

Compact Voice, voice of the Voluntary Sector on the Compact says...

"The Compact is simply about celebrating good practice and achieving better outcomes for communities. So, have the trust and confidence to involve each other right from the start! And that includes anything and everything that makes for a thriving community along with improving people's lives, the services they receive and the say they get on decisions that affect them."

Sharing Good Practice...

Please let us know of any examples of good practice from your organisation so we can share them with other organisations across our City and learn from each other, e.g:

- **How you have worked in partnership or collaboratively**
- **How you involve your local community**
- **Successful funding bids**
- **Changes you have made to your organisation because of the Compact**

If you require further information or a copy of the Sunderland Compact documents or would like someone to talk to your organisation please contact:

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Tel: 0191 561 5002
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This information can be made available in large print, Braille, audio and other languages. Please contact the Community Development Team on 0191 561 5002 or email compact@sunderland.gov.uk for help.

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Sunderland
Partnership

A brief guide to

The Sunderland Compact

Working together for a better future

The agreement on how organisations of the Sunderland Partnership and Voluntary and Community Sector organisations will work together for the benefit of our City.


Sunderland
Partnership

The Sunderland Compact has five key Codes of Practice:

The Sunderland Compact...

is an agreement between organisations of the Sunderland Partnership and Voluntary and Community Sector organisations about how they will work together for the benefit of the citizens of Sunderland. It contains commitments for both Voluntary and Community Sector organisations and organisations of the Sunderland Partnership.

Organisations who sign up to the Sunderland Compact agree to:

- **Put people first**
- **Be fair and open**
- **Act with integrity**
- **Strive to be the best**
- **Be honest and trustworthy**
- **Be efficient**

Working together...

The Sunderland Partnership recognises that working in partnership with the Voluntary and Community Sector is a vital part of a democratic society. It can result in better policies and services, resulting in improved communities for our City.

Funding and Procurement Code of Practice...

explains how Voluntary and Community Sector organisations should be funded, in a clear and fair way.

It's about asking for appropriate information and being clear on the benefit of the funding to communities.

e.g. Improvement of the Sunderland City Council grants process so information is asked for only once, saving Voluntary and Community Sector organisations valuable time.

Involvement and Consultation Code of Practice...

is about making sure that Voluntary and Community Sector organisations know what is happening and how it affects them. It's about being listened to and having enough time to be involved and actively contribute.

e.g. Development of a consultation calendar for the City and establishing a Consultation and Involvement Group for the Sunderland Partnership.

Volunteering Code of Practice...

is about how organisations will support citizens in Sunderland who want the opportunity to volunteer and about valuing and celebrating the contribution of volunteers to our City.

e.g. Sunderland City Council hold annual citywide and area based celebrations to recognise the valuable contribution of volunteers to our communities.

Voluntary and Community Groups Code of Practice...

explains how the Voluntary and Community Sector can be supported to influence local decision making, and recognises the vital role of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

e.g. Area VCS Networks are established across the City and provide 3 delegates to each Council Area Committee to enable the Voluntary and Community Sector to influence strategic policies and practice that affects local communities.

Equalities Focused Codes of Practice...

are about making sure that groups and individuals with different backgrounds and needs are valued, treated fairly and supported to be involved in local decision making and delivering services.

The Equalities Focused Codes of Practice are being developed by the Independent Advisory Groups (IAG).

These include Codes of Practice on:

- Disability
- Older People

Other equalities focused Codes of Practice under development are:

- Black and Minority Ethnic (BME)
- Faith
- Gender
- Lesbian Gay Bisexual (LGB)
- Young people