

Agenda item:

Title of meeting: Resources Portfolio Decision Making Meeting

Date of meeting: 17th July 2014

Subject: Portsmouth Compact Update Report

Report by: Preeti Sheth, Head of Integrated Commissioning Unit

Wards affected: All

Key decision: No

Full Council decision: No

1. Purpose of report

The purpose of this report is to enable the Cabinet Member for Resources to note the changes to the Portsmouth Compact and to approve the Council's continued commitment.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Resources Portfolio Holder notes the changes to the Compact, approves the Council's continued commitment and signs the Portsmouth Compact Agreement.

3. Background Information

- 3.1 The Compact is the agreement between government and the voluntary and Community sector, which sets out key principles and establishes a way of working that improves their relationship for mutual advantage. It considers areas such as voluntary and community sector involvement in policy design and consultation, funding arrangements (including grants and contracts), promoting equality, ensuring better involvement in service design and delivery, and strengthening independence.

The Portsmouth Compact was originally launched in 2004. In 2010 the Portsmouth Compact was incorporated into a wider document, the Portsmouth Voluntary and Community Sector Framework. It built upon the foundation of the Portsmouth Compact, which was part of the framework. Following the Corporate Peer Challenge Review in March 2013 a recommendation was made to "*Revisit the compact and use this process to establish rules of engagement both strategically and tactically*" with the measure of success being "*New compact in place.*"

3.2 A working group, comprising representatives of the voluntary and community sector and Portsmouth City Council looked closely at the existing Compact and felt that no major changes to the content/principles of the current Compact were considered to be necessary. The following proposals were made and accepted:

- To have the Compact as a stand-alone document (at that time it was contained within the Voluntary and Community Sector Framework Document)
- To re-brand the document with an updated logo
- To update links and contact details
- To include a section on the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 ,which has been introduced since the last Compact revisions were made
- To include a (disputes) resolution flowchart
- To promote Commissioning Plans. By working together the sectors can support the development of both policy and the commissioning process.

3.3 A report was taken to the Resources Portfolio decision making meeting on 5th December 2013 to update the Cabinet Member for Resources on the revision consultation and re-launch of the Compact

4. The Consultation Process

4.1 The Table below shows the consultation process with key dates and actions

Date	Action
02/12/13	The full 12 week consultation period started. A draft revised Compact was produced by the working group and the consultation was publicised and promoted via the following means: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCC External Mailing to the VCS • PCC Internal Networks • PCC Website and Intranet • PCC Staff Bulletin "In the know" • Community Action in Portsmouth also promoted via their regular newsletter their website and their networks
02/12/13	An on-line survey was produced, with a request that comments should be submitted by Monday 24 February 2014.
05/12/13	A report was taken to the Resources Portfolio decision making meeting to update the Cabinet Member for Resources
11/12/13	A consultation event was held
20/02/14	A consultation event was held
24/02/14	The 12 week consultation period finished
27/02/14	The Compact Working Group met on 27 th February to consider the feedback from the consultations and to incorporate the proposed changes into the revised Compact
01/04/14	The revised document was circulated on 1 April 2014 for final comments
17/04/14	Closing date for final comments on the revised document
23/04/14	The Compact Working Group met to finalise the document.

09/06/14	Portsmouth Voluntary and Community Network Executive Committee agreed to support the revised Compact and approved the continued commitment to the Compact
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As can be seen in the table above a full twelve week consultation period started on 2nd December 2013. This is in line with Compact recommendations. 6 responses were received via the on-line survey and a further 4 responses were received directly from PCC staff.

Two consultation events were held. Both of these events were open to both statutory and voluntary sector representatives and provided an opportunity, in a relaxed setting, to find out more about the approach to refreshing the Compact in the city, potential changes and updates, as well as to ask any questions. A total of 23 people attended the events and their comments were noted for consideration by the Compact Consultation Review group.

The Integrated Commissioning Unit (ICU) at PCC met as a team to discuss the draft revised Compact and submitted their comments to the review. As commissioners, ICU staff work closely with Voluntary and Community Sector organisations that provide services on behalf of PCC and they were able to contribute constructively to the process.

- 4.2 Following the end of the consultation the Compact Working Group finalised the document, taking into account comments and suggestions made (Appendix 1). Terms of Reference for a Compact Reference Group (Appendix 4) were also prepared and this group will devise a rolling work plan to fulfil its objectives listed under 'purpose', part of which will be to host 3 providers seminars a year, facilitated by PCC. The membership of this group will consist of at least 4 representatives from the VCS who will be nominated by PVCN.

A copy of the revised document, together with supporting documents, is appended to this report. (Appendices 1-4)

5. Next Steps

- 5.1 The ownership of the revised Portsmouth Compact sits with Portsmouth Voluntary and Community Network (PVCN). The Voluntary Sector Team, who are based in the Integrated Commissioning Unit, lead on the Compact on behalf of PCC. The PVCN met on 9th June 2014, when the executive committee agreed to support the revised Compact and approve the continued commitment to the Compact by signing the Portsmouth Compact Agreement.
- 5.2 The revised compact will be promoted within the Voluntary, Community, Social Enterprise and Statutory sectors and organisations will be encouraged to sign the Portsmouth Compact Agreement, committing to support the principles and undertakings of the Compact and its supporting documents.

6. Equality impact assessment (EIA)

6.1 An equality impact assessment is not required as the recommendations do not have a negative impact on any of the protected characteristics as described in the Equality Act 2010.

7. Legal comments

7.1 The review to the Compact was conducted through appropriate consultation with key stakeholders. However, it is important to ensure that the proposed changes and any service change arising from it are scrutinised at the appropriate time to ensure that decisions are carried out within legal requirements.

8. Finance comments

8.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

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Signed by:

Appendices:

1. The Portsmouth Compact
2. Compact Glossary of Terms
3. Portsmouth Compact Agreement Form
4. Terms of Reference for the Portsmouth Compact Reference Group

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location
The Compact	Voluntary Sector Team
The Portsmouth Voluntary and Community Sector Framework	Voluntary Sector Team

The recommendation(s) set out above were approved/ approved as amended/ deferred/
rejected by on

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Signed by: