



VOLUNTARY SECTOR SUB-COMMITTEE – 21ST MARCH 2012

SUBJECT: COMPACT NEW ACTION PLAN 2012-13 PROPOSALS

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek views from Members on the proposed new Compact Action Plan for April 2012 to March 2013 – and to remind Members on the arrangements for producing the Compact Annual Report 2011-12.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 The Compact is an agreement between organisations and the voluntary and community sector in the Caerphilly county borough. The Compact recognises the mutual benefits that can be gained from close co-operation and sets out guidelines for how all parties should work together. The Compact is delivered and monitored through an annual compact action plan, which provides a detailed programme of work for shared activities. This work focuses on actions around the community strategy, volunteering, funding and procurement. At every meeting of the Voluntary Sector Committee there are presentations/ reports on selected areas of activity from the current Compact Action Plan. At the end of the 12-month reporting period, which culminates at the end of the financial year, an annual report will be prepared and presented to the June Voluntary Sector Committee, and subsequently circulated widely.
- 2.2 This is a consultative report on the proposed new Compact Action Plan for April 2012 to March 2013.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 Voluntary and community sector organisations make an important contribution to public service provision across the County Borough, and therefore form a key part of the Community Strategy.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The 2012-13 compact action plan covers a wide remit with 72 proposed actions the majority of which require collaborative working. Key areas of work focuses around the Community Strategy and funding schemes. Following consultation with Compact Partners and contributors to the Compact action plan some minor changes have been made to wording and some additional actions have been added which are underlined and in bold for easy identification. To summarise under the Community Strategy activity the focus is now on work to develop a single plan for community planning, which needs to be in place by April 2013. GAVO will be appointing a voluntary sector Local Service Board officer to support the

Community Planning Coordinator and involvement of the voluntary sector in Caerphilly Local Service Board projects and single plan development. Under the Community Strategy activity there is also an appointment of an officer to work developing projects for stage 2 of a Big Lottery Community Voice Programme application. Again under the Community Strategy activity the provision of crime prevention and crime safety equipment unfortunately has had to be withdrawn, as there is no funding available. However, under this activity further work will be done to explore the further role out of the street pastor scheme within the borough, and to recruit a further twenty volunteer cadets to be deployed within the borough.

- 4.2 Under the funding activity work around the social enterprise grant scheme is increasing following the launch of the scheme last year. Two grant schemes are being withdrawn as the funding has ceased – Healthy Living Small Grants Scheme and the Holiday Project commissioning Grant Scheme.
- 4.3 Under the health, social care and well being activity there is a new action on establishing three neighbourhood care networks to bring together primary care practitioners and other community service providers to plan and deliver services on a sub locality basis, and agree priority areas for locality development and work towards a delegated budget for the management of community services. There are also new actions: to ensure voluntary sector participation including providing services at the North Resource Centre; the implementation of the mental health strategy; implementation of the learning disability strategy, and involvement in the roll out of the advocacy strategy.
- 4.4 Under Education for Life actions around adventure, creative, inclusive play have been developed further from last year's action plan. Under Safeguarding Children and Young People there are new actions on: developing and facilitating the voluntary sector sub group that will become a standing consultation and advisory group, and holding three voluntary sector events in the North, South and East of the borough to raise awareness of safeguarding issues.
- 4.5 There is a new action under transport around Connect2 providing bus services to rural areas and services to local industrial estates enabling people to access employment and employment opportunities.
- 4.6 Under volunteering a new part time post as a volunteer officer is to be appointed.
- 4.7 **Members are requested to provide comments on the proposed Compact Action Plan 2012-13 by the 30th March 2012.** The Compact Action Plan will be put in place from 2nd April 2012 with members required to provide a 12-month update on progress by the end of April 2013. The Voluntary Sector Committee representatives will select topics from the Compact activity areas that they would like to receive in depth reports/presentations on during the 2012-13 Voluntary Sector Committee cycle.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of the work of Compact Partners and features throughout the annual compact action plan. Equalities is embedded into all work around community planning. The principles of continuing to integrated equalities into community planning has been reiterated by the Welsh Government under guidance for consultation Shared Purpose – Shared Delivery (issued January 2012) on developing a single integrated plan for community planning.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 None.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 All Compact partners and responsible bodies for completing Compact actions have been consulted on the Compact Action Plan changes.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Members are requested to pass any final comments on the Action Plan to Jackie Dix by the 30th March 2012.

9.2 The Compact Action Plan to be implemented from Monday 2nd April 2012, with Compact partners and responsible bodies providing reports to the Committee if requested by the Voluntary Sector Committee representatives, and to provide a 12 month final report on progress with the Compact actions 2012-13 to the Policy Unit.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 To ensure the Committee are in agreement with the Compact Action Plan 2012-13.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

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Consultees: Compact Partners and responsible bodies for completing Compact actions

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Proposed Caerphilly Voluntary and Community Sector Compact Action Plan 2012 to April 2013