

Working Group Report

Name of Project	Competitive Local Economy
Date of Update	September 2006
Summary of Progress	<p>SHSP considered the competitive local economy theme of the Community Strategy, and noted the difficulty in identifying specific projects for the partnership as a whole to progress. The provision of employment land / infrastructure was fundamentally the role of the Local Development Framework (LDF) and therefore an aspect for the district council to pursue, with key partners outside the SHSP.</p> <p>However, it was felt that the combined procurement power of the organisations in the Partnership could be utilised to support local businesses and therefore the development of a procurement strategy could be the way forward. A Member of the Group noted the concern over the legislative powers of the various partners and how these respective powers could be interpreted. It was agreed that each partner approach the relevant officer of their organisation to look into procurement issues/opportunities.</p>
Milestone Reached	<p>Meeting held on the 6th September 2006. Actions agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DCC and SHDC to investigate potential to promote and deliver Devon Procurement Partnership initiatives locally, including supplier training opportunities held in South Hams. • DCC to supply SHDC with a range of publicity material for consultation/awareness raising with local business sectors. • DCC and SHDC to liaise with South Devon College to discuss opportunities for improved linkage with suppliers. • DCC and SHDC to prepare 'buy local' consistent messages for staff and customers for partners to use. • Notes of meeting held on 6th September attached for information.
Issues for the SHSP to consider	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How can partners who were unable to attend the project meeting contribute to this agenda? • To consider what further actions may be appropriate for the project team to consider.
Action recommended	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note progress to date. • To inform partner agency management teams of actions and secure commitment to ensure actions are progressed.