



SP NEWS LINK

Southampton
Partnership



>> Chair's Intro:



2006 promises to be a lively year for the Southampton Partnership as we look to develop Local Area Agreements and our Sustainable Community Strategy. The ODPM's consultation on the role of LSPs gives us an opportunity to further enhance partnership working in the city. I look forward to working with even more partners over the coming months. Don't forget to send your news items for future editions of SP News Link to Anna Boterhoek, anna.boterhoek@southampton.gov.uk. My email address is, chair@southampton-partnership.com

Health & social care

>> Don't slip up!:

Winter weather is an extra hazard which can increase the chance of a slip & fall. Slippery wet leaves or icy pavements make it easy to lose your footing. When the weather is particularly dangerous don't go out unless you have to. Injuries from falling are common in all age groups, but are especially likely in older people. While a younger person may escape a fall bruised & embarrassed, there are more serious concerns for older people. A simple fall could mean months in recovery, & may include losing their freedom, stays in hospital, & surgery. Being cold or inactive are also factors which make falls more likely.

Low temperatures & sitting still for too long can lead to low blood pressure. When you next need to stand this can cause dizziness & leg muscles may seize up so it is easy to lose your balance & fall down. Turn the heating on & wear layers of clothing to make sure you stay warm through the winter.

>> Websites:

www.southamptonhealth.nhs.uk

This site is designed to be the first port of call for health information & services in the Southampton City area giving details of all the local GP surgeries, dentists, opticians, hospitals & pharmacies.

www.smokefreesouthampton.nhs.uk

The Smoke Free Southampton website has been set up as an information tool for anyone who is interested in the effects of environmental tobacco smoke. The aim of the site is to give information about the effects of environmental tobacco smoke, particularly the health effects, & also information about becoming smoke free, & progress that is being made by local businesses & organisations.

Promoting involvement & voluntary action

>> Funding News - Community Grant:

The Southampton Community Grant Scheme is for voluntary & community groups doing community building activities (such as residents' & tenants' associations, social clubs & youth groups) in Southampton.

Hundreds of groups have been awarded grants over the last three years but now is your last chance to apply. The Government has changed how it gives out the budget for community renewal & empowerment work so the scheme will end soon & the final round of the scheme will close on 6th February 2006. This round will only be open to groups that have not previously received an award from the Community Grant Scheme. >> More info from Kevin Sawers, k.sawers@southamptonvs.org.uk 023 8021 6014,

>> SCC 3 star rating:

Under the Audit Commission's 'harder test' Comprehensive Performance Assessment (CPA) of 2005/06, Southampton City Council achieved a 3 Star rating, just one short of the top 4 Star band. The CPA crucially assesses adult social care; children's services; benefits; housing; culture; environment and use of resources. Overall, SCC has emerged from this 'harder test' with better scores, no service assessments below level three, a sustained record of proven improvement and it can view its 3 Star rating with confidence and pride. ★ ★ ★

Raising competitiveness & increasing prosperity

>> University spin-out company wins health "Oscar":

Southampton-based company iQur, which spun out from the University of Southampton in 2003, has won a Department of Health Award for Best National Healthcare Innovation. The Medical Futures Innovations Awards are often referred to as the 'Oscars of Healthcare'. iQur was presented with the Award for its research into the detection, treatment & monitoring of Hepatitis C & other liver diseases at the awards ceremony in London. In addition, iQur has also extended its focus & pipeline beyond Hepatitis C into liver fibrosis & secured a licensing deal with The University of Southampton. Liver fibrosis is the result of fatty liver disease, obesity, hepatitis, alcoholic liver disease & others. Over the last 20 years, the University has achieved an international reputation for its study of the pathology of fibrosis, cirrhosis, then cancer of the liver.

>> More info from www.soton.ac.uk/mediacentre/news/2005/nov/05_194.shtml or www.iqur.com



>> Southampton Centre for independent living - Disabled peoples business & community awards 2005:



City Shopmobility, a project managed by Southampton Voluntary Services & funded through Southampton City Council, was recently invited to attend the second annual award ceremony for Disabled people's awards for Hampshire & Isle of Wight.

The awards were hosted by Scil Southampton centre for independent living at the rose bowl & presented by Debbie Thrower (Meridian Tonight presenter). The purpose of the awards are to celebrate business & community achievement in making a real difference to disabled peoples lives. City Shopmobility has been operating in Southampton for over 7 years & was set up to meet the needs of individuals with limited mobility be it tempory or permanent. Shopmobility offers a vehicle hire as well as a shopping companion service. "We were thrilled to receive the top award on the day the judge's award for continuing commitment to serving the interests of Disabled people. We were especially honored that we were nominated for the award by our customers." The awards have a vital role to play in encouraging local business to address disability issues & it's hoped that the ceremony will become a regular event on the city's calendar.

>> More info from Sarah Baker, city.shopmobility@southamptonvs.org.uk 023 8063 1263 or www.southamptonvs.org.uk/shopmob.htm

Improving educational attainment, skills & overcoming barriers to employment

>> European money makes a difference in Southampton:

More than £11million from the European Social Fund money is boosting skill levels & transforming the lives of disadvantaged people in Southampton. Projects include work with unemployed people, homeless people, pupils at risk of exclusion & family learning. The Learning & Skills Council in Hampshire & the Isle of Wight is the main link between the European Union & the individual groups applying for grants. Paul Whittle, LSC Director of Finance said, "ESF money is proving to be very successful in targeting people in our communities who need extra support to rejoin the workforce, particularly through learning & training opportunities."

>> More info from <http://www.lsc.gov.uk/hampshire-iow>

Providing sufficient decent, affordable homes

>> New Flats:

Western Challenge Housing Association has just signed the deal with Roxan Construction for 6 new 2 bed Flats in Jessamine Rd, Shirley Warren. They will be ready for occupation at the end of Feb 2007. All will be for general needs rent & scheme & is part funded by Southampton City Council.

>> More info from Mike Collis, mike.collis@westernchallenge.co.uk www.medinahousing.co.uk/wchq/wcha

>> Searching for a name:

Western Challenge HA has decided to run a competition in Sinclair School to come up with a name for the new road on the site next to school in Lordshill. Also needed is a name for the new block of 15 flats. Southampton City Council wish the name to have a local connection or follow the theme of road names in the vicinity and it will also have to be approved by the Post Office. The prize will be a WH Smiths voucher or something similar.

>> Getting closer to communities – Croydon's 2nd Beacon open day:

Croydon's Beacon Open Day at the end of last year was over subscribed & they are repeating the day for anyone who was unable to attend. This will be held on Thursday 9th March, 2006. Croydon Strategic Partnership is recognised as one of the very best in the country & received Beacon Status for 'Getting Closer to Communities'. Prices for the day include: Statutory Sector delegate £94.00, Voluntary Sector £47.00, previous attendees 50% discount.

>> More info from www.croydon.gov.uk/beaconaward or Carol Sawyer carol.sawyer@croydon.gov.uk or programme details

>> Calendar of Activity



January 2006:

12th January – City College Open Evening

6:00pm to 8:00pm, for anyone interested in applying for, or simply finding out about a course at City College. >> More info from <http://www.southampton-city.ac.uk/jkcm/default.aspx?pg=160&path=2015>

17th January - LNRSv2 workshop:

9:00am to 2:00pm (lunch provided)
The workshop is to enable partners to contribute to the final draft of the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and Action Plans for the Priority Neighbourhoods and to consider how partners will play a role in making those all important things happen! Approval will then be sought from the SP Executive for the final version of the LNRS.

>> Advise of your attendance availability to anna.botelho@southampton.gov.uk 023 8083 3378.

>> More info on LNRS from Helen Pearce helen.pearce@southampton.gov.uk 023 8083 2890

31st - SP Executive meeting:

5:00pm to 8:00pm, Sir James Matthews Building (SM006/SM007), Southampton Solent University, Above Bar Street.

February 2006:

22nd - How to achieve Better Outcomes for Southampton Workshop:

1:00pm to 5:00pm, venue tbc. This event will help shape the SP's thinking in responding to the ODPM's [LSP Consultation paper](#) especially with regard to developing a Sustainable Community Strategy, preparing for Local Area Agreements, and ensuring that the SP is 'fit for purpose' with regard to structures, processes, governance and accountability.

>> More info from Henry Pavey, henry.pavey@southampton.gov.uk 023 8083 3332