

Devolution Challenge
Workshop strand 1
Brave New World Revisited 2016 – VCSE Conference

Workshop speakers

Simone Spray, 42nd Street

Bernadette Conlon, Start in Salford

David Fernandez-Arias, People's Plan

Overview of session from Marie Wilson (CVS)

Simone Spray (42nd Street)

Presentation highlights include:

- Issues around equality and inclusion
- Access for transition points
- Economics driving decision making rather than needs of people
- Integration and system change – system from a user perspective
- Early intervention, prevention and choice



Bernadette Conlon (START in Salford)

Presentation highlights include:

- Being bombarded by information for devolution.
- Focus on getting people into work
- How do we make sure organisations have a voice to influence
- GMCVO the formal structure to access representation
“Reference Group” happened by chance and will evolve and change
- Seconded post to go into Devolution team to pull information together has been proposed



David Fernandez –Arias (People's Plan)

Presentation highlights include:

- Community groups could be in danger of being marginalised
- People first as opposed to economy first



- Decisions taken have to meet the requirements of the Treasury – need to change strategic priorities.
- Need to challenge notion that local tax base capacity will inform amount of local funding.
- Need to strengthen “local democracy”

Question and Answer

1. More information from the Reference Group to cascade down. How will they access this information?

Reference Group can be contacted for information. CVS/ GMCVO will also cascade information.

2. How are services going to be commissioned? Grass-roots funding – how will the sector access the funds?

3. Concerns that small organisations will be excluded. Need to have a collective approach.

Need to change the “Terms of Reference” not just accept the status quo

“People’s Plan” – what status does it have? Language of “self –care” worrying. Organisations have a role to represent local people.

Feedback from Parliamentary Committee in Manchester given.

Self-determination – building resilience. “Helping the vulnerable” a priority for voluntary budget.