



WEEK 3 – TASKFORCE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Progress

The Department of Communities' Community Sector Partnerships Team (the Partnership Team) is continuing to work with Nous Group (Nous) and the community sector to review and refresh the approach of the taskforces.

In week 2, the Partnerships Team and Nous developed several solutions to key challenges and issues facing taskforces, including:

- **Terms of Reference** to provide clarity on taskforces' purpose and objectives.
- **A Partnership Charter**, including principles of partnership, to guide how government and the community sector work together moving forward.
- **A Taskforce Communications and Engagement Guide** and templates to ensure that 'the loop' is 'closed', and communications are more timely.
- **An indicative diagram of the processes for proposal development, decision-making and authorisation**, to clarify the different 'pathways' proposals may be implemented through.

In the last week, the Partnerships Team and Nous facilitated a workshop with taskforce co-chairs to test and refine these solutions. During the workshop, we:

- **provided an overview of the work** completed to date;
- **reviewed the draft solutions** and agreed on the changes required; and
- **explored the role of the taskforces in recovery**, and how they can contribute to long-term partnership.

We also distributed a survey, which taskforce co-chairs could respond to before or after the workshop, to capture additional ideas and insights.

Informed by taskforce co-chairs' ideas and insights, the Partnerships Team and Nous have finalised the solutions, and developed a brief implementation plan to support the dissemination, adaptation and adoption of those solutions. The Partnerships Team will work closely with taskforces to 'bed down' these changes over the coming weeks.

Nous continues to be engaged to support Communities to identify and consider options for long-term partnership between Communities and the community services sector. Over the coming weeks, we will conduct a desktop review of existing work, and hold interviews and workshops with government and sector leaders to develop a partnership discussion paper. This paper will outline pragmatic options for partnership.

