



Derby Compact

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**Enhancing life in Derby
through voluntary action**



A brief overview...

- Developing a new local Compact
- Developing a conflict resolution process
- Derby Compact and Third Sector Commissioning
- The overall approach
- Lessons learned
- Challenges and opportunities



Developing a new local Compact

National context

- Partnership agreement between Government and the Third Sector
- Refresh of the national Compact
- Broad consensus emerged from Compact Debate
- Strengthening the Compact
- Implications for local Compacts



New Derby Compact

- Short and snappy!
- Clear, specific, measurable commitments
- Emphasis on implementation
- Embedded into LSP structures
- Signed off by Council Cabinet and PCT Board
- Linked to existing structures, e.g. Volunteer Coordinators Forum
- Mission: “a commitment to open, transparent and fair working practices...to improve relationships, communication, participation and services”



Conflict resolution process

- Aim to resolve issues early and informally
- Use of existing complaints processes
- Mediation role for local Compact Forum
- National remedies:
 - Compact Voice
 - Compact Commissioner
 - Ombudsman
 - Judicial Review



Compact and commissioning

- Commissioning for outcomes
- Setting criteria that capture the added quality and value the Third Sector can bring
- Minimising administrative burden
- Multi-year funding arrangements
- Payment in advance
- Sharing risks fairly
- Full Cost Recovery
- Involvement in planning
- Commitment to consultation
- Respecting independence and diversity of Third Sector

...all within the legal framework



Joint Commissioning Framework

The approach we took

- Developed organically – not a ‘grand plan’ - different strands came together
- Recognition of need to clarify and improve processes
- Open dialogue – involvement as equal partners
- Recognition by statutory partners of need to fully engage VCS
- Creating a common understanding and language



Third Sector Networks Involved

- Health and Social Care Forum
- Children and Young People's Network
- Southern Derbyshire Voluntary Sector Mental Health Forum
- Older People's Cluster
- Derby Millennium Network
- Disability Network
- Volunteer Coordinators Forum



Grants or Contracts?

Contracts

- to deliver public services

- legally binding

- Core business / discharging a statutory duty
- Service specified by commissioners
- Shopping for provider
- Meeting full cost
- Competition - functioning market
- Higher value

Grants

- to support / develop VCS

- financial transfers

- Complementary / early intervention
- Piloting new ideas
- Service designed and developed by or with VCS
- Match-funding with VCS
- Capacity building / developing the market
- Strategic funding to support key VCS partner
- Lower value



The issues

- Having a voice
- Disseminating information
- Feedback from representatives
- Clarity about roles and levels of involvement
- Managing expectations
- Sharing the workload
- Making it meaningful
- Marketing and buy in from all



The Outcomes

- Fair and appropriate involvement, in planning and commissioning cycles
- Two-way communication between the Third Sector and statutory partners
- Wider range of ideas, partnership work
- Active representation with reporting back mechanisms to the sector
- Contribution to an effective Compact used by the Sector and Statutory partners



Lessons learned

- Clear mandate
- Getting everyone on board from the outset
- Challenge of implementation
- Importance of open, transparent processes
- If guidelines are too rigid, they don't work!
- Ongoing review, annually - working group meetings to review and update it
- Action planning vital and assigned champions



Challenges and opportunities

- Understanding / responding to changing needs
- Developing / capacity building the market
- Embedding a 'Compact way of working' - supporting consistent implementation, developed tools for supporting Compact compliance
- Engaging consistently with the whole Third Sector - opportunities to influence decision-making (NI7)
- Learning opportunities for commissioners and providers and partners
- More marketing across Sector and statutory partners
- Refresh of National compact



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