

Summer
2010



CAVOS

Consultation Pages

The County Durham Plan

The County Durham Plan (the Local Development Framework for Durham) sets out the planning framework and policies for the County and will make specific proposals for new developments through a collection of related planning documents. Durham County Council wants you to get involved and let them know your views on this Plan

In 2009, the County Council asked you to help them understand the main issues that affect County Durham, its towns and villages. The Council has since used this information to develop a number of options to meet these objectives. They now want to know what you think. Have they succeeded in achieving the ambitions of the County? Have they taken into account your needs and the needs of your community?

How can you get involved?

The full consultation documents are now available for comment. The Durham County Council website now has a dedicated section called the County Durham Plan Consultation Pages where you can view the document and offer your comments:

<http://durhamcc-consult.limehouse.co.uk/portal/planning/>

Hard copies of the County Durham Plan are available at local libraries and Council customer access points. There are also a limited number of copies available from CAVOS.

For more information, contact the Planning Policy department for the Sedgefield area on 01388 816 166 (switchboard)

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

County Durham Compact

The refresh

The County Durham Compact is a partnership agreement between the Public Sector and the Third Sector (the Voluntary and Community Sector) in County Durham. Its purpose is to identify and agree to ways of improving working relationships between the two sectors.

The first County Durham Compact was launched in 2001 and following changes to the structure of some of the public sector agencies, the time is now right to refresh and re-invigorate the agreement.

The national Compact has provided the framework for the County Durham Compact which has been developed and prepared for consultation by a working group of individuals representing organisations from both sectors. Everyone will benefit from clarifying and developing a quality relationship that improves partnership working. This Compact needs to deliver something for everyone; it is about developing relationships and getting them right so that organisations from both sectors work better together.

Part of the process to establish a good working agreement is to discover what voluntary organisations think about it. The draft Compact document is available to download from the CAVOS website along with the questionnaire that accompanies it. CAVOS has paper copies of the draft Compact available too. Contact CAVOS for your copy.

Please send in your responses before 31st August to CAVOS or to Sue Graham at One Voice Network, whose contact details are on the bottom of the questionnaire.

CAVOS recommends that you read and consider the County Durham Compact; this is your opportunity to be involved in shaping how the Voluntary and Community Sector develops its working relationship with the Public Sector.

What's your problem?

Are there any specific issues affecting your organisation?

CAVOS knows that it's a very difficult time for the voluntary and community sector. Most of us are feeling the strain financially or struggling to find new volunteers.

Whenever CAVOS finds that there are any recurring themes or common issues in what you tell us, we pass this information on to an organisation we work closely with called VONNE (Voluntary Organisations Network North East). While CAVOS provides voluntary sector support on a local level, VONNE covers the whole of the North East

CAVOS frequently feeds your views and issues up to VONNE who are able to assess the impact of common issues at a higher level and lobby key issues at a regional level and beyond.

So voicing your concerns may not mean much to you, but it's a big deal to us!

Proposed changes to National Lottery shares

At present the BIG Lottery Fund receives 50% of the good causes money generated by lottery ticket sales. The new government proposes to reduce this share to 40% by 2012. It is a long standing Conservative policy that a greater proportion of 'good cause cash' raised by the National Lottery should go to arts, sports and heritage than has been the case in recent times.

The new Department for Culture Media and Sport (DCMS) Minister Jeremy Hunt has said he wants to ensure that in future, all funding distributed under 'good cause' goes to the Voluntary and Community Sector.

The DCMS wants to ensure that, in making the transition to the new Lottery shares, the levels of grant available to the voluntary and community sector are protected, so they propose to make the change in two stages:

- ⇒ Stage 1: On 1 April 2011, increase the share for arts, heritage and sport to 18% each and reduce the Big Lottery Fund to 46%.
- ⇒ Stage 2: On 1 April 2012, increase the shares for arts, heritage and sport to 20% each and reduce the share for the Big Lottery Fund to 40%.

Mr Hunt has stated that the Department for Culture Media and Sport is seeking your views on the proposal and the timing for its implementation and how the change is likely to affect your organisation.

For voluntary sector organisations, Mr Hunt has stated that they are looking for your views on the following:

- ⇒ What impact would the changes have on your ability to deliver previously identified priorities or projects?
- ⇒ In your view, will the change have any particular positive or negative impact on particular social groups? (e.g. taking into account race, gender, religion, disability, age) How could impacts be avoided or reduced? (you are asked to provide evidence if possible)
- ⇒ Do you have any other observations?

Please send all responses to: lottery@culture.gsi.gov.uk

The consultation is open until Saturday 21 August 2010

It can also be found online at: www.culture.gov.uk/consultations/7070.aspx

The responses to the consultation will be considered very carefully. Mr Hunt has stated that he expects to lay the draft Statutory Instrument before Parliament after the Summer Recess in October where it will be subject to Parliamentary scrutiny.

Area Action Partnerships

A CAVOS recap on what they're all about!

Area Action Partnerships (AAPs) are the system that Durham County Council as our unitary authority, put in place to consult with local communities and to deliver local action that will benefit the community.

There was a broad consultation process to allow people to input into the development of the AAPs. In April/May 2009, each AAP held a launch event which discussed and prioritised the actions to take forward on behalf of the area they cover.

The CAVOS role within the AAPs is to input the perspective of the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) where appropriate and to support the delivery of local services through the AAP.

CAVOS is the Voluntary & Community Sector (VCS) representative in the following Area Action Partnerships:

- ⇒ Great Aycliffe & Middridge AAP - covering the Newton Aycliffe & Middridge area.
- ⇒ The 4 Together Partnership – covering Chilton, Cornforth, Ferryhill, Bishop Middleham.
- ⇒ East Durham Rural Corridor AAP – covering Sedgefield, Fishburn, Trimdons
- ⇒ Spennymoor AAP – covering Spennymoor, Tudhoe, Byers Green, Kirk Merrington

CAVOS encourages VCS organisations to let us know about the issues that are affecting them on a local level. As the Voluntary Sector representative CAVOS will feed relevant VCS issues into the AAP. Individual community members can also input into their local AAP at forum meetings.

The AAPs have been doing great work in their local areas so it's well worth finding out more about them and considering getting involved! Each Area Action Partnership has its own website which can be accessed through the Durham County Council website (www.durham.gov.uk) Links are also available on the CAVOS website (www.cavos.org.uk) These sites are a great place to find out more about the AAPs.

