

Gloucester Partnership Update

May 2008

Welcome to the second edition of the Gloucester Partnership Update providing the latest information on what's happening in the Partnership, partner news, knowledge and training.

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LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK – CORE STRATEGY

Gloucester City Council formally agreed at a meeting of Full Council on March 13th 2008 to prepare a joint Core Strategy with Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Borough Councils. All three authorities have now formally agreed to proceed with a joint Core Strategy and a timetable will shortly be prepared. Further information will be made available as soon as possible. The Local Development Framework is an important planning document that links closely with the Sustainable Community Strategy.



UP FOR THE CHALLENGE IN THE HEART OF THE CITY

As part of the ongoing regeneration of the heart of Gloucester's city centre, Westgate Community Trust kicked off their local fundraising campaign for the brand new FourGates Centre, due to open in 2010.

The event was well attended by community service providers, who had set up information points for the public. Building architects Quattro Design, provided a multimedia display of the brand new building design. Local dignitaries Paul James, Leader of the Council and Parmjit Dhanda, MP for Gloucester gave key note speeches which included Parmjit Dhanda's message on *"What does regeneration mean?"*

Here is some of what Parmjit had to say:

"Regeneration isn't just about glass, steel, bricks & mortar. It's about the fabric of our communities. It's about support from the cradle to the grave and to have a centre here in the heart of the city, with a focus on giving youngsters the best start in life, nursery provision, GP provision, support, day centres, cafeterias, everything for older people in the city as well. I think it's a really, really strong signal of intent".



"Parmjit Dhanda delivers his keynote speech"

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, 01452 396983

EXECUTIVE AND THEMATIC GROUP UPDATES

Executive

- At their last meeting the Executive took part in a workshop to clarify their role in delivering the Sustainable Community Strategy. Executive members are keen to find out how the thematic group action plans are developing and get involved with monitoring and managing performance.
- To enable the Executive to fulfil this function a performance reporting and management system is being developed.
- The Executive agreed the Gloucester Partnership's budget for 2008/9. A number of partners contributed funding towards the pooled budget including Gloucester City Council, Gloucestershire PCT, Learning and Skills Council, Gloucester City Homes and Gloucestershire Constabulary. The pooled budget supports the running of the Partnership including employing an administrative officer, running two conferences per year, delivering training for partners, supporting the engagement of the voluntary and community sector in the Partnership and supporting the Partnership structures.

(Stronger) Communities Group

- The group have recently completed a mapping exercise to find out how each partner is already working towards the outcomes on community cohesion, community engagement and improving deprived communities. The mapping showed that all partners are contributing towards this agenda. This work will now inform the action plan.
- The group is working towards 'stronger' outcomes from the Strategy, however there is some debate over what to call the group (hence the brackets round stronger). If anyone has any alternative suggestions please let us know by 23rd June 2008.

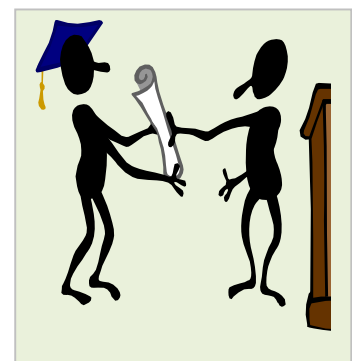
Healthy City Partnership

- The Partnership has developed its action plan to deliver outcomes around health improvement, and supporting older people and people with special needs. Some of the actions include health projects with homeless people, health walks, supporting the Westgate Health Action Group and delivering a Health Trainers pilot.
- The Healthy City Partnership also doubles up as the Community Sports and Physical Activity Network (CSPAN) for Gloucester. A CSPAN action plan has been developed and submitted to the Regional Sports Board as a bid to the Community Investment Fund. The Partnership is waiting to hear whether the bid will go forward to the next round.

Free 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'
- Local Economic Development 11th & 12 June, Manchester
- Successfully evaluating programmes and projects – 3rd June 2008, Newcastle



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
May			
Tues 13 th	12.00-2.00pm	Children & Young People's Action Group	Phoenix Centre, Matson Neighbourhood Project Gloucester (TBA)
Thurs 15 th	7.30pm	City Centre Community Partnership AGM	
Fri 16 th	9.15am	Gloucester Partnership Executive Meeting	Oxstalls Tennis Centre
Sat 17 th	10.00am – 2.00pm	Community Fun Day	St Lawrence Church, Barnwood
Tues 20 th	10.00am – 3.00pm	Engagement for Work	City Works, Alfred Street, Gloucester
Tues 20 th	7.00pm	Gloucester Joblink End of Project Event Matson & Robinswood Community Partnership AGM	Matson Baptist Church
Tues 27 th	6.30pm	Four Gates Working Group	North Warehouse
June			
Wed 18 th		Annual Gloucestershire Assembly Event - "Financial Sustainability - from dependence to independence". Cost £20 contact Roisin Harte, GAVCA on 01452 522600 or email RoisinH@glosassembly.org.uk	Gloucestershire University Park Campus
Thurs 19 th – Sun 22 nd	TBA	Tuffley/Podsmead Event	TBA
Fri 20 th	6.30 – 9.15pm	Annual General Meeting of the Race Equality Council for Gloucestershire. For more information, please visit the GlosREC website www.glosrec.org.uk	Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester
Sat 21 st	1.30pm	Festival Fayre	Homeleigh Park, Beaufort School
Tues 24 th	6.30pm	Four Gates Working Group	North Warehouse

PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Val O'Connor, Vice Chair and Voluntary and Community Sector Representative on the Gloucester Partnership Executive

Val has worked for most of her professional life in the voluntary sector. She worked for Cheltenham & District Citizens Advice Bureau from 1983 to 1991, firstly as deputy then as Manager. During this period she was able to assist in the formation and running of Cheltenham Volunteer Bureau, Glos. Drugs Project, Cheltenham Housing Aid Centre and Cheltenham Women's Refuge.

Since 1993 Val has managed Coney Hill Neighbourhood Project steering it through small beginnings to being part of the most successful voluntary sector SRB programme in Great Britain. It was during this period that she raised £250,000 to buy and renovate a derelict church hall, transforming it into today's vibrant learning centre.

During the 1990's Val was a voted voluntary sector adviser to Gloucestershire Social Services Committee and was one of three who pushed for the original voluntary sector representation on Gloucester Partnership's forerunner, Gloucester Locality Planning Team. Val is educated (as a mature student) to honours Degree level and last year studied on a regional pilot course obtaining the equivalent of a masters degree through the Institute of Leadership and Management. She presently serves as an independent board member and Chair of the Audit Committee on Gloucester City Homes.



Val O'Connor
Vice-Chair

Knowledge

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

Gloucester Local Development Framework – SPD Consultation & Core Strategy Update

Gloucester City Council has published for consultation two Revised Draft Supplementary Planning Documents: **Affordable Housing and New Housing and Open Space.**

Copies of the consultation documents are available online at www.gloucester.gov.uk. They can also be viewed at the City Council Offices, 9am to 5pm Mon-Friday, Herbert Warehouse, the Docks, Gloucester GL1 2EQ and at all Gloucester libraries as well as the Tourist Information Centre, Southgate Street and the Guildhall, Westgate Street.

The consultation period runs from **7th April to 19th May 2008.**

If you would like to comment, please submit your comments using the online response system available at www.gloucester.gov.uk To use the system follow the link to public consultations or local development framework and then using reference number (0029) follow the instructions on-screen.

CLES BRIEFINGS

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

- Eastern European migrant workers and the Scottish tourism industry: The economic impact
- 'Rights and Responsibilities': Recent changes in employment policy
- Update: The Area Based Grant

Partnership Working at the County Level

Refreshing the Gloucestershire Local Area Agreement

The Gloucestershire Local Area Agreement (LAA) is in the process of being updated in line with government guidance nationally. To view the latest changes and keep track of future developments please visit Gloucestershire Council Council's website

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 20th June 2008. We are also keen to hear any comments you have about this newsletter:

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