

May 2010

Issue 4

# Partnership Briefing



A Newsletter from your Local Strategic Partnership

## One Epping Forest – Mini Observatory

The new Mini Observatory, available at [www.oneeppingforest.org.uk](http://www.oneeppingforest.org.uk) continues to be developed with a wide range of key facts and figures about the district. This information we are told is already helping partners to understand how the district is changing and giving useful data that helps with planning services and making bids for funding. Additional health information has been listed, together with the latest tracker survey of public opinion, and a document which compares the 32 wards in the district against each other and against a basket of information such as crime, demographics and health.

**For further information contact Colin Rowell on 01992 564 454.**

## Sustainable Community Strategy

The new Sustainable Community Strategy is progressing well and a final draft will be circulated in the coming weeks to stakeholders for their views on the new vision and key objectives we have set out to govern our work long term. The objectives have been reduced from over 50 to 11 in line with what people have told us about the need to focus on a smaller number of important things. These cover the four key issues of crime, health, sustainability and young people which have emerged from our consultation.

**For further information contact John Houston on 01992 564 094.**



## Recent Publications

Two other publications are now available on the One Epping Forest website. The partnerships first Annual Review sets out its achievements over the last year, looking at funding secured in the district, the outcomes of the Task and Finish Panels it has run and the key objectives it has been working to deliver. The Report of the Annual Stakeholder Conference held at Theydon Bois Village Hall is also available detailing the discussions of the workshops and the results of surveys undertaken on the day.

**For further information contact Colin Rowell on 01992 564 454.**

## Primary Prize

One Epping Forest together with colleagues across West Essex, and with financial support from Essex County Council, has just launched a Primary Prize scheme. This initiative will provide book tokens to primary school children to recognize the talent of our young people and help raise aspirations. The pilot scheme is being supported by fourteen schools in Epping Forest, and will contribute in recognizing children's improvement in key areas such as numeracy and literacy.

**For further information contact John Houston on 01992 564 094.**

### Future Jobs Fund Update

Following the successful Future Jobs Fund application by the West Essex Partnership, including One Epping Forest, Uttlesford Futures, and Harlow 20/20, almost all of the 30 jobs in our district have been filled. The variety of jobs differs ranging from working outdoors on environmental improvements to clerical and office work.

The Future Jobs Fund, which began in Epping Forest in January 2010, will run until March 2011, providing placements of paid employment for a duration of six months for long-term unemployed young people from the local area. Employers supporting the scheme in Epping Forest include Epping Forest District Council, Epping Forest College, the Royal Gunpowder Mills and a number of voluntary and community groups. Only one post is currently vacant the others have appointed and are awaiting start dates. This scheme is making a real difference to the young people concerned, giving them training and work experience and giving their employers extra capacity to respond to growing local need. Employers are very satisfied with the talent and attitude of the young people they have appointed.

In total, it is expected that over 170 unemployed 18-24 year olds will take up a Future Jobs Fund

saying, "I was out of work for a period of six months after finishing Sixth Form and applied for over fifty jobs in this period, the only interview I received was for a Future Job Fund position. The scheme has been a huge help and has already begun to provide me with the work experience and training that I need."

The next round of the scheme with over 95 posts across West Essex has just been given the go ahead, taking the total so far to over 174 placements approved.

In Epping Forest District, there are currently 690 young people aged 18-24 claiming Job Seeker's Allowance (April 2010) of which 130 have been claiming for six months or more. Over 1 in 4 people claiming Job Seeker's Allowance are in the 18-24 age group.

**For further information contact Julie Houston or David Sellings on 01279 446 445.**

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 Latest News: The West Essex Future Jobs Fund has just been shortlisted for an East of England Jobcentre Plus award.



placement throughout West Essex with over twenty-five individual local employing organisations. As well as gaining access to work experience, all employees have the opportunity to take up an NVQ Level 2 course or other appropriate training through Harlow College. Local organisation Employ-Ability will help to support young people ensuring they succeed in their job and make plans to secure future employment.

The scheme has proved to be very helpful for young people seeking employment, with one new employee

### Transport Task and Finish Panel

A new Task and Finish Panel has been established by the partnership to look at the critical issue of public transport and access in our district. The panel will be recruiting members from local stakeholders to review current performance and identify areas for improvement. **For further information contact Rachael Price on 01245 437 098.**

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