



## **CWM TAF MORGANNWG SOCIAL VALUE FORUM / RHWYDWAITH GWERTH CYMDEITHASOL CTM**

**‘Exploring Social Prescribing for community well being and identifying partnership and principles of representation within the new region’**

### **WINTER EVENT SUMMARY REPORT 12 DECEMBER 2019**

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45 people attended the event held in Cefn Cribwr - Bridgend on the 12<sup>th</sup> of December 2019.

Heidi Bennett, CEO BAVO welcomed delegates to the event and introduced the concept of working together to improve the lives of those in our communities. This was followed by Rachel Rowlands, Chair of Cwm Taf Regional Partnership Board who provided an in-depth update on the work of the RPB. Sarah Jenkins – Public Health Wales provided the context of social prescribing at a national level before Sally Rees, WCVA provided feedback on the evaluation of Social Value Forums across Wales.

This was followed by

- Local models of social prescribing from Interlink and BAVO
- Creating Connected Communities through Prevention and Well being by Bridgend County Borough Council.

**Workshop: Partnership and principles. Exploring representation and compacts within a new region. – Introduced by Kay Harries – BAVO**

**Focus 1) Partnerships and Representation - What does brilliant look like? If the partnerships we work with and support were the best they can be at involving citizens, communities and the third sector...what would this mean for you?**

- Social services and Health being more aware of our services and having a greater understanding of what is available to support citizens;
- Key partners showing an interest in developing their knowledge base of the sector that’s outside of just commissioned services;

- If partners had a willingness to understand the third sector referrals and introductions would be more appropriate and the client wouldn't be past from pillar to post;
- If partnerships were the best they could be, organisations and individuals wouldn't have to search for information and opportunities, they would be readily available to all. For this to work there needs to be accountability of those who represent us to feedback back in a timely fashion to CVCs to share;
- Communication is key – agencies representing us need to be recruited in an open and transparent way and know their responsibilities to communicate with the sector;
- Our partnerships within the social value sector should also be with each other. Joined working is encouraged rather than competing with each other;
- Best practices should be able to present example of good practice so that organisations learn and develop;
- Effective partnerships are those that clearly identify their priorities and communicate their needs based on gap analysis;
- The current model of consultation and engagement with the sector is very much one way travel. Engagement needs to be a full circle where our views and comments are taken and the results or which should be fed back to the sector;
- Positive partnerships are built on trust, communication and honesty with joint working in a trusted and non confrontational environment;
- Funding in the third sector is still very short term and this proves problematic when trying to be equal partners;
- A true partnership values the expertise within the community and doesn't just see it as an addition. The added value brought about from working closely with the sector is endless;
- A brilliant partnership values and works to each partners strengths;
- Eg. Partnership working within the sector is how public sector partnership should work. New Horizons and MHM Wales is a reflection of this. Each has particular strengths which they mutually use across the Health board to the benefit of the mental health community;
- Brilliant partnership and representation takes time, resources and common agendas. Communication, transparency, listening and common languages are key. EG. Rachel Rowlands informing the forum of the RPB work is a clear example of how this forum should progress;
- Partnerships should not exist just because they always have done. CTM have a real opportunity to restructure and start afresh considering the expanded footprint that Bridgend brings;
- Coproduced with all partners;
- New partnership approaches should be developed. Its important to be fair to all across the health board. All current representative opportunities should be reviewed to be inclusive of new boundaries;
- One workgroup stated “ Although the consensus was no one knew what brilliant looked like, discussions around the table questioned whether the SVFN could provide a voice or influence within the RPB. They felt that the third sector is

very diverse and questioned whether it was fair to expect the chairs and CEO's of CVCs to represent the third sector as a whole;

- The SVFN terms of reference should be reviewed and links to the RPB formalised;
- Concerns that SVFN was a bolt on to peoples day jobs. Funding should be sought to enable capacity of the SVFN to increase.

## **Focus 2) What current good examples are you aware of where citizens / communities / third sector have been fully involved in and supported by public services / strategic partnerships?**

- Single platforms for marketing and demonstrating organisations activity within the community. Infoengine and Dewis have been key areas which has worked and has been supported by the public sector. However this resource hasn't been fully utilised by the sector;
- The only strategic partnerships that can be classed as good are those who hold grant for the sector;
- BAVO funding and training;
- The cascading of partnership information from CVC's has been excellent;
- Commissioned services – young people trained in commissioning of services and were then including in the development and delivery of the a new services;
- Tendering of new services in mental health is panel driven with service user engagement;
- Cwm Taf People First. Working with Cardiff university TRAC worked with learning disabilities in respect of training for nurses etc;
- Eating disorders framework – Swansea University eating disorders team held focus groups to see why current frameworks and partnership arrangements were not working. Carers, those with lived experiences all had input into the new arrangements which has been celebrated at the Assembly For Wales;
- Community Zone – Ferndale is an example where citizens and communities have been fully involved and supported by strategic partnerships.

## **Focus 3) What could be done to enable you in your role to be better listened to, involved and the work you do be valued?**

- Visibility. CVC's need to take a direct role in ensuring information is out there and available. Recognising that each CVC is funded differently, a core activity should be to disseminate information from all partnership areas regardless if they have staff in that specialism or not. Statutory partners should commit to using CVCs as a conduit;
- Third sector need to be aware of all funding available locally. There should be a central platform for all public sector opportunities to advertise and it should be easy to navigate;
- Consistency in language:- hubs/zones navigator / coordinator grant / commissioned service;

- More frequent SVFN meetings would enable the sector to be more engaged and more aware. It will create a space for better joint working;
- SVFN members could benefit from time to promote their work at these meetings;
- Examine different method of running events – Bridgend Business Forum is a great example;
- Expanding the use of social media but using a single platform not numerous;
- Third sector agencies need to be encouraged to work better together and not mission drift. This can be achieved by bringing organisations together more frequently so relationships can develop;
- Longer length funding contracts. Short term nature of funding only reflects short term thinking of commissioners. 10 year plans should result in ten year action plans with clear sight and clear strategic vision;
- All SVFN members should have the opportunity to demonstrate the work they are doing. Show commissioners what is happening in the community;
- The wider third sector is not afforded the opportunity to engage with strategic partners. It can often be seen as the same people being cherry picked rather than having a transparent and open process;
- Support to demonstrate impact. How do we do SROI?

#### **Focus 4) How would you want to be involved in developing and agreeing a Compact? How can BAVO / VAMT / Interlink help? Who else can help?**

- CVC's should take a leading role in the development of a new Compact. We have a new geographical footprint so we should be looking at a fresh set of working practices;
- CVC's should lead this work with the confidence of the sector. On going discussions with the sector is crucial during its development;
- Consult with local groups – recognised methods of engagement;
- Build its development into existing forums. Making it everyone's business;
- Map out all partnership arrangements as currently its unclear;
- Ensure a mix of voices are at the table. Not just same old face;
- Develop a representatives forum;
- Stop acronyms;
- Survey Monkey;
- Speed dating sessions to understand what's available in the community;
- Develop cross border joint working opportunities;
- Feedback to the Welsh Government that annual funding arrangements are still in place despite the agreements to change this. Roles and expertise are lost from the sector which is a hinderance to ongoing work with our communities.

#### **Next steps and recommendations**

1. Third Sector requires clarity around how third sector mandated representation can be refreshed/ revived and work across the region and across specialisms. When

considering this, conscious thought must be placed on are focus and citizen and service user representation with a key focus upon ensuring there is communication, feedback and representation across the region reflecting the diversity in type and size of the Third Sector

2. Host a further event involving existing reps and open to wider third sector to explore existing practice, barriers/challenges and potential for improvements to take forward the next phase of Third Sector representation in a new regional context.
  
3. Progress the work of the Regional Compact.

### Event Evaluation

#### Content of the workshop

Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor
55%	45%		

#### Context of workshop

Completely useful	Very Useful	Quite useful	A bit useful	Not at all
35%	55%	15%		

#### Recommend SVFN to others

Yes	No
95%	5%

#### Presentations

Excellent	Good	Adequate	Poor
35%	55%	10%	

#### Future themes to consider

- Speed dating information sharing session;
- Funding;
- Connecting third sector to private sector;
- Coproduction and involving citizens- how to session;
- Measuring Social Value;

- Measuring impact of our work;
- Information market;
- Casestudy focus;
- Mapping of services;
- Sustainability planning;
- Demonstrating impact of short term funding to commissioners;
- Terms of reference and compacts;
- How third sector can truly influence commissioners;
- Forward planning for the SVFN – how we plan to accelerate change.