



NEWS RELEASE

For immediate release: 12 February 2009

A stronger voice for voluntary and community groups

Community and voluntary organisations in Derby will now have increased support to take part more effectively in partnership groups and forums in the city.

Derby City Partnership has awarded a two-year contract to Derby Council for Voluntary Service, Derby CVS, to provide support and improve communication to people who represent the community and voluntary sector on a wide variety of partnership groups in Derby, from Neighbourhood Boards to Partnership Executives.

This will ensure that the local knowledge, experience and voice of this vibrant and diverse sector are heard, to enhance and influence strategic planning across the city. Derby CVS will be recruiting additional staff to provide this service as part of their wider role to support the community and voluntary sector in the Derby.

Hazel Lymbery, Acting Director of Derby City Partnership, said, “The community and voluntary sector has a vital role to play in shaping services in Derby and Derby CVS have the local knowledge and experience to successfully support organisations in this role.”

Kim Harper, Chief Executive of Derby CVS, said, “We are excited by the challenge of delivering this new service and providing the support required for community and voluntary groups to get their voice heard on the issues that matter to the sector”.

- ENDS -

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

Hazel Lymbery Director, Derby City Partnership	01332 258507 hazel@derbycitypartnership.co.uk
Kim Harper Chief Executive of Derby CVS	01332 346266 kharper@cvsderby.co.uk

Derby City Partnership is an alliance of organisations that work to create a safe, healthy, prosperous and sustainable future for the people of Derby through shared vision and leadership. Over 250 organisations are represented on DCP groups and represent

- public services
- local businesses
- community and voluntary groups.

Since 1995, Derby City Partnership has been working to:

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

Since 2002, Derby City Partnership has been the Local Strategic Partnership for the city, focusing also on Government requirements for partnerships, in

particular on narrowing the gap between opportunities for residents in disadvantaged neighbourhoods and those in the rest of the city.

www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk

Derby Council for Voluntary Service

Derby CVS is a registered charity that exists to support, develop, promote and represent voluntary and community organisations in Derby. It is the umbrella organisation for the City's voluntary sector and the main provider of support for local voluntary and community groups. It is part of the national Councils for Voluntary Service network and has over 200 member organisations.

Derby CVS exists to create and enhance effective voluntary action aimed at improving the quality of life of people in Derby by:

- encouraging, supporting and developing individuals, groups and organisations involved in voluntary action
- promoting new initiatives that tackle social exclusion and economic disadvantage
- establishing partnerships between the public, private and voluntary sectors.

www.derbycvsv.co.uk