

# South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance

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## Alliance Conference - A Great Success

Local communities had an opportunity to make a difference to life in South Wiltshire, through the South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance conference and workshops held in Salisbury on 8 February 2006.

The 'Making a Difference Together' conference gave people across all sections of the local community an opportunity to voice their opinions on topics such as local transport, neighbourhood policing and affordable housing. It also updated them on progress that has been made since the last Alliance conference in 2004.

Over 80 people attended the conference at Sarum College, Salisbury, including local politicians, community representatives and people from public, voluntary and private sector organisations that make up the Alliance.

The information from the workshops is being used by the members of the Alliance to inform the action they take to deal with these

## IN BRIEF

- South Wiltshire Diversity Partnership has produced a **Survey on the Experiences of Accessing Services by the Black and Minority Ethnic Population in South Wiltshire**. Copies of this survey can be obtained from Amber Skyring on 01722 434568 or [askyring@salisbury.gov.uk](mailto:askyring@salisbury.gov.uk)
- Wiltshire County Council have conducted a survey into **Rural Facilities and Access to Public Services**, as part of the ongoing consultation with the People's Voice. The report is available from:  
<http://www.intelligencenetwork.org.uk/>. Use the 'Library' tab and search for 'rural facilities'.
- Salisbury District Council is producing a **Vision for Salisbury**. How will Salisbury look in 10 or 20 years time? What sort of City do you want it to be? To have your say on the Salisbury Vision go to:

We  South Wiltshire

## Updates

### Parish Planning

Dinton, Durrington, Mere and Maiden Bradley have now completed parish plans. All of these were undertaken with funding and support from the Countryside Agency. There are a further 6 under development and one Market Town Strategy due for completion at the end of this year. A validation process has been designed to ensure that before plans are passed to agencies to influence and shape future strategies and policies, that a robust and comprehensive process for developing plans has been undertaken. The process will be undertaken by Salisbury District Council.

For more information, contact Amber Skyring on [askyring@salisbury.gov.uk](mailto:askyring@salisbury.gov.uk)

### Voice to Choice Project

SDC is carrying out some work on bringing together the neighbourhood agenda and Voice to Choice is being considered as part of this. SDC Cabinet will consider a report on the topic in the autumn and may decide to take forward a pilot 'Area Forum' in South Wiltshire.

<http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/community-and->

### Developing a Local Area Agreement (LAA)

An LAA is an agreement signed between central government and a Local Strategic Partnership (Wiltshire Strategic Board in our case). See [www.idea.gov.uk](http://www.idea.gov.uk) for more background.

The content of our LAA is being developed through a number of topic based blocks. To influence the Wiltshire LAA, please contact the relevant block leaders below:

Children and Young People – Jointly led by Lynda Cox and Liz Garrett with The Children's Trust Board being the lead working group. [lyndacox@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lyndacox@wiltshire.gov.uk) [lizgarrett@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lizgarrett@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Safer and Stronger Communities – Led by Peter Baxter and Lynn Gaskin with The Safer Wiltshire Executive being the lead working group. [Peter.Baxter@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:Peter.Baxter@wiltshire.gov.uk) [lynngaskin@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lynngaskin@wiltshire.gov.uk)

Healthy Communities – Led by John Nicholas through the Healthier Wiltshire Steering Group. [johnnicholas@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:johnnicholas@wiltshire.gov.uk) <http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/council/wiltshire-strategic-board/healthier.htm>

Older People - Led by Jeanette Longhurst of WCC and Liddy Davidson at Age Concern. [jeanettelonghurst@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:jeanettelonghurst@wiltshire.gov.uk) [Liddy.Davidson@ageconcernwiltshire.org.uk](mailto:Liddy.Davidson@ageconcernwiltshire.org.uk)

Economic Development and Enterprise – Jointly led by Alistair Cunningham and Caroline Lewis with The Wiltshire and Swindon Economic Partnership acting as the lead group, assisted by the Countryside and Land Based Issues Group. [alistaircunningham@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:alistaircunningham@wiltshire.gov.uk) [carolinelewis@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:carolinelewis@wiltshire.gov.uk)

[living/listening-to-communities.htm](#)

### Local Transport Plan (LTP) and Accessibility

LTP 2 covering the period 2006-2011 was adopted at the end of March 2006. It was submitted to central government and is available on:

[www.wiltshire.gov.uk/transport/transport-policy-service/local-transport-plan/local-transport-plan-2.htm](http://www.wiltshire.gov.uk/transport/transport-policy-service/local-transport-plan/local-transport-plan-2.htm)

The next step with the accessibility study is contacting the Parish Councils in the study area, to see what they feel are the key issues. Through the service providers, we need to try to find out what particular groups and individual's needs are and then see what can be done.

### Economic Indicators

The economic indicators agreed at the conference workshop have been discussed with the South Wiltshire Economic Partnership (SWEP) Board.

The council's economic development team are now putting together a baseline report using these indicators and this will be used for future measurement and comparison.

## Community Strategy Update

Progress is being made on the actions within the South Wiltshire Community Strategy. A second monitoring report has been produced and is available on:

### Leading By Example

- Baseline and targets set for Healthier Wiltshire.
- Draft social inclusion strategy for South Wiltshire developed.
- Diversity group has consulted with black and minority ethnic groups and produced a report on their needs. (see Page 1)
- More employers needed for basic skills work.

### Housing

- Housing needs & supply survey to be completed.
- Key worker definition adopted by Alliance.
- Successful Home Buy day held January 2006 – approx 800 visitors.
- Further day planned for Amesbury

### Community Safety

- 6.8% reduction in crime.
- Only 9% of those receiving treatment for alcohol-related offences have re-offended.
- Resources to tackle anti-social behaviour concentrated on Harnham and Bemerton Heath. New work starting in Durrington.

### Access to Services

- Survey using People's Voice.
- Online A-Z of WCC & SDC services now live on [www.salisbury.gov.uk/atoz](http://www.salisbury.gov.uk/atoz)
- Survey of all rural facilities being carried out for strategic planning purposes

## Community Plans Progress

The latest progress report on the six South Wiltshire Community Plans has recently been produced. It shows that out of the 311 actions, over **30% are completed** or achieved on an ongoing basis. Another **43% are underway**, with only 11.3% showing no progress.

The progress report was presented to each of the 4 Salisbury District Area Committees in May. This gave members an opportunity to raise issues and concerns on some of the community actions. The next update will be delayed until 2007, due to the departure of the Assistant Partnership Manager.

Below are examples of progress on projects identified in the Community Plans:

In 2005, two **Salamander projects** were run in the Salisbury Area – this is a week's course run at a fire station, targeting young people who are excluded from school or possibly involved in crime. The course gives each young person time to reflect on their situation and encourages a change of lifestyle. Further work is being carried out at this time to obtain some valid evaluation of the full effects of the programme on those who took part. However, it is felt that the project is worthy of repeating.

**Refurbiz** is a registered charity being set up to meet the demand for low cost electrical items for disadvantaged and low-income households by refurbishing some 20,000 of the unwanted electrical goods 'discarded' each year throughout Swindon and Wiltshire. Since November 2005 to March 2006 Refurbiz has supplied a further 320 appliances to help those in need in Wiltshire. Further information: [www.refurbiz.org](http://www.refurbiz.org)

In January 2006, builders started work to transform a redundant bus shelter into a **new village shop and post office for East Knoyle**. The village has not had a village shop since 2004. Residents formed the East Knoyle Community Shop Association to find funds and a site for a new shop. The new shop will be run by volunteers, helped by a grant from Defra's Rural Enterprise Scheme, administered through the Rural Development Service. The shop will be open 7 days a week with all profits going to the community.

Hi-tech **variable message signs (VMS)** have been installed around Salisbury to help drivers find car parking quickly and easily. General improvements to direction signing have also been made. It is hoped that the use of VMS and the improved city signing will make a significant contribution to reducing city centre traffic, while providing quicker and more convenient access to city centre car parks and local traffic. Overall, the works should help to make Salisbury a more user-friendly city that is easily navigable, and reduce the amount of traffic circulating in the city centre.

## New Community

Wiltshire County Council have appointed **Helen Kreizman** to work in a full-time Community Leadership role across South Wiltshire from July. She currently works for WCC as a project manager in Waste, but her background is in partnerships and Local Strategic Partnership performance

## New Assistant Community Development Officer

Salisbury District Council have appointed **Annie Scadden** to be the new assistant community development officer, based in the Community Initiatives Unit from July. Her main area of work will be to support the development of Parish, Ward and Market Town Plans.

## Alliance People

The Chairmanship of the Alliance Executive and Board were reviewed in May 2006, in line with the terms of reference which stipulate that the roles will be reviewed annually.

**Cllr Richard Britton** has become the new Chair of the Alliance Board, following the stepping down of Cllr Kevin Wren. Thank-you to Kevin for leading the Alliance Board over the last few years. **Barbara Carter**, who represents the Patient and Public Involvement Healthcare Forum on the Board, remains as Vice-Chair. New members to the Board include **Peter Le Count** (South Wiltshire Economic Partnership) and **Colonel Bill Farrington** (HQ Land

Command).

After a closely contested vote, **Linda Cantillon** (South Wiltshire Action Against Poverty) continues to chair the Executive for a further year and **Dave Neudegg** (Salisbury District Council) will be Vice-chairman. **Jerry Wickham** (Wiltshire Constabulary) has resigned from the Alliance as he has been posted to Police Headquarters, Devizes. We thank him for his contribution and wish him all the best in his new role. His place on the Executive will be taken by **Simon King**, the new Acting Police Divisional Commander for Salisbury and Kennet.

## South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance

The Alliance is a partnership of the public, private, voluntary and community sectors in Salisbury and South Wiltshire who have adopted the following vision for the district:

“A place where rich heritage, vibrant cultural life and magnificent environment is supported by:

- A thriving economy
- Lively diverse and safe communities providing equal opportunities for all; and
- Strong public agencies and voluntary bodies co-operating in the delivery of practical support for those in need.”

If you require any further information please contact Ariane Crampton,  
South Wiltshire Strategic Alliance Partnership Team Manager  
on 01722 434 641 or at [swsa@salisbury.gov.uk](mailto:swsa@salisbury.gov.uk)  
[www.salisbury.gov.uk/community-planning](http://www.salisbury.gov.uk/community-planning)