

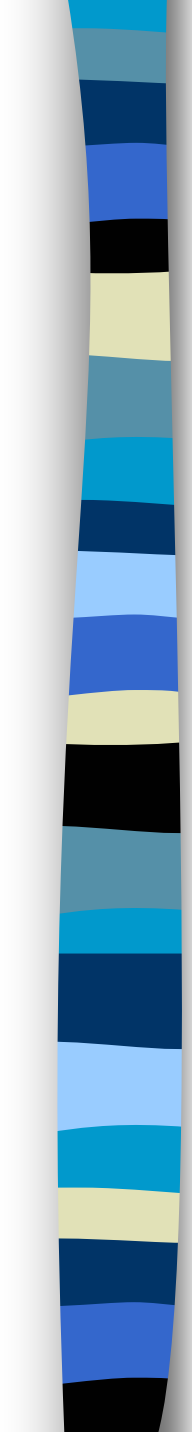
Community Development and Local Government – A Partnership Approach

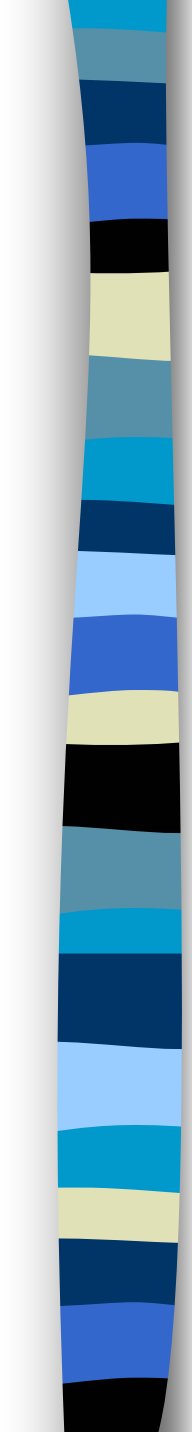
Joe Allen

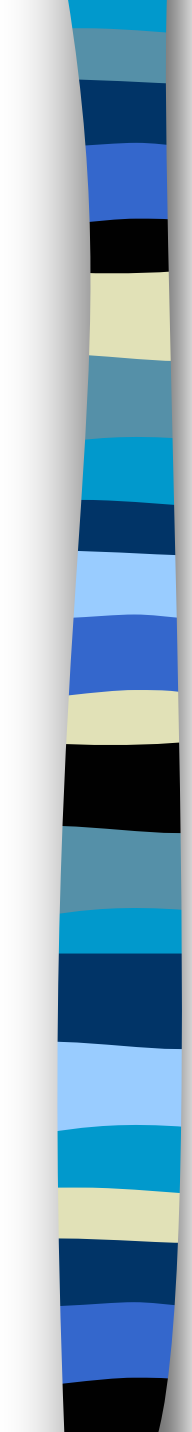
Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

November 2006



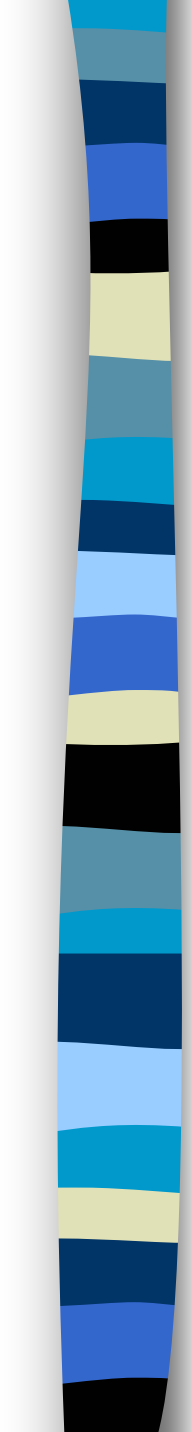
- 
- Community development in local government traditionally concerned with:
 - physical planning
 - housing
 - libraries
 - roads
 - water services
 - parks, etc.

- 
- Traditional areas continue to be important, but local government now also gives priority to building social capital, e.g.:
 - civic leadership
 - engagement/participation with the community
 - community development
 - social inclusion



Local authority structures – Community Development Input

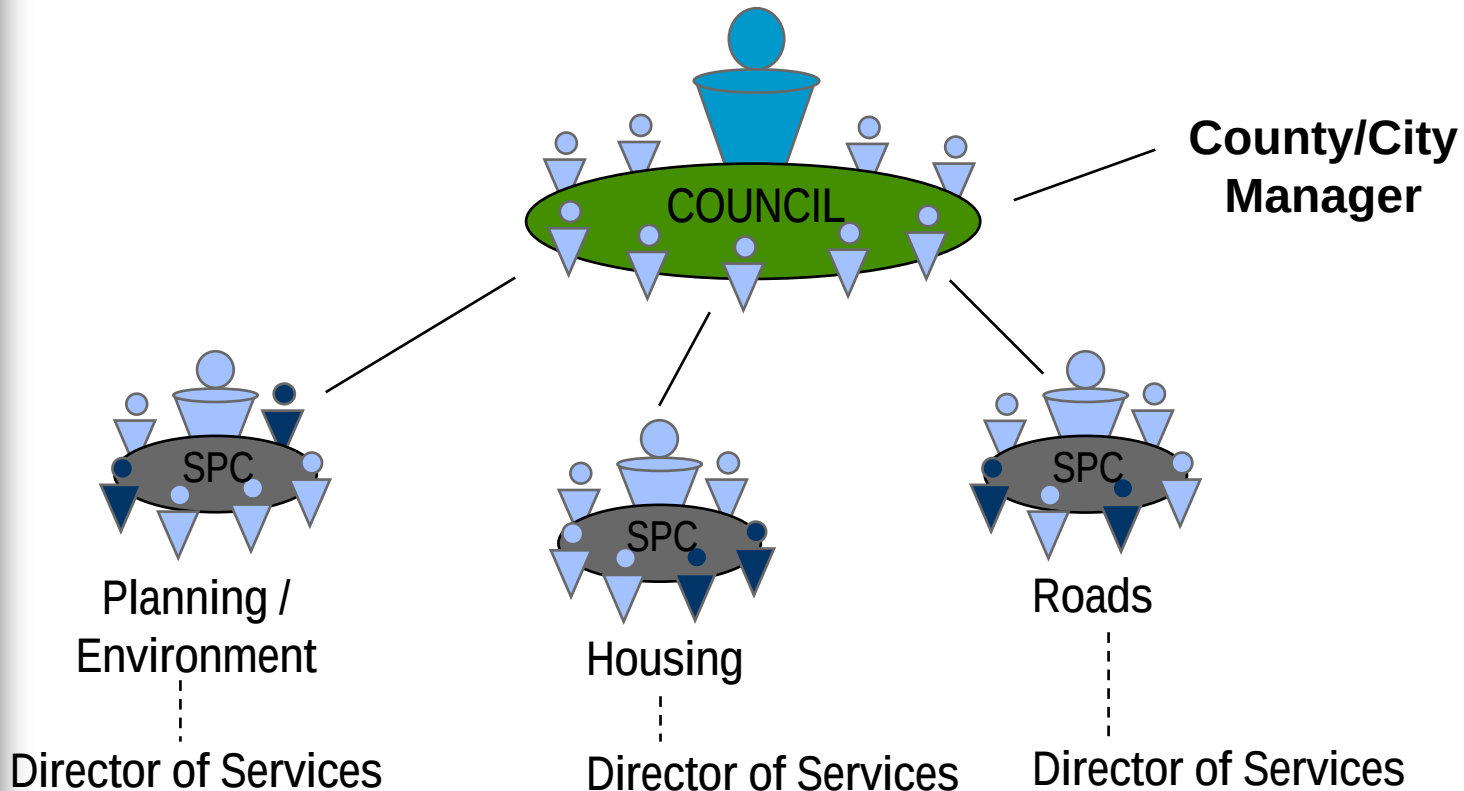
- Strategic Policy Committees
- County/City Development Boards
- Community/Voluntary Fora
- Community & Enterprise sections
- Social Inclusion Units



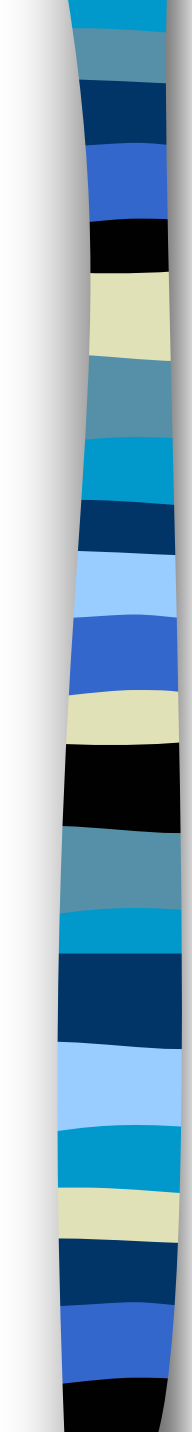
Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)

- To develop local authority policies
- Working in partnership with sectoral interests, and the social partners
- Community representatives on the SPCs

Local Authority Strategic Policy Committees (SPCs)



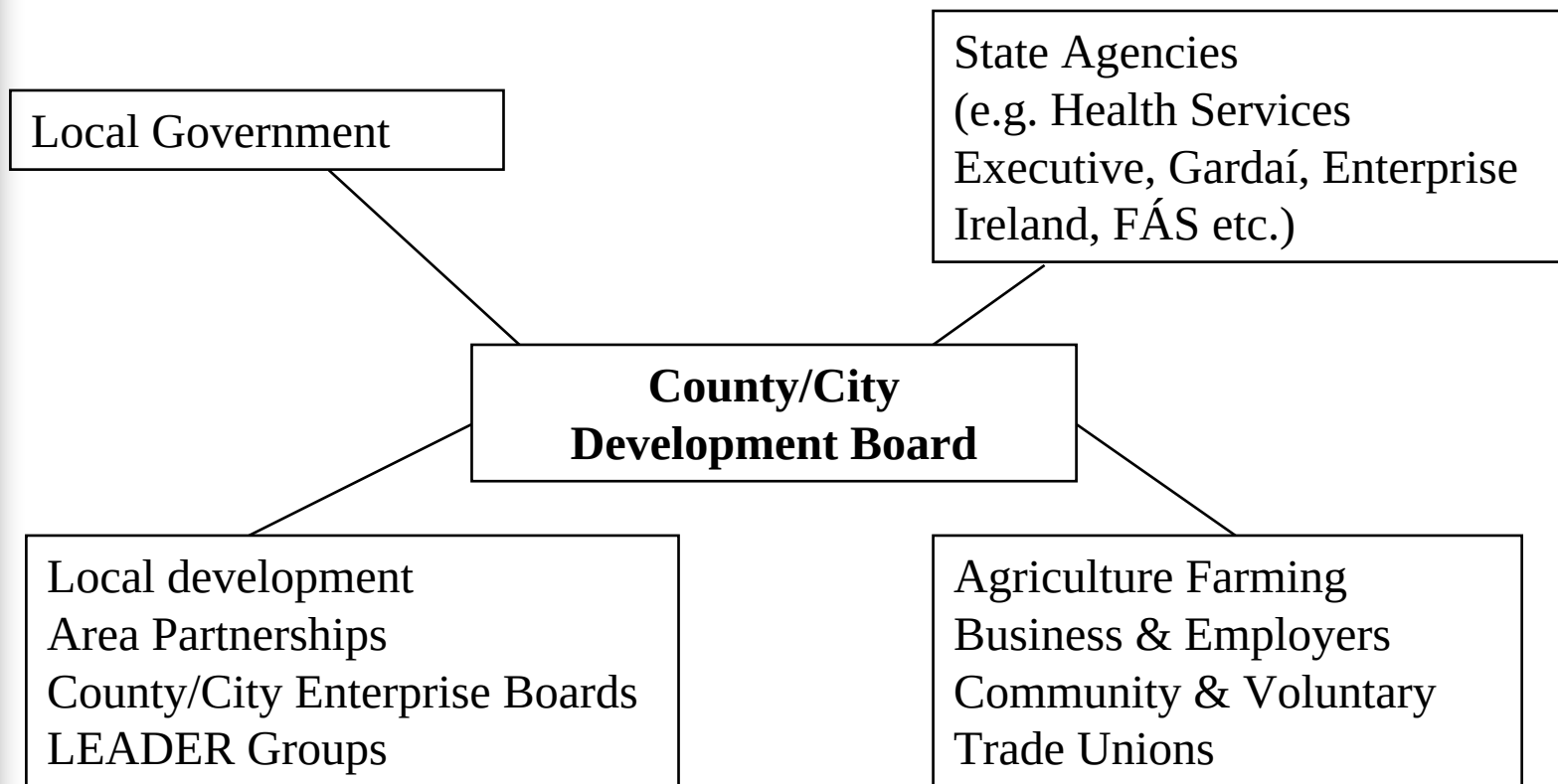
- **Develop and oversee local authority policies**

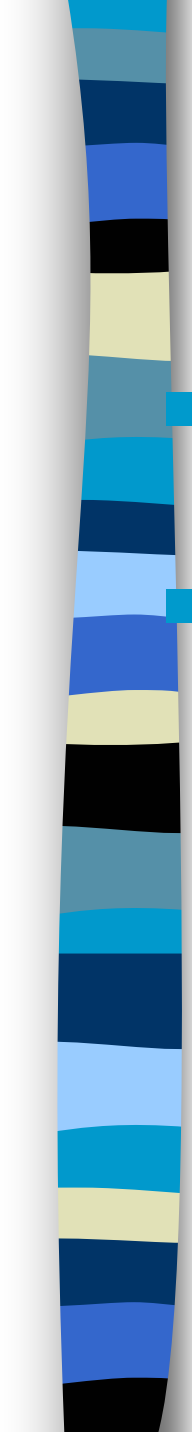


County/City Development Board (CDB)

- Public Agencies at local level agreeing/ implementing a strategy for the economic, social and cultural development of their area.
- Co-ordination of local public services.
- Social partners and the community also members of the CDB.

County/City Development Board (CDB)



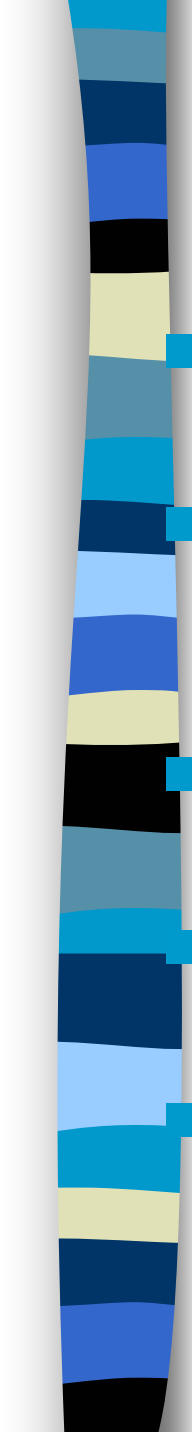


Community and Voluntary Fora

- Drawn from all sections of the local community

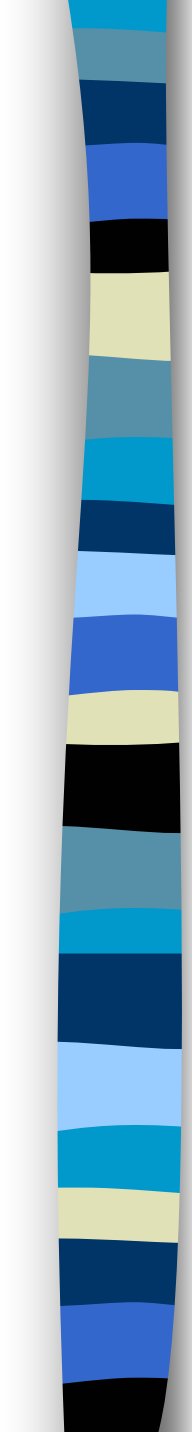
- Role:

- Nominate representatives on CDBs and SPCs
- Facilitate the wider community feeding into CDBs, SPCs and local authorities generally
- other agencies encouraged to use the Community & Voluntary Fora
- Supported by local authority community and enterprise section



Social Inclusion Units

- Social inclusion now a requirement in local authority Corporate Plans and Business Plans
- Key local authority functions influence social inclusion e.g. planning, housing, community development
- Social Inclusion Units established in 2001 as a pilot programme
- Following favourable evaluation pilot units now permanent
- Units to be established in half the county/city local authorities by end 2008



Principles of Good Governance

- All three structures
 - Strategic Policy Committees
 - County/City Development Boards
 - Community & Voluntary Forarequired to operate in democratic, accountable and transparent fashion
- At a minimum membership must be reviewed following each local election
- Principles of partnership and social inclusion to inform their operations

Community Development and Local Government – A Partnership Approach

Joe Allen

Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government

November 2006

