

NORTH YORKSHIRE COMPACT STEERING GROUP

Wednesday 7th November at Romanby Golf Club

NOTES OF THE MEETING

1.0	<u>WELCOME & APOLOGIES</u>	
	<p>Richard Weightman (Coast and Moors Voluntary Action) Lisa Barker (NYCC), Graham Purdy (North Yorkshire and York PCT), Kate Senior (Craven District Council), Carol Renahan (NYCC EDU), Neil Skinner (Selby District Council), Chris Shield (NYFVO), Paul Brand (NYCC), Karen Weaver (Harrogate Borough Council), Paul Hayward – Charing Meeting (RVA)</p> <p>Paul Hayward welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for attending. Everyone then introduced themselves.</p>	
	<p>Apologies received from: Neil Irving (NYFVO), Justine Williams (NYCC), Hazel McGrath (Harrogate CVS) Judith Bromfield (Richmondshire CVS)</p>	
2.0	<u>NOTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING</u>	
	<p>These were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.</p>	
3.0	<u>UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE BME CODE OF PRACTICE</u>	
	<p>The Chairman explained the background to the development of this Code of Practice, including the fact that a team of 4 people had developed it. The four people were Kirstie O’Neill (NYCC), Nussrat Mohammed (NYFVO), Nina Muir (Harrogate CVS) and himself.</p> <p>The comments that had been received as a result of the consultation process and which had been circulated previously were discussed. In considering these, it was re-affirmed that the Code of Practice was not intended to be fixed in tablets of stone as the situation with regard to BME issues was both fluid and developing. The wording of the code reflected this and it was appreciated that it would be reviewed and changed as circumstances developed and changed. The consultation responses were then considered.</p> <p>Response 1 VCO – need to include BME representation on the Compact Working Group.</p> <p>This was fully supported and would be done as soon as there was capacity in the BME Sector to undertake this. It was considered that the code allowed for this.</p> <p>Response 2 LA – change “generic” in 3rd paragraph and put Joint Undertakings section first.</p>	

	<p>Monitoring is a key issue for the Compact as a whole and would, therefore, be dealt with in respect of the Compact and including the 4 Codes of Practice.</p>	
4.0	<u>COMPACT SURVEY</u>	
	<p>The Steering Group was happy that the responses gave good geographical coverage of North Yorkshire, with the blank areas being the remote upland areas.</p> <p>Survey itself</p> <p>It was understood that Judith Bromfield was summarising the VCS responses and that someone else was collating responses from the questionnaires sent to the statutory sector. It was considered preferable to see these prior to making any firm decisions on what should be done next and perhaps it would be for the Working Group to look at the outcomes prior to the Steering Group so they could comment in detail.</p> <p>The frank responses from the Voluntary and Community sector organisations were welcomed and it was apparent that many of the issues raised involved funding. Whilst it was appreciated that this was clearly important to the VCS, there was also the view that the statutory sector could do more to develop partnership working now that the decision about the future structure of local government had been made.</p> <p>There was also a discussion about how issues surrounding the Compact should be reported with the view being expressed that both District LSP's and the NYSP should have reports on Compact issues with officer and member "Champions" being named as contact points within District Councils and the County Council.</p> <p>The concluding points that had been made by Neil Irving in his presentation at the NYSP conference were also supported, although it was considered that the first point about partnership working needed to be strengthened.</p> <p>Following the discussion, it was agreed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That the survey would be considered further when both the report on the VCS response and the report on the statutory sector response had been circulated. 2. That Paul Hayward would speak to Justine Williams about the possibility of the Working Group looking at the survey prior to the next meeting of the Steering Group. 3. That the conclusions from the survey as made by Neil Irving at the NYSP Conference be supported, but that <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. The first conclusion be amended by changing "how the voluntary and community sector and the public sector can work together" to "how the voluntary and community sector and the public sector must work together" 	<p>Action by Chair and NYCC</p>

	<p>ii. That the Head of Corporate Policy at the County Council be requested, as and when staffing levels allowed, to develop a protocol for reporting on the Compact for consideration by local authority Chief Executives and involving reporting to District LSP's and the NYSP, possibly by officer and member "Compact Champions"</p>	
5.0	<u>FULL COST RECOVERY</u>	
	<p>It was understood that Judith Bromfield was to report on this, but as she had sent her apologies this item was deferred.</p>	<p>Judith Bromfield</p>
6.0	<u>REFRESHING THE COMPACT</u>	
	<p>Paul Hayward said he had asked for this to be put on the agenda as it seemed appropriate to do this at this time as the local government situation was clear and because it was necessary to revitalise the Compact to ensure more people were aware of it. It was not necessary to re-write the Compact rather a briefer, clear vision was needed in plainer language to get the message across. This was supported and Kate Senior from Craven District Council offered to contact the regional Compact Group and look at national information and report to the Steering Group.</p>	<p>Action: Kate Senior to research regional position.</p>
7.0	<u>COMPACT WEEK</u>	
	<p>The Harrogate representative reported that in Harrogate the annual meeting between the Council and the VCS had been timed for the opening day of Compact Week. It was agreed that to have the national Compact Commissioner at the NYSP Conference was extremely beneficial but that those involved in work on the Compact, particular the members of the Steering Group, should have been invited to the event .</p>	
9.0	<u>AOB</u>	
	<p>The Harrogate representative circulated a structure chart showing the work of the York and North Yorkshire Funding Advice Workers Network and suggested that local authorities supported their proposed websites financially as Harrogate Borough Council was to do.</p>	
10.0	<u>DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETINGS</u>	
	<p>Carol Renahan would discuss this with Justine Williams with the suggestion that the Steering Group should meet in February or March 2008 so it could then meet again before Compact Week which would be in November 2008.</p>	