

# Spelthorne Together

## Assembly 2010

### Report



27 September 2010



**Spelthorne  
Together**

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## Spelthorne Together Assembly 2010

### Executive summary

This report summarises the issues raised at the Spelthorne Together Assembly on 27 September 2010. Detailed information from the day is included in the appendices.

Over 140 people attended the Assembly. *A list of delegates and their organisations is attached at Appendix A, where permission was given for inclusion.*

For the second time, delegates were sent a comprehensive programme in advance, (*Appendix B*) which included the agenda and brief reports on progress by theme groups over the past 12 months:

- Safer Stronger
- Children & Young People
- Health & Well Being
- Economic Development
- Housing, Infrastructure & Environment

Each theme group gave a brief presentation on the day, outlining a success story from the past year.

Update were given on the priorities of Spelthorne Together Executive:

- Stanwell New Start
- National Indicator 4 (NI4) – the % of people who feel they are able to influence decisions in their locality. This is a key initiative for all public sector organisations.

An innovation this year was the inclusion of a live vote at the Assembly, to allocate £1,000 targeted support funding from Surrey County Council, to a community project. The projects were required to address improvement of NI4.

Six projects were identified – one from each theme group and one from the LSP Executive. Brief details were published in the programme and short presentations made on the day.

Delegates were able to ask questions on the topics. They were also able to visit a wide range of around 37 market stalls representing various partners working in the borough – including Surrey NHS, Surrey Police and a number of the local organisations from the voluntary, community and faith sector. *Full list of exhibitors – Appendix C*

The workshop session invited delegates to look at ways in which the theme groups' working towards their priorities could involve improving NI4. Delegates were also asked for ideas on improving communications between partners and participants.

Feedback suggested that delegates were generally satisfied with the day, the increased size of the marketplace and opportunity to network and the different venue. (*Appendix F*)



## Introduction

Every year the wider body of Spelthorne Together (Assembly) meets to discuss partnership issues. This includes looking back at achievements over the previous year and looking forward to priorities for the coming year.

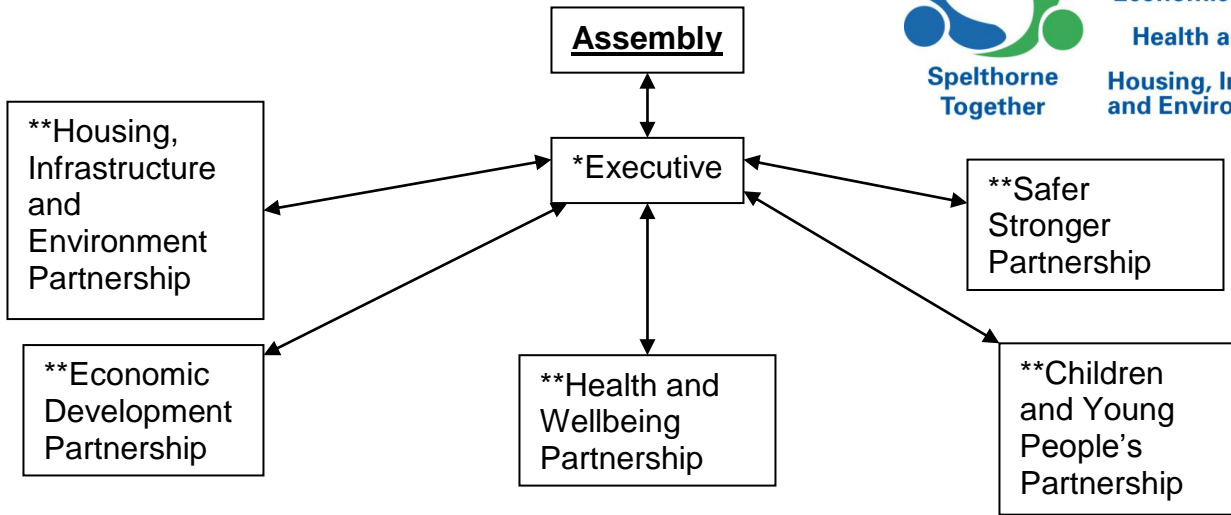
## Overview of the LSP

Spelthorne Together is the local strategic partnership for the Borough. It acts as the “partnership of partnerships”, bringing together much of the joint work that happens in the area. Spelthorne Together is made up of representatives from across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors.

The focus of Spelthorne Together’s work is the Spelthorne Community Plan 2005-2015 (updated September 2010), which sets out how partners intend to improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of Spelthorne. The Plan as currently written has targets relating to the following five themes:

- Safer Stronger
- Children & Young People
- Health & Well Being
- Economic Development
- Housing, Infrastructure & Environment

The targets in the Plan are intended to fulfil the LSP’s vision, which is “to make Spelthorne a safe, healthy, inclusive, prosperous and sustainable community”



The structure of the LSP has three main components:

\*The Executive – this group consists of representatives from around 25 organisations, who monitor overall progress on the Community Plan.

\*\*Thematic Partnerships – these are each responsible for developing and monitoring an action plan dealing with a particular theme of the Community Plan. These are:

- Safer Stronger Partnership
- Children and Young People’s Partnership
- Health and Well Being Partnership
- Economic Development Partnership
- Housing, Infrastructure and Environment Partnership

The Assembly – this is a wider body that meets every year to discuss partnership issues, such as ideas for future projects, and monitors overall progress and success.

**Aim of the day**

The day was intended to fulfil four main purposes. The first was to provide information to delegates on the partnership work that is currently happening in Spelthorne and to give them the opportunity to question what is happening. The second was to give the wider community of those living and working in the Borough the opportunity to contribute to the work being done on improving NI4 via the priorities of the five themes and by participating in the live vote for a community project. The third purpose of the day was to provide the opportunity for networking and improved communication between people working in the local area and finally to visit the key local “partners” at the marketplace in order to understand work being undertaken in Spelthorne.

## Management of the day

The Assembly was coordinated by Spelthorne Borough Council's Partnership Liaison Officer with staff from the council assisting on the day.

The facilitator was again Geoff Chilton, former Interim Chief Executive of Spelthorne Borough Council.

The chairman was Sue Robertson, Head of Planning and Performance, Ashford & St Peter's Hospitals Trust.



Thirty five organisations had stands including Surrey Police, Surrey Fire & Rescue Service, Age Concern Spelthorne and Surrey, Voluntary Action in Spelthorne (VAIS), HMP Bronzefield, numerous charity and community organisations based in the borough and countywide. For the first time, Spelthorne Together LSP had its own stand. A full list of exhibitors is set out in *Appendix C*.

## Delegates

It is important that the Assembly is as representative as possible of the wider Spelthorne community.

Approximately 140 people from public, private, voluntary and community organisations attended the event. This was 6% higher than the previous year (September 2009) when around 130 people attended; that attendance had been 22% higher than 2008. (The 2009 figure was difficult to pinpoint, as the online booking system malfunctioned and up to 24 delegates who thought they had booked were not registered.)

Dozens of different organisations were represented as follows:

Sector	Proportion of individual delegates
Public	37%
Private	12.5%
Voluntary	20.5%
Residents	19%
Elected members	9.5%

Table 1: Sectors represented

## Proceedings of the day

The LSP Assembly 2010 took place on Monday 27 September at Kempton Park Racecourse, Sunbury.

### Information provided in advance

Delegates were sent an eight-page programme in advance of the day, to provide background information so as to allow more time on the day looking at the future.

The document included

- An update on progress and achievements made under each of the five Community Plan themes; Stanwell New Start and NI4;
- Make It Happen – brief details of the six community projects bidding for £1,000 targeted support funding

- Stands and organisations supporting the event

Copies of the Community Plan 2005-2015, updated September 2010, were also available to delegates on the day.

### Agenda - Outline

The full agenda for the day is given in *Appendix B*.

The key sessions during the day were:

- Presentations from theme groups on one success story in the previous year
- Networking and visiting the 35 marketplace stands
- Vote to give £1,000 to a community project
- Workshops on the 5 key themes looking at improving NI4

### Agenda – In Detail:

- a) The event was opened by Sue Robertson, Chair of Spelthorne Together.
- b) Prior to the event a comprehensive programme was sent out to all delegates, which included background information on progress in the past 12 months on
  - The five theme groups' activities
  - Stanwell New Start
  - Outline of NI4

The programme also included the agenda of the Assembly plus further information about Spelthorne Together

- c) Short presentations were given on a success story from each theme group:
  - Safer Stronger
  - Children and Young People
  - Health and Well Being
  - Economic Development
  - Housing, Infrastructure and Environment

An additional presentation was made by two delegates from the London 2012 Young Leaders Programme. This programme involves nine Spelthorne young people aged 16-17 who are among 100 nationwide selected to play leading volunteering roles in the run-up to the 2012 Olympics. The Young Leaders Programme (YLP), supported by BP, is designed to give a group of disadvantaged young people the chance to make positive change to their lives. This will be achieved by participation in a number of volunteering opportunities between April 2010 and the end of the Games in September 2012.

- d) Following that, delegates were able to visit the market stalls stands which included various local organisations – see *Appendix C* for full list.

- e) Following the marketplace and networking Sue Robertson gave an update on the Community Plan 2008-2015, which had been updated to reflect the outcome of workshop discussions at the Assembly 2009.
- f) The next session was in the form of workshops arranged according to the theme group delegates wished to work with. They were asked to consider ways in which improvements in NI4 could be gained through working towards the theme priorities. In addition, delegates were asked to suggest ways of improving communication between partners and residents. This was followed by verbal feedback from each table; this has been fed back to the theme groups. Full notes of tables' feedback - *Appendix E*- can be obtained by emailing [partnerships@spelthorne.gov.uk](mailto:partnerships@spelthorne.gov.uk) or phoning 01784 446421.
- g) Make It Happen – the live vote to allocate £1,000 for a community project – came next. Each of the six projects outlined in the programme was given a one-minute “sell” by a partner promoting it. The projects (*page 7, Appendix B*) had been identified by the five theme groups, with the Executive backing the Stanwell Community radio project since Stanwell is one of the Executive’s priorities. Delegates voted by attaching a sticker to the poster relating to the project of their choice. The Big Coffee Morning (Health & Well Being) gained most votes.
- h) A brief open forum followed, with the floor open to any questions.

### **Evaluation of the Event**

At the end delegates were asked to complete an evaluation form capturing their views. *Appendix F* sets out all the issues covered. The key points were as follows:

- Most people felt the format worked well and that they were given the opportunity to contribute
- Mixture between need for more time for questions and answers and more workshop time
- Mixed reaction to new venue – mainly very positive, with solvable negative comments on layout and sound quality
- Live vote and workshops were popular
- Delegate mix criticised by some; not enough young people and “same old faces” attending

*Appendix G* addresses specific points and questions which arose within the feedback.