

What is a residents' compact?

A residents' compact is an agreement between representatives of a block or estate and the Kensington and Chelsea Tenant Management Organisation (KCTMO) which sets out how residents will be involved in decisions affecting their homes.

A residents' compact group is a means of influencing decision making, but without the formalities. For example, there is no requirement for a committee and meetings are only held occasionally when issues arise. Only KCTMO tenants, leaseholders (not sub-lessees) - and in some cases freeholders - are eligible to become resident representatives of their block or estate.

Representatives can participate in estate inspections and attend and vote at their local area review board (ARB) meetings. They may also put forward proposals to their ARB for improvement projects for their block or estate. Compacts are recognised in the same way as resident associations.

What are the benefits of being a compact representative?

The most important benefit is knowing that you will be helping to make a difference to where you live by bringing issues to the attention of the KCTMO; you can also influence decisions taken about your block or estate. Other benefits include:

- full voting rights at your ARB
- making proposals for improvements to your block or estate
- learning more about the KCTMO and residents' priorities
- accessing other engagement and training opportunities, including training for representatives of compacts
- developing new skills
- being able to enhance your CV and improve your chances of finding work if you are a job seeker.

What qualities and skills do I need?

For compacts to be effective there is an expectation that representatives possess certain qualities and skills, such as:

- good interpersonal skills
 - an ability to work constructively and co-operatively with fellow representatives and with KCTMO
 - a willingness to learn about the local area and the needs of other KCTMO residents
 - an ability to use one's own experience in an objective way
 - an ability to adhere to KCTMO's code of conduct
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