



## Have your say on the new 'Super' Council

One single council will run all of the main council services in County Durham from April 2009.

Durham County Council and Derwentside District Council have launched a consultation during August, to speak with people in Derwentside about how they would like services to be delivered.

A County Council spokesman said "the programme will bring local government closer to neighbourhoods and give people more influence over what happens in their communities".

Voluntary and Community organisations, as well as the general public will meet with council officers to have their say.

There will also be exhibitions in Asda, Morrisons and Tesco. Next month's edition of Countywide, Durham County Council's bi-monthly magazine, will include more detail setting out the new council's thoughts on how it will engage people in decision making on service delivery. There will be a form on which people can send in views and comments.

Durham County Council leader, Simon Henig, said "The unitary proposals on which we are consulting are based on developing greater community engagement and a strong local voice". They recognise town and parish council's and the voluntary and community sectors as vital partners that can work with local government to develop stronger, more active and vibrant communities in County Durham.

Consultation events are as follows:

- 13<sup>th</sup> August, commencing 5.30 p.m. at Lanchester Community Centre, Lanchester
- 27<sup>th</sup> August, commencing 4.30p.m. at Lamplight Arts Centre, Stanley
- 28<sup>th</sup> August, commencing 5.30p.m. at St Patrick's Church Hall, Consett

**Places are limited and if you would like to attend, places must be booked in advance. For more details, contact 01207 218 271.**