

t h e GLASGOW COMPACT



The voluntary and public sectors, working together for a better Glasgow

What is the Glasgow Compact?

The Glasgow Compact is a high level agreement between community planning partners and the wide network of voluntary sector organisations in the city to work better together to achieve more for local people.

The Compact sets out a framework for good relations between each of the partners in the Compact. It confirms their commitment to promote effective partnership and collaborative working.

The National Context

The Scottish Government has set an agenda that highlights the important role of the voluntary sector in the reform of public services in order to achieve sustainable economic growth.

The Government's ambition is for a strong connection between Community Planning Partnerships and the voluntary sector in each local authority area to enable Single Outcome Agreements to be informed by the knowledge and experience of all key partners.

Why Does Glasgow Need a Compact?

The challenges for Glasgow as a city remain significant. Despite massive levels of investment that has enabled the physical transformation of the city centre and major benefits to the economy through business development and tourism, a number of communities and individuals in the city remain disadvantaged.

The voluntary sector is a key service provider in many of these areas, working with those most vulnerable in local communities and identifying gaps in services where the sector can work creatively to address unmet need.

There have been significant challenges in recent years through the ongoing public sector reform agenda. This has delivered changes on many levels in the city including:

- new community planning and city council structures
- the reconfiguration and relocation of public services around new boundaries
- new arms length public sector trading companies
- national and regional agency abolitions and mergers
- the introduction of a new approach to employability through the Glasgow Works model
- changes to grant-giving, commissioning and procurement processes, and
- the introduction of the Concordat and Single Outcome Agreement (SOA) as a key driver for community planning in Glasgow.

This Compact will provide the opportunity for partners to come together to consider the added value the voluntary sector can bring to service planning and delivery in the city.

The Benefits of Partnership Working

There are mutual benefits for all relevant partners by working effectively together.

The public sector:

- Influences policy-making for the city at national, regional and local level
- Leads on strategic decision-making and planning for the city
- Has access to high level funds and resources to deliver strategic agendas
- Has expertise and knowledge to develop and support key initiatives
- Oversees the infrastructure to deliver strategies for the city
- Is able to co-ordinate key partner input
- Assesses progress in order to influence future priorities.

The voluntary sector can:

- Deliver specialist services to marginalised groups on behalf of the CPP
- Act as a platform for engagement with communities and individuals who do not currently access or influence public services
- Build community capacity towards healthier communities
- Add significant value and capacity through volunteering
- Pilot new cost effective models that can lead to future mainstreaming and learning from these initiatives
- Access additional resources not available to the public sector thus ensuring public funds go further
- Provide policy advice from representative organisations with specialist knowledge
- Advocate on behalf of individuals or groups and highlight community issues

This can benefit the public sector in fulfilling its obligation to involve service users in policy and service development, and in achieving its aim to tackle economic and social issues. The public sector can also benefit when the voluntary sector:

- Contributes towards the delivery of best practice services
- Finds innovative solutions to public service delivery
- Achieves additionality in terms of SROI (Social Return On Investment)
- Meets the required quality standards needed to deliver services
- Fosters better working relationships
- Adopts clear rules of engagement with the public sector

What the Compact Will Achieve

Partners have agreed the following aims for the Glasgow Compact.

Through the Compact we will:

- promote positive relations and partnership working between the voluntary and public sectors in order to encourage a better understanding of the value and contribution that each partner in the Compact brings to the city;
- better understand and consider the size, needs and diversity of the voluntary sector, enabling its continued development and sustainability

Specific Commitments

Partners in the Compact agree to undertake to the following key commitments:

Consultation

All partners will strive to develop a relationship based on positive dialogue and engagement around issues of mutual interest, meeting the National Standards of Community Engagement.

Sustainability

Voluntary sector partners will invest in staff, management systems and volunteers, to increase sustainability. They will also work together with other voluntary organisations where appropriate and when there are opportunities for economies of scale or mutual support.

At the same time the public sector will continue, where appropriate to support the voluntary sector to build its capacity, and all partners will work together to encourage the continued development of a wide reaching and diverse voluntary sector.

Funding Practices and Procurement

Public sector partners will work with the voluntary sector to develop longer term funding relationships, review funding protocols and develop appropriate and proportionate funding processes.

All partners will work towards the standards outlined in the Scottish Government's guidance on procurement, and continue to implement the principles of efficiency and continuous improvement, in taking forward the design and delivery of services.

Voluntary sector partners will demonstrate value for money in the delivery of services whilst adding value to partnership working through ideas, specialist knowledge and innovation.

Quality and Best Value

All partners will recognise the need for the public sector to account for public funds to deliver best value. The voluntary sector will support mechanisms that strengthen its governance arrangements.

Equalities

All partners will tackle inequality, prejudice and discrimination through partnership working to meet the needs of Glasgow's most disadvantaged communities.

Volunteering

All partners will engage with the Strategic Volunteering Framework for the city as a means to demonstrating the value of volunteering.

Fostering Understanding

All partners will work towards an understanding of each others perspectives in order to reach realistic expectations of what can be achieved through joint working. An Implementation Plan will be developed and agreed to support these key commitments – including details of key actions, timescales, Key Performance Indicators and lead partners responsible for taking forward each element.

It is recognised that partners in the Compact will have an equal voice and will share the key values which underpin this Compact including respect, accountability, transparency, honesty and integrity.



Compact Structures and Implementation

A Compact Partnership Group will be established to oversee the implementation of the Compact and track the progress of the Compact Implementation Plan. This group will sit within the existing citywide community planning structures for Glasgow and will have a balanced representation from the public and voluntary sectors. The Compact Partnership Group will:

- Create a forum for considering relationship issues between the voluntary and public sector partners in the city
- Oversee the development work detailed in the Compact Implementation Plan
- Report on the progress of the Compact to the Community Planning Board
- Feed back voluntary sector issues arising through the Compact to the Glasgow Community Planning Partnership Board in order to inform planning and decision-making processes
- Work to ensure positive dialogue and engagement between voluntary and public sector partners over issues of mutual interest

To support this, a monitoring and evaluation process will be developed which will ensure the progress of the Compact is tracked and reviewed on an annual basis. A structure diagram and other support documents are available from GCPL and GCVS websites.

Signatories

We the undersigned confirm that we support and endorse the aim and commitments of the Glasgow Compact for the Voluntary Sector

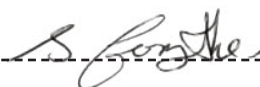
SIGNATURE



DATE 16th December 2008

Councillor James Coleman, Chair of Glasgow CPP

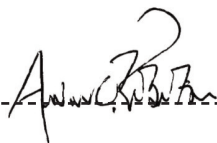
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DATE 16th December 2008

Sandra Forsythe, Chair, Glasgow Housing Association

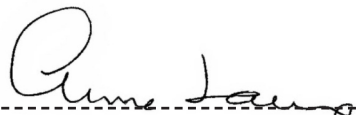
SIGNATURE



DATE 16th December 2008

Andrew Robertson, Chair, NHS Greater Glasgow & Clyde

SIGNATURE



DATE 16th December 2008

Anne Jarvie, Chair of GCVS

the GLASGOW COMPACT



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