

## **Bolsover Community Voices Forum**

### **Terms of Reference**

This Forum has developed out of the need to create practical solutions to the common issues facing third sector groups in Bolsover District. The Covid 19 pandemic has highlighted and exacerbated the long-held problems and challenges concerning this sector, including social, health and economic inequalities but has also energised stakeholders to collaborate and collectively pool ideas, thoughts and resources. Therefore this Forum has been established to encourage joint working and sharing of information, with a solution focussed approach being identified as vital.

Attendance at these Forums is open to anyone who represents a community, voluntary or social enterprise group in the District or who supports Voluntary Action in a professional capacity.

The purpose of the Forum (based on the initial March 2021 survey) is to:

- Network and share news/ information from the sector
- Work together
- Build contacts
- Raise awareness of all groups
- Highlight funding and development opportunities

A further purpose has been suggested to be;

- To provide learning opportunities for groups

### **Participants responsibility**

Those joining the Forum will

- Meet quarterly
- Feed in key issues from communities back to the Forum
- Debate, discuss and come to joint conclusions about issues raised as appropriate

### **What BCVS/ Bolsover Together will do**

- Act as a focal point and facilitate Forum meetings
- Collate and present agenda items received from groups, or seek out informative relevant topics should agenda items not be forthcoming
- Support and encourage peer working and collaborative approaches
- Enable communication on common topics and funding opportunities
- Maintain energy and enthusiasm through shared discussion and action

### **Representation of Community, Voluntary and Social Enterprise [VCSE] groups at Bolsover Partnership Meetings**

- Wherever possible, VCSE participants at these meetings will exchange information in accordance with the agreed Bolsover Together Representatives Protocol.