

Connected Voice

Connecting People
Supporting Action



Gateshead Compact 2024 - 2027

The Compact

An agreement made between public sector partners and VCSE organisations to work together to agreed standards and shared objectives. It formalises shared commitments and priorities, and recognises the role and value of the VCSE sector

Why do it?

- Relationships matter. We need strong VCSE providers and a focus on prevention more than ever
- We are operating in a different environment after many years of austerity, and post- pandemic.
- Reduced knowledge and awareness of Compact within the public sector
- A fresh start – linking in with work of VCSE Relations Improvement Group, VCSE Health and Wellbeing networks.

Work to date

- Early drafts developed with Gateshead VCSE Leaders group
- Discussions with main commissioning bodies about commitments
- Support from Chair of Health and Wellbeing board
- Now we have a final version for agreement

Outline of content

1. Core principles:

Shared vision, Realism, Honesty, Respect, Independence, Diversity, Fairness, Co-operation, Volunteering.

Outline of content

2. Shared priorities

- Strong, sustainable VCSE sector
- Long-term planning and transparency in commissioning
- Valuing and enabling volunteering
- Locality working

Outline of content

3. Key Commitments

Grants first approach

Co-design/ production with VCSE sector

Multi-year funding agreements where possible

End of indefinite roll-overs of contracts

12 weeks notice of changes to funding

Implementation and Oversight

- Annual update report to Health and Wellbeing Board
- Regular reviews where issues arise
- Oversight from VCSE Relations Improvement Group

Approval & Next Steps

- Looking for agreement from all partners today
- Signed document will be available on Connected Voice and Gateshead Council's websites
- Agree awareness raising sessions with commissioners



We amplify voices.

We champion equality.

We inspire change.

We support action.

We connect people.

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