# North East VCS Equalities Coalition

**The Coalition's mission statement is:**

"To facilitate a Voluntary Community Sector user-led strong collective voice on Equality in the North East"

**Aims**

The Coalition aims to bring together VCS infrastructure organisations and networks from across the Equality strands. The strands are:

* LGBT (Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender)
* Gender
* Ageing
* Youth
* Race
* Disability
* Faith

The Coalition aims to encourage shared learning amongst the strands, develop better communication and provide a stronger focus for equality in the region starting with people like ourselves. There are a number of agencies who are each taking the lead for a strand. See contact details below if you would like more information.

## Equality and Diversity Board North East

The North East Equality and Diversity Board has developed from the North East Equality and Diversity Forum. It brings together key people from the regions private, public and voluntary sectors, including the Coalition. It’s aim is to develop shared priorities and actions to achieve key objectives:

1. Maximising the economic benefits of equality and diversity for the region.
2. Promoting the social benefits of social cohesion, equality and diversity.
3. Strengthening the engagement of under-represented individuals and groups in regional policy making.
4. Raising public awareness of, and developing information, advice and guidance on rights and responsibilities in respect of equality and diversity.

**Equalities Coalition**   
Contacts: Jane Cater [jane.cater@vonne.co.uk](mailto:jane.cater@vonne.co.uk)  
Ivan Wintringham [ivan@rywu.org.uk](mailto:ivan@rywu.org.uk)

**North East Equality and Diversity Board**  
Contact: Mike Lazzari, One NorthEast t 0191 229 6395