



NEWS RELEASE

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All change for Derby City Partnership

Derby City Partnership, the Local Strategic Partnership for Derby, has a new Board and structure in order to meet the changing needs of Derby and its citizens.

In January 2006, the Partnership commissioned a review of its role, responsibilities and structure to respond to the challenges and opportunities that it is currently facing. These include the emergence of new organisations and partnerships, the re-organisation of many public services and the desire to involve neighbourhoods in policy-making and service planning.

The Derby City Partnership Board has been streamlined and existing groups have been restructured to form five new themed areas or 'cities', supported by the Board, Marketing and Management Groups and a new State of the City Forum.

Since it was established in 1995, Derby City Partnership has earned a reputation as one of the country's most successful Local Strategic Partnerships. The organisation, which comprises public, private, voluntary and community sector representatives, has successfully co-ordinated partnership activity and funding bids to address the major challenges facing the city.

Over the past 11 years, Derby City Partnership has brought £160 million additional funding into the city. This has contributed to projects ranging from Derby Playhouse, Arboretum Park and QUAD. It has also attracted New Deal Funding for Derwent. Services to tackle crime and disorder, drugs, domestic violence and youth offending have been merged to create the Derby Community Safety Partnership. Derby City Partnership has also been

involved in initiatives including City Growth and the development of Derby Community Network.

The Partnership has been singled out for praise by central government, after receiving the top rating for partnerships for two successive years. However, the changing face of the city, coupled with changes proposed by Government is placing new demands on the organisation.

Councillor Chris Williamson, Chair of Derby City Partnership and Leader of Derby City Council, explains the reasons behind the changes:

“Derby has made considerable progress over the past 11 years and many developments reflect the impact of Derby City Partnership on the city. However, the partnership environment is changing both locally and nationally. New organisations have emerged in the city including Derby Cityscape, Marketing Derby and Derby Community Network. There has been considerable change in the way services are delivered and there is a move towards more effective engagement with individual neighbourhoods.

“The introduction of new funding arrangements with government, known as Local Area Agreements, is also beginning to place new demands in terms of delivering services and managing performance.

“Organisations across the city are re-organising and facing change and Derby City Partnership is at the heart of the new approach to engaging residents in influencing the planning and delivery of local services.”

The Partnership Board will continue to develop the vision for the city, ensure the implementation and success of that vision and act as ambassadors for Derby.

Partnership groups have been re-organised to clarify and strengthen their role and respond to the changes in priorities as well as the introduction of the Local Area Agreement.

A number of new themed areas have been introduced. These include a new **City for Children and Young People**, which has been formed to help ensure that the city's children and young people gain the very best from their childhood and have the very best opportunities.

Healthy City is another new themed area, which aims to improve health, reduce health inequalities and support the well being of vulnerable adults.

The new **City for Stronger and Safer Communities** will help people in Derby feel more involved and safer. It aims to prevent and reduce crime, youth offending and anti-social behaviour and the harm caused by drugs and alcohol. It also aims to involve communities in influencing their services, focusing initially on community safety and the local environment.

City Growth, will focus on the economic development of Derby, planning, transportation, strategic land use, the environment, skills and employment.

Cultural City is the one area of the partnership, which remains from the previous structure, covering arts, sports and faith.

The restructure will help each 'city' take forward co-ordination of planning and service delivery within their area. It will also enable issues that have not featured strongly in the partnership, such as housing and transportation, to have a stronger role.

The new State of the City Forum has been established to give organisations in the wider partnership an opportunity to contribute to strategic topics and also hold the Derby City Partnership Board to account.

Helen Osler, Director of Derby City Partnership added:

"There has been major change over recent months in Derby, and Derby City Partnership is embracing these changes. The new streamlined Board will

encourage strategic discussion and decision making and enable us to manage that change even more effectively.

“Our new 2020 Vision, which was launched in April, outlines our aspirations for the next three years of the city’s journey to 2020. Our two priorities in the strategy are to enhance the city centre and to tackle disadvantage in deprived neighbourhoods. Our review and restructure will enable us to deliver the 2020 Vision and respond to the many challenges ahead.

“Partnership working is a strength in Derby and there is a real willingness in local organisations to co-operate. I especially wish to thank those partners who will be leaving the Board, some of whom have been involved from its foundation 11 years ago. I hope they will continue to have a significant role on the new Forum”

Derby City Partnership, which was formed in 1995, is an alliance of organisations that work together in order to improve the quality of life for the people of Derby. Its members represent the public services, local businesses, community and voluntary groups and individuals who live or work in Derby.

It is also the Local Strategic Partnership for Derby and delivers the National Strategy for Neighbourhood Renewal in the most deprived neighbourhoods of the city.

For further information, phone 01332 258509, e-mail info@derbycitypartnership.co.uk or visit www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk.

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FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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Derby City Partnership is a body that works to create a safe, healthy, prosperous and sustainable future for the people of Derby through shared vision and leadership.

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.

Since 2002 it has been the Local Strategic Partnership for the city.

www.derbycitypartnership.co.uk