



## February 2005

### Dear Colleague

This newsletter brings you the latest update from the Stockport Partnership Board meetings which took place on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2005. It also contains information from other partnerships.

IN THIS ISSUE:	<b>Voluntary and Community Sector Network</b>
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1. <b>Voluntary and Community Sector Network</b>	David Kirwan, Community Representative for Stockport Partnership, provided an update on the development of a voluntary and community sector network and gave feedback from a networking event held in November 2004. The event was attended by representatives from umbrella community groups and voluntary organisations.
2. <b>Neighbourhood Renewal in Brinnington</b>	
3. <b>Community Development Strategy</b>	The aim of the network is to provide a way for the Community Representative on the Stockport Partnership Board to communicate with Community Groups and as this is also a priority for the voluntary sector the event was organised jointly. It was such a success that a second event is now planned for April this year.
3. <b>Inter Faith Network Progress</b>	
4. <b>Information Exchange</b>	
5-8 <b>Other Partnership News Items</b>	The discussions produced a list of the top twelve needs of the community and voluntary sector in Stockport. Although the types of groups from the voluntary and community sectors were very different, in terms of size, geography and aims, their issues and priorities were very similar. If you would like any information on this please contact <a href="mailto:communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk">communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk</a> or ring 0161 474 3174.
9. <b>Contact Details</b>	
10. <b>Language Panel</b>	Councillor Hunter welcomed the report and the positive work of the network, and said that the Board acknowledged the list that the group produced and would welcome updates on the network as required.

**A free interpreting service is available if you need help with this information.**

Please contact the Ethnic Diversity Service

Phone: 0161 477 9000

Email: [eds.admin@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:eds.admin@stockport.gov.uk)

Fax: 0161 480 1848

## Neighbourhood Renewal in Brinnington

Carol Morrison (Assistant Director of Community Services) and Helen Sharman (Head of Neighbourhood Renewal) at Stockport Council reported on the **Neighbourhood Renewal Scrutiny Review and the Brinnington Neighbourhood Renewal Local Area Strategy and Action Plan**

Given the close relationship between the two matters they were presented for discussion in a single report

The strategy sets out the Brinnington Partnership's aims for the next ten years. The main change in approach for this Strategy compared to the previous Action Plan is that it puts greater emphasis on the mainstream services to help deliver regeneration

Helen outlined the causes of the problems and the role that mainstream services play in affecting the quality of life in Brinnington, detailing problem "trees" which identify:

- the outcomes of a problem
- the causes of the problem
- the services or projects which could work towards addressing the problem
- and the specific actions which are necessary.

Actions for improvement can be graded, i.e. some solutions will be easy whilst others will be more difficult and therefore take longer to implement.

Brinnington suffers from a very high level of deprivation (in the top 2% throughout England and Wales), a fact masked by Stockport's general affluence.

Stockport has not received any money to date for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding because of the way in which priority areas are chosen but the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) has recently been consulting with Councils on alternative ways of identifying areas of deprivation. The Board has agreed a response from Stockport that will prove favourable to Stockport's high priority neighbourhoods, such as Brinnington.

The Board also agreed to adopt the methodology of resourcing Neighbourhood Renewal in Stockport as set out in the Strategy and agreed to continue to investigate and secure all possible means of resourcing the Local Area Action Plan; consider opportunities for mainstreaming; and identify external funding opportunities using the Regeneration Funding Framework.

The Board will receive annual updates on the progress of the Strategy and will assist the Brinnington Partnership where possible. Thanks were extended to the Scrutiny Committee who compiled the report. Councillor Hunter emphasised that continued funding for Brinnington is vital and the end of the main funding source used for neighbourhood renewal in Brinnington will have major repercussions. Alternative funding options are being explored.

To find out more about the Strategy or the work of the Brinnington Partnership please contact:

[helen.Sharman@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:helen.Sharman@stockport.gov.uk) or [lee.anderson@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:lee.anderson@stockport.gov.uk)

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Dr Stephen Watkins, Director of Public Health and Carol Morrison (Assistant Director, Community Services) at Stockport Council presented this item.

The proposed Strategy aims to complement the Stockport Compact and the Charter for Public Participation and Involvement and thereby complete a comprehensive framework for support of the Community and Voluntary sectors, by setting out a clear direction for Community Development in Stockport.

By adopting the Community Development Strategy organisations will be able to work more closely with local communities, use existing resources more efficiently and deliver more effective services by working jointly. The Board was asked to approve the proposed strategy and agree to publicise the strategy in a similar way to that adopted for The Stockport Compact and the Charter for Public Participation Involvement. Partners were asked to consider joining the Strategic Managers' Group in order to produce a joint Action Plan. It was suggested that the vision and outcome of the Strategy be linked to the Community Strategy. A full scoping exercise has been conducted, and Dr Watkins will liaise with other agencies to ensure that nothing has been missed.

## Inter Faith Network Progress

Reverend Philip Winn, Minister, Stockport Prayer Network, updated the Board on the progress made by the Faith Network over the last year, achievements include:

- Representatives of faith groups in the borough have met together on a number of occasions. Speakers at the meetings have discussed items such as *faith and health* and *faith and parenting*.
- The appointment of Philip Winn as the faith communities representative has been approved.
- Members of the group have been invited to work with the Community Safety Officer (Domestic Violence) to produce materials helping faith communities address issues of domestic violence.
- Members of the network organised the 'Music for Peace' event in October which was the first borough-wide event of its kind and brought together Stockport people from many different cultures. A wide variety of music was performed by children and adults in a moving celebration of diversity.
- Members of the network met with the Leader of the Council and the Executive Team to discuss matters of concern
- Representatives of a number of faith groups have taken part in Partnership Forum events.
- Informal networking at the meetings is enabling better understanding between faith groups.

Philip thanked everyone for their support and mentioned that a Faith Website will soon be available as part of the Stockport Partnership Website.

# ***INFORMATION EXCHANGE***

<b>Werneth Update</b>	<b>Roger Tuson</b>
<p>The Bredbury, Romiley, Woodley Local Partnership meets every two months to try and involve local people in the decision making process. The meetings have been re-scheduled to follow on from the Werneth Area Committee meetings. Partners were thanked for their continued support, particularly the Police who have made a key contribution to the meetings.</p>	<p>Councillor Hunter informed the Board that Roger Tuson is unable to attend the Board meetings due to a sudden illness. He wished to record Roger's significant contribution to the Partnership. The Board extended their best wishes to Roger and his family</p>
<b>AUDIT COMMISSION INSPECTION</b>	<b>INVESTMENT IN A NEW CARDIOLOGY AND SURGICAL UNIT</b>
<p>John Schultz, Chief Executive at Stockport Council, informed members of the imminent Audit Commission inspection of the Council which will be looking, in particular, at Children's Services. This will result in some changes to the organisation of the Council, including the appointment of a Director of Children's Services.</p>	<p>Darren Hurrell reported that a £25M investment in a new Cardiology and Surgical Unit had been agreed by the Trust's Board of Directors. Enabling work will start in March 2005 and the whole scheme completed by Summer 2006.</p>
<b>Compact Toolkit</b>	<b>HOUSING AND BLACK AND MINORITY ETHNIC ISSUES</b>
<p>Rob Cookson reported on the development of the Compact Toolkit, recording his thanks to Daniel Dobson-Mouawad (Manchester Enterprises) for his assistance. Rob will be working with the Council's Policy Unit over the next few months to identify key contacts and training needs.</p>	<p>Jim Lunney (Johnny Johnson Housing Association) spoke about the Stockport Housing Partnership and black and minority ethnic issues. The needs of many different groups of people within the borough have been examined and Jim proposed to bring a report of these findings to a later meeting</p>
<b>Stockport Partnership Website</b>	
<p>Partnership websites in Stockport are currently being reviewed as a result of the new national standard for accessibility. The aim is to bring the key partnership websites up to a 'AAA' standard which indicates the best rate for accessibility.</p> <p>Julie Farley, Corporate Policy Manager at Stockport Council will contact all the individual partnerships to encourage them to sign up to a single Partnership portal, although she confirmed that the responsibility will remain with individual Partnership to maintain their own web pages. Setting up the portal requires a one-off cost of £3,000 to purchase an accessible template.</p> <p>Julie will provide the Board with further information on this proposal at a later meeting.</p>	

## **NEW APPOINTMENT AT GREATER MANCHESTER CHAMBER**

Briony Simister reported that Greater Manchester Chamber has now appointed Paul Kirkham as local policy manager for Stockport. However, Briony will continue to represent the Chamber at Partnership Board meetings.

# ***PARTNERSHIP NEWS***

News from the District and Local Centre Partnerships

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## **WINTER WONDERLAND**

Just before Christmas the Marple Bridge Association held an extremely successful event called Winter Wonderland to give local traders a chance to say 'Thank You' to the village community for supporting them throughout the previous 12 months. It was an opportunity for young and old to come together for a festive fun day.

It has been estimated that the event attracted almost 5,000 visitors.

The Association is largely made up of local businesses and traders. Stockport Council provided help and support to the group throughout 2004 through the Local Centres initiative - including help with the Winter Wonderland event. If you want to read more about this event please see <http://homepage.ntlworld.com/stuartcrussell/>

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## **NEW GATLEY VILLAGE PARTNERSHIP**

On 7th February 2005 Members of the Cheadle Area Committee agreed to the establishment of a Gatley Village Partnership. Since spring 2004 the council has been investigating the potential to establish a Gatley Village Partnership involving local groups and organisations based in and around the local centre.

Such a partnership would operate along the lines of similar forums established within the District Centres and comprise representatives from key local groups and organisations and partnership agencies. Discussions have been taking place with a number of groups and stakeholders over the past 12 months

It is planned to hold a Launch Meeting in either March or April this year.

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For more information on the **District and Local Centre Partnerships** contact Graeme Vout on 0161 474 2630 or [graeme.vout@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:graeme.vout@stockport.gov.uk)

# SAFER STOCKPORT PARTNERSHIP HELPING TO CUT CRIME IN STOCKPORT

The **Safer Stockport Partnership** is finalising its new commitment to cut crime, anti-social behaviour and drug misuse in the borough, following the audit and consultation undertaken in the autumn of 2004. A new three-year strategy, to be published in April, will set out how a range of services, including the Council, Health Service, Victim Support and Police will work together to protect the public and challenge the behaviour of people who cause most harm. A key objective will be to reduce crimes against individuals by more than 20% over the next three years.

Over the next three years more action will be taken to target the small number of prolific offenders who are responsible for most crime, as well as those young people at risk of drifting into crime. Tackling drug misuse, by a combination of education, enforcement and treatment, is seen as key to the success of the plan. The Partnership will also work to support local communities in tackling local problems, and continue to improve the help and information provided to victims and witnesses.

When the Strategy is published a copy will be sent to all forum members. To find out more about the Safer Stockport Partnership see

<http://www.stockport.gov.uk/content/councildemoc/council/partnerships/strategicpartnerships/thesaferstockportpartnership> or ring the Community Safety Unit on 0161 474 3143.

## MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

In 2004 the **Joint Strategy Group for Public Participation and Involvement**, originally set up in health and social services, became a Task group of the Stockport Partnership. Its function being to promote, stimulate and support 'involvement' activity. In order to provide a common framework a basic statement of principles was devised and this became the Charter for Public Participation and Involvement, launched in October of that year. These principles have been adopted by all organisations represented on the Partnership.

Alongside this, work has been ongoing to produce materials that could be used when undertaking involvement work.

- the 'Making Your Voice Heard' pack (for people involving service users in planning meetings)
- the Participation and Involvement 'Toolkit' (guidance on how to select and use different methods, and on monitoring progress and outcomes.)

To promote participation and also to showcase work that is already taking place around the borough a newsletter is distributed and an annual conference is held in October. Currently a variety of training courses on involvement are being run to further assist people to build sustainable involvement into their working practices

For further information on the work mentioned above please contact

Estelle Bruce 0161 456 2808

Or

Georgie Lawson 0161 480 1211

[estelleb.signpost@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:estelleb.signpost@tiscali.co.uk)

[lawsong@ageconcernstockport.org.uk](mailto:lawsong@ageconcernstockport.org.uk)

A copy of the charter can be seen on the home page of the Stockport Partnership Website

[www.stockportpartnership.org.uk](http://www.stockportpartnership.org.uk)

## News from the Stockport Community Legal Services Partnership (SCLSP)

The SCLSP was launched in April 2001, aiming to involve all those who provide, fund or use advice and information services, in a co-ordinating and support network to bring top quality advice and information to Stockport residents.

Some recent developments include:

- securing two new Stockport contracts from the North West Legal Services Committee, to provide specialist advice on problems with debts and benefits. The contracts are to be delivered by the Law Centre and the Council's Welfare Rights Service.
- £1m in cash gains secured for older people in Stockport, through a take up campaign devised by the CLSP and funded by national partnership money from the Legal Services Commission.
- a referral system to make sure that provider agencies take responsibility for directing people to the most appropriate provider.
- a 'Where To Go For Quality Advice' leaflet, to tackle 'referral fatigue' caused by people wasting time and money going to the wrong agency.
- a big increase in the number of Quality Mark organisations, ranging from those offering assisted information to those that provide representation and negotiation services.

But, there's still much work to do over the next two years. We still need more organisations to come forward and adopt the standards of the Quality Mark scheme, particularly agencies that offer information rather than advice. If they contact us, we can help such organisations through what is **not** an arduous process.

We need to fill the geographical gaps, the places where residents have to travel lengthy distances in order to access advice services. We also need to target services towards vulnerable groups such as young people, disabled people and people from black and minority ethnic communities, all of whom need services tailored to their particular needs. The CLSP itself needs to raise its profile through its new website and consultation with Stockport residents.

On top of all that, we want to play an active role in strategies promoting social inclusion and community cohesion, particularly the Stockport Community Strategy. This all adds up to a tall order, but if we can keep up the momentum of the last four years, I'm optimistic that we can do it.

(Tudor Owen on behalf of the Stockport CLSP)

If you would like more information about the CLSP please contact [tudor.owen@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:tudor.owen@stockport.gov.uk) or ring 0161 474 3090.

# Stockport Economic Alliance

## News from the Stockport Economic Alliance

### Social Enterprise Forum

Over 20 representatives of social enterprises in Stockport attended the first Social Enterprise Forum in January, to find out about the help and support available to them and to share ideas and good practice with other social enterprises.

Social enterprises are businesses that trade in the market with a social purpose. They use business tools and techniques to achieve social aims and include a wide range of organisations.

The event was a joint initiative between Stockport Council and Third Sector Enterprises (3SE) and its aim was to ensure that existing and emerging social enterprises within the borough are fully aware of all the assistance that is available to help them grow and develop.

For further general information on social enterprise development in Stockport please contact Nick Hill on (0161) 474 3736 or email: [nick.hill@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:nick.hill@stockport.gov.uk). For specific information on what support is available to social enterprises contact Tom Jones at Third Sector Enterprises on (0161) 237 4444 or email: [tom.jones@3se.org.uk](mailto:tom.jones@3se.org.uk).

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Yours sincerely

**Louise Richardson**  
Head of Policy Unit, Stockport Council and Secretary to the Stockport Partnership

### *Contact details*

Stockport Partnership is currently administered by the Policy Unit at the Council. You can contact us as follows:

If you want to **add an item to the next Board agenda**, please contact:

Louise Richardson, Stockport Council, Tel: 0161 474 3011  
email: [louise.richardson@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:louise.richardson@stockport.gov.uk)

Any **queries about the newsletter** please contact:

Chris Franklin, Stockport Council, Tel: 0161 474 3174  
email [communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk)

If you wish to **contact your sector representative** please contact them directly if possible or if you do not have their details e-mail [communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk](mailto:communitystrategy@stockport.gov.uk) or ring 0161 474 3011 and we will help.

Textphone 0161 474 3128

Or write to any of us at: *Policy Unit, Chief Executive's Service, Stockport Council, Town Hall (VH), Stockport SK1 3XE*

<b>Public Sector</b> Supt    Executive	Chief Supt Neil Wain	Greater Manchester Police (Stockport) - Chief
	Mr Richard Popplewell	Primary Care Trust - Chief Executive
	Peter Roberts	Stockport Learning Partnership
	Mr John Schultz	Stockport Council - Chief Executive
	Councillor Mark Hunter	Stockport Council - Leader
Mr Chris Burke	Stockport NHS Foundation Trust - Chief	

<b>Voluntary Sector</b>  Director	Ms Margaret Brade	Age Concern Stockport - Director
	Mr Rob Cookson	Stockport Council for Voluntary Service -

<b>Community Sector</b>	Rev Philip Winn, Stockport Prayer Network (Faith network representative)	
	Mr David Kirwan	Stockport Tenants' Federation/Community First (community network representative)

<b>Private Sector</b>	Briony Simister	Greater Manchester Chamber
	Mr Daniel Dobson-Mouawad	Manchester Enterprises

<b>Registered Social Landlords</b>	(to be confirmed)
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<b>Youth Representative -</b>	Chris Ashley/Ms Emma Stones - Members of Stockport Youth Parliament
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যদি এই খবরগুলি সম্পর্কে আপনার কোন সাহায্য দরকার হয় তবে বিনা খরচে আপনার জন্য দোভাষীর ব্যবস্থা করা হতে পারে। মেহেরবানী করে স্টকপোর্ট ইন্টারপ্রিটিং ইউনিটে ফোন করুন টেলিফোন নম্বর, 0161 477 9000.

اگر آپ کو ان معلومات کے بارے میں مدد کی ضرورت ہے تو مفت ترجمانی کی سروس دستیاب ہے۔ براہ مہربانی انٹرپرائٹنگ یونٹ کو 0161 477 9000 پر فون کریں۔

如你需要他人爲你解釋這份資料的內容，我們可提供免費的傳譯服務，請致電 0161 477 9000 史托波特傳譯部。

تتوفر خدمة ترجمة شفوية مجانية إذا تطلبت مساعدة في فهم هذا المعلومات. نرجو الاتصال إنترپرائٹنگ یونٹ علی رقم الهاتف: 0161 477 9000

خدمات ترجمه رایگان این اطلاعات در صورت نیاز موجود میباشد. لطفا با شماره تلفن 0161477 9000 با واحد ترجمه (اینترپرائٹنگ یونیت) ما تماس بگیرید۔