



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

ADULT SERVICES AND HEALTH COMMISSION 16 April 2007

Report of the Director of Corporate and Adult Social Services

Joint Commissioning Framework for the Third Sector

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To consider and comment on the draft Joint Commission Framework for the Third Sector

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The document 'A Joint Commissioning Framework for the Third Sector' is draft guidance on processes to be adopted by Derby City Council and Derby City Primary Care Trust for ensuring effective Voluntary and Community Sector involvement in the planning, commissioning and delivery of Health and Social Care services.
- 2.2 Over the past year, this draft guidance has been developed by a multi-agency working group of representatives from Derby City Council, Derby City Primary Care Trust and Voluntary and Community Sector umbrella organisations.
- 2.3 This draft document aims to translate into practice the principles set out in the Derby Compact. It has also been produced in response to the latest Government best practice guidance on relationships between the statutory sector and the 'Third Sector'.
- 2.4 **Phase 1 of the Consultation**
A number of presentations have been made to Voluntary Sector Cluster Groups and networks at an early stage in the development of this guidance. A brief consultation exercise was also carried out on the roles played by grant funding and contracts. The results of this early consultation have been used to inform the development of the draft Joint Commissioning Framework.
- 2.5 **Phase 2 of the Consultation**
Derby City Council and Derby City Primary Care Trust are aiming to gather a wide variety of views from colleagues, partner agencies and from the Voluntary and Community Sector about this draft document.

This second stage of consultation runs for a 12 week period, from 1 March 2007 to 31 May 2007. A summary and consultation questions on the key messages have been published on the Council's web site, at 'Your City, Your Say', <http://www.derby.gov.uk/yourcityyoursay> . Voluntary Sector Cluster Groups and networks will be encouraged to respond, including the BME cluster group, to ensure feedback from smaller community groups as well as the larger organisations. The feedback from this second phase of consultation will be analysed carefully before the draft document is finalised.

- 2.6 The final version of the document will take into consideration the Commission's recommendations on the Home Care Review and the role of the Voluntary and Community Sector. The draft document does not currently contain a Summary and Conclusions section, however, the final document will incorporate either this, or an Executive Summary.

For more information contact:	Mahroof Hussain 01332 255597 e-mail Mahroof.hussain@derby.gov.uk
Background papers:	Draft Joint Commissioning Framework for the Third Sector
List of appendices:	Appendix 1 - Implications Appendix 2 - Summary and Consultation Questions on Key Messages

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. None directly arising from this report.

Legal

2. The draft document has been checked by legal services to ensure compliance with the Council's constitution, procurement processes and to verify statements concerning partnership arrangements with the Primary Care Trust.

Personnel

3. None directly arising from this report.

Equalities impact

4. Effective scrutiny will benefit all Derby people. This draft document aims to incorporate best practice in working with the Voluntary and Community Sector, particularly those organisations which support the most vulnerable communities with health and social care needs, such as black and minority ethnic groups, disabled people, people with sensory impairment, older people, children and young people, carers, people with mental health problems and people with learning disabilities.

Corporate Priorities

5. This report links with the Council's priority for 2007-10 to help us all to be healthy and active.

SUMMARY AND CONSULTATION QUESTIONS ON KEY MESSAGES

The following information has been published on 'Your City Your Say':

Summary

The document 'A Joint Commissioning Framework for the Third Sector' is draft guidance on processes to be adopted by Derby City Council and Derby City Primary Care Trust for ensuring effective Voluntary and Community Sector involvement in the planning, commissioning and delivery of Health and Social Care services

Over the past year, this draft guidance has been developed by a multi-agency working group of representatives from Derby City Council, Derby City Primary Care Trust and Voluntary and Community Sector umbrella organisations.

This draft document aims to translate into practice the principles set out in the Derby Compact. It has also been produced in response to the latest Government best practice guidance on relationships between the statutory sector and the 'Third Sector'.

Phase 1 of the Consultation

A number of presentations have been made to Voluntary Sector Cluster Groups and networks at an early stage in the development of this guidance. A brief consultation exercise was also carried out on the roles played by grant funding and contracts. The results of this early consultation have been used to inform the development of the draft Joint Commissioning Framework.

Phase 2 of the Consultation

Derby City Council and Derby City Primary Care Trust are committed to gathering a wide variety of views from the Voluntary and Community Sector about this draft document. This is still only a draft and many changes may need to be incorporated after the consultation, to take on board the views of colleagues, partner agencies, the voluntary sector and also to take into consideration other commissioning frameworks currently under development. This includes consultation with the Children and Young People's Partnership. This second stage of consultation will run for a 12 week period, from 1 March 2007 to 31 May 2007. This consultation will be publicised at Voluntary Sector Cluster groups and network meetings and via voluntary sector umbrella organisations, as well as by email and on the internet.

The feedback from this second phase of consultation will be analysed carefully before the draft document is finalised.

Consultation questions on key messages

Please note: all of the information that you provide will be treated in confidence.

1. The draft document uses the term '**Third Sector**' to describe all organisations which are not part of either the statutory or private sectors. This is the term currently being used to describe the sector by the Government and includes all Voluntary and Community Organisations, as well as Social Enterprises.

What do you think of the term 'Third Sector'? Would you prefer the term 'Voluntary and Community Sector' to be used locally and for this to be defined so as to include 'social enterprises'?

2. The draft document states that the Third Sector should be offered **at least** one place at the table of any key multi-agency partnership group and that there should be appropriate Third Sector representation at all levels of the planning process.

Do you agree with this? Please explain.

3. The draft document states that mechanisms for achieving Third Sector representation should be clear and transparent and that Third Sector representatives should be **accountable to the wider sector**, via **recognised Clusters or networks**.

Do you support this idea?

4. The document aims to clarify and distinguish between the role played by grant funding and the role played by contracts. It suggests that grants may be used to fund services which complement public services and which are in broad alignment with Council and PCT objectives, and that grants may also be used to build capacity in the Third Sector and test out new ideas. It states that contracts should be used where the Council and the PCT are commissioning services to meet specific health and social care needs, where they wish to specify closely the design and intended outcomes of services.

There are some further factors, which are explained more fully in the document, but do you support this broad distinction between grants and contracts?

5. The document states that the Council and the PCT should not disallow relevant overhead costs in tenders and grant funding applications, or refuse to consider bids that have been fully costed. The document therefore supports the principle of '**Full Cost Recovery**'. However, it also states that there may be circumstances where grant 'subsidies' are provided to support activities which have been set up by Voluntary and Community Organisations, in furtherance of their own missions, and that, in this case, the Council and the PCT may not meet the full cost.

What are your views on this? Please bear in mind that there are insufficient resources available to meet the full costs of all existing grant funded services. Therefore, if all grant funding had to meet the full cost of services, it is possible that many existing grant funded services may have to be decommissioned.

6. The draft guidance states that monitoring returns for grant funding should normally be completed on a 6 monthly basis, except in circumstances where more frequent reporting is necessary (for example, external monitoring requirements for Local Area Agreement returns are on a quarterly basis). There should be standard questions, but also the flexibility to tailor monitoring requirements to specific services and the monitoring should be in proportion to the amount of funding. The document suggests that the lead agency (either the Council or the PCT) should be responsible for convening monitoring meetings, which should normally be held at the beginning of an agreement, 6 months into the agreement and at least annually thereafter.

Do you think this is about the right amount of monitoring?

7. The document states that a more in-depth review should take place in the final year of 3 year grant funding agreements. This would replace the need for organisations to complete grant application forms to reapply for a renewal of grant funding. Following this review meeting, a recommendation would be made as to whether to renew the funding for a further 3 year period, renew with some alterations to the agreement, or decommission the service, if it no longer meets Council and PCT priorities. In the case of contracts, procurement rules would normally require the Council and the PCT to go back out to tender.

What are your views on the above proposals?

We want to make sure that we hear everyone's views. So please answer the next few questions about you ...

Are you a... (please ✓ all that apply)

representative of a voluntary or community organisation?

Derby resident?

representative of a public sector organisation?

representative of a business based in Derby?

other? Please say

If you are filling in this questionnaire as a representative of a voluntary, community or public sector organisation, please tell us the name of the organisation.

What is your role within the organisation?

Please return your completed questionnaire by 31 May 2007 to:

Katy Wing
Voluntary and Community Partnerships Manager
Derby City Council
Room 183 Council House
Corporation Street
Derby DE1 2FS

Email: katy.wing@derby.gov.uk

Please either:

- complete on screen, save onto your computer and send as an email attachment, *or*
- print off and return by post

Thank you for taking the time to fill in this questionnaire. The results of this consultation will be published on Your City, Your Say, at <http://www.derby.gov.uk/yourcityyoursay>



All information provided will be treated in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998. We will only use this information to inform the final version of the Joint Commissioning Framework for the Third Sector document.

[CONSULTATION ON 'YOUR CITY YOUR SAY' ENDS]

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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