

VCS Assembly Event 14th May 2015 Linden Hall

Northumberland VCS Assembly - Progress to date

- Northumberland VCS Assembly Framework has been developed setting out the vision, aims and objectives of the VCS Assembly and the Terms of Reference for the VCS Assembly Steering Group.
- The Steering Group provides leadership, accountability and responsibility for progressing the general development and direction of Northumberland VCS Assembly. This will be replaced in late summer 2015 by a democratically elected Action Group to lead the Assembly.
- Membership of the Assembly has increased 30% since November 2014 to over 210 members. Targeted communications through events, emails and meetings has raised awareness and encouraged membership.
- Geographical networks now exist across the county providing an opportunity for community and voluntary organisations to get together, share ideas and good practice, work together and raise concerns. The next meetings of these networks will take place as follows:-

West Northumberland Network – Hexham	- 21 st May 2015
North Northumberland Network - Belford	- 5 th June 2015
South East Alliance - Ashington	- 9 th June 2015
Central Network - Morpeth	- 11 th June 2015

- Quarterly meetings are held with Northumberland County Council i.e. the Northumberland VCS Assembly and Northumberland County Council (NCC/VCS) Liaison Group to work in partnership for the benefit and support of local communities in Northumberland. Two meetings have been held to date and a Statement of Intent has been agreed.
- Assembly members are involved in working groups with the public sector e.g. Communications Sub Group of the Health and Well-being Board, Healthwatch Board, Northumberland, Social Prescribing Planning Group with Public Health and Clinical Commissioning Groups, Welfare Reform Strategic Group.