

*The new*  
**Warwickshire**  
**Compact**  
**2005**  
now includes  
**five new**  
**Codes of Good Practice**

**Consultation & Policy Appraisal**  
**Funding and Procurement**  
**Community Groups**  
**Black & Minority Ethnic Voluntary  
and Community Organisations**  
**Volunteering**  
*Has your organisation signed up  
to the Compact yet?*

## Funding and Procurement Code

This new Warwickshire Good Practice Code is based on the national Funding and Procurement Code which was launched on 22 March 2005.

This new good practice guidance has been approved by the Treasury and the Home Office and is the result of extensive consultation with the voluntary sector. It is essential reading for all those involved in applying for funding or tendering for contracts and for those responsible for the planning and administration of funding programmes and for commissioning contracts.

Using this guidance will make sure that you get your approach right and improve not only your performance but also improve your standing with your partner organisations as well as achieving better value for the public investment in the voluntary and community sector.

Make sure that all members of your team who are involved with funding and procurement have a copy of the new **Compact** and the Funding Code and are using them in their strategy and policy reviews and their process planning for their work with your partners.

## Black and Minority Ethnic Voluntary and Community Organisations Code

Is the work, knowledge, expertise and experience of local BME organisations fully recognised and valued?

Do BME organisations have fair and equal access to funding programmes?

Are the views of BME organisations considered in the development of Local Strategic Partnerships and Community Strategies?

Do BME organisations participate and contribute to the development of good working practices in their local voluntary and community sector?

Using this Code will improve your understanding of these issues.

*You can download the Warwickshire **Compact** document or individual codes from [www.warwickshirecompact.org.uk](http://www.warwickshirecompact.org.uk)*

## **Consultation and Policy Appraisal Code**

When a decision is likely to significantly affect the voluntary and community sector, does wide consultation take place early enough to make a difference and is 12 weeks usually allowed for considered responses to be made?

If you are consulted do you always provide a considered response within the consultation period and do you make it clear how you have reflected the views of your stakeholders and your constituents?

Are you sure what your organisation needs to do to implement the good practice expectations of this Code?

To maximise the benefits of consultation, practitioners in both sectors should refer to this Code when planning or responding to a consultation exercise.

## **Community Groups Code**

Are the mechanisms to assess the needs of community groups in place to ensure that these needs are reflected in service plans?

Are communities of concern as well as place recognised?

Is there proper support to enable community groups to succeed?

Is it recognised that resources are needed to enable community groups to participate in partnership working?

Are community groups properly accountable to their constituents?

This Code's guidance will help practitioners in both sectors to better understand what needs to be done to ensure that the needs of local communities are better understood and priorities addressed.

## **Volunteering Code**

Is the contribution made by volunteers recognised and valued and are adequate resources available to support volunteer activity?

Is it recognised that insurance premiums, support, training, Police checks and out of pocket expenses are legitimate costs?

Are volunteers well managed and given appropriate training?

Practitioners should use this Code to ensure that volunteers are properly supported and that funding is provided to achieve this.