

shaping the future together Communicate



News for and from Wychavon's Strategic Partnership and LSPs

November 2012

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 by 1 February 2013.

As this is the last Communicate of 2012, can we take the opportunity to wish all our readers a Happy Christmas.

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

Strategic Partnership (SP)

The Partnership last met on 21 November 2012. Click [here](#) to view the agenda and minutes.

We had a presentation on **Worcestershire's Broadband Plan**. The Plan aims to get 90% of the county receiving speeds of at least 24Mbps by 2015. The remaining areas will have speeds of at least 2Mbps. Details about the plan can be obtained from [Pauline Harris](#) at Worcestershire County Council. To show support for faster Broadband please encourage everyone you know to complete the survey by clicking on the [link](#).

A consultation is taking place on the changes to **Children's Centres**, to complete the survey please click on the [link](#) or contact your local Children's Centre for a paper copy. The closing date for responses is 20 January 2013.

[Bereavement Support](#) is a new service hosted by St Richard's Hospice in partnership with South Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group and Age UK. The service includes a telephone helpline (01905 760934) and a website with information and links to organisations and services which may be able to offer support and assistance across a range

of needs from practical activities to emotional support.

Community First has set up a [Community Bulk Buying scheme](#) aimed as saving money on heating homes, offices, schools, or village halls. The scheme offers people the chance to come together to negotiate lower prices for their fuel. Annual joining costs start at £20.



We've had a really positive visit and feedback from our Opportunity Vale of Evesham champions: Councillor David Hughes (Malvern Hills District Council), Guy Weston (Festival Housing) and Alan Smith (Worcestershire Partnership). They reported that the project has developed considerably in the last 12 months. The performance management framework has been strengthened and now provides the Project Management Team with a useful tool for monitoring the progress of the project and delivery against key outcomes. They especially liked the significant development with a number of key projects including door knocking, Jubilee Gardens and Forest School.

A Redesigning services in rural areas event was held on 17 October. Over the past six months we have been looking at a range of public, voluntary and community sector services available to children and young people and older people in some rural areas of Wychavon. The event was held to share the findings and to start to consider how and where things might be done differently. It was attended by over 70 senior managers and key stakeholders and the event was filmed. More details can be obtained from [David Manning](#). A follow up workshop to take forward the findings takes place on 31 January from 10am-4.00pm. Please let [Tracy](#) know if you wish to attend.

Local partnerships

[Droitwich Area Partnership \(DSAP\)](#)

DSAP is currently reviewing priorities for its 2013/14 action plan. These will be the local economy (Berry Hill/ town centre/canal), lifelong learning, Westlands Health inequalities and rural areas. Planning has started for the 2013 event programme. Highlights are St. Richards Festival to run over May Bank Holiday weekend, which will include a boating festival; Summer Festival featuring music, arts, food and drink; and Salt Fest. The new will town centre signs should be installed in late January.

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

Evesham has been awarded £10,000 from the Government following its recent bid for funding through the Portas Pilot scheme. EMTP will be joining partners and town centre stakeholders to develop a Town Plan for Evesham and this resource will be used to seed fund projects that emerge from the plan.

Yes Loyalty Card

The first draw for £1,000 of Evesham shopping vouchers in the YES loyalty card scheme took place at Evesham's Christmas Lights Switch-on event on 17th November. Ian Hepher of Battleton Road was the lucky winner and is now looking forward to a Christmas spending spree.

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

Expression of Interest applications have been received for the annual grant allocation for 2013/14. The newly introduced stage was to allow greater assistance with project champions to develop their projects. With many new applicants, the aim of enhancing communication and closer joined up working with the rural areas appears to be successful.

Pershore's late night shopping event will take place on Friday, 14 December at multiple venues within the town.

[Worcestershire Partnership \(WP\)](#)

Worcestershire Partnership produces a useful weekly **funding e-bulletin**. This contains a summary of current grant and other funding sources, which will appeal to a range of groups and organisations. Contact [Cherie Mansfield](#) if you'd like to be added to the e-mail list for the bulletin or would like to see an

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example bulletin. Alternatively you can find out about grants by clicking [here](#) then click on grant finder search.

Following extensive public consultation, the Worcestershire **Joint Health and Well-being Strategy** was approved on 26 September 2012. The strategy and full report, which outlines changes to the strategy and responses to the consultation, are available [here](#). If you would like any more details contact [Traci Lloyd-Moore](#).

Other news

Malvern Hills District Council's decision on 13 November to seek an alternative approach to the **South Worcestershire Development Plan** has prompted Wychavon District Council to announce that, after careful consideration, it will cease progress of a joint development plan for South Worcestershire. Wychavon remains in a strong position to move forward with its own plan. This will mean no change for communities in Wychavon. The council remains committed to delivering a plan so it has a clear direction and does not fall foul of the appeals process or unwanted development. The council will seek to remain on track with the current timetable to submit the new plan to the Secretary of State in 2013.

The Local Government and Information Unit has produced an updated version of its [Guide to the Localism Act](#). This covers powers and governance (including the new community rights), planning and social housing.

Diary dates

Droitwich Area Partnership:

5 December 2012

Worcestershire Partnership Board:

10 December 2012

Pershore Market Town Partnership:

13 December 2012

Evesham Market Town Partnership:

13 December 2012

Wychavon Strategic Partnership:

30 January 2013

Communicate is produced by Tracy Perkins at Wychavon District Council. Contact Tracy with feedback, suggestions and contributions on 01386 565517 or e-mail tracy.perkins@wychavon.gov.uk