

Community Involvement Strategy

**Luton Assembly
Community Involvement Event
1st July 2010**

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I'm going to talk about

- What is it?
- Why was this needed?
- Who developed it?
- What does it say?
- What happens next?

Community Involvement Strategy



What is it?

- Joined up approach to involvement across partners in Luton
- Agreed March 2010

Community Involvement Strategy



Why was this needed?

- Duty to involve
- Risks if we don't join up – lack of co-ordination, consultation fatigue



Why was this needed – public expenditure reductions

- On an unprecedented
scale

Why was this needed?

Big Society



Nat Wei

Who developed the strategy?

Luton**Forum**


Consultation

- Focus groups with VCS
- 400 residents Citizens Panel
- Questionnaire to partners, VCS groups, councillors etc
- Equalities Fora

What does it say?

Vision

Luton will be a place where citizens are confident they can influence decisions and that their involvement is leading to both improved services and stronger communities. Partners will work together in a joined up, cost effective and supportive way to involve all citizens. This will result in the number of citizens increasing year by year.

What does it say?

- 6 principles
- 4 objectives

4. Principles

- 1 Community involvement should be at the heart of how partners improve services, set priorities and use resources.
- 2 There should be a range of opportunities for involvement that are well publicised, link to local democracy and in which all citizens are encouraged to participate.
- 3 Methods for involvement should be regularly reviewed to ensure they are cost effective, and meet the preferences and needs of all citizens.
- 4 Citizens should receive clear and prompt feedback on how their involvement has helped to shape services, places and communities.
- 5 Partners should work in a joined up way to avoid duplication.
- 6 Involvement should be the basis on which partners increase satisfaction, build trust and confidence in their organisations.

5. Objectives

The four objectives for our involvement strategy are:

- 1 To empower citizens, communities and organisations to set priorities, influence and make decisions together.
- 2 To engage a representative range of citizens and increase the number of citizens involved.
- 3 To consult in a cost effective, high quality, co-ordinated and sustainable manner.
- 4 To inform citizens, ensuring effective communication and prompt, clear feedback on involvement.

What happens next?

Project team working on action plan, for example

- how can we empower communities and organisations?
- mapping of current involvement activity
- co-ordination of consultation
- new approaches to equalities involvement
- developing a range of supportive consultation tools for partners
- better feedback and communications

Finally, we are living in changing times



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