



The Partnership Development Plan Item 5

The County Council agreed its Partnership Strategy in 2007. This sets out how it works in partnership with others including:

- Why we work in partnership.
- Our strategic partnership / LAA framework.
- Thematic and statutory partnerships.
- Non-statutory thematic partnerships.
- Local partnership working.
- Involvement of elected members.
- Accountability, equalities, tools, audit, risk, scrutiny and performance management.

The strategy has a Development Plan – essentially a work programme for the Partnership Working Unit and others.

Why do we have a Partnership Development Plan?

The purpose of the plan is to ensure that partnerships develop their governance so that they can deliver the outcomes set out in *Oxfordshire 2030* (Sustainable Community Strategy) and the Local Area Agreement.

The Plan includes actions which ensure that:

- We are compliant with the national statutory guidance on strategic partnerships.
- Public Service Board governance and membership meets the challenges of LAA2 and pooling of resources.
- All partnerships achieve the same standards in governance and communication.
- Elected members are involved (membership / reporting / scrutiny).
- District and county strategies and partnerships link.
- Chairs of the thematic partnerships meet every 6 months.
- There is a learning development programme for partnerships.

Governance Audit

The Development Plan includes the current work being led by David Neudegg (Chief Executive, West Oxfordshire District Council) and Mary Harpley (Chief Executive, Cherwell District Council) with the City Council and the Partnerships Working Unit at the County Council to make an audit of the partnerships involved in delivering on the Local Area Agreement 2 and the Sustainable Community Strategy.

The Partnership development Plan can be found at
www.oxfordshirepartnership.org.uk

Recommendations:

1. To note the Plan and the intention to improve governance standards across our partnerships.
2. To agree that the Partnership shall receive:
 - An annual review of governance of all thematic partnerships to be reported to the OP
 - Updates from a number of thematic partnerships to this Board every 6 months.

Claire Evans
Partnerships Manager
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