



***building on achievement
championing disabled people
advocating quality***

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1990s - 2017

**25 + years – some
change but too
much familiarity**



- some progress but...
- disabled people still marginalized
- UN report on UK rights
- disability poverty
- under-funded services
- challenge to secure full cost recovery
- poor and variable contracting and commissioning
- public sector expecting charities to subsidise them

What matters most

- rights and entitlements
- financial security
- decent housing
- quality personalised services
- employment opportunities
- transport
- equality, dignity and justice



Charities must

- be values based and mission driven
- behave true to values
 - not simply use as PR
- always be honest
- put beneficiaries first
- be well governed
- involve and have beneficiaries at heart of governance
 - engage independent advocates as necessary
- be well led
- be exemplar employers
- lead by example

championing
beneficiaries

advocating for
beneficiaries

campaigning and
providing collective
voice

speaking truth to
power - challenging
those in power and
authority

promoting
alternative policies

providing high
quality specialist
bespoke services

innovating and trail
blazing

influencing
professional practice

Role of charities and VCS

But not

- subsidizing public services and state
 - unless in exceptional circumstances and it's a deliberate strategic choice
- contracting for 'paint by number' public services
- contracting like a corporate
- seeking growth for its own sake
- putting institution and staff before beneficiaries
- operating services in conflict with values and mission
- being gagged

V O D G 2017 and beyond



+



THE SOCIAL CARE SECTOR MUST PULL TOGETHER TO ADDRESS THE FUNDING CRISIS

Crisis warning in care system as cuts bite

SOCIAL CARE 'UNSUSTAINABLE'

THORITY CRISIS

Warning over social care cuts



DISABILITY RIGHTS ARE CIVIL RIGHTS



Many challenges and questions

today and in future

- political uncertainty
- economic fragility
- increasing poverty
 - reduced personal spending power
- austerity and more cuts
 - especially local government
- social care underfunding
- 'welfare reforms'
- localism and decentralisation
- technological advance
- Brexit or ...?
- public trust declining in government, politics, business and charities?
- regulatory change
- hostile MSM and social media
 - 'fake news'

not being
nostalgic for
'golden age'

not playing the
victim

always putting
beneficiaries
first

being ready to
change

strategic yet
pragmatic

holding on to
values and
mission

taking the
'high ground'

Charities and VCS must change

Service providing charities have to

- engage with commissioners and procurers
- make case for grants
 - and not accept default of competitive contracts
- collectively and individually only accept 'full cost plus' fees
- be prepared to say "no" to public sector commissioners and procurers
- be ready to stop or close services
 - especially if underfunded
- seek collectively to shape commissioning and contracting policy, regulation and practice
- engage government, opposition parties, LGA, NHS Con Fed, etc
- campaign on these issues

Radical solutions may be required

- separate service delivery from core charity
- transfer service provision to others
- concentrate on core purpose
- establish 'trading arms'
- partner with other providers
 - from charity and other sectors
- change service delivery model
 - e.g. residential to personal support
- change business model
- seek alternative investment capital
- embrace technology

Radical solutions are necessary

- Separate service delivery from core charity
- Transfer service provision to others
- Establish 'trading arms'
- Partner with other providers from other sectors
- Change service delivery model – e.g. residential to personal support
- Change business model
- Seek alternative investment capital
- Embrace technology

And above all



- live and breath values and mission
- be ready and willing to change
- ensure sustainability
- act to highest professional standards
- speak out and speak up
- seek allies
- partner where appropriate
- act collectively – role of VODG

trustees

executive
leaders

critical chair –
CEO
relationship

important
board and SLT
relationship

staff

funders

contracting
bodies

**We all have big responsibilities
and choices**

voice of the sector

lobby and influence
government,
political parties,
LGA, etc.

influence wider VCS
and charity sector

partner with others
on shared agendas

support and
develop trustees
and sector leaders

professional
development and
sharing of
excellence

foster change and
challenge poor
practice in members

shared services

Opportunities for VODG



- championing the rights and entitlements of disabled people
- supporting members to secure these rights and entitlements

Building on 25 years of achievement

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