

Northumberland Funding and Procurement Code

The Northumberland Funding and Procurement Code builds upon the key principles contained within the Northumberland Compact. It sets a framework for the financial relationship between the sectors and describes what can be expected of one another.

This Code is the result of work carried out by the Compact Reference group. The group is made up of public sector and voluntary & community sector organisations (VCS). The VCS members are nominated by the Northumberland VCS Consortium.

Key principles

- Recognise that there are different types of funding for different purposes
- Keep processes as simple as possible and in proportion to the funding involved
- Allow time for planning, decision making and action
- Strengthen formal and informal partnership through discussion and dialogue
- Understand each other's needs and requirements
- Review and improve the quality of working practices to achieve better value for money

Public Sector undertakes to...

- Provide opportunity for the VCS to contribute to programme design
- Make application and monitoring processes and procedures transparent, fair and proportionate
- Discuss risks up front and place with the organisation best able to manage them
- Respect the independence of the sector
- Accept full cost recovery
- Make longer term funding arrangements
- Give sufficient notice at the end of grants/contracts

The Voluntary & Community Sector undertakes to...

- Be clear about who they represent when consulted on programme design
- Make sure they are eligible when applying for grants or contracts
- Have clear lines of accountability
- Agree terms of delivery and be aware of risks for which they are responsible
- Have good quality management systems
- Be honest and transparent in reporting
- Plan in good time to reduce the impact on both the organisation and the beneficiaries when funding ends.

This funding and procurement code can be downloaded at:
www.northumberlandvcs.org.uk