

Annual Members Report 2015/16



Welcome From Our Chair - Paul Parlby

I am pleased to introduce the fourth Annual Report for Salford Third Sector Consortium and my first, as the newly appointed Chair.

It has been another successful year for the Consortium and we have undertaken some excellent work over the past twelve months that has had a positive impact on Salford residents and their communities.

This year sees the continuation of our relationship with Salford City College and the further development of the Community Learning provision. The achievement of winning the Salford Public Health contract Tech and Tea as well as successfully gaining grants for a number of discreet projects. These include an Awards for All bid to support our members and further health funding to support older people.

Throughout the year we have attended a range of engagement events as a consortium and we are pleased to have met people and organisations from across the City and Greater Manchester which have improved our ability to connect to the sector's diverse range groups, some of which have now joined the consortium. We were particularly pleased to be highlighted by NCVO as good practice and invited to participate in a national roundtable event on consortium working.

As Chair of Salford's Third Sector Consortium I am personally grateful to our partners for their shared values, commitment and dedication in working with the Consortium and its members to make a positive difference in Salford. Last year, we were pleased to build stronger connections with our umbrella partner Salford CVS, but also new and enhanced relationships with partners across the city including Further Education, Salford CCG, Salford City Council, and Housing to name but a few. We have learned from our partners what they value about our work and where we can make further improvements and work together on new developments.

Our staff team has continued to provide a first class service managing contracts and quality assurance, increasing and supporting the membership. As well as forming new partnerships and supporting the Consortium's business development. I would also like to recognise the contribution of our Consortium Board members who oversee our work, help advice on our strategic direction and take a lead on different developments.



STRONGER CONNECTED

The Consortium's Vision & Mission

Our vision is: "Through strong and trusted partnerships, building on the good practice, experience and strength of our members to deliver quality services rooted in the community in order to improve the lives of people in Salford."

Our Mission is: To win contracts and secure investment to enable local organisations to deliver high quality services.

Our Membership

We are only as strong as our membership and since our last AGM we have continued to maintain our membership base at 85 organisations.

In our 2016 membership survey 90% of members were satisfied with the service they received from the consortium. 68% of members would recommend membership to another organisation.

Consortium Infrastructure

All our board members are elected from within the Consortium's membership to help ensure it reflects the needs of the members.

Our current board members are -

- Paul Parlby (Crossroads) - Chair
- Gerry Stone (St Sebastians) - Vice Chair
- Bernadette Elder (Inspiring Communities Together) - Treasurer
- Alec McFadden (SURC) - Company Secretary
- Bernadette Conlon (Start in Salford)
- Mike Ormerod (Groundwork MSSTT)
- John Phillips (Langworthy Cornerstone Association)

In 2015/16 the Consortium Board also included the following members who all stood down during the year: Mike Thorpe (Broughton Trust), Daniel Mountford (Great Places) and Sylvia Sham (Wai Yin). The Consortium would like to put on record our thanks to the members who have served on the board this year. In particular we would like to acknowledge the support of Mike Thorpe and Sylvia Sham who were both founding members of the Consortium Board.

Key Delivery Achievements

We have had a challenging but successful 2015/16 with the Consortium actively seeking additional contracts and projects to build on last year's community learning delivery. Key achievement this year include:

Community Learning Year 2 - We successful delivered the Adult Community Learning Contract for a second year. This is a Skills Funding Agency funded programme contracted through Salford City College. 14 member organisations supported the delivery of over 300 courses that reached over 3000 participants across the city. Linked to this contract the consortium has now successfully renewed it's registration onto the National Skills Funding Agency Register of Training Organisations and obtained to tender directly for contracts.

Tech & Tea - Tech and Tea is a Salford City Council Public Health Contract that uses the teaching of digital skills to the over 65 years as a tool to achieve wellbeing outcomes including overcoming loneliness and social isolation. Delivery for year 1 has gone well with over 430 resident and over 50 volunteers accessing the programme which has resulted in the contract being extended until October 2017.

Awards for All - We were awarded just under £10,000 to refresh and expand our services to members. The project which runs until August 2016 will see the introduction of a revised members ebuletin and improved networking opportunities building on feedback from the membership survey.

Little Pot of Health - We received £9745 from the Little Pot of Health Partnership and Improvement Fund to build on our experience and learning with Tech and Tea to roll out a broad learning programme. Lunch & Learn aims to support older people to make better informed choices to ensure that individuals "age well" in Salford. This will be delivered initially in the Central locality of Salford with the learning hopefully being applied to future funding bids.

Policy & Governance - The Consortium was highlighted as a source of good practice within the industry and as a result participated in a NCVO roundtable discussion on consortium work in February 2016. The result of this was a new NCVO policy report on consortia working published in September 2016.

The Future

Greater Manchester Devolution and the impending Brexit has resulted in an evolving landscape in terms of tenders, funding and business development. The Consortium remains committed in delivering high quality services with the Salford area but is actively looking at partnership on a Greater Manchester footprint in response to these changes. However, the past 12 months have shown significant change but also positive growth for the consortium. Moving forward two key areas of focus will include:

Board Recruitment - Actively refreshing and strengthen the Consortium's board through an active trustee recruitment process. The Consortium is only as strong as its members and the board is the ultimate reflection of this. We need to ensure we have the sufficient skills to continue to move the Consortium's business plan forward whilst ensuring it reflects the needs of the membership.

Business Development & Growth - We want to actively work with the membership to look at how best we can grow the Consortium's capacity to manage further contracts and business for the benefit of everyone. This will include all aspects of the Consortium's work including networking and identifying opportunities through to the bidding process and ultimately project management. We anticipate our Awards for All funding will help kick start some of this but ultimately it will need members to be engaged if the Consortium is to continue to win further business.

Consortium Hub Support

Salford CVS continue to provide much valued support to the Consortium. Through a service level agreement Salford CVS provide financial management and administrative support to the Consortium as well hosting two staff members that are crucial to our successful delivery:

- Marie Wilson - Community Learning Contract and Hub Manager
- Marie O'Neil - Consortium Quality Manager

We'd formally like to thank Salford CVS for their support as well as the individual staff for their continued hard work.

Salford Third Sector Consortium

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