

Jo Laverick

**Rural Regeneration in County Durham** 

## **County Durham**





### **Place and Culture**



**Durham Dales:** Teesdale, Weardale

Gateways to Cumbria & North Yorkshire

South West: Newton Aycliffe, Bishop Auckland

Gateways to Dales, North Yorkshire, Teesside

East: Peterlee, Seaham

Post Industrial rural. Gateways to Sunderland & Teesside

North: Consett, Stanley, Chester le Street, Derwent Valley

Commuter Fringes. Gateways to Newcastle, Gateshead & Northumberland

### **VISION**



#### **More and Better Jobs**

Young People: Education, training & employment

Employment sites: Low carbon Economy

Tourism: culture led regeneration.

#### **People Living Long and Independent Lives**

Healthy start: Children & young people

Physical environment

Positive mental health & healthy behaviours

Independence

#### **Connected Communities**

Housing & affordable homes

Village & Town centres

Access to support.

# **Partnership Infrastructure**





### DCA's Role: Influencing & Enabling



#### Infrastructure: Social capital, local assets, environment, food:

Share & Learn, Durham Food, Environment Thematic Partnership

#### **Economy & Business**: *SMEs, Rural supply chains, family :*

Economic Partnership, LEADER, EU Investment Task Group/s, Social Enterprise (research & support), Information, Advice & Guidance

# **Communities**: Resilience, capacity, volunteering, engagement, social networks:

Centre for Volunteering & Volunteer Coordinator's Network

Town & Parish Councils, Community Planning, Training, Area Action Partnerships

### DCA's Roles: Influencing & Enabling

Health: Wellbeing, Mental Health, Social Prescribing, Integrated Health & Social Care:

VCS Providers' Alliance, Link Workers' Network, VCS Engagement & Investment, Primary Care Networks, TAPs & CCGs, Cree Network, Durham Growers.

VCS: Specialist Providers, Community Assets, Social Infrastructure, access to services:

Better Together Network, VCS Providers' Alliance, Advice in County Durham Partnership, Safeguarding, Quality Kitemarks, Training, Funding advice, Business development and Governance support.

### Models / Examples

Specialist provider networks e.g. Crees, Advice, Mental Health

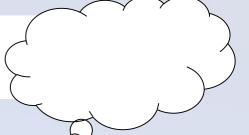
**Single Point of Contact** 

**Social Prescribing** 

Joint Investment Partnership (Commissioning)



# Thinking Points



Rural Proofing: Respecting places, and enabling consistencies in infrastrecture and services

Don't forget the value of culture to social & economic growth.

Devolution: Funding, power and policy. Who decides?

Investment: Policy for investing into communities as part of the solution: consistency and growth. Commissioning: In complexity

### Recommendations

Invest in partnerships as professional co-producers in systems approaches

We need to see alliance based, joint commissioning and a cross sector thematic partnership which is focused on investment: not just the money but also how and where it should be targeted to get best results.

Take some of the politics out of devolution!

Incentivise better cross region working on the rural agendas and invest in the partnerships to provide a test bed for innovation.



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