



Wednesday, 20 May 2009

Item 8: Consultation on Worcestershire Compact Steering Group roles

The [Worcestershire Compact](#), is an agreement that determines the working relationship between all statutory bodies and the voluntary and community sector in Worcestershire. As set out in the compact, each signatory organisation is invited to nominate a Compact Champion and a Community Groups Champion to support the implementation of the Compact.

The draft role descriptions below suggest how this will be put into practice. The Compact Steering Group has asked each district LSP and district council to provide feedback on this draft document, in particular:

- Comments on the role description;
- Comments on how your signatory organisation would in practice take these roles on board and nominate Champions;
- Comments on how your signatory organisation will embed these principles, and those of the Compact.

Our feedback will be considered by the Compact Steering Group on 9th June.

Role of the Compact Steering Group Member

Main purpose of role: To promote and support the Compact, the Codes of Practice and its implementation within the organisation they represent and across the county.

- To attend Compact Steering Group meetings, participating in discussion and modeling good partnership working
- To report on good practice and identifying problem areas which can guide the work of the group
- To be a Compact Champion for the organization/network they represent
- To seek the views of the organisation/network they represent, in order to represent those views at the Compact Steering Group

Role of a Compact Champion

Each signatory to the Compact is invited to nominate a Compact Champion(s) to act as the link(s) between their organisation and the Compact Steering Group.

- The Compact Champions will meet at least once a year, will receive an annual report on the working of the Compact and will help guide its overall direction and development through events and meetings and are entitled to feed into the Compact Steering Group..
- Compact Steering Group Members are automatically Compact Champions and as part of this group, will undertake the more detailed work on Compact development.

The main role of Champions as a group and as individuals within their own organisations will be to:

- Promote voluntary and public sector working and Compact principles and good practice.
- Facilitate communication between the public sector organizations and voluntary sector organisations.
- Identify, share, support and encourage the development of good practice.
- Ensure that Compact work is integrated with other mechanisms such as scrutiny and inspection.
- Be the focal point for Compact working and to raise awareness within their organisations.
- Make Compact relevant to the range of Compact signatories.
- Keep their organisations up to date with Compact development and provide information to promote it.
- Feed into the Annual Compact Report.
- Be the initial point of contact for issues relating to the Compact

Role of a Community Groups Champion

Each signatory to the Compact is invited to nominate a Community Groups Champion .

Rationale: There are many small community groups in Worcestershire. They have a perspective that is often different from that of the wider voluntary sector. When consultations etc. take place community groups are often missed out . The Code of Practice outlines ways of ensuring that the skills and experience of community groups add value to policy, service development and delivery.

The role of Community Champion will be to:

- Promote and celebrate the important role of community groups
- Facilitate communication between the statutory sector or voluntary sector and community groups
- Liaise with community groups when developing local strategies and delivery plans
- Identify, share, support and encourage the development of good practice in relation to the involvement of community groups
- Actively support the development of community groups, particularly within 'hard to engage' communities, including effective signposting so they can get access to information, facilities, resources, training opportunities etc.