



Leicester Partnership News December 2008

Welcome to the December 2008 issue of Leicester Partnership News. This newsletter is for everyone, in every sector, who works in organisations and partnerships in Leicester to improve the city, its services and the quality of life for people who live here.

If you know anyone who you think would like a copy, please pass it on. And if you would like to be put on the mailing list for future issues get in touch – our contact details are at the end of the briefing.

We are interested in your news and views too – so do contact us if you have questions, comments or information to share. Tell us if this information is useful – or if there is anything else that you think it would be helpful to include in future. We look forward to hearing from you.

Making it Real event – transforming the future for Leicester’s teenagers – report now published

The report from the 3rd October Leicester Partnership ‘Making it Real’ event for those working with young people in Leicester is now available. The event sought input from a wide range of people to help the city plan and commission to meet targets around reducing teenage pregnancy, getting more 16-19 year olds into education employment or training, and reducing anti social behaviour.

At the event – one of the strong messages to come through was the need for a transformation in perceptions of young people, and in how young people are portrayed in the media. As a result Sheila Lock, Leicester City Council’s Chief Executive pledged to write to all local media to ask them to rally round to do their bit to challenge negative perceptions and to include young people’s voices in the media as well.



Sheila's letter can be downloaded from the 'Making it Real' webpage below and it has already elicited a positive response from the Leicester Mercury.

Download the report plus all the detailed notes and presentation slides by going to -

<http://www.oneleicester.com/leicester-partnership/making-it-real-events/making-it-real---leicesters-teenagers>

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Public Opinion in Leicester – results of the 2008 Ipsos MORI survey of Leicester residents

Throughout the Summer Leicester people were asked for their opinions about council and NHS services and what they think about Leicester as a place to live.

The polling organisation Ipsos MORI carried out just over 2,300 interviews with Leicester residents between July and September 2008. Here are some of the things they said:

- Substantial positive shifts have been made in reducing fear of crime and improving confidence in community safety. Across the range of crime-related topics covered in the survey, the majority of residents are not very or not at all worried about being a victim of crime and residents are less worried than they were in 2005 or 2001.
- Since the last survey in 2005, findings indicate that people are much more satisfied with provision for the arts, culture and entertainments, museums, primary and secondary schools and social services for children.
- The survey revealed that 68 per cent of city residents were very or fairly satisfied with how healthcare services are run in Leicester.

The survey also highlighted some key challenges that are now being addressed:

- More people thought that the council was too remote and impersonal, and that the council should make more of an effort to find out what local people want.
- People have had problems registering with a dentist and accessing GPs outside normal hours.



For more information about the Residents survey go to <http://www.leicester.gov.uk/residentssurvey> or

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Local Area Agreement 2008-11 – how are we doing?

Leicester's Local Agreement contains 58 targets that Leicester is committed to achieving in the next three years. The targets cover a wide range of priorities such as reducing crime, strengthening communities, improving health, improving skills and educational attainment, getting people into jobs, improving housing, supporting vulnerable people and tackling climate change. And all of the key agencies in the city are now working together towards these priorities, using pooled resources and evidence based commissioning of services and programmes.

The Leicester Partnership has now published its performance report for the second quarter of 2008-09. Of the 58 measures in the LAA, nine are ahead of target, 41 are on target and eight are below target.

There is particularly good news around reducing the assault with injury crime rate and some of the targets for educational achievement amongst children in school. We have also improved child protection and are ensuring that women access maternity services early on in pregnancy – which is especially important for vulnerable women. Performance in all of these areas is better than expected.

One of the areas that the figures tell us we need to do more to reduce teenage conception. However, there is quite a time lag in getting data – our latest figure (2006) tells us that 67.5 out of every 1,000 girls under 18 in Leicester (348 girls) became pregnant compared with a rate of 40.9 in England and Wales as a whole.

We now have a comprehensive teenage pregnancy action plan for the city aimed at both reducing the number of girls who became pregnant but also supporting those that do to help them stay in education or find work.

A further challenge for the city is around providing additional homes, and we are not going to meet our target for 2008-09, largely due to the downturn in the housing market. Leicester will be receiving more money in the near future to tackle this issue, but the target may need to be revised in the light of the new economic circumstances.



Key challenges also remain around burglary and theft from cars which are being tackled through a range of initiatives by the police.

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Round up of decisions from the Leicester Partnership Executive

The key items on the agenda for the Leicester Partnership Executive on the 1st December were –

- **Partnership Options** – looking at the future structure and support needs of the Partnership.
- **Local Area Agreement Annual Review** – performance report on progress in meeting the targets in our LAA; and
- **Working Neighbourhoods Fund** – a progress report on Leicester's Working Neighbourhood Programme, aimed at tackling worklessness in the city.

The meeting also received a presentation from Hammersons about the success of the new Highcross development in attracting new retailers to the city and getting people into training and employment. The Executive also met with Mary Perry from the Audit Commission to discuss preparation for the Government's Comprehensive Area Assessment of the city due in 2009.

To download papers go to -

<http://www.oneleicester.com/leicester-partnership/past-minutes-and-papers/lp-executive-1st-december-2008>

Round up of decisions from the Leicester Partnership

Some of the key items on the agenda for the Leicester Partnership Executive on the 10th December were –

Delivering Excellence programme being led by the council – which seeks to improve partnership working and deliver better council services in order to meet the objectives in our LAA and the One Leicester Strategy

Neighbourhood VCS representatives on the Leicester Partnership – decisions were made about how the



Partnership seeks and supports people to represent neighbourhood based voluntary and community groups. It is intended to hold events for VCS groups next year with a view to being able to invite new representatives onto the Partnership.

Leicester Partnership NHS Trust, which is responsible for the care and recovery of people with mental ill health in Leicester, gave a presentation and answered questions. A number of opportunities for closer working between the Leicester Partnership and the Trust were identified.

To download papers go to -

<http://www.oneleicester.com/leicester-partnership/past-minutes-and-papers/leicester-partnership-10th-december-2008>

About the Leicester Partnership

Leicester Partnership is Leicester's 'local strategic partnership'. It has about 50 members drawn from the public, voluntary and community, and private sectors of the city. Our job is to bring these sectors together to drive forward a single vision and strategy for the city, and ensure that different services, programmes and initiatives work together effectively.

The Partnership provides the single over-arching local coordination framework within which other partnerships and organisations can operate.

We have two main responsibilities –

- To develop and deliver the 25 year [One Leicester](#) strategy; and
- To deliver the targets in [Leicester's Local Area Agreement 2008-11](#)

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