

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

Template for Engagement - **Statutory Sector Version**

This pro forma is designed to help you identify how your organisation can start planning the next steps it will take to identify how you can maximise the contribution of Voluntary Sector Organisations (VSO) to the JSNA process in your area. Included is a policy briefing that you may find useful that discusses the proposed future role of the JSNA in the Health and Social Care Bill 2011.

1. What do you want your JSNA to achieve? Below are some examples of what it should achieve, but you might want to add some that are more specific to your own area.

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

2. How can the voluntary sector and public/citizens be more involved and contribute to JSNA?

It might be worth spending some time to consider what it is you think VSO can contribute to JSNA. Below are some examples of what other VSO have contributed but add your own if you are looking for different/additional contributions.

- 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

3. How can the voluntary sector and public voice be better incorporated into JSNA?

- What voluntary organisations and partnership mechanisms already exist in your area that you can draw on (e.g. LINKs, CVS's, NAVCA, Regional Voices)?



- Some VSO particularly the smaller or more specialised organisations may struggle to find the capacity to contribute. Below are some suggestions of ways you can support them to contribute:
 - Funding; include JSNA involvement in any contracts you are negotiating
 - 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 on VODG website details below)
 - 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?

4. Are there any other challenges in involving VSO in JSNA in your area?

5. How will you tackle/overcome these challenges?

Below are some links to websites that contain good practice and ideas for VSO involvement in JSNA that you can use to further develop 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 to disabled people. For more information visit www.vodg.org.uk