

Essex Compact

Glossary

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INTRODUCTION: This glossary aims to explain some of the words, phrases and acronyms used in the different codes and core text of the Essex Compact, where we think the meaning may not be common knowledge. We will update it from time to time as new text gets written in other parts of the Compact.

B.M.E.	“Black and Minority Ethnic” – black and/or minority groups based on race, colour, nationality or common culture
Contract	An agreement between two or more parties (individuals or organisations) to do something. May be very detailed or not at all, and is usually written down but not necessarily. Usually features commitments and benefits on both sides (for example, you work for me and I give you money)
C.R.B.	“Criminal Records Bureau” as in “C.R.B. check” – a procedure to check what if any criminal convictions a person has
C.V.S.	“Council for Voluntary Services”, a local voluntary organisation (district-based in Essex) that supports and speaks for (or helps organise a common voice for) voluntary organisations in that area. Some CVSs use other names such as “Voluntary Action X”
Full cost recovery	The principle that the payment received for doing a job should cover all the costs of the job, including a proportion of overheads such as the percentage of the Chief Executive’s pay that corresponds to the percentage of his/her time to be spent on the job
Grant aid (grant funding)	Financial support for a voluntary organisation from a statutory organisation based on the belief that the voluntary organisation’s work contributes to the statutory organisation’s aims. Always has some conditions attached, though rarely as many as in a procurement exercise and non-compliance with the conditions will normally not result in the money being claimed back, only in the grant not being renewed. Such a grant with conditions is still in law a contract.
Infrastructure	A framework for supporting something: for example, CVSs are infrastructure organisations for the rest of the local voluntary sector and road and rail networks in Wales are Welsh infrastructure
L.A.A.	“Local Area Agreement” – a broad agreement between a number of local organisations (through the Local Strategic Partnership) and central government to prioritise certain things, do certain things and achieve certain targets
L.S.P.	“Local Strategic Partnership” – a partnership of local organisations, statutory, voluntary and private sector

Mapping	Recording and analysing information about certain things across a wide area, which can be a geographical area (mapping free cash points in Colchester Borough) or an area of work or study (mapping staff with disability equality training in the directorates of Essex County Council)
Marginalised groups	Groups of people who have difficulty having their voice heard and are often ignored, belittled or treated as unimportant
Market analysis	Studying the range of possible providers of services, including the potential for providers that do not currently exist to develop, in order to consider options for satisfying a need or the suitability of options already developed
Overarching	Covering or relevant to a number of things – for example a common principle which can be applied to different situations
Proactive	Taking the initiative and not waiting for things to happen before reacting
Procurement	Buying goods and services. Covers the whole process from initial understanding of the need through advertising to finalising a contract
Public Engagement	Seeking to get the public, or some part of it, involved in influencing public decisions. This can be through consultation (asking people’s views when you have decided what the question is) but also through involving panels, interested organisations or user groups in shaping policy from the earliest stages, and though devolving power to people, for example through street meetings
S.L.A.	“Service Level Agreement”: originally applied to a kind of internal contract within different parts of the same organisation, but is now often used to describe an agreement about how grant-aid money should be spent
Social model of disability	Treating disability as the result of the failure of society to take the actions necessary to enable someone to live a full life – for example a failure to provide an induction loop for a room where a public meeting was held. Generally contrasted with the Medical Model – concentrating on the medical condition
Statutory sector	Public bodies like councils, health authorities, the police and so on
Sustainable	Something that can be kept going for a long time. Generally taken to mean also that it does not involve building up damage somewhere else – so sustainable transport will not make wasteful use of fossil fuels, and a sustainable society will not depend on building up resentments and divisions
Tendering	Putting in a bid for a contract
Third Sector	New term used to describe all organisations that are not in the statutory sector and are not private, for-profit organisations. Includes all voluntary and community organisations but also social enterprises

V.C.S.	“Voluntary and Community Sector”: organisations not for profit and not part of government, usually relying heavily (but not necessarily solely) on volunteers. “Community” is added here to stress that small organisations without a formal structure are included as well as the kind of voluntary organisation which has a constitution, a membership list, elections for offices and a bank account
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