

Working Group Report



Name of Project	Asset Group – Affordable Housing
Date of Update	November 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>1. Assets: Completed ‘Assessment of Assets’ Forms have been received.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Police Authority has provided a comprehensive list of assets in the South Hams. There is no future potential for disposal of Totnes Police Station (the building is currently undergoing major refurbishment) • The PCT has indicated there is no potential for future disposal of Totnes Hospital • Devon County Council has provided details of assets in Totnes and the immediate hinterland – there are no plans for future disposal. A digital mapping layer has also been provided highlighting DCC ownership throughout the South Hams. • The MCTi have provided a schedule of Community Assets together with ownership and contact details. There are a few buildings within this list that are considered to be under-utilised. • The assets of SHDC are plotted on a digital mapping layer. A review of assets was undertaken c.18 months ago. There are some opportunities for future disposals of assets. The Council has identified a budget to undertake a feasibility study of Steamer Quay in the near future. • A list of Tor Homes assets in the South Hams has been received; initial informal discussions have been held indicating possible opportunities. <p>2. Key Workers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The LAA Operational Group for Housing arranged a seminar for 23 Nov targeting the HR leads of the major public sector employers in Devon to discuss Key Workers housing, to start to pull together a brief for further research and to collate some of the internal data those organisation may have on levels of need. This has had to be postponed as only 3 organisations confirmed. We are now looking a rearranging for the New Year and possibly setting up a electronic reference group for the research

Milestone Reached	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audit of partners assets achieved.
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For partners to consider how to approach third party organisations who appear to have under-utilised buildings (as listed in the Community Assets) • For partners to consider opportunities of combining their services under 'One Roof' to achieve savings on property operating costs together with the potential of releasing land and buildings for affordable housing purposes • For Tor Homes to provide details of any programmed schemes within the Totnes area • For DCC to consider if there are medium term opportunities for asset disposal.
Action recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For SHDC to prepare and distribute a map of SHSP assets (Totnes area) before the next meeting • Agree a protocol for identifying surplus assets.

Working Group Report



Name of Project	Competitive Local Economy – Procurement Actions
Date of Update	05 December 2006
Summary of Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Devon Procurement Portal information received from DCC, enabling further actions around promotion of business training opportunities to be progressed; • No progress made on the 'Local Buying' initiative amongst employees and clients; • Prosperity Strategy adopted by SHDC Executive on 09 November 2006 with appropriate set of activities included in the Action Plan; • Links established between procurement actions and the activities of the Environment South Hams group, in particular the outcomes associated with local procurement and sustainability.
Milestone Reached	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Initial steps started, but will need partners to promote within their organisations.
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whether a champion for 'Local Buying' project is necessary to drive the project forward, and if so, identify champion.
Action recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request up-date at future meeting on the progress of business training opportunities and 'Local Buying' initiative.

Working Group Report



Name of Project	South Devon Rural Transport Partnership
Date of Update	November 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>Over the past 18 months the NHS has been proposing changes to the way patients are transported to hospital. The South Hams falls within two hospital catchment areas; Torbay Hospital serves residents in the eastern part of the district, whilst western residents travel to Derriford in Plymouth.</p> <p>Until recently patients attending appointments at Derriford who could not make their own way there could pay to travel via a Hospital Car (provided by volunteer drivers for Westcountry Ambulance) or if eligible they travelled free in a Westcountry Ambulance. This system is changing and the NHS is proposing that from April 2007 only patients requiring medical treatment during their journey will be eligible for transport via ambulance and only patients who are unable to use public transport or get a lift from friends or family will be eligible for a hospital car. However, the NHS has been talking about either scrapping the Hospital Car Service, and asking the volunteer drivers to transfer to the voluntary sector, which will then provide transport to health. Or, alternatively, using the Hospital Car Service for 'Frequent Attendees' and have the voluntary sector pick up the remaining journeys. To date the NHS has not said which option it will take.</p> <p>Over the past year patients needing to travel to Derriford have had to phone TRIP, a Community Transport Association based in Honiton. TRIP are acting as a Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for patients in the South Hams, booking hospital transport for eligible patients and giving information on public transport to patients not eligible for a hospital car. The situation for patients travelling to Torbay Hospital is similar. South Devon Healthcare Trust set up a call centre taking calls from patients, they ask number of questions to assess whether patients fit the criteria for an ambulance or hospital car, and if they do not patients are advised of alternative forms of transport or told to ask a friend or family member to drive them.</p> <p>The proposed changes to the Patient Transport Service means that fewer people will be eligible for help with hospital transport. South Hams is very rural in nature with a large elderly population. Community transport within the South Hams is patchy with the western parishes having little or no suitable community transport providers that are able to transport patients into Derriford Hospital. Similarly, public transport across the district is patchy with some parishes lacking a daily bus service.</p>

Milestone Reached	
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<p>People without private transport living in locations with little or no public and community transport could find it difficult to access hospital services. In the western side of the South Hams district there are very few voluntary car schemes, therefore if a patient does not have anyone available to take them to hospital they could experience great difficulty accessing hospital services.</p> <p>The NHS recognises that the community transport sector has a role to play in helping those in need access hospital services. However, so far the NHS has not discussed funding with the community transport sector making it very difficult for the voluntary sector to plan for the changes.</p>
Action recommended	

Working Group Report

Name of Project	South Hams Volunteer Centre and CVS
Date of Update	November 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>Update for SHSP, Volunteer Centre</p> <p>The Volunteer Centre Coordinator is back after a period of illness. The Centre has a steady stream of wide ranging potential volunteers coming in for support and also local organisations seeking to improve their involvement of volunteers.</p> <p>The CVS has been looking at ideas to implement the LPSA targets for volunteering (with other VCs and CVS across Devon) and have also been involved in Devon wide and regional activity also. Pilot outreach surgeries in the four main market towns have not yet been established.</p> <p>It has become apparent that additional funding is needed to enable extra capacity for the Volunteer Centre which is currently offering services for only 16 hours per week. The CVS is investigating suitable funding for this.</p> <p>The CVS has been successful in securing funding for a small new, time limited project in partnership with the Governance Hub, which aims to support groups in their governance. The project will end with a trustee recruitment event in Spring 2006.</p> <p>Update on the Devon Compact</p> <p>The first 3 Codes of Practice for Equality and Diversity, Funding & Procurement and Volunteering are currently in the printers and will be available in the coming weeks. The Development Worker for the Compact for Devon will be finishing her post in December, and there is likely to be a delay in recruitment to develop the part time post.</p> <p>The localized events planned for the compact could be put on hold as it may be preferable to create an event relating to the latest White Paper and looking in the New Year at how to create a relevant event we can all use.</p>
Milestone Reached	
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Volunteer Centre can provide advice to statutory agencies to help establish employee volunteering schemes / policies.
Action	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note progress to date; • Recognise the potential contribution the Volunteer Centre may bring to the local economy;

Working Group Report

Name of Project	Healthy Choices : Active South Hams
Date of Update	December 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>Leisure Centres Transfer to Tone Leisure (South Hams) taking place on 1st December. New local trust established. Gym investments being delivered at QLC and SDLC. Plans for community outreach development work being developed.</p> <p>Public Space Strategy Draft strategy completed and now out for public consultation.</p> <p>Leisure Youth Nights Friday night youth activities being delivered across all 4 leisure centres. Attendances steadily increasing, with SDLC, Ivybridge attracting over 150 users in some weeks. Discussions for continuing project post April 07 needed.</p> <p>Health Walks Being delivered across Ivybridge, Totnes and Kingsbridge. New schemes at Dartmouth being proposed for Jan 07. Additional Leaders training day organised in Dec 06.</p> <p>Health Promotion Days Devon Car Free Day and Healthy Lifestyles Day successfully organised and promoted in Sept.</p> <p>Training Step-o-meter training for agencies was run in September.</p>
Milestone Reached	
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<p>Health Walks – Funding from partners needs to be sustained. Need to clarify new PCT arrangements. Leisure Youth Nights – Partnership funding needs to be sustained post pilot end in Mar 07.</p>
Action recommended	Review Health Walks and Leisure Youth Nights funding.

Working Group Report

Name of Project	Community Vibrancy – Community Planning
Date of Update	05 December 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>5 Parish Plan responses have been drafted for the following parishes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Chivelstone ➤ Diptford ➤ East Portlemouth ➤ Loddiswell ➤ Yealmpton <p>Community Planning database: This project continues to develop. The database will greatly increase the knowledge about Devon’s community priorities by collecting the projects and issues from the community plans that already exist across the county and aid the community planning process by providing a tool with which communities can swap information and manage projects.</p> <p>Recent meeting on 14th November looked at milestones, funding and maintenance.</p>
Milestone Reached	<p>Parish Plans</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A list of generic responses has been created as requested by SHSP at meeting of 18/07/06 (see below); • Responses prepared for the 5 plans highlighted above, and are ready to send out, with covering letters; • Links established between these activities and those highlighted in the Environment South Hams actions.
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offer <u>in principle</u> support to the Community Planning Database.
Action recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree 5 parish plan responses can be issued; • Offer <u>in principle</u> support to the Community Planning Database project in a letter to strengthen the application for external funding.

SHSP support for implementing Parish Plans: Range of generic responses:

Plan Theme:	Comments from SHSP:	Who to contact:
Affordable Housing	<p>Accurate demand & suitability of sites to inform Local Development Framework (LDF) process</p> <p>Liaise with Rural Housing Enabler</p>	<p>SHDC Forward Planning John Oakes 01803 861234</p> <p>Rural Housing Enabler Sue Hitchcock 01392 383419</p>
Jobs and Employment	<p>Accurate demand & suitability of sites to inform Local Development Framework (LDF) process</p> <p>Community and/or business-led initiative</p> <p>Liaise with appropriate service area or agency</p>	<p>SHDC Forward Planning John Oakes 01803 861234</p> <p>SHDC Economic Development Michael Cozens 01803 861234</p> <p>SHDC Marketing & Tourism Robert Green 01803 861234</p> <p>Enterprise South Devon 0845 644 7558</p> <p>Social Enterprise Worker Dawn Eckhart 01392 383457</p> <p>Co-active Ltd Social Enterprise Development Agency 01752 500888</p>
Transport	<p>Make use of existing partnerships and networks</p> <p>Investigate the range of community transport initiatives also available.</p> <p>Liaise with appropriate service area or agency</p> <p>Community-led initiative</p>	<p>DCC Local Services Manager John Halliday 01752 898200</p> <p>South Devon Rural Transport Partnership Zoe Harris 01626 203050</p> <p>DCC Cycling Officer Robin Bevis 01392 383223</p>

<p>Local Services</p>	<p>Liaise with appropriate service area or agency</p> <p>Information on local dentists can be accessed through the Dental Helpline.</p> <p>Community-led initiative</p> <p>Funding advice for projects available through:</p>	<p>Devon PCT 01803 866665</p> <p>Dental Helpline 0800 458 5813</p> <p>Devon Adult & Community Learning 01392 386580</p> <p>South West Water Development Planning 01392 446688</p> <p>Broadband 4 Devon 01752 333 800</p> <p>Zero-14 plus Tania Skinner 01392 386072</p> <p>Devon Youth Service Claire McMahon 01626 332229</p> <p>South Hams Volunteer Centre 01803 862266</p> <p>South Hams CVS 01803 862266</p> <p>Community Safety Partnership Peter Dale 01803 861278</p> <p>SHDC Community Development Team 01803 861103</p>
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<p>Environment</p>	<p>Community-led initiative</p> <p>Liaise with appropriate service area or agency</p> <p>Funding advice for projects available through:</p>	<p>DCC Rights of Way Service 01392 382084</p> <p>SHDC Landscape & Recreation Manager Ross Kennerley 01803 861234</p> <p>SHDC Waste Team 01803 861234</p> <p>South Devon AONB Unit Liz Davey 01803 861183</p> <p>Dartmoor National Park 01626 832093</p> <p>Environment Agency Hotline Fly tipping incidents 08708 506506</p> <p>South Hams Volunteer Centre 01803 862266</p> <p>Community Council for Devon 01392 383443</p> <p>Devon Wildlife Trust 01392 279244</p> <p>Devon FWAG 01392 882080</p> <p>Small Farms Association 01392 453763</p> <p>ENCAMS www.encams.org</p>
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Working Group Report

Name of Project	Community Vibrancy – Awareness Raising
Date of Update	05 December 2006
Summary of Progress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Partnership Forum: Wed 27th September 2007 • SHSP Winter newsletter being drafted
Milestone Reached	<p>Community Partnership Forum was attended by 29 people representing a wide variety of community groups, Town and Parish Councils and statutory organisations. Apologies were received from further 15.</p> <p>2 main agenda items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduction to the new Sustainable Community Strategy; • Presentations by 4 member organisations of the CPF, on how their activities contribute towards the community strategy aims. These were: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Newton & Noss Housing Working Group ➤ Childrens Centres ➤ Silver Lining ➤ Volunteer Centre <p>The mailing list currently stands at 164 organisations. Town and Parish Councils are being encouraged to attend future CPF meetings.</p> <p>Next Community Partnership Forum date: Monday 5th March 2007.</p>
Issues for the SHSP to consider	None
Action recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forward any articles suitable for the Winter newsletter to Kay asap.

Working Group Report

Name of Project	Environment South Hams
Date of Update	5 December 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>The Working Group met on 3 November 2006 to agree specific actions for delivering the aims set out in the Strategy and the Action Plan in particular. Two specific projects were identified:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Provision of an ‘advisory’ service to community groups/parish councils which have identified environmental projects they wished to pursue. This could include: facilitating sharing of good practice; advising on bids for external funding; providing links to volunteers 2) LSP partners demonstrate leadership by encouraging their respective organisations to take action on their own in-house environment management. This would be a bigger, longer-term project which would demonstrate how the LSP itself could add value. <p>Links were identified with other themes in the Strategy, in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Vibrancy – <i>Support opportunities for increasing community activity and volunteering</i> • Competitive Local Economy – <i>Local / Joint procurement projects</i>
Milestone reached	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Decision on projects (and what is necessary to ensure progress) • Key players now involved and further contributors identified • Links with other themes identified
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Views on the 2 projects identified • The degree of support partners can offer (see below) • A future role for Natural England on the LSP / Working Group
Action recommended	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) SHSP to approve the above project selection, showing its commitment to a quality environment in the South Hams by supporting community initiatives, and through leading by example on sustainability / climate change actions; 2) SHSP and individual partners to sign up to the Devon Climate Change Declaration (see below); 3) SHSP agrees to invite a speaker on the benefits of good in-house environment management to a future meeting (possibly DSEN?); 4) Members to provide examples of any ‘green’ initiatives their organisations have already undertaken, to be shared with partners; 5) Members to agree to support a World Environment Day activity in June 2007.

The Devon Wide Declaration on Climate Change and Fuel Poverty

We acknowledge that

- Climate change and fuel poverty are likely to be key drivers of change within our community over the coming decades.
- Evidence continues to mount that climate change and fuel poverty is occurring.
- Climate change will have far reaching effects on the region's economy, society and environment.
- Fuel poverty has a detrimental effect on people's health and well-being.

We welcome the

- Social, economic and environmental benefits which will come to Devon¹ from combating climate change and fuel poverty.
- Recognition by many sectors, including government, health, business and community of the need to combat climate change and fuel poverty and the policies and initiatives already underway.
- Emissions targets agreed by central government and the programme for delivering change as set out in the *Climate Change – UK Programme*.
- Opportunity for local government to lead the response at a local level and thereby play a major role in helping to deliver the national programme.
- Opportunity for us to encourage and help local residents and local businesses – to reduce their energy costs, to reduce congestion, to improve the local environment and to deal with fuel poverty in our communities.
- Additional powers to address the social, economic and environmental well-being of our communities contained within the Local Government Act 2000, which will assist in this process.

We commit to

- Work with central government to contribute, at a local level, to the delivery of the UK climate change programme.
- Actively support the work of the Devon Sustainable Energy Network.
- Prepare a plan with our local communities including key stakeholders within the health and business sectors to mitigate the causes of climate change and fuel poverty and to secure maximum benefit for our communities.
- Integrate within this plan the implications and actions contained within Devon's Affordable Warmth Strategy, Devon's Renewable Energy Strategy and Action Plan, and the Community Strategies of the county, district and unitary authorities.
- Publicly declare, within the plan, the commitment to achieve a significant reduction of greenhouse gas emissions from our own authority's operations especially energy sourcing and use, travel and transport, waste production and disposal and the purchasing of goods and services.
- Encourage all sectors in the community to take the opportunity to reduce their own greenhouse gas emissions and to make public their commitment to action.

¹ Within this context, Devon encompasses the administrative boundaries of the county council, the eight districts and the two unitary authorities.

- Promote and support opportunities for the supply of renewable heat and electricity within our area and work with all Devon authorities and other key stakeholders to meet Devon’s renewable electricity target of 151 MW by 2010, as expressed within the Devon Structure Plan. Opportunities for renewable energy should take into account Devon’s landscape character in balancing local impacts with wider issues such as climate change.
- Work with key providers, including health and business and development organisations, to assess the potential effects of climate change on our communities, and to identify ways in which we can adapt.
- Monitor the progress of our plan against the actions needed and publish the results.

The members of the South Hams Strategic Partnership recognise that by working together they can achieve more for the benefit of the people of the South Hams

