

community leadership unit



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The Community Leadership Unit is an evolution of the previous Area Democracy Team.

Responsible for:

- Helping local members to develop and meet their community leadership responsibilities
- Providing member support at the district based Local Strategic Partnerships
- Involving residents and communities in the democratic process by promoting an open and accountable face of the County Council

The unit provides tailored community leadership support to all 57 local members and co-ordinates a countywide programme of local public meetings, whilst also recognising the often complex demands of being an elected representative

Key facts and figures:

- The team received a Highly Commended Award at the 2005 Local Government Chronicle Awards
- Co-ordinated a programme of 15+ local public meetings in 2004-05, and arranged more than 25 events for local members including Councillor Surgeries, 'Meet Your Councillor' sessions and similar public opportunities
- Up to nine district-based Councillor Infonet newsletters per year receive topical news from the unit
- Various local democracy partnership events have been co-ordinated, including the successful 'I'm a Councillor Get Me Out Of Here', 'Voting Why Bother?' Member Question Time events and 'Back to the Floor' activities
- Eight Local Strategic Partnerships throughout Worcestershire receive support and co-ordination from the unit
- The team helped to develop the County Council's Consultation Strategy and online toolkit
- The team also co-ordinated the Citizens' Panel Annual Event

Looking ahead:

The Community Leadership Unit will...

- Involve and empower local people and act as their advocate
- Champion local areas throughout the county
- Influence the range of services provided the Council and its partners

To assist local Councillors, the unit developed the Members' Toolkit which includes...

- Division profiles and hotspot analysis
- Councillor postcards
- 'What Can Your Councillor Do For You?' leaflets
- County Council service leaflets
- A display for use at surgeries and 'Meet Your Councillor' events
- Pull up banners and exhibition boards
- 'Opinion poles' and 'Mad, Sad or Glad' boards – interactive ways to gather public opinion

The unit also produces posters and flyers for Councillors to advertise their local events