



Welcome

Welcome to the latest issue of **Communicate**. Please use it to share news from [Wychavon Strategic Partnership](#), the three area-based [LSPs](#) and the [Worcestershire Partnership](#) with your colleagues and networks. Get in touch with Tracy with your comments or content for the next issue.

[Audrey Steel](#) – Strategic Partnership Chair
[Tracy Perkins](#) – Wychavon Council
[Cherrie Mansfield](#) - Wychavon Council

Strategic Partnership

The Partnership last met on 23 March 2011. Click [here](#) to view the agenda and minutes. The meeting included a [presentation](#) by Clive Wright from Walsall Partnership. He talked about how the partnership has developed a new approach to transforming service provision. This has resulted in some impressive savings and improved outcomes for customers. Karen Wright gave a presentation on the Healthy Lives, Healthy People – [Public Health White Paper](#) which sets out the Government's long-term vision for the future of public health in England. We looked at the latest [Worcestershire Viewpoint](#) results. These will provide useful information for setting action plans.

[Opportunity Vale of Evesham](#)

In March we held four community drop-in events in Harvington, Badsey, Norton and Broadway. The events were open to the whole of each village, not just the areas covered by the project. Participating organisations included: [Act on Energy](#), [Rooftop](#), [Midwest Enterprise](#), [Fire Service](#), [Children's Centres](#), [Age Concern](#), Adult Libraries and Learning who gave details about the [comput@bus](#) and health MOTs by Lloyds Chemist. The events were received positively by those who attended. The youth bus and sports coaching proved very

popular with the children. We're now looking at different methods of engagement for the Evesham areas. So far over 100 households in the project areas have taken up the offer of free loft and cavity wall insulation. The strand groups have all met recently and a number of projects are being developed.

Local Partnerships

[Droitwich Area Partnership](#) (DSAP)

Preparations are in hand for this summer's event programme. The first event, St. Richard's Festival and the Classic Car Rally, takes place on 30 April. The highlight of the summer will be the opening of Droitwich Canal. The opening ceremony takes place on 1 July followed by a weekend long Water Festival in Vines Park, coinciding with the Droitwich Music and Arts Festival.

A review is currently underway to assess the effectiveness of the Spa Youth Zone. This is in response to planned cuts in youth service provision across Worcestershire and the need to find a sustainable long term solution for the facility. Connexions has just moved into the Zone and the Princes Trust is currently using it for a 12 week training programme for unemployed young people.

Major gas refurbishment works are nearing completion in the High Street. This involved closing the street to through traffic for a month. A traders' support programme, funded by DSAP and Wychavon District Council, was put together to encourage people to support local businesses whilst the High Street was closed.

[Evesham Market Town Partnership](#) (EMTP)

The Partnership is rolling out its new web site www.eveshamtown.co.uk which aims to be the portal for all enquiries relating to Evesham and the Vale. The site will feature all of the Vale's events as well as being the

single point of contact for information relating to inward investment, business support and the Vale's 70 towns and villages. If you have information about events for the website please e-mail shawn.riley@wychavon.gov.uk.

The [Evesham events](#) season kicks off on 23 April with a day of asparagus fun in the town centre. Harvington Parish Council has organised three events from 6 – 8 May, culminating in the Harvington 'Gras' Games.

EMTP has provisionally approved four projects for 2011. These include a range of locally distinct events to raise the profile of the Vale of Evesham; business grants; attracting retail investment to Evesham and a programme to respond to problems relating to poor public realm that fall outside of general maintenance work.

[Pershore Market Town Partnership](#) (PMTP)

In February, the partnership linked up with the town's Chamber of Trade to host a ['Big Society Breakfast'](#). Around 80 representatives from Pershore's business, community, voluntary and statutory sectors attended the meeting, which attempted to give people a better understanding of the Big Society initiative. Guest speakers included local MP, Harriett Baldwin, who described Pershore as 'capital of the Big Society', citing a number of projects including Number 8 Arts Centre and the new Pershore Community Hospital, as examples of the 'Big Society' at work.

An audience discussion identified the opportunities and challenges facing Pershore today, including the future of the town's library and concerns about the sustainability of the area's local bus services. Over the course of the year, PMTP will be running a number of follow-up events, exploring some of the themes raised and how 'Pershore's Big Society' can tackle these.

[Worcestershire Partnership](#)

The Partnership met on 14 March. Click [here](#) to view the agenda and minutes. The Compact Code of Practice was signed off

and the Partnership's new Terms of Reference/ Governance Arrangements were agreed.

A 12-week [consultation on the new Worcestershire Community Strategy](#) has commenced. The strategy contains a small set of priorities for Worcestershire plus a number of more locally focused priorities for each district. Wychavon Strategic Partnership has put forward seven priorities for the district. The deadline for responses to the consultation is 7 July 2011.

Other news

[Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership](#)

A business board has now been established comprising of 18 representatives. The Board will be responsible for providing business leadership and expertise, influencing policy making and shaping the economic environment for new and existing businesses in Worcestershire.

Out now

[Knowing Wychavon Communities](#) – this document pulls together information and intelligence about the district and its residents.

[Climate Change Matters](#) – Worcestershire Partnership Newsletter – Spring issue.

[Safeguarding Matters](#) – Worcestershire Safeguarding Service for Children and Young People - March 2011 issue

Diary dates

Wychavon Strategic Partnership:

25 May 2011

Worcestershire Partnership Board:

13 June 2011

Droitwich Area Partnership:

1 June 2011

Evesham Market Town Partnership:

6 June 2011

Pershore Market Town Partnership:

19 July 2011

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