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Issue 2

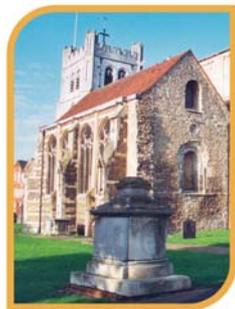
Partnership Briefing

A Newsletter for your Local Strategic Partnership

one | epping forest
PUTTING OUR COMMUNITIES FIRST

PARTNERSHIP BACKS FUTURE JOBS

One Epping Forest, the local strategic partnership (LSP) for the Epping Forest district has backed plans to submit a bid for funding of over one million pounds to support employment for young people. The partnership has joined together with LSP's in Uttlesford and Harlow to put in a bid to the Future Jobs Fund which aims to help young long term unemployed people back into work through funded work placements. The scheme provides employers, who can demonstrate that they can give 6 month placements, over £6,000 per trainee to meet wage and other costs. The young people recruited will then work on socially useful programmes across west Essex which deliver real community benefit. Cllr Diana Collins, Chairman of One Epping Forest commented 'The West Essex Partnership have agreed to help lots of our young people to get back into employment. Original criteria made clear that successful applications needed to have more than 30 placements, and while the LSPs and local voluntary organisations individually struggled to get over this bar, together



it was much easier. This has also had the important benefit of giving many voluntary sector bodies in our area the opportunity to come in under the West Essex banner and get access to additional workers and funding to support their work in this difficult economic climate.'

The partnership should find out whether its bid has been successful in November, and if the go ahead is given it is hoped that the first young people will be in placements by early in January. If successful the partnership will be able to bid again for further posts later in the year.

For Further Information contact John Houston on 01992 564094

CREDIT CRUNCH PANEL REPORTS

The last meeting of the partnership Board on 24 September received and endorsed the final reports of two of the Task and Finish panels established in February 2009.

The Credit Crunch Task and Finish Panel led by John Preston, the council's Director of Planning and Economic Development, issued its report after several months monitoring and reviewing data on the impact of the recession locally, and taking evidence from local business and community groups about gaps in provision, and suggestions for future activity. The report demonstrates there has been a significant impact locally from the recession with increases in unemployment and the need for services, particularly from advice agencies such as the CAB. The report sets out a plan for further action building on the initiatives the partnership have already undertaken. This includes developing the role of the business champion, supporting Beat the Recession Road shows,

and looking at how the partnership can best support the development of Credit Unions in the District. Mr Preston commented. 'This was a very timely and important piece of work, we wanted to better understand what was actually happening in our district, the problems that were emerging, and with our key partners from the public, voluntary and business communities work out how we best address them collectively and individually. I must say I was very impressed with the support the panel received from our colleagues from right across these sectors. I think that we have come up with some very useful recommendations.

The final report of the review of communications was also endorsed. This work had been begun following partners concerns about the low levels of public awareness of the LSP, its role and activities. Members felt that stakeholders did not know how decisions were reached, by whom and how they could get involved. The Task and Finish Panel agreed and made several recommendations for improvements including: webcasting Board meetings, advertising agenda and minutes, producing a partnership briefing after every meeting listing key decisions and contact points for further information, a new name 'One Epping Forest', and an improved website to support these initiatives. It also recommended that the partners should come together to better coordinate their consultation and communications plans. Copies of the Credit Crunch and Communications reports are available www.oneeppingforest.org.uk

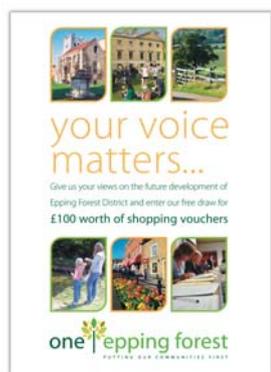
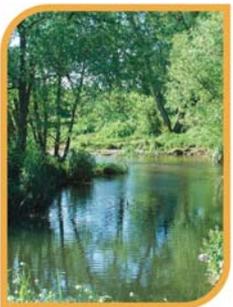
For Further information on the credit crunch report contact **Chris Overend on 01992 564247 or John Preston on 01992 564111. For further information on the communications report contact John Houston on 01992 564094**

Forest are touring the district to find out what issues are the most important in making our area a great place to live, work, study and do business. They are also looking at residents priorities for future action. The results of the consultation, including street surveys and online questionnaires will be reported to a special partnership stakeholder conference on the morning of **December 11 at Theydon Bois Village Hall**. Invitations to the Community Conference will be sent out soon. If you would like to go on the mailing list contact **David or Colin on 01992 564454**.

Details of all the planned activities are available at www.oneeppingforest.org.uk, or contact **Patrick Arnold on 01992 564612**

New Children's Trust Boards Take off in West Essex

Following a review and consultation with local groups the County Council has recommended the establishment of a single West Essex Children's Board to oversee and drive forward services aimed at delivering improved and better coordinated services for children and giving them the best start in life. The new Board



NEWS IN BRIEF

Your Voice Matters...

A major public consultation programme which will run over the autumn and winter has been launched to help shape the new Sustainable Community Strategy. Officers from Voluntary Action Epping

will replace the three Children and Young Persons Strategic Partnerships that previously covered West Essex. Epping Forest partners have however agreed to meet as an Epping Forest Group to maintain a strategic voice and advocate for the District in the new West Essex framework.

Contact Lonica Vanclay on 07920 466967 for further info.

MAKING EPPING FOREST A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE, WORK, STUDY AND DO BUSINESS