

## Community Contracts Pilots Programme – An Evaluation

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Community Contracts are voluntary agreements between local people and town halls that will allow residents to set minimum standards, bargain with councils for extra services and put in place checks on quality. Community Contracts are intended to give residents and communities the opportunity to agree deals and written guarantees with their council on a wide range of service standards from tackling drug dealing on estates, bin collection, clearing graffiti and street cleaning.

The Centre for Census and Survey Research and the Institute for Political and Economic Governance at the University of Manchester are conducting an evaluation of the Community Contracts pilots programme on behalf of the Department of Communities and Local Government.

**Methodology:** a review and analysis of locally held quantitative data; six selected in-depth case studies (each of which will include interviews with stakeholders, a residents focus group and targeted 'vox pop' interviews with residents). In addition, we will host a practitioner event to test our evaluation findings.

**Deliverables:** a workshop with practitioners; a final report and four good practice case studies.

The evaluation uses a clear analytical framework that delivers outputs that go beyond the descriptive, and that will be able to answer questions about success factors contributing to effectiveness, transferable good practice, and to make some overall assessment of effectiveness of Community Contracts across very different approaches, communities and neighbourhoods.

The research brings together a team of experts in local governance, public services, neighbourhood working and community engagement.

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