Shared Principles of VCFSE Disability Organisations | What Makes Us Different

Voluntary Organisations Disability Group

Our Principles

Disabled People First: Our primary purpose is to support disabled people to live the lives they choose. Putting people first is at the heart of VCFSE provision, but must never mean compromising quality, absorbing the costs of underfunded services or using charitable resources to subsidise statutory responsibilities. Sustainable, person-centred support requires care and support to be fully funded, with reasonable uplifts to sustain quality, invest in staff and reinvest in vital provision.

Rooted in Communities and Responsive to Local Needs: VCFSE organisations have a deep understanding and unique ability to respond to local needs, based on our mission, morals and ability to reach groups who are too often overlooked or underserved. Any surplus we make is reinvested in our mission, people and local communities - rather than extracted or distributed to shareholders - helping to build stronger, more inclusive and sustainable communities.

Creating Added Value and Lasting Impact: The VCFSE sector generates added social and economic value for individuals, communities and the economy by (re)investing locally. VCFSE organisations create training and employment opportunities for local people and provide vital support for disabled people, families and carers so they can be active citizens in their communities and contribute meaningfully to the local economy.

Amplifying Rights, Choice and Voice: We champion and amplify the rights, independence, inclusion and aspirations of disabled people. We understand and address inequity and inequalities disabled people face by striving to ensure people with lived experience can shape the support and services they receive and the policies and systems that affect their lives.

Collaborative and Connected: We are more than service providers; we build partnerships across and within communities. We bring people and organisations together, share expertise and work collectively to help achieve better outcomes for disabled people, their communities and society. We seek to reframe commissioning to be person centred and outcome focused, built on partnership, bravery, risk sharing and a long-term view of current and emerging needs.

Leaders of Change and Innovation: The VCFSE sector is a driver for positive change, balancing social value, mission and vision with the financial sustainability needed to deliver lasting impact. We are ambitious for the future and committed to finding better ways of working.

Find out more: www.vodg.org.uk/ shared-principles-of-the-vcfse-sector