

**West Lancs VCFS Learning Forum**  
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**Defining the *new* challenges for the sectors**

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## Context : New Austerity post 2015, Change and Instability

1. New Austerity : CSR announcements plus what we know and what can anticipate over the next five years
2. Change : Not only about resources but about voice, ability to influence, confidence and capacity to respond
3. Instability : changes to organisations / commissioning / political and social change

## Anticipating the next 5 years :

- Disruption and change – what do we gain as well as lose ? Shared understandings?
- Difficulty in planning – willingness to be flexible – what do we pool / share
- Changes within existing partners – local authority as well as health and social care – commissioning and procurement
- Negotiating and brokering relationships

Unresolved but key :

- Combined Authorities and Devolution – VCFS needs to be engaged – new patterns across Lancashire
- New structures of health and social care
- New structures for VCFS ?
- Leadership role(s) for VCFS – where (level?)/ who ? / how ?
- Unresolved : accountability , scrutiny and voice



