

<b>COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>CABINET</b>
<b>DATE:</b>	<b>15 DECEMBER 2004</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>EASTBOURNE COMPACT</b>
<b>REPORT OF:</b>	<b>DIRECTOR OF HOUSING, HEALTH AND COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>
<b>Ward(s):</b>	All
<b>Purpose:</b>	To inform Cabinet of the two completed Compact Codes of Practice
<b>Contact:</b>	Diane Bagley, Assistant Director – Community Services, Telephone 01323 415402 or internally on extension 5402.
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<b>That Cabinet endorses the Compact Codes of Practice on Consultation and Policy Appraisal, and Funding.</b>

Appendix 1

Appendix 2

<b>1.0</b>	<b><u>Background</u></b>
1.1	The Compact is an agreement between Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector, which sets out basic principles for how the sectors work together. The aim is to improve the relationship between the sectors for mutual advantage.
1.2	A Compact for East Sussex was agreed in 2003, was endorsed by this Committee in February and adopted as a Local Compact by the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership (ESP) in March 2004.

1.3	<p>The core aims of the East Sussex Compact are to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Improve working relations</b> in order to provide more effective and co-ordinated services to communities;</li> <li>· <b>Improve consultation, communication, collaboration, trust and respect</b> between us;</li> <li>· <b>Identify and agree key elements for joint working</b> between both sectors, and assist in meeting common strategic aims;</li> <li>· <b>Agree principles and an effective framework for partnership working</b> including consultation, representation, agreeing definitions, shared values, joint and distinct undertakings, and strategic planning.</li> </ul>
2.0	<h2 style="text-decoration: underline;">Codes of Practice</h2>
2.1	<p>The Compact will have five detailed supporting Codes of Practice, which will set the framework for how we meet the principles set out in the Compact itself. These Codes of Practice cover key areas where partnership working between the statutory and voluntary and community sectors is critical. These are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Consultation and Policy Appraisal</li> <li>· Funding</li> <li>· Black and Minority Ethnic Groups</li> <li>· Volunteering</li> <li>· Community Groups</li> </ul>
2.2	<p>The Codes of Practice for Consultation and Policy Appraisal, and Funding have both been completed and extensively consulted on. These were first drafted by representatives of the countywide East Sussex Compact Working Group and then taken to the Eastbourne Compact Working Group to ensure that they emphasise local priorities. These detailed Codes of Practice, which will go before the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership for adoption in January 2005, are appended to this report.</p> <p style="text-decoration: underline;">Code of Practice on Consultation &amp; Policy Appraisal</p> <p>The joint undertakings are that <b>All sectors will:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Observe the Key Principles as set out in the Code.</li> <li>· Build, develop and improve on existing consultation mechanisms by using and/or enhancing existing networks, partnerships</li> </ul>

Code of Practice on Funding

The joint undertakings are that **All sectors will:**

- Work together to disseminate and develop good practice on funding as set out in this Code.
- Commit to the Code of Practice, including using it as a reference point in any complaint or dispute about funding processes.
- Promote Fair access to all appropriate funding sources.
- Review this Code on an annual basis, at the same time as the Compact is reviewed.

2.3	The Codes of Practice on Volunteering, Black and Minority Ethnic groups and Community groups are in the process of being developed and will be presented to this Cabinet when completed.
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<b>3.0</b>	<b><u>Consultations</u></b>
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3.1	<p>Altogether Eastbourne, the Inclusive Community sub-group of the Eastbourne Strategic Partnership, sponsored an awareness-raising event on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2004 as part of the National Compact Week. This event, was attended by over 50 people from the statutory, and voluntary and community sectors. The aim of this event was to raise awareness of the shared principles of the Local Compact, which underpin the commitment to partnership working locally, to enable the Compact to be used and understood throughout all local public bodies and the voluntary and community sector.</p> <p>The Codes of Practice appended to this report have been extensively consulted on at county level. The County wide Compact working group comprises of representatives from key statutory providers and the voluntary and community sector across the county, including Eastbourne and responses made to the results of that consultation. The Eastbourne Compact Working Group made comments and amendments to the two codes before their adoption. The codes have now been circulated to ESP core Partners, internally at the Council and to Eastbourne voluntary and community groups giving an opportunity to make any local amendments before the Codes are adopted by the ESP.</p> <p>The Codes of Practice that are currently being developed, will also be extensively consulted on and interested parties are being actively encouraged to join the working groups to assist with the development of</p>
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4.0	<b><u>Human Resource, Environmental, Financial, Youth, Anti-Poverty, Community Safety and Human Rights Implications</u></b>
4.1	All of these implications are considered throughout the development of the Codes of Conduct and throughout the extensive consultation.
5.0	<b><u>Summary</u></b>
5.1	The Compact Codes of Practice on Consultation and Policy Appraisal, and Funding, set out clearly how the statutory sector, and the community and voluntary sector will work together based on shared aims and principles and set out commitments for partnership working locally. These detailed Codes of Practice support the overarching Compact agreement that was developed at county level and adopted locally in Eastbourne by the ESP in March 2004.
<b>Diane Bagley</b>  <b>Assistant Director – Community Services</b>	
<b>Background Papers:</b>  The Background Papers used in compiling this report were as follows:  Compact on Relations between Government and the Voluntary Sector in England ‘ Getting it Right Together’, Home Office 1998  Local Compact Guidelines, Local Government Association 2000  A Compact for East Sussex, 2003  To inspect or obtain copies of background papers please refer to the contact officer listed above.	