



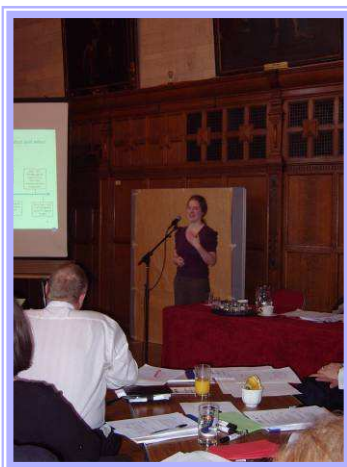
Partnerships in Oxfordshire

8th February 2008

Partners from across the County met on the 8th of February to share their thoughts and ideas about how to make the most of partnership working opportunities in Oxfordshire.

Representatives from County, District, Town and Parish Councils met with partners from Police, Health, Housing, Local Commerce, Voluntary and Community organisations to have their say and share ideas for how to build on past successes in Oxfordshire.

The conference was jointly organised by the six local strategic partnerships in Oxfordshire and funded by the regional 'Progress through Partnership' Programme.



The audience heard from and questioned representatives from the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG), other strategic partnerships (Spelthorne and Tunbridge Wells) and a specialist on the integration of spatial and community planning. The conference was chaired by Jeremy Spafford, an Oxfordshire-based consultant.

Presentation / discussion topics included:

- Partnerships: the strategic view;
- Partnerships in Oxfordshire;
- Stories from elsewhere;
- Planning for spaces, planning for communities;
- Reflections and discussions: what next for partnerships in Oxfordshire?



Participants heard from a variety of speakers with a national, regional and local perspective and had the opportunity to make comments and ask questions.

Working in small groups, audience members identified the key successes to date of partnership working in Oxfordshire as well as the actions which could be taken to make things even better. Comments were written on red and green cards.

Topics raised and discussed included:

- Joint working between County and district LSPs;
- The Role of Town and Parish Councils;
- Involvement of elected Councillors in partnerships;
- The Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement;
- Engaging and Consulting Oxfordshire's Communities;
- How to manage people's expectations;
- Spatial and Community Planning;
- Affordable Housing transport and climate change.

A few examples of red and green cards from the day:



Thank you to everyone who attended. One of the key objectives of the day was to provide an opportunity for an exchange of views and ideas between partners across the County and the active contributions from audience members were a key part of making this work.

What Happens Next?

Independent consultants *Shared Intelligence* are analysing the information recorded on the red and green cards alongside the feedback from group discussions and individual feedback forms.

They will write a report on the successes and opportunities for further discussion / development across the County and send it to each attendee and the 6 local strategic partnerships.

