

Update Report: Corsham Area Task Group

Community Engagement Event Nov/Dec 2008:

The Corsham Area Task Group has devised a unique approach towards encouraging the public to contribute towards the 'State of the Area Debate' in the Corsham area.

Instead of the more conventional questionnaire approach or the holding of a one-off event in a central venue the Task Group has decided to take the event to where people gather through an innovative approach led by a Wiltshire based professional theatre company.

With support and funding from North Wiltshire District Council and Wiltshire County Council, the **Corsham Area Roadshow** will be led by Big State Theatre Company who have developed a reputation for devising successful ways of engaging with a wide cross section of the community and in a variety of contexts including working with local authorities.

As well as being fun and entertaining, the **Roadshow** will travel around the Corsham Community Area gathering people's views, opinions and aspirations through video, audio, photographic and written evidence from people who live, work or visit here.

The **Roadshow** will engage with people at around 20 events in the run up to Christmas. Examples of where this will take place will include:

- Libraries, sports centre and community centre
- Church services
- Saturday morning shoppers
- Public arts events
- W.I. gatherings
- Sheltered housing coffee mornings
- Primary school pick ups

The **Roadshow** will also engage with a group of 6th form students from Corsham School to help with the delivery. As well as being a valuable learning and training experience for the young people this will also involve them in the consultation process in a positive way.

The **Roadshow** will be an opportunity for people to have their say in the future of their community. People may just engage briefly for a few moments or stay longer and get more involved with the issues as they feel comfortable. There will also be people on hand to answer any other questions people may have regarding the new Wiltshire Council.

A full timetable for the project will be circulated when finalised and it is hoped that members of the Corsham Area 4 committee will be able to attend some of the events as appropriate to experience the process at first hand and make their own contributions to the debate.

The findings will be presented to the Corsham Area Task Group at the end of the project in mid January through a DVD film and the written data collected in the field.

Cllr Nicholas Keyworth
7 November 2008