



### **Delivery of priority services and outcomes**

*To help all residents to achieve a healthy weight by encouraging an active life style, in communities where everyone feels welcome and safe.*

### **Background**

Ryedale Strategic Partnership (Ryedale SP) holds an annual event to engage with the Wider Partnership – the organisations and individuals who live and work across all sectors in Ryedale. The event is an opportunity for the Ryedale SP Board to report to the Wider Partnership and for the members of the Wider Partnership to engage with the Board about priorities and initiatives that are taking place or are being planned.

It can also be an opportunity for passing on information and this year we decided to focus on some of the initiatives that are ongoing at a national, regional and sub-regional level in order to inform members of the Wider Partnership about the bigger picture and context in which all local strategic partnerships operate/Ryedale SP operates.

### **What was done?**

The event took place at Ryedale House in the newly re-furbished civic rooms. Fifty four delegates from the voluntary and community sector, the private and the public sectors heard an introductory report from County Councillor Clare Wood, Chairman of the Ryedale SP. She highlighted some of the projects funded in the past year, particularly those supporting volunteering; the formation of a Delivery Group for the Partnership and the planned amalgamation of the Ryedale Strategic Partnership Board with the Board of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership, Safer Ryedale, which will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010.

Cllr Wood concluded by introducing the keynote speaker, Ernest Opuni of the Improvement and Development Agency for local government, who is currently working with all the local authorities in North Yorkshire to assist them with integrating the principles of Total Place, which was the topic of his presentation. Total Place is a new initiative that looks at how a 'whole area' approach to public services can lead to better services at less cost. Ernest Opuni's presentation was well received and prompted a number of interesting questions from the audience, some of whom later noted that: "*Ernest's presentation balanced information with explanation, contextualisation and encouragement. He highlighted the importance [of Total Place] in the current climate, and its value for future.*"<sup>1</sup>

Following this excellent speech, delegates listened to four short presentations, each examining some aspect of the four Ryedale SP Priorities – Healthy Weight, Work and Skills, Community Transport and Community Engagement. Greg McGrath, Healthy Weight Manager for NHS York and North Yorkshire presented the statistics behind the obesity figures for Ryedale – the unexpectedly high incidence of childhood obesity prompted the inclusion of this Priority into the Partnership's Action Plan. Martin Wynn, Economic Development Manager at the Learning and Skills Council talked about imminent changes in the delivery of the Skills Agenda by central government and how this will impact on local skills delivery in North Yorkshire and Ryedale and the Work and Skills Priority of the Ryedale SP.

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<sup>1</sup> Event Evaluation Form

John Laking, Policy & Development Manager at Integrated Passenger Transport, North Yorkshire County Council took the delegates through the latest draft version of the Local Transport Plan 3, due to come into effect in April 2011, and what it will mean for Community Transport in Ryedale.

Finally Andrea Hobbs, Chief Officer of Ryedale Voluntary Action, gave a presentation about the different ways in which Ryedale Voluntary Action (one of the member organisations of the Ryedale SP Board) promotes community engagement, particularly the new initiative Rural Voice (launching in March), which will work to strengthen the influence that rural communities have in the formulation and delivery of public sector policy and provision.

The morning closed with a networking lunch; from the feedback received, it appears that the delegates found the event worthwhile. This comment was typical *"I thought the whole day was good with a great range of speakers. It was well timed with a lovely lunch and in a comfortable venue."*

### **Who was involved and how?**

CPO - Planning & organisation, production of delegate materials

Tech support - Managing invites, stuffing delegate packs, assistance with setting up and registration of delegates

Caretaker - Setting up

Canteen staff - Food, setting up refreshments

Partners involved in planning – Ryedale Voluntary Action

- GOYH assisted with finding keynote speaker
- Yohrspace funding half the cost of the keynote speaker

### **What was achieved?**

The speakers all expressed appreciation of the opportunity to address a diverse audience drawn from all sectors.

Feedback included the following comments:

*"I had no previous knowledge of Total Place before attending today's event, I now have more of an understanding of what it sets out to achieve"*

*"This was a really interesting discussion and went some way to explaining how Ryedale is engaging with [Total Place]and will be affected by it."*

*"They [the presentations] all gave me ideas about how to reach vulnerable communities."*

*"Ernest Opuni's and Andrea Hobbs's [presentations] – excellent and, largely by coincidence, very apposite for KMS too."*

### **Who benefited and how do we know?**

This event has raised the profile of Ryedale SP in the district. Of the 54 delegates, less than half attended last year. More agencies and community groups understand that the Ryedale SP exists to promote the quality of life of Ryedale's communities

The Ryedale SP is grateful for the help received from GOYH and YohrSpace in identifying and funding the keynote speaker.

### **Resources and value for money**

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Half day event with lunch.

Costs: Venue – no cost

Refreshments - (in house)

Key-note speaker - £800 + expenses (£400 from RIEP, £400 + £70.40 expenses RSP development budget)

Materials – no cost

### **Next Steps / Further Action**

Next year the newly formed Ryedale SP Delivery Group will play a major part in planning and delivering this event; with the improved contact provided by the Delivery Group with grass-roots community groups, we will be inviting an even wider spectrum of organisations

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### **Background documents/Links:**

Press release to Malton Gazette & Herald.