

Item for Local Community Partnerships

PATHFINDER COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – WYCOMBE DISTRICT PILOT: CREATING THE LINKS BETWEEN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP AND THE WYCOMBE PARTNERSHIP

This item specifically deals with the issue of creating a link between the Local Community Partnership and the Wycombe Partnership/Bucks Strategic Partnership.

The creation and development of Local Community Partnerships within Wycombe District is an integral part of the Wycombe District Pilot being undertaken as part of the Pathfinder Community Engagement Workstream. A copy of the current structure is attached.

One issue that has already emerged is the opportunity and benefit of creating a link between each Local Community Partnership and the Wycombe Partnership (the District wide Local Strategic Partnership). This would enable appropriate wider strategic issues to be referred on to the Wycombe Partnership and also enable more area-based matters to be considered by the appropriate Local Community Partnership. This would naturally develop over time and would form part of the formal evaluation of the Pilot in Spring 2009 by the Pathfinder Joint Improvement Board.

Government Statutory Guidance issued in July 2008 (Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities) supports this approach by identifying one of the roles of the Local Strategic Partnership as:

“Have oversight of, and co-ordinate, community consultation and engagement activities of individual partners and where appropriate combine them”.

The Wycombe Partnership, at its meeting on 7 November 2008, considered this issue and have suggested that one way of creating a link would be for the Chairman and/or Vice Chairman of each Local Community Partnership to be members of the wider Wycombe Partnership. This would enable Minutes of meetings to be submitted and issues that require District wide consideration to be raised and progressed.

The views of the Local Community Partnership are sought and, if the above approach is not considered appropriate, the Wycombe Partnership would welcome suggestions on how to create and strengthen the necessary links with each other.