



## Warrington Borough Council

*Warrington Borough Council is drawing on its pre-existing community forum to assist with sustainability issues in the local strategic partnership, and is planning a broader community network to be an 'external arm' of the LSP.*

Warrington BC has built the structure of its local strategic partnership around a core group, with five thematic groups, some with existing partnership structures. The membership of the LSP core group includes representatives from the Warrington Community Forum (the local LA 21 Forum) and Groundwork Mersey Valley, while relevant community organisations will have the opportunity to attend the various thematic groups.

Warrington Community Forum is the representative group of 11 topic-based 'round tables', (made up of members of local interest groups, or interested individuals), that pulled together the original LA21 strategy. This group has some experience of involvement with local authority initiatives through sitting on two Best Value Review Teams. Their inclusion, and that of the local Groundwork Trusts will ensure the representation of broad sustainability issues on the LSP.

Running alongside the core partnership group will be a community network that will include representation from the existing LA21 Community Forum. It will be a larger group of local organisations that will be given the opportunity to be involved in policy design and strategy. Like the Forum, it may also be open to interested individuals. The authority is currently working with the local council for Voluntary Service on a design for the role and composition of the network.

At the first meeting of the LSP in June 2002, it was agreed that a sustainability appraisal of the community strategy would be timetabled in to its draft, development and review phases.

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