

County Durham Partnership newsletter



November 2011

Introduction

Welcome to the County Durham Partnership (CDP) newsletter. Additional information about many of the articles in our newsletter is available on [our website](#). You can also [contact us](#) if you'd like any further information. Our contact details are printed at the end of this newsletter.

Please [get in touch](#) if you have any partnership news or issues that you would like us to cover in future newsletters or on our website. We look forward to hearing from you.

Planning a stronger future for community buildings

People in the County use Durham County Council (DCC) community buildings a total of 21,000 times every week, for varied activities. More than 700 people volunteer to support these facilities.

DCC is now looking to invest £2.15million in community buildings and want your views on the options that have been developed. For more information or to have your say, please visit their [community buildings consultation](#) web page. The consultation ends on 12 December 2011.

Compact Week 2011

National Compact Week

Monday 7th – Friday 11th November

Compact Week is an annual campaign held to promote the Compact, the longstanding agreement that sets out shared commitments and guidelines for partnership working between the public and voluntary sector.

To find out more about Compact Week 2011, please visit:
www.compactvoice.org.uk/compactweek2011.

The County Durham Compact, renewed in June 2011, is designed to enable both sectors to work together more effectively producing improved outcomes for both individuals and communities.

Further information is available on the [County Durham Partnership website](#).



Spotlight on Environment Partnership

Environment Awards 2011



Two 'outstanding contribution' accolades were given at this year's Environment Awards.

Judges at the event, which reward great design, environmental guardianship and community spirit in the County, honoured Trevor Stephenson for his volunteer work with the Durham Heritage Coast Partnership, and building conservation specialists Countryside Consultants for restoration of three historic structures in Barforth. Sarah Winn also won an 'outstanding contribution' award for her work with Countryside Consultants.

"This year we introduced volunteering and business awards, and refreshed the criteria for the schools and community categories," explains Terry Collins, Chair of County Durham's Environment Partnership, which hosted the awards. "The standard has been excellent and those receiving awards and commendations are worthy winners. The outstanding award is not given every year, and it is a testament to the quality of the submissions that we have been able to honour two very different entrants for the valuable contribution that they have made."

For full details of award recipients, visit www.countydurhampartnership.co.uk/envawards

The 2011 awards were sponsored by Gentoo, CE Electric UK, UK Coal, Tesco, SSE, Groundwork and The Northern Echo.

Above: Outstanding award winners Sarah Winn and Trevor Stephenson

Below: award and commendation recipients with Terry Collins, Chair of the County Durham Environment Partnership (seated red tie) and Cllr Dennis Morgan, Chairman, Durham County Council.



County Durham Partnership Board

In our newsletters we will share the key decisions and discussions from recent [CDP board](#) meetings.

The October meeting of the CDP Board had a focus on health with a presentation from the Director of Public Health on the Marmot Review, a detailed piece of work carried out by Sir Michael Marmot which was the culmination of an independent review into health inequalities in England. An update was also given on the reforms taking place within the Health Service that are being implemented by the Government. The board were also presented with the findings of the recent AAP Review and the agenda for the forthcoming CDP Forum agenda was discussed.

Praise for Area Action Partnerships

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) were introduced as a means of working with local communities. Over 5,000 residents across the County are now signed up to their local AAP and feel they can influence local decision making. Working together, over 900 projects have been delivered across County Durham.

A recent review looked at what difference the AAPs have made and for further improvement. The review highlighted key strengths as openness and transparency of AAPs as well as the ability for local people to have their say on local issues.

The review concluded that the partnerships are having a very positive influence in the communities they serve. AAPs were 'fit for purpose' and ready for the future.

Every year statistical profiles are produced for each AAP reflecting issues about their localities. The 2011 profiles will be available soon at www.durham.gov.uk/aaprofiles.

If you would like to become involved with your local AAP you can find out more information from Durham County Council's website.

Partnership Live

County Durham Partnership (CDP) would like to enable partners to share information about their projects, events or initiatives that are taking place within our County.



News from CDP's partnership organisations, voluntary and community organisations, town and parish councils or other appropriate non-profit organisations that are working to make the county an 'Altogether Better Durham' can be submitted for inclusion on our website.

If you represent one of the above organisations and would like to register with the CDP, which will enable you to submit information for your organisation, please complete our [registration form](#).

Partnership Live will be launched on 15th November at the CDP Forum.

Alcohol Awareness Week

As part of Alcohol Awareness Week, which this year runs between Monday 14th November and Sunday 20th November, Balance, the Regional Alcohol Office, are highlighting the impact that alcohol advertising has on children and young people. You can find out more about this campaign and pledge your support by visiting the Balance website from Monday 14th November 2011 onwards. <http://www.balancenortheast.co.uk>



County Durham Health
& Wellbeing Partnership

Every Breath campaign

Last month saw the official launch of the "Every breath" campaign from FRESH, aimed at highlighting the real risks that smokers are doing to their lungs with every cigarette and the links between smoking and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD). The campaign has been developed in conjunction with the British Lung Foundation and respiratory physicians from around the North East.

This campaign is aimed at being a first step to ensure people in the North East are the best informed in the country about the dangers of smoking under the logo that "Every Cigarette is Doing You Damage". It builds on new insight about a shocking lack of awareness about diseases such as COPD, and the assumption that being out of breath – even in your 30s – is normal for a smoker.

For more information visit www.everybreath.tv

Safer neighbourhoods

The Safe Durham Partnership has launched a new-style Neighbourhood Watch scheme. The aim is to create a more modern, dynamic and forward-looking Neighbourhood Watch organisation that is built upon the traditional values of crime prevention and social cohesion.



Safe Durham Partnership

It is hoped that people will become actively involved in identifying and resolving local issues, with a goal of having 55,000 new homes covered by the scheme by 2016.

For more information about Neighbourhood Watch visit www.durham.gov.uk/NHW

Policing Priorities

The Safe Durham Partnership are consulting on policing priorities for 2012. Help identify your priorities for your local area. Log on to the Police website www.durham.police.uk follow the link and tell us what matters to you. The on-line consultation is available from 14th November to 1st December.

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