

Compact Scorecard for a Thriving Sector

	The LSP has a shared vision of what a Thriving Sector would look like.
	The LSP is committed to implementing a resourced, unified plan for a Thriving Compact/Sector/Community which includes working together to tackle the local impact of the recession. The plan is updated in line with research findings.
	The LSP recognises NI7 as the Local Compact indicator: the Local Compact is used to measure the development of a thriving sector.
	The whole sector is involved in developing a thriving Compact, sector and community.
	Sector involvement in partnerships is characterised by influential participation and effective representation (especially for small groups).
	The sector has capacity to deliver and engage with local public bodies in policy processes, with skills development covering strategy and business planning, tendering, negotiating, marketing, using the Compact and public law.
	There is a growing trend for volunteering right across the community and for deploying volunteers right across the sector.
	The sector plays an active role in supporting engagement with, involvement of, and accountability to the community.
	Local people feel comfortable with and enabled by opportunities for civil participation (e.g. trusteeship, attending neighbourhood meetings, community involvement)
	Local groups work well with the council and other public bodies to achieve better outcomes for the community.
	The relationship between the sector and public bodies is good and improving, measured at least annually, and specific relationship-building initiatives are taken.
	Decisions by local public bodies and partnerships are Compact-proofed to ensure Compact compliance and that account is taken of the impact on the sector.
	Sector funding from local public bodies is sustainable and offers a grants/contracts mix; 3-year funding; payment in advance; full cost recovery and co-designed commissioning processes.
	The sector has effective networks and collaboration, with groups demonstrating a good understanding of when to co-operate or compete.
	The sector upholds its independence, which is well understood by public bodies.
	The sector is well led, governed and supported by adequate infrastructure.
	The sector and individual groups know their full value and show and grow their impact.

This scorecard is one of a set in our Local Compact Electronic Toolkit. The full toolkit can be downloaded from our online forum: to join, send an email to: paul.barasi@compactvoice.org.uk

Notes on LSPs using this scorecard

Creating the environment for a Thriving Sector may be a LAA or local priority, recognised by public bodies as important in its own right or simply expedient in relation to their comprehensive area assessment. The Compact Group can also use the scorecard, whether or not tasked by the LSP to undertake thriving sector work.

Scoring

This scorecard should prompt discussion on the key issues as well as measure current performance on each indicator. Scores should be agreed between sector representatives and public bodies. To work out your score: add up to 3 points for each indicator. Use the scorecard every year to measure progress on each indicator along with direction of travel for your aggregate total score.

Shared vision of what a thriving sector looks like

The elements that characterise a thriving sector are reflected in the scorecard's indicators. Using the scorecard should help identify targeted action needed to develop and sustain a thriving sector.

The Plan

Adopting a combined delivery plan for a thriving sector and for implementing your Compact (as first done in West Sussex and Nottinghamshire) helps ensure that action is synchronised and that your Compact is used effectively in building a thriving sector. Lack of resourcing is the major barrier to Compact implementation. A combined plan should include identifying the resources needed to achieve it.

The plan should be relevant to the issues partners want taken forward and be win-focussed to build a stronger community and improve people's lives. Current challenges, including tackling recession through joint working, should be included. A 3-year roll forward plan allows updates in the light of developments, results from using this scorecard and research findings. A basket of research findings should be used to inform action to develop a Thriving Sector, including the NI7 survey and local survey results and the relationship poll form in this toolkit.

Participation, representation and relationships

Many areas need to broaden relationship-building and boost engagement of groups in policy processes. Effective sector representation depends on:

- ▶ Good communication by public bodies on policy processes
- ▶ How well partnerships work (including using a Compact way of working)
- ▶ Capacity for involvement (time is often critical)
- ▶ Democratic accountability (representatives being elected, mandated and reporting back).

The plan should ensure that the resource requirements for effective representation are covered (elections, attendance). Informal one-to-one engagement between groups and public bodies is also to mutual advantage. Public bodies should ensure good access for groups including those which take a different policy position.