

# Localism in practice

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Assistant Chief Executive

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# Outline

- Brief overview of the Localism Act.
- Localism in County Durham.

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# 'Decentralisation and the Localism Bill: an essential guide'



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Education Bill

NHS reform

Police and  
Social  
Responsibility  
Act

# Localism Bill

Open Public  
Services Reform  
White Paper

Community Right  
to Challenge

Community Right  
to Buy

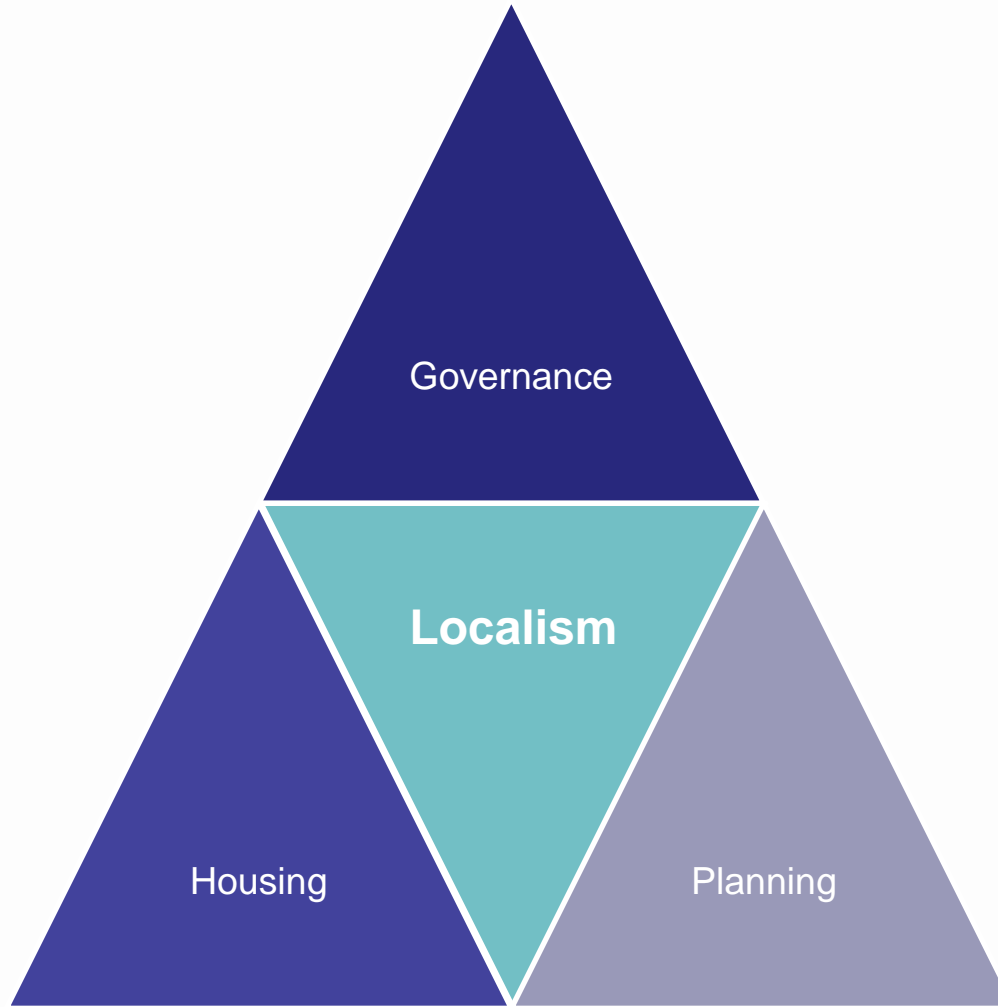
Lifting the  
Burden Statutory  
Duties

Consultation  
Neighbourhood  
Planning and  
Community  
Infrastructure  
Levy

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# Localism Bill



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# Localism in County Durham

- Local Government restructure in 2009.
- Creation of single unitary authority.
- Creation of 14 Area Action Partnerships (AAPs).
- AAPs are our key model for delivering Localism.

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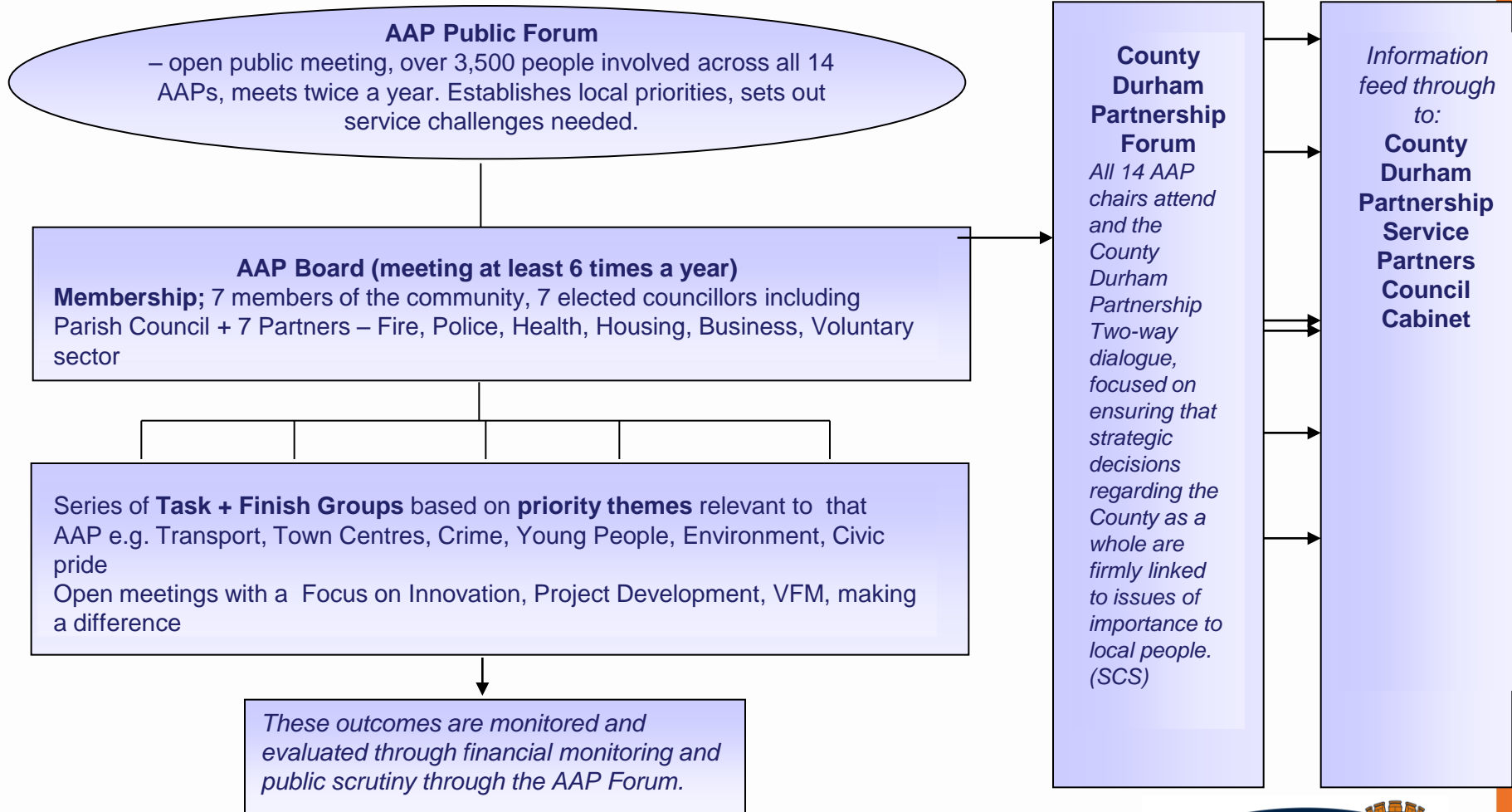
# Present Partnership Structure



# Locally focused action and better, more relevant services = better outcomes designed by local people

## 14 AAPs cover all parts of County Durham

Each AAP has:

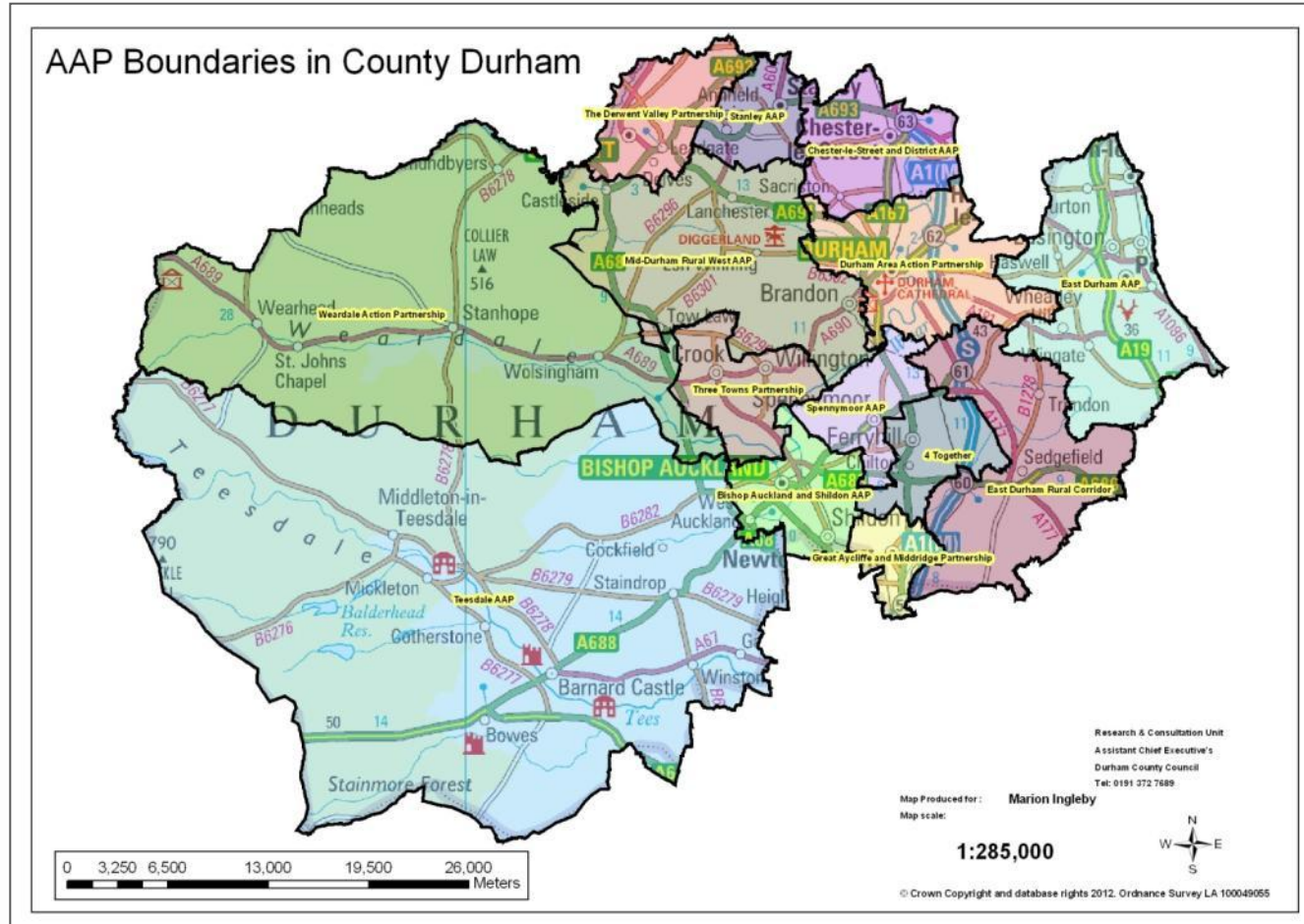


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# Map of Area Action Partnerships



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# Overview AAPs

- Over 5,000 people involved in AAPs.
- Over 1,000 people involved in projects.
- Over 1,000 projects delivered.
- 40% in the residents' survey feel they can influence local decisions compared to 24% for the 2008 Place Survey.
- Average attendance at board meetings of 70-80%.

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# 2011 review of partnerships

- Partnership working is in our DNA
  - 5,000 people involved.
- Partnership is fit for purpose
  - 900 projects delivered.
- Thematic partnerships have delivered strategic outcomes
  - Spend of combined area/neighbourhood budgets of £8.5m has brought in £14.2m.
- AAP review
  - AAPs have pivotal role.
- Continuing to improve partnership working
  - Performance management development in place

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# Participatory budgeting

- £100,000 Grant Pot agreed
- Criteria based on AAP priorities
- 38 Projects faced the vote
- 900 people participated in the vote – good geographic spread
- 11 projects supported across a range of themes (£3k - £20k)

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# Participatory budgeting

The National PB Unit have held up the work across Durham as

“the best they have seen in England”

Work is ongoing with Stanley Town Council to develop another PB scheme in partnership with the AAP to pool resources and build on this success and make next years PB event even bigger and better.

Derwent Valley AAP – PB event, over 500 people, 9 projects supported £20,700 funding pot available.

Three Towns AAP – PB event , over 200 people, 19 projects supported , £30,000 funding pot available in 3 Sessions.

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# Spennymoor AAP projects



- Children & Teenager Provision priority
- Over 3,000 people accessed
- Over 150 Forum Members
- Parents'/volunteer training & committee
- Sustainability

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# Spennymoor AAP projects

## Proms Project



- Children & Teenager Provision priority
- Social inclusion & enterprise
- Bruce Oldfield
- Local business volunteer time
- Catwalk event May 2012

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# Spennymoor AAP projects



- AAP brought groups together
- Local residents and Digital Durham
- 220 people attended public/village meeting
- MP, Town Council, Livin support
- Broadband in 2012!

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# Chester-le-Street AAP – Youth Engagement



- AAP recognised need for strong youth voice
- 'Have Your Say Events' 2010 & 2011
- Youth Led Process
- Focus on Identifying AND Solving Problems
- Outcome driven & Action focused
- Opportunity to challenge local service delivery
- Strong buy-in from young people 172 in 2010 – 341 in 2011

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# Chester-le-Street AAP – Youth Engagement


- Information obtained has shaped AAP project responses
- Links to all County Durham Partnership Themes
- Strong Ownership and Involvement in Projects
- **Mobile Cinema** is a good example of this
- Young people proposed the idea, selected venues and choose films. Over 3,800 people have participated to date
- Many more projects have been commissioned as a result

FAMILY FILM PRESENTS

## DIARY of a Wimpy Kid RODRICK RULES (U)

BRINGING THE BIG SCREEN EXPERIENCE  
TO YOUR DOORSTEP

Monday 24th October. Starting at 1pm. Brockwell Centre, Pelton Fell. Contact: 0191 389 3399	Sunday 30th October. Starting at 2.30pm 1st Burnmoor Scout Hall, Fencehouses. Contact: 07803 214365
Tuesday 25th October. Starting at 10am Fulforth Centre, Sacriston. Contact: 0191 371 0601	Sunday 20th November. Starting at 1.30pm Bullion Hall, Chester le Street. Contact: 0191 387 1149
Tuesday 25th October. Starting at 1.30pm Park View Community Association, Chester le Street. Contact: 0191 388 1043	
Wednesday 26th October. Starting at 11am Cornerstones Centre for the Community at the Methodist Church, Chester le Street. Contact: 0191 386 1313	
Wednesday 26th October. Starting at 3.30pm Great Lumley Community Centre. Contact: 0191 388 5744	
Thursday 27th October. Starting at 10.30am Edmondsley Parish Memorial Hall. Contact: 0191 371 8366	
Thursday 27th October. Starting at 1.30pm Ouston Community Centre. Contact: 0191 410 5183	
Sunday 30th October. Starting at 11am. Pelton Community Centre. Contact: 0191 370 0726	



The film will start at the given time and all children must be accompanied by an adult. There is an age of 11 and are available from your local cinema or on the day. Refund requests will be reviewed. For further information please visit [www.durham.gov.uk/cinema](http://www.durham.gov.uk/cinema) or email [cinema@durham.gov.uk](mailto:cinema@durham.gov.uk) or call 0191 387 1149. © 2010 Twinkl. All rights reserved. The TV channel is for information. A TV film should be suitable for broadcast and should not be used for any other purpose. The Durham logo is a registered trademark of Durham County Council.

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# Chester-le-Street AAP – Youth Engagement

- Young People prioritised issues of ‘Respect’, ‘Environment’, ‘Health’, and ‘Improved facilities’
- 5,300 young people involved in the Brass Festival
- Market Activity Week 10,000 participants
- Chesterfest – 16 youth bands, 1,000 attendees
- Local environmental action in targeted communities
- Launch yesterday of a Young People’s Fund for youth groups



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# Chester-le-Street AAP – Youth Engagement

- The 'Have Your Say' approach has been embedded in our work.
- The views gathered from 341 young people have been debated and acted on by the CDP
- We have shared this learning with other AAPs
- Importantly young people see the value of participating in a democratic process at a local level
- We are able to show how local dialogue can instigate strategic changes – *Respect* work with local Police
- Our work continues – New Skate Park to open mid 2012



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Get closer to the heart of your community...



Area Action Partnership

...Get connected to your local AAP

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# Conclusion

- Localism challenges us all to change.
- Need to have a critical rethink about what we as Councils do, and how we do it.
- Already on path to change but we need to work together to drive forward change.

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