

Feedback Form

Name of representative:	Barrington Reeves		
Date of meeting	15/1/19	Venue	St Thomas Centre, Ardwick Manchester
Name of meeting / event	GMCVO Regional Research Network, Engagement with VCS and Social & Academic Research		

Summary of the main issues raised/discussed:

Network supports the engagement of VCS organisations with academics and social researchers for the purpose of pairing research with practice and synergy between research and evidenced based practice in VCS.

Presentation from
Liz Mc Dermott from Pride Trust, LGBT project in Manchester, shared information about use of research study and action research to support LGBT young people to access emotional well-being at young people's groups. The group of 12-14 young people engaged in Mind mapping, focus groups and diary work that informed a program of work with the National Institute of Mental Health and will be used as a process for assessment and evaluation.

Discussions were had around the value of social value and its use within the VCS and how it can be effectively utilised to monitor and evaluate work.

Issues about the translation of academic research and its validity in current practice and how it is utilised to provide evidence for theoretical models of practice.

With a move to Neighbourhood/locality working a research project looking at Urban Governance was highlighted that looked at the relationship between social capital, co-operation, action research, and participation, it looked at how to make communities more participatory around urban governance. This is especially important when involved with intergenerational work.

Volunteering was raised when the distinction between jobs and volunteer roles and how they can become blurred when working within VCS orgs and others have no real understanding of the social value of the work involved.

Conversation regarding academics having to prove where there research was working and what is the impact in terms of social value. If there is no real linkage then why apply academic theories and research to social interaction and human experience, when the models are to be applied not necessarily proven on the ground. Social experimentation does not support well-being.

Summary of issues relevant to the VCF sector

Look at the role of research and its relevance to work within sector and if so how can it increase the value of work undertaken.

Actions VCFA should consider taking (if any):

Attend network on Social Prescribing and its impact of VCS work and human health and well-being.

Details of any consultation, funding opportunities etc:

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Date of next meeting:	15 th May	Venue	St Thomas Centre, GMCVO, Ardwick
Date	17 th Jan	Signed	Barrington Reeves

Please continue overleaf if required