

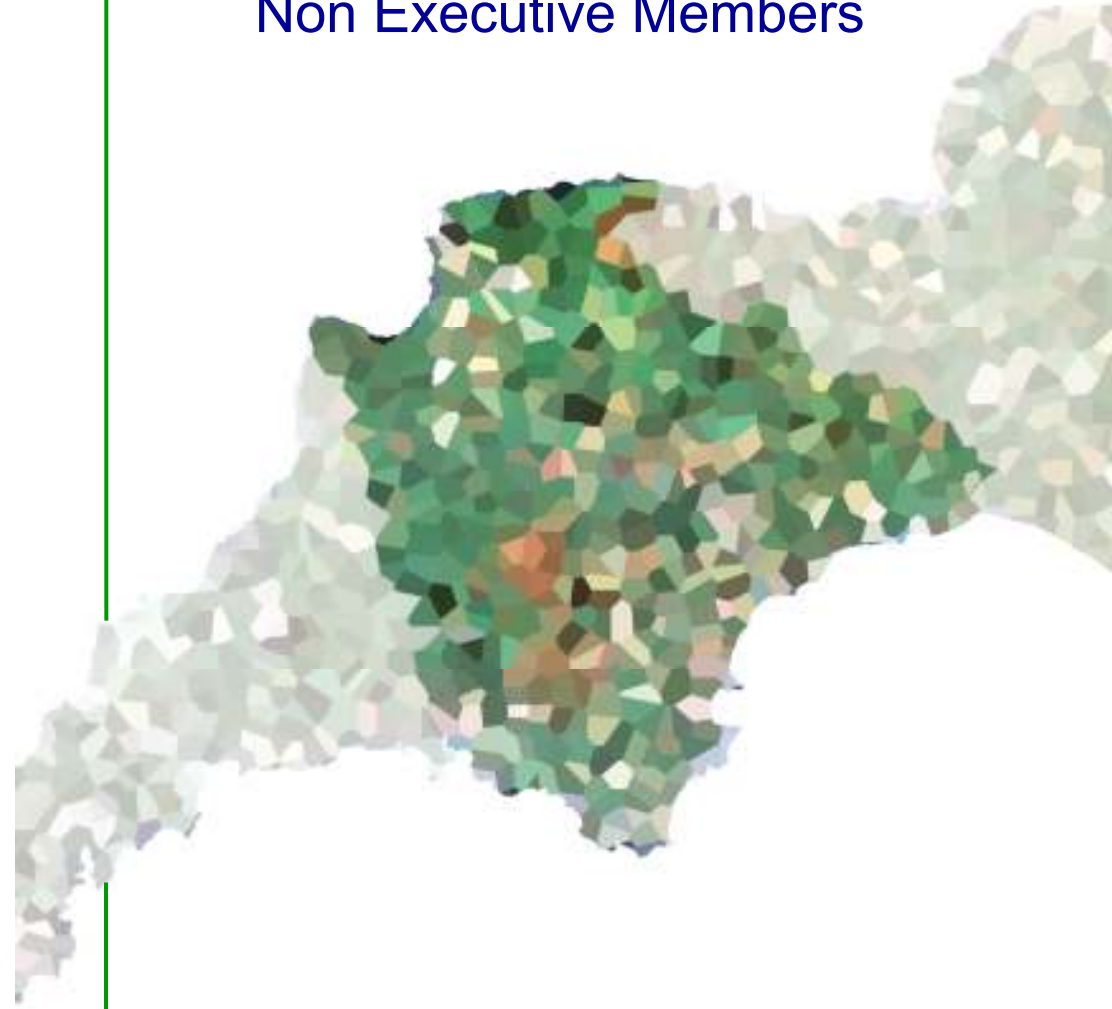


10 Things You Need to Know About the Compact for Devon

Non Executive Members

7. Many VCS organisations bid for, and win contracts to provide public services on behalf of Devon local authorities. Others receive grant funding, usually supported by service level agreements. Funding arrangements are guided by the Funding & Procurement Code of Practice.
8. Statutory agencies are committed to recognising and valuing the independence of VCS organisations, including their right to campaign and advocate on behalf of their members.
9. Statutory agencies believe that the VCS can be supported to provide high quality services in a flexible and responsive manner.
10. The Compact is changing for the better the way that VCS organisations are treated. For examples of this contact your Compact Champion, Local Council for Voluntary Service or the Compact Hub. The full Compact for Devon and its Codes of Practice can be downloaded at www.dacvs.org.uk

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In your role as a Non Executive member, do you have contact with the voluntary and community sector?

Do you work in partnership with voluntary and community organisations?

Do you provide funding and support to the voluntary and community sector?

Are you Compact for Devon compliant?

To find out more you need to read this

1. The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), now known by Government as 'The Third Sector', comprises a very wide range of non-statutory organisations. It includes bodies as diverse as: national charities e.g. NCH, Age Concern, not-for-profit businesses e.g. Mid Devon Recycling, regeneration groups right through to your local parent and toddler group. Many employ staff, some are run by volunteers. Some are large businesses, others have no funds at all.
2. Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Organisations are those whose primary function is to support and develop Voluntary and Community Sector activity. Examples include local Councils for Voluntary Service and the Community Council of Devon (CVS and CCD).
3. The National Compact between the Government and the Voluntary and Community Sector was agreed in 1998, with the intention of improving their relationship for mutual advantage. Local Compacts, to improve local service delivery for local people, were required as a follow on to the National Compact. The new Compact for Devon was agreed and published in July 2005.
4. The Compact was written by a partnership of representatives from Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) including VCS infrastructure organisations, local authorities, the Primary Care Trust etc – who in turn are accountable to local partnerships in addition to their own organisations. The group is called the Compact Hub and is responsible for publicising the Compact and monitoring its impact.
5. The Compact is intended to provide a framework to guide relationships between Councils, other public sector bodies and VCS organisations in Devon and all relevant staff, and elected members are expected to understand its principles and to comply with it.
6. The Compact for Devon and its six Codes of Good Practice (Funding & Procurement, Volunteering, Equality & Diversity, Community Groups, Consultation, and Partnership) set out a framework within which the Statutory Sector (SS) and the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) can work constructively together to better meet local needs. It includes the premise that service users and their carers should be involved in designing services.