

GREATER MANCHESTER VOLUNTARY, COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL ENTERPRISE (VCSE) DEVOLUTION REFERENCE GROUP

The VCSE Devolution Reference Group seeks to promote the role and involvement of the VCSE sector and communities in devolution. It comprises individuals from eighteen voluntary, community, faith, and social enterprise organisations from across Greater Manchester.

Objectives of the group

1. To champion VCSE engagement in devolution across Greater Manchester by promoting the vital role the sector plays in working towards a more equal society
2. To act as a point of contact for those working within Greater Manchester devolution and Greater Manchester's VCSE sector
3. To share information and opportunities, operate transparently and think beyond individual organisations
4. To promote positive change and collaboration within the VCSE sector through devolution
5. To create a social movement for change that empowers the communities of Greater Manchester

The Reference Group works to support sector engagement across Greater Manchester's devolution agenda. It originated as a formal part of the health and social care devolution architecture and works closely with Alex Whinnom, CEO of GMCVO, who represents the sector on the new Greater Manchester Health and Social Care Strategic Partnership Board and is a member of the Reference Group.

The Reference Group is not a representative structure but individuals are nominated by their own networks and are held accountable to their network and/or the Reference Group by a signed protocol agreement. Members of the Reference Group are expected to be 'catalysts and connectors' on behalf of the sector.

Our key messages

- **We are many.** The army of staff, volunteers and supporters across the sector are a **catalyst for change and a connector of people**
- Our role is **critical for the economic success** of devolution in Greater Manchester but also for the equally important **cultural and social devolution** that will help build a truly equal region
- We can devise, develop and **deliver solutions to some of the most challenging problems** faced by Greater Manchester, breaking down barriers and building community confidence and cohesion, and ensure we **move from crisis resolution to anticipation and prevention**
- **We understand our communities.** We can help drive people-powered change, harnessing social action and **bridging the gap** that can exist between public services and the people they serve

In partnership with:



GM VCSE DEVOLUTION REFERENCE GROUP MEMBERSHIP, BY TYPE

INFRASTRUCTURE

Regional

Alex Whinnom
GMCVO

Local

Mike Wild
MACC

Liz Windsor-Welsh
VA Oldham

Alison Page
Salford CVS

PROVIDERS

Bernadette Conlon
Start in Salford

Kate Macdonald
YPSF

Simone Spray
42nd Street

Paul Martin
LGBT Foundation

Chris Larkin
Stroke Association

EQUALITIES

Michele Scattergood
Breakthrough UK
(linked to GM Coalition of Disabled People)

Suzanne Hilton
Age UK Bolton
(linked to Ambition for Ageing Equalities Board)

Hanif Bobat
Ethnic Health Forum
(linked to GM BME Network)

SOCIAL ENTERPRISE

Chris Dabbs
Unlimited Potential

Joanne Walby
Big Life Group

FAITH

Rabbi Jonathan Guttentag
GM Faith Community Leaders

HEALTHWATCH

Dave Nunns
Healthwatch Wigan

SECRETARIAT LEAD

Warren Escadale
VSNW
(non-voting member)

CONNECTING TO THE GROUP

Members of the group are connected to a range of regional and national networks, many of which provide routes to engage.

10GM Network

Alison Page, Mike Wild and Liz Windsor-Welsh

GM VCSE Assembly

Alex Whinnom

GM BME Network

Hanif Bobat

GM Coalition of Disabled People

Michele Scattergood

GM Healthwatch Network

Dave Nunns

Northern Soul Social Enterprise Network

Chris Dabbs

Richmond Group

Chris Larkin

Ambition for Ageing Equalities Board

Suzanne Hilton

NW Leaders Board, DoH/ NHS England/ PHE VCS Strategic Partners Programme and Health Equity North

Warren Escadale

Contact details for some of the networks are listed below.

10GM Network:
info@10gm.org.uk

GM VCSE Assembly:
0161 277 1000 (GMCVO)

Greater Manchester BME Network:
0161 860 6842

For more information on the Greater Manchester VCSE Devolution Reference Group contact:

E. devolution@vsnw.org.uk

T. 0161 276 9300

W. www.vsnw.org.uk

To find out more about devolution in Greater Manchester, you can visit:

VSNW
www.vsnw.org.uk/areasofwork/devolution/gm

The GM Health and Social Care Partnership
www.gmhsc.org.uk

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority
www.greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk