



Halton Strategic Partnership Board – 13th July 2005

Halton Housing Partnership

The Board received a presentation from the Housing Partnership that outlined its purpose, objectives and key challenges. The Partnership aims to deliver quality homes and neighbourhoods in Halton, support the regeneration of the area, and complement regional policy.

One of the key challenges is meeting the decent homes standard for the current stock of Halton Borough Council housing. The Halton Housing Trust has been established to oversee the management of this social housing in the area, and meeting these targets is central to its work.

Priorities Process

The Board received a report on progress to date in establishing Halton's new priorities – more information can be found in the "Priorities process" section of www.haltonpartnership.net.

It was stressed that there is a need for the priorities to have a local flavour to them, and the following themes were suggested:

- Healthy Halton
- Safer Halton
- Halton's people
- Living and working in Halton

It was agreed that partners and stakeholders would be consulted on these proposals, and that work will continue around these broad themes.

Community Engagement

In the Autumn of 2004 the Board endorsed a proposal to develop a new Community Engagement Strategy for Halton. Work has since taken place with all stakeholders in the borough to develop three new products:

- A new Community Engagement Strategy and Implementation Plan
- A toolkit containing advice and best practice for practitioners
- A protocol for managing the results of the engagement

The Board praised the quality of the work, and agreed that it should be discussed amongst partners and by Specialist Strategic Partnerships.

For more information on the strategy please contact Ian Grady on 0151 424 2061. A dedicated section on the topic is currently being developed for www.haltonpartnership.net and will be published in coming weeks.

Neighbourhood Issues

The Partnership Team will co-ordinate a review of current practice in neighbourhood working and community involvement at a neighbourhood level. This piece of work will be developed over the next six months, and a report will be brought to a future meeting.

Action: Halton Strategic Partnership Team to co-ordinate a review of current practice.

Local Area Agreements

Halton has been unsuccessful in securing one of the pilot Local Area Agreements, but will need to implement one in 2007/08. It was agreed that Halton should adopt an agreement as a local trial in 2006/07 to prepare us for the real thing, and to help us refine the process at a local level.

Action: Specialist Strategic Partnerships to produce a development plan to be considered by the Board in Autumn 2005.

Community Empowerment Network Report

Andy Guile reported that the membership of Halton Together has now grown from 180 to 305 groups. An update was given on the wide range of work taking place, and it was noted that the Halton Together website, www.haltontogether.org.uk has now received over 10,000 hits.

Date of next meeting – 28th September 2005