



Our Ref: NMP618429

Mr Geoff Llewellyn
Immediate Past Master
The Worshipful Company of Management Consultants
Skinners' Hall
8 Dowgate Hill
London, EC4R 2SP

30 June 2014

Thank you for inviting me to attend your recent dinner, celebrating the contribution made by your industry to the voluntary and community sector through pro-bono consultancy.

I am sorry that I was not able to attend the dinner itself. However, I wanted to write and personally congratulate your organisation for the work you do in raising the profile of this important activity through events such as these. I would also like to extend my thanks to your members, many of whom go above and beyond in using their skills to build the capacity and capability of the voluntary sector. The consultancy industry is undoubtedly one of the leading sectors in this field.

It is a personal priority for me to explore how we can build on the existing good practice across the private sector, in order to encourage more businesses and charities to work together to share skills for mutual benefit. Although we hear consistently that there is a great willingness from many organisations on both sides to get involved, we are aware that there are barriers to scaling a culture of skills sharing. In particular we hear that there is a need for high quality support and advice to help make effective connections; and, that the voluntary sector needs help to make a strategic ask of business.

I have recently asked my officials to work with partners in the voluntary and business sectors to look at identifying solutions to these challenges. I would be very keen to involve you in this work. If you are interested to get involved please get in touch with Thomas Leftwich (Thomas.leftwich@cabinet-office.gsi.gov.uk) in the Office for Civil Society. I hope that we are able to work with you as we progress this important agenda.

NICK HURD