

# **Terms of Reference for the Yorkshire and the Humber Funders Forum<sup>1</sup>**

## **Purpose of Funders Forum**

- 1) To encourage good practice in funding to the voluntary and community sector.
- 2) Through mutual co-operation and sharing information and ideas to maximise the value and impact of funding to voluntary and community organisations and thus the benefit to people in Yorkshire and the Humber.

## **Membership of the Forum**

- 1) Membership of the forum is open to funders of the third sector with a regional or sub regional remit who support the purpose and provides funds to voluntary or community organisations active in the Yorkshire and the Humber.

## **Role of the Forum**

- 1) The Forum aims to fulfil its purpose by
  - a) Being an informal network of funders.
  - b) Holding informal discussions and activities on topics of common interest to funders.
  - c) Involving representatives of grant recipients and other voluntary infrastructure organisations when appropriate.
  - d) Involving representatives of statutory sector and the regional development agency when appropriate.
  - e) Facilitating the sharing of information and best practice.
  - f) Acting fairly and with equality of opportunity.
- 2) Members will participate on the understanding that events are not an opportunity to solicit funds or share information or opinion about applicants or potential applicants in an inappropriate way. For example,
  - a) Case studies should be made anonymous. Where this is not possible, permission from the organisations should be sought.
  - b) References to a specific organisation should be rare and where it is unavoidable, there should be a clear separation made between publicly available fact and any opinion.
- 3) As an informal network it will rarely adopt policy positions on issues.
- 4) The forum will meet on a quarterly basis.

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### **Changing the terms of reference**

5) Changes to the terms of reference will be made by the Forum membership, if the majority present at a meeting agree and if notice of the meeting and the proposed changes are sent at least 15 days in advance to all Forum members.

### **Dissolving the Forum**

6) A decision to dissolve the Forum will be made by the Forum membership, if the majority present at a meeting agree and if notice of the meeting and the proposed dissolution are sent at least 15 days in advance to all Forum members.