

## Welcome from the Chair

Welcome to the first South Hams Strategic Partnership (SHSP) newsletter, designed to better inform you of progress on the delivery of the South Hams Community Strategy. Information on the SHSP and the community strategy can now also be found hosted on South Hams District Council's website ([www.southhams.gov.uk](http://www.southhams.gov.uk)) by selecting the 'Residents' tab on the homepage, and following the 'Community' option.

The first South Hams Community Strategy has been 'live' since 2003. Although a lot of progress has been made towards delivering the associated action plans, it is time to review its aims and objectives. This will ensure it continues to adequately reflect local needs and provides an up to date foundation for partnership working.

Following many months of public consultation, SHSP are on the brink of launching a new Sustainable Community Strategy for 2006 – 2011. This, together with the emerging Local Development Framework documents, will provide an up-dated vision and delivery plan ensuring the South Hams remains a vibrant place to live, work and enjoy.

As you will also appreciate, this is a time of significant change and uncertainty for many local service providers (health, police etc.) but the strategic partnership will help us chart a course and make progress together.

*Ruth Bagley*

## Who and what are the Strategic Partnership?

The South Hams Strategic Partnership has representatives from public, private, voluntary and community sector (VCS) organisations, who deliver services across the South Hams. The Partnership was formed to deliver the first South Hams Community Strategy and through working together, 'improve the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of the people of the South Hams'. SHSP is not a council body but the district and county councils are represented on it.

The Partnership is made up of:

- a Steering Group of people from key agencies who oversee the delivery of the community strategy;
- a Community Partnership Forum, that brings together a wider range of organisations, stakeholders and community groups from across the South Hams to promote best practice in delivering projects and initiatives, and encourage networking;
- working groups to deliver the community strategy action plans on a 'task and finish' basis.



# Draft Sustainable Community Strategy

During the summer and autumn of 2005 through 'Shaping the future of the South Hams' events, people were invited to take part in a variety of activities to inform the review of the Community Strategy. Events included road shows and displays in towns, online and at local shows; focus groups and questionnaires; together with a political speed-dating event for young people and under 35's survey. Many thanks to those of you who joined in.

Based on the results a first draft of the new South Hams Sustainable Community Strategy has been produced and is now out for comment. The draft strategy is available to view with an online questionnaire on the South Hams District Council website under: Residents/Community/Community Strategy, (or click [here](#) to go to the page). Internet access is available in all libraries in the South Hams and there are also community access points at South Brent Old School Centre, Stokenham Parish Hall, Thurlestone Primary School, Yealmpton Community Centre and in reception at South Hams District Council. Hard copies will be available in similar locations along with paper questionnaires.

Deadline for comments is the 30<sup>th</sup> June 2006 and we urge everyone to take this opportunity to comment on this new Sustainable Community Strategy. Following this last stage of consultation, the strategy will be fine tuned and then SHSP will be able to set up the right working groups to implement new action plans and move the process forward.

## Partnership News and Events

We would like this newsletter to include information from the many community-based planning groups across the South Hams so that people can be kept up to date with town and parish plans, and the projects and initiatives that result from them. Please e-mail your news, including important meeting dates and events to [community@southhams.gov.uk](mailto:community@southhams.gov.uk)

Group	Date of meeting and details
Voluntary Sector Forum	Friday 19 May 2006 Chapel Place Community Centre, Ivybridge. The Forum is open to representatives of all local voluntary and community organisations. Telephone: 01803 862266 or Email: <a href="mailto:cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk">cvs@southhamscvs.org.uk</a> for further information about the forum and their meetings
Parish Plans Information Evening	Thursday 29th June 2006, probably 7:30 pm to 9:30 (time to be confirmed) in South Brent. Aimed at parish councils considering developing a parish plan. Contact the Community Council of Devon for more information on 01392 383315.
Community Partnership Forum	Wednesday 27 September 2006 Ivybridge Town Hall. The Forum is open to community groups and stakeholders with an interest in the development and delivery of the Community Strategy. Telephone: 01803 861234 and ask for Community Development or Email: <a href="mailto:community@southhams.gov.uk">community@southhams.gov.uk</a>

## New Plans and Strategies

The following Local Development Framework (LDF) consultations are coming soon:

June 2006 - Six week consultation period for:

- Sherford Area Action Plan – Submission Stage
- Plymouth Urban Fringe Development Plan Document – Preferred Options Stage (includes proposals for 500 new homes and new employment land)

Autumn 2006 - Six week consultation for:

- Core Policies – Preferred Options Stage (development control documents)
- Totnes Development Plan Document – Preferred Option Stage
- Kingsbridge Development Plan Document – Preferred Option Stage