

Gloucester Partnership Update

March 2008

Welcome to the first edition of the re-launched Gloucester Partnership Update. The purpose of this bi-monthly newsletter is to provide partners with relevant information on what's happening in the Partnership, partner news, knowledge and training.

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Gloucester Partnership Conference

'Successful Launch of the Sustainable Community Strategy for Gloucester 2008 – 2018'

Over 100 people attended the recent Partnership Conference at the Guildhall to hear Paul James (Gloucester City Council) and Val O'Connor (Coney Hill Neighbourhood Project) explain the ten-year vision for Gloucester and to reflect on what has already been achieved. Workshops covering all the themes of the strategy were well attended and offered delegates the chance to discuss the issues involved in forming action plans for the future. Feedback on the event has been encouraging and will provide help when planning future conferences. The conference report is now available and can be found by clicking here. If you would like to sign up to the Strategy but have not already done so, the sign-up form is available at the end of the Conference Report. To access further information on the conference, i.e. workshop notes and copies of presentations, please visit the Gloucester Partnership website at www.gloucesterpartnership.org.uk/commStrategy.asp



"Paul James and Val O'Connor launching the new Sustainable Community Strategy"

Knowledge

"Keeping you informed of the latest developments in partnership working and creating sustainable communities."

The Executive of the Gloucester Partnership recently received a briefing on recent government legislation and guidance affecting local strategic partnerships. The briefing can be downloaded from the Gloucester Partnership website by clicking here www.gloucesterpartnership.org.uk/pressReleases.asp.

CLES have recently produced four new briefings. Go to the Gloucester Partnership website to download the briefings: www.gloucesterpartnership.org.uk/Cles.asp

- The links between transport investment and economic growth
- What is the role of the new performance framework in promoting cohesive communities?
- 'Good work' in the knowledge economy: evidence from two studies
- The Working Neighbourhoods Fund, Neighbourhood Renewal and the third sector: The implications of the focus on worklessness

EXECUTIVE AND THEMATIC GROUP UPDATES

Executive (www.gloucesterpartnership.org.uk/Minutes.asp)

- Decided that Aim 4 of the Sustainable Community Strategy should be delivered through a small Economic Development Coordination Group. City Employment Plan and Westgate Priority Action Group would feed into this.
- Adopted a risk management register and updated handbook following the restructure of the Partnership.
- Will be deciding on the Partnership budget for 2008/9 at their next meeting.

Stronger Communities Group

- Held its first meeting as the 'Stronger' communities group in February.
- The meeting began to look at developing action plans for the 'stronger' outcomes in the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- The group decided they needed to develop a better understanding of the outcomes and how they are already contributing to them.

Natural and Built Environment Group

- This group is still being developed and is likely to hold its first meeting in the next couple of months.
- If you would like to be notified of the first meeting, please contact Jenny Hall, 01452 396983, jenny.hall@gloucester.gov.uk

Proofing and Reference Group

- This new group held its first meeting in February.
- Partners were positive about the role this group could play and discussed the way in which it would work.
- The group would like to pilot the proofing process and are trying to identify one thematic group/piece of work who they could work with.

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Paul Mathurin – Gloucester Community and Voluntary Sector Forum

Paul, who was born in St Lucia in the Eastern Caribbean, has spent the majority of his life in London and had a varied career including a senior Race Equality post in the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham. Paul, who has lived in the South West since 1990, is one of the elected voluntary and community sector representatives on the Gloucester Partnership (currently the only elected BME rep) and was Deputy Chair of the partnership until 2007. He considers it his duty to ensure that the voices, views, needs and aspirations of the sector are properly represented and in order to do this properly, he is fully engaged in consultation and dialogue with the members of the various communities in Gloucester. Paul stresses that he remains passionate and fully committed to the concept and principles of partnership working to benefit the areas in which he works. He brings his extensive knowledge, experience and expertise from working in the field of Race Equality and Relations to his role as BME representative. He also serves on the Board of Directors of the African Caribbean Assoc. and this, together with his role as a parent of children still in full time education, enables him to keep a close track on developments in the field of education, particularly on what is happening with children from the various BME communities in Gloucester. Paul has also recently re-engaged with the Gloucester City Race Equality Forum and the Glos Race Equality Council and this, he says, will enable him to make further contributions to the vital work they do and also make him a better and more effective community rep on the Gloucester Partnership.

Don't have internet access?

If you don't have access to the internet then please contact us and we will be able to send you hard copies of any further information you require.

Contact:
Mary Little,
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Dates for Your Diary

Below is a calendar of upcoming meetings and events. If you would like more information on a meeting or event please contact Mary Little, contact details below (unless contact details are given).

Month	Timing	Description	Location
March Fri 14 th Mon 17 th	9.15am	Gloucester Partnership Executive Meeting Accessing Funding from the Learning and Skills Council (contact kate@savage-europe.org.uk)	Oxstalls Tennis Centre Bristol
Tues 18 th	8.00pm	Question Time with City Centre Community Partnership's Three Local Councillors	Fountain Inn, Westgate Street
Tues 25 th	6.30pm	Four Gates Working Group	North Warehouse
April Mon 14 th	11.00am	Stronger Communities Group	Quedgeley Community Centre
Tues 22 nd	1.00pm – 4.00pm	Westgate PAG Quarterly Meeting	North Warehouse, Gloucester City Council
Tues 22 nd	6.30pm	Four Gates Working Group	North Warehouse, Gloucester City Council
Wed 30 th - 3 rd May	Four day event	The Future of the City (GHURC) Contact Martin Wallace 01452 782995	Blackfriars Priory

Training

The Gloucester Partnership is a member of the Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES) and as part of our membership we receive a number of free places on their training courses. A full training brochure can be found on their website (www.cles.org.uk/events). If you are interested in attending a course that would benefit you and the Partnership, please contact Jenny Hall, 01452 396983, jenny.hall@gloucester.gov.uk.

- CLES Summer School 2008 – 23-24th June 2008, Manchester 'Shaping Fairer Places for the Future'
- How to engage the community – 28th April, Manchester
- Successfully evaluating programmes and projects – 30th April 2008, Manchester

Partnership Working at the County Level

The Gloucestershire Conference is currently developing a new local area agreement, setting out how partners will work together to achieve specific outcomes for Gloucestershire. For more information go to: <http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=12844>

Contact Us!

We would like to hear about any news or events from your organisation that we can include in the next edition of Gloucester Partnership Update. Please contact Mary using the details below by Friday 2nd May 2008. We are also keen to hear any comments you have about this newsletter:

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