

THE CITY TOGETHER COMPACT

A SUMMARY

What is a Compact?

A Compact is a voluntary agreement between the public sector and the third sector, which sets out how they will work together in partnership for mutual benefit and for wider community gain.

Compact Scope

The City Together Compact is defined by the City of London local authority boundaries. It is relevant to the local government services provided by the City of London Corporation, to health services that are provided within the City by cross borough health trusts and to the City of London Police.

The Compact encompasses all community, faith and voluntary organisations and social enterprises that provide services to workers, residents and organisations within the City of London local authority boundaries.

Why have a Compact?

In the City of London all partners are committed to ensuring that their joint working continuously improves so that the benefits and opportunities that result increase. The agreement to The City Together Compact is a key step in proactively pursuing this commitment.

Compact Shared Vision

To ensure a cohesive and vibrant relationship between the public and third sectors in the City of London - a relationship that will promote our role as a world class city and maximise high quality, accessible and responsive services for our worker, residential, and business communities.

Shared Principles

- 1) We embrace the added value that comes from working in partnership towards our shared ambitions.
- 2) We recognise and respect the unique, independent and fundamental contribution of the third sector to the City of London and will work together to maximise this contribution.
- 3) We recognise that the public, private and third sectors have distinct but complementary roles.
- 4) We acknowledge the need to be clear about our differing roles, capacity, resources, risks and accountabilities and will tailor our expectations accordingly.

- 5) We celebrate the fact that we are the world's leading business city and, wherever possible, will seek to support the business sector's involvement with the third sector.
- 6) We recognise the third sector's right to provide constructive comment to public sector partners and to campaign within the law for the benefit of their organisations and those that they represent.
- 7) We are committed to ensuring that the commissioning of services is based on clear policy and consistent criteria and that commissioned services provide high standards of governance, quality, openness and accountability.
- 8) We will work together to create a socially inclusive and cohesive City. As part of this work we will undertake meaningful consultation and effectively engage with all residents and communities.
- 9) We value the distinct contribution made by volunteers. We are committed to supporting effective volunteering and to building the capacity and engagement of organisations that provide volunteering opportunities.
- 10) We accept mutual responsibility for the success of the Compact and will ensure success by developing clear methods of communication, promoting the benefits of the Compact and evaluating its impact.

How will it make a difference?

The City Together Compact is a working document. It includes 5 themed Codes of Practice that provide individual and joint undertakings that will shape how we will work together to improve outcomes.

Commissioning - Commissioning is the process by which services are purchased through a competitive or negotiated process. This Code sets out how the public sector will ensure a transparent, fair and accessible process that provides best outcomes for the City's communities and achieves value for money. It also sets out how third sector organisations will ensure that they establish effective organisations and high quality, value for money services and how they will work together to ensure they are able to respond effectively to commissioning opportunities. The Code also provides an explanation of grant application processes.

Communication - This Code recognises that effective communication is critical to the success of The City Together Compact and to all partnership working. It provides a set of joint undertakings that will ensure regular, respectful and responsive communication that fosters understanding, improves outcomes and lessens the possibility of duplication.

Consultation and Engagement - This Code builds on the good work that is already undertaken in the City of London. It sets out some common expectations and key ways of working to ensure a two way consultation process that results in more effective decision making.

Inclusive City - This Code provides a series of joint undertakings that set out how we will work together to achieve an inclusive and cohesive City. An inclusive City is one where all communities share a sense of belonging, similar life opportunities and physical access to the environment. A cohesive City is one where all stakeholders work together to improve understanding, build strong relations and where equality of opportunity ambitions are met.

Volunteering - Volunteering is the freely given commitment of time and energy to benefit individuals, groups, the environment or wider society. Recognising the City's remarkable success in securing business volunteers, this Code provides joint undertakings to promote volunteering and to ensure volunteering opportunities that fulfil the needs of both volunteers and their host organisation.

The City Together Compact concludes with sections on how the Compact will be implemented including establishing key priorities and a process for resolving disputes. These sections recognise that the Compact is an evolving document that will be actively monitored and referred to as a guide for joint working.

Where can I find out more?

To obtain a full copy of the City Together Compact or of specific sections please contact (Website, e-mail address, postal address, for both City.comm and the City of London Corporation and can we refer to libraries?)