

NEWS RELEASE
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For immediate release

Third sector leaders welcome Government's plans for "the largest social enterprise sector in the world"

July 12, 2010- Responding to the launch of the White Paper on Health today, Dr Peter Kyle Deputy CEO of ACEVO the representative body for charity leaders said,

"The sector will greet today's return to 'any willing provider' with a sense of relief and enthusiasm. The major themes of empowering providers, incentivising preventative health interventions, and ambitious plans for social enterprise also give us a real sense of how the government will drive NHS reform forward.

"Both the Department of Health and the third sector must work closely together to ensure that proposals to extend personal budgets, GP commissioning, and ever more personalised services are introduced in a way that harness the strengths and innovation of the third sector.

"Andrew Lansley's explicit reference to the government's vision of creating the largest social enterprise sector in the world is precisely the kind of commitment ACEVO has been calling for.

"Today's announcements are clearly positive for the sector but we need further information on how GPs are going to be brought up to speed on the added value of commissioning services from the third sector".

Notes to editors

ACEVO (Association of Chief Executives of Voluntary Organisations www.acevo.org.uk) is the professional body representing charity and not-for-profit sector chief executives in the UK, with over 2000 members. The broad not-for-profit sector now employs the full-time equivalent of 1.5m staff, with a collective annual turnover of £46bn. ACEVO is committed to improving third sector leadership skills worldwide.