

Summary Report on the Devon Strategic Partnership Conference held 9th October 2007 at Newton Abbot Racecourse

1 Introduction

The conference held on 9th October was the second to be held since the restructuring of the Devon Strategic Partnership in early 2007. 108 people attended from a wide variety of organisations across Devon. The purpose of the DSP Conference is to ensure that all the main interest groups in Devon have a voice in the partnership and can exert an influence on issues important to them, although for purely practical reasons not all can sit at the main partnership table.

2 Aims of the Day



- a. To further develop the understanding of the purpose and working of the Devon Conference
- b. To review progress since the first meeting
- c. To review and advise on developing priorities for the next Sustainable Community Strategy
- d. To inform actions that may be required for the next round of Local Area Agreement

3 Main findings:

a. Vision.

The conference was asked to consider the vision that had been agreed by the DSP Partnership Board in June 2007, using information and opinion gathered from the previous conference in February and from public consultation. The Vision was widely supported although a few suggestions were made for its improvement, including use of just the main statement without the bullet points, which would be aligned into the priorities. In addition, the use of the words 'greenest' and 'strongest' possibly needed further consideration.



- ### b. Priorities.
- The conference was asked to look at the priorities and outcomes, and see if they deliver the vision; also to identify any gaps. Each of the six priorities were endorsed, with suggestions for improvement. The relationship

between the vision and the proposed priorities was examined and found to be strong but in need of some further improvement and clarity. In general the consensus was that the priorities were generally right, but they should not be ranked, some wording needed to be changed and the obvious gap was in Transport and Access (although it was recognised that access was there as an outcome.)

c. Cross Cutting themes

The conference considered that the cross cutting themes that related to equality and climate change were right but needed wording tweaked, but the second one looking at strong and prosperous local communities needed revisiting as some



aspects might need to be a priority action area in its own right. Each table at the conference was asked to consider two of the priorities and the effect of one of the cross cutting themes against them. The results demonstrated clear linkages between the cross cutting themes and the priorities.

d. The Priorities and Actions:

The conference was invited to work with whichever priority suited best their expertise or interest. Each priority then drew together the work from the morning relating to the theme and considered in detail to help to move towards the action planning phase. The key messages can be found here.

Priority 1 Get the best quality of life for everyone by tackling inappropriate behaviour OR tackle behaviour that intimidates, hurts or unreasonably offends people in Devon.

- PREVENTION
 - Putting people together
 - Tolerance
 - Restorative justice
 - Family intervention
 - Offender profiling
 - Community courts
 - Perceptions
- SYMPTOMS
 - Alcohol abuse
 - Domestic violence
 - Exclusion
 - Drugs
 - Poverty
- INNOVATION

- Experiment
- Accept that at times will fail
- MEASURES / EVIDENCE
 - Proxy indicators
 - Milestones
 - Long term
 - Dependences
- SOCIAL CHANGE
 - Leadership
 - Long term approach
 - Legislation e.g. smoking ban
 - Intolerance

Priority 2 Protect and support Devon's natural and built environment and improve the look and feel of the places where we live

• **What needs to be considered**

- Waste
- Marine and coastal
- Light pollution and tranquillity
- Biodiversity
- Transport
- Food
- Water
- Soil
- Food
- Energy
- Environmental protection
- Sustainable land management
- Landscape – visual, cultural – historic
- Spatial planning and community planning
- Environmental economy
 - o Renewables
 - o 'Green' technology support
 - o Green' skills
 - o Carbon
 - o Tourism etc
 - o Best practice e.g. wood fuels, biomass
- Evidence and monitoring
- Health and environment



• **What needs to be delivered**

- Waste
 - Reducing waste / wastefulness - landfill reduction
 - Reducing commercial waste
 - Education re consuming less – food etc
- Litter
 - o Link to anti social behaviour – recycling – proactive
 - o Encourage litter picking
 - o Marine litter – target groups
- Action Priorities

- Awareness raising re reducing waste
- Promote less packaging
- Encouraging community approaches
- Encouraging local food, farmer's markets
- Envision – support
- Bring together parties to improve standards of waste reduction / commercial and recycling inc community groups workplace schemes
- Reducing waste to landfill
- Incentivising waste management – sustainable
- Transport
 - Integrated transport plan
 - Conduit for funding for community transport initiatives
 - Facilitate more sustainable community approaches
- Local distinctiveness
 - Fill gap between NP's/AONB's
 - Green infrastructure plan for non protected
 - Funding – for white areas
- Evidence and monitoring
 - Information hub – needs environment component
 - How does it relate between sectors and between neighbouring authorities
 - Sharing best practice re environment with planners
 - Monitoring environment delivery of DSP
 - * Define the key objectives of 'the greenest county'
 - Identify key Devon characteristics
- Tranquillity / Light pollution energy
 - Baseline and monitoring mapping
 - Encouraging light pollution reduction - reducing 'fear'
 - Sustainable transport encouragement
 - Planning – minimising avoiding
- Development
 - Local materials – local employment – encourage
 - Retro insulation of existing buildings – encourage and fund
 - Lobby for higher environmental standards for new build
 - Encourage reuse and repair rather than replace e.g. window replacement
- Biodiversity
 - Support delivery of nature map – ecosystem adaptation to climate change
- Marine and coastal
 - Maintain existing mechanisms for integrated coastal zone management i.e. coast / estuary partnerships – connects SMPs / MPAs / WFD
 - Guidance and support of planning sector
 - Lobby re marine bill
 - Providing mechanism for joined up thinking and partnership solutions re managed retreat / reg tidal – coastal nab restoration
 - Tourism pay back schemes – encouraging
 - Supporting evidence base and monitoring

Priority 3 Ensure the availability and balance of appropriate housing for Devon's residents Ideas for action

New Stock

1. Review of assets to increase 1 and supply.
Commitment to use assets to meet community practices = big culture shift. E.g. to pilot a series of initiatives for sustainable long term message!
2. More flex / freedom around rural housing targets and locally determined to allow for rural / market towns delivery
3. Broad and def of what is a rural sustainable community
4. Use funding streams to deliver
 - S106 monies / tic g/ant focus on strategic urban sites
 - More funding streams for rural / market / coastal communities
5. Community strategy must have right words to enable local development framework to bring forward land
6. Map all the assets / building / land and delivery opportunities = land assembly opportunities for delivering community priority
7. Make the case for rural housing in regional strategy



Existing Stock

1. Addressing fuel poverty through a more joined up policies on private sector renewal (insulation, decent homes etc)
2. Existing stock is biggest area for impacting on carbon emissions

Other

Legacy from the LAA1 work

- Housing for key worker
- Rural enabling / CLTs
- Toolkit for sustainable communities

Seeing Devon Sustainable Community Strategy as wider than a County doc.

Establishing a baseline for housing

Priority 4 Inspire young people to achieve their best and support them in tackling the issues that concern them most

- Integrated transport / access plan –
- Participation in decision making
- Prevention services including information, advice and guidance
- Economic Development Plan
- Associated Education and skills
- Opportunities for life
- Balance universal targeted provision
- Positive image of Young People promoted
- See CYPS Plan
- Clarify the relationship between Devon Children's Trust & Devon Strategic Partnership

- Clarify the accountability of CYPS plan to Devon Strategic Partnership

Priority 5 Promote opportunities for people to become and stay as healthy as possible

Outcomes – Health

- Use environment as a ‘tool’ for supporting. Join up Health and quality of life:
- Between NHS and environment sector
- Co locate / complimentary service provision of health, sport etc

Should include ‘promote health and personal wellbeing’: Agree and keep the same – but it is more than just promotion, also about delivery

Add to outcomes:

- Demonstrate the value of a healthy lifestyle
- Alcohol abuse

Recognition needed of links between poverty and ill health

Energy strategy for health service

Change in NHS contract with doctors means patients travel further

Prioritise buildings in relation to climate change design / materials

Priority 6 Encourage Devon to have a strong economy and its residents to have the opportunity to benefit from it

MOST IMPORTANT

This priority area underpins ALL others. Opportunities for young people – building the future

We want skills and training in Devon.

Sustainability and development: do we want to encourage green industries?

Links to ALL vision points

Needs to include

- Enhance skills
- Drive the economy
- Resident’s contribute to and benefit from
- Knowledge, transfer and innovation
- Wealth creation
- Shared benefits
- Links with other parts of world / Country

Concern about ranking of economy in priorities

Create the conditions to grow and thrive – not encourage. This differs across Devon’s communities.

Driving up average incomes / wage

Outcomes

Strong economy

- Additional skills including adult and retention of young adults
- Appreciate ‘system’ needs sorting
- New models of learning that fit rurality
- Support and pump prime environmental economy

Need to include income / debt

Quality jobs / employment (3rd bullet)

Need available and quality infrastructure

Take note of developments in Torbay and Plymouth

Multi area agreement should tackle

- Access to education, advice, employment opportunities etc for all County

- Joined up approach to skills development

- Support for Devon economic partnership by strategic partners – buy into Devon economic strategy

- Stronger call for evaluation of current strategies / best practise

- Encourage aspiration

- Low carbon economy focus

- Procurement

Links with the other priorities

Attract at least one more iconic employer e.g. Met Office in Devon

- Care sector

- Skills base of inward migrants – i.e. untapped resource