

Sustainable Communities Development Programme

The following training programme was put in place. In total, 12 instances of learning activity have taken place.

Prince 2 Project Management Course, B & M Prince Ltd: 8th October 2007 Bognor Regis Town Hall

A week long training course took place with 6 attendees comprising of local authority representatives from Arun, Dover, West Sussex and the West Sussex Economic Partnership. All attendees gained the foundation stage accreditation and 5 attendees gained the practitioner accreditation. Four of these places were match funded by the Learning Laboratory fund.

Feedback:

- I learnt more than I expected.
- I did find that four days was quite intensive and with the addition of homework, sometimes this was more than was manageable.
- The instructor was pleasant and presented in a clear manner, but I did feel that it occasionally jumped from subject to subject with short summary on each theme before moving speedily on to the next.

Urban Design Course, Solent Centre for Architecture & Design: 8th, 15th & 22nd November 2007 Chichester College of Art, Science & Technology

The Urban Design Course was the first session as part of the Learning Laboratory programme, led by Paul Grover from the Solent Centre for Architecture & Design. In total, 16 people (planning officers, enforcement officers and regeneration practitioners) participated in this course which consisted of an introductory session to the principles of Urban Design, a study tour to Emsworth & Leigh Park in the Borough of Havant and a design workshop in looking how to put the principles in practice.

Feedback:

- Very knowledgeable trainer who encouraged me to see things in a new perspective when looking at buildings/layout
- Interesting and well-balanced course
- The study tour really enabled me to put theory into practice and will be very useful in the future
- Fun and enjoyable day away from the office

BURA S106 & Negotiation Skills Masterclass, Michael Beaman: 29th November 2007

Royal Norfolk Hotel, Bognor Regis

S106 Masterclass & Negotiation Skills was led by Michael Beaman and BURA. In total 35 people attended which consisted of planning officers, highways, regeneration practitioners, Councillors, Housing officers, engineers and enforcement officers from the 5 local authorities. The masterclass focused around bringing a developer perspective to the topic of developer agreements, how to balance the demands of competing interests and how to use S106 to achieve wider planning objectives.

Demand for this masterclass was very high and we received good feedback for this course.

- Very experienced trainer with sound background knowledge. Liked his open style of delivery. Lively presentation - held interest throughout.
- Easy parking and good venue.
- Perfect as ever.
- Could this course be run again as I can think of a number of my colleagues that would benefit from this?
- A printed copy of the presentations would be really useful.

Bura Module 1 – Building Sustainable Communities, Jenny Lynn: 15th January 2008
Dove Lodge, Littlehampton

Led by Jenny Lynn and BURA, this session focused on building sustainable communities, partnership working and how this fits into the challenges the Coastal West Sussex strip are facing. In total 21 people attended this daylong session, which consisted of Councillors, community development officers, planning officers, engineers, highways and regeneration practitioners from across the Coastal West Sussex strip.

Feedback:

- Very informative, Jennifer Lynn was excellent.
- The workshops were very useful.
- With the proposed development at Shoreham likely to gather pace, the training session has certainly helped in stressing the need to involve the community at the outset and some ideas on how to go about it.
- The sessions will benefit me in our upcoming work on producing a Sustainable Community Strategy and Core Strategy.

Prince 2 Project Management Course, B & M Prince Ltd: 28th January 2008
Chichester College of Art, Science & Technology

A second week long Prince 2 training course took place with 11 attendees comprising of local authority representatives from a regeneration and corporate policy background from Brighton & Hove, Dover, Chichester, West Sussex and Adur. Business Link and SSE also attended this course. All attendees gained foundation stage accreditation and 7 gained the practitioner accreditation. Four of these places were match funded by the Learning Laboratory fund.

Feedback:

- I believe my career prospects will vastly improve if I have qualified.
- Barrie displayed vast experience in management within both private and public sector.
- Chichester College was the perfect venue for this course and supplied lovely home-made cookies!!
- Excellent session.
- I will be able to use the knowledge gained within my role.

**Sustainability Appraisal Training, Tribal Group: 7th February 2008
Chatsworth Hotel, Worthing**

Led by Tribal Consulting, the aim was to give council officers and Councillors the tools to assess the sustainability of policies, plans and projects in order to influence decision making with a specific reference to the sustainable communities agenda. The training was designed to enable delegates to take the lead on good practice in sustainability within their operational and/or strategic remits, to enable them to understand how to measure the effectiveness of sustainable development policies and the tools that are available to do so and tailor and put into practice for their working purposes. As part of this course, an electronic training need survey was conducted throughout November with potential attendees, to inform them of the content of this module. This was attended by 17 participants and ranged from planning policy & LDF, development control, regeneration officers and Elected Members.

Feedback:

- Very interesting and useful. Thanks very much for organising an excellent event.
- Raising knowledge is vital and in order to do that I felt I needed to have more knowledge. This event has given me the confidence to raise this with other colleagues.
- More of this calibre please.
- Very good trainers.
- A very comfortable and well provided venue.
- Excellent seminar. It would be nice if a similar event could follow to see what progress has been made by the coastal authorities on what is a very important subject.
- A totally worthwhile event.

**Knowledge Economy Lecture, University of Birmingham: 25th February 2008
Beechcroft Hotel, Bognor Regis**

Led by Dr John Gibney from the Centre for Urban and Regional Studies, Birmingham University and attended by 20 people comprising of regeneration and planning officers, Portfolio Holder for Economy at Arun DC, South Coast Design Forum members and Business Link, this lecture was specifically delivered for the 5 Towns Network, taken from

'Strategic Leadership in Economic Development, Planning and Regeneration' course the university runs on an annual basis. The aim was to promote current thinking around the needs for a 'refreshed' approach to the leadership of knowledge-based places. It offered the opportunity for officers and Members to consider and debate the value of this thinking and to discuss the implications of these ideas for the coastal West Sussex strip.

Feedback:

- I feel I can move on with an awareness that projects can be successfully partitioned to suit the strengths of particular groups.
- KBE has given me the determination to pursue a definition of how Arun can be regarded in a regional context.
- I gained a better understanding of how KBE can effect the District and Coastal belt.
- I learnt that things moving forward is about people as much as processes and the whole issue is much too important to be left to local politicians.
- Facilities were First Class!

BURA Module 2 - Skills/Labour Markets in Coastal Economies, Guy Rubin

This event was cancelled by BURA at short notice and it has been agreed that this event will now run in June/July, funded by the main 5 Town Network funding pot. We had 16 people originally signed up to this.

This module offers an historical overview to the rise, decline and renaissance of Coastal Town economies across the UK. It will aim to look at how effective regeneration has been in delivering sustainable communities in the Coastal towns and focus extensively on the unique features of labour markets in Coastal Towns. The afternoon session will in particular take an in depth look at how the Hasting LEGI has focused on the positive and innovative policies that Hastings has introduced to tackle the underlying problems and the last part of the day will address best practice in the revival of Coastal Towns.

I&DeA Workshop: 13th/14th March 2008 Holiday Inn, Southampton

This event was based on 'Effective Democracy for Sustainable Communities' and dealing with the growth agenda. A high profile range of tutors led the event consisting of Kelvin McDonald of Kelvin McDonald & Associates, Julie Cowens a freelance Strategy & Policy Advisor Prof Vincent Goodstadt and Prof Janice Morphet. 8 Elected Members attended this event from across the district and boroughs.

SCDF and 5 Towns Network Panel Debate: 18th March 2008 The Windmill Entertainment Centre, Littlehampton

This event attracted many local business and local authority staff (33 in total) and took place on Tuesday 18th March 2008. The lecture provided an opportunity to debate and discuss the profile and potential of the Coastal West Sussex strip focusing on the importance of building sustainable communities through good design and how it fits into the bigger idea of the South East as the Creative Coast. The evening was led by a panel of experts; Paul Grover of Solent Centre of Architecture, James Appleton, Executive Head

Appendix 1

of Planning, Regeneration & Wellbeing, Chris Harris of TPT Planning Consultancy and Andrew McPhilips of Berkeley Homes Southern and chaired by Peter Murray, the Chairman of SCDF CWS Branch.

Feedback:

- I found it very interesting especially that there is a thriving community of interest in the subject. The main task for us as professionals is to ensure that communities receive the best of our knowledge together with input from community groups in the development of thriving safe communities. Very much, gave myself and colleague a real boost
- Very interesting and useful discussion which provided a wide range of opinions on the subject and increased my awareness of the general feeling amongst potential clients. Useful contacts made at the discussion.
- A fantastic panel with some very varied and interesting opinions on the subject.
- It was also an excellent opportunity to network, chat and share opinions with designers from different disciplines.
- A worthwhile exercise. A stepping stone in the right direction. Well done.

Sustainable Communities Event: 25th March 2008 Chatsworth Hotel, Worthing

Attended by 13 local authority staff and councillors, this event concluded the Learning Laboratories project for 2007/08, looking at lessons learnt and ways forward and how the Coastal West Sussex strip will continue to embed the capacity building programme for the future. As part of this event, South East Excellence presented on the future direction of skills development for the South East, Richard McMann presented on recent developments in the regeneration of Bognor Regis and IDeA facilitated a workshop on 'Skills and capacity needs of Elected Members and how this can be taken forward into mainstream council activity'. The workshop helped to establish some of the issues and challenges around Member engagement and capacity building across the local authorities within the coastal strip and provide consideration for the Network moving forward.

Feedback:

- Greater understanding of recent developments in Bognor, SEEDA's priority around education led regeneration and an interesting debate around members and officers engagement.
- The debate by IdeA will help inform the future direction of the network and its priorities

Effective Media Skills Training, Chris Kelly: 15th April 2008 The Foyer, Chichester

Run by Chris Kelly, this event was attended by 5 local authority officers ranging from tourism, community engagement and economic development from Arun, Worthing and West Sussex. This daylong training session focused around effective training for dealing with the Media in relation to the work being undertaken by local authorities on a daily basis.

Appendix 1

Feedback:

- Overall the training was excellent in providing lots of tips and good learning exercises
- I now have the tools to tackle how not to run off with my mouth
- The training content was comprehensive

BURA Hastings Study Tour, 'Sustainable Solutions to Hastings Economy: Skills & Heritage': 30th April 2008

The 5 Towns Network in partnership with BURA (British Urban Regeneration Association) organised a study tour to Hastings. Twenty attendees participated ranging from Adur, Arun, Chichester, West Sussex Councils including the LSC, University of Chichester and Broome Jenkins.

This tour was designed to learn from best practice in Hastings around sustainable solutions to retaining the local heritage of the town and skills led regeneration. This tour included an opportunity to meet with similar peers in Hastings and to discuss with them the concept and deliverance of projects that have had roles on encouraging sustainable solutions to the towns economy, public realm, historical assets and upping the skills offer to future stakeholders. The opportunity was given to visit the Innovation Centre and Media Centre along with the chance to meet with the Hastings Pier Trust, a community led organisation campaigning to retain and improve the Pier.

This was arranged in light of the fact that education led regeneration is seen as a future priority for the activities of the 5 Towns Network.

Feedback:

- Well done as usual!!!
- I believe that the study tour was very beneficial, and would definitely take part in another one.
- I am to feed back on the visit to my colleagues, and will potentially use the Sea Food Festival information to try enhance the Sea Selsey Event that takes place every year.
- Many thanks for a useful day
- A really good day out, with live examples of successful projects, making it a really useful learning experience.