



Stakeholder Bulletin No.3 Autumn 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.

The North Somerset Partnership is the local strategic partnership for the area. It brings together senior representatives from public, private and voluntary and community groups. They work together to improve quality of life for everyone who lives or works in North Somerset.

Improving our Communities – North Somerset Partnership Annual Event

When: Thursday 23 November 2006, 9.30am-1.00pm

Where: Winter Gardens, Weston super Mare

See Diary Dates below for further information.

Board Meetings – July & October 2006

Strategic Health Authority (SHA) Consultation - Change to boundaries of SHA's

As a result of successful lobbying of the Secretary of State it has been agreed that the NS PCT boundary will remain identical to that of the North Somerset Council Administrative boundary.

Local Area Agreement (LAA)

The Board has received regular updates on the progress of the LAA. More information can be found below.

Quality of Life Indicators

A set of quality of life indicators was adopted; these will be reviewed annually. The Communities & People Delivery Partnership has identified a potential indicator to measure the development of the community and voluntary sector to be added to initial list.

Safer Stronger Communities Fund

The Board has received regular updates on the progress of the Neighbourhood Management programme. Further information can be found below.

Draft Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy

The draft Strategy was discussed. The final strategy, when approved, will be a framework for future policies, programmes and actions to promote economic development and regeneration in North Somerset.

The Strategy is in two parts. The first has a broad focus, setting out the key economic issues for North Somerset and the wider strategic context for development. Seven strategic aims are identified with a strong focus on Transport. The second part consists of outline action plans to support the implementation of the strategy.

The action plans highlight the various public, private and voluntary sector partners who will be involved in achieving the strategy aims. Action plans will be monitored and reviewed on an annual basis.

Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)

A sub-group has been set up to oversee development of the SCS. Although it had been planned to have the new strategy ready for adoption by the end of the year this will now be mid-2007 due to the delay in publishing of government guidance.

Notes from NSP Board meetings can be found on the Partnership's website at www.northsomersetpartnership.org.uk

~~~~~

### **What else has been happening?**

#### **Local Area Agreement**

As reported in the last bulletin the board set up a sub-group to oversee the development of the LAA. This sub-group identified 'Improving our Communities' as the overarching aim for the North Somerset LAA. It also identified the Community Strategy priority objectives as the key areas of focus for the LAA. A series of LAA working groups met during the summer and autumn to develop the specific outcomes and performance indicators to be included in the LAA.

The formal draft of the LAA was submitted to GOSW on 29 September and feedback received in mid-October. The next step in the process is to produce a revised Draft LAA which incorporates feedback from GOSW, the results of sustainability assessments the NSP undertook and the various equality and diversity issues that have been highlighted from the equality impact assessments. This revised draft will be reviewed by the NSP sub group at the end of November with a final draft presented to the NSP Board on the 19 December.

If you would like any further information about the LAA then please contact Mike Wiltshire at [michael.wiltshire@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:michael.wiltshire@n-somerset.gov.uk) or Rhiannon Day at [rhiannon.day@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:rhiannon.day@n-somerset.gov.uk) .

### **Safer Stronger Communities Fund**

A survey of views covering all 4,400 households across South Ward, Weston-super-Mare has been undertaken. More than 700 responses (about 16%) have been received to date. This work will be used to set baselines and targets for indicators and outcomes in the LAA as well as developing actions and projects for the Neighbourhood Management programme.

A successful introductory meeting of the Neighbourhood Management Board took place on 28 September where Chris Allen, the Neighbourhood Renewal Advisor took them through an overview of how neighbourhood management programmes work. The Board structure has yet to be formally agreed but there are a large number of residents keen to be involved and working in partnership with agencies to tackle the issues. The Board met again in October and agreed a number of proposals including the development of an interim work plan for the team, recruitment processes for the permanent team and the development of a 'community chest' type small grants programme.

Following the resignation of the Neighbourhood Manager an interim Neighbourhood Management team has been appointed until December, based at the For All Healthy Living Centre. The team consists of Di Robinson, acting Neighbourhood Manager from Gloucester Neighbourhood Management Partnership, Mark Gillespie, Development Manager from Government Office South West, Christine Ward from NSC working on community engagement and David Davis, NSC, providing support on data collection and monitoring. Recruitment for a permanent neighbourhood manager and team is ongoing and posts will be advertised in the national and local press and specialist publications shortly.



### **DELIVERY PARTNERSHIP UPDATES**

**Communities & People** - This group meets quarterly and is in the process of planning a 3-year work programme. Two sub-groups have been established; one to map community structures & support, and the other to look at quality of life indicators that can be

used to measure development in the community & voluntary sector.

Fay McIntyre has recently been appointed as Parish Plan Officer to work with parishes in North Somerset to support development of their local action plans. Fay can be contacted on 01275 884327 or [fay.mcintyre@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:fay.mcintyre@n-somerset.gov.uk)

### **Community Safety**

The work plan is mainly on target. Positive progress has been made against the crime reduction target for 2005/06 with a 13.1% reduction in all assaults compared to 2004/05. There has also been a recorded drop in the 'fear of crime', which is good news for the area. Partnership working is having a major impact - addressing issues such as licensing and houses of multiple occupation.

### **Culture, Leisure & Recreation**

Two key areas of work have been identified - Healthy Active Lifestyles Strategy and production of a Cultural Strategy. The Healthy & Active Lifestyles Strategy is being developed. An initial stakeholder event has been held, and also a follow-up meeting. A review of partnership development has begun.

### **Economy & Employment**

A successful event to launch the Social Economy Audit Report was held at the Curzon Cinema, Clevedon during September. The event also provided an opportunity for those interested in, or part of, the social economy to put forward their ideas for overcoming practical barriers to further developing the social economy in North Somerset.

For further information contact Jane Vivian at [jane.vivian@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:jane.vivian@n-somerset.gov.uk)

### **Environment**

A successful event, Change 1 Thing, was held in July. It was well attended, interesting and informative with a wide range of activities and useful

information on offer. The Partnership will now look to focus on Climate Change and work towards setting up a formal Climate Change Partnership that can attract funding to promote action on reducing CO2 emissions. Actions on Biodiversity and environmental crime will be included in the plans.

### **Health & Wellbeing**

The implementation of the Tackling Health Inequalities action plan has made good progress. A review has identified some areas still to be addressed.

Work has also taken place on the health and well-being contribution to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) with targets relating to older people and health and well being having been identified.

### **Housing**

This Forum has contributed to reviewing a two-year work plan on strategic housing issues, and potential Local Area Agreement housing targets. Lynette Nigh has stepped down as Chair of the Strategic Housing Forum and Clive Bodley appointed. Clive is Chief Executive of North Somerset Housing and will represent the Forum on the North Somerset Partnership Board.

A Housing Strategy Event is being held on 28 November, see Diary Dates below for further information.

### **Learning & Skills**

Work is continuing to develop further post-16 opportunities for Weston

students. A bid to develop a Skills Centre for Industry, Business & Schools in Nailsea has been successful. A business breakfast to launch the Train to Gain programme was held on October 4. The programme will offer free and subsidised training to employers in Somerset and North Somerset.

**Transport**

The North Somerset Transport Symposium is established and functioning well. A symposium was held on 7 July focussing on the relevance of 'Smarter Choices' in transport provision. A symposium in October will look at the emerging strategic spatial plan for the sub region.

**Children & Young People**

As a result of the Every Child Matters Framework a Shadow Children's Trust Management Board has been set up. The Shadow Board was adopted as a new delivery partnership at the July NSP Board meeting. The main priorities for the Shadow Board are:

- Reduction in number of teenage conceptions
- Improve placement stability for looked after children
- Academic achievement of looked after children
- Further development of 14-19 learning & employment opportunities
- Affordable housing for young people



**DIARY DATES:**

**Improving our Communities - Partnership Annual Event**

**When:** 23 November 2006

**Where:** Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare

At the event there will be various activities. These will include:

- Presentations on partnership work programmes
- Activities to encourage delegates to consider key outcomes from the Sustainable Community Strategy consultation programme that has been carried out recently
- Delivery Partnership stands demonstrating progress against implementing the actions within the Community Strategy and future work. An opportunity to discuss, with partnership representatives, key issues and opportunities for further involvement

For further details please contact Lorraine Bush on 01934 634888 or email [northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk)

More over the page .....

..... **More Diary Dates:**

**Play Strategy Consultation Events**

North Somerset Council, with North Somerset Children's Fund and the Play Forum are holding a number of consultation events to help prepare a Play Strategy which will enable access to funding under the Big Lottery's 'Children's Play' initiative.

You are invited to **Have Your Say About Play** in North Somerset  
- with free play activities for children

**Saturday 18 November** - Four Oaks Professional Development Centre, Silver Street, Nailsea

**Saturday 25 November** - Winscombe Community Centre, Sandford Road, Winscombe

**Saturday 2 December** - Ashcombe Children's Centre, Earlham Grove, Weston-super-Mare

Drop in between 12.30 and 3.30 to have fun and talk to us about play - what is working well and where there are opportunities to improve.

Activities for children and families will be running during the afternoon.

If you have any queries please call

Elisabeth Roberts, Children and Young People's Services, North Somerset Council

Tel: 01275 884 336

Email: [elisabeth.roberts@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:elisabeth.roberts@n-somerset.gov.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

**Housing in North Somerset - Meeting the Challenge**

**Tuesday 28 November - 9.30am-3.30pm**

**Winter Gardens, Weston-super-Mare**

**Aims:**

- To have a better understanding of the achievements of the Housing Strategy so far and consider key challenges ahead
- To raise awareness of housing issues and allow those attending to consider solutions and contribute to the development of the new Homelessness Strategy and the review of the North Somerset Housing Strategy
- Strengthen Partnership working in meeting housing needs of the community.

For further details please contact:

Kay Topazio, Housing Strategy & Policy Manager, North Somerset Council

Tel: 01275 888350 or email: [kay.topazio@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:kay.topazio@n-somerset.gov.uk)

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

Valerie Kelly - Partnerships Support Officer      Tel: 01275 884379

Or email: [northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:northsomersetpartnership@n-somerset.gov.uk)