

The Vale of Glamorgan Council

Voluntary Sector Joint Liaison Committee: 14th October, 2015

Report of the Glamorgan Voluntary Services

Glamorgan Voluntary Services – Process for Selecting Third Sector Representation for Joint Working Groups

Purpose of the Report

1. To update the Committee regarding the agreed process between the Vale of Glamorgan Council and the Third Sector regarding Third Sector representation on Joint Working Groups

Recommendation

That the Committee endorse the process contained within this report.

Introduction

2. The Third Sector is represented on a number of Joint Working Groups. These are defined as any initiative requiring voluntary sector representation, for example Partnerships, Working Groups, Task and Finish Groups, Forums.

3. In order to ensure appropriate voluntary sector representation, GVS (formerly VCVS) has an agreed process with the Vale of Glamorgan Council regarding the nomination and selection of voluntary sector representatives. With the merger of the former VCVS and VVB to form GVS, GVS is now the recognised infrastructure and representative body for the Third Sector in the Vale of Glamorgan.

Process

4. Whenever the Vale of Glamorgan Council requires Third Sector representation, GVS should be the appropriate organisation to facilitate the selection process. This would involve the Vale of Glamorgan Council contacting a named officer with GVS to arrange the selection of the representative by canvassing the Third Sector for nominations and, where appropriate, facilitating an election.

5. This will also ensure consistency and transparency of process across the whole range of areas where there is joint working and where Third Sector

representation is required. The process will also ensure that only those with the relevant skills and experience are appointed to serve.

6. The process will ensure that appointed representatives are accountable to the Third Sector by reporting back to the sector through appropriate channels. Representatives would be acting on behalf of the sector rather than the organisations to which they belong.

7. The recommended process is outlined below in more detail:-

1. Vale of Glamorgan Council to contact GVS when it has been identified that voluntary sector representation is required for any joint working initiative
2. GVS to agree with VOGC the timescale for selection.
3. GVS to canvass the voluntary sector (either through appropriate Networks and Forums or through its wider membership) for nominations.
4. Where the number of nominations exceeds the number of posts available, GVS to facilitate an election.
5. GVS to inform VOGC of the name and contact details of the representative.
6. GVS to provide induction and support for the representative.

Support for Third Sector Representatives

8. GVS has developed a Third Sector Representatives Support Network to discuss issues that may arise, identify areas of concern and agree a sectoral approach.

9. GVS has also developed an induction process for Third Sector representatives. This serves as an opportunity to brief representatives about their particular function and to make them aware of their roles and responsibilities.

Specialist Representation

10. It is acknowledged that on some occasions the Vale of Glamorgan Council requires specialist input from voluntary sector organisations. Where this has occurred in the past, the Council has contacted those organisations directly to participate. It is emphasised that in these circumstances, Third Sector organisations should not be regarded as representing the wider Third Sector, but representing only the interests of their organisation.

Resource Implications (Financial and Employment)

11. None

Sustainability and Climate Change Implications

12. None

Legal Implications (to include Human Rights Implications)

13. None

Crime and Disorder Implications

14. None

Opportunities Implications (to include Welsh Language Issues)

15. None

Corporate/Service Objectives

16. Effective partnership working is a Core Value within the Council's Corporate Plan Policy Framework.

Consultation (including Ward Member Consultation)

17. n/a

Relevant Scrutiny Committee

All Scrutiny Committees

Background Papers

n/a

Contact Officer

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Officers Consulted

n/a

Responsible Officer

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