

October
2009



CAVOS

Consultation Pages

Welcome to the brand new CAVOS Consultation Pages

CAVOS 'Consultation Pages' is a new newsletter that we will be sending out on a quarterly basis along with our main newsletter and funding update.

The 'Consultation Pages' has been developed in order to provide a new mechanism for consulting with groups and organisations in the area. It will contain information about the Area Action Partnerships, areas and topics that we need your feedback on, summaries of the feedback you've given us, what we're going to do with that information and details of other consultation systems we'll be setting up.

Remember, CAVOS is YOUR Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) representative in the former Sedgefield Borough area and we represent the VCS on 4 Area Action Partnerships too. It's therefore very important that you give us your views and opinions of what's going on in your area. This newsletter will keep you informed of the hot topics that we need your feedback on.

What are Area Action Partnerships - a reminder

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) are the new system that Durham County Council as our unitary authority, has put in place to consult with local communities and to deliver local action that will benefit the community. The former Sedgefield Borough area is now covered by 5 AAPs. (Spennymoor, 4 Together, East Durham Rural Corridor, Great Aycliffe & Middridge, Bishop Auckland & Shildon)

Each AAP is managed by a Coordinator who works on behalf of the AAP Board.

The AAP Boards make the decisions and are made up of 21 people:

- ⇒ 7 elected members from the County Council and the relevant Parish / Town Councils.
- ⇒ 7 Public representatives
- ⇒ 7 partner representatives from: Police, Fire service, NHS, Local Business, Social housing, a Durham County Council head of service, Voluntary & Community sector.

If you have any queries relating to this newsletter, or would like an article published in the next issue please contact us:

Tel: 01388 811115 Fax: 01388 817772

Email: enquiries@cavos.org.uk www.cavos.org.uk



Area Action Partnerships - an update

CAVOS support

As the Council for Voluntary Services covering the former Borough of Sedgefield area, CAVOS is the Voluntary and Community Sector representative on the Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) that are within our area of benefit. As Shildon is part of the larger 'Shildon and Bishop Auckland' AAP community organisations are represented by 2D, although these organisations will continue to receive general support from CAVOS.

In the new year CAVOS will be holding a series of Open Days for voluntary and community sector organisations to come along and find out more about their AAP's and how they can get involved.

Priorities for each AAP

The priorities themes for each of the AAPs came out of the initial launch events held in spring this year. People who attended the events were asked to put forward their views on what the AAP should deliver in its first few months. The results of this were prioritised by the forum members and have formed the AAP's first areas for action as indicated below. Unfortunately, within the timescales for this financial year not all priorities could be delivered and the AAP Boards had to select a few key areas for delivery:

- ⇒ **Great Aycliffe and Middridge:**
Support for the Voluntary and Community Sector, Activities for Children and Young People, Environment and Street Cleansing.
- ⇒ **Spennymoor:**
Activities for Children and Young People, Town Centre Regeneration
- ⇒ **4 Together** (Ferryhill, Chilton, West Cornforth and Bishop Middleham)
Community Aspiration, Activities for Young People, Environment
- ⇒ **East Durham Rural Corridor** (Sedgefield, Fishburn, Trimdons, Bowburn, Coxhoe, Quarrington Hill):
Support for the VCS and Community Aspiration, Activities for Young People, Traffic and Transport
- ⇒ **Bishop Auckland and Shildon**
Unemployment and Worklessness, Activities for Young People, Crime and Community Safety.

Task and Finish Groups

Each AAP has now set up working groups named 'Task and Finish Groups' to develop projects for each of the priorities. These projects are agreed by the AAP Board and funded by the main AAP budget of £150,000. The groups are not only made up of Board members but Forum members who have an interest in that area of work.

Have a look at the priorities for each AAP and if they are in your area and cover a topic you are interested in, contact the AAP Co-ordinator and see how you can be involved.



Forum Events

Each AAP will hold two open forum events each year. These events are for anyone in the community to attend. The events are very important as they help to set the future direction of the AAP as well as providing information on the specific projects the AAPs will be funding and their action plans.

For some AAPs it has been agreed to make a proportion of the main AAP budget available for the forum members to directly decide what projects are funded.

The Forum events have been scheduled for the following dates and booking is essential:

- ⇒ **Great Aycliffe and Middridge:** 1st December, 6pm, Newton Aycliffe Leisure Centre (To book contact Brian Riley on 01388 816166)
- ⇒ **Spennymoor:** 26th November, 6pm, Spennymoor Town Hall (Michael Wilkes 01388 816166)
- ⇒ **4 Together:** 9th December, 6pm, Ferryhill Leisure Centre (Lee Stephenson 01388 816166)
- ⇒ **East Durham Rural Corridor:** 7th December, 6pm, venue to be confirmed (Jane Bellis 0191 5274571)
- ⇒ **Bishop Auckland and Shildon:** 19th November, 6pm, venue to be confirmed (Angelina Maddison 01388 816166)

Please remember that the priorities for each AAP to deliver will be based on the outcomes of the Forum events, it is therefore essential that as many people and community organisations as possible are involved in the Forum events to influence local delivery.

In addition to the main AAP budget there are a further two funds linked to it:

Members Initiative Fund:

This fund is designed to tackle priorities in a dynamic and proactive way, particularly on projects that would not be captured within the AAP local plan. Each elected member has £2,000 in total. Groups can apply for between £50 and £2,000. Contact your local Councillor to discuss making an application.

Neighbourhood Budget:

The Neighbourhood budget is allocated to each County Elected Member and is £25,000 in total. The Neighbourhood Budget is to support the improvement of social, economic and environmental well being.

The projects that are supported should link in with one of the local AAP priorities as identified above, or address an emerging neighbourhood issue. Projects need to be a minimum of £2,000 or minimum of £5000 for a capital project.

If you have a project idea contact your local Councillor to discuss making an application.

For more information about the Area Action Partnerships, or for an information chat about your AAP concerns, contact Gillian or Laura at CAVOS on 01388 811115

CAVOS Voluntary & Community Sector Consultation Panel

CAVOS is in the process of setting up a Voluntary and Community Sector consultation panel.

CAVOS is the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) representative on the new Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) covering the old Sedgefield Borough. We are therefore looking to put a mechanism in place that allows us to easily consult with VCS groups on any issues that may arise.

These issues and topics will usually be related to the sector, however we may occasionally consult you on some general community issues.

This process will be informal and CAVOS is asking anyone who may be interested in the panel to contact our office

This is one of several consultation mechanism that CAVOS will be putting in place for us to liaise with VCS groups regarding AAPs.

Contact CAVOS for more information on 01388 811115 or email enquiries@cavos.org.uk

