

Camden Local Strategic Partnership

Meeting 23 April 2009

Report Title **Compact for Camden Action Plan**

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Purpose The LSP reaffirmed its commitment to the Compact for Camden in 2007. The LSP has requested that the Compact Group look at updating the Action Plan and bring the revised document to the LSP for approval. This report sets out the background to the Compact and the format and content for the revised Action Plan.

Recommendations The LSP is asked to agree:

1. the format and contents of the revised Action Plan
2. that the Compact Group oversee the implementation and monitoring of the plan on the behalf of the LSP
3. to receive a report on progress in a year's time

1 Background

1.1 The Compact for Camden is a framework agreement between the voluntary and community sector and the public sector partners in the borough. It is a framework to guide the conduct of partnership working and it promotes a culture of empowerment and continually improving relations between the sectors. It builds on central government's compact with the voluntary and community sector, *Getting It Right Together*, which is overseen by the Commission for the Compact.

1.2 A report updating the LSP on the Compact for Camden was considered at the meeting on the 29 November 2007 at which the LSP requested the Compact Group to update the Action Plan and bring the revised document to the LSP for approval. The revised Action Plan is set out in the appendix to this report.

2 Action Plan

2.1 The Action Plan encompasses new priorities relevant to relationships with the voluntary and community sector, including:

- The need to manage the shift from grant aid to commissioning arrangements, as recommended in the May 2008 Comprehensive Performance Assessment feedback
- The adoption of volunteering and social cohesion targets within Camden's Local Area Agreement
- Government's focus on creating an environment for a thriving third sector, which sits outside of Camden's basket of Local Area Agreement targets.

2.2 The Action Plan's life is to March 2011 and it is divided into five sections:

- Stronger partnerships and collaboration between sectors
- Consultation and influencing local decision making
- Infrastructure
- Funding relationships and service delivery
- Volunteering

Each section is divided into key actions and identified success criteria, evidence and performance indicators. A lead body is identified for each activity all of which are cross referenced to key strategic documents that come under the auspices of the LSP and the related national indicators of the Local Area Agreement.

The Commission for the Compact is interested in using Camden's work on outcomes to inform the refresh of the National Funding Code.

3 Compact Group

3.1 Subject to the LSP's agreement it is proposed that the Compact Group is charged with overseeing the implementation and monitoring of the plan and to bring a report on progress to the LSP in one year's time.

3.2 The Compact Group is chaired by Simone Hensby (CEN and VAC). The following organisations are represented on the group:

- Voluntary Action Camden
- Volunteer Centre Camden
- Black & Minority Ethnic Alliance
- Disability in Camden (DISC)
- Camden Community Empowerment Network
- Coram's Fields
- Camden Training Network
- NHS Camden
- Camden Council
- NHS Camden
- Tavistock & Portman NHS Foundation Trust
- Metropolitan Police
- London Fire Brigade
- Camden & Islington Foundation Trust

- Great Ormond Street NHS Foundation Trust
- University College London NHS Foundation Trust
- Learning & Skills Council
- Royal Free Hampstead NHS Trust

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 In agreeing to take forward the Action Plan, LSP members will be demonstrating their commitment to the Compact for Camden and the embedding of its principles into their operations. This builds on the agreement of members in November 2007 to continue to champion the Compact in their own organisations and to identify operational leads and contact points.

Appendix: Compact for Camden Action Plan

The Compact for Camden is a framework agreement between the voluntary and community sector and the public sector partners in the borough. It is a framework to guide the conduct of partnership working and it promotes a culture of empowerment and continually improving relations between the sectors. It builds on central government's compact with the voluntary and community sector, *Getting It Right Together*, which is overseen by the Commission for the Compact.

The Compact for Camden was formally adopted by the Camden Local Strategic Partnership in March 2004, this included agreement to an action plan and annual reports on progress to the LSP. The LSP re-affirmed its commitment to the Compact in November 2007. Following this, the Compact Action Plan has been refreshed to reflect new priorities.

The Compact Action Plan sets out actions that partners from the voluntary & community and statutory sectors will deliver up to March 2011. Broadly, the Action Plan sets out actions relating to:

- Strengthening partnership working
- Enabling greater joint decision making
- Improving funding and commissioning arrangements, and
- Increasing volunteering opportunities

The Action Plan provides the context from which partners can build a meaningful understanding of their respective contributions to improved quality of life in Camden.

The Action Plan refresh encompasses new priorities relevant to relationships with the voluntary and community sector, including:

- The need to manage the shift from grant aid to commissioning arrangements, as recommended in the May 2008 Comprehensive Assessment feedback
- The adoption of volunteering and social cohesion targets within Camden's Local Area Agreement
- Government's focus on creating an environment for a thriving third sector, which sits outside of Camden's basket of Local Area Agreement targets

Monitoring progress of the Action plan will enable partners to understand the contributions and limitations pertaining to each partner and the added value derived through collaboration.

The life of the Action Plan is to March 2011 when a further refresh will be undertaken and, importantly, help to shape arrangements for the next review of voluntary and community sector funding.

| Key action | Deadline for completion and/or key milestones | Success criteria/ Evidence/ Performance indicators | Relevant National Indicator and/or Strategy | Lead |
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| Stronger partnerships and collaboration between sectors | | | | |
| Enable the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) to have a stronger voice in partnerships, strategies and plans through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • networks • organisational development activities • engagement in strategic decision making • monitoring involvement and effectiveness in local partnerships | Mar 2011 | Levels / quality of VCS engagement Variety of stakeholders involved Voluntary and Community Organisations (VCOs) better able to represent themselves Support given to groups currently without 'voice' | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Various partnership strategies Local H: Social Cohesion | Compact Steering Group / VAC / LBC |
| Recognition of the social and economic value of the VCS and volunteering: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • researching VCS and volunteering activity • promoting value with events and training tools | Mar 2010 | Promotion / use of VCS data. VCS groups better able to demonstrate the business case of their ways of working Event participation / actions | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC |
| Enable involvement of VCS in reporting on local issues and outcomes to council and LSP partners <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • VCS seminars on Community Strategy themes • VCS contribution to LSP | Mar 2010 | Seminar attendance and groups contributing to reporting. VCS contribution included in all LSP reports on Community Strategy | Community Strategy Connected Camden Children & Young Peoples Plan Local H: Social Cohesion | Compact Steering Group / CPS LBC / VAC |

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| reports | | | NIs 1, 6 & 7 | |
| Consultation and influencing local decision making | | | | |
| <p>Ensure appropriate and timely processes for VCS involvement in developing and monitoring policies and strategies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Strategy / LAA • Local Development Framework • Thematic partnership plans | Mar 2011 | Type / frequency of involvement/impact of involvement | <p>Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 All plans VCS involved in Joint Commissioning strategies LBC & NHS Camden</p> | <p>Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC/LBC & NHS Camden</p> |
| <p>Support opportunity for VCS and the communities they work with to understand and influence decision making</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accountable / transparent selection of VCS members of strategic boards • Policy briefing, outreach work • Promoting understanding of key themes and documents on strategic agendas | Mar 2011 | <p>Selection process documentation</p> <p>Terms of Reference that reflect VCS engagement in strategic and other planning processes</p> <p>Levels of VCS engagement / opportunities taken</p> <p>Clear methods of sharing information across the sector</p> <p>Effective function for infrastructure bodies</p> | <p>Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7</p> | <p>Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC</p> |

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| | | Positive feedback from Infrastructure members / CAA Place survey results | | |
| Develop VCS capacity to provide evidence to support its views <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and data collection • Knowledge development – policy, local context etc | Mar 2010 | Feedback on the impact of the evidence provided | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC/LBC & NHS Camden |
| Infrastructure | | | | |
| Develop strategies to ensure wide range of participation from the voluntary and community sector in the formulation of policy, the design and delivery of services | Mar 2010 | Review the Camden Compact and refresh the Action Plan Evidence of participation in decision making structures and processes Evidence of participation in engagement processes including significant consultations/feedback and evaluations of processes Wide range of representatives from the community including those currently without a 'voice' / Effectiveness of: | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 Health indicators Strategic Commissioning Plans for LBC & NHS Camden | Compact Steering Group |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CEN - LINK - Thematic P'ships | | |
| Develop demonstration projects to ensure that relevant reports presented to the LSP and other decision making bodies reference and illustrate partnership working with the voluntary and community sector | Mar 2010 | Compact champions identified all organisations that are signatories to the Compact | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| | Mar 2010 | Operational leads identified for all organisations that are signatories to the Compact | | |
| | Mar 2010 | All signatories nominate one representative on to the Compact Group | | |
| | Annual survey | Selection of reports presented to decision making bodies | | |
| Partners policies to raise awareness of the role and contribution of the voluntary and community sector to the quality of life and community cohesion | March 2010 | <p>Training programme in place and resourced for staff and volunteers involved in activities delivered by all signatories to the Compact.</p> <p>Reference in key strategic documents to a Camden Compact way of working</p> | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Responsiveness toward elected and appointed members and other drivers with regards to support for local VCS organisations | Mar 2011 | Support available to local organisations and groups | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social | Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC |

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| | | | Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | |
| Funding relationships and service delivery | | | | |
| Develop and support VCS sustainability through a variety of income sources (e.g. grants through to contracted services) | March 2011 | Strategies, policies and practice to support commitment Diverse funding sources | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Develop effective ways to monitor the performance of funded organisations. | March 2010 | Improved approaches across all Compact signatories Pilot new information and evidencing systems Development of quality frameworks and systems for users feed back | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Commitment to move towards funding and commissioning all initiatives in accordance with the requirements of full cost recovery | April 2010 | Training of VCS to bid according to competitive criteria / i.e. full service costs | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Funding and commissioning on the basis of three year funding agreements | April 2010 | Evidence of three year funding agreements being in place | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |

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| Support local VCS and partners to have a better understanding of procurement, commissioning and outcomes | Mar 2011 | VCS groups more sustainable More consortia established to bid for contracts More contract funding secured Local Events to promote understanding of procurement and commissioning Training opportunities open to VCS | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Develop and pilot methods for commissioning and monitoring grant and contract outcomes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Piloting outcomes based commissioning o Piloting of outcome monitoring systems e.g. star tool and substance. | Mar 2010 | Agreed methodologies for commissioning and measurement of outcomes available for providers and commissioners Commissioning strategies support commitment and learning | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 Commissioning Strategies | Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC |
| Increase stakeholders awareness of outcome based grant allocation and commissioning. | Mar 2010 | Workshops provided Increased take up and use of outcomes approach | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group / LBC / VAC /LBC & NHS Camden |
| Enabling collaborative and consortium bids | Mar 2010 | Events and training and support for consortium development | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan | Compact Steering Group / VAC / LBC |

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| | Mar 2011 | Greater no.s of consortium bids by local VCS | Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | |
| Explore and develop volunteer involvement in services. | Mar 2010 | Share good practice and innovation Evidence of opportunities/participation in volunteer programmes people from Camden's diverse communities | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group |
| Develop stakeholders knowledge of the VCS market | Mar 2010 | The sector better equipped to bid and deliver services Better understanding across the sectors of the role and contribution of VCOs as suppliers | Community Strategy Children & Young Peoples Plan Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 & 7 | Compact Steering Group / VAC / LBC |
| Volunteering | | | | |
| Develop and promote volunteering opportunities | | Number of people volunteering and level of volunteering above the London average Identification of and agreed minimum standards and numbers of those meeting minimum standards Increased social capital evident | Community Strategy Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 | Compact Steering Group |

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| | | in monitoring Evidence of volunteering opportunities for local people from diverse communities and experiences e.g. disabled people as volunteers/people with experience of mental health problems enjoying vol opportunities | | |
| Develop a cross sector Volunteering Strategy Implement the Volunteering Strategy Action Plan | June 2009 Mar 2011 | Strategy produced Better co-ordinated volunteering opportunities between council and all stakeholders | Community Strategy Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 | LBC / VCC / VAC |
| Develop co-production and time-banking/volunteering approaches to service delivery <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Pilot with Mental Health Day Care services | Mar 2010 | Volunteers and service users acting as co-producers of services and improved outcomes for service users | Community Strategy Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 | HCCT LBC |
| Develop and promote methods to measure the value of volunteering. | Mar 2011 | Relevant methods for the measurement of value of volunteering disseminated to stakeholders Increase use of VIVA and other tools to demonstrate value | Community Strategy Connected Camden Local H: Social Cohesion NIs 1, 6 | VAC / LBC / VCC |