



AGENDA ITEM: 8

SUMMARY

Report for:	Cabinet
Date of meeting:	24 November 2015
Part:	1
If Part II, reason:	

Title of report:	The Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019)
Contact:	Portfolio Holder: Cllr Neil Harden Portfolio Holder for Residents and Corporate Services and Cllr Andrew Williams, Leader of the Council Author: Eli Tweed, Community Partnerships Officer Responsible Officers: Claire Lynch, Team Leader (Community Partnerships, Matt Rawdon, Group Manager (People) and Steve Baker, Assistant Director (Chief Executive's Unit)
Purpose of report:	To seek the agreement for the new Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019).
Recommendations	That Cabinet agree the new Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019)
Corporate Objectives:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Community Capacity: enabling self-help and volunteering to build communities. 2. Dacorum Delivers: developing more effective ways of delivering services which meet customer expectations.
Implications:	<u>Financial</u> There are no financial implications for the Dacorum Compact.
'Value For Money Implications'	<u>Value for Money</u> The Dacorum Compact will promote greater partnership working between sectors, improved relationships which can lead to enhanced service delivery and efficiencies.
Risk Implications	If the commitments in the new Dacorum Compact are not carried out it may be open to criticism from the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) but this has been mitigated by extensive consultation and involvement of both statutory and

	<p>VCS to try to ensure the commitments are attainable and agreeable. Also section titled 'Who to contact if things go wrong' on page 11 includes peaceful resolution and signposting to Community Action Dacorum for further help.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> By not having an up to date, current and agreed Dacorum Compact, it could lead to a breakdown in working relationships between Dacorum Borough Council and the VCS. This is particularly important at this current time as the Council are embarking on commissioning services with the funding that was previously allocated through the Strategic Partner Programme.
Community Impact Assessment	Community Impact Assessment carried out 28 October 2015
Health And Safety Implications	Nil
Monitoring Officer/S.151 Officer Comments	<p>Deputy Monitoring Officer:</p> <p>No comments to add to the report.</p> <p>Deputy S.151 Officer:</p> <p>There are no direct financial implications of this report. Any funding allocations are subject to the usual MTFs and budgeting process.</p>
Consultees:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DBC staff, CMT and managers of people Strategic Partners and the wider Voluntary & Community Sector All Council Members
Background papers:	Previous Dacorum Compact
Glossary of acronyms and any other abbreviations used in this report:	<p>VCS - Voluntary & Community Sector</p> <p>CMT – Corporate Management Team</p>

1. Background

- 1.1 The Dacorum Compact is a local Compact which is an agreement between the statutory sector and the VCS. It was initially agreed and published in 2002 and then refreshed in 2007/8. Dacorum has a long history of partnership working across the two sectors but with changes to the relationship such as commissioning, it is important to have an up to date Compact which reflects the current context.

1.2 Local Compacts can be at County level or Borough/District Level. There are no compulsory elements to include in a local Compact but good practice is to include 'commitments' or 'aims' for both sides, often based on the National Compact's five principles:

- **Effective and transparent design** of policies, programmes and public services
- The **independence** of the sector
- Enabling VCS to deliver **responsive, high-quality programmes** (grants and contracts)
- Clear arrangements for **managing changes** to programmes and services (decommissioning)
- **Promoting equality**

1.3 Benefits of a new Dacorum Compact include clearer roles and responsibilities of the different sectors and improved understanding between sectors. Also, it will help to build trusting relationships, to recognise shared goals and to transform and improve the local community.

1.4 The new Dacorum Compact follows the principles of the National Compact but reflects local circumstances. *Working Together* is the tag line for the Dacorum Compact used throughout the document. It sets a structure for engagement between the voluntary and statutory sector, by detailing undertaking by both sides, as well as having joint commitments.

1.5 There was a detailed consultation process to reach agreement on this document, which consisted on two stages:

2. **Stage 1 consultation**

2.1 Advice was sought from Compact Voice (the national body that help develop local Compacts) and research was conducted into current best practice. A staff brainstorming session took place in June 2015 to help staff understand more about the Compact and to get some ideas for improvement. More staff and the wider VCS attended another session in July and this helped participants to understand the Compact, brainstormed ideas for how to make the compact come alive and developed ideas for compact commitments. A draft of the new Dacorum Compact was then created based on the input of the participants from these two sessions.

3. **Stage 2 consultation**

3.1 The draft Compact consultation stage ran from Thursday 10 September to Thursday 6 November 2015. The comments received have been considered and applied where appropriate.

3.2 The consultation on the new Dacorum Compact helped to spread understanding of the Compact even further, and to gather views of representatives and organisations in the wider statutory and VCS that were unable to attend the workshops. Council Members, CMT and managers of people were also consulted.

4. **The Proposed Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019)**

4.1 Appendix 1 contains the proposed Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019).

5. Recommendation

5.1 That Cabinet agree the new Dacorum Compact (2015 – 2019).