

WORCESTERSHIRE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

VCSE REPRESENTATIVE

PURPOSE AND ROLE

The VCSE member of the Worcestershire Health and Wellbeing Board plays an important role in promoting the health and wellbeing of the local community.

The purpose of the role is to represent the points of view of the VCSE sector so that the Health and Wellbeing board's decisions consider the needs, priorities of specific communities.

This purpose requires the post holder to have the specific duties of:

- A willingness to set aside organisational and personal interests to represent the interests of the VCSE sector as a whole.
- Providing considered and balanced input to policy and strategy development and necessarily draw upon the advice and expertise of VCSE organisations.
- Collaborating with other members of the board to identify health inequalities and social determinants of health and highlighting the impact on the people and communities.
- Advocating for the interests of marginalised groups, under-represented groups and communities to help their voices get heard in decision making forums.
- Building and supporting partnerships – such as the VCSE Alliance – and collaborative relationships, develop a consensus with other VCSE organisations on issues or topics.
- Reviewing and monitoring the impact of boards decisions on the local communities and providing evidence-based feedback to improve policies or strategies.
- Engage in outreach to promote the Health and Wellbeing Board, explain it role and functions and to encourage the community involvement and participation in it.
- A personal commitment to contribute as part of a collaborative approach.

KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ATTITUDE

To be effective in this role the holder requires the following knowledge, skills and attitudes.

Knowledge

To understand the broad health and wellbeing landscape of Worcestershire. This should include the roles and responsibilities of the other board members such as the NHS, District and County Councils, Healthwatch Worcestershire.

Have a very good grasp of the challenges facing the health and social care system.

Aware of changes to national policies, frameworks and guidelines relating to health and social care. For example, the NHS Long Term Plan, The Messenger Review of NHS leadership and the Hewitt Review.

Skills

Very strong communication skills – mostly verbal - in order to make concise arguments and convey the differing perspectives of the VCSE.

Be able to listen, understand different points of view and sometimes think quickly to propose intelligent and incisive questions during board discussion.

To be able to read often wordy reports, rapidly extract the key information and interpret proposals through the lens of VCSE and local communities in order to inform decision making or policy development.

Understand strategy and resource planning to inform decision making and collaboration between board members and the VCSE.

Unravel complexity, simplify then explain.

Convey different points of view (to account for the diversity of the sector) and propose a compromise.

Be able to speak and present confidently in public.

Attitudes

Think 'system' and 'people' always.

Put the needs of other VCSE organisations first.

A relentless focus on the outcomes – the impact of policies and strategies – and not become fixated by the process.

A commitment to working collaboratively to achieve shared goals.

The courage to challenge the status quo, say uncomfortable or unpopular things to partners while recognising they face similar and different challenge and do so without offending.

Work to the Nolan Principles [The Seven Principles of Public Life - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-seven-principles-of-public-life)

Payments may be made to representatives attending meetings. For more information, please contact Esther Passingham, VCSE Strategic Lead esther@worcsalliance.org.

Representatives Meeting Summary Report

Please complete the following information and return to esther@worcsalliance.org within a week of attending each meeting.

Representative:

Meeting Title:

Date of meeting:

Frequency of meeting: Quarterly

3 Key considerations affecting the VCSE

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Key points raised on behalf of the VCSE

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Key impact outcome/contribution(s) made

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

Other comments (including questions or next steps)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.