

NEWS RELEASE

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Top in Derby, UK and Europe - Another successful year contributes to 10 years of achievements for Derby City Partnership

Derby City Partnership records another busy and successful year. Board members welcomed the annual report at a recent Board meeting where all Derby City Partnership's wide ranging groups highlighted key achievements.

A first for Derby and the East Midlands is the Derby City Partnership Public Health Strategy to improve health and reduce health inequalities. Community Learning Champions and Learning Mentors are supporting learners from all ages and backgrounds in Derby and helping them access a broader range of learning opportunities in the city. The introduction of high visibility police patrols in the city centre has increased public safety. The target for helping households to afford to heat their homes adequately has been exceeded beyond expectation.

A major conference was held to tackle the issue of climate change. Derby's Creative Partnership has been launched and another first for Derby – the South Asian Arts Festival - was a real success. Derwent became home to the award winning Gateway Centre. More space has been provided for creative start-up businesses and the Cityscape Masterplan has been launched in London and Derby to promote

development opportunities in the city centre. We have achieved the best performance of a UK partnership in delivering our European URBAN II programme in Normanton which was highly commended by the European Commission.

“Last year’s action plan was very ambitious containing over 500 activities.” said Helen Osler. “There is lots of good news in our annual report for 2004-05. There are some great achievements here which contribute to the ten years of achievements we shall celebrate at our anniversary in June.”

The Annual Report also sets out priorities for 2005-06 to take Derby closer to its 2020 Vision. These include working with Rolls-Royce to recruit Engineering Ambassadors to work with young people in city schools. The number of smoke free environments will increase and major cultural facilities such as Quad will move closer to realisation. Work to develop a safe transport network to make moving around Derby safer will continue and we are launching a major project to fill Derby’s skills gaps.

Maurice Burgess, Chair of Derby City Partnership congratulated all partners on their successes over the past 12 months. “Partnership working requires real commitment and a willingness to reach beyond our everyday boundaries to agree shared approaches and add real value to each others’ efforts. This year’s achievements add to our impressive record of working together to improve life for the people of Derby”.

Ends

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Derby City Partnership is an alliance of organisations working together to create a better Derby.

Members represent

- public services
- local businesses
- community and voluntary groups
- individuals who live or work in Derby.

Since 1995, Derby City Partnership has been working to:

- develop closer and better working between organisations
- improve services and facilities
- attract funding
- make best use of all resources
- bring the work of all partnerships in the city together

Derby City Partnership is also the Local Strategic Partnership, delivering the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal in the most deprived neighbourhoods of the city.

Derby City Partnership Board meets quarterly.

Derby City Partnership marks its 10th anniversary in 2005 with a week of activities from Monday 27 June – Sunday 3 July.

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