

# Stronger Communities

## **A strong community is**

### **cohesive**

.... a state of well-being, resilience and self-confidence amongst a community brought about by strong democratic and community leadership, effective engagement with local people and community groups, the identification of key issues which are having an adverse effect on quality of life and prompt action by a range of local people and agencies to deliver visible outcomes.

### **and integrated**

... an integrated community is one in which residents are confident enough in their own identity to respect difference in others while recognising a shared or common set of values that reflect their identification with a sense of place - village, housing estate, town, county or region where they live.

## Outcome : To empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making

### Indicators

- Percentage of citizens who feel well informed about local affairs
- Proportion of direct consultation carried out during the year that is in accordance with principles of good practice.
- Percentage of residents who feel they can influence decisions affecting their local area
- Percentage of people who feel that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together
- An increase in the number of people recorded as or reporting that they have engaged in formal volunteering on an average of at least two hours per week over the past year

### Target

- TBC
- OCC staff involved in consultation are trained on consultation tracker.
- TBC
- TBC
- TBC

### Baseline

- 49%.
- 100%
- 34%
- 74%
- 21%

## **Outcome : To empower local people to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making**

Re-structure of Oxfordshire Partnership to :

- Improve performance management of LAA.
- Improve representation of voluntary and community sector.
- VCS set up a strategic forum - Oxfordshire Voluntary Sector Development Partnership.

Met with Districts to agree action plan for COMPACT, procurement, grants.

Organised a consultation forum (27 Feb) on the above.

## **Outcome : To increase the effective participation of children and young people**

- Increase number of young people consulted about services from 3,000 to 5,000 per year by 2009. See CYP.
- Increase number of young people participating in democratic decision-making processes (Sounding Boards, Trusts, Youth Fora) from 350 in 2005 to 700 per year by 2009.

**Bigger LAA with more emphasis on stronger communities and bigger role for voluntary and community sector (VCS).**

- VCS infrastructure.
- COMPACT / procurement / longer-term funding arrangements.
- Local Community Action Plans (Parish Plans etc).
- Volunteering and citizenship
- Young people active in their communities.
- Feeling safe.



# QUESTIONS

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