

## **Hartlepool Compact – Sign up now**

The Hartlepool Compact is an agreement between Hartlepool Borough Council, local service providers and commissioners of services (a full list of signatories is included in the Compact) and the voluntary and community sector.

The aim is that all Community and Voluntary Groups in Hartlepool are aware of the document and the principles within it and more importantly use the Compact as a tool for their benefit.

The purpose of the Compact is to set out codes of practice and terms of engagement that organisations will agree to work to and more importantly sign up to. This will ensure that all partners are aware of and can be responsible for the level of engagement expected from them and what they expect from others when working in partnership. This mutual agreement between partners will improve their relationships and benefit communities within Hartlepool.

The Compact includes the following Codes, which provide ground rules of good practice. They are as follows:

- a) Funding Code;
- b) Consultation and Policy Code
- c) Inclusion Code (Minority and Small Community Groups Code);
- d) Code of Practice on Representation;
- e) Volunteering Code.

Work is currently being undertaken with local service providers and commissioners of services, who are named signatories of the Hartlepool Compact to develop an action plan. These actions will work towards improving performance against the codes of the Hartlepool Compact.

The Hartlepool Compact can also be viewed through the Hartlepool Borough Council ([www.hartlepool.gov.uk](http://www.hartlepool.gov.uk)), Hartlepool Partnership ([www.hartlepoolpartnership.co.uk](http://www.hartlepoolpartnership.co.uk)) and HVDA ([www.hvda.co.uk](http://www.hvda.co.uk)) websites.

Voluntary and Community Groups in Hartlepool are encouraged to 'sign up' to the Hartlepool Compact to show that they are aware of the document and working towards the principles of the Compact. It is important to do this in order to demonstrate to the public sector, that we in the Voluntary/Community Sector would also wish to adhere to the Compact. If we want the public sector to understand and to commit to the Compact then we must show our commitment by signing up to the Compact .

If you would like further information about the Hartlepool Compact or would like more copies of the document please contact Keith Bayley on 01429 262641.

To sign up to the Hartlepool Compact please contact HVDA on 01429 262641, your Group will be added to a register held by HVDA, which will be available to view online through HVDA's website.

**PLEASE SEE ATTACHED SIGNATORY SHEET FOR YOUR GROUP TO COMPLETE**