



Halton Strategic Partnership Board – 9th November 2005

The Priorities Process

A report was presented to the Board outlining the proposed new set of priorities for Halton. The proposals are the result of many months of research into Halton's current position, and a wide-ranging stakeholder consultation across the Partnership. After discussing the proposals, the following new priorities were agreed:

- Healthy Halton
- Halton's Urban Renewal
- Halton's Children and Young People
- Employment, Learning and Skills in Halton
- Safer Halton

These priorities will form the framework for the new community strategy, and Halton's allocation of Neighbourhood Renewal Fund will be spent on tackling them. The new strategy is now in the process of being written, and will run from April 2006 onwards.

Further information about the themes that sit underneath these priority areas can be found in the "Priorities Process" section of www.haltonpartnership.net.

Safer and Stronger Communities Fund

The Safer and Stronger Communities Fund was introduced in April 2005 to bring together the funding streams of the Office of The Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Office. The funding available in Halton will be used on a neighbourhood level, targeted at the most deprived areas.

It was agreed that a sub-group of the Board will be set up to develop proposals for Halton's approach to using this funding.

Police Force Structures

The Board received a report about the potential changes to police force structures in the North West. There would be clear implications for Halton if it were merged with neighbouring forces – more information will follow as soon as it's received.

Partnership Conference Feedback

This year's Partnership conference proved to be very popular, and feedback from the evaluation sheets indicated that 100% of attendees were happy with the conference, including 83% who rated it "excellent".

The day included a keynote speech from Sir Chris Bonington, awards for the Partnership's best performing projects and the launch of Halton's new Community Engagement Strategy. More information on the strategy can be found at: www.haltonpartnership.net/communityengagement

Date of next meeting – 18th January 2006