



Worcestershire Compact Steering Group

Terms of Reference

Rationale

The Worcestershire Compact Steering Group (WCSG) is a task group of the Worcestershire Partnership, which is the Countywide Local Strategic Partnership.

Through the WCSG the Worcestershire Partnership recognises the unique position of the voluntary and community sector to support Local Strategic Partnerships in Worcestershire, particularly through their specialist skills, contribution to capacity building, social capital, community cohesion and approachability. The involvement of the VCS in partnership working supports the effective provision of services to the wider community and hard to reach individuals and groups. The Worcestershire Compact is a framework for partnership working between the VCS and the public sector.

Vision

A flourishing relationship between the VCS and the public sector.

Aims

The aim of the steering group is to promote awareness of the COMPACT and ensure its principles are embedded in the joint working practices of both the voluntary and public sector, ensuring effective engagement.

The steering group will fulfil this by:

- ❖ Developing and using the Communications Strategy to promote and raise awareness of its principles.
- ❖ Champion the COMPACT by promoting it in our working environment.
- ❖ Use the COMPACT Awards Ceremony to promote good working practices.
- ❖ Take part in the twice yearly Worcestershire Forums to promote COMPACT.
- ❖ Review the knowledge, awareness and implementation of COMPACT within the VCS and public sector – use COMPACT Voice.

- ❖ Overseeing development, implementation and monitoring of the Worcestershire Compact and the associated codes of practice on:
 - Funding and Procurement
 - Volunteering
 - Consultation, representation and engagement
 - Community groups
 - Dispute resolution

Membership & Accountability

Membership List to consist of:

- ❖ Representative from each District LSP (6)
- ❖ Representative from the NHS
- ❖ Representative from the Police
- ❖ Representative from Fire & Rescue
- ❖ Representative from Worcestershire County Council
- ❖ Representative from CALC
- ❖ Representative from the Worcestershire Partnership
- ❖ Elected Member
- ❖ Representatives from the VCS (4) – (2 from infrastructure organisations, 2 from service delivery)

WCSG is accountable to the Worcestershire Partnership, and shall provide regular updates/reports as appropriate to the Worcestershire Partnership Board. WCSG members are accountable to their own organisations/sectors to ensure effective two-way flow of information.

The Chair of the group will be elected and serve for a period of 12 months.

Resources

- ❖ Worcestershire County Council – admin support and arrangements for meetings, venue hire etc.
- ❖ Worcestershire Partnership – funding of events and activities plus specified advice
- ❖ VCS – elected through new process being decided in September 2011.

Timing of Meetings

- ❖ Quarterly or as necessary