

**DIRECTORATE OF ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH
FUTURE LIVES: VCS REFERENCE GROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE**

PURPOSE OF THE REFERENCE GROUP

The Group will have a specific focus on Health and Well-being and Adult Social Care. It aims to achieve the following objectives:

- To provide an opportunity for two way exchange of information and specifically to seek views of the VCS on the strategic initiatives of WCC, e.g. Future Lives
- To provide a formal structure to enable the Directorate of Adult Services and Health to meet with Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) members involved in health and social care representation who have been selected through the Worcestershire Voices Board
- To develop productive working relationships between the Directorate and the VCS.
- To inform the Directorate of developments from the VCS perspective.

MEMBERSHIP OF THE REFERENCE GROUP

Worcestershire Voices Board is invited to provide up to 8 members for the Group. It is important that members are able to bring a wider perspective than their own specific organisation and undertake the following commitments:

- To make every effort to attend all meetings
- Seek VCS input to relevant agenda items
- Provide feedback to the sector

The Directorate will be represented by the Director and the VCS Coordinator

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS

Meetings will be held quarterly. Meetings will last for two hours and will be held at County Hall. Members are encouraged to request items for discussion. Notes and action points will be recorded.

ISSUES TO BE DISCUSSED

There are many opportunities for Adult Services and Health to meet with and discuss issues with the VCS – including a range of Consultative Groups for individual service user groups.

The Group is intended to compliment and not to replace these and should ideally allow discussion of strategic and cross cutting issues. Example issues might include:

- The Council's financial situation.
- The role of the VCS in delivering services
- Contractual issues that affect the VCS as a whole.

We would avoid discussion of issues relating specifically to individual organisations or service agreements.