

## **Stakeholder Bulletin No.2 Jun/Jul 06**

Welcome to 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.

### **Sustainable Community Strategy Consultations**

We have had a great time taking our consultation activities to various events around the area. By the time the consultation is finished we will have attended flower shows, summer fetes, Sports Day, Rag days, the North Somerset Show, the Change one Thing event and our own events.

We have spoken to lots of people, we have had hundreds of ideas 'planted' in our flower pots, we have received fantastic photos from the Community Snapshot volunteers and received some great artwork from pupils at The Larches as well as having some brilliant interviews with young people in the Diary Room.

All this information is now being collated and will be fed into the process of writing the new Sustainable Community Strategy. The comments are also being passed on to the delivery partnerships, relevant partners and officers to be used to inform future action plans.

Don't forget, you too can have your say by completing the slip in the July edition of North Somerset Life and returning it to us, or you can always take part on-line. An online questionnaire will be available on the North Somerset Council website [www.n-somerset.gov.uk](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk) from next week (31 July).

We look forward to hearing from you.

As a major part of the North Somerset Partnership's work over the next year will be the development and implementation North Somerset's Local Area Agreement (LAA) this Bulletin includes more detailed information about this important area of work.

Please note that the Delivery Partnership updates will be included in the next Bulletin in the Autumn.

## LOCAL AREA AGREEMENTS

Since the beginning of 2006 considerable work has been undertaken in developing North Somerset's Local Area Agreement.

Local Area Agreements (LAA) are a new form of agreement between central government and local areas. The three year agreement is made between central government, represented by the regional government office (locally the Government Office for the South West), local authorities and the local strategic partnership (in our case the North Somerset Partnership). LAA's are intended to support priorities within the developing Community Strategy and its longer-term vision.

LAA's are based around 4 policy areas called 'blocks'

1. Children and young people
2. Economic development and enterprise
3. Healthier communities and older people
4. Safer and stronger communities

Each block is made up of outcomes the local area will focus on, together with performance indicators that measure the progress in achieving the outcomes and targets to be reached in the future.

In early April the NSP Board agreed to set up a sub group to oversee the development of the LAA. The sub group has

- Agreed the theme for the LAA as 'improving our communities'
- Set up four theme task groups, based on the four LAA blocks that will take forward the detailed development of the outcomes within the LAA.
- Identified an initial list of outcomes and priorities for the LAA.

As well as the four theme block areas, five cross cutting issues need to be incorporated through the entire LAA.

They are:

- Transport
- Housing
- Equality & Diversity
- Sustainability
- Rural Proofing

The outcome areas under consideration include:

**Children and young people:**

- Reducing the travel to school in cars
- Reducing teenage pregnancy
- Reducing obesity through healthy schools and increasing consumption of fruit and vegetables
- Reducing the number of young people using drugs
- Increasing the number of young people using sports, leisure and cultural services

**Economic Development and Enterprise**

- Reducing those on incapacity benefit
- Increasing the rate of economic activity
- Increasing employment rates of vulnerable groups/BME groups
- Increasing business survival rates and providing assistance to small businesses
- Facilitating hi-tech businesses and R&D investment

**Healthier communities and older people**

- Reducing obesity
- Reducing smoking
- Promoting physical activity and healthy eating
- Increasing access to services for older people
- Reducing emergency hospital admissions, winter deaths and falls
- Increasing older people supported to live at home
- Increasing the number of older people living in decent homes

**Safer and stronger communities**

- Reducing overall crime
- Reducing anti-social behaviour
- Increasing community cohesion, resident satisfaction with their area and those engaged in volunteering
- Increasing the capacity of the voluntary and community sector
- Increasing the satisfaction of residents in the most deprived neighbourhoods

The NSP LAA Group will be meeting again at the end of July to further consider the list of outcomes the LAA will pursue and will look at the way in which the cross cutting issues can be embedded into the LAA.

Community and Voluntary sector groups and organisations have had the opportunity to feed into this process through events held by Government Office for the South

West and Voluntary Action North Somerset during June and July, although this will be ongoing as the LAA develops.

For more information about LAAs please contact Mike Wiltshire on email:  
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**Safer Stronger Communities Fund - Neighbourhood Element/Cleaner Safer Greener Fund**

A Neighbourhood Manager has been appointed to work in South Ward, Weston-super-Mare under the Safer Stronger Communities Fund. Cathy Williams will be in post from 7 July. Watch this space for further news.

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**WHAT'S COMING UP - DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Don't forget the Sustainable Community Strategy Consultations:**

28/29 July - Portishead Flower Show

Join in the fun; see the flowers and 'plant your ideas' with us

Come along and share your ideas for your area.

Do you have any events that other groups might like to know about?

Let us know and we will add them into the diary note.

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

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