

Enhancing VCS Resilience – Suggestions for Actions

Big Event 2016 Breakaway Workshop Outcomes



WORKSHOP NAME	WORKSHOP FACILITATOR	RESPONSES TO THE QUESTION “WHAT CAN WE DO TO ENHANCE VCS RESILIENCE”?
Operation Shine! Improving your personal resilience, health and wellbeing	Brenda Bruzon: Volunteer Centre East Sussex & Spiritual Companion	Better communication and mapping to draw on existing resources and avoid duplication
Building Financial Resilience	Julie Eason: Julie Eason Consulting	Diversify your funding base; put beneficiaries front and centre; and get/ stay creative.
Fragile Assets: Practice that strengthens and supports	Jayne and Trevor Hopkins: Asset Based Consulting	Work towards more collaboration across all sectors; work in communities to create and sustain better integration, happiness, equal and inclusive communities, and high achieving and fulfilled communities.
Community Resilience in Emergencies	Glenn Jones: East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service	3 Effective C’s: Communication, Control, Co-Ordination.
Building Connections with Local Businesses	Mebrak Ghebreweldi: Diversity Resource International	Communication.
Integrated Localities: Embedding prevention at the heart of Integrated Locality teams	Peter Lister: Locality Support Development, East Sussex County Council	Value and respect all contributions; develop trust; ensure collaborative working is meaningful and equal (there is parity); ensure continued networking.
Partnering and Collaborating Within the Third Sector	Marie Casey: seAp Advocacy	Increase capacity to network and collaborate; bring people and places together.
New Models of Care, New Opportunities for Collaboration and Partnerships: Accountable care	Vicky Smith: Accountable Care Strategic Development, East Sussex Better Together	Participate in network and forum meetings to share information and resources; review and refresh the numbers of networks and forums, and their topics, membership, and make up (countywide, local, interest based); break down barriers between statutory and voluntary sector.

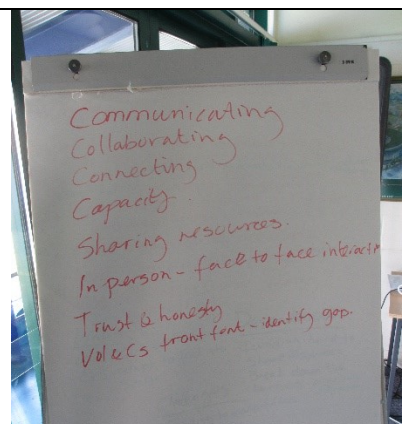
Enhancing VCS Resilience – Themes and Action Steps

Big Event 2016 Plenary Workshop Outcomes



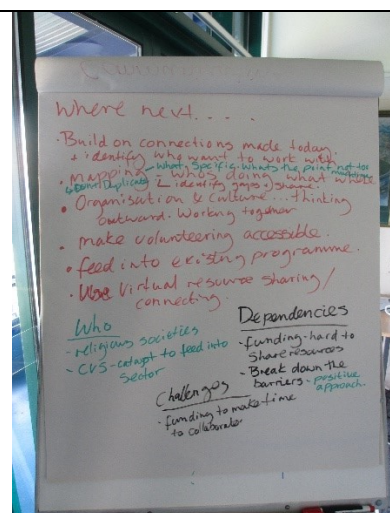
Themes

- Communicating
- Collaborating
- Connecting
- Capacity
- Sharing resources
- In person, face to face interactions
- Trust and honesty
- VCS being on the front foot / proactive – identifying gaps or opportunities, not just waiting until things are offered



Where next?

- Build on the connections made today. Being here at the Big Event helps build trust and gives us opportunities to identify who might want to work with who.
- Mapping: who does what where and what resources they have – then we can identify gaps and share resources. BUT don't waste time doing a new mapping exercise, must be specific and quick and useful!
- Organisational cultures and leadership: we must look internally, and think externally to work together.
- Make volunteering accessible.
- Feed this rich data from the Big Event into existing programmes.
- Investigate possibilities for virtual services / technological innovations that connect people and enable resource sharing (might be more efficient and effective than mapping).



Who should be involved?

- There seems to be a lack of participation from religious societies at the Big Event, so they need to be brought in
- CVSs are key leaders for activities, and especially for catalysing funding for the sector. From today, can the CVSs help secure investment to help deal with our lack of capacity?

Are there any dependencies?

- Around funding and risk: when there is limited funding or high risk, it becomes prohibitive to collaborate – finding time and other resources to work together, and being able to share resources.
- We can only move forwards if we think more positively, and break down the barriers between us!