

Newsline

Tameside Strategic Partnership

Newsletter

Issue 2

April 2003



www.tameside.gov.uk

In this Issue:

Accreditation for the Partnership / Neighbourhood Renewal / Third Sector developments /
New: Children & Young Peoples Partnership / Health Investment / Community Strategy /
Other Tameside news

ACCREDITATION NEWS

Accreditation has been given to Tameside Strategic Partnership along with full entitlement to the Neighbourhood Renewal Fund for 2003/04 (£1,340,230).

In their letter Government Office North West (GONW) say: "In the light of your self assessment and development plan we continue to be encouraged by the progress the partnership is making.

"Throughout the consultation process for the new community strategy the partnership has shown that it has a grasp of the bigger picture and is beginning to develop its identity and credibility."

We want to hear your views on the draft strategy.

Tel: 0161 342 8355

e-mail:

communitystrategy@tameside.gov.uk

Write: Tameside Strategic Partnership Policy Unit,
Tameside MBC.

DRAFT COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The draft Community Strategy 2003 –2006 was approved by the Partnership board on March 23.

It will be widely distributed during April with the opportunity for comment until May 6.

The strategy booklet has a new format with each of the six key themes individually explained.

These key themes came out of the wide consultations held late last year:

- Supportive Communities
- A Safe Environment
- A Prosperous Society
- A Learning Community
- A Healthy Population
- An Attractive Borough

The key measure of success will be to increase the proportion of people who are satisfied with Tameside as a place to live.

See it on the Website: (via 'Community Strategy' in A-Z section) or

www.tameside.gov.uk/tmbc3/commstrat.pdf

A reply form is also available on the website.

COMMUNITY COHESION

Work is in progress to promote a positive image of all communities through the local press. At a recent meeting with the editors and representatives from the local community, it was agreed that good news stories on community diversity would be looked for and would be welcomed by the newsrooms. Training will be planned for community representatives on the media including what kind of stories to pass on and how to deal with enquiries.



HEALTH INVESTMENT

Plans are underway to take forward a major new development at Tameside General Hospital. The work will bring big improvements to patient care.

The PFI project, with an expected capital value in excess of £80m, will bring radical improvements in the range and quality of healthcare services offered to people in Tameside and Glossop.

Approval for the initial Strategic Outline Business Case has already come from the Secretary of State and the Primary Care Trust

During 2003 the preferred partner consortium will be identified and in 2004, the full details of the scheme will be fleshed out and the PFI deal firmed up.

Work is likely to begin on site in late 2004 / early 2005, with the first clinical buildings opening in 2006, looking for full completion including demolition and landscaping work in 2008/9.

The project will be advertised in the Official Journal of the European Community (OJEC) to attract a suitable consortium. Consultation with users, staff and partners will continue as the scheme progresses.



EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES POLICY

The Council's Equal Opportunities Policy has been updated in the light of new legislation, national guidance and good practice.

The policy meets the requirements of the Race Relations Amendment Act and Disability Discrimination Act, as well as the first level of the Equality Standard, an important corporate health Best Value Performance Indicator.

The policy reinforces the council's commitment to equality of opportunity for all people and to eliminate discrimination in relation to race, gender, disability, sexuality, age, religion and belief. Specific guidelines are provided to support the policy in relation to both the council's role as an employer and access to services. The council will be working towards meeting level two of the five point Equality Standard over the next 12 months. The documents are available on the intranet and public web pages.

More information from the Policy Unit on 342 2852 or megan.nurse@tameside.gov.uk



Connecting with communities in need

Connecting with communities in need is a 5-year project part funded under the Tameside Economic Development Zone (EDZ). Its goal is to ensure that residents of communities in need – the “SRB5” areas, Hattersley and the Ashton Renewal Area – have access to employment opportunities through development of the EDZ.

For more information, contact Jackie Owens 0161 342 2844

NEIGHBOURHOOD RENEWAL – NEWSFLASH!

The government have announced an additional £975m for Neighbourhood Renewal Funding in 2004/5 and 2005/6. £800m of this sum will be used to continue to fund the 88 eligible local authority areas at the 2003/4 level. Individual local authority allocations will be announced shortly. The remaining £175m has still to be allocated. Over the same period a further £86m will be used to support community participation in the 88 areas.

ANY NEWS?

Do you have any news about your company or organisation that you would like to share with partnership members?

If so please contact the editor:
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