

shaping the future together Communicate



News for and from Wychavon's Strategic Partnership and LSPs

February 2013

Welcome

Welcome to the latest issue of **Communicate** – the first of 2013. 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 25 March 2013.

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

Strategic Partnership (SP)

The Partnership last met on 30 January 2013. Click [here](#) to view the agenda and minutes.

The **Westlands Forum** has been re-established with the aim of helping address health and wellbeing issues in the Westlands area of Droitwich. The group's first activity was a drop-in event on 11 February to increase awareness of local services available and to receive feedback from residents about their needs and what can be done to improve quality of life and health on the estate.

Kate Jones, Children's Centres Cluster Manager for Wychavon, gave an update on the recent **consultation about the changes to Children's Centres** in Wychavon. Children's Centres operate for children under the age of five. There are seven centres in Wychavon and the consultation was about streamlining them to cover three areas. The analysis of the consultation results can be viewed [here](#).

Cherrie Mansfield, Wychavon's Strategy and Performance Manager, gave a brief update on the changes to **Wychavon's New Homes Bonus protocol** and allocations. An event on the changes, the process and how to put together a proposal is being held on **27 February 2013** from 6.00-8.15pm at the Civic Centre; contact [Tracy](#) if you wish to attend.

Fiona Narburgh, Wychavon's Head of Strategy and Communications, led a workshop discussion about views on Wychavon District Council's **reputation**. Contact [Fiona](#) for more information.



Following an event in October where we fed back the initial findings from the Opportunity Vale of Evesham project's Shaping Service Delivery initiative, we held an event on 31 January to explore the areas further and to identify how organisations can work together better. Three key areas for development were looked at:

- Communication and information
- Early intervention and prevention
- Building community capacity and resilience

40 people from a range of organisations attended. The workshops produced a series of actions for future joint delivery and these will be followed up over the next few months. For more information contact [David Manning](#).

Local partnerships

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

A number of new initiatives are underway which involve DSAP. New town centre signage will be installed in late February. Plans have started for installation of new maps and information boards, in the town centre, and replacement of fencing alongside the canal on Hanbury Road. The new Food and Drink Festival (22 June) was launched at Droitwich Business Forum and is generating a lot of interest. DSAP has awarded a grant to the new Spa Business Enterprise Awards, which celebrate local entrepreneurship.

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

EMTP has confirmed that it will be changing its festival programme in order to generate new self-sustaining events and directly boost town centre businesses. For more details about the

events click [here](#). The second winner of Evesham loyalty card's £1,000 monthly prize draw is a 76-year-old. The **YES scheme** aims to encourage local people to spend their money in town shops. Retailers can still sign up by clicking [here](#).

Evesham Town Plan – a Town Plan Steering Group has been established, the group will help to create a vision for the future of the town. A wider stakeholder group will be established to ensure that the views of as many interested partners can be captured.

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

A long awaited project, supported by PMTP, the installation of a hydropower unit at Pershore Weir has received approval and is expected to go ahead later this year. There are also plans for a canoe chute and a white water channel. The Pershore moorings are now, officially the first "Havon", providing safe moorings and facilities for boaters.

PMTP is assisting voluntary groups and charities to become more effective at fundraising and to share expertise and resources. A fund raising workshop was held on 4 January which was attended by 16 delegates. Details about the workshop can be obtained from [Steve Knight](#), Pershore Town Market Manager.

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

The WP last met on 10 December 2012. Click [here](#) to view the agenda and minutes. Feedback from the recent Areas of Highest Need (AOHN) Champion visits were given. The AOHN Coordinators outlined how they were addressing the feedback and moving the projects forward.

The Partnership restructure was discussed and it was agreed:

1. The Worcestershire Partnership will become a network of partnerships with the Shenstone Group at the centre.
2. The Board is dissolved and the Partnership Executive Group (PEG) is given responsibility for the administration of the Worcestershire Partnership.

Other news

Senior leaders from Worcestershire College and Wychavon met recently to discuss future

work and collaboration. The initial focus is on apprentices that the council will take on and also working with local businesses to make it easier for them to take on **apprentices**. There are also plans for a new engineering academy on Vale Park.

From the 1 April 2013, Herefordshire & Worcestershire Age UK will be delivering the **home from hospital service** for older people in Worcestershire. The aim of the service is to support older people to adjust back to day to day life after a stay in hospital and to assist them with a range of activities. If you are interesting in volunteering ring 0800 0086077 or email volunteering@ageukhw.org.uk.

The **Green Deal** was launched in January. It is a national scheme to help homes and businesses make energy saving improvements, which are paid for over time on electricity bills. Repayments will be no more than what a typical household or business should save in energy costs. The seven Worcestershire councils are currently developing local Green Deal schemes that will help support the local economy. In the meantime the councils are working with Act on Energy to make sure eligible households benefit from the Energy Companies Obligation (ECO), which provides extra financial assistance for some older properties and those on benefits and low incomes. Find out more [here](#).

Out now

[Climate Change Newsletter](#) – Winter 2012/13.

Diary dates

Evesham Market Town Partnership:

7 March 2013

Pershore Market Town Partnership:

12 March 2013

Wychavon Strategic Partnership:

27 March 2013

Droitwich Area Partnership:

3 April 2013

Worcestershire Partnership Executive Group

18 April 2012

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