

# TSL Round Up - January 2021

Happy new year and congratulations on making it through 2020.

The world has fundamentally changed; in March 2020 no one could have anticipated the impact of Covid-19, but most importantly, how long it would last. At TSL, we recognise and applaud the resilience of third sector organisations during this time and the grit you continue to show serving communities in Leeds.

This winter edition of our policy briefing brings you up to date with some of the work TSL (and others) have been undertaking on your behalf to shape things for a more resilient sector that can continue to make the difference in communities in the future.

## **In this round up we talk about:**

### [Vaccine Rollout](#)

*Colleagues at Forum Central have been working to get parity of access to the vaccine for third sector health and social care workers.*

### [Revised Approach to Neighbourhood Level Pandemic Response](#)

*A group of community based organisations, statutory partners and other stakeholders are in the process of becoming the steering group for this work across the city.*

### [Practice Brief on Microaggressions](#)

*As part of our commitment to tackling inequality and supporting the aims of Black Lives Matter, Third Sector Leeds and the BME Hub\* have collaborated to produce a brief tackling microaggressions in third sector organisations.*

### [Social Value](#)

*TSL are working with partners to ensure the third sector is ready for changes and are seeking the opportunity to review the proposed social value measures.*

### [Inclusive Economic Development](#)

*A key focus for TSL has been, and continues to be, making the case for the third sector as a key part of the solution for creating an Inclusive economy in Leeds.*

### [Shaping our Future](#)

*Shaping our Future is Leeds innovative health programme developed in response*

*to the national and local direction of travel towards integration and improved strategic commissioning for population outcomes.*

### [Third Sector Resilience](#)

*TSL recently responded to the report on the second phase of Sector Resilience Survey Research project.*

### [TSL Annual Report and Future Priorities](#)

We have recently published our Annual Report to let you know what we did last year and the Covid revised priorities we've been concentrating on this year.

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## Vaccine Rollout

Our colleagues at [Forum Central](#) have successfully made the case that third sector frontline health and care workers should be included in the same tier of vaccination roll out as colleagues in statutory services.

### [Read more here](#)

The fact that the third sector has 'parity of esteem' in access to vaccination is really great news.

The details of timings, eligibility and booking are still being put into place; as soon as we have the details we'll let you know

#### **How can you help:**

If you have frontline health and care workers you could start to draw up lists of staff that may be eligible.

Look out for information as it becomes available

## Revised Approach to Neighbourhood Level Pandemic Response

Voluntary Action Leeds is providing support to a network of community-based organisations in Leeds to continue the delivery of pandemic relief.

TSL hopes that the experience of local organisations delivering these critical services can become part of a future blueprint for networks of local organisations that collaborate in new ways to meet the needs of communities.

A group of community based organisations, statutory partners and other stakeholders are in the process of becoming the steering group for this work. They hope to consult on some principles for community led local work in the near future.

### **How can you help:**

Look out for the consultation and respond if you can spare the time.

## **Practice Brief on Microaggressions**

TSL knows that the way in which Covid-19 has had a disproportionate impact on culturally diverse communities is just one of the many examples of how unequal our society remains.

As part of our commitment to tackling inequality and supporting the aims of Black Lives Matter, Third Sector Leeds and the BME Hub\* have collaborated to produce a brief tackling microaggressions in third sector organisations. *The brief is nearing publication and before we formally present it to the sector, we'd like to test it with a few organisations to confirm its fit for purpose.*

In addition, Third Sector Leeds and Forum Central are also exploring how we can work together across Leeds infrastructure develop a bank of resources to help organisations develop better practice around cultural diversity.

\*The BME Hub is aware that the use of the acronym 'BME' is being discussed nationally. The Hub is aware of the issues and is looking into changing the name in the near future

### **How can you help**

If you would like to review our microaggressions brief, please email [Richard.warrington@val.org.uk](mailto:Richard.warrington@val.org.uk)

Let us know what resources might help your organisation to take a the next step in your diversity journey.

## Social Value

In our previous Round-up we reported on plans for Leeds City Council to include 10% scoring in future contracts for social value.

TSL is working with partners to ensure the third sector is ready for this change and are seeking the opportunity to review the proposed social value measures; we want to understand the likely impact on the third sector *and* how third sector organisation can use them to their best advantage.

We are also working with the [Social Value Portal](#) (the Council's social value evaluation partner) to deliver a series of quarterly seminars; 10 organisations attended the first session in December.

We believe one exciting development is the opportunity for third sector organisations to come together to make single offer to private sector bidders for large contracts for how they can gain greater social value by working with the third sector. The Council's procurement team have signalled that they are interested in this idea and a group of partners are exploring how a scheme might be designed.

### **How can you help:**

We'd love to hear your ideas about how you deliver and measure social value.

- Look out and attend our future social value portal seminars
- Let us know how we could make a simple, but flexible offer, to private sector bidders from the third sector.

## Inclusive Economic Development

A key focus for TSL has been, and continues to be, making the case for the third sector as a key part of the solution for creating an Inclusive economy in Leeds (an economy that delivers better for more of its people).

The incredible work that the third sector has done during Covid has made it clearer to decision makers how your work makes a real difference to people's jobs, their health, their income and their wellbeing. Building on this success, we are planning to meet with colleagues in the Council's economic development team in the near future to explore:

- How the third sector can have a stronger voice in the network of Leeds' [anchor institutions](#) (the major organisations, with a lot of employees and spending power, for whom Leeds is home).
- The role of the third sector in the climate change economy, such as how we can make a difference in the city and region's major tree planting projects
- How the third sector can help to deliver more and better employment

TSL is also working at West Yorkshire Level [where proposals have been made](#) to explore:

- research to demonstrate the economic impact of the third sector
- new structures that will enable the third sector voice to be heard
- the possibility of investment in business supported tailored to the third sector
- the possibility of investment in local community hubs (local organisations and the building that they use)

We have been involved in a conversation with colleagues from the Council and with Forum Central about a Council led bid to explore ways in which projects that deliver economic development in deprived communities can also deliver health and wellbeing benefits.

TSL has argued for a minor role for infrastructure organisations (not necessarily TSL) to bring together local organisations with ideas to offer, support with community engagement and as the evidence of the third sector's impact becomes clearer make the case for change.

## How can you help

We welcome ideas for how the third sector can be an agent for change in our economy which will help us make the case

## Shaping Our Future

Over the last few years a key part of the health service agenda has been to find ways to get more resources into preventative care (this is sometimes called 'Leftshift').

As part of this drive to get services further out into communities and out of hospitals partners, particularly at Forum Central, have been exploring how third sector could have more involvement in shaping and delivering services in the future. This work has been captured in a series of conversations with organisations from across the third sector called 'Shaping our Future'.

Part of the 'Shaping our Future' work has looked at what types of structures the city needs to make sure that the third sector can play a greater role in delivering services. Other parts of the conversation have looked at the support that organisations (particularly the smaller ones) need to be able to be part of new ways of delivering services.

Although this work is still underway it does suggest that there is exciting potential for the future; with some tweaks to the system it may be possible to deliver a more community focused health services through the third sector.

The report on ['Shaping our Future' was recently published](#), and TSL is working closely with Forum Central to think about next steps.

## How can you help:

Read the ['Shaping our Future' report](#) and start to think through how future change might effect your organisation.

Let us know how you want to take part in the conversation. If you think there is other information you need in order to take part, let us know and we'll look for answers.

## Other news... Third Sector Resilience

TSL recently responded to the report on the second phase of Sector Resilience survey work. The report was released just before Christmas [Third Sector Resilience in Leeds: Working through Covid-19](#).

The response to this report identifies some of the key trends and some of the work that's happening in the city to enable the third sector to survive and thrive.

[Read the TSL response](#)

## TSL Annual Report and Future Priorities

Many of our readers will remember that nearly one year ago, TSL was planning its first ever one day conference. Over 100 hundred delegates from the third sector had signed up to join us on March 25 to explore how to make the third sector stronger.....

Of course, then lockdown 1 intervened.

We planned to use part of that conference to share our work over the previous year and to understand your priorities for the future.

The interruption caused by Covid-19 has meant that we are only now publishing our Annual Report but we think it's important that we do publish it so that you know what we did last year and the Covid revised priorities we've been concentrating on this year.

[Read the TSL Annual Report](#)

**Contact Us**

If you would like to contact us to discuss any of the topics featured in this bulletin further please email the TSL Project Worker, Richard Warrington, at [richard.warrington@val.org.uk](mailto:richard.warrington@val.org.uk)

**Want to share good news from your community?**

Doing Good Leeds is a great place to share your successes and promote the work of the third sector in building strong and resilient communities in Leeds.

[Click here](#) to register and take the first step in sharing your news, events and training.