

Thursday 4 November 2010

NEW SUPPORT PACK FOR PUBLIC SECTOR COMPACT CHAMPIONS

A support pack for public sector Compact Champions has been published by the Commission for the Compact today.

Effective championing is pivotal to improving Local Compact performance. Working in collaboration with Wolverhampton Compact partners, the Commission for the Compact has designed the pack to help guide and support public sector Compact Champions to further promote, raise awareness and increase implementation of their Local Compact.

The pack is relevant to all public sector Compact Champions, whether they have been recently appointed or recruited or have been a Champion for some time.

Sir Bert Massie CBE, Commissioner for the Compact, said:

“Our previous research into the role of Compact Champions demonstrated their vital importance in raising awareness and increasing implementation of Local Compacts. We wanted to support Compact Champions further. This pack offers ideas on how to champion more effectively.

“We want people to use this document and build on it, make it relevant for their Compact Champions or organisation, and include their own best practice and ways of working. It should be a living document that acts as a reference for all public sector Champions, and develops to reflect learning and best practice.”

Public Sector Champions support pack...2

Cllr John Pask, Lead Member for Neighbourhoods and Communities, from Wolverhampton City Council said:

“In Wolverhampton, we value partnership working that exists between the public and voluntary and community sectors. Across all sectors our Compact Champions help promote and develop that relationship. We are facing unprecedented financial pressures in which the Compact is a tool to help us to strengthen and build on those partnerships, which are crucial to ensuring we can support economic growth and build a strong civil society.”

Ian Darch, Chief Executive of Wolverhampton Voluntary Sector Council, said:

“The Compact, partnership working and an understanding of the voluntary and community sector are even more important in the challenging times ahead. The relationship between the public sector and the voluntary and community sector is an evolving one. As the landscape changes, the need for principles of mutual respect, honesty, openness, fairness and of working together for continuous improvement, that underpin many successful relationships, does not.”

The launch of the support pack coincides with Compact Week, which takes place from 1 to 7 November 2010. Events and activities are taking place across England to promote the Compact and its achievements and to encourage wider implementation of the Compact. For more information about this national awareness week, please visit:

www.compactweek.org.uk

To download the support pack or to find out more about the Compact, please visit:

www.thecompact.org.uk

Notes for Editors

- The Compact was established in England in November 1998. It is an agreement that provides an overall framework for promoting effective partnership working between the Government and the voluntary sector. A refreshed Compact was published in December 2009. This version retains all the key points of the original but takes into account recent developments in law, policy and practice. Activities are currently taking place to renew the Compact to align it to the Coalition Government and the voluntary sector's priorities, with this new version expected to be published in late November 2010. For more information, please visit: www.thecompact.org.uk and www.compactvoice.org.uk
- Established in April 2007, the Commission for the Compact is an independent body responsible for overseeing the Compact. It was set up to improve awareness of the Compact and to address the barriers to its adoption and implementation. The Commission works alongside the Office for Civil Society, Compact Voice and the Local Government Association to achieve effective implementation of the Compact, and improve outcomes for both individuals and communities.
- Compact Champions are individuals who help improve the performance of Local Compacts and help achieve better outcomes for individuals and communities. Local Compacts are local partnership agreements that are modelled on the national Compact agreement but adapted to reflect local issues and partnership arrangements.
- The Wolverhampton Compact is a commitment between the public and voluntary and community sector in Wolverhampton which aims to ensure the sectors work better together. For more information, please visit: www.wolverhamptoncompact.co.uk

Ends

For media enquiries, please contact:

Jay Rana, Communications Assistant
Commission for the Compact
Tel: 0121 237 5907
Email: jay.rana@thecompact.org.uk