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More for Less - Crawley Together Conference 2010

The new Coalition government has recently announced major cuts in public spending. This will result local government cuts of approximately £1.6 billion. Housing, education, road safety, major transport projects and social cohesion programmes are among the council services that will be affected by cuts in central grants. Local Area Agreements and the funding they bring have are also being cut.

The established view is that partnership working can lead to greater efficiencies and despite the reduction in funding it is expected that there will continue to be a commitment to partnership working across the county. However, at this early stage it is uncertain how the various partnership structures will be affected.

In this new climate of cuts all public agencies will need to look hard at their spending and this will mean that some services face the risk of being withdrawn. Finding new ways of delivering services for less is going to become a greater imperative over the coming years and greater collaboration will become one of many options that can contribute to making the necessary savings.

This year's conference will focus on how more effective joined up working can lead to greater efficiencies and help deliver more for less.

Make a note of the date in your diary and bring along your ideas for how we can work towards maintaining the valuable service we provide by cutting out the waste caused by a lack of joined up working.

Date: 18th October 2010
Venue: The Hawth, Crawley

Consultation and Engagement Project

Over the last three months a consultancy called the Consultation Institute has been undertaking some work on behalf of all Local Strategic Partnerships in West Sussex to assess how effectively organisations work together on consultation and engagement.

Partners have contributed to this process and the results of this work will be published in early July. The work has produced some interesting results that will contribute to a wider study that is intended to improve consultation and engagement between partners. This will be finalised in September.

The Executive would like to thank all those organisations that have contributed to this work.



News & Updates

The Environment - 10:10 at Crawley Borough Council



10:10 is an ambitious project to unite every sector of British society behind one simple idea: that by working together we can achieve a 10% cut in the UK's carbon emissions in 2010.

Why are we involved?

We're a very green thinking council and we've made huge steps to reduce our emissions already – more than 10% over the last 3 years. We're totally committed to protecting our environment, so although it will be tough, we think we can save another 10% in 2010.

To see our progress so far, please visit our [What we have achieved so far...](#) page.

How can you get involved?

The Council would like to challenge its partners in the community to become involved in reducing the Towns carbon footprint. You, your business or school can sign up to the 10:10 campaign by visiting the website, www.1010uk.org.

Helping you along the way...

If your organisation needs some assistance in reducing its carbon emissions as part of the 10:10 campaign the council offers a FREE service to help you along the way.

Visit the [Green Business Programme](#) for further information.



Refreshed Internet Pages

The Crawley Together web pages have undergone a refresh with a new set up for the pages of the Sustainable Community Strategy. There are eight themes within the Strategy and each theme has now got a dedicated web-page with more information about the theme, key partnerships and activities.

Visit our website www.crawleytogether.org.uk for more information or click on the themed weblinks on the right.



- [Community Cohesion](#)
- [Community Safety](#)
- [Children and Young People](#)
- [Health and Well Being](#)
- [Older People](#)
- [Local Economy](#)
- [Local Environment](#)
- [Social Inclusion](#)



The Crawley Together Executive has adopted the West Sussex Compact to be the local Compact framework for the Crawley Together partnership.

The Compact is an agreement between local government, local health services, other public bodies and the voluntary and community sector within West Sussex, which aims to improve our relationships for mutual advantage and for the ultimate benefit of people in Crawley.

The key objectives of the Compact are to:

- Improve communication, common understanding, collaboration, trust and respect.
- Provide a framework for effective consultation, representation and partnership working including agreeing definitions, shared values and joint and distinct undertakings
- Set out principles for developing working relationships
- Agree to use the Compact as a reference document and for monitoring and evaluating the quality of relationships and partnership working at all levels
- Establish widespread awareness of and commitment to the Compact way of working.

The Crawley Together Executive has also agreed a localised dispute resolution process which aims to try and resolve any disputes through local mediation. For further details, please visit our compact [page](#).



Children & Young People

Services for children and young people in the County are delivered through the Children's Trust. The Trust refers to range of co-operative arrangements designed to improve the outcomes for children and young people. It is not an entity itself, but rather a virtual body encompassing a range of partners dedicated to achieving better outcomes for children. There is no dedicated budget, but partners may align core budgets in order to address issues of joint concern or interest.

Since April responsibility for developing, publishing and reviewing the CYP Plan passed to the Children's Trust Board which is made up of relevant partners such as the police, social services and borough and district councils.

The Executive of the LSP is currently exploring ways to ensure that there is a local mechanism to feed into the Trust at the county level. The current view is that there may be value in having a local partnership that would make sure key issues are addressed by the Board. There is a Safeguarding Forum that covers Crawley Horsham and Mid Sussex but it is felt that this is probably too big to ensure that there is a comprehensive understanding of local issues.

Equalities Impact Assessment of the Sustainable Community Strategy

Early in 2010 partners were invited by the Council and the Crawley Together Secretariat to participate in a workshop to undertake an Equality Impact Assessment of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The workshop took place on 12th February 2010.



Key Findings:

The Sustainable Community Strategy sets the framework for the Council, partners and the Local Strategic Partnership to prioritise their work. All strategies and service plans within the Council link to the Strategy and into the Corporate Plan.

The document is intended to provide a clear strategic direction so that all stakeholders can consider how to make their own unique contribution.

Future Actions:

Incorporate feedback from the workshop regarding issues connected with readability

- Use of Plain English
- Use colours that are suitable for people with visual impairments
- Make text size minimum of font size 12, 14 if possible
- Keep colour coding consistent
- 'Test Drive' readability with disability groups before going to print

To view the full impact assessment [Equality Impact Assessment](#) document visit our internet pages.



Community Safety

From 1st April 2010 the Crawley Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership formally changed its name to the Safer Crawley Partnership. However it retains its strap line of 'Making Crawley Safer for all'

The change reflects the wider purpose of the partnership which also includes tackling anti-social behaviour, drug and alcohol misuse, road safety, domestic violence and hate crime.

The Executive of the Safer Crawley Partnership comprises Crawley Borough Council, West Sussex County Council, Sussex Police, Sussex Police Authority, West Sussex Fire & Rescue Service, NHS West Sussex and our latest partners the Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust and the Crawley Council for Voluntary Services.

The Safer Crawley Partnership publishes a three-year Community Safety Partnership Plan, an annual Action Plan and an annual summary of its activities and achievements. All three documents are published on the Community Safety [website page](#).



The Local Economy

At its last meeting the Local Economy Action Group (LEAG) provided a business perspective on the priorities for the council's Core Strategy (planning). Supportive of a positive approach towards encouraging the development of the economy in Crawley, the LEAG outlined priorities across 5 areas and encouraged policy makers to pay attention to what could be achieved in the next 5 years not just the next 15-20.

Plans for a new initiative to help develop the staff of today and the talent and skills of the future workforce were also endorsed by the LEAG in the form of the Crawley/Gatwick Corporate Social Responsibility Network. Organisations are being asked to put forward their proposals to help establish the network that is geared around encouraging and supporting employee volunteering in a way that generates partnerships between businesses, their staff and local community and voluntary groups to make a real lasting difference to life and business in the town.

In other news, work to improve Manor Royal – initiated by the LEAG - has taken shape in the form of a Master Plan for the area due to be officially launched on the 13 July as part of Manor Royal's 60th year celebrations.



Health & Wellbeing

WOW – Weight Off Workshop, is a 10 week weight management programme being run by Crawley Wellbeing on behalf of the all the GP surgeries in Crawley. The programme encourages patients to adopt a healthy lifestyle, making small changes to their eating and activity levels. In the first year, over 300 patients took part in 28 courses.



This is what some of the patients said about the Wow course:

- *Great - keep doing the WOWs*
- *I have thoroughly enjoyed the course it was very well run and to have the encouragement from other team members was amazing.*
- *I would recommend to anyone to try the WOW course - it is just the kick start I needed*
- *I would like just to thank the staff for making it all so enjoyable with their encouragement and understanding. It was great to meet new people also. I hope it continues to grow.*
- *What can I say? This course has been life changing. Having tried every diet under the sun, I thought I was a lost cause. I have been inspired and it has motivated me and I am confident that this is the start of my healthy new life. The mix of exercise has been fantastic and I have really learnt a lot on the nutritional side. Thank you*

Crawley Wellbeing recently appointed Dellwyn Clark as it's ambassador. Dellwyn lost over 10lbs in weight on her WOW course and a further 20lbs since she finished her course – **WOW!**

Additionally, she regularly takes part in other Crawley Wellbeing programmes. Dellwyn attends creative Dance along with her daughters, regularly takes part in health walks, as well as attending the Weekly Wow Weigh-in to keep her maintain her new healthy lifestyle.



For further information about Crawley Wellbeing please visit www.crawleywellbeing.org.uk, or contact the team on telephone: 01293 585317 or email: wellbeing@crawley.gov.uk

The work of the Crawley Together Executive

The new structure of the LSP has been in place a year. Under the new structure the Executive's purpose is to address blockages to partnership working and over the last year it has intervened to influence a number of initiatives to make sure a joined up approach is being taken, for example:

- Joining up local initiatives on youth service provision with the County Council's review of its own Youth Services.
- Working to get a joint review of disabled facilities and aids and adaptations grants in recognition that the existing service could be improved; when calculated last year it was taking an average of 219 days to get (DFG) work completed and for aids and adaptations work was taking an average of 136 days. In 2009 - 2010 the average time taken to undertake DFGs had been reduced to 159 days and satisfaction levels are at 96%. Working relationships between the various partners have been improved and it is hoped that this will continue to show improvements in the future.
- Developing a local structure to feed into the Board of the Children's Trust – discussions are taking place between the Youth Service, Social Services and Crawley Borough Council.
- Reviewing how well agencies collaborate on Domestic Abuse – The police, RISE Worth Services and Crawley Borough Council are currently undertaking some research to understand how well agencies work together.
- Additional training workshops on safeguarding issues for children and young people was enabled by the Executive reflecting the concern of local agencies that front line staff needed a broader understanding of the local issues.
- Voluntary and community sector representation was secured on the Safer Crawley Partnership.
- The Executive wishes to focus on the local economy and ensure appropriate links are being maintained. To help get a business perspective a member of the business community has been recruited to sit on the Executive.
- The Health and Wellbeing Partnership has been asked to take forward a project on alcohol abuse to evaluate what can be done to reduce the pressures on health services.

For more information about the Executive, including meeting schedules, minutes and contact information please visit our Crawley Together Executive [page](#).

Crawley Together Constitution

There is a new constitution for the LSP which is available in its complete format on the [website](#). The key aspects of the constitution are as follows:

The purpose: To facilitate joint working and collaboration between groups that share a common purpose or mediate mutual solutions where there are conflicts of interest

The Executive: The purpose of the Crawley Together Executive is to provide leadership to the Network and facilitate joined up working by intervening where there are blockages or opportunities for new joint initiatives

Structure: Crawley Together is a voluntary network of organisations, groups and formally established partnerships. It is independent of Crawley Borough Council. Crawley Together members set their own sector and/or organisational priorities and budgets but seek to work in collaboration with others where this will improve services.

Membership: Membership of the Crawley Together Network is open to any organisation, partnership, group or councillor, working for the benefit of Crawley. Membership is not open to individual members of the public.

Secretariat: The secretariat exists to support the work of the Executive and facilitate the network.

Finances: Neither the Network nor the Executive hold a budget.

Crawley Together

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