

Getting the Right Services for the People of your Area: Commissioning in Partnership through Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

Template for Engagement - **Voluntary Sector Version**

This pro forma is designed to help you identify how your organisation can start planning the next steps it will take to contribute to the JSNA in your area. For those people who are unsure of what the JSNA is for and how it will look in the future please also find a briefing sheet which we hope you will find helpful.

1. Who leads the JSNA in your area? (Names to contact)

- Director of Adult Social Services
- Director of Public Health
- JSNA policy lead (Some L/A delegate this role to other than the Director and you may find it useful to know who it is)
- Dept of Health JSNA Regional lead
- Local commissioners

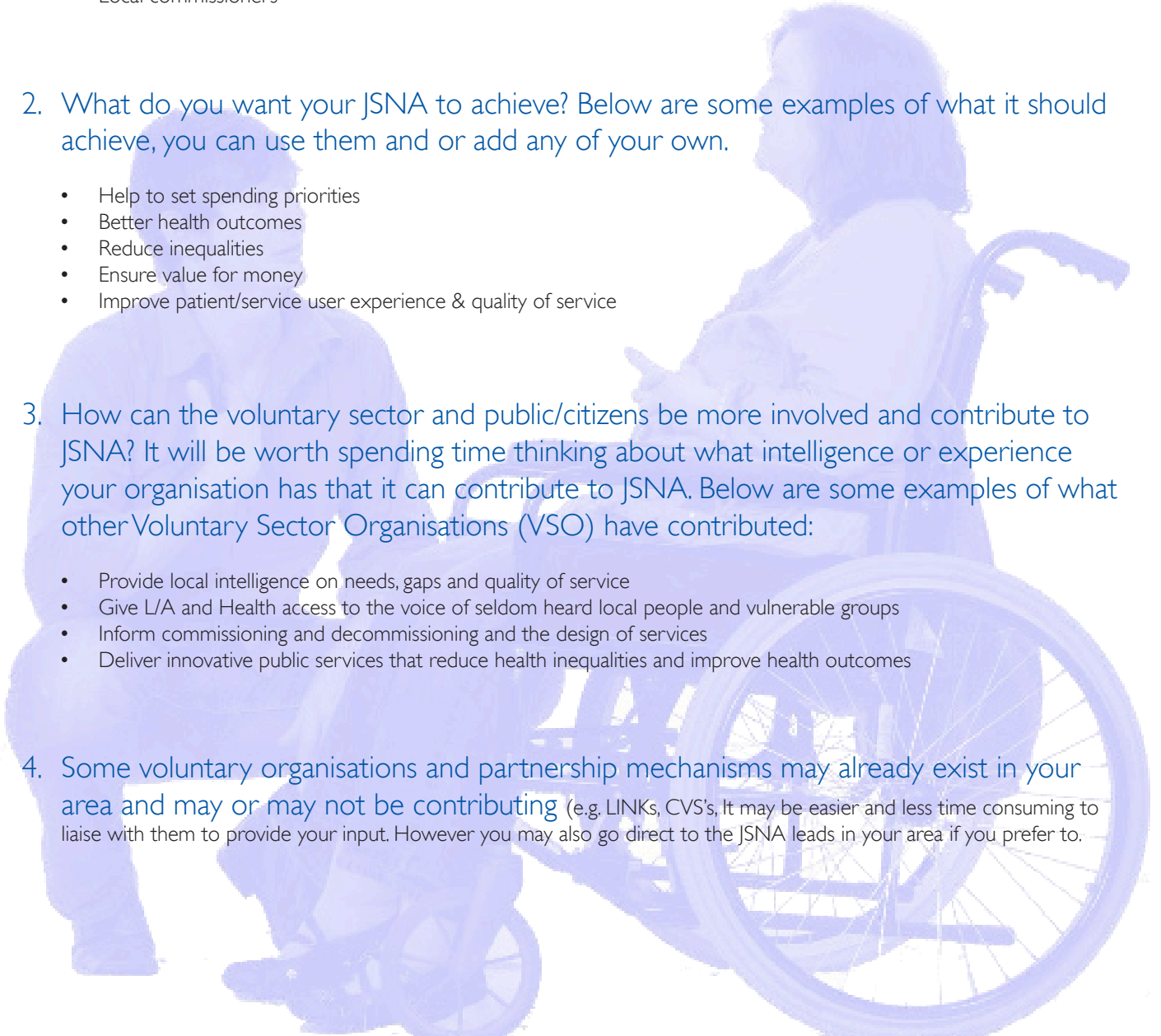
2. What do you want your JSNA to achieve? Below are some examples of what it should achieve, you can use them and or add any of your own.

- Help to set spending priorities
- Better health outcomes
- Reduce inequalities
- Ensure value for money
- Improve patient/service user experience & quality of service

3. How can the voluntary sector and public/citizens be more involved and contribute to JSNA? It will be worth spending time thinking about what intelligence or experience your organisation has that it can contribute to JSNA. Below are some examples of what other Voluntary Sector Organisations (VSO) have contributed:

- Provide local intelligence on needs, gaps and quality of service
- Give L/A and Health access to the voice of seldom heard local people and vulnerable groups
- Inform commissioning and decommissioning and the design of services
- Deliver innovative public services that reduce health inequalities and improve health outcomes

4. Some voluntary organisations and partnership mechanisms may already exist in your area and may or may not be contributing (e.g. LINKs, CVS's, It may be easier and less time consuming to liaise with them to provide your input. However you may also go direct to the JSNA leads in your area if you prefer to.



5. How best can the statutory sector support you to contribute to JSNA in your area?

- Funding; JSNA involvement included in contracts
- In-kind help e.g. to better develop data systems to analyse and make use of the information held by VSO's to inform JSNA
- VSO's help facilitate statutory sector staff to understand the stories behind the data to improve services (e.g. Age UK case study)
- Provide names of JSNA leads/commissioners to voluntary sector organisations and build relationships between them
- Be clear on how the public and voluntary sector can contribute information to the JSNA process – not only through a JSNA working group or partnership board
- Show how the information the public/voluntary sector has provided has been incorporated into the JSNA and if not, why not
- Provide feedback – value the contribution people have made
- Other ideas?

6. How will you check that information you have fed in to the JSNA process is translated in to commissioning and decommissioning decisions? (You might want to have this discussion with your JSNA Lead)

7. What are the mechanisms locally for challenging spending priorities and commissioning decisions if you don't agree with them?

Below are some links to websites that contain good practice and ideas that you can use to help you further develop your contribution to the JSNA in your area.

For JSNA good practice tools and case studies visit: www.idea.gov.uk/health or www.vodg.org.uk/jsna-resources
For public involvement ideas to reduce health inequalities go to: www.peopleandparticipation.net

The National Care Forum

The National Care Forum (NCF) represents the interests of not-for-profit health and social care providers in the United Kingdom. For more information visit www.nationalcareforum.org.uk

Voluntary Organisations Disability Group

The Voluntary Organisations Disability Group (VODG) is an umbrella group of voluntary sector providers of support services