

# VCS Engagement with NOMS in YH

a short history.....

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# National Change-Up Programme

- CRISP (Clinks Regional Information and Skills Project) – worked in a number of regions including Y&H
- MOVE (Managing Offenders Through Voluntary Sector Engagement) – Nacro led consortium development project in Leeds
- Three other projects nationally

# Step Change Project

National Pilot to find ways of achieving:

- **Greater spend on VCS by NOMS and partner agencies**
- **More consortia of VCS/public/private sector organisations submitting bids and delivering services**
- **Greater involvement by VCS in developing a commissioning model in**
- **partnership with other providers, service users and commissioners**

# VCS Pathway Team

- Established in 2005
- Remit to ensure VCS engagement in reducing re-offending
- Membership – drawn from VCS service providers and infrastructure organisations, prisons, probation and NOMS in the region
- First year awareness raising/information about NOMS developments and consultation with sector

# Overarching Aims of VCS Pathway

- Ensure that VCS organisations can compete effectively in commissioning environment
- Give service users a voice and promote benefits of service user participation
- Provide route for consultation and engagement of BME led VCS and promote race equality
- To ensure VCS contribution to strategic developments across *all* pathway areas

# Key Achievements

- Major investment in VCS delivery in region from national government: TWP, Bail Scheme, SAFAR
- VCS representation across *all* pathway teams
- NOMS YH focus on need to promote race equality and engage with BME led VCS
- NOMS YH focus on service user engagement, including production of quality standards

# Key Achievements

- Influence on commissioning and procurement processes (TWP tendering report and Clinks review of commissioning the regional prisoners Housing Advice Service)
- Recommendations for change in the way the statutory agencies commission services
- Strong VCS voice in regional NOMS strategy development

# Key Challenges

- Nationally funded initiatives (TWP, Bail Scheme and SAFAR) will cease operation if local commissioning arrangements not in place
- No targets for statutory providers to commission services from VCS – Best Value Framework instead
- Implications of economic downturn – will the statutory sector retreat?
- Massive change on horizon – policing green paper, Casey Review,

# Opportunities

- Within NOMS *Working with Third Sector to Reduce Re-offending* commitment to targeted strategies for women and BME offenders – VCS have solutions and approaches that work
- Prisons and probation working more closely together at local level must bring their VCS partners to the table and VCS organisations must show that they can contribute to achieving a reduction in social exclusion at local level.

# Key Questions

- LCJBs, CDRPs, LSPs, LAAs, IOM.....

How can local VCS influence priorities and ensure that they are able to access funding?

How can NOMS in the region ensure that the commitment to VCS delivery is translated at local level?

How will the new NOMS Agency be held to account on achieving the 'plurality of providers that is central to the NOMS vision?