CME / Pro-Action Conference 18th October 2011

Herts Community Assembly / VCS CYP Forum Workshop

Barriers identified	How VCS infrastructure can help
Knowing how to access localised commissioning (eg schools)	In Herts identify your local Partnership Development Officers If schools etc are going to commission the VCS need to ensure that there is a proper accountability demonstrating the deliverer's impact and quality, which can be the basis for a truly competitive marketplace (ie not commissioning with in-house as a default without establishing impact and value)
	VCS infrastructure must provide its value by saving costs and getting funding in.
Getting the right balance between targeted needs at local level (SOA) and those at district & county level	Lobbying commissioners to ensure that localised commissioning is complemented by strategic centralised funding at district/county level
Commissioning being of sufficient quality to ensure that there is an appropriate and effective relationship between prime contractors and the VCS	Having a clear position on the commissioning arrangements that best facilitate VCS working (eg risk, price, taking best practice VCS elements from unsuccessful bids and requiring bolt-on in the commissioning process with the successful bid) Best Practice in commissioning for the VCS to be a discussion point at future forum
Perception by health and LA that there are deficiencies in expertise and professionalization of VCS (not helped by the fragmentation and segmentalisation of the VCS.)	Translation service, so public sector understand our language and vice-versa!
Lack of dialogue with commissioners. The workshops before HCC CTS Fund were really positive.	Maintain the dialogue. Have VCS input throughout the process right from inception through to the decision-making process as with the sustainability funding. Make sure the HCTP partnership paper and its appendix on the sustainability fund being a model of best practice in cross-sector partnership working must be kept alive with the HWB.
Making sure VCS evidence and agendas are represented on the JSNA	A learning curve for us all and a topic the CYP Forum is keen to address. Topic for future discussion