

The Solihull Journey Towards the Compact.....

2nd Local Compact Annual
Conference

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Councillor Robert Sleight, Healthier
Communities & Partnerships Portfolio

Why Develop a Compact? (1)

- Our Vision: An equal chance for all to be healthier, happier, safer and prosperous
- A strong, vibrant and independent third sector is key in assisting to realise this ambition
- Some relationships between public bodies and third sector working well but not consistent
- Power imbalance existed between public bodies and third sector
- There was lack of trust between public and third sector

Why Develop a Compact? (2)

- Solihull a borough of sharp contrasts affluence v deprivation
- Third sector relatively under-developed with poor capacity and infrastructure
- Low levels of external funding attracted into borough
- No 'formalised' mechanism in place to improve relations between sectors, capture good working practices, principles and shared values

Partnership Working in Action

- A 'real' partnership approach to develop the Compact
- Compact consultations and workshops led by third sector and fully supported by public sector (LSP)
- Thorough consultation and engagement – extended
- Compact for Solihull (draft) implemented
- Review progress against Compact draft – refine and revise

Key Compact Outcomes

- Develop Stronger Partnerships and Improve Relations between the sectors
- Promote and Support Third Sector Independence
- Accountability understood
- Diversity and Celebrating Differences
- Social Justice and Community Cohesion

Underpinned by Honesty, Openness and Trust leading to renewed confidence in each other.....

Compact: making it real(1)

- Improved partnership working, joined up approaches and solutions carried out between public bodies and third sector
- Relations improving between public bodies and third sector organisations
- Improved share of external funding into borough
- Supporting an independent, more diverse and thriving third sector (LAA NI6 & NI7)
- Supporting diversity and community cohesion (LAA NI1)

Compact: making it real (2)

- Improved funding arrangements to third sector based on mixed economy
- Consistent SLA's / Contracts emerging
- Improved infrastructure support services to third sector
- Third Sector Network established
- Compact Monitoring Group established
- Compact and third sector Champions
- Codes of Practice (due Nov '09)

Key Learning

- Recognise the need for a Compact based on mutual interests of public, private and third sectors
- Recognise the partnerships need to be based on equal power relations
- Ensure the Compact is more than the words contained within a document – embed compact ways of working
- Ensure the Compact addresses local issues – would you recognise the area being described is Solihull!

Final thoughts

“We are on a journey.....we haven’t got everything right.....we are learning along the way and together continually looking at ways to improve things for the benefit of public, private and third sector partners.....and most importantly improving outcomes for our neighbourhoods and communities.....”

Want more Information

Go to the Solihull MBC Website:

[http://www.solihull.gov.uk/
solihullpartnership/default.htm](http://www.solihull.gov.uk/solihullpartnership/default.htm)

Or contact Community and Voluntary Relations;
cvru@solihull.gov.uk