



# Partnerships in Darlington

# History

- Darlington Partnership began as a business partnership, focused on bringing jobs to Darlington
- LAAs introduced as agreement between local areas and central government for accountability for performance in key areas
- Requirement introduced in relation to production of a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and performance assessed via the Comprehensive Area Assessment; reported via National Indicator Set



# Darlington Partnership Review

- Five theme groups – Aspiring, Greener, Healthier, Prosperous, Safer
- Does this promote silo working?
- Recognition of fewer resources and decreased ability to field staff to attend
- In light of changed requirements, a desire to continue to work together, and to focus more on action and achievement



# Darlington Partnership Review

- Attempted more joined up work, with fewer groups
- Led to difficulties with accountability
- Feelings by some of being 'excluded'
- Those groups remaining found their agenda rapidly expanding until it was unmanageable
- So, further discussion!



# Darlington Partnership now

- Board as the primary focus
- Commitment to the Sustainable Community Strategy (*One Darlington: Perfectly Placed*) remains and has been strengthened
- No formal decision-making powers, as previously
- Membership has remained the same in terms of representatives (9/9/9, plus political leaders)



# Darlington Partnership Purpose

- To champion and engender effective partnership working in Darlington
- To ensure there is a sharp focus on a small number of critical priorities
- To ensure there is cross sector collective responsibility for addressing priorities
- To promote efficiency and collaboration
- To be the home of innovation



# Role of Darlington Partnership Board

- To ensure the strategy for Darlington, *One Darlington: Perfectly Placed* is being addressed
- To agree a framework which ensures any plans developed contribute to the vision and priorities of the Partnership
- To support those responsible for delivering good outcomes for Darlington (as outlined in the attendant delivery plans: Community Safety Strategy, Children and Young People's Plan, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, Economic Strategy)
- To ensure sectors come together to plan and manage action which address *One Darlington: Perfectly Placed* priorities
- To instigate action



# How it is organised - priorities

- Long term (2025) priorities – One Darlington, and Perfectly Placed with seven outcomes (previously agreed and confirmed)
- Medium Term (2013-2016) – ODPP Delivery Plan (on agenda), maintaining the seven outcomes
- Short Term (annually) – Action Priorities





# How it is organised - priorities

## Action Priorities for 2012

- Alcohol
  - Social Norms with Employers
  - Town Centre Vibrancy
- Youth Employment Opportunities
  - Foundation for Jobs
- Ageing
  - Good neighbours
  - Volunteering



# How it is organised - groups

## Six operational groups and leads

- **Community Safety** – Police local commander
- **Children and Young People** – Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
- **Health and Well Being** – Chair of the Health and Well Being Board
- **Economic growth** – private sector lead
- **One Darlington** – eVOLution lead
- **Creative Darlington** – Chair of Creative Darlington Board



# How it is organised - groups

- Statutory requirements remain – community safety, children and young people, health and well being
- Operational leads present to Board annually how they will organise the workstream – sub-groups, etc
- Operational leads must address:
  - Involvement of a wider group of individuals – whether through Assemblies, workshops or another mechanism
  - Coordination with other groups – to ensure an effective calendar of events, potentially carried out through officer support arrangements
  - Transparency in decision-making – in order to show how the partnership is working effectively, particularly for Council Members and wider networks
  - Resources – if establishing additional groups or additional invitees, impact on partners' resources must be considered



# Community Workstream

- Result of Task and Finish from this Committee
- First meeting held 18 July
- Attendance circa 40
- Residents groups, Community Associations, Community Partnerships and Councillors
- Presentations on key issues arising from Darlington Partnership
- Much discussion on how to s/elect representatives to Darlington Partnership Board
- Strong support for such a network and desire to be involved



# How it is organised

- Voluntary Sector Chiefs and Chairs
  - Voluntary sector work groups
- Public Sector Chief Executives Network
- Private Sector breakfast club
- Executive Group – to organise the Board and carry out its functions
- Performance Group – to organise priority-setting and performance reviews, ensuring alignment across priority areas
- Officer Group – to ensure communication and organisation across the six operational areas



# ODPP Delivery Plan is key

- **Outcome I- People are Healthy and Supported**
  - Healthy life expectancy
  - Differences in life expectancy and healthy life expectancy
  - Mortality from causes considered preventable
  - Self-reported well-being
  - Self-reported experience of social care users
  - Number of referrals of Children in Need per 10,000 population under 18



# ODPP Delivery Plan is key

- **Outcome 2- People are Educated and Skilled**
  - 5 or more A\* - C GCSEs including English and Maths
  - Working age population qualified to at least Level 2 or higher
  - Working age population qualified to at least Level 4 or higher
  - Percentage of 16 – 18 year olds who are not in employment, education or training (NEETs)



# **ODPP Delivery Plan is key**

- **Outcome 3- People are Financially Secure**

- Proportion of children living in poverty
- Average earnings of employees in the area
- Percentage of pension recipients claiming pension credits
- Working age population on out-of-work benefits

- **Outcome 4- People Live in Resilient and Cohesive Communities**

- Percentage of people who agree that their area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together
- Levels of reported hate crime





# ODPP Delivery Plan is key

- **Outcome 5- People Live in Sustainable neighbourhoods**
  - Overall satisfaction with the local area as a place to live
  - Satisfaction with sport and leisure facilities
  - Satisfaction with parks and open spaces
  - Satisfaction with transport and highways
  - Satisfaction with the cleanliness of the Borough
  - Percentage of household waste recycled or composted
  - Per capita reductions in CO<sub>2</sub> in the LA area



# **ODPP Delivery Plan is key**

- **Outcome 6- Communities are safe and free from crime**
  - Total crimes per 1000 population
  - Reoffending rate of prolific and priority offenders
  - Anti-social behaviour incidents per 1000 population
  - Percentage who perceive anti-social behaviour as a problem in their local area
  - Percentage feeling safe in the Borough (day and night)



# **ODPP Delivery Plan is key**

- **Outcome 7 – Darlington is an ambitious, entrepreneurial place in which businesses thrive and create wealth**
  - Overall employment rate
  - Business births
  - Business deaths
  - Average household earnings



# ODPP Delivery Plan is key

- On agenda today for further discussion and feedback
- Assemblies to plan priorities and to review progress and performance
- Performance reviewed at operational group meetings
- Exceptional under and over performance reported first to the Executive Group, then to Board if needed



# Partnership Communications

- Newsletter
- Website and social networking
- ***Best of Darlington*** awards
- Assemblies – both subject-specific and performance/planning focused
- Informal networking opportunities



# Recent Board Discussions

- Economic Strategy
- ODPP Delivery Plan
- Review of partnership arrangements
- Police and Crime Commissioners
- Business Improvement District
- schools@onedarlington
- Darlington Cares



# Scrutiny

- Scrutiny of service delivery via existing Scrutiny Committees
- Partnership arrangements via this Committee
- Annual Review of Significant Partnerships to Cabinet in Spring



# Discussion / Questions

