

Annex 27 - Principles and best practice of partnership working

Principles and best practice of partnership working

1. To deliver partnership working successfully it is important to develop good formal and informal working relations that build trust and share responsibility, whilst respecting difference. To facilitate this, all parties commit to adopt the following principles in their dealings with each other:

- building trust and a mutual respect for each other's roles and responsibilities;
- openness, honesty and transparency in communications;
- top level commitment;
- a positive and constructive approach;
- commitment to work with and learn from each other;
- early discussion of emerging issues and maintaining dialogue on policy and priorities;
- commitment to ensuring high quality outcomes;
- where appropriate, confidentiality and agreed external positions;
- making the best use of resources;
- ensuring a "no surprise" culture.

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