

VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR (VCS) WORKSHOP NOTES CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Criteria/ principles/ priorities to apply when making savings

- Identify the most vulnerable and prioritise them.
- Use evidence base to define the most vulnerable.
- Focus on early intervention. Local authority consultation (locality?).
- Maintain and increase influence of VCS and citizens in elected member decision-making groups – e.g. Luton Forum and Luton Assembly. More grass roots input.
- Better value for money – not lowest possible cost.
- Maintaining/ improving quality.
- Focus on outcomes not on continual widgets.
- Good commissioner/ provider relationships.
- Do more with the families – think family and the whole journey.
- Whole family commissioning – VCS deliver to vulnerable families.

What can we do differently – work together /not duplicate

- Share experience /skills.
- Consortium approach.
- Wider than Luton.
- Luton, Central Beds and Beds Borough.
- Four groups = old world.
- Different model/ design.
- Holistic approach.
- Pathway.
- Review evidence base. Prioritise. Make links.
- Joint bids – not local authority.
- Access to services variable.
- Listening and working with children and young people.
- What is important?
- How do we get the views of families? Young children.
- Supporting people – strategic review. How can VCS feed into this?
- Feedback from young people being served by VCS.
- More commissioning – local/VCS.
- Local authority looking at structures – commissioning externally.
- Better use of facilities and estates to bring organisations together.
- Short term contracts unhelpful.
- Benchmarking/ more openness about salaries in VCS organisations.
- Centres of Excellence across Luton – collaborative/ speed dating event.
- Local authority as facilitator of collaboratives and funding routes.
- Local authority support VCS with business skills.

Parking lot

Supporting people – strategic review.

Residents/VDL sector – how do they get involved in decision-making?