



Title: Voluntary Sector Partnership Agreement

Report written and submitted by: Stephen Tiley, Gwent Association of Voluntary Organisations

Author: Stephen Tiley

Date: 28th February 2023

1	Purpose
1.1	To provide the Gwent PSB with background to the Gwent Third Sector Partnership Agreement, the position of the current agreements across Gwent and an understanding of the new partnership moving forward with proposed recommendations for discussion and review.
2	Background
2.1	The Third Sector Partnership Agreement was previously known as the “Local Compact” and is a document that provides the framework for the voluntary and community sector and other partners to work together. Local Compacts / Partnership Agreements were in place in a number of counties, in different forms. The proposed Gwent Third Sector Partnership Agreement covering 2023 – 2028 is attached as Appendix 1 - Gwent Third Sector Partnership 2023 – 2028.
2.2	The Agreement dovetails the work of the Third Sector and Partners with the Gwent PSB Well-being Plan 2023-2028 with a long term strategy to make the Gwent region a better place to live, work and visit. The Well-being requirements are overseen by Gwent PSB and the Local Delivery Partnerships.
2.3	Local Compacts have been a requirement of Welsh Government to enhance partnership working across Wales and include the Code of Practice for Funding the Third Sector and more information around these can be in Appendix 2 – Third Sector Scheme 2014.
3	Current Position
3.1	Across Wales, there are few Public Services partnerships that include a Third Sector Partnership Agreement in their working relationships.
3.2	Across Gwent, the CVC’s have some active signed agreements or are working towards the partnership working broad principles where understood. It is important that these principles are shared and understood by all partners in line with Welsh Government guidance.
3.3	The current Third Sector Partnership Agreements that are in place run until 2023 which is the end of the current iterations of Wellbeing plans and are specifically focused on the County landscapes and not the Regional focus.

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4	New Third Sector Partnership
4.1	<p>The Third Sector Partnership Agreement is made up for a number of sections which are as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Foreword</i> – the background to Third Sector Partnership Agreements • <i>Partners</i> – this covers a brief description of the partners of the Gwent PSB • <i>Introduction</i> - the understanding of the need and purpose of the agreement • <i>Framework for Managing the Partnership Agreement</i> – An outline of the framework in particular the focus on the Wellbeing Act and the 7 Wellbeing goals • <i>New Developments for the Partnership Third Sector Integration</i> – This section outlines the need for the relationship with the Local Delivery Groups and is the reference to the additional appendices required • <i>Shared Values and Principles</i> – The Partnership values and principles • <i>Partnership Agreement Commitments</i> – The agreement of the partners and the third sectors commitment into the partnership • <i>Funding Code of Practice</i> – This is the funding code of Practice and directly linked to Welsh Government’s Third Sector Funding Code of Practice • <i>Project and Service Design</i> – Looking at the involvement of the third sector project and service design and delivery • <i>Application of Tender Process</i> - covers the process of inviting, applying for and assessing funding applications, including tender bids and giving notice of decisions • <i>Terms of Delivery</i> - Give clear guidance as to what is expected of the provider and by when, so that organisations can plan and deliver the best possible outputs, outcomes and impact • <i>Monitoring and Reporting</i> – A fair and equitable way of reporting and monitoring programmes and projects • <i>Payment Terms</i> – Looking at the most effective way so best possible long-term outcomes are achieved and the payment terms should allow the Third Sector to plan and develop for the future • <i>Concluding a Financial Partnership</i> - To ensure that all organisations are committed to make the conclusion process clear and well managed, in order to minimise the impact of service withdrawal • <i>Conflict Resolution</i> – A link to the need for Terms of Reference to deal with conflict resolution • <i>Partner Details</i> – Gwent PSB Partners contact details
4.2	The Third Sector Partnership Agreement for Gwent covering 2023-2028 has been taken to the Gwent strategic Wellbeing Assessment Group (GSWAG) for adjustment and amendment and these have been incorporated into the document for agreement at the Gwent PSB.
5	Next Steps
5.1	Once there is clarification around the local delivery structures, GAVO and TVA will compile appendices to the Governing document outlining the third sector’s agreed roles in each County.
5.2	GAVO and TVA will work with the third sector with partners to build or amend these structures in line with the Gwent PSB strategic aims and the Local Delivery Groups’

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	aims across each region with the view of the third sector in general being embedded throughout Wellbeing delivery.
5.3	GAVO and TVA will monitor changes to legislation that affects the Third Sector Partnership Agreement and will, in line with changes to governance and legislation, bring these to the Gwent PSB as an update with a view to make changes as required.
6	Recommendations to the PSB
6.1	The Gwent PSB is asked to agree the narrative of the Governance document (Appendix 1)
6.2	The Gwent PSB is asked to agree and support the next stage of the process which reviews the Third Sector structures in each County.
6.3	The Gwent PSB is asked after such review, to work and support the changes made to the structures for maximum Third Sector impact into not only the Gwent strategic aims but the County aims through the Local Delivery Groups
6.4	The Gwent PSB is asked, after the structures are in place, to agree through the Gwent PSB the additional appendices that sit behind the overarching Third Sector Partnership Agreement.

Draft date 28/02/2023

APPENDICES

Appendix 1 - Gwent Third Sector Partnership 2023 – 2028

Appendix 2 – Third Sector Scheme 2014

Consultees: Torfaen Voluntary Alliance

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