



CABINET – 5TH MARCH 2013

SUBJECT: NEW COMPACT AGREEMENT 2013-2017

REPORT BY: DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Cabinet endorsement for a revised Voluntary and Community Sector Compact, entitled *Delivering Together - Compact Agreement 2013 – 2017*.

2. SUMMARY

- 2.1 Since 1999 Caerphilly County Borough Council and key partners in the borough have held a Compact Agreement with the local Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) to ensure consistent standards in respect of consultation, funding, volunteering and community development. All members of Caerphilly Local Service Board are Compact Partners, together with South Wales Fire and Rescue Service. In this fifth Compact Agreement the Caerphilly borough Community and Town Councils and Caerphilly Business Forum are becoming Compact Partners for the first time. The new Police and Crime Commissioner Office (previously Gwent Police Authority) has also signed up to the Compact.
- 2.2 The Compact recognises that the above organisations need to commit corporately towards supporting the VCS, whilst the VCS in turn have responsibilities when working with public bodies.

3. LINKS TO STRATEGY

- 3.1 The Compact explicitly recognises the contribution of the VCS towards the delivery of the Caerphilly borough Community Strategy outcomes under the Single Integrated Plan.

4. THE REPORT

- 4.1 The revised Compact (see Appendix 1) has been updated, and has new sections on:
- Achievements of Compact Partnership working in 2008-2012
 - ***Caerphilly Delivers***, the Single Integrated Plan for achieving the Caerphilly borough ***Community Strategy***
 - Involving Business
 - Helping Young People into Employment
 - Procurement (section updated)
 - Communities First new community focused programme
 - Wider Public Service Scrutiny.

4.2 The Compact seeks to achieve the following:

- Support partnership working between public and VCS bodies
- Achieve a fair playing field for VCS to fulfil their potential
- Promote volunteering
- Promote understanding of the added value of the VCS in providing quality services to local people and communities.

4.3 Since 2008 Caerphilly Local Service Board has acted as the point of final resolution if disagreements (not involving funding issues) prove difficult to resolve after all avenues have been pursued. This provision remains in the new Compact Agreement, but to date any disagreements have been resolved without the need to refer to Caerphilly Local Service Board.

4.4 The Compact is supported by a Compact Action Plan, monitored by the Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee, with an annual report produced.

5. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Equalities form an integral part of the Compact Agreement recognising employment and service delivery issues should be handled in a non-discriminatory manner and equality of opportunity should be built into initiatives to ensure that all services are equally accessible to everyone. It is noted that the workings of the Compact will operate within the Compact Partners Strategic Equality Plans and Welsh Language Schemes.

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6.1 In 2008 the then Caerphilly Teaching Local Health Board and Caerphilly County Borough Council agreed a funding protocol with the voluntary and community sector. This protocol has been reviewed for 2013 – 17 by Caerphilly County Borough Council and the Aneurin Bevan Health Board. The updated version of the Code is contained in Appendix1 of the Compact Agreement.

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

7.1 There are no additional personnel issues.

8. CONSULTATIONS

8.1 The new Compact Agreement has been drafted through a Compact Working Group consisting of representatives from each of the Compact Partners. Caerphilly Local Service Board received a report on the new Compact Agreement on 16 January 2013 and was asked to note the contents of the draft Compact Agreement, with the finalised version going back to a future meeting of Caerphilly Local Service Board.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Cabinet is asked to endorse the new Compact Agreement.

10. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The approval of Cabinet is sought because this is a strategic partnership document requiring

the organisational commitment of all Compact Partners.

11. STATUTORY POWER

11.1 Local Government Act 2000

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Voluntary Sector Liaison Committee
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Appendices:
Appendix 1 *Delivering Together Compact Agreement 2013-2017 (Please note the front cover of the Compact, depicting the mining wheel in the centenary year of the mining disaster, is still under development)*