

REPORT FOR: Grants Advisory Panel

Date of Meeting:	13 September 2011
Subject:	Draft Funding and Commission Compact Code
Responsible Officer:	Alex Dewsnap, Divisional Director, Partnership Development and Performance
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor Bill Stephenson, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder Finance and Business transformation
Exempt:	No
Enclosures:	Draft Compact Code

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report brings to the Panel's attention the draft Funding and Commissioning Compact Code

Recommendations:

That the Panel provide comments on the draft Code

Section 2 – Report

The Compact is not a legally binding document or contract although a Compact in another Borough has been accorded the status of a “Document of Intent” in a High Court ruling which enables Judicial Review proceedings to be brought if it is breached. It is a mutual agreement between those who decide to endorse its principles and commitments to action. Its authority derives mainly from the respect accorded to it by the partners and the extent to which it influences future decision-making and development. It is intended to be of both practical and symbolic significance. It is the intention of those who have collaborated in producing it, that it should have an authoritative focus in promoting good quality working relationships between the partners.

The Compact consists of an introduction and 5 codes of practice dealing with Funding; Consultation; Volunteering; Disability; and Black and Minority Ethnic Organisations

The Harrow Compact was originally agreed in 2004. Since then, four of the five codes have been updated and agreed by the Partnership. The fifth Code relating to Funding is the most complex. Work on updating has been underway for some time between Officers in Policy and Partnerships and representatives of the Voluntary and Community Sector.

A first draft has been produced and then been scrutinised by officers across the Council who have dealings with voluntary and community groups. While this work has yet to be completed, it is sufficiently far advanced for the draft to be shared now with the Panel to obtain guidance about the direction and some of the details provisions.

The scope of the Draft Code has expanded to encompass ideas about commissioning.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report. The final version of the Compact will be presented to Cabinet for agreement and any financial implications will be identified at that time

Risk Management Implications

There are no risk management implications arising from this report. The final version of the Compact will be presented to Cabinet for agreement and any risk management implications will be identified at that time

Corporate Priorities

The Compact addresses the corporate priorities relating to:

- United and involved communities: a Council that listens and leads
- Supporting and protecting people who are most in need

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Name: Steve Tingle	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	on behalf of the Chief Financial Officer
Date: 5 th September 2011		

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Mike Howes mike.howes@harrow.gov.uk 0208 420 9637

Background Papers:

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

1.	Consultation	NO
2.	Corporate Priorities	YES