



Monthly News
Round-up
for Devon Partners
& Stakeholders

stronger
together

The Communications Network for Devon's Strategic Partnerships

Input 26

Declaration for Equality puts needs of people first

A charter aimed at upholding the human rights of everyone in Devon was officially signed on Friday 7 November 2008 by some of Devon's key organisations.

The Devon Strategic Partnership (DSP) is inviting all organisations in the county to sign up to its [Joint Declaration for Equality](#).

The Joint Declaration was launched at the DSP annual conference on Friday 7 November. Amongst the first to sign were representatives of Devon and Cornwall Constabulary, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue, Devon County Council and Devon Primary Care Trust. Also signing on the day were the Senior Council for Devon, Children's Trust, and a representative for Devon's young people.

The Joint Declaration states that organisations signing up recognise the importance of putting the needs of people first, and promoting and upholding the human rights and equal rights of everybody in Devon including asylum seekers, migrant workers, nomadic communities, refugees, residents, students and tourists.

The aim is for Devon to continue to develop as a thriving county with strong, cohesive and happy communities, by putting equality, fairness and human rights at the heart of service delivery, economic success, education and employment.

The Declaration includes a vision of equality and fairness for Devon which it defines as:

- People achieving their own potential and a good quality of life
- Everyone being able to use or access services, facilities or information
- People having an influence on decision making, planning, policy and service delivery
- A strong understanding of the diverse range of needs in Devon's communities
- The business community and its workforce being supported and reflecting the community
- Devon is a stronger, safer and inclusive community

- People having trust and confidence in the signatory organisations.

Each of the organisations signing up to the Declaration agrees to work to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination and harassment
- Promote equality of opportunity
- Promote good relations and positive attitudes towards and between all people
- Encourage participation in public life
- Take steps to meet disabled people's needs, even if this requires 'more favourable treatment'.

They also agree to help make Devon a county where everyone feels safe and respected and to monitor their own actions to check for discrimination in employment and the provision of goods or services.

If you or your organisation would like to sign up to it, please email sarah.mupinyuri@devon.gov.uk. Your organisation will then receive a certificate to show your commitment.

Source: Devon Strategic Partnership

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