

# One East Midlands Impact and Legacy

26 November 2015

# One East Midlands' role

## **1. Influencing**

Creating an environment for the VCSE to exert strategic influence

## **2. Enabling**

Developing the sector 'landscape' to enable and support collaboration, develop consensus and raise collective voice

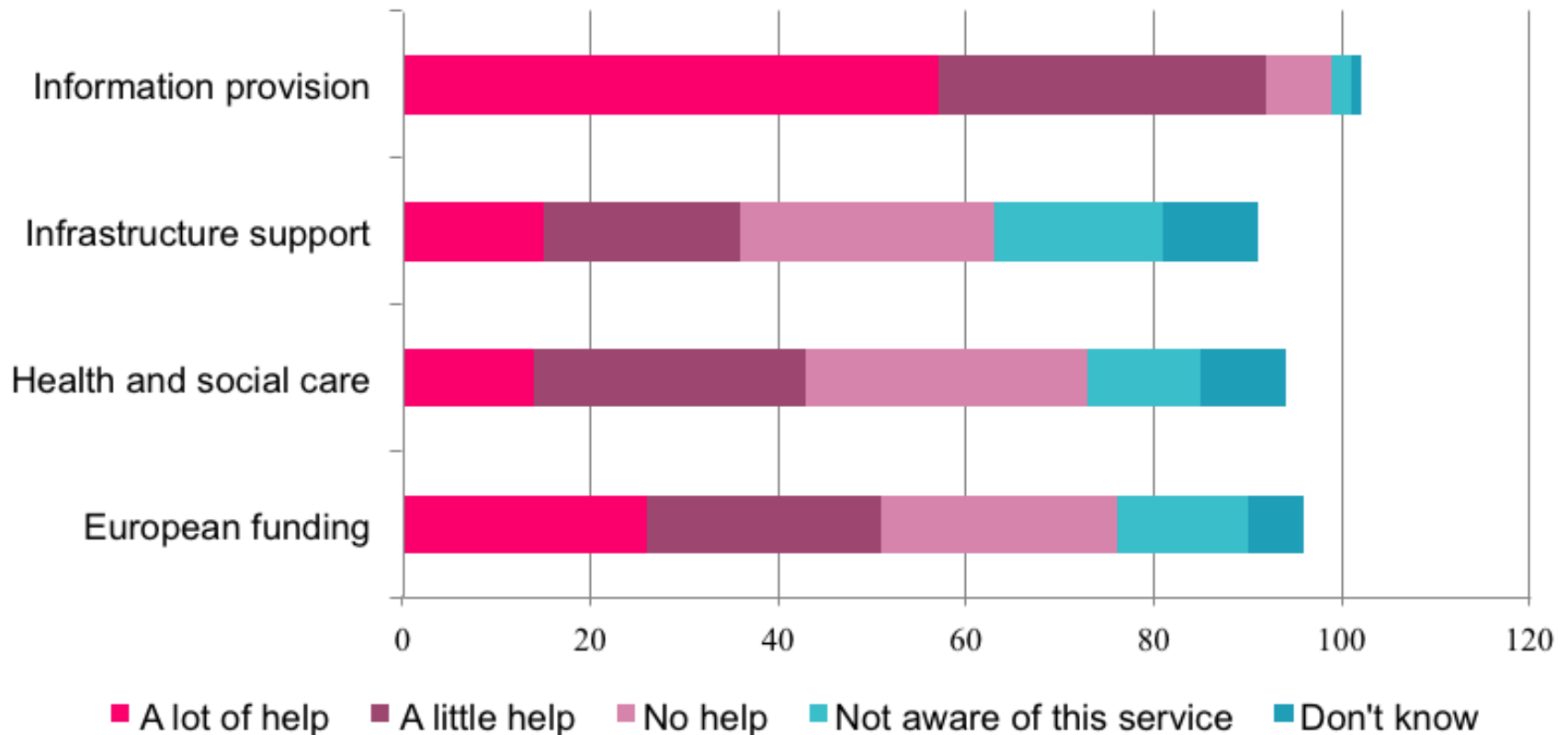
## **3. Communicating**

Ensuring greater understanding through effective communication

## **4. Strengthening**

Supporting the development of the sector

# Support accessed



Rachel was included in meetings to think about the implications for the sector. I can't think who else would do it. It's been their finest hour (*VCS infrastructure organisation*)

I'm more aware of who's around and better at using health service jargon, I can talk their language and get on an equal footing. Health services are more aware of the VCSE and our potential (*Frontline VCSE organisation*)

It was good practice in co-production with co-chairs and 50/50 membership of task groups to build trust and remove some anxiety in local authorities about the capacity and capability of them as providers (*Commissioner*)

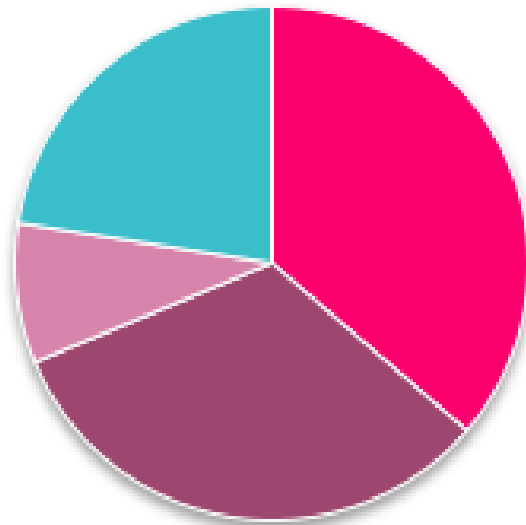
[One East Midlands]  
is at the cutting edge  
of changes in health  
*(Frontline  
organisation)*

One East  
Midlands has  
been a very  
forward thinking  
organisation  
*(Funder)*

It's a sad day,  
they will be  
missed, they are  
a trailblazer  
*(Commissioner /  
decision maker)*

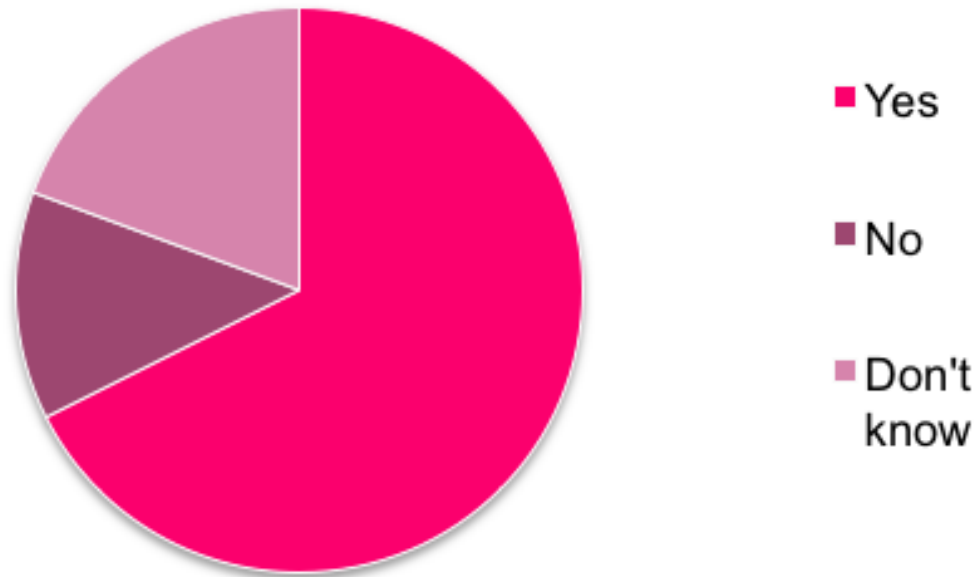
OEM had the ability to  
facilitate the right  
discussions, at the right  
time with the right people  
*(VCSE infrastructure  
organisation)*

## Has One East Midlands' achieved its role?



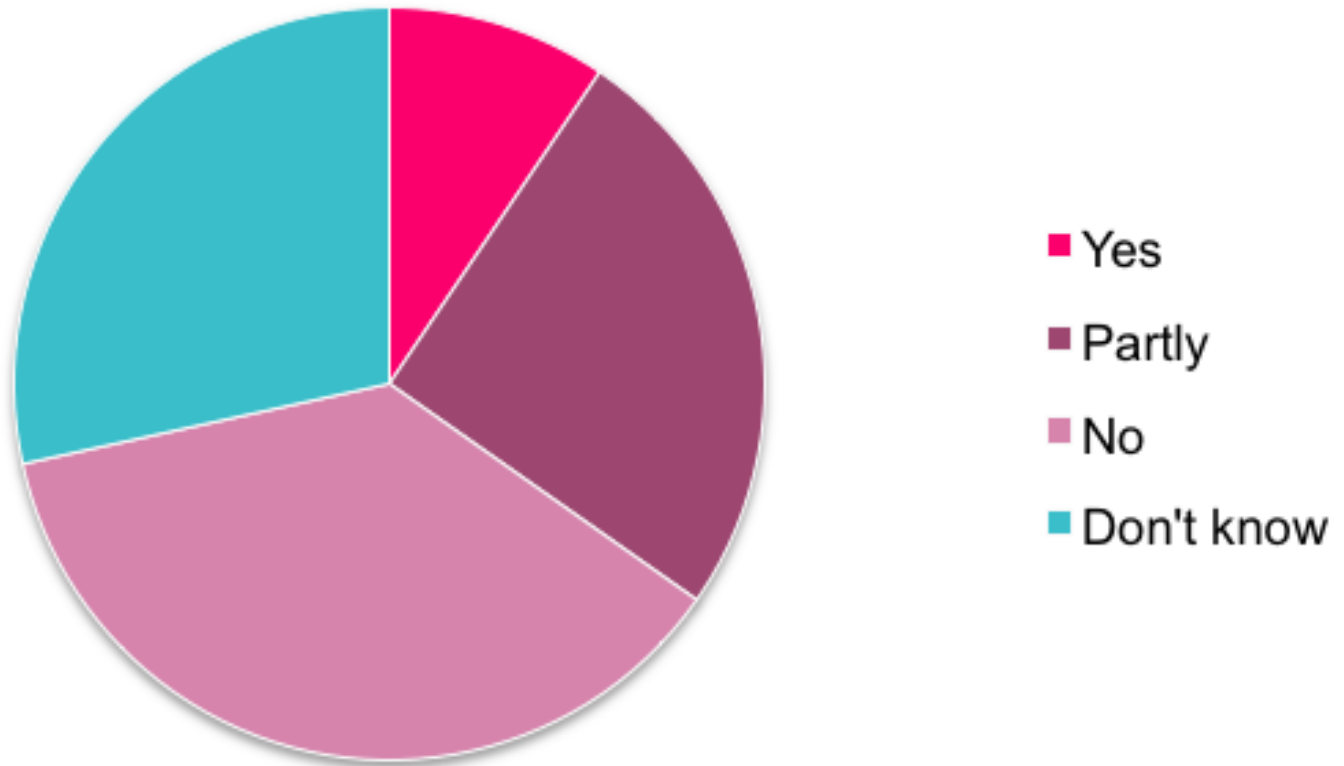
- Yes
- Partly
- No
- Don't know

## Will One East Midlands closing leave gaps?





## Will other bodies be able to fill gaps?



One East Midlands had an established network that reached many organisations and it would take another organisation many years to establish the same level in which time many opportunities would be missed by smaller organisations (*Survey respondent*)

No-one has the knowledge, experience, capacity or the reach that One EM has - this is a fine example of an approachable and affordable infrastructure service and one that has worked diligently to support and develop the sector over the last few years (*Survey respondent*)



It will be difficult for organisations like mine to engage directly with local infrastructure organisations - there are quite a lot of them, there seems to be a lot of 'politics' going on around some of them and it's not clear what they offer. If the statutory sector is to continue to support the third sector as a whole in the region (post OEM) infrastructure in the East Midlands needs to clarify its offer and improve its accessibility  
*(Decision maker / commissioner)*

# Future requirements for “regional” infrastructure

- **Geography** – a large area but not necessarily the current East Midlands. Not too large that it loses the elements below.
- **Trust** – particularly trust of VCS organisations.
- **Relationships, connections, and networks** – talk to the right people and link local and national levels.
- **Expertise, capability and capacity** – can talk the language of commissioners and VCSE

# Conclusions and challenge

- There is a need for functions at a “regional” level...
- ...but a challenge of funding particularly for core functions
- Local infrastructure organisations and others need to think about how they will meet future challenges

# For commissioners and funders

- Is it important for commissioners to have an organisation with wide scale and reach it can work with efficiently to do what One EM have done?
- What extra work will it cause funders as a result and what will it cost them to undertake it themselves?
- What will the impact be on communities and services of not involving the VCS?

# For the VCS

- What will the VCS lose as a result of the loss of One East Midlands?
- Might regional / sub-regional and national commissioners decide that engagement with a range of VCS organisations at different levels is too complex and time consuming and so not involve the VCS at all?
- How would VCS organisations, particularly infrastructure organisations, need to organise themselves at levels above local to be able to open up opportunities for the VCS across the region?



# Over to you.....

- Are you interested in being part of future discussions about what's needed?
  - Meeting later today after Rachel's speech and before lunch to share thoughts
  - Feed in your thoughts to me during the rest of the morning
  - Fill in the A5 pink paper in your packs with your name, phone and email, and a couple of sentences in what you would be interested in discussing / doing

# Contact

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