

Stakeholder Bulletin No.1 Mar 06

Welcome to the first issue of the North Somerset Partnership (NSP) Stakeholder Bulletin. We hope you will find this interesting and useful. Our aim is to keep you informed about the work of the NSP and its associated delivery partnerships.

What is the North Somerset Partnership?

- It is North Somerset's Local Strategic Partnership.
- It brings together public agencies, the business sector and a wide range of voluntary and community interests into a strategic 'umbrella' partnership.
- It works to improve the quality of life for people living in, working in or visiting North Somerset.
- It has prepared the Community Strategy, a 20-year framework for coordinated action, bringing together the shared priorities of local communities, organisations, groups and networks.
- Under the nine themes of the Community Strategy it will focus the actions and resources of partners to improve local services and facilities.

The Community Strategy themes are:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
| • Communities & People | • Health & Well Being |
| • Community Safety | • Housing |
| • Culture, Leisure & Recreation | • Learning & Skills |
| • Economy & Employment | • Transport |
| • Environment | |

JANUARY NSP BOARD MEETING –What happened?

Bob Wayne, North Somerset Initiative was re-elected as Chair and Graham Turner, North Somerset Council was re-elected as Vice Chair.

The Board viewed a presentation by the Avon, Wilts and Glos Strategic Health Authority (SHA) on the proposed NHS restructuring of Primary Care Trust (PCT) and SHA boundaries. The Board discussed the issues for North Somerset and has contributed to the consultation by writing to outline their views.

The NSP has also responded to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) consultation on *Local Strategic Partnerships - Shaping their Future*.

~~~~~

## What else is the NSP working on?

### **Safer Stronger Communities Fund - Neighbourhood Element/ Cleaner Safer Greener Fund.**

North Somerset has been awarded funding under these initiatives to be channelled towards improving the quality of life for people in South Ward, Weston-super-Mare ensuring that service providers are more responsive to neighbourhood needs. The Cleaner, Safer, Greener funding allocation is mostly capital funding and will be used to support improvement in the external environment, creating cleaner, safer and greener public spaces.

The North Somerset Partnership is undertaking the implementation of this funding programme.

### **Local Area Agreements**

Local Area Agreements (LAA) are 3-year agreements negotiated between a local area, in our case the whole of North Somerset, and the Government. They are designed to help local partner agencies to work together more effectively to improve quality of life for local communities. The North Somerset Partnership is expected to lead negotiations around a range of outcomes, which support the implementation of the Community Strategy, under 4 blocks:

- Children & Young People
- Economic Development & Enterprise
- Healthier Communities and Older People
- Safer and Stronger Communities

Other issues to be addressed across all the blocks include poverty, culture, sustainability & equality. The LAA will be in place from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007.

~~~~~

Delivery Partnership Updates

Communities & People

The Community Development/ Healthy Living Task group from the Single Regeneration Budget scheme are to form the core of the Communities & People Delivery Partnership and met for the first time in their new role on 7 February.

Community Safety

The Community Safety Partnership is a statutory partnership and has been running for several years. It is working on a number of actions. Among these

are the Streetsafe Bus, a pilot project, launched in December 2005. This project provides a triage bus in the town centre on Friday & Saturday nights staffed by paramedics, police and volunteers to deal with those involved in incidents in the area. Work is continuing on issues arising from houses of multiple occupation (HMO's) and an accreditation scheme is being developed to raise standards of HMO's.

Culture, Leisure & Recreation

The NSP Board Champions met with Catherine Devenish, a representative of Arts Council - South West region, in

January. The Partnership is still developing, but is likely to be involved in the development of the Active Lifestyles Strategy.

Economy & Employment

This Partnership held the Economic Development & Regeneration Summit on 23 February, to encourage commitment and sign up to Economic Development & Regeneration Strategy for North Somerset. For more information see below.

Environment

This delivery group has been meeting regularly and will be working on reduction of CO2 emissions and climate change initiatives particularly during this year. A showcase event is being held in July - details in diary section below.

Health & Wellbeing

A Health Inequalities conference was held in September 2005. Action plans based on the outcomes are being prepared.

Housing

The Council housing stock transfer went ahead in February. Other work

includes looking at Gypsy & Traveller Needs and BME scoping study. This partnership is working with the Community Safety partnership to address the issues of low quality & poorly managed HMO's.

Learning & Skills

The Lifelong Learning Challenge Partnership is being reformed into the Learning & Skills partnership under the chairmanship of Dr Paul Phillips, Principal of Weston College.

4 Community learning networks have been set up:

- Multi-Cultural Learning Forum
- Inclusive Learning Forum
- Four Estates Learning Network
- Worle/Milton Community Learning Network.

Transport

This forum has responded to the Greater Bristol Strategic Transport Study on behalf of NSP and NS Initiative. The programme of meetings for the year ahead has been agreed.



WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING?

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT EVENT - 22nd February

In readiness for the work mentioned above, an event in February provided an opportunity for the NSP Board to learn about LAAs and what will be involved in developing the North Somerset agreement.

Presentations provided an overview of where LAAs have come from, experiences from elsewhere and the future role for LSPs, and how the NSP will need to work with Government, via the Government Office South West.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND REGENERATION SUMMIT - 23rd February

Positive feedback has been received from those who attended this event to consider the draft NSP Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy. The draft action plans are now being updated to include the suggested actions and offers of support

that were received during and after the event from a variety of agencies and businesses.

Further discussions will take place, with the final version of the Strategy being brought to the NSP Board later this year.

For information about the event and further work please contact Chris Worthington - chris.worthington@n-somerset.gov.uk, tel: 01934 634964

****NSP STAKEHOLDER EVENT - REPORTS NOW AVAILABLE****

Paper copies of the Report on this event are now available. To request a copy please contact Valerie Kelly, Partnership Support Officer on 01275 884379.

The Report will shortly be available on the North Somerset Partnership website www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk.

WHAT'S COMING UP? DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

ENVIRONMENT SHOWCASE EVENT - 8 JULY 2006

Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare

This event is being held to promote and make accessible to businesses, communities and individuals emerging technologies and techniques to reduce CO2.

The event will include the following:

- A keynote speaker to launch the event
- Exhibitions
- Presentations & Workshops - presented by local, regional and national organisations. Inspiring and illuminating topics to provoke thinking and initiative to take action.
- Other side events promoting local food and culture

If you would like any further information on items mentioned in the Bulletin, or have any comments please contact:

Lorraine Bush - Partnership Development Officer

Tel: 01934 634888

Valerie Kelly - Partnerships Support Officer

Tel: 01275 884379

Or email:

northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk

Next issue due June 2006