



**North Yorkshire  
Forum for  
Voluntary  
Organisations**

**Proposal for additional funding for Local Area Agreement Indicators for the Voluntary Sector.**

Objective

1. To enhance monitoring of volunteering activity in North Yorkshire by development of the Common Database of voluntary and community sector organisations consistent with LIs 56,57 and 63. This will also support LI 65 and help to inform action planning for that indicator.
2. To identify those demographic and geographic areas where organised volunteering activity has low coverage and feed back to appropriate LIOs and Volunteering Centres how volunteering activity can be better promoted. Those areas are consistent with LIs 56, 57 and 63.

Background

The Consortium is a partnership of voluntary and community sector (VCS) local infrastructure organisations (LIOs) based and working in the York and North Yorkshire sub-region, working together to enhance infrastructure support available to front-line voluntary and community organisations (VCOs) in the sub-region. The Volunteer Centres are constituent organisations that focus on volunteering activity.

The monitoring of the LIs for the voluntary and community sector are undertaken through NYFVO and local Volunteer Centres (LIs 56 and 57), through the place survey (LI 63) and a national survey (LI 65). These are dependent on organisations that are registered with the survey organisations.

The Common Database has been developed by York and the North Yorkshire Infrastructure Consortium as a contact management system. This resource enables the Consortium to enhance our ongoing research.

Work undertaken currently shows some 1650 VCS organisations in York and North Yorkshire who are in contact with LIOs. This compares with the Guidestar record of 1340 charities and known voluntary organisations in North Yorkshire. (The Guidestar register includes Companies Limited by Guarantee, Industrial and Provident societies and Community Interest Companies.



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However some of the companies limited by guarantee are not technically voluntary organisations).

Current research being undertaken on behalf of the Consortium by Teeside University estimates that there are between 2500 and 3000 voluntary organisations in North Yorkshire.

The proposal seeks to improve the mapping of the voluntary and community sector and volunteering through identifying those groups and organisations that are not currently recorded on the Common Database. Examples of these may include local amateur sports clubs, sub groups of village halls, arts groups etc.

This will enhance our understanding of the voluntary and community organisations working within the arenas of LI 56 and LI 57. It will also enhance the capability to promote volunteering for those organisations within LI 56 and LI 57 and significantly for developing LI 63.

Through enhancing our knowledge of the voluntary and community sector it will provide a platform for developing LI 65. The data for LI 65 and therefore the base line will not be known until early 2009. This lead time for developing and implementing action plans will therefore be limited. This process of consolidating our knowledge of voluntary and community organisations and of volunteering activity will contribute to the effective implementation of LI 65 action planning.

One particular area of note is those groups concerned with BME and migrant activity. In 2008 no organization in North Yorkshire received an 'Improving Reach' grant from Capacity Builders, in marked contrast to the other sub regions of Yorkshire and Humberside. Consequently the capacity of voluntary and infrastructure organisations concerned with BME issues has been markedly constrained in terms of capability to develop services, ability to promote and increase activity penetration and ability to build networks which are necessary to share experience, identify best practice, collaboratively develop new initiatives and achieve economies of scale.

One important aspect of BME activity which has received limited funding has been to develop work with migrant populations. The significance of migrant workers in the community has been highlighted in recent studies but limited work has been possible to monitor organisations working with those populations that are identified as migrants, and also those migrants who seek long term residency in the area. This has been further complicated by changes in the ethnic / racial makeup of the migrant populations.

## Proposal

The proposal is

1. To enhance understanding of the range of organisations in the voluntary and community sectors
2. To promote the benefits of association with LIOs
3. To expand the ability of Volunteer Centres to monitor volunteering activity by engaging with newly identified VCS organisations.
4. To identify sectors and geographic areas where volunteering activity may be comparatively low.
5. To enable sub regional action plans to be developed for targeting and promoting volunteering.
6. To better coordinate and promote activity within the BME communities.

## Approach

### A. General Coverage

Stage 1 To enhance the common database of VCS organisations

**Target – to establish a record of 2000 organisations by November 2009**

Stage 2 Enquiry of organisations regarding nature and structure and their awareness of support structures via questionnaire and phone to sector organisations who are either not affiliated to LIOs ( e.g. social organisations) or who are in themselves organisations that are infrastructure organisations to non registered organisations e.g. village halls.

**Target - To have a 40% response of new organisations by December 2009**

Stage 3 Develop action plans with LIOs and Volunteer Centres to establish regular communications with newly identified voluntary and community organisations, to promote volunteering, especially in those arenas identified in LIs 56 and 57. Identify sub-regional action plan.

**Target- To develop action plan by May 2009 with revised action plans in May 2010** (i.e. two months after the publication of the Place survey and the Office of the Third Sector survey for National Indicator 7)

### B. BME Development

Stage 1 To gain a better understanding of those voluntary and community organisations working with BME and migrant client groups.

**Target – To establish a comprehensive record on the Common Database of organisations working in the BME arena by April 2009**

Stage 2 To develop a local and sub regional action plan for

- a) identifying where additional activity may need to be focused
- b) promoting volunteering within the BME and Migrant arena, particularly for new migrant communities (e.g. from Eastern Europe).

**Target – Strategy to be identified by June 2009**

- c) identifying strategies and plans for enhancing volunteering within the BME communities

**Target – Strategy to be developed by October 2009**

- d) To share experience and knowledge between district organisations and develop coordinated initiatives, especially for those BME groups that are highly transient across districts. This is estimated to require 3 - 4 meetings.

**Target -Meetings to be held by March 2010 with report in April 2010**

### Monitoring and Reporting

Monitoring, Project management and Reporting will be undertaken through NYFVO in liaison with the LIOs.

## Costing

### 1. Part 1 General

Administrator 1 day per week November 2008 – January 2010	£ 5850
Administrative time for survey work 5 weeks	£ 2250
Common Data base training, meetings of LIOs and Volunteer Centres to review (time, travel *2) (all LIOs to attend)	£ 1520
Overheads telephone, travel, survey	£ 2400

### 2. Part 2 BME

Administrator 1 day per week November 2008 – October 2009	£ 4680
Common Data base training, meetings ( time, travel * 4) (all LIOs and Volunteer Centres to attend)	£ 3040
Overheads telephone travel etc	£ 1000

3. Marketing and Promotion £4500

Total 25240

## Benefits

1. The increased accuracy and comprehensiveness of the data base of organisations will enable a more inclusive and comprehensive basis for promoting volunteering agendas at sub regional, district and market town levels.
2. The data base will enhance the development of the strategic and operational interface between public sector organisations and the third sector
3. The BME sector will be better addressed through developing Yorkshire and North Yorkshire wide networks to share and develop good practice.
4. The Migrant sector within BME will be better addressed. The structures for addressing Migrant issues will be better able to adapt to the changing ethnic structures of the migrant population.

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