Draft Terms of Reference
Third and Public Sector Partnership Group

Definitions
'The third sector' is a term used to describe the range of organisations that are neither public sector nor private sector. It includes voluntary and community organisations (both registered charities and other organisations such as associations, self-help groups and community groups), social enterprises, mutuals and co-operatives.

'The public sector' is a term used to describe the part of the economy concerned with providing various government services. The public sector includes such services as the care of public roads, public education, social care services, police, public transit and health services.

Purpose
Warwickshire's Third and Public Sector Partnership Group (TPSPG) exists to:

- Build better relationships between the public and third sectors across the County for the benefit of the people of Warwickshire

- Create a voice for the third sector and the communities of interest they support

- Ensure the third sector is an active partner in the strategic development of services that address the changing needs of the community

Role
The role of Warwickshire's Third and Public Sector Partnership Group (TPSPG) is to:

- Work in partnership to identify needs and engage the third sector in the development of Strategic Planning

- Facilitate a constructive working relationship and dialogue between the third sector and commissioners/providers of public, health and social care services.

- Work towards a consistent approach when developing the role and capacity of the third sector in the delivery of public, health and social care services.

- Enable the public sector to develop its approach to commissioning services including those from the third sector.

- Identify and help develop "new ways of working" between the public and third sectors.

- Develop a constructive working relationship with strategic partnerships across Warwickshire to influence and inform decision making.

- Commit to and champion the Warwickshire Compact principles.

- Comment on strategic policy and provide guidance and advice that helps to communicate a clear and timely picture of the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Membership
Membership should be equal in number between public and third sector representatives

All representatives will serve an initial term of 18 months from the date of the first meeting

Third sector representatives will need to have enough time to come to a small number of meetings, but also to feed back to the sector. They will be backed up by a network of third sector contacts that will help the communication to happen.

Any representative who fails to attend more than two meetings in a year will be invited to step down from the group.

12 third sector representatives have been nominated and elected by a task and finish group as follows:

[needs populating with final list]

12 public sector seats are allocated as follows:

[needs populating with final list]

Meetings
It is intended that the TPSPG meets at least 4 times per annum, and that it will focus on bringing about stronger working relations and opportunities across the sectors.

Task and Finish Groups
The TPSPG may need to establish Task and Finish Groups to tackle or develop particular issues. Such groups will be task focused and time limited, reflecting the principle of equal membership, and provide the opportunity to bring in wider or specific expertise from both sectors.

Conflicts of Interest
All conflicts of interest should be clearly recorded at the beginning of any meeting held.

As a meeting of key representatives from commissioners and deliverers of contracts it is highly likely that conflicts of interest will arise on a regular basis. It is natural for conflicts of interest to occur and they can rarely be avoided. It is important that all conflicts of interest are recognised, recorded and that members clearly represent the views and opinions of their nominating body rather than any personal agenda.

ll representatives around the table will be responsible for communicating with their networks. WCC will provide administration and organisational support to the TPSPG as needed.