



Glasgow City Council

**Wellbeing, Empowerment, Communities and
Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee**

Report by Director of Community Empowerment and Equalities

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Third Sector Concordat Action Plan

Purpose of Report:

To update the Committee on the Concordat Action Plan & submit the final Plan for endorsement.

Recommendations:

1. That the Committee endorses the Concordat Action Plan between Glasgow City Council and Glasgow's Third Sector Interface.
2. That the Committee notes the recommendations for the next stages of developing the working relationship with the Third Sector, including the Action Plan Group, a future Third Sector Summit and reporting arrangements.

Ward No(s):

Citywide: ✓

Local member(s) advised: Yes No consulted: Yes No

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This report provides a summary of the work completed by the Third Sector Concordat Short Life Working Group regarding the development of the Action Plan and consultation process on the draft Plan.
- 1.2 The report also contains the final Concordat Action Plan within the appendix and information on the next steps of the process.

2. Context

- 2.1 The final Third Sector Concordat was provided to the Wellbeing, Empowerment, Community and Citizen Engagement City Policy Committee on the 16th August 2018, which also highlighted the next stage of the process to be carried out in partnership with the Third Sector Interface (TSI) to develop a Concordat Action Plan that would define the future working relationship.
- 2.2 As previously advised, the Concordat, consultation process, Action Plan and all reports have been co-produced with the Third Sector via the Short Life Working Group. The group has representation from Glasgow City Council (GCC) via the Community Empowerment Services team, and from the Third Sector, via Glasgow TSI. This includes colleagues from GCVS, Volunteer Glasgow, the Glasgow Social Enterprise Network and the Third Sector Forum.

3. Engagement and Consultation process

- 3.1 Following the approval of the Concordat in August, the Concordat was formally signed by all the partners at the Third Sector Summit on the 23rd August.
- 3.2 It was agreed that following the launch, the short life working group would reconvene to co-produce an Action Plan that would make the Concordat a living document that would change how the Council and Third Sector worked together in future.

4. The Action Plan Process

- 4.1 In September 2018, the Short Life Working Group came back together and agreed that an action plan would be developed under each of the four headings of the Concordat:
 - Strengthened engagement, collaboration, trust and partnership
 - Connected and informed decision-making
 - Third Sector Investment and Infrastructure
 - Community Empowerment
- 4.2 For each section of the action plan, a member of the Third Sector was paired into a subgroup with a member of the staff team in Community Empowerment Services. Their task was to review all the feedback received during the

consultation process and views about the Action Plan gathered from the Concordat launch at the Third Sector Summit in August. This would be developed into a set of actions which were then reviewed by the whole group, who continued to meet on a regular basis.

- 4.3 The process was delayed slightly by staff absences and by the possibility that there would be a further mini summit in early 2019 with the explicit purpose of wider consultation on the Action Plan. Some planning went into this before it was agreed to use this time for consultations – one for the Third Sector and one for senior staff within GCC. The Council consultation on the draft action plan was held in late March and had an excellent turnout, including many service planners and members of the senior management team. A similar event for the Third Sector was held in GCVS during March.
- 4.4 Again, following these events, feedback was gathered which led to further revisions of the action plan. However, by the end of April, a final action plan that was fully co-produced by Glasgow City Council and TSI was completed. This is attached at the appendix to this report.

5 **Next steps**

- 5.1 The main task ahead is now the implementation of the action plan. Inevitably, some actions are easier to achieve than others; for example, those involving culture change within the Council and Third Sector are likely to take longer. To reflect this, the actions are ranked as short, medium or longer term. The intention is to provide a progress report on the short term actions at the Third Sector Summit in autumn 2019.
- 5.2 To achieve this, two things are needed. Firstly, a group to oversee the various work streams and ensure that actions are carried out in whatever part of the Third Sector or Council department is responsible. And secondly, a formal link between the work of that Group and the Corporate Management Team (CMT) of Glasgow City Council.
- 5.3 For the first, Concordat Action Plan Group (or similar name), it is suggested that the Short life Working Group reviews the short/medium term actions and reviews the Current membership to add members that are needed to deliver those actions, and remove those no longer required. New members can be agreed via TSI or via recommendation by the CMT.
- 5.4 For the second, it is recommended that the Director of Community Empowerment Services acts as the formal link between the CMT and the Action Plan Group.
- 5.5 In addition, updates and progress reports will be given to the WECCE committee on an annual basis.

6 **Policy and Resource Implications**

Resource Implications:

Financial: no immediate financial impacts, although some are likely in future

Legal: no new legal issues

Personnel: no direct personnel implications

Procurement: no relevant procurement issues at this time, however, some are likely in future.

Council Strategic Plan: This work directly impacts on the strategic plan theme: A Well Governed City that Listens and Responds and outcomes 101: Review how we fund third sector and community groups to reflect a partnership approach and simplifying procedures & 102: Promote the role of the third sector to our staff and explore the feasibility of a Third Sector Embassy – providing a single point of contact in the council

Equality Impacts:

Does the proposal support the Council's Equality Outcomes 2017-22 Yes, as equalities are specifically mentioned in the Concordat and the consultation process will specifically target equalities organisations.

What are the potential equality impacts as a result of this report? There is potentially a positive impact on Outcome 8:
Service users with protected characteristics are provided with targeted, improved and more accessible information about the services provided by the Council Family
And outcome 10:
People with protected characteristics are more regularly and systematically involved in service delivery design by the Council Family

Sustainability Impacts:

Environmental: No direct impacts

Social: No direct impacts

Economic: No direct impacts

Privacy and Data Protection impacts: No data protection impacts

7. Recommendations

1. That the Committee endorses the Concordat Action Plan between the Council and the Third Sector Interface.
2. That the Committee notes the recommendations for the next stages of developing the working relationship with the Third Sector, including the Action Plan Group, a future Third Sector Summit and reporting arrangements.