

Third Sector Glossary

Source: A Strategy for Creating a Thriving Environment for the Voluntary and Community Sector on the Isle of Wight. April 2009

Back office functions	The internal and administrative functions of an organisation.
Capacity building	Building the potential for voluntary organisations to respond to the needs of the community they serve
Compact Implementation Group (CIG)	The CIG will be a forum for those managers and representatives who oversee the roll-out of the action plan that will deliver the voluntary sector strategy.
Compact Strategy Group	The CSG is the lead joint body with responsibility for making sure that the strategy is followed. The CSG is sponsored by the Island Strategic Partnership; its members are senior representatives of the partners in the strategy.
Compact way of working	Partners will treat each other on a day to day basis with trust, mutual understanding of priorities and needs; transparency, fairness and good communication. This will be supported by investment in governance and an effective Local Compact.
Commissioning	The process of identifying needs in the community and making arrangements to meet them with services. This often means that commissioners will procure goods and services.
Commissioning Prospectuses'	The Commissioning prospectus is an invitation to the voluntary and community sector to bid to deliver goods and services. Any bid won by a group is regarded as grant funding.
Community Asset Transfer Strategy	The IW Council will have a strategy for transferring the ownership of buildings and other assets to the sector where there is a proven benefit to the community by doing so.
Community empowerment	Helping members of a community to exercise their rights and powers as citizens in order to achieve their personal goals and those of the community.
Community development	Help for and by people in communities who will benefit from identifying their needs and subsequently to create change, exert more influence in the decisions which affect their lives. They work to improve the quality of their lives and communities.
Consortiums	An association or collaboration for some definite purpose. Organisations may join together to pool resources, skills and knowledge.
Council for Voluntary Service	An organisation that assists voluntary sector organisations with technical advice, information and training, to assist with the delivery of their services to a wider public. It also represents the views of the voluntary sector and campaigns on behalf of the sector locally, regionally and nationally.
Eco Island	The name of the Isle of Wight's Sustainable Community Strategy.
Engagement	Working together in a joint and collaborative way.
Employers Supported Volunteering Scheme	Employers make arrangements for staff to contribute their time and skills to local groups and communities in an organised way.
Funding	Resources are available to the voluntary sector in grant form and in return for undertaking pre-arranged tasks. This might be through contracts, service level agreements and grants. Funding may come from large organisations such as the lottery fund, or from local Councils.
Governance	The arrangements for democratic or legitimate oversight and management of a project, institution or strategy etc.
Grant Funding	Grant funding will increasingly be used for relatively short term or time limited projects.
Infrastructure	This covers; -buildings and their management, -back office functions, -workforce development, -skills, -information.

Island Infrastructure Group	An IWRCC group that maximises opportunities for investment in the Island's voluntary and community sector.
Island Strategic Partnership (ISP)	The main partnership on the Isle of Wight for the private, public and voluntary sectors; responsible for creating and implementing the Eco Island Sustainable Community Strategy.
Isle of Wight Council (IW Council)	The Island's top tier level of local government.
Isle of Wight NHS (IW NHS)	The Island's Primary Care Trust and NHS healthcare provider
Isle of Wight Rural Community Council (IWRCC)	Support the 1,500 or more voluntary and community organisations that work so hard for the benefit of the Island and its residents. It also directly supports communities themselves and has a strong focus on the concerns of rural communities.
Knowledge transfer	Passing skills from one organisation to another, including IT, marketing and training.
Local Compact	An agreement on the relationship and conduct of business between the voluntary and community sector and the Isle of Wight Council. An update will give an opportunity to other public sector organisations to join the compact
NCVO	The National Council for Voluntary Organisations is a national body that represents the voluntary sector.
Neighbourhood regeneration	Improving the quality of life of communities by using social and economic investment and development, as well as building the communities' capacity to develop and take a role in change.
Networks	The Voluntary Sector has established a number of forums or networks that will represent communicate and share the interests of the forums. I.e. the culture and heritage form.
Partnership Boards also known as KDPs	The ISP has four Partnership Boards that are responsible for delivering the Eco Island strategy on the ISPs behalf.
Procurement	The process for purchasing goods and services. Public procurement has many rules and procedures that act as a deterrent to small organisations.
Public sector	Public institutions that are funded through taxation i.e. The IW Council and the NHS.
Social enterprises	Not for profit organisations that reinvest their surplus income into non-commercial causes (social, cultural and environmental) or back into the enterprise.
Sustainable Community Strategy	A plan for an area that sets out how people and organisations will make their area and community a socially, environmentally and culturally sustainable and successful place.
Trustees	The people or institutions responsible for the governance and administration of a trust or non-commercial organisation governed as a trust.
Voluntary and community organisations	Value driven not for profit organisations that have non-commercial objectives. This can include social enterprises but also normally includes the many organisations that exist to promote or deliver benefits to local communities through voluntary not for profit activities.
VCO	See voluntary and community organisations above.
Voluntary Sector Cabinet	A leadership body elected by the Island's voluntary and community organisations, appointed to represent the sector ion its dealing with the wider public sector and community.
Volunteer Centre	See Council for Voluntary Service above.
Volunteering	Giving time and the resources needed to take part in activities that benefit the community.
Work shadowing	An opportunity for people from different organisations and backgrounds to experience the role of someone from another organisation or background.