

SUNDERLAND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PLAN BRIEFING NOTE

Report by the Head of Community Services, Community and Cultural Services Directorate

- Work is progressing through the Community Development Strategy Group to develop the detailed action plan for the Community Development Plan.

Refreshing the Sunderland Compact

- The formal consultation on the Sunderland Compact has been launched and will run until 19th September 2008. The consultation is focused on the main Compact document, Voluntary and Community Groups Code of Practice, Volunteering Code of Practice and the Involvement and Consultation Code of Practice (formally known as Consultation and Policy Appraisal Code of Practice – this has been updated to reflect current government policy direction on Involvement and Engagement). The Funding and Procurement Code of Practice and Equalities Codes of Practice are still under development. The consultation documents are available on www.sunderlandcompact.org.uk and by hard copy on request to Natalie.maidment@sunderland.gov.uk. A copy of the consultation documents are attached with this briefing note.
- Following the end of the consultation process and any development work that emerges as a result, it is intended to take the final documentation back to the Sunderland Partnership Board for approval in the autumn, with the aim of the October meeting. Following this, organisations will be invited to become signatories of the Compact. It is expected that organisations will engage their approval structures in the consultation of the Compact so that any potential barriers to signing up to the Compact are identified and removed at the earliest possible stage.
- Sunderland CVS, through WNF funding, have employed a part-time Compact Engagement Officer until 30 September who will be working with Voluntary and Community organisations across the City to engage them in the Compact and to ensure that as much of the sector as possible is in a position to be able to sign up to the Compact this autumn.

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