About the GM VCSE Collaborative

The new Greater Manchester VCSE Collaborative will bring together existing and emerging leaders from the sector to support each other in our work to influence policy making at a Greater Manchester (GM) level. It will be a supportive and dynamic partnership that will help to realise the VCSE sector’s vision for GM.

Context

The coronavirus crisis has provided an opportunity for the VCSE sector to build on its existing relationships with policy makers in GM and strengthen its role in influencing decision making in the sub-region. Recent events have highlighted the essential need for and value of our sector, creating a climate to have our voices heard.

GM has a long history of collaboration between the VCSE and public sectors. Since the announcement of devolution this has been formalised through the Memorandum of Understanding between the GM Health and Social Care Partnership and the GM VCSE sector and the Accord, between Mayor of Greater Manchester, The Combined Authority and the VCSE sector.

Under the banner of these high level agreements, the Greater Manchester VCSE Leadership Group has created the following two key documents:

1. The Greater Manchester VCSE Policy Paper
2. The Greater Manchester VCSE Commissioning Framework

These agreements have been signed up to by senior leaders in the public sector across Greater Manchester. We are now building a VCSE ‘Collaborative’ that gives us the best possible chance, using both the principles and ideas set out in these documents alongside the skills and expertise within the sector, of influencing how decisions are made at GM level. We also want this ‘Collaborative’ to feedback what it is happening at a GM level to their own networks. We are not starting from scratch, we already have many VCSE representatives contributing at a GM level, we would like to build on this.

The GM VCSE Devolution Leadership group is a well-established partnership of VCSE leaders, with sub-groups focusing on particular areas. Currently they are:

- Commissioning
- Population Health
- Inclusive Economy
- Leadership and Workforce

For those aware of the GM VCSE Mental Health Leaders Group, this group have been leading the way in terms of collaborative working between the VCSE sector and the public sector. We have learnt a lot from their approach and this will inform the way the new Collaborative operates.

What are we looking for?

We are looking for existing and emerging leaders from a wide range of backgrounds working within the VCSE sector to join a ‘Collaborative’ of leaders, harnessing the passion, knowledge and expertise that exists within the sector, to work alongside the VCSE Leadership group to create and strengthen collaborative working between the VCSE and public sector at a Greater Manchester level.
You may already be involved in strategic work, or this may be something that you are interested in that you haven’t had the opportunity to get involved with before.

We are looking for leaders with a range of experience and expertise across a whole range of policy areas.

Once recruited, we will work with the group to co-design a structure that is supportive of its membership and has a range of expertise that can lead on many different policy areas, in line with GM strategies and the issues that are important to our sector.

### Role description for VCSE Leader – GM VCSE Collaborative

| Eligibility Criteria          | Works for a VCSE organisation operating in GM  
|                              | Able to contribute time – this will vary and the details to be confirmed but potential leaders should anticipate approximately ½ - 1 day per month  
|                              | NB – leaders will be recruited for a 2 year term  
| Responsibilities             | Take part in co-designing the Collaborative structure  
|                              | Take part in induction and training  
|                              | Attend GM level strategic meetings  
|                              | Gather data and intelligence from networks to feed in at a GM level  
|                              | Work alongside GM VCSE Leadership group ‘sub-group’, reporting back on meetings and ongoing initiatives  
|                              | Demonstrate leadership beyond your organisation  
| Skills and experience required | (NB we will provide training)  
|                              | Existing skills, or the potential to develop skills in leadership  
|                              | Ability or potential to contribute to high level meetings  
|                              | Commitment to tackling inequalities  
| Benefits and Support provided | Annual bursary to cover costs of being involved (to ensure organisations are not out of pocket) – details TBC dependant on co-design process  
|                              | Training in skills needed for the role including contributing to meetings and leading outside your organisation  
|                              | Coaching, mentoring and support from a network of fellow VCSE leaders  
| Timeline                     | Deadline for expressions: 12th August  
|                              | Co-design and induction sessions: September 2020 (exact dates TBC)  

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**How to apply**

To register your interest in this role, please complete our expression of interest [here](#).

If you have any questions please contact Beth Sharratt at GMCVO (beth.sharratt@gmcvo.org.uk)

*The Greater Manchester VCSE Leadership Group is a collaboration between VCSE leaders in Greater Manchester. [www.vcseleadershipgm.org.uk](http://www.vcseleadershipgm.org.uk)*