specific /Interest Group networks
 - North East Dementia Alliance , BECON, MHNE, VOLSAG, North East Autism Consortium, Northern Neurological Alliance etc.



What are our next steps?

Use networks to:

- Agree how we will work together to engage in Devolution agenda
- Co-ordinate and collaborate to ensure our place at the table
- Develop a set of key goals we would seek to achieve
- Explore a set of principles



Which approach works in communities?

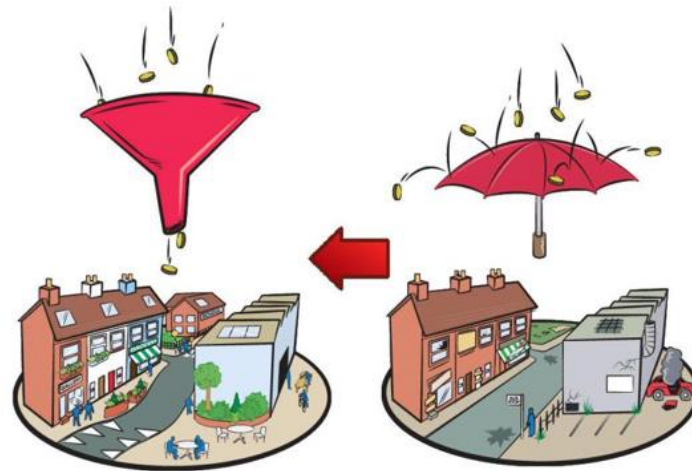


Illustration by Rory Seaford of The Creative Element,
www.pluggingtheleaks.org/resources/plm_ptl_images.htm

**How do we ensure devolution takes the
funnel approach to investing in
communities - not the umbrella!**



NECA - a history of working together

Let's make it a reality !



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