

# Memorandum of Understanding between Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise (VCSE) sector in Greater Manchester

**The agreement will support a new way for VCSE organisations and the health and social care sector to work together, with joint ambitions, commitments and activity set out for five years until April 2021.**

This MoU is made in recognition of the fact that [Taking Charge](#), the Greater Manchester health and social care strategy to 2021, aims to *radically transform health, social care and wellbeing in Greater Manchester*. This transformation programme will depend on the work of VCSE organisations, given their critical role in supporting people to look after themselves and each other in a collective way.

## **Ambitions: what are we working towards?**

- Better services and support for the public
- Communities involved in co-designing better health and social care
- Using the talent, reach and social value of VCSE organisations for the benefit of the people of Greater Manchester

## **Commitments: what have we agreed to do?**

- Develop a new way of working together in order to meet the challenges our communities face
- Support the sector to participate in health devolution across the full transformation programme (outlined overleaf)
- Support sector engagement via the VCSE Assembly, VCSE Reference Group, GMCVO, Equalities Advisory Group and established networks
- Support members of the VCSE sector at strategic boards and working groups
- Share good practice between the VCSE and statutory sectors
- Enable VCSE experts to spend time on new policies, commissioning models, impact assessments, and other areas of research
- Support the VCSE Reference Group to facilitate the work outlined above
- Develop a VCSE Equalities Advisory Group

## **A new way of working together**

- We will need to engage people and communities in new and different ways of doing things
- We will need leaders and drivers of change in our organisations
- We don't have all the answers yet, we will need to try new things and some will not be successful
- Some of the new ways of working and methods will need investment
- We will need to work within each other's organisations to share learning and develop solutions together
- We will work in the spirit of our partnership on broader issues affecting health and well-being in communities, such as transport, housing and economic inclusion.

Working in partnership:

**GREATER MANCHESTER VCSE  
DEVOLUTION REFERENCE GROUP**

**GMCA** GREATER  
MANCHESTER  
COMBINED  
AUTHORITY

**NHS**

**in Greater Manchester**

## Our new partnership approach will enable the sector to participate in health devolution across the full transformation programme:

**Help people to lead healthier lives:** VCSE activity, from community centres to sports groups, enables communities and people to look after one another. With a reach to huge numbers of residents, we can bring a positive shift from services to prevention, while engaging the 'missing thousands.'

**Transform community based care and support:** VCSE providers will co-design, co-deliver and provide solutions, services and support so people can manage conditions at home and in the community.

**Support hospitals to work better:** Relevant VCSE organisations can be embedded into the service people receive in hospital – some are already providing specialist services, e.g. supporting people in and out of hospital.

**Share more across public services:** Helping the statutory sector improve back office systems and improve decision making by providing data, so more spending can go on frontline services.

**Enable better care:** Making use of VCSE expertise in technology, research and new delivery models. Using premises and buildings in communities, and mutual learning and support between staff, volunteers and informal carers.

**This MoU** underpins and describes partnership work between the Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership and the VCSE sector, much of which has been going on for the past year and longer. A full version of the MoU can be downloaded at [www.vsnw.org.uk/gmvcsemou](http://www.vsnw.org.uk/gmvcsemou)

### Want to know more? Visit...

**VS NW:**

[www.vsnw.org.uk/gmdevo](http://www.vsnw.org.uk/gmdevo)

**GMCVO:**

[www.gmcvo.org.uk](http://www.gmcvo.org.uk)

**Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Partnership:**

[www.gmhsc.org.uk](http://www.gmhsc.org.uk)

**For more information on the Greater Manchester VCSE Devolution Reference Group, contact VS NW which provides secretariat support:**

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**T.** 0161 276 9300

**W.** [www.vsnw.org.uk](http://www.vsnw.org.uk)



### The Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector in Greater Manchester

- 14,500 organisations, employing 24,000 full time equivalent paid staff
- Over 300,000 volunteers who contribute 1.1 million hours a week
- Strong, collaborative leadership in the GM VCSE Devolution Reference Group and GMCVO
- A well-networked sector with communications channels to reach and engage widely
- Established forums and networks, at both locality and Greater Manchester geographies