

Spelthorne Together

Assembly 2008

Report



**Local
Spelthorne
Partnership**

Together, improving Spelthorne.

15 September 2008



Contents

	Page
Executive Summary	3
Introduction	4
Overview of the LSP	4-5
The Day Itself	5-8
- Aim	
- Management	
- Delegates	
- Proceedings	
Evaluation	8
Appendices	
Appendix A – List of delegates/organisations	
Appendix B – Spelthorne Together Newsletter	
Appendix C – Agenda for the Day	
Appendix D – Youth Strategy & Older People’s Strategy 2008/2012	
Appendix E – Spelthorne Together & Surrey Local Area Agreement	
Appendix F – The Big Issues	
Appendix G – Ashford, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury	
Appendix H – Evaluation of Event	
Appendix I – Equal Opportunities Monitoring	

Local Spelthorne Partnership Assembly 2007

Executive summary

This report summarises the issues raised at the Spelthorne Together Assembly on 15 September 2008. Detailed information from the day is included in the appendices.

Over 100 people attended the Assembly. They were mixed in terms of sector, age, gender, ethnicity and disabilities. Questionnaires were used to collect equalities monitoring information and delegates' satisfaction with the event.

The programme for the day was slightly different to recent Assemblies taking on board several of the suggestions made previously.

Delegates were able to discuss progress on the 6 themes within the Spelthorne Community Plan 2005-2015 updated 2008. There were also updates on the older and younger people strategies and Transport and Traffic Congestion and Physical and Built Environment, both of which had been identified as priorities at the 2007 Assembly.

Information was also given on the Surrey Local Area Agreement and how this could impact on Spelthorne and its Community Plan.

Spelthorne Borough Council's Chief Executive Roberto Tambini presented the big issues – opportunities and threats – for Spelthorne over the next 1/2 years.

The event also concentrated on regeneration initiatives in the 5 geographical areas of the Borough – Ashford/ Shepperton/Staines/Stamwell/Sunbury.

Delegates were generally satisfied with the day, although the LSP Executive will be considering a number of suggestions in order to improve the next event.



Introduction

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

This report summarises the proceedings of the day as well as the key outputs. Notes from the round table discussions are included as appendices. The PowerPoint slides from the day are available to download from Spelthorne Together's website www.spelweb.com.

Overview of the LSP

Spelthorne Together is the local strategic partnership for the Borough. It acts as a “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 2008, which sets out how partners intend to improve the social, economic and environmental well-being of Spelthorne. The Plan has targets relating to the following six themes:

- Safer Spelthorne
- Young People's Spelthorne
- Getting Around Spelthorne
- Healthy Spelthorne
- Thriving Spelthorne
- Learning Spelthorne

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”

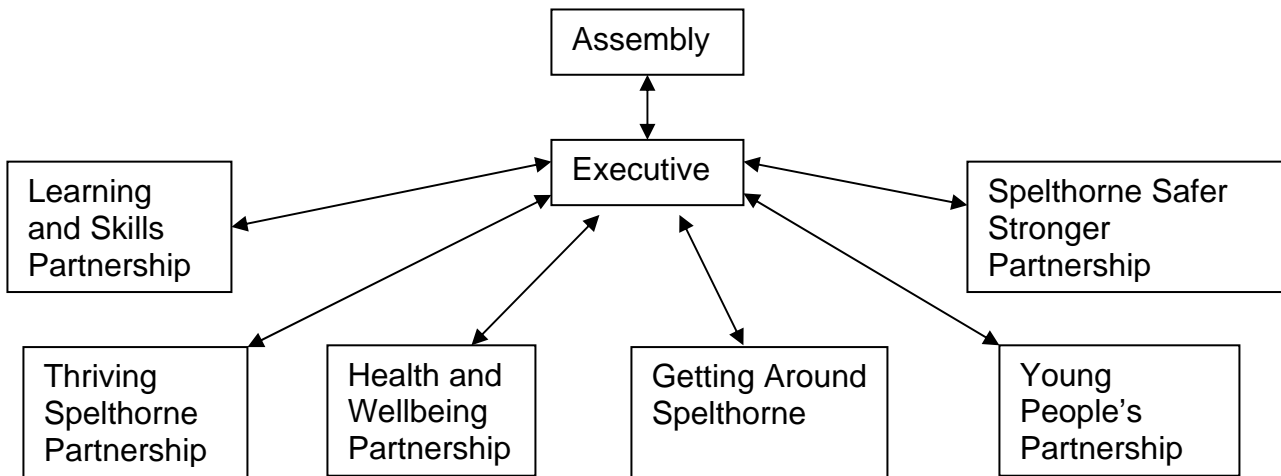
The structure of the LSP has three main components:

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:

- Spelthorne Safer Stronger Partnership (SSSP)
- Young People's Partnership (YPP)
- Spelthorne Health and Wellbeing Partnership
- Thriving Spelthorne Partnership
- Spelthorne Learning and Skills Partnership
- Getting Around 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 three purposes. The first was to provide information to delegates on the partnership work that is currently happening in Spelthorne and 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 the 5 geographical areas – Ashford/Shepperton/Staines/Stanwell/Sunbury. The final purpose of the day was to provide the opportunity for networking and improved communication between people working in the local area.

Management of the day

The Assembly was coordinated by Spelthorne Borough Council with staff from a number of local organisations helping on the day. The facilitator was again Geoff Chilton, former Interim Chief Executive of Spelthorne Borough Council.

A number of organisations exhibited their work including HM Customs & Excise, Voluntary Action in Spelthorne (VAIS), Age Concern and Spelthorne Together.

Delegates

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

Approximately 108 people from public, private, voluntary and community organisations attended the event. This was slightly higher than the previous year (September 2007) when 105 people attended.



Over 50 individual organisations were represented (see [Appendix A](#) for a full list of delegates). The sectors that individual delegates represented are as follows:

Sector	Proportion of individual delegates
Public	39%
Private	13%
Voluntary	48%

Table 1: Sectors represented

In terms of the gender of attendees, there were 58 women (53%) compared to 50 men (46%). Out of the delegates who provided their age on the form, 7% were 24 or under compared to 2% in 2007, with the majority of delegates between the ages of 50-64 (37% compared to 45% in 2007) and over 65 (33% compared to 23% in 2007). The ethnic origin of delegates was 97% white British and 3% Asian. 33% of delegates described themselves as disabled. Only about 30% of delegates completed the form so usage of this information needs to be careful. There was an interesting shift in age group with more older people attending, probably reflecting the number of additional residents attending as opposed to representing particular organisations.

Proceedings of the day

The LSP Assembly 2008 took place on Monday 15 September at Spelthorne Leisure Centre, Staines.

Information provided in advance

Delegates were sent documents in advance of the day, to provide background information and to allow more time on the day for looking to the future. The first document was an update on progress and achievements made under each Community Plan theme in the form of a newsletter (see Appendix B). Delegates also received an agenda and venue directions in advance.

Agenda - Outline

The full agenda for the day is given in Appendix C. The key sessions during the day were:

- Questions from the audience on the 6 LSP themes
- Progress on Older/Younger People Strategies
- Update on Transport and Traffic Congestion and the Physical & Built Environment
- Presentation on the Surrey Local Area Agreement and its impact on Spelthorne Together and the Spelthorne Community Plan
- Presentation on the Big Issues facing Spelthorne
- Workshops on the 5 geographical areas – Ashford/Shepperton/Staines/Stanwell/Sunbury

Agenda – In Detail:

- a) The event was opened by Dave Steggles, Chair of Spelthorne Together, who emphasised the importance of partnership working in achieving improvements for the Spelthorne community.
- b) Delegates were able to ask questions about the 6 themes:
 - Safer Spelthorne
 - Young People’s Spelthorne
 - Getting Around Spelthorne
 - Healthy Spelthorne
 - Thriving Spelthorne
 - Learning Spelthorne
- c) Following that, delegates were able to visit the information stands on each of the 5 towns – Ashford, Sheperton, Staines, Stanwell, Sunbury as well as the market stall stands which included the following local organisations – HM Customs & Excise, Voluntary Action in Spelthorne (VAIS), Age Concern, Spelthorne Together.
- d) Liz Borthwick (SBC) then gave a presentation on the revised Children’s and Young People Plan and the new Older People’s Strategy. The latter had been identified as a priority from a previous LSP Assembly. It was hoped to launch both strategies formally by the end of December (see Appendix D).
- e) Sandy Muirhead (SBC) updated delegates on progress on Transport and Traffic Congestion including a traffic survey in Staines Town Centre and the Physical and Build Environment including initiatives on climate change.
- f) Paul Sanderson made a presentation on the Surrey Local Area Agreement (LAA) and how it would impact on the Spelthorne Community Plan.

Dave Steggles brought delegates up to date on work done by the Spelthorne Together Executive on linking the Spelthorne Together Community Plan to the LAA (see Appendix E).
- g) The Big Issues facing Spelthorne as a Council and as a place were highlighted by Roberto Tambini, Chief Executive, Spelthorne Borough Council (see Appendix F).
- h) Delegates then worked in groups looking at issues in the 5 geographical areas - Ashford, Shepperton, Staines, Stanwell and Sunbury.

The notes from those deliberations are set out at Appendix G and will be used in future considerations.

The approaches used were slightly different – there are a number of developments planned already in Staines and Stanwell and the discussions related to concerns and possible oversights. Work on regenerating Ashford, Shepperton and Sunbury is just beginning so delegates were able to input their concerns/issues and possible solutions.

Evaluation of the Event

At the end delegates were asked to complete an evaluation form capturing their views. Appendix H sets out 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.
- Complaints about the invitation list – certain organisations previously invited were not invited this time especially the voluntary sector.
- Mixture between need for more time for questions and answers and more workshop time

It does seem that the way information is captured needs to be reviewed. Only about 25% completed the evaluation form and 30% the equal opportunities monitoring questionnaire. If nothing else, the 2 forms should be combined. Appendix I deals with the equal opportunities monitoring.

Brian Harris
Spelthorne Together.