

County Durham Partnership newsletter



January 2012

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.

Community Buildings

The Community Building Review consultation ran between 19 September 2011 to 12 December 2011. During that time, over 3,600 people gave their views through meetings with community building management groups and users, special consultation events, attendance at the Area Action Partnership Forum meetings, specific meetings and questionnaires with young people, the citizens panel, questionnaires and correspondence.

All the information is being collated and analysed and it is anticipated that a report will be presented to the Council's Cabinet on 8th February 2012. All centres will be informed of the outcomes of the report during February and March 2012.

For further information contact the Community Building Consultation Team on 0191 3834215 or by e-mailing cbconsultation@durham.gov.uk

County Durham Partnership Update

The County Durham Partnership Forum meeting which took place in November had three main agenda items:



A presentation was given on plans for the Olympics and how communities across the County will be able to take part in this once in a lifetime opportunity. For the second item, Board Members from two Area Action Partnerships, Mid Durham and Spennymoor, gave presentations showcasing their achievements to date and what differences had been made in their communities. Finally, a focus on the 'Altogether healthier' theme and the recent Marmot Review, as well as links to the five Health Networks across the County, took place, led by Anna Lynch, Director of Public Health.



Spotlight on Children's Trust

Children and Young Peoples Service Shortlisted

The Family Pathfinder project has been shortlisted in the Children's Services category of the 2012 Local Government Chronicle Awards.

The Pathfinder Service works with the whole family to achieve long term change through the provision of intensive family support. It meets a previously identified gap in provision by focusing on families with high levels of complex need, ensuring that the needs of parents are met in order to assist them to improve outcomes for their children. The Service aims to reduce the need for Specialist Safeguarding Services for these families as well as the likelihood of repeat referral through the reduction of risk and improving levels of resilience.

The Service works in partnership with families with a strengths based approach; empowering families to identify the changes they wish to make; and identifying a network of support to assist them. The provision of a key worker with the capacity to build high quality trusting relationships with these 'hard to reach' families and to coordinate their support is a critical aspect of the model.

There is good evidence from family self reporting and external evaluation that the emotional wellbeing of both adults and children improve as a result of this intervention as well as key tangible improvements relating to children's educational outcomes; improved parenting and a reduction in family violence.

The winners will be announced on 14 March 2012.



County Durham
Children's Trust

One Point

A new service to make life easier for families has been launched.

The new service offers a one-stop shop in local areas and teams will contain staff from the local authority and health services as well as a range of others working with children, young people and families.

The service was developed working together with users to make sure that it meets their needs.

Services are offered through ten new One Point service hubs that have been created across the county as well as through the existing 43 Sure Start Children's Centres.

These venues extend the reach of the One Point service into the heart of communities improving access to services for children, young people and their families, benefiting from a grant of £6.8million from Central Government's Co-location Fund.

One Point will work closely with schools, GPs and communities to deliver services direct to families and one single telephone number will make it easier for families to get the support they need. For more information visit the [One Point](#) webpage.



Tell Digital Durham about your superfast broadband needs



If you live or run a business in County Durham, Digital Durham would like you to take part in a survey to let them know about your superfast broadband needs. Click on the link to complete the [Digital Durham Survey](#)



The survey results will be used as part of the Digital Durham programme to assist in gauging local demand for superfast broadband; supporting services such as IT training and the availability of affordable computer equipment; and help clarify where internet services are slow or unavailable.

If you cannot take part online call the Digital Durham team on 03000 261 160 or email digital.durham@durham.gov.uk.

Raid on illegal tobacco houses

Trading Standards officers from Durham County Council have continued their pursuit of illegal sellers of cigarettes with a raid in the Crook area of County Durham. In partnership with the Crook Neighbourhood Policing Team, warrants were executed on two houses and a garage which were suspected of operating as illegal tab houses. The action resulted in the arrest of five local people and the seizure of around 11,500 cigarettes and 6kg of rolling tobacco.



Much of the tobacco that is seized is packaged without the warnings of the serious health risks associated with smoking, including cancer and other life threatening conditions. In some cases the warnings are there but appear in Russian, Chinese or Arabic. Often the products are manufactured in the Far East, purely to be sold on by local tobacco houses.

Nine out of ten people in the North East think illegal tobacco is a danger as it allows children to smoke, while six out of 10 believe it brings crime into communities and 85 per cent support efforts to stamp out sales to children.

101 - New Police non emergency number is launched



An easy to remember non-emergency police number has been launched in our region.



The public will be able to call 101 for non-emergency issues such as minor traffic collisions, criminal damage or if they want to speak to a local neighbourhood officer about an issue affecting their community.

The new number is being introduced in the Durham, Cleveland, Cumbria, Northumbria and North Yorkshire force areas as part of a national roll-out designed to make it easier for people to contact police. Chief Constable Jon Stoddart said: "This is a simple number which should be easy to remember. We want people to use it when they're reporting a crime or incident, which doesn't need the 999 response. By using this number people will be able to contact their local officers, as well as helping to reduce the demands on the 999 system, which is for emergencies only."

Safe Durham - Partnership Priorities

Following on from the public consultation held in Nov 2011 by the Safe Durham Partnership, the top three resulting priorities were:

1. Taking a partnership approach to tackling anti-social behaviour
2. Reducing the impact of alcohol abuse on people and communities
3. Protecting vulnerable people from harm

This information will be used to inform the work the Safe Durham Partnership carry out throughout 2012/13.



Safe Durham Partnership

Total Home Safety Initiative Shortlisted

As well as The Family Pathfinder Project, The Total Home Safety Project has also been shortlisted in the Public Sector Partnership category of the 2012 Local Government Chronicle Awards.

In 2010, Durham County Council as part of The Safe Durham Partnership, secured funding for a Total Home Safety project to reduce burglaries and fires in the homes of vulnerable people in the areas of Derwentside, Easington, and Durham City. As a result 4,000 vulnerable households have been left safer, more secure and with their occupiers feeling safer, more independent and enjoying a better customer experience.

The initiative contributed to a projected £1m in cashable efficiency savings, a 35% reduction in domestic burglary and a 15% reduction in domestic fires.

The winners will be announced on 14 March 2012.



Safe and **secure**

New Information Leaflets Launched

The Safer Durham Partnership have launched two new leaflets this month.

'Sent to Prison' is a guide for families and friends of someone who has been remanded in custody or sentenced to prison or a young offenders institution. You can download a copy of the leaflet from the [Reducing Re-offending](#) webpage.

The 'Hate Crime' leaflet gives information on hate crimes and hate incidents and explains how to report them and where to go for help and support. You can download a copy of the leaflet from the [protecting vulnerable people from harm](#) webpage.

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