

# COMPACT AT WORK

## Comparing local Compacts to drive improvements in the Humber sub-region

By coming together at a sub-regional level to scrutinise the impact of Local Compacts, partners in the Humber have gained a unique insight into the current status and future potential of their local Compacts as well as an opportunity to identify and share good practice.

By surveying individuals about their local Compacts, and then bringing them together at the sub-regional level, the Compact in Action project has helped to re-focus attention onto the sub-regions' local Compacts.

By bringing individuals together to discuss their local Compacts this Humber Innovation Partnership (HIP) project has also allowed participants to dig deeper into underlying issues and identify future actions. Allowing those who attended events to learn from the experiences of their neighbours has helped to drive demand for improvements amongst those with less effective local Compacts in the Humber sub-region.

By identifying good practice, the project facilitated a cross-pollination of ideas. It is hoped that local Compacts within the Humber sub-region will take on the lessons learned by neighbouring local Compacts - resulting in improved implementation, particularly in the areas where Compact has struggled.

The Project identified that the Compact had worked most successfully in Local Authority areas where:

- There were designated and pro-active Compact leads in both the public and voluntary and community sectors.
- There were identified resources, both financial and in kind, in order to promote the Compact.
- There was sign up to Compact principles at a senior level within key organisations including Local Strategic Partnerships.
- Compact was used as a measurable and accountable framework for all partnership working and embedded in plans and strategies.
- There was a coherent dispute resolution or conciliation process in place.
- The impact of the Compact on local work could be evidenced.
- Representation on Compact Steering Groups was made up of key stakeholders who were supported to share relevant information within their own organisations and sectors.
- Up-to-date Compact information was available in a variety of formats.
- There was an innovative and creative approach to demonstrating the relevance and importance of the Compact at a local, regional and national level.

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**Theme:**  
Implementing Compact

**Compact Names:**

- [East Riding of Yorkshire](#)
- [Hull](#)
- [North East Lincolnshire](#)
- [North Lincolnshire](#)

**Contact:**  
Jason Stamp  
Partnership Co-ordinator  
ONE HULL VCS Forum  
Tel: 01482 499034  
[jason@onehullvcs.org.uk](mailto:jason@onehullvcs.org.uk)

## Compact Principles

1 (Partnership Working)

## Keywords

Evaluation

Engagement

Implementation

Local Compacts

Members

## The Future

This project highlighted a number of key areas which will influence the continued development and implementation of local Compact agreements over the next year.

These included:

- Assessing how Compact principles have been used in the review of public sector funding to voluntary sector groups and organisations, particularly in cases where funding has been reduced or removed.
- Promoting the Compact as an effective framework for future partnership working in developing relationships with new public sector stakeholders including emerging GP consortia.
- Beginning to explore how the Compact can be used as a mechanism for developing a collaborative relationship with the private sector around future service delivery opportunities, social enterprise and the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) agenda.
- Continuing to promote a positive and pro-active view of the Compact despite uncertainty about its relevance to future working following the closure of the Commission for the Compact.



consider the future role and status of the Compact and to come together to celebrate achievement and share good practice.

This work was co-ordinated by two infrastructure organisations in the Humber sub-region, NBF and Voluntary Action North East Lincolnshire (VANEL) and aimed to:

- Raise awareness of the Compact and provide clarification around its future status following the change in Government and the closure of the Commission for the Compact.
- Identify current areas of good practice that could be shared to assist in the continued development of the Compact on a local, regional and national level.
- Highlight key issues and barriers that could impact on the future role of the Compact.
- Assess the importance and relevance of the current Compact in light of key challenges for the public sector and the likelihood of funding to the voluntary and community sector being reduced in the future.
- Link the Compact principles to key national policy developments such as the Big Society initiative and the Localism agenda.
- Celebrate the effectiveness of partnership working and evidence where this had made a positive impact.

## In Conclusion

HIP is made up of Hull City Council, East Riding of Yorkshire Council, North East Lincolnshire Council, North Lincolnshire Council and the Humberside Fire and Rescue Service. A key element of the Partnership's work is focussed on pro-actively developing the relationship between the public and voluntary and community sectors on both a local and sub-regional basis.

The Compact In Action project was designed to promote collaboration, evidence good practice and create opportunities for future positive partnership working. The project recognised that innovative and creative practice already existed, supported by four local Compacts in Hull, the East Riding of Yorkshire and North and North East Lincolnshire. The Compact element of this work enabled key partners to assess their performance, begin to

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The Project provided an opportunity to engage with local Compact Steering Groups, key stakeholders in the public and voluntary and community sectors, service commissioners, voluntary sector infrastructure organisations and Local Strategic Partnerships. Engagement took place using a range of methods including desk top research, an email survey and presentations to Compact Steering Groups, a sub-regional Compact Challenge Workshop and a sub-regional Partnership Event as part of National Compact Week 2010.



## Relevant Compact Principles

1: A strong, diverse and independent civil society

## Related Links

- [Compact In Action Report](#)