



**MINUTES OF THE DERBY COMPACT FORUM MEETING
MONDAY 10 May 2004
Derby City Council – Committee Room 5
6PM – 8.30PM**

Present:

Councillor Maurice Burgess – Derby City Council
Councillor Roy Webb – Derby City Council
Sarah Davis – Social Services, Derby City Council
Lisa Higginbottom – Padley Centre
Louise Miller – Derby CVS
Mark Scothern – Derby CVS
Ruth Whittaker – Sporting Futures
Keith Johnson – Derby Community Transport
Nezrine Hudson – Derby West Indian Community Association

In attendance:

Emma Bates – Policy Directorate, Derby City Council
Vivene McCalla – Policy Directorate, Derby City Council
Katy Wing - Social Services, Derby City Council
Nick Meakin - Derby CVS
Natasha Golding - Derby CVS

Apologies:

Councillor Evonne Berry – Derby City Council
Councillor Paul Bayliss – Derby City Council
Isabella Stone – Policy Directorate, Derby City Council
Bimmy Rai – Derby Millennium Network
Amarjit Raju – Disability Direct
Gloria Newhall - Derby African Association

Chair:

Councillor Maurice Burgess – Leader of the Council.

1. Welcome and Apologies

ACTION

2. Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true record of the last meeting.

3. Matters Arising

Item 4.1 – A summary of all grants that are available to the voluntary and community sector from Derby City Council will be produced with and updated list of officer contact within the Council. This is to be checked with relevant departments and then circulated.

EB/ VMcC

Item 4,2 – Mark Scothern updated the meeting regarding the voluntary sector Infrastructure Funds. A Derbyshire Consortium has been established who are working to create a funding strategy for September 2004. Grants will be available through the Consortium. Mark informed the meeting of the Consortium's forthcoming consultation on the strategy and that it is a requirement to consult statutory organisations. They will be writing to Derby City Council-

MS

DCC- for their comments.

Item 4.3 - The Area and Neighbourhood Unit have not yet received the Community Development Evaluation pack, produced by the University of Derby. Forum members felt the pack may not be relevant to the work of the Compact Forum on funding and the voluntary sector.

Item 5 – Katy Wing will now be the representative on the Compact Funding sub-group instead of Sarah Davis.

KW

4. Proposed promotion of Council's Community Grants Budget (CGB) and implications for 2004-05

4.1 Emma Bates explained the circulated proposal about the Community Grants Budget being publicised to the wider voluntary and community sector in June, and that this may increase demand on the CGB budget.

4.2 In order to apply a fair and objective process of selection, a scoring system will be developed based on the key elements of the current appraisal forms.

4.3 Forum members asked that information be made available to groups regarding the criteria on which grants will be assessed.

EB/VMcC

4.4 The Leader suggested that the pack of information sent to groups should include information to explain the process and that the final decision about allocation of grants rests with councillors. The process does include political direction.

EB/VMcC

4.5 It is recommended that part of the process needs to look at Best Value to assess whether organisations are asking for too much or too little grant to accomplish their aims.

4.6 The Leader requested that a report go to Council Cabinet about the scoring system and explaining that the Compact Forum agree to a scoring system being established.

EB

4.7 Mark Scothern stated that it would also be useful to provide some training to the voluntary and community sector on the process of the proposed system, once established.

4.7 It must be noted that these changes currently only apply to the Council's CGB grants located in the Policy Directorate. Other departments will not be adopting this approach as yet.

4.8 The Forum suggested minor changes to question 9 of the current CGB appraisal form so the question becomes more specific to individual projects, to read "How will you ensure that the service provided will be inclusive for your client group"

4.9	It was suggested that some form of guide be created for the voluntary sector to enable them to align the sector with the principals of DCC Best Value practices. The need for the voluntary and community sector to be involved in the Council's Best Value review of departments was raised. Sarah Davis explained that this did happen with Social Services.	
5.	Council Representation On Voluntary Sector Management Committees - Nick Meakin, Management Development Officer, Derby CVS	
5.1	Nick Meakin gave a presentation on good practice and legal issues of council representation on voluntary sector management committees.	
5.2	It was agreed that agreement regarding the role would be drawn up for Derby, with involvement from Stephen Dunning, Assistant Director, Democratic Services. Mark Scothern will write to the Leader to request a meeting for the development of the work.	MS
6.1	Development of Volunteering Code for Derby – Natasha Golding, Millennium Volunteers Organiser, Derby CVS	
6.1	Natasha Golding gave a presentation on the role of volunteering nationally and Derby's current position in supporting volunteers.	
6.2	The Compact Forum proposed the establishment of a small sub-group to draft terms of reference for the Volunteering Code and look at who else should be involved. The group will include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruth Whittaker - Voluntary Sector representative • Natasha Golding - CVS • Katy Wing – Social Services 	RW/ NG/KW
7.	Any Other Business	
7.1	Concerns were raised about the effect of City Scape on the voluntary and community sector. It was agreed that Derby City Partnership could best deal with this issue. Voluntary sector members could raise it through the Community Network representatives on the DCP board.	
7.2	Social Event: Emma Bates raised the idea of a social event to enable Forum members to get to know each other. It was agreed that part of the September meeting be used for this. Agreed that it should also include sub-group members. Officers will select a suitable venue for this outside of the Council House.	EB/ VMcC
7.5	Sarah Davis requested that Katy Wing attend future Compact Forum meetings as an observer. Agreed.	KW
8.	Date of next meeting Provisional date, subject to Council meetings: 13 September 2004	