



Reaching People

A consortium of service providers in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland, Reaching People aims to improve the circumstances and quality of life of people, especially those who are most disadvantaged or have health problems, by working in partnership to deliver solutions to support them make confident choices, form positive relationships and reach their full potential.

The founding members of the charity aim to combine the unique skills, expertise, diversity and commitment of the VCS with the cost efficiency consortiums provide, to compete for public sector contracts. These will be delivered by it developing new services in, but not limited, to the fields of:

- Adult social care
- Employment and skills
- Children and young people
- Advocacy and advice
- Health and wellbeing
- Universal services and asset management
- Environment.

The consortium aims to attract a wide range of member organisations reflecting the diverse needs of the geographical area it services. Member recruitment is carried out on a rolling basis, and potential members most meet the following criteria:

- Not-for-profit organisation providing public services;
- Committed to consortium working, and working with the vulnerable and hard to reach;
- Financially healthy and technically capable;

- Have quality system and suitable organisational policies and governance in place.

A key objective of the consortium is to coordinate member delivery of personalisation services, through Total Solutions, a one-stop care management service, which develops and adapts the variety and type of service the VCS provides, whilst supporting users and carers to manage their budgets effectively and ensure it meets their needs. The initiative, which will be a self-contained social enterprise, is being developed to:

- Redefine and develop the services offered to clients
- Develop a knowledge of the market, including customer needs and provider capacity
- Develop marketing and publicity materials, and pricing and charging structures
- Set-up contract management and quality assurance systems.

The work and development of the consortium is overseen by its board of trustees, which includes managers and trustees from member organisations, and independent individuals with an interest in the delivery of public services by the VCS.

Reaching People is hosted by Communities in Partnership, formerly CVS Community Partnership, which aims to improve the lives of people in Leicestershire, Rutland and Leicester by encouraging individuals and organisations to work in partnership with each other, and with government, to build stronger, safer and better communities.

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The appointed hub of the consortium, Communities in Partnership, provides members with services including:

- Negotiating and sub-letting contracts
- Intermediary between funders
- Leadership and negotiation
- Tender writing, contract management and resource allocation
- Quality improvement and organisational capacity building
- Opportunities for seeking out new funding and business development.

For further information on Reaching People visit www.reachingpeople.org.uk. For further information on its host organisation Communities in Partnership visit www.communitiesinpartnership.org.uk.

“In a rapidly changing commissioning environment it is essential that VCS organisations work more effectively together to maximise opportunities. Action Homeless believes that Reaching People will be invaluable in developing new partnerships that support our future business development”
Rob Parkinson, Chief Executive, Action Homeless