

Test Valley Partnership News

February 2008

Dear Partners

2008 promises to be an interesting year in terms of partnership working. It will see us taking on board new Government guidance which sets out a more active leadership role for the Borough Council, and reaffirms the importance of local community engagement.

We'll also see partners signing up to a new Local Area Agreement for Hampshire, which Test Valley will play its part in delivering to ensure improved outcomes across the county.

Of course the Partnership will continue to keep the focus of its attention on the needs of the local area, and delivering the aims we have set out in our Community Plan.

Janet

Janet Blann, Chairman of Test Valley Partnership

Romsey young people voice their views on the future

Young people in Romsey were given the chance to express their views on the town during a conference held on Friday 25 January. 'Romsey unwrapped - Your Views, Your Voice, We're Listening' was hosted by Romsey Youth Project (part of the Romsey 2020) in conjunction with the Youth Council.



Pupils from Romsey and Mountbatten School took part in the all-day event, giving them a chance to tell businesses and organisations what they wanted to see for their town.

The morning session involved a series of interactive workshops giving youngsters the chance to discuss subjects such as the proposed housing developments at Abbottswood, what could be done to improve sports and leisure facilities, and how young people can develop positive relationships with the Police.

All the groups were facilitated by a member of the Romsey Youth Council and representatives from the supporting organisations who could offer real insight on the subjects. The Mayor of Romsey, Councillor Mark Cooper, listened to the views of Romsey's youth during an open discussion session.

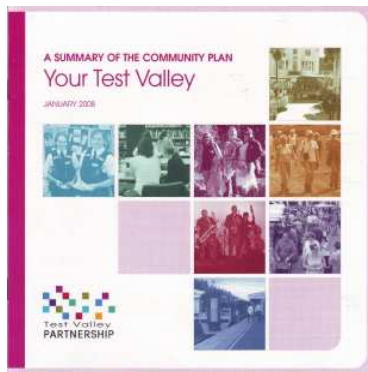
The information gathered from the workshops will be collated by the Romsey Youth Project and a report produced setting out what the town's young people like and dislike about Romsey, along with their ideas for its future development. The information will

be used along with the results of previous surveys to identify short and long-term projects and work with businesses and organisations to turn ideas into reality.

For more information on the Romsey Youth Project please contact Nadine Taylor on office@nadinetaylor.co.uk

Summary Community Plan published

Following the review and update of the Partnership's Community Plan in 2007, an attractive summary version of the plan has now been published.



The summary sets out the key strategic objectives under each of the plan's eight themes and will be distributed to partner organisations across Test Valley in the next few weeks.

Please contact Penny Lane (plane@testvalley.gov.uk) if you'd like to order copies for your organisation.

Core Strategy Development Plan

The Borough Council has now published its Core Strategy for consultation as part of the Local Development Framework.

The document sets out where the Council considers the development required by the South East Plan for the

next 20 years could go within the Borough.

Test Valley is required to accommodate 8,910 dwellings (plus a possible further 600) between 2006 and 2026. 5,000 of these dwellings will be located in the north of the borough, and 3,910 in the south.

The document also seeks to deliver those elements of the Test Valley Partnership Community Plan which fall within the Council's role as the local planning authority.

A key challenge presented by the Core Strategy will be how the proposals within it are to be delivered. Many, such as the provision of education, health, transport and perhaps most important of all, the creation of new communities and neighbourhoods, will only be achieved successfully by the co-ordinated actions of the LSP.

Members of the LSP will be consulted and views are welcomed.

To support the Council in developing an initial implementation programme for the Strategy, the Council is encouraging partners to consider the contents of the document and the implications for their organisations. A number of workshops involving the LSP action groups are taking place, providing an opportunity to discuss in some detail the content of the Strategy.

Consultation has been open since the 1st February and continues until the 14th March.

For more information on the Local Development Framework please contact Steve Lees, Policy, Design and Conservation Manager on 01794 527810 or email slees@testvalley.gov.uk

New Community Facility – The Rendezvous



Work is progressing well on the refurbishment of units 8 and 10 in Union Street to develop 'The Rendezvous', a new community venue in Andover. The venue will provide flexible and attractive meeting space for voluntary and community groups in the heart of the town.

Completion is expected in the next few weeks, but bookings in the Lower Guildhall will continue to be made available until the Rendezvous opens.

For more information on The Rendezvous please contact Christine Brown, Communication Manager on 01264368108 or email cbrown@testvalley.gov.uk

To book the facility please contact the Borough Council's Technical Service on 01264368716.

Andover Vision Website

The Andover Vision website is now up and running at <http://www.andovervision.co.uk>

The site includes information about Andover Vision Projects, Andover Live Events and also includes listings of current events in the Andover area. There are forums where local people can discuss their views and a space dedicated to artists, bands and a range

of matters of interest to the local community.

For further information please contact Sue Sheppard on 01264 342474 or email susan.sheppard@simplyhealth.co.uk

Older People's Well-Being Strategy 2008-2011 - Consultation

A draft older people's well-being strategy for Hampshire is currently out for consultation until 10th March.

There is already a great deal of work going on across the county to support older people to live independent and fulfilling lives. The aim of the strategy is to provide an overarching framework to better co-ordinate this work and provide a basis for future initiatives to be developed with key partners, including older people, voluntary sector organisations, health, district councils and Hampshire County Council. It will provide opportunities to work in partnership, pool resources and get the most out of action taken at a local and county level.

The full strategy and summary documents are available on the HCC website: www.hants.gov.uk/bettertime. Feedback forms are attached to both the full and summary documents, and can be returned by email to: wellbeing@hants.gov.uk.

For further information please contact Alex Burn, Head of Older People's Well-Being Team, HCC.

Healthy Horizons - The Hampshire Primary Care Trust Strategy

The Hampshire PCT Strategy, 'Healthy Horizons-enabling the people of Hampshire to live longer and healthier lives', is now available and out for consultation.

The strategy considers how a combination of people's changing lifestyles, demographic change, changing public expectations and developments in clinical practice and technology will all have an impact on health and healthcare needs in Hampshire over the next few years. It proposes a strategy for action based around the following seven key areas:

- Dealing with the effects of an ageing population.
- Helping people make healthier lifestyle choices and reducing health inequalities across Hampshire.
- Improving the pathway of care for patients.
- Making more efficient use of resources.
- Improving quality, focusing effort on the three key areas of patient safety.
- Improving the way we engage with patients and the public.
- Developing stronger partnerships.

The strategy can be accessed on the Hampshire PCT website:

www.hampshirePCT.nhs.uk

Any comments can be emailed to:

yourviewscount@hampshirepct.nhs.uk

Test Valley Partnership Manager

After a lengthy period away from the office, Marion Woods, the former

Partnership Manager has opted to retire on the grounds of ill health. Marion formally left the post at the end of November. At the meeting of the Partnership Board in January, Members recorded their appreciation and requested that their best wishes for Marion's future should be conveyed.

We are currently in the final stages of recruiting a new Partnership Manager, and hope to be in a position to make an announcement shortly.

Partnership Contact Details

For further information on the Test Valley Partnership please contact Penny Lane, Policy & Performance Manager, Test Valley Borough Council, 01264 368105, [plane@testvalley.gov.uk](mailto:p.lane@testvalley.gov.uk)