

What is The Local Compact?

The Local Compact is an agreement between local public bodies and voluntary groups to improve their relationship for mutual advantage. It makes commitments on both sides and clarifies what partners can expect from one another and how they will work together.

This is all written into a document called the Compact and is drawn up by representatives of the third sector and local public bodies. But the Compact is more than that. It is a way of working that considers the other a partner. The document acts as a reference that can be cited to challenge non-compact ways of working. The Compact strives to get partners to recognise that by working for the benefit of all, positive output is greater than the sum of the two parts.

The challenge of the Compact is getting as many people as possible from both public bodies and the Third Sector to understand the principles and sign up to them in practice. This can only be done by people believing in the Compact and championing it.

How Does the Compact Affect My Organisation?

Establishing a good Local Compact can positively affect even small local charities. Both partners have things they can offer to one another. An example of how this could work comes from Merton. The fire service there had targets they had to reach for getting smoke detectors fitted in the houses of hard to reach communities. By teaming up with local community groups supporting various Black and Minority Ethnic people, they were able to massively exceed their target. In return, these voluntary organisations enabled their members to access a useful service that they may otherwise not have heard about. On the back of this work, the fire service were able to give other fire safety presentations in places they were needed.

What is a Compact Way of Working?

A Compact way of working is one where all partners show mutual respect and understanding; trust and confidence; objectivity, transparency and openness; accountability, honest and integrity; leadership and common purpose; treat partners equally; listen well and communicate well; resolve conflict in a positive way,

Further Information

You can view the Local Compact on the CVSH website, or via the LBH website.

Contact CVS Hounslow

If you would like help with this or any other issue, get in touch with Clare Sewell, the Development Officer at CVS Hounslow who would be happy to help.

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