# VCFSE Representative feedback form

Use this form to plan your engagement before the meeting, and capture key points to communicate afterwards with sector colleagues.

Please email, with meeting name and date, to stephanieg@communityfutures.org.uk.

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| Meeting details |  | Rep details |  |
| **Title** | **Date** | **Name** | **Organisation** |
| Health & Wellbeing Board | 12.11.24 | Teri Stephenson | Age UK lancashire |
| Resources / documents?  | Yes  | Agenda & Papers; [Council - Agenda for Lancashire Health and Wellbeing Board on Tuesday, 12th November, 2024, 2.00 pm](https://council.lancashire.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?MId=13607&x=1&) |
| **Main items discussed.** |
| * Better Care Fund, an update on the ongoing review and to approve the BCF Q2 submission (see more below)
* Pharmaceutical needs assessment for 2025 (see more below)
* Self-harm and suicide strategy 2024 – 2029
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| **Implications for the VCFSE Sector.** |
| **BCF** - Implications of the BCF and the ongoing review being done by external consultants on the VCFSE is not yet known, but should be soon. I will of course update when this review is completed. The 24/25 BCF plan has not yet been signed off whilst external facilitation takes place between NHS and LCC re the NHS additional contribution to adult social care. Better Care Fund Resets Project Progress: Support Offer Projects * Leadership and Governance
* Discharge to Assess ¬
* Intermediate Care Demand and Capacity Modelling

Frustration was communicated that consultation/feedback isn’t happening with recipients of service funded by The Better Care Fund and I pointed out that people receiving those services probably weren’t aware of the funding source and that VCFSE organisations wouldn’t necessarily know if their money came from this project and that greater transparency was needed. The review work currently underway should resolve this.**Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment** – worth noting that there is a material change to the methodology used, which will impact on our service users; *which is to assess the concept of geographical access to the network of community pharmacies across Lancashire, which historically has been based on a 20 minute drive time across all in Lancashire communities, whilst being mindful that there is an association between levels of car ownership relative to both deprivation and income levels, both locally and nationally. In order to mitigate this, it is incumbent upon the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment (PNA) steering group that oversees the assessment, to propose a more nuanced and responsive approach, utilising driving, public transport and walking times.***Suicide Prevention**The Board were informed of the Orange Button Community Scheme, which is a button worn by people in Lancashire and South Cumbria who have undergone specialised suicide prevention/awareness training, who can provide comprehensive signposting to relevant support services. The aims of the scheme are: • Create a community of people training in suicide awareness that have gained skills, including activity listening, from quality assured training. • Creating a network of organisations that have Orange button wearers in places that can be identified, who can listen and signpost. • To ensure all communities are aware of the Orange Button, what it signifies and how people can be involved, by promoting from within the community. Further information on the scheme is available from <https://www.healthierlsc.co.uk/icb/orangebutton>.Commissioners are working to embed the Orange Button awareness within contracts.Angela Allen, Chief Executive, Spring North, Blackburn, spoke about the loss of family members to suicide. Consequently, with the support of family and friends they came up with an idea of providing bags containing resources, to those who were grieving through death by suicide, which include practical, empathetic and emotional information. BAGS is the acronym for the feelings of those affected by suicide "Blame, Anger, Guilt and Sadness". The Bags for Strife charity was registered in 2021, with distribution commencing in 2022. In the first year of operation, 200 bags had been distributed and to date there has been 2700 bags sent across the UK. People in Australia, America and Spain have also been in contact regarding the Bags for Strife and "The Little Book of Help" which is contained in the bag. The Bags for Strife charity is linked in with the Lancashire Suicide Prevention Partnership. All the funding is raised by a Steering Group and lots of different people, it is not a commissioned Charity, and the bags are free to those wish to access them, costing around £30 each to produce. Further information on self-harm kits can be found here https://www.lancashiremind.org.uk/project/self-harm-safe-kit |
| **Items to follow up before next meeting.** |
| **N/A** |
| **Date and venue of next meeting.**  |
| 21st January 2025 2.00pm, Lancashire Adult Learning, Glen Way, Brierfield, BB9 5HN |