

**Our Manchester VCS Funding Co-design
Session: 3
1st November 2016**

Co-design group

- Liz Goodger, MCC
- Michael Salmon, MCC
- Elizabeth Mitchell, MCC
- Lynne Stafford, Gaddum Centre
- Martin Preston, Macc
- Juliet Eadie, CCG
- Frances Davies-Tagoe, Tree of Life
- Val Bayliss-Brideaux, CCG
- Rachel Bottomley, LGBT Foundation

Apologies

- Nicola Rea, Manchester City Council
- Claire Evans, 4CT
- Mark Rainey, MCC

Also present

- Adam Farricker MCC (presentation only)
- Sarah Elderkin, MCC (presentation only)
- Nigel Rose, Macc (facilitator)

The theme of the session was looking broadly at the funding landscape for the VCS, considering a range of options, models and mechanisms for increasing the amount of funding for VCS organisations in the city.

Presentations on:

- Setting up a Trust/Charity/ Arms length organisation to manage funding. Illustrated by the example of Young Manchester, a new trust for youth and play set up in Manchester
- Crowd-funding. Looking at current examples of crowd-funding activity in Manchester
- Models from other places: Camden, Bristol, Wigan
- Strengths-based funding: Big Lottery Scotland, Forever Manchester

Quick exercise to list all of the types of funding available to the voluntary sector in the city

Discussion based on presentations, and previous meetings, starting to think as imaginatively as possible about ideas for different funding mechanisms and the criteria by which we might judge these.

Some ideas for mechanisms:

- **Strategic lead** organisations in areas (maybe the 12 neighbourhoods emerging from health and social care integration, maybe 'natural neighbourhoods')
 - Funding allocated to geographical areas with an equal baseline and then topped up based on agreed criteria e.g. Index of Multiple Deprivation, health outcomes or other, or combination
 - % core funding of strategic leads (not wholly), stipulation must work with and sub-contract to, smaller groups.
- **Single pot** of funding centrally held, allocated at neighbourhood, larger area (north, south, central) or city wide level. Consider themes such as Start Well, Live Well, Age well (like Wigan) and take an asset based approach
- Also must build in **support for funded groups** and for increasing capacity in areas where it is currently low.
- Need to allow space for/encourage ideas like **crowd-funding, dragons den, community soup**, where the fundraising has wider community capacity building benefits
- Straightforward specification, **tender and contracting** model with themes and lots
- Independent **trust/charity** to allocate and administer funding and attract funding from elsewhere (like Young Manchester). Could have a single trust, or a series of these, geographical or thematic. Clear mechanism for other funders to put money in

Some criteria for judging models, they should:

- Build in Our Manchester principles: Better Lives (its about people), Listening (we listen, learn and respond), Recognising Strengths of Individuals and Communities (we start from strengths), Working Together (we build relationships and create conversations)
- Encourage organisations to diversify their funding and not be reliant on Council funding
- Ensure small organisations are not squeezed out
- Encourage larger organisations to support smaller/newer
- Build stronger relationships between voluntary sector organisations and between the voluntary and statutory sectors
- Provide some stability e.g. through length of grant/contract
- Relate to communities of identity as well as place
- Promote growth and resilience in the voluntary sector