

Partnership Matters

December 2011



Message from the Chairman



Our partnership has evolved over the last year, taking into account the need to reflect national policy, and also local needs. Feedback from partners has helped to shape the new structure, and our December meeting is the first in the new six monthly cycle of meetings. You can find out more about what the four Boards have been doing, and plan to do in the future, by visiting the partnership web pages or reading our e-bulletin.

Our work over the next year will focus on embedding the new structures and achieving more in partnership than we can on our own. This will be tough as resources are scarce, but by focusing on our shared priorities we have an opportunity to make them stretch further.

Wishing you a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Cllr Andrew Lewer - Leader of Derbyshire County Council



Sports Action Grant

The County Council recently launched a £180,000 Sports Action Grant Fund to be distributed over 18 months in three timetabled rounds of funding.

Sports clubs and local community groups can apply for grants of up to £1,000 to help them provide activities that:

- encourage more people to take part in sport and physical activities
- promote healthy and active lifestyles
- encourage volunteering within sport
- Improve performance in sport

Sports Action Grants are intended to provide a financial kick start to projects that will have a long term benefit to the community. Local groups know what types of activities are required in their area and can help to achieve a wide range of partnership priorities. With many projects likely to commence within the year of the 2012 Olympics they provide a great opportunity to promote Derbyshire as an active and sporting county.

Applications will be considered by a panel organised by Derbyshire Sports Partnership and recommendations will be passed to Derbyshire County Council to make the final decision.

The first deadline will be 9am on Monday 12 December. The application form and information to help groups apply is available online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/sportsactiongrant, by phoning Call Derbyshire on 08456 058058 or from local libraries.

Cash for sports activities
SPORTS ACTION GRANT

www.derbyshire.gov.uk/sportsactiongrant

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Keeping oil costs down

Rural Action Derbyshire has announced a new venture which will help reduce the high cost of domestic heating oil and be better for the environment.

The scheme will use the model of a local buying syndicate for domestic heating oil. It will be run by Rural Action Derbyshire and rolled out across the whole of Derbyshire and Derby City. The benefits of the scheme will be in harnessing the purchasing power of the many rural communities who are without mains gas to help oil-buyers make significant savings. Even with the scheme in its infancy, experience has already shown that it is possible to get a discount of around £50 on a single order. Community organisations and businesses will also be able to join the scheme and partners can help by letting other organisations and local people know about the scheme.

Chief Executive of Rural Action Derbyshire, Sylvia Green says about the scheme: "We work with local people who will collate the syndicate members' oil orders once a month and pass the information on to us. They will then let local people know the price per litre and the delivery date. In return, they get free membership of the scheme – an annual saving of £20." Scheme members will be able to order as many times as they like during the year.

The scheme also has environmental benefits. Delivery tankers use a lot of fuel and if one tanker delivers to several customers in a village instead of making individual deliveries, the fuel consumption is reduced and so is traffic in the village. More information about the scheme is available by visiting www.ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk/oil or by phoning 01629 824797.

Handy Van Awards

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service recently hosted the inaugural Derbyshire Handy Van Network Awards ceremony at their headquarters. Chief Fire Officer, Sean Frayne and Adult Care Assistant Director Andrew Milroy presented the awards for the Operative and Service Provider of the Year.

The Handy Van Operative of the Year was awarded to Martyn West, Operative for Chesterfield. South Derbyshire CVS were named as Provider of the Year. The awards were given to recognise the valuable contribution that the Handy Van Providers and Operatives make to support people to live independently in their own homes.

A wide range of partners are involved with the Derbyshire Handy Van Network which offers older and vulnerable people help with practical household tasks, such as putting up shelves or changing light bulbs. They can also undertake security and fire safety checks to improve safety in the home or provide energy efficiency advice.

More information about the scheme is available online on www.derbyshire.gov.uk/handyvan



Pictured are the presenters, winners and runners up of Handy Van Awards 2011

New 111 number launched

A new telephone service is making it easier to access local health services urgently. NHS 111 is the number to use when it is less urgent than 999. It will replace the NHS Direct number and sit alongside the established 999 emergency number.

When patients call 111 they will be assessed, given advice and directed straightaway to the local service that can help them best – that could be an out-of-hours doctor, a walk-in centre, community nurse, emergency dentist or late opening chemist.

The services was recently launched by NHS Derbyshire County in the Chesterfield, Bolsover, Bakewell and Matlock areas. A second phase will cover High Peak and Derby City early in the new year, with the whole of Derbyshire covered by NHS 111 by late summer 2012.

Partners can help make people in the pilot areas aware of the new 111 services. Patients who need to contact the NHS for urgent care now only need to remember three numbers: 999 for life-threatening emergencies; 111 for less urgent concerns; and the number for their GP surgery.

The NHS 111 service call handling is being provided by Derbyshire Health United, who already provide out-of-hours services for the county.



Land management projects

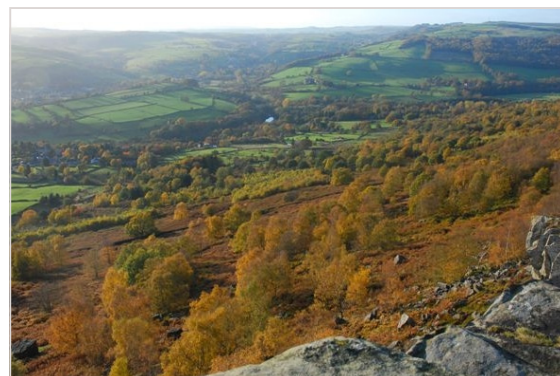
The Environment Agency is looking for partners within the Derwent Valley area to promote changes in rural land management which could help reduce the impacts of climate change.

Potential partners would be working with the Environment Agency to deliver projects on the ground. One example of how this works is the partnership with Moors for the Future, to aid the restoration of large parts of the Peak District moors. The Environment Agency will also be working with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust, on their Living Landscapes Project, which aims restore the landscape heritage of the Derwent Valley.

Potential projects could include planting more trees; restoring wetlands at a local scale and woodland creation on unstable/steep valley sides to reduce erosion. In addition to reducing flood risk, many of these options will also contribute towards Water Framework Directive objectives and have the potential to delivery biodiversity gains.

This is a relatively recent approach to flood risk management which relies on making changes to the way the landscape is managed, so that the passage of rainfall to rivers and its movement downstream is reduced and delayed. Changes to rural land management at a catchment scale were identified in the Lower Derwent Flood Risk Management Strategy (2009) as an option with the potential to offset future climate change effects.

If you would like to be a partner in the Derwent land management project, or are interested in finding out more, please email alison.baker@environment-agency.gov.uk



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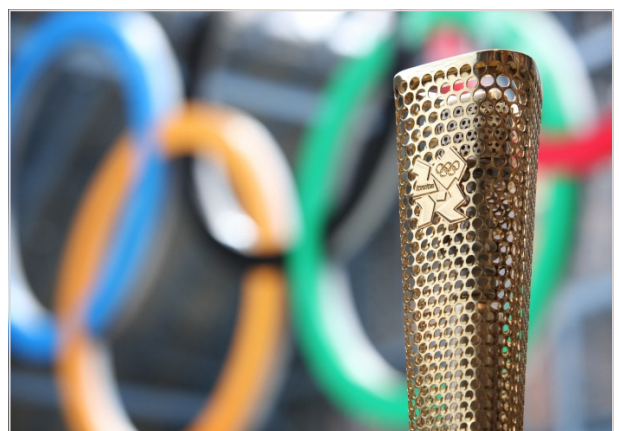
Olympic torch route announced

The route of the Olympic torch was recently announced, in preparation for the 2012 Olympic Games. Many of Derbyshire's town and villages will be visited by the torch relay on 29 June 2012, including Bolsover, Chesterfield, Matlock, Bakewell, Buxton and Ashbourne before it heads to Derby for the evening celebration.

County Council Leader Andrew Lewer, said: "The torch relay through the county will be a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate our strong community spirit and to show the world what Derbyshire has to offer."

Around 100 local people will carry the flame for about 300 meters each. The names of torch bearers will be announced over the coming months along with the street-by-street route.

The arrangements for the day are being organised by four community task groups made up of a wide range of partners from the public, private and voluntary sector. One of the groups is looking at how to engage communities in activities taking place along the torch relay route. If your organisation would like to know more about the plans or want to let the group know of activities taking place locally, please email ann.wright@derbyshire.gov.uk.



The Olympic torch is perforated by 8,000 small circles to represent the 8,000 torchbearers.

Financial inclusion conference

The Financial Inclusion Partnership is inviting all stakeholders to attend a conference to celebrate their work and to identify the key financial inclusion issues for Derbyshire. To enable as many people from across the county to attend, two repeat conferences will be held, one on Friday 20 January and one on Thursday 26 January 2012.

The Financial Inclusion Derbyshire Partnership has been working over the last couple of years to address issues of financial exclusion in the county including access to affordable credit, banking and savings, debt and income maximisation advice and financial capability/education.

The conference will be an opportunity to feed in to future priorities which will lead to the development of a new Financial Inclusion Strategy. To request a booking form, please email f.rostron@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk or phone 01629 821929.

Meeting dates and contact information

Derbyshire Partnership Forum meetings are held at County Hall in Matlock. The next meeting takes place on 15 June 2012 at 10am.

For more information and to access Derbyshire Partnership Forum papers, presentations and an electronic version of this newsletter, visit www.derbyshirepartnership.org.uk

To submit articles for the newsletter, please contact policy@derbyshire.gov.uk

