



VOLUNTARY SECTOR LIAISON COMMITTEE – 16TH MARCH 2016

SUBJECT: COMPACT REVIEW

REPORT BY: CORPORATE DIRECTOR SOCIAL SERVICES

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform Committee Members of the proposals made to the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee following the meeting of the Compact Review task and finish group in agreeing a way forward for the review of the Caerphilly borough Compact Agreement and Annual Compact Action Plan.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 A way forward for reviewing the Caerphilly borough Compact Agreement, and Compact Annual Action Plan was agreed at the December 2015 meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee. Following the inaugural meeting of the Compact group this report presents the proposals from this group for the consideration of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Compact is an agreement between organisations and the Voluntary 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.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 At the last meeting of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee (2.12.2015) a process of reviewing the Compact Agreement and Annual Compact Action Plan was agreed through a task and finish group of Compact Partners. The inaugural meeting of the Compact Review Group was held on 23rd February 2016, with the meeting attended by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, the nominated Voluntary Sector Representatives, and Councillor Member on the review group, and the Compact Partner representative from the Office of the Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner. The other Compact Partners gave their apologies. A discussion paper (contained in Appendix I) was the focus for the meeting looking at the new policy issues which will impact on Compact working.
- 4.2 A detailed discussion took place around: the new Public Service Boards coming into being on 1st April 2016, the requirements of the Future Generations legislation, and the Local Government (Wales) Draft Bill and potential local government reorganisation, and the ongoing review of the Welsh Government's working group on the Third Sector Scheme on which the

Deputy Chief Executive Officer of GAVO sits. The following recommendations were made by the review group for the discussion of the Committee in agreeing a way forward:

- (1) Suggested Compact review to be put on hold until September 2016 to enable clearer direction following:
 - (i) National Assembly for Wales elections – Welsh Government senior civil servants working around the implementation of Public Service Boards, and the future Generations legislation have indicated a steer will come in autumn 2016 on the Local Government (Wales) Draft Bill, with the consultation comments, currently being analysed, used in the future shaping of legislative content.
 - (ii) It is envisaged that the current Caerphilly local well being assessment currently being drafted, will be available for the wide engagement of partners in looking at what the data is telling us, and the identification of possible areas for tackling through partnership work.
 - (iii) A better steer will be available through the Welsh Government's working group on the Third Sector Scheme.
- (2) It is proposed that the Compact Partners shape the content of the interim Compact Action Plan for 2016-17 by outlining their key activities with the Voluntary Sector, which will be shaped by the Policy Unit into a proposed Annual Compact Action Plan 2016-17 for the consideration of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Meeting on the 15th June 2016.
- (3) It is recommended that National Resources Wales is invited to become a Compact Partner.

4.2 In concluding the meeting it was agreed that the Policy Unit would keep the Committee updated with progress on developing the Caerphilly borough assessment of local well-being. The Policy Unit will also keep the Committee informed of outcomes from the Wales Audit Office *All Wales Local Government Improvement Study: Council funding of third sector services*, which is considering whether councils commission third sector services effectively (previously circulated to the Committee).

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Promoting equalities is a fundamental part of the work of Compact Partners and features prominently in the Compact Agreement, and Annual Compact Action Plan.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 None arising.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 None arising.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The 3 proposals outlined in this paper were agreed unanimously by all attending this first meeting of the Compact Review Group.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 For the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee to consider the following three proposals in determining the future course of action in reviewing the Compact Agreement and Compact Annual Action Plan:

1. Compact review to be put on hold until September 2016 to enable clearer direction.
2. For the Compact Partners to shape the content of the interim Compact Action Plan 2016-17 by outlining their key activities with the Voluntary Sector, which will be shaped by the Policy Unit into a proposed Annual Compact Action Plan 2016-17 for the consideration of the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee Meeting on the 15th June 2016.
3. National Resources Wales to be invited to become a Compact Partner.

10. STATUTORY POWER

10.1 Local Government Act 2000.

Author: Jackie Dix, Policy and Research Manager, CCBC
Consultees: Cllr. Carter, Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Bob Cooke, Vice Chair of Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
Cllr. Ackerman
Kath Peters, Corporate Policy Manager
Rob Hartshorn, Head of Public Protection, CCBC
Martin Featherstone, Chief Executive, GAVO
Emily Forbes, Deputy Chief Executive, GAVO
Alison Palmer, Community Planning Coordinator GAVO/CCBC
John Elliott, Research Officer, CCBC
Maria Chapman, Gwent Police and Crime Commissioner Office
Ian Bartholomew, Nicholas McLain and Andrew O'Keefe Gwent Police
Sam Crane, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Cath Gregory, Aneurin Bevan University Health Board
Donna Crossman, South Wales Fire and Rescue Service
Cllr. Howard Llewellyn, Caerphilly borough Community/Town Councils
Denise Lovering, Caerphilly Business Forum

Appendices:

Appendix 1 Discussion Paper: Shaping the Content for the Compact Agreement