



*News from the Lichfield
District Strategic Partnership*

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PRIDE**

Christmas message



Local Homes for Local People

Creating more affordable homes for local people is a top priority for the Local Strategic Partnership, on behalf of the Strategic Housing Partnership, Homezone recently hosted a workshop to look at opportunities for Community Land Trusts, which provide more possibilities to create new homes for local people for both rent and ownership.

Community Land Trusts (CLT) operate as not for profit organisations, that own, manage and develop the land and buildings placed on it. CLTs typically emerge where land is sold at minimum value to a Trust, run by a board involving local people, are able to extract the value of the land from the open market for all future residents because of the special rules governing the Trust, which in turn reduces the rent or purchase cost of the property built on the land.

CLTs are very flexible because of the Trusts' independence from government rules. This means the allocation policy and tenure can be tailor made to what is needed in the local area. CLTs can work in partnership with local authorities, Housing Associations, private companies and Charities to design and create the homes needed.

Support for CLTs is growing across all political parties, with funding, advice and support becoming available from the government through the Housing Corporation in Autumn 2007.

For more information call the team on 01543 308170





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Jane Bax and Michael Pritchard Homezone Housing



Jennie Crosby Lichfield District Council



Phil McFarlane Staffordshire Fire Service

Lichfield District Safer Community Partnership Conference 2007

Last month the Lichfield District Safer Community Partnership held another successful conference. The conference, opened by Cllr Val Richards, covered a variety of topics including the challenge of producing a Strategic Assessment and Partnership Plan as required by the new legislation. Inspector Ashley Farrington stepped in at the last minute as his colleague had been called away and gave an inspiring talk about the Partnership, which only has a few months left to meet the targets set within its current strategy. He explained how it is working hard to make sure these targets are met and that it is also ready to face the future challenges as part of strategic assessment process.



In the photograph Ian Bentley, Senior Analyst for Staffordshire Police, is receiving his award from Cllr Mrs Val Richards, Portfolio Holder for Community, Housing and Health, Lichfield District Council. Ian received his award for his taking on the considerable task of producing the assessment on behalf of the Trent Valley Division (Lichfield District, Tamworth and East Staffs), which is now being considered by GOWM as best practice. Well done Ian!!!

The general theme of the event was how the Partnership tackles anti social behaviour. Presentations included the Prolific Offender Unit, based at Tamworth Police Station, which offers offenders an alternative to prison – not a soft option but a real opportunity to change their lives around. Bob Haynes, the Council's new Community Safety Officer, highlighted the work of the Anti Social Behaviour Action Group (ASBAG). Jane Bax and Michael Pritchard from HomeZone Housing, part of the ASBAG, described how they deal with anti social behaviour ranging from simple mediation to eventual eviction of tenants.

Jennie Crosby gave an emotive presentation on strengthening communities through the work of community development workers. The Jigsaw project in North Lichfield was highlighted as a particularly successful project.

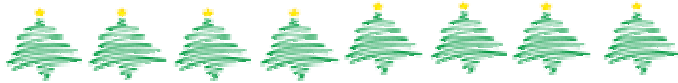
Phil McFarlane of the Fire and Rescue Service gave the last but by no means least presentation, which included a quiz, with prizes, to test everyone's knowledge and perceptions of arson and fire safety within our area

in brief in brief in brief

From April 2008 Community Safety Partnerships will be obliged to undertake Strategic Assessments of Crime, Disorder and Anti Social Behaviour within their localities. **Lichfield and District Safer Community Partnership** has piloted this process. It is acknowledged that the process has to be refined in order to incorporate Community intelligence. The Trent Valley pilot to the strategic assessment has been identified as innovative and potentially best practice. The full Strategic Assessment for Lichfield District is available to download from Lichfield District Council's website at the following address www.lichfelddc.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?downloadID=855 it will be used by The Strategy Group to determine a Partnership Plan for Lichfield District for the next 12 months. Two important projects aimed at reducing repeat victimisation of Domestic Abuse have been launched. The Sanctuary Scheme—which aims to prevent homelessness of victims of domestic abuse and Multi Agency Case Conference (MARAC) of high risk victims.

For more information call the team on 01543 308170





in brief in brief in brief

Voluntary Voice Forum (Lichfield District Third Sector Network) – Wednesday 12th December 2007 St John's Community Church – 10.00am – 1.00pm

The Forum this time will be looking at partnership working, the barriers and benefits to working in partnership. There will be presentations from the Community & Learning Partnership Co-ordinators for the District on how they have gone about forming partnerships and also a presentation from the Development Manager for the CVS in what support is available to voluntary and community groups in new ways of working. There will also be a chance for groups to celebrate their successes throughout 2007 and hang their success stars on our Christmas tree!

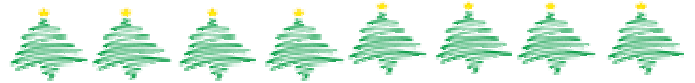
To book a place please contact – Leona Bird, Partnership Support Officer – 01543 303030 or e-mail: leonabird@ldcvs.org.uk

Sustainable Environment Group is continuing to develop its plan for a climate change awareness raising campaign, and establishing the links in with the forthcoming household energy efficiency project funded through the DEFRA CEEF (Community Energy Efficiency Fund) grant, the Low Carbon Community project of Whittington and Fisherwick Environment Group, and the Local Area Agreement Flagship on the climate change "hub".

Lichfield District Housing Partnership organised a seminar on Community Land Trusts held on 11th October. The seminar was well attended and the Partnership hope that it will encourage people to look for land and consider Community Land Trusts as an innovative way of meeting housing need (for more details please see page 5). Members of Lichfield District Housing Partnership will be attending the January Parish Forum to brief members on the opportunities presented by Community Land Trusts.

At the last meeting of the partnership Kathy Coe from Pathway gave a presentation which highlighted the challenges faced by women and their families who experience domestic violence. The Partnership identified areas where children could be supported and will pursue these with colleagues on the Children's Trust Board. Also at the last meeting Emily Skeet Staffordshire County Council presented the draft Staffordshire Independent Living Strategy which is out for consultation and invited comments. Once the Strategy is approved and an action plan agreed the Housing Partnership will monitor its progress.

Lucy Robinson advised the meeting that GOWM have announced that the 2006-2009 Housing Strategy is fit for purpose. A copy is available on the Council website.



in brief in brief in brief

Older People's Forum

It's been a busy time for the Older People's Forum – they met on Friday 26th October at St John's Community Church in Burntwood where they heard from Inspector Ashley Farrington who updated them on a number of issues including the "nominate a neighbour" initiative, and Helen Jones, "Choose and Book" lead from South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust gave an interesting presentation and explanation of some of the changes happening to local health provision. A number of interesting issues were raised which will be followed up by the steering group.

On Friday 9th November the Older People's Forum held a "special event" at Whittington Village Hall where Marie duQuesnay, District Manager of the Older People's services at Staffordshire County Council's Health and Social Care explained the background to the Changing Lives agenda, and how it is likely to affect older people in Lichfield District. A discussion followed, and the points made will be distributed to all members of the forum.

The next meeting of the forum will be held in Lichfield City early in 2008 and will focus on revisiting the priorities identified 2 years ago, and establishing a more specific list of concerns or issues for older people locally.

Lichfield District Economic Forum have been involved in Southern Staffordshire's premier business event, "Winning Business think Local 2007", which took place at Drayton Manor Theme Park on Tuesday 6th November. 91 businesses took stands for the day and there were over 500 visitors. There was a Meet the Buyer and a very popular programme of Business Seminars running throughout the day.

The event was opened by Cllr Janet England and supported by Cllr David Smith. The Lichfield District Council stand was manned by Peter Ross and Chris Plant. Amongst the many Lichfield Businesses taking part was Netherstowe School who had a team of 6th Formers manning their stand.

Winning Business Think Local was sponsored by Lichfield District Council, East Staffs Borough Council and Tamworth Borough Council. Business Link West Midlands and the Southern Staffordshire Chamber of Commerce and Industry also supported the event. It was a long hard, but very worthwhile day.





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Lichfield Children and Young People's Conference 2007



*Cheryl Sherratt Chair
Children's Trust Board*

*Sam Thomas and Rachel
Astall Youth Parliament*

The Lichfield Children and Young People's Conference took place on Monday 5th November at Darnford Moors Golf Club. Key note speakers were Kay Whyte-Bell from Government Office for the West Midlands and Peter Traves, Director of Children and Lifelong Learning at Staffordshire County Council. Local children and young people from Rocklands Special School and Chase Terrace Technology College opened the conference. Sam Thomas, Member of Youth Parliament for Lichfield and Chase, and Rachel Astall, Deputy Member of Youth Parliament also addressed the delegates on how agencies can better engage with young people.

Other issues discussed at the Conference were the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework, the development of Community and Learning Partnerships, the issues around raising the aspirations of young people, the development of a Play Strategy and teenage pregnancy.

Lichfield Locality Children's Trust Board

The Board is currently beginning to develop a plan for the engagement of children and young people. As part of that work a website called @Youth is under consultation and development and this concept was also presented at the Conference. This would potentially be a hub for young people designed and developed with young people themselves, which will enable them to access local services and be consulted.

A project plan for the implementation of the Common Assessment Framework in the District has been produced and is being delivered through the ISA/CAF Sub Group. The ISA Co-ordinator, Anne Foy, commenced in post on 6th August. CAF information and case studies available at www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/caf

The Play Partnership has submitted its application to the Big Lottery Fund for £200K for play development projects in the District.

The Teenage Pregnancy Action Group met for the first time on 1st October and discussed the priorities for the District, which will be incorporated into an action plan.

Elections took place during August and September and the Board now has a new Chair and Vice Chair. Cheryl Sherratt from South Staffordshire Primary Care Trust has been elected as Chair and Heather Bowman from Chase Terrace Technology College as Vice Chair. Heather will also take the role as CAF Champion for the District.

The Board is also addressing the difficulties arising from attempting to gain performance information at a local level in order to monitor delivery of the Children and Young People's Delivery Plan. A group has been established by the Staffordshire Children's Trust to look at the processes at County level and the support required by districts.



For more information call the team on 01543 308170





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Burntwood Init—Midnight Madness Football Festival

A very successful football programme has been running over a 6 week period in Burntwood. Beginning in October, 6 five-a-side teams of young people have played each week at Burntwood Leisure Centre on their Astro turf provision, utilising a project called 'Midnight Madness' from Stoke Football Club.



The Burntwood Leisure Centre is a active partner in this multi agency project and have supported the Youth Service and the Beacon Church with the football project, and local people such as Steve Theo and Mervin Sergent have also provided invaluable support.

Up to 8 teams have registered every week and each team is put into a draw to determine who plays. Young people have been very inventive with the names of the teams, such as the 'Spanish Armada' and 'Barmy Army'! No one goes away disappointed - anyone not drawn out of the hat will automatically play the following week.

The winning team from each week will go to a final on week 6 (9th Nov) to determine the 2 winning teams who go to Britannia Stadium in a one off game as they will play during half time of a Stoke City match in front of a full stadium.

Representatives from Stoke City community programme have attended 3 weeks out of the 6 and attend the final on the 9th November, when Cllr Eric Drinkwater will present all the young people involved with certificates.

Not only have over 70 young people been engaging with the project, but large amounts of other young people have been attending to watch which has enabled the Youth Service to use their non-alcoholic cocktail trolley and talk to the young people spectating about the dangers of alcohol abuse.

It is also a great result that the Police have been able to analyze their figures for anti-social behaviour which are showing to have dropped by over a third during this project.

Refresh of the LAA

The Local Area Agreement is being reviewed and 'refreshed' in accordance with national government policy. The new LAA, which will become effective from April 08, will contain far fewer targets than the existing document - a maximum of 35 (plus 17 on educational attainment) compared with the 155 at present.

Partners are working together at both county and local levels to decide on what these priorities should be. Once this process has been completed, these priorities will need to be matched against a new single set of national performance indicators which was issued in October. This is important for us locally because it is likely that LAA funding will only be used to support the priorities which end up in the LAA. We are working hard to make sure that what is important in Lichfield features within the refreshed LAA.

More details from Helen Spearey 01543 - 308700

in brief in brief in brief

The **Lifestyle & wellbeing Group** has recently reviewed its structure and set up a number of Delivery Groups which will focus on each of the 5 outcomes of the Healthier Communities and Older People Block of the LAA.

The Group is working with the County Council to organise two Keep Safe Keep Well events, aimed at members of the public, to be held on 22nd and 23rd November. A number of agencies from the public, private and voluntary sectors will have stalls e.g. Sloppy Slippers, Age Concern, Lichfield District Council, PCT to present Falls Prevention and Drug Prevention, Fire and Rescue, Boots The Chemist for medication Burntwood Community Wardens and Burntwood Live at Home Scheme.

For further information please contact Lucia Maginley Access Team Manager on 01543 510800

For more information call the team on 01543 308170





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useful web sites

- Lichfield District Delivery plan—
http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?fileID=1858
- Respect Agenda - www.respect.gov.uk ,
- Staffordshire Local Area Agreement -
www.staffordshirepartnership.org.uk
- Community Safety Partnership Joint Strategic Assessment 2007—
http://www.lichfielddc.gov.uk/site/scripts/download_info.php?downloadID=855

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The Carers sub group of the Lifestyle and Wellbeing Partnership is arranging a special event on 7th December in recognition of "**Carer's Rights Day**" at the Guildhall in Lichfield City Centre.

A broad range of agencies and organisations that provide support, advice or assistance to carers will be available to meet and talk to carers between 10am and 4pm. The carers are being invited to drop in anytime within those hours for face to face advice on issues such as moving and handling, respite care, carers allowances, direct payments and individual budgets, and a rolling programme of discussions on the forthcoming changes to Health and Social Care Services.

It isn't always easy for carers to get to these sorts of events, so we are arranging opportunities for somebody to look after the person they care for, transport and even free parking!

As part of the same event, the Health (Overview and Scrutiny) Panel of Lichfield District Council is launching a review into the support available to carers in Lichfield District. This will involve members of the panel meeting with a range of carers to identify those services which work well and those which don't, and to help them to understand some of the issues from the carers perspective, and to feed into the review. For more details contact Chris Stanley 01543 308737

Disability Partnership Panel meets on a regular basis to address issues which could affect disabled people living within Lichfield District. If you would like to get involved or want more information contact Deb Morgan on 01543 308145.

Lichfield Lifelong Learning Group are working towards the requirements set out by the Learning and skills council. They are also working to increase the number of schools taking up Wider Family Learning.

hello's and farewells

Hello to....

Lesley Bovington who will take up the position of Community and Partnerships Manager at the beginning of January 2008. she will replace Jenni Coleman who has been doing the job in the interim.

Inspector Jonathan Staite new NPU Commander for Lichfield District

And Chief Inspector Chris Blabrough who will be representing the police on the District Board and the Responsible Authorities Group

Farewell to....

Chris Kirkland Children's Trust Partnership Manager leaves at the end of this year to join Staffordshire County Council as the 2012 Olympic Co-ordinator.

Also Chris Plant Business Investment Assistant leaves to take up a position at Staffordshire Chamber of Trade and Commerce in marketing.

in brief in brief in brief

Whilst the Community Safety Partnership have lead on **Community Engagement Group**. The membership and terms of reference clearly reflect the wider LSP. The group encourages partnership involvement in a variety of events and schemes across the District. With virtually all the Partner agencies represented, the group attempts to provide a more holistic approach to community engagement, developing existing arrangements and formulating new ones. Meeting bi-monthly the group, over the next twelve months will co-ordinate their approach to a variety of events.

Meetings of the **City Forum** are much less planning focused and there is good participations from many difference groups.

A recent "Good News Day" drew a very positive response from visitors to the displays/exhibitions.

An action plan has now been drawn up and the group are gradually working through the various goals and targets set.

After a break over the summer holidays the **Burntwood Area Forum** will meet in the new year to revisit its membership and the format of the meetings. The group will tie in with the LSP Capacity Building Project that will take place in the new year, this will look at neighbourhood management and the regeneration of the Oakdene Estate. For more information on the Capacity Building Project contact Michael Pritchard on 01543 420800

For more information call the team on 01543 308170

