

## **COUNCIL – 13 SEPTEMBER 2011**

### **PARTNERSHIP WORKING IN OXFORDSHIRE**

#### **Report by the Head of Strategy & Communications**

#### **Purpose**

1. This paper provides an update on all thematic partnerships and district local strategic partnerships. Detail is also provided on the future role of the Oxfordshire Partnership and the refresh of the Oxfordshire 2030 objectives.

#### **Background**

2. The context in which local partnerships operate has changed significantly since the election of the coalition government in May 2010. The national framework which influenced the shape of local partnerships has been substantially pruned. Reductions in public expenditure have also focussed attention on the costs of partnership working.
3. The current Oxfordshire Partnership structure was designed to deliver the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and Sustainable Community Strategy, and was successful in doing that. However, Local Area Agreements have come to an end and Sustainable Community Strategies are no longer statutory.

#### **Review of Partnership Activity**

4. The Oxfordshire Partnership met on the 13<sup>th</sup> July to review its future role.
5. There was a view that the Partnership has been successful in developing a shared evidence base with a clear long term countywide vision and with wide buy in. It has brought together a wide range of people who have found the networking opportunities and the ability to be involved in a range of forums helpful.
6. In terms of future activity, it was decided that:
  - The Oxfordshire Partnership would meet twice a year, providing an opportunity to focus on Oxfordshire 2030 delivery, networking and information sharing in an interactive environment.
  - The partnership would maintain a sense of accountability for the work it does, without a heavily target focused approach.
  - The membership would be reviewed to include Thematic Partnership chairmen.
  - The Oxfordshire 2030 objectives will be reviewed to ensure a clearer focus on fewer shared priorities and targets.
7. In terms of the broader formal Partnership arrangements:

- The Public Service board has been ‘mothballed’ and will only meet when relevant decisions are required.
- The Thematic Partnership hierarchy has been removed but the following Oxfordshire-wide partnerships will continue to meet, as they are critical in progressing key countywide priorities and have support from our partners:
  - Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (Business led)
  - Oxfordshire Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Environment and Waste Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Children and Young People’s Trust
  - Oxfordshire Health and Wellbeing Board (As part of the Government’s changes to health this new board is statutory and will reconfigure current arrangements for the Health and WellBeing Board and the Oxfordshire Children’s and Young People’s Trust)
  - Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership
  - Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance
  - The future of the individual District Local Strategic Partnerships are a matter for local areas to determine. At this stage we understand that all regard these partnerships as valuable and intend them to continue.

8. Details of the current/future work undertaken by these Partnerships are shown in Annex A.

9. Day to day partnership business will carry on through the internal meetings of the Oxfordshire Chief Executive’s group, and other task and finish groups as required (for example the Olympics). There are also a number of other statutory partnerships that operate within the county to deliver on specific activities, for example the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (Contributing to the Oxfordshire Children and Young People’s goal of improving the wellbeing of all children) and the five Community Safety Partnerships (Co-ordinated by the Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership).

### **Future reports to Council**

10. Given these structural changes and a significant reduction in council staffing and support to partnership activities, it is proposed that the frequency of these update reports is reduced from three per year to once per year. This will form an annual report with updates from all Partnerships and progress on Oxfordshire 2030 objectives.

11. The Oxfordshire Partnership website, including agendas and minutes of Thematic Partnership meetings, will be kept up to date to ensure that there remains transparency and information on individual partnership activity.

## **12. RECOMMENDATIONS**

**Council is RECOMMENDED:**

- (a) to note the report;

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- (b) that the partnership update reports are discussed Annually at Full Council rather than 3 times a year.

**GUY SWINDLE**

Head of Strategy & Communications

Contact Officer : Claire Moore Tel : (01865) 323966  
Background Papers : Nil

## Annex A: Thematic Partnership and District Local Strategic Partnership update

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP)
<b>Date of completion</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> August 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Martin Tugwell, Deputy Director (Growth and Infrastructure), Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Dr Martin Dare-Edwards
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr David Robertson
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Oxfordshire LEP is focused on the creation of sustainable, high value, employment through: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Addressing Skills Deficiencies</li> <li>▪ Business support including inward investment</li> <li>▪ Securing Investment for Infrastructure Priorities including broadband</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxfordshire Skills Bureau has been agreed as the result of a consultation about governance of skills issues with those involved in the 14-19 Strategy Group and the Oxfordshire Learning and Skills Partnership.</li> <li>• Enterprise Zone status gained for Science Vale UK on 17 August: this is expected to bring in around 8,400 high-tech/high-value adding jobs and generate up to £10.5m of additional business rates a year for reinvestment in Oxfordshire's economy.</li> <li>• Expression of interest submitted to Broadband Development UK in support of funding of improvements to Oxfordshire's broadband infrastructure.</li> <li>• Discussions with UK Trade and Investment and its new contractor, PA Consulting, on how to promote inward investment and international trade with a view to signing a Memorandum of Understanding in the autumn.</li> <li>• Engagement with the Spatial Planning and Infrastructure Partnership in developing a shared understanding of the infrastructure requirements for supporting sustainable economic growth.</li> <li>• Enterprise Partnership website set up – see <a href="http://www.oxfordshirelep.org.uk">www.oxfordshirelep.org.uk</a></li> </ul>	
<b>What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present</b>	
<p>Communication to a wider audience about what the Partnership is doing and how businesses and communities can engage with it. The communication is needed at the level of particular projects, including the take up of broadband and skills and, at a more general level, of generating greater confidence in the role of the Enterprise Partnership and therefore the willingness of stakeholders to work with it.</p>	

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- To engage with and support the Enterprise Partnership: articulating their expectations of it and the support they can provide to its work and to the mobilisation of their membership.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	18 <sup>th</sup> August July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Geri Beekmeyer, Principal Planning Officer, Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	CLr Ed Turner (Oxford City Council)
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The partnership provides a forum to work jointly with partners on matters of collective interest and to seek agreement on local priorities and targets in relation to planning, housing, economic development and infrastructure provision.</li> <li>• The focus of the partnership is on taking forward work related to infrastructure planning and delivery, building on the Local Investment Plan that was prepared by the Partnership.</li> <li>• Affordable housing programme: understanding the implications of changes to the provision of affordable housing including the introduction of the affordable rent scheme and changes to housing benefit.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gaining agreement to joint working on preparing a strategic infrastructure framework for Oxfordshire to provide an overview of the investment required to support sustainable economic growth.</li> <li>• Engaging with the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership in developing a shared understanding of the infrastructure requirements for supporting sustainable economic growth.</li> <li>• Gaining an understanding of the implications arising from the introduction of Community Infrastructure Levy on securing contributions from development.</li> <li>• Developing a common position in respect of the future development of the rail infrastructure serving Oxfordshire.</li> </ul>	
<b>What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present</b>	

- Preparing the Strategic Investment Framework, together with associated prioritisation methodology.
- Ensuring consistent approach to the Community Infrastructure levy and related charging schedule.
- Affordable housing programme including delivery of extra care housing and rural housing and funding matters.
- Strengthening links with the Oxfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership and generally to identify key priorities for economic development.
- Delivering infrastructure improvements for Oxfordshire within the context of the New Homes Bonus and the proposal to localise business rates. It is important that transport and education infrastructure meets the needs of new housing in the county. 80% of infrastructure needs fall to the County Council and 20% to the District Councils.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Environment & Waste Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	19 July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Susie Ohlenschlager, Adaptation and Partnership Manager, Oxfordshire County Council, and Wayne Lewis, Oxfordshire Waste Partnership Co-ordinator
<b>Chairman</b>	Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Waste Partnership focuses on the reduction of waste and maximising reuse, recycling and composting; minimising the environmental and financial costs of waste disposal.</li> <li>• The focus of the Environment Partnership is on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening climate resilience within organisations and local communities.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Household waste recycling &amp; composting levels for 2010/11 were 55% - the first time Oxfordshire has recycled a greater proportion of waste than it landfills. The joint waste strategy target to recycle at least 55% of waste by 2020 has been met early.</li> <li>• A joint tendering process between Oxfordshire Waste Partnership and Oxfordshire County Council for provision of Environmental Education Services</li> </ul>	

(Waste and Energy) is currently under way. A short list of five companies has been invited to submit proposals.

- The Environment Partnership has agreed proposals for a new delivery model which will reduce the frequency of reporting, but seek to retain engagement of the voluntary sector. Within the new model the focus is on reducing greenhouse gas emissions and saving money on local authority estates; an example of Oxford City Council's work was brought to the last meeting.
- The partnership has agreed revised priorities for Oxfordshire 2030 and will review plans and delivery targets.
- A further newsletter about the achievements of the Low Carbon Communities Programme has been issued and a presentation made to the partnership by Oxfordshire Rural Community Council about the Low Carbon Communities competition.
- The waste partnership has recently completed waste audits of council offices around the county, which showed that recycling levels at council premises have improved by 20% over the past three years. Council offices are now recycling around 65% of their waste.

**What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present**

- To maintain momentum and the interest and support of partner organisations at a time when resources to service the partnership and/or to commission or fund new projects and programmes are very limited. Also, to avoid a sense of complacency now that waste management targets are being met to ensure that waste disposal levels continue to drop.

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- By continuing to promote and demonstrate the benefits of partnership working – setting and achieving clear objectives and targets that are mutually beneficial to partners.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Oxfordshire Children and Young People's Trust
<b>Date of completion</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Sarah Breton, Strategic Lead & Head of Joint Commissioning, Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Cllr Louise Chapman
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Louise Chapman
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and re-commissioning of Children's Centres.</li> <li>• Plans for expansion of the Health Visiting workforce.</li> </ul>	

- Next steps in developing a Child Poverty Needs Assessment.
- Educational achievement across specific pupil profiles.
- Implementing the Munro Review in Oxfordshire.

**What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)**

- Agreed Year 2 priorities for Children and Young People's Plan.
- Completed Child Poverty Needs Assessment (CPNA).

**What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present**

- Maintaining momentum during transition to new Health and Well-Being Board.
- Reviewing the locality sub-structure.
- Delivering a Child Poverty Strategy across diverse range of partnerships.

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- Coordinating action planning following Child Poverty Needs Assessment so that all thematic partnerships are able to own and deliver outcomes.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Health and Well-Being Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> August 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Robyn Noonan, Strategy, Partnerships & Planning Manager, Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Co-Chairmen: Stephen Richards and Cllr Arash Fatemian
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Arash Fatemian
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Health and Wellbeing Partnership did not meet in June 2011. Plans for the new statutory Health and Wellbeing Board are awaited.</li> <li>• The next meeting is scheduled for Sept 2011 but it has not yet been confirmed whether this meeting will go ahead.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aging Successfully <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ A report on the "Whole Area Pilot" for multi-disciplinary teams to work with older people in the Abingdon area was given to the Partnership at the March meeting. This work was deemed very successful and the</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	



most successful elements from the pilot have been identified. As a result new ways of working are now being implemented more widely across the county. Three working groups are particularly addressing how the work integrates with primary care, how community services are joined up to give the best patient experience and how people access the service.

- Joint commissioning arrangements and structures are driving organisational change in both the NHS and Social and Community Services.
- **Mental Health and Wellbeing**
  - The Mental Health strategy for Oxfordshire is now in the third year of delivery and major developments have included the “Keeping People Well” service which includes the ongoing delivery of courses on Mental Health First Aid. Service users and carers have been involved in designing the service which gives anyone with mental health problems access to a range of personalised, local options on their route to recovery.
  - Support for independent living for people with mental health problems has successfully been transferred to new service providers. The aim of the support is to help people gain independence in the wider community.
  - A suicide audit has been conducted and an in-depth knowledge of the latest statistics is being used to design a suicide prevention plan.
- **Obesity**
  - The Child Measurement Programme has successfully weighed and measured children in reception class and school year 6 in the summer term. Results are expected in the New Year.
  - Health Checks for people aged 40 –74 have been launched and GP practices throughout the county are inviting patients in. The check includes weight, height, exercise, blood pressure, cholesterol and smoking status. People are given personal advice on how to improve their lifestyles. Slimming on Referral and Oxfordshire Weight Loss Service are available for those who want to lose weight.
  - The Go Active Project has been continuing to increase the number of people undertaking regular physical activity and has won funding to expand work with women. The Cycling Challenge involved businesses and other organisations in a very successful campaign to increase the number of people cycling to work or for recreation.

#### **What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present**

- Launch of the new Health and Wellbeing Board.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership (OSCP)
<b>Date of completion</b>	4 August 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Ruth Whyte, Manager, Safer Communities Unit, Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Cllr Kieron Mallon
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Kieron Mallon
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The review of this partnership is almost complete. There will be a board comprising Community Safety portfolio-holders from the county council and each district council, and senior managers from remaining statutory partners (chaired by Cllr Mallon). Working with and to this group will be a senior officer Business Group (chaired by David Etheridge, Chief Fire Officer).</li> <li>• Preparing for the Police and Crime Commissioner for Thames Valley, due to be elected in May 2012. Managing the risks associated with ensuring Oxfordshire's voice is heard under the new system, and ensuring the financial sustainability of countywide and local level priorities will be challenging.</li> <li>• A fresh approach to Community Safety business planning through a business cycle informed by a needs assessment and the annual strategic intelligence assessment, a longer-term five year plan aligned to the Commissioner's five year strategy and community safety partnerships' own rolling plans. Providing a single point of contact for the Commissioner and political representation on the Police and Crime Panel should help ensure effective communication channels are in place.</li> <li>• A review of the sub-groups and Tactical Business Groups which report to OSCP will complete this stage of the work.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Safety strategies for the coming year, as part of the Community Safety Partnerships' (CSPs) three year rolling plans, are complete, have been approved by the partnerships and are being presented to statutory partner Councils/Boards over the coming weeks. The strategies for the four partnerships are designed around a common framework, with a focus on victims, perpetrators and place/community.</li> <li>• Contributing to the ongoing Refresh of Oxfordshire 2030, using the CSPs' priorities within the common framework as a basis. The contribution from Community Safety is likely to change in the light of new legislation, including the Government's anticipated Crime Strategy, the roll out of local plans and the election of the Police and Crime Commissioner.</li> <li>• The Oxfordshire Domestic Abuse Strategy Group bid for and received four years' funding (£40K) to support the High Risk Domestic Abuse Service. The county's work around domestic abuse was recognised in the Government's 2010 Ending Violence against Women and Girls Strategy. The funding will pay for one post in the High Risk team.</li> </ul>	

- The Quarter 1 (April to June) performance report for OSCP shows an 8.2% reduction in all recorded crime across Oxfordshire, a reduction of 948 crimes from 11,551 to 10,603 over the same period in 2010/11.
- Acquisitive crime is up in 3 out of 5 areas in the county, with only South and West showing a decrease.
- All areas are showing reductions in violence against the person with injury, assault with less serious injury and criminal damage.
- Incidents of anti-social behaviour in all areas are showing a downward trend as against the same period last year.

**What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present?**

- The overarching challenge for the partnership will be positioning itself to meet the challenges of the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. The Bill sets out plans for the election of Police and Crime Commissioners, who will control funding for Community Safety from 2013 and most likely before that date.
- The partnership will need to work closely with the police at Force level to try to mitigate the impact of the demise of the Oxfordshire Basic Command Unit. In particular, it will be critical to ensure there is effective police representation on the Business Group and the Board.

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- Support from the Partnership to facilitate engagement with the Police and Crime Commissioner as a significant number of Community Safety priorities cross-cut with other thematic partnerships' work.
- Lack of resources will also affect new work to align services and promote cross-cutting activity as set out in the council's Business Plan. A strong case supporting shared priorities in Oxfordshire 2030 could go a long way to influencing the Police and Crime Commissioner.
- Encouraging partner members seriously to consider identifying sustainable core funding from their agencies to sustain Community Safety. These agencies will all have approved the three year rolling plans of the CSPs, and need to be confident that they will have the resources to deliver them.
- Promotion of good practice in Community Safety by Chief Executives, elected members and from officers at the highest level within partner agencies will help Oxfordshire's voice be heard among the complex structure of authorities in the Thames Valley.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Alliance (OSCA)
<b>Date of completion</b>	Wednesday 27 July
<b>Contact officer</b>	Gwenllian Davies, Voluntary Sector Development Manager, Oxfordshire County Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Co-Chairmen: Rt Rev'd Colin Fletcher OBE, Bishop of Dorchester and Cllr Kieron Mallon
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Kieron Mallon
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following a review, the partnership revised its structure in July to strengthen its overall purpose which remains to help build and maintain stronger communities. The new structure comprises two strands for governing its business:</li> <li>• OSCA Full Council. A broad forum for debating priorities and providing a joint voice for enabling effective lobbying on key issues affecting the voluntary, community and faith sector in Oxfordshire. This group will meet twice a year and include the OSCA Cabinet.</li> <li>• OSCA Cabinet. Taking a strategic overview of issues affecting the public, voluntary, community &amp; faith sector, and driving collaboration in shaping the policies and strategies of both. This group will meet 8 times a year.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update? (February 2011)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oxfordshire Stronger Communities Fund has now started to make initial payments to those groups that were successful in bidding for LAA Reward Grant funding.</li> <li>• A second successful bid was made for LAA Reward Grant Funding - £107,000 for capacity building within the sector to support Big Society development in Oxfordshire.</li> <li>• Most of the Alliance achievements against the OSCA Business Plan are through delivery led by different partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consultations - Best Value Consultation, Community Right to Challenge, and Community Right to Buy</li> <li>○ Volunteer Centres providing data and analysis on volunteering</li> <li>○ Annual district forums involving over 120 organisations</li> <li>○ Co-ordinating elections to 3 thematic partnerships and providing NAVCA training on 'Skills for Partnership'</li> <li>○ Successful bid to Lottery as part of a national initiative to support unemployed, hard to reach people into volunteering. Workers to be placed in partner organizations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

**What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present**

- Putting in place an effective delivery plan retaining a focus on strategic issues and ensuring VCS involvement at the earliest stages to assess the implications of service and policy changes.
- Supporting the voluntary, community and faith sector to thrive at a time when a) funding is more scarce and b) there are more demands on groups, and c) there are huge changes in policy and the way the voluntary sector is involved to take on board.
- Ensuring that the Voluntary Sector is involved at an early stage in significant areas of service change that impact on the local sector in Oxfordshire.
- Managing the transition from a funded structure to one based on collaboration, partnership and the sharing of limited resources to deliver the same purpose.
- There is a planned visit by MP Nick Hurd in November which will showcase the work the County has been involved in around Big Society.

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- Support for the County Conference in November where some of these challenges and how to overcome them will be discussed.
- Take an active role in advocating the cross-cutting role of the Voluntary and Community Sector.
- Advocating the use of the Compact amongst partnerships.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Cherwell Local Strategic Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	21 July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Caroline French, Partnership & Equality Officer, Cherwell District Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Councillor Barry Wood
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Councillor Kieron Mallon
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy.</li> <li>• Continued focus on the Brighter Futures in Banbury Project.</li> <li>• Ensuring that the priorities identified at the LSP Reference Group in June are delivered and reported upon.</li> <li>• Determining a process for the allocation of LAA funding.</li> <li>• Delivery plans for the new Economic Development Strategy.</li> </ul>	

- Organising further informative 'connecting communities' events in target areas.

**What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update?**

- The 2010/11 annual report for the LSP has been published and contains detailed information of the achievements over the past year along with identifying challenges for the year ahead. It can be found at: <http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/scs>
- The annual Reference Group was held on 13 June in Kidlington. Over 80 representatives from Cherwell's community, private and public sector celebrated the role of community groups and volunteers across the district. Kelvin Thomas, Chairman of Oxford City Football Club gave a lively and informative presentation on the role that community engagement has played in transforming the fortunes of the club. Attendees had opportunities to listen to a wide variety of organisations that showcased their work and attend a workshop on finding funding. The latest newsletter gives further details about this successful event, it can be found at: <http://www.cherwell.gov.uk/lsp/index.cfm?articleid=6141&CFID=111893&CFTOKEN=54383542>
- The Community Leadership ambition continues to be strongly promoted through regular meetings of key forums that target 'hard to reach' groups such as; The Faith Forum, Disability Forum and an increasing number of 'connecting communities' events.
- Consideration has been given to the implications of the Localism Bill and updates received on the Local Development Framework.
- Feedback was given on the Oxfordshire 2030 review.
- Regular updates have been received on the development of the new Economic Development Strategy and its' actions plan. New delivery plans for the LSPs other medium term strategies, such as the Rural Strategy are also being reviewed and agreed.

**What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present**

- Ensuring effective delivery of the LAA funding projects.
- Gaining a thorough understanding of the changes facing many partners including the new community hubs and the impacts locally of any changes to the structure and funding of the Children, Young People and Families services delivered by Oxfordshire County Council.
- Continuing the delivery of the successful Brighter Futures in Banbury project.
- Tackling issues such as young people not in education, employment or training (NEETs) through apprenticeships and mentoring schemes.

- Commitment to the Cherwell Local Strategic Partnership and its' structure was reviewed earlier in the year and continues to be very strong. Due to a number of representatives changing roles new members are being sought to fill a few vacancies.

#### **How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- Continued strong engagement of Oxfordshire Partnership in supporting the delivery of local priorities.

<b>Partnership</b>	Oxford Strategic Partnership (OSP)
<b>Date of completion</b>	22 July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Sebastian Johnson, Partnership and Policy Manager, Oxford City Council
<b>Chairman</b>	Jackie Wilderspin
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Keith Mitchell

#### **What is the current focus for the Partnership?**

- Delivery of the vision for the City and detailed work on the action plans of the flagship issues as outlined in the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) 2008-2012 "A World Class City for Everyone"
- Reviewing delivery and future priorities as we work towards developing a new Strategy

#### **What has the Partnership achieved since the last update? (given in February 2011)**

- Economy. A meeting looking at the local and national economy held with the Bank of England. Some new projects have emerged that the OSP are leading on:
  - Wireless Oxford - Feasibility study into whether a free to public wireless network can be established in the city centre
  - Procurement Hub - promoting the hub and extending involvement in the "Meet the Buyer" session planned for September
- Climate Change. Since the launch of Low Carbon Oxford (LCO) in October 2010 we now have 25 pathfinders signed up to the charter committing to a 3% reduction in CO2 each year. These include both local authorities, universities, Oxfordshire Community and Voluntary Action (OCVA), MINIPlant Oxford, Unipart, B&Q, M&S, Serco, A2Dominion and others.
- Funding of over £250k has been secured from Government to focus on community projects and bids have been made for large scale European funding for a retrofitting programme.
- Other projects being undertaken as part of LCO include an Energy Efficiency

and Synergy Forum (led by BMW), Green Deal preparation work, Feed in Tarriffs and Solar PV (large scale projects being looked at by partners).

- Regeneration Framework (Health and Social Inclusion). Action plan has been updated and revised and the Framework document is to be updated and revised over the next quarter. We are working with Oxford Brookes University on developing a tool to measure outcomes and value for money (using a cost benefit analysis model).
- School Attainment Seminar. Focussing on attainment in primary schools held in June 2011 and partnership action plan being developed to be overseen by the OSP.
- Public Realm. Old Fire Station project and development of Museum in the Town Hall are being overseen by the Public Realm Delivery Group. An Oxford Architecture Map is in development for launch at Open Doors in September.

**What are your plans for the year ahead? (e.g. Membership changes, priorities)**

- It should be noted that the City Council has stated its continued commitment to co-ordinate and run the Partnership in the future. Plans for the year ahead are:
  - To continue in the delivery mode of the OSP SCS flagship issue action plans.
  - Start a detailed review of achievement against delivery actions stated in the SCS.
  - Review of priorities, membership and future focus of the Partnership.
  - Explore and utilise links to developing partnerships elsewhere, such as the Local Enterprise Partnership.
  - Respond to changing legislation, challenges and opportunities as required.

<b>Partnership Name</b>	South Oxfordshire Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	29 July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Anne Hall, Shared Corporate Projects Officer, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils
<b>Chairman</b>	Rt Rev'd Colin Fletcher OBE, Bishop of Dorchester
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Lorraine Lindsay-Gale
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Places project and community-led planning. Agreed to extend the project for a further year.</li> <li>• Developing project plans for proposed LAA funded projects covering healthy eating, overcoming digital exclusion, and volunteering.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year</b>	



<p><b>ahead given in the last update?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed delivery of community places project plan.</li> <li>• Held a mini conference with partners to review the outcomes and achievements of the community places project.</li> </ul>
<p><b>What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implementing the emerging model of LSP support for community led planning and extending this to other areas within the district.</li> <li>• Ensuring the partnership adds value to work already being undertaken in the areas healthy eating, digital exclusion and volunteering and avoids duplication.</li> <li>• Responding to the localism agenda and identifying the role of the partnership in this.</li> </ul>
<p><b>How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuing to work together to support communities to identify local issues and to find and implement solutions.</li> </ul>

<b>Partnership Name</b>	Vale Partnership
<b>Date of completion</b>	29 July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Anne Hall, Shared Corporate Projects Officer, South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils
<b>Chairman</b>	John Robertson
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr Judith Heathcoat
<p><b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Community Places Project and community led –planning. The partnership has agreed to extend the project to 31 March 2013.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>What has the Partnership achieved in delivering against plans for the year ahead given in the last update?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed the initial phase of the community places project.</li> <li>• Held a mini-conference with partners to review the outcomes and achievements of the project and to identify next steps.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>What are the key challenges the Partnership faces at present</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To extend the application of the lessons learnt from the community places project to other communities in the district.</li> </ul>	

- To implement the emerging model of LSP support for community –led planning involving all partners.
- Responding to the localism agenda and identifying the role of the partnership in this.

**How could the Oxfordshire Partnership help overcome these challenges?**

- Continuing to work together to support communities to identify local issues and to find and implement solutions.

<b>Partnership</b>	West Oxfordshire Strategic Partnership (WOSP)
<b>Date of completion</b>	29 <sup>th</sup> July 2011
<b>Contact officer</b>	Astrid Blackburn, Partnership Development Officer West Oxfordshire District Council
<b>Chairman</b>	David Neudegg
<b>OCC Cabinet Member</b>	Cllr David Robertson
<b>What is the current focus for the Partnership?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing a programme of activity to enable WOSP to deliver on the localism agenda.</li> </ul>	
<b>What has the Partnership achieved since the last update?</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review of Terms of Reference which reflects the changing context in which WOSP is operating (ie working to deliver on the localism agenda).</li> <li>• Four areas of working for WOSP have been endorsed:- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sharing Intelligence and Best Practice on Partnership Activity.</li> <li>○ Supporting and Nurturing a Strong Volunteering Sector for West Oxfordshire.</li> <li>○ Empowering local communities to be more resilient and proactive at addressing local issues.</li> <li>○ Improved communication and networking locally – exploring opportunities to use social media to increase community networks ie development of ‘My Community’.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Hosted an event ‘A celebration of Voluntary, Community and Faith Activity in West Oxfordshire’ in June 2011 – during which opportunities for informing the work area ‘Supporting and nurturing a strong volunteering sector’.</li> </ul>	
<b>What are your plans for the year ahead? (e.g. Membership changes, priorities)</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A working party is to meet to develop a set of actions which will implement practical solutions for strengthening and supporting voluntary, community and</li> </ul>	

faith sector activity in the District.

- A review of Shaping Futures is underway.
- Practical activities which contribute to the four areas of working (identified above) will be developed and implemented.