

Fylde VCFSE Network

Terms of Reference

Purpose of the Group

Fylde VCFSE Network brings together representatives of voluntary, community, faith and social enterprises that operate within the Fylde district. It is a platform to share information, engage, co-ordinate and communicate services, activity and opportunities across Fylde from local, regional and national sources. It is a community structure to give the VCFSE sector a voice and representation with strategic and statutory organisations and to create opportunities for member organisations to work collaboratively to improve people's lives.

Objectives of Group

- To provide a networking and support infrastructure through peer advice, support and development
- To provide a channel through which information about relevant events and opportunities can be shared with the Fylde VCFSE sector
- To ensure knowledge is shared about current and planned activity and projects, to produce a co-ordinated approach and avoid unnecessary duplication.
- To provide a platform for collaboration, joint bids and for attracting further investment into the voluntary and community sector
- To act as a point of contact for the sector to contribute to decisions being made about Wyre and the support offered, encouraging engagement and involvement
- To link to relevant regional and neighbourhood organisations and initiatives

Membership

Members of Voluntary, Community, Faith and Social Enterprises (VCFSE) organisations that operate in Fylde.

Local infrastructure organisations operating in Fylde. It is recognised that they will represent their membership in discussions and decisions to ensure the broadest range of voices from within the sector are included.

Representatives of statutory organisations supportive of our objectives e.g. Fylde Council can be associate members.

All members should provide a summary of their activities and / or services which can be shared with the membership for reference.

Schedule of Meetings

The group will meet monthly on days and times agreed by the membership. Meetings will be mainly virtual to ensure as many as possible members of the community and representatives of organisations are included. Some in-person meetings will be held throughout the year to better facilitate networking.

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Behaviours of Members and Accountability

All members are expected to behave with integrity, contributing in a constructive and open manner with selflessness, objectivity, accountability, openness and honesty.

Conflicts of interest must be declared and managed appropriately in the best interests of the aims of the Fylde VCFSE Network with reference to Group's objectives. Members will maintain a team approach to resolving differences and discussing issues.

The infrastructure organisations will have a key role in representing the broad range of their member organisations.

Administrative Matters

Fylde VCFSE Network shall be facilitated by LOCAL, a project of LACVS (Lancashire Association of Councils for Voluntary Service).

Online meetings may be recorded, and notes may be taken at meetings and shared with members.

There will be no financial matters to deal with.

Changes to Terms of Reference

The terms of reference will be reviewed at least annually.

21st July 2025