

The Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire



*working together
for A Better Future*

*A Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire
2004 – 2010*

CHAIRMANS INTRODUCTION

MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

Charnwood & North West Leicestershire Primary Care Trust
Faith Communities
Job Centre
King Edward VII College
Leicestershire Chamber of Trade & Industry
Leicestershire Constabulary
Leicestershire County Council
North West Leicestershire Association of Parish Councils
North West Leicestershire Council for Voluntary Services
North West Leicestershire Cultural Forum
North West Leicestershire District Council
North West Leicestershire Health Forum
North West Leicestershire Partnership in Safer Communities
Stephenson College

Statutory Adoption

This Community Strategy was agreed by the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire on 26 November 2003 and formally adopted by the District Council on 18 December 2003, under the provisions of the Local Government Act 2000.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Our Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire sets a framework for service providers, Local Authorities and local communities to work together to improve the quality of life of local people. The intention is to improve services, the environment and our personal health and well-being.

The whole Strategy is underpinned by the guiding principles of 'equality and fairness' and long term 'sustainability' of all our activities.

The Strategy has been prepared following extensive consultation and involvement, which has identified a number of key issues that need to be addressed. These include the desire to have greater community spirit and involvement; better access to services; better facilities and opportunities for young people; the need to revitalise our town centres and prevent the decline of village centres; a desire to feel reassured and safe, and wish to see a better street environment.

These issues and concerns have been brought together in the Strategy under four main headings:

Theme One: Community Spirit and Involvement

Theme Two: Personal Well-Being

Theme Three: An Attractive Place to Live and Work

Theme Four: Better Access to Services

This first Strategy also sets out where we need to focus our attentions initially in order to have an impact. Our three main focus areas are:

- Developing better community spirit and involvement.
- Revitalising our town centres.
- Improving local transport.

The Strategy sets out a long-term vision for North West Leicestershire to 2010 and identifies a number of specific targets that will be delivered through a detailed Action Plan.

We recognise that this first Community Strategy is only the start. The Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire will now look at the main issues in more detail through individual Topic Groups involving key stakeholders and local interest groups so that we can develop more detailed plans and actions for the future.

We will only succeed in improving the life of the people who live and work in North West Leicestershire if all organisations and local people work positively together. The Partnership is committed to that.

WHAT IS A COMMUNITY STRATEGY?

"A Community Strategy should aim to enhance the quality of life of local communities and contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK through action to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area and its inhabitants." (ODPM Statutory Guidance)

It has to be prepared in partnership with others and should reflect the needs and aspirations of local people. It should tackle things in an integrated way to make sure that the things we do not conflict.

Community Strategies should work towards creating a more sustainable society and help to deliver national targets and objectives at the local level.

INTRODUCTION

The Local Government Act 2000 requires every local authority in the country to develop a Community Strategy.

The District Council is responsible for developing a local strategy, in partnership with others and the County Council is responsible for developing a countywide strategy.

In North West Leicestershire we have brought together public, private, voluntary and community organisations to form a Local Strategic Partnership to develop the Strategy. We have called this the "Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire".

This is our Partnership's first Community Strategy. It has been drawn up following widespread consultation with the public, voluntary and community groups, businesses and public services.

Our Strategy takes account of the needs and aspirations expressed by local people - but it also reflects the Government's policies and priorities.

It is intended to promote sustainable communities by co-ordinating economic, social and environmental action at all levels.

Our Strategy sets out our **Vision** for the District in the coming years, the **Challenges** that we face and our broad **Strategy** for tackling these challenges.

We have also set some broad **Aims** and some specific **Targets**. We have also identified some of the major Actions that we believe will need to be taken to help create a better life for the people of North West Leicestershire.

This Community Strategy will drive the timetables and priorities of many organisations and will help to deliver local priorities in local communities. It will form the backbone for the submission of projects for external funding and grant aid, including those that arise from local community groups. Without it we will not be able to tap into National and European resources.

We will also need to monitor progress to make sure that the Strategy and Action Plans really do bring about the changes intended - and if necessary re-focus the Strategy if different issues or priorities emerge.

Our Purpose

We believe that by working together in an agreed way we will be more effective and have greater influence to help create a better life for the people of North West Leicestershire.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Our Strategy is underpinned by two guiding principles:

- Equality and Fairness
- Sustainability

Our Community Strategy seeks to promote equality and fairness by identifying the needs of others and by working towards a more sustainable society. We need to be aware of the consequences of the decisions we take at work and in our daily lives.

Equality and Fairness

Equality and fairness does not mean treating everyone the same. It often means treating some people differently so that they have the same opportunities that other people have. Providing special facilities for people with hearing difficulties or ramped access for people who cannot climb steps are obvious examples. But not all inequalities are evident - they may stem from someone's background or origin - or we may

create inequalities because of our own subconscious preconceptions.

Sustainability

Sustainability is about 'Ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for generations to come'. The Government has identified four key sustainability objectives for the UK and the world as a whole:

- Achieving social progress that recognises the needs of everyone
- Effective protection of the environment
- Prudent use of natural resources and
- Maintenance of high and stable levels of employment

All these things need to be looked at together.

There will often be conflicts - we need to be aware that striving for progress in one area may be detrimental to another. So we need to look at things in an integrated way - to make sure we get the best solution for everyone in the long-term.

Environmental Sustainability is about protecting and enhancing natural habitats, minimising the use of scarce resources, minimising waste (such as packaging) and recycling as much as possible and using improved technology and better insulation in our homes. It is about cutting down pollution by reducing fuel consumption, planning our working and living environments to reduce the need to travel, and providing good public transport links.

Social Sustainability is about working to create more self-sufficient communities that care for local people. It is about taking part in community life and activities and promoting equality and improving access to services for people in need.

Economic Sustainability is about striving to attract a range of industries and businesses that have long term stable futures and are environmentally and socially aware and that provide a variety of permanent jobs. It is also about ensuring that training and re-training is available and that people have access to jobs.

National and Regional Issues

Our Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire has an important role to play in delivering national and regional priorities and the Government's Sustainable Development Strategy for the UK.

National Priorities include education, crime reduction and improving public transport. They also acknowledge the importance of good social services, the need for sufficient affordable housing and the need to improve recycling and develop a more sustainable society.

Regional Priorities are set out in the Integrated Regional Strategy for the East Midlands and "Sustainable Communities in the East Midlands" published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) 2003. There is also a Regional Economic Strategy produced by the East Midlands Regional Development Agency.

County Priorities are listed in the Leicestershire Community Strategy. There are also specific economic priorities in the Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Regeneration Strategy (2003) prepared by the Leicestershire Strategic Economic Partnership.

Local Strategies

There are a number of local strategies and plans that will shape the future development of the district over the next ten years, which the partnership fully supports.

Below is a list of some of the key documents (see appendix for full list).

These include:

- Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2002-2020)
- NWL Cultural Strategy (2003-2008)
- NWL Local Plan (1991-2006)
- Leicestershire & Rutland Biodiversity Action Plan
- NWL Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (2002-2005)
- The Leicestershire Local Transport Plan (2001-2006)
- Leicester & Leicestershire Economic Regeneration Strategy (2002-2012)
- NWL Housing Investment Programme (2002-2007)
- Charnwood & NWL Health Strategy
- National Forest Strategy
- Leicestershire's Education Development Plan (2002 - 2007)

Our Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire has regard to the wider national and regional context but concentrates more specifically on local issues and problems that we need to tackle here.

VISION

This Vision is a description of how The Partnership would like North West Leicestershire to be by 2010. Working together with the community and other organisations we believe our vision can be made a reality.

Our Vision

Imagine it is the year 2010.

Community Spirit & Involvement

There is a high level of civic pride in North West Leicestershire. There is a close working relationship between the members of the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire, and between the Partnership and the wider community. Partnership working for the benefit of all is well established and the Community Strategy is widely supported. Community and Voluntary Sector groups are well developed and play a prominent role in the continued improvement of people's quality of life in the District.

Well-Being

People's physical, spiritual and mental health is good and there are low rates of coronary heart disease and teenage pregnancy. Levels of crime and the fear of crime are significantly lower than 7 years ago, helped by the reduced levels of drug abuse. The local economy is buoyant with high levels of employment providing household incomes at the average for the region. Formal education, vocational and workforce training has produced a better skilled workforce and a closer match between those skills and the needs of local employers.

An Attractive Place to Work, Live & Visit

In 2010 North West Leicestershire has achieved a good reputation as an attractive district to live in and to visit. The local environment is clean and safe and the District as a whole is making its contribution to reducing global environmental problems by using resources efficiently.

Access to Services

Public services such as, doctors, dentists, libraries, schools, leisure and cultural facilities are readily accessible to all and opportunities are equally available to everyone. Facilities are close to where people live or are accessible through improved public and community transport. Information about these services is easy to find and their provision is responsive to local needs.

Overall, our communities are more sustainable than in the past and economic and social inequalities are significantly reduced.

CHALLENGES FACING NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE

To achieve the sort of conditions and quality of life set out in the Vision, the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire and other organisations and individuals will have to work together to overcome a range of challenges.

Where are we now?

North West Leicestershire is a pleasant rural area served by 2 market towns, Coalville and Ashby de la Zouch along with 4 principal villages, Castle Donington, Measham, Ibstock and Kegworth.

The A42 from Birmingham and the West Midlands forms the main spine road through the district, joining the M1 and the Stoke-Derby link in the north of the district, near Kegworth and Castle Donington, providing good access to the East Midlands Airport and Donington Park motor racing circuit.

With the help of local communities, we have succeeded in improving the unsightly areas around Coalville and in the south western part of the District left by the coal mining industry.

There has been a considerable amount of new industrial and housing development on former mine sites - whilst others have been reclaimed and landscaped. The principal tourist attraction is the National Forest and Visitor Centre at Moira, to the west of Ashby, along with the Snibston Museum and Discovery Park in Coalville.



The National Forest Visitor Centre at Moira has been a big hit with tourists

We have overcome the economic and employment problems caused by the decline in the mining industry through and we now have high levels of employment. The District is a very pleasant place in which to live and work.

What we need to do

Whilst unemployment levels in the District are below the national average, there is still a great deal to be done to improve the quality of life of people living and working in the District. Average household income is the lowest in Leicestershire.

We need to attract a wider variety of better quality jobs - and make sure that the people of North West Leicestershire have the opportunity to be trained to take advantage of them. Although the District has good road and air transport links to the rest of the country, the lack of good local rail links tends to encourage people to travel by car, adding to the congestion on the A42 and M1.

There are still a number of areas where there are concentrations of high unemployment, low incomes and social problems that develop under these circumstances - drug abuse, crime, ill health, low staying-on rates and poorer educational attainment at some schools, along with high levels of teenage pregnancy in some areas.

These things do not just affect the people concerned; they affect us all. They can only be tackled by the co-ordinated efforts of everyone involved - in the public, private and voluntary sectors. Many of these problems are inter-related. That is why we need a Community Strategy. We need to have a co-ordinated approach and agreed priorities in order to tackle problems such as these.

But there are also less evident things we need to tackle which affect large numbers of people in North West Leicestershire. Many people living in rural areas have difficulty in getting to some services and facilities - particularly essential services. The closure of local shops and sub post offices in rural and suburban areas causes real problems for many people. We all have a responsibility to use these services - as individuals and as local businesses and public bodies. We need to look at more imaginative ways of bringing services out into the community - perhaps by sharing premises or sharing staff - and also at ways of providing better public transport links between rural areas and service centres. It is no good having bus services if they do not take people to services or leisure facilities at the time they need to use them - and get them back!

Our Town Centres are showing signs of decline. There are a number of empty shops in both Coalville and Ashby. Town Centres not only serve

our needs but they can make a big impression on people and firms thinking of moving to the area.



Ashby town centre

So it is important that we continue to improve the range of services and shops as well as the physical environment and character of our centres.

Better standards of building design, well-maintained public and private spaces and good public art would all help to improve the attractiveness of our centres. Shop owners and major retailers need to play an active part in the promotion of our town centres, as do cultural and leisure organisations - particularly for the evening economy.

We also need to look at the needs of young people, old people and people with disabilities. Young people are the country's future resource. We need to understand their needs and the pressures they face. We need to do all we can to establish true community values in young people at an early age - this means that a wide range of organisations, both public and voluntary, will need to work together in a co-ordinated way. There is a considerable amount of effort already being put in by a large number of people, including the development of Youth Council, but the things we do are not always co-ordinated to achieve the best effect.

One of our biggest challenges is to find effective ways to gather balanced views and ideas from all sectors of the community - not just from those who are able to shout the loudest. We also have to meet obligations and targets set by National Government. These include the contribution we are expected to make towards tackling global issues, such as climate change, pollution and the wasteful use of resources. Things that can also affect people outside the confines of North West Leicestershire.

OUR STRATEGY

The Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire sets out how we intend to work together on four themes: Community Spirit and Involvement, Personal Well Being, An Attractive Place to Live and Work, and how to improve Access to Services. There are many links between these themes. Achieving success in any of them will reinforce progress in the others.

Key Issues

A large number of consultations and discussions have taken place with local people, local organisations and voluntary groups during the development of this strategy.

We have looked at the main areas of concern that people feel need to be addressed if we are to continue to improve our quality of life.

The following key issues have emerged from the consultation process as the most important things to tackle overall.

Some need to be addressed primarily at the local level; others have wider implications and will require public, private and community service providers to reassess how they deliver their services, to ensure that they take into account people's needs and priorities.

- A desire to have greater **Community Spirit** and involvement
- **Access to Services** - both providing transport such as buses to the right place at the right time and improving the availability of services generally
- Better facilities and opportunities for **young people**
- **Revitalisation of town centres** and preventing the decline of village centres
- **To feel reassured** that we live in a safe place
- **A better street environment for all**

Local Issues

Major local concerns included noise and traffic, related to East Midlands Airport and the Racing Circuit; the availability of doctors' and dentists' surgeries and access to health facilities; providing for the needs of older people, young people and people with disabilities and concerns about areas affected by localised flooding.

There was also a general desire to promote more sustainable living by improving recycling facilities and minimising waste.

OUR APPROACH

These issues and concerns have been brought together in the Community Strategy under four main headings:

- **Community Spirit & Involvement:** The need to improve community spirit, responsibility and involvement of local people in supporting their community.
- **Personal Well-Being:** The need to tackle crime and disorder, drugs, generally improve our health, and tackle things that affect on our sense of well being.
- **An Attractive Place to Live and Work:** The need to tackle environmental problems - particularly traffic dangers and noise, and to improve the street environment.
- **Access to Services:** The need to improve access to services and facilities, including better public transport and improved information.



Grief Driving, organised by the North West Leicestershire Partnership in Safer Communities, brought the dangers of so-called joyriding to the attention of more than 1,000 local schoolchildren and a video for use in schools has since been produced.

All these things are interconnected. Even though we have separated out four key themes in our strategy, tackling any one of them is likely to have an effect on the others.

Our intention is to bring about real improvements and make sure that we provide fair and equal opportunities for everyone.

That does not just mean local authorities and public service providers.

It also means local firms and businesses, voluntary organisations - and not least, each one of us as individuals.

OUR FOCUS

We realise that we cannot achieve everything at once. Whilst we can move forward on a wide range of issues, our Partnership believes we need to focus on a few key activities at the outset.

Developing Community Spirit and Involvement

We believe that this is the key to all our work. Encouraging local groups, local people and businesses to become more involved in their communities and local activities will help to tackle social and environmental problems.

Revitalising our Town Centres

We believe this is the key to a thriving society and a thriving economy. Better shops and services will mean more money spent locally and better facilities for local people. Attractive town centres will also help to attract other businesses and firms to the area.

Improving Local Transport

Transport is the key to making access to services fair and convenient to everyone. It is a difficult job. We need to encourage more people to use public transport so that it is available for those who do not have access to private cars. This is particularly important in rural areas.

ACHIEVING THE VISION

We recognise that this first Community Strategy is only the start. The Partnership has prepared an Action Plan which sets out how the Partnership will look at the main issues in more detail through individual Topic Groups involving key stakeholders and interest groups so that we can develop more detailed plans and actions for the future.

The Partnership will monitor the achievement of the Action Plan and the targets we have set in the Strategy. It will also monitor progress towards achieving our overall vision by monitoring a number of Key Indicators, based on the national Quality of Life Indicators.

A detailed Delivery Framework is being drawn up alongside this strategy in consultation with service providers. It identifies which organisations will take the lead or contribute to various activities.

The following themed chapters set out what we believe needs to be done across the whole range of issues to make North West Leicestershire a better place and to improve the quality of life of local people.

THEME ONE: COMMUNITY SPIRIT AND INVOLVEMENT

BACKGROUND

Community Spirit is a difficult thing to measure or identify. There is a perception that there is a lack of community spirit in some areas. People say that it needs to be improved.

Getting Involved: A reluctance of people to get involved in community activities and support local initiatives seems to be an underlying theme emerging from discussions with local people. In part this may be a reflection of people's lifestyles - changing patterns of shopping, working out of the area, more choices of entertainment and people moving further from family and friends. The substantial amount of new housing development that has taken place in some areas is also felt to have resulted in an imbalance some communities.

Projects and Activities: A feeling of Community Spirit often comes from working on projects and activities in a collective way, such as building or improving a Village Hall, taking part in community celebrations like fetes, becoming a school governor or being informed about what is happening locally. This sort of involvement brings different people together and can create a sense of belonging and an understanding and acceptance of different attitudes.



The new-look village hall in Moira

Decision Making: There is a feeling that decisions that affect us are made without us really having an effective way of making our own feelings and desires known. Different generations also seem to have different social values and behaviours. This can create divisions between people of different ages.

Individuals: Creating a sense of community spirit and belonging is really down to each of us as individuals. The Community Strategy can help

provide the framework - but only local people can make the difference.

AIMS

- To increase people's sense of belonging and civic pride in North West Leicestershire.
- To develop strong communities where people feel that they have a say in the future.

WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENING?

Community Appraisals: There is already a great deal of activity in many local communities that is helping to foster community spirit. Many villages are developing Village Appraisals and Parish Plans setting out what local people feel should be done to improve their communities. A similar approach is now being taken in our two towns with the development of the Ashby and Coalville Market Town Initiatives. These will bring people together to agree how these town centres could be improved.

Clubs & Groups: There are a large number of local clubs and community organisations in North West Leicestershire. These rely on local people putting in a lot of time and effort. Many are helped and supported by grants from local authorities and other organisations such as the Leicestershire Rural Partnership, as well as the private sector. There are tenants and residents associations, neighbourhood watch schemes, and a large number of sporting clubs as well as local history and natural history groups.

Community Events: Community events, sports and arts are promoted and supported throughout the District, including events such as 'Picnic in the Park' (below) and Christmas in Coalville. Some villages hold annual fetes, theme weeks and processions, but these often rely on a small number of individuals.



Picnic in the Park

Voluntary Sector: The voluntary sector, through the Council for Voluntary Services in particular, organises and supports a wide range of services and contributes to getting people interested and involved.



The North West Leicestershire Council for Voluntary Service is based at the Marlene Reid Centre in Coalville.

Consultation: There is also an increasing amount of consultation with local people about all sorts of activities and decisions. This could be developed further.

OUR AIMS, ACTIONS & TARGETS

Aim: To increase people's sense of belonging and Civic Pride in North West Leicestershire.

Actions & Targets:

Develop and promote the use of community space, increasing the capacity for local communities to hold local events, meetings and activities.

- Audit meeting places in the district by the end of 2004.
- Consider the feasibility study and Business Plan for a Cultural & Media Access Centre in Coalville by December 2004.

Promote volunteering through area community planning meetings and community capacity building.

- Increase the percentage of people involved in a voluntary community activity by 20% (i.e. involve in Tenants & Residents Associations Neighbourhood Watch or local groups).

Promote volunteering and in particular to create opportunities for company volunteering schemes.

- Increase the number of hours given by volunteers by 20%.

Aim: To develop strong communities where people feel that they have a say in the future.

Actions & Targets:

Consult and actively involve all sectors of the community (including people with disabilities, the young and old etc) in identifying & providing for their own needs.

- Audit and contact all local groups and organisations representing excluded communities by 2005.

Continue to develop new and flexible ways for people to vote at elections.

- Increase turnout at Parish, District and County Council Elections to above the East Midlands average.

Consult and actively involve young people in identifying & providing for their own needs.

- Increase by 10% the number of young people (14-19 year olds) represented on Management Committees of voluntary organisations.

Further develop a support system for local organisations to assist them in developing projects and winning the money to make them happen.

- Increase the number of successful bids by local voluntary and community organisations to funders such as the Lottery by 20%.

Publicise the importance and role of school governors.

- See 95% of all Parent and Community School Governors posts filled.

Support and promote village appraisal and similar local assessment to all those who want it.

- Every village and urban neighbourhood, to be encouraged to completed a village appraisal or similar local assessment.

Encourage communities to become involved in local improvement schemes like village appraisals, Community Action Zones, town centre studies, Tenants Association etc.

- Increase the number of people actively involved in local improvement schemes.

THEME TWO: PERSONAL WELL-BEING

BACKGROUND

There are many things that affect our personal sense of well-being. Personal circumstances such as family relationships, how well we get on with our neighbours, our state of health, how much we earn, the quality of our housing - all affect our sense of well-being. Some people have to deal with a disability, or are particularly vulnerable because of mental health or learning difficulties. There are also other more general things that affect the way we feel - the level of crime the availability of opportunities for education and the ability to participate in social activities like sport, play, art and evening classes.

As the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire we believe there are six main areas where we can take action to help improve people's personal well-being:

- improving health
- reducing the fear of crime and improving people's safety
- improving education and training achievements
- improve social inclusion
- improving the local economy
- improving the availability of affordable housing

Personal Health: North West Leicestershire has a higher than average rate of coronary heart disease, long term disability and teenage pregnancy. There are also significant health inequalities. Public and voluntary sector service providers can help to improve health by working together to promote healthy living and better diets and by informing and educating people about healthier lifestyles. We can promote exercise, access to leisure centres and other facilities. But it is only by health agencies, schools, youth workers, faith communities and voluntary organisations working together that we can make a real difference.

Crime & Safety: Crime and the fear of crime can also affect our well being. Even if we do not suffer directly from crime ourselves, there is the stress and worry that we may be affected either at home or in the street.

That means making our streets and built environments safer through better lighting, CCTV, and by providing reassurance through community workers, wardens, policing and neighbourhood watch schemes. It also means tackling safety on the roads and reducing the number of serious injuries and fatal accidents.

Education & Training: Improving employment prospects in the district also means tackling education and training. The educational attainment of our young people in some areas, such as Coalville, is below the County average. There is also a relatively low take up by local businesses of programmes such as 'Investors in People', which encourages and supports businesses in providing appropriate training and development for their staff. Finding ways to encourage businesses to support their workforce will have an impact on people's sense of personal well-being as well as on the local economy.

Equality: We recognise the need to make the services we provide and the opportunities created available to everyone whatever their background or circumstances - particularly vulnerable and disabled people and their carers.

Economy: Our well-being also depends on having a reasonable income to support our families and ourselves. Although North West Leicestershire has low levels of unemployment our average household income is below the regional average, and that is in a region where average household income is also lower than the national average. Working with agencies such as the East Midlands Regional Development Agency (emda) and the Leicester Shire Economic Partnership, we can find ways of attracting businesses that provide higher quality jobs with better pay. We can also contribute by making sure that those in most need take up the benefits they are entitled to.



Major companies have been attracted to the district over the past few years, including Canon & Price Waterhouse Coopers.

This could include attracting modern businesses such as technology-based businesses, internet, media and design companies. There are also major opportunities for tourism related jobs, including bed and breakfast opportunities,

capitalising on the National Forest, Conkers, Snibston Discovery Park and the area's historic and environmental assets.

Our town centres are also an important part of our economy and local employment. We need to ensure that they are vibrant, dynamic and attractive. We need to make sure appropriate training facilities are provided.

Housing: There has been a rapid increase in new house building in recent years encouraged by environmental improvements and the development of the National Forest.

Standards of design and layout have significantly improved and a greater proportion of larger, more expensive houses have been built to meet changing demands - but there is a need to develop more affordable houses for local people.

AIMS

Our aims are to:

- Improve the physical, mental and spiritual health of people in North West Leicestershire.
- Reduce inequalities in health between different groups and areas in the District.
- People to feel reassured and safer on the street and at home.
- Improve the skills and knowledge of people in the District.
- Make sure we treat everyone fairly and understand people's different needs, whatever their background and circumstances.
- Attract and develop new businesses that provide long-term and higher paid jobs.
- Revitalise our town centres as hubs for local retail, leisure and business uses.
- Ensure an adequate supply of quality affordable housing with high-energy efficiency

WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENING?

Health: There is already a huge amount of work being undertaken in the District to help improve people's personal circumstances. The recently established Primary Care Trust is working with the County and District Councils and others, for example, to provide more sexual health counselling in schools and youth clubs. There are initiatives like Resolution to help and support people in giving up smoking cigarettes - a major factor in coronary heart disease. There is also a Health Forum, which brings different agencies and service users together to co-ordinate health

improvement activity. There is an excellent GP referral scheme where GP's prescribe physical activity programmes at local leisure centres, rather than drugs, for a range of physical and mental health problems.

Crime & Safety: The North West Leicestershire Partnership in Safer Communities, formed in 1993, has established a range of projects aimed at tackling key community safety issues, and since 1998, through the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy.

There has been an increase in the number of police hours spent in the community, the introduction of closed circuit television (CCTV) and a programme of placing speed safety cameras at accident hot spots.

Education: Responsibility for schools rests primarily with the County Council, which has identified Coalville as an Education Improvement Zone. Over £100,000 of additional funding has been secured to help tackle low attainment levels and low staying on rates at schools in this area.

Adult education is provided through a variety of means and the Learning and Skills Council is working closely with local schools and colleges to encourage the take up of courses that lead to qualifications. There are environmental resource centre at both Conkers and Snibston Discovery Park. There is an increased use of libraries for basic ICT and internet training on an informal or one-to-one basis.

Social Inclusion: Partnership working between different agencies is well established. It has been the key to the economic regeneration of the area and in tackling areas and social regeneration. For example, a Community Action Zone and partnership has been established in the Greenhill ward in Coalville - one of the 20% most deprived wards in the country.

The Greenhill Community Action Zone is developing new ways of working to tackle a range of social and economic issues to help create a better life for the people who live there.

Economy: The development of the local economy has recently focussed on attracting higher quality jobs and increasing tourism in the District, building on the presence of the National Forest. This is already creating jobs and attracting other new businesses. This has spurred local businesses to form the National Forest Foundation to develop a 'Forest Park' within the

National Forest. Strategies are also being developed for Ashby and Coalville to attract and retain businesses.

Significant quality of life improvements have been achieved through a range of projects and initiatives both locally and more generally, including the development of a Credit Union.

Housing: The development planning process has ensured that there is an adequate supply of housing land available on a variety of sites throughout the District. The condition of houses in the District is generally good and there are no areas in need of clearance. This is due in part to the housing improvement grants that have been made available by the Council and the long-term maintenance and improvement programme for Council housing, including energy efficiency improvements. The District Council carried out a stock condition survey in 2003 to determine the condition and energy efficiency of private sector housing in order to develop a Private Sector Housing strategy. 'Affordable homes' have been built by securing financial contributions from developers and by working with housing associations.

OUR AIMS, ACTIONS AND TARGETS

Improving Health

Aim: Improve the physical, mental and spiritual health of the people in North West Leicestershire.

Actions & Targets:

Continue to develop a co-ordinated health promotion campaign focussing on exercise, diet & drugs, (including cigarettes and alcohol).

- Work towards the reduction in the number of deaths of those under 75 with circulatory disease (from a rate per 100 000 population of 100.8 to 91.9).
- Reduce the rate of smoking by 1% per year for women continuing to smoke throughout pregnancy and by a similar rate for other specific groups.
- Achieve a target of 70% in influenza immunisation in people aged 65 and over.
- Increase the % of residents who regularly participate in sport & physical activity to above the national average.

Develop additional drug treatment facilities and programmes.

- Increase the participation of problem drug users in drug treatment programmes and increase the proportion of users successfully

sustaining or completing treatment programmes (see PSA indicators).

Aim: Reduce inequalities in health between different groups and areas in the District

Actions & Targets

Target excluded groups that do not currently use leisure services and encourage wider participation.

- Increase the number attendants in targeted user groups (disabled users by 20%, under 5's by 15%, leisure link to 1700, lifestyle by 15% & school holiday attendance's by 24%) by 2007/8.

Provide sexual health advice and support in schools and youth clubs.

- Reduce conception rates in teenage girls (under 17) each year to achieve a target reduction of 45% within 10 years.

Reducing fear of crime and improving safety

Aim: People to feel reassured and safer on the street and at home.

Actions & Targets:

Establish the level of reassurance and feeling of personal safety in the district.

- Complete a baseline assessment by 2005.

Seek to secure funding and recruit Community Custodians (which may include, neighbourhood wardens and community support officers).

- Recruit 10 community custodians by 2010.

Develop "Safe Routes to Schools".

- Investigate the possibility of developing "safe routes to school" for all schools in the district by 2005.

Reduce the number of personal injury accidents.

- Take measures to improve roads with a focus on improving their safety, including introducing safety cameras.
- Reduce road casualties involving death or serious injury by 40%.

Improving educational and training achievements

Aim: Improve the skills and knowledge of people in the District.

Actions & Targets

Promote and support life long learning.

- North West Leicestershire Learning Forum to implement the priorities for action for lifelong learning in North West Leicestershire.

Support current and future educational improvement activities.

- Improve GCSE results to support the achievement of the County-wide target that at least 63% of 16 year olds should obtain 5 or more GCSEs by 2005.

Promote and support work based training schemes.

- Three businesses a year to introduce an accredited scheme like Investors in People Programme for all their staff.

Raise the literacy and numeracy skills of adults.

- Increase the number of adults with NVQ level one qualifications to above the national average.

Equality - Improving social inclusion

Aim: Make sure we treat everyone fairly and understand people's different needs, whatever their background and circumstances.

Actions & Targets:

Develop Community Action Zones in those areas with multiple social and economic needs.

- Review the need for further community Action Zones by 2005.

All partnerships to review their Equality schemes and Equal Opportunities policies.

- Reviews to be completed by 2005.

Work with Welfare to work' initiative to encourage people with mental ill health and learning disabilities to take up employment opportunities.

- Investigate the needs of people with learning disabilities who want to get into paid employment by 2005.

Improving the Economy

Aim: Attract and develop new businesses that provide long-term and higher paid jobs.

Actions & Targets:

Establish and promote local business support networks (Network Gold, chamber of commerce).

- Local Chambers of Commerce to be established in the main Towns (Ashby, Coalville & Castle Donington etc) by 2006.

Work with East Midlands Development Agency and the Leicester Shire Economic Development Partnership to attract high quality jobs.

- Increase average household income in the District to the regional average.

Work with local communities to develop sustainable social enterprises.

- Increase the number of community social enterprises.

Aim: To revitalise our town centres as hubs for local retail, leisure and business uses.

Actions & Targets:

Work with local businesses to actively promote and improve our town centres.

- To have no more than 2% of shops vacant for more than one year in our principal shopping frontages.

Improving the availability of affordable housing

Aim: Ensure an adequate supply of quality affordable housing with high-energy efficiency.

Actions & Targets:

To meet the housing and support needs of vulnerable groups.

- To investigate the demand for an extra care scheme for the elderly in North West Leicestershire by 2004.
- To support the development of a housing scheme for people with severe learning disabilities by 2005.

Support and implement the priority issues arising from the Homelessness Strategy Action Plan.

- The Homelessness Forum to implement the Homelessness strategy Action Plan by September 2005.

Develop a range of affordable housing, to meet the needs of the district.

- To meet the identified affordable housing needs in the Housing Strategy by 2008.

Promote energy efficiency through advice and grant schemes.

- Increase the energy efficiency of the housing stock (private & public) to above the national average.
- Reduce carbon dioxide emissions from the housing stock year on year.

THEME THREE: AN ATTRACTIVE PLACE TO LIVE, WORK & VISIT

BACKGROUND

Living, working and enjoying our leisure time in attractive surroundings has many benefits. We feel better, we're likely to work harder and we're likely to get more enjoyment from our leisure time. Businesses too benefit from an attractive environment. It encourages more people to use our services and spend their money in the district rather than elsewhere. An attractive and clean environment also benefits our physical and mental health.

Recreation: Good quality parks, recreation grounds and leisure facilities as well as access to the countryside and areas such as the National Forest, can help improve our physical and mental health and enjoyment. They also play an important part in attracting new businesses and investment to the area.

Built Environment: The quality of the built environment is extremely important - not just for our enjoyment but also for our economy. The attractiveness of Town and Village Centres can encourage visitors. This helps to support local businesses. The creation of good quality Civic Space such as town squares - and the presence of public art, can make a significant contribution to the attractiveness of the District. An attractive environment can also influence investment decisions - for example, where a company wishes to locate.



Memorial Square, Coalville, was redesigned to create public space in the town centre.

Natural Environment: The quality and diversity of the natural environment is also important. Having attractive countryside, with good access and pleasant places to take friends when they come to visit, helps to make us feel where we live is attractive. A lot of progress has been made in improving the environment especially clearing up industrial dereliction. The development of the National Forest and the creation of ecological sites and habitats have made a big difference to the area.



The National Forest Visitor Centre in Moira

Noise and Pollution: There are also the things that we cannot see that make a difference, such as having low levels of pollution, knowing that we are contributing to protecting the wider environment by recycling and reducing emissions of gases that contribute to climate change. Noise is another factor that can reduce the attractiveness of the places we live and the quality of our lives. East Midlands Airport and Donington Race Circuit are both places that generate noise that causes concern but at the same time they provide jobs and opportunities as well as facilities for other businesses.

Litter: We all want to enjoy a pleasant and attractive environment, litter free, well maintained verges and pavements and no graffiti or fly posting.

Waste: Reducing the amount of waste we create can have positive economic and environmental benefit. Businesses can become more competitive and jobs can be created. But reducing the waste at source to avoid having to dispose of it, should be the aim for all of us - as business owners, employees and individuals. Education and promoting environmental awareness also has a large role to play in changing the current attitudes of our throwaway society.

Our Environment: A pleasant and attractive environment outside our front door is one of the first things we want to see - free of litter and with well-maintained verges and pavements. That is what we all expect. The quality of buildings also contributes to an attractive environment. We also want safe and pleasant places to walk and to cycle. It is also important to have safe and stimulating places where children can play and grow up. Trees, good public open spaces, town squares and village greens and "Public Art" all add to the attractiveness of the District.



Buildings in Castle Donington have been refurbished through the Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme.

Action as Individuals: Tackling some of these issues requires everybody to play their part. Litter, for instance, doesn't just appear - people drop it. It would be better if we could stop the problem rather than have to pay to clear up the mess that we make. Similarly reducing air pollution and using less energy to protect the global environment, are things that we can take action about ourselves.

AIMS

Our aims are to:

- Improve the quality of and access to, parks, open spaces and other public areas with better facilities for play.
- Protect and improve the physical and natural environment.
- Minimise the impact of noise from East Midlands Airport and Donington Race Circuit.
- Improve the physical appearance of Town and Village Centres.
- Reduce the amount of waste created and landfilled.
- Make North West Leicestershire an even more desirable place to live and visit - a place we can be proud of.

WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENING?

Recreation: The District and Parish Councils maintain parks and play areas. A range of Country Parks have been developed by the County Council and by private landowners through National Forest initiatives. The National Forest contributes massively to the attraction of the District and plays a significant role in promoting the area as an attractive place to visit. This will be enhanced further by Heart of the Forest Foundation's proposals to develop a Forest Park.

Natural & Built Environment: The Local Transport Plan has actions to help reduce pollution from travelling by seeking improvements to public transport and by improving cycling facilities. Businesses, schools, and individuals can also get support and advice to help them reduce the impact they have on the environment, particularly by reducing energy consumption and using materials more efficiently.

Noise & Pollution: Whilst East Midlands Airport helps to contribute to the local economy there are major concerns about the impact of noise at night. Although the Secretary of State has recently declined to take action himself to control night noise, the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire will press for controls and improvements to provide an acceptable environment for local people.

Litter: The District Council already undertakes a large amount of work to maintain the street environment and to remove litter, fly posters and graffiti from public spaces.

Waste: There are a wide range of facilities that enable people to recycle - including Kerbside Collections of paper and other recyclable materials in some areas, as well as organisations working with businesses and individuals to reduce the amount we all create.

OUR AIMS, ACTIONS AND TARGETS

Aim: Improve the quality of and access to, parks, open spaces and other public areas with better facilities for play.

Actions & Targets:

Audit and assess the open space, play and recreation needs of the District.

- Complete by 2005.

Aim: Protect and improve the physical environment.

Actions & Targets:

Improve the physical street environment.

- Identify streets and neighbourhoods that are in need of environmental improvements by end 2005.

Make businesses aware of environmental schemes for reducing their impact on the local and global environment.

- Five new businesses to published an environmental policy by 2005.
- Five new businesses to publish a work based Travel Plan by 2005.

Aim: Protect and improve the natural environment

Actions & Targets:

Review the existing Biodiversity Action Plans covering the district.

- Consolidate existing BAP's for the district by 2005.

Promote tree planting and habitat creation through local community projects, development schemes and, on land public and privately owned land.

- Contribute to the National Forest tree planting target to secure 500 hectares of new planting each year in the National Forest, by promoting schemes within North West Leicestershire.

Aim: Minimise the environmental impact of East Midlands Airport and Donington Race Circuit.

Actions & Targets:

Monitor noise from Donington racetrack.

- Review conditions of the noise abatement notice (issued by the district council) by March 2004.

Monitor air quality around the airport.

- Comply with the full Air Quality Regulations (2000) by 2005.

Monitor the impact of noise from night flights.

- Review noise reduction activities annually.

Aim: Improve the physical appearance of Town and Village Centres.

Actions & Targets:

Develop Market Town Initiatives and develop the findings of the Ashby and Coalville Town Centre Master Plan.

- Complete the Town Centre Master Planning exercise for Coalville by March 2004.

- Implement the actions of the Ashby Town Centre Strategy by 2010.



Household recycling is being introduced at all homes within North West Leicestershire.

Aim: Reduce the amount of waste created and landfilled.

Actions & Targets:

Support and promote recycling, composting and waste minimisation initiatives.

- Recycle/compost 24% of household waste by 2006 (district).
- By 2010 reduce the amount of biodegradable municipal waste deposited to landfill to 75% of that produced in 1995 (countywide target).

Aim: Make NWL an even more desirable place to live and visit a place to be proud of.

Actions & Targets:

Promote and develop the tourism industry.

- Increase tourist visitors to North West Leicestershire 10% by 2010.

Develop additional cycle paths (multi use trails) and improvements to footpaths.

- Create an additional 1km of cycle paths per year.

Encourage and support communities & neighbourhoods to participate in schemes like Best Kept Village, Tidy Britain campaign etc.

- Organise a district wide litter campaign once a year

THEME FOUR: ACCESS TO SERVICES

BACKGROUND

Being able to get to local services, such as shops, dentists' and doctors' surgeries, leisure facilities, libraries and schools, when we need them, is essential for everyday life.

Local Services: There are a number of things that affect how easy it is to get access to services - how close the services are to where we live, the availability of public transport to get us there and back - and of course the cost. This is particularly important to young people, older people who are less mobile and people with disabilities - and people without access to a car.

Access to Services: There are a number of things that could be done in the coming years to improve access to services. Bringing services closer to where people live and at the same time improving the provision of public transport to provide access to more distant services will have an impact. Making sure that information about services is more easily available and accessible to everyone and that the services themselves are accessible to disabled people will also help improve people's ability to get the most out of these services.

Knowing About Services: Knowing what services are available and how to find out about them is essential if we are to be able to make best use of them. Information also needs to be accessible to people with visual and hearing impairments. Being able to make use of several different services on the same trip, because they are close together, is also important.

The opening times of services are also important so that we can make use of them at convenient times. Buildings and all forms of public transport need to be physically accessible to people with disabilities, parents with pushchairs and people who are less mobile. The need to improve access to services has emerged from our consultations as an important priority for people in North West Leicestershire.

AIMS

Our aims are to:

- Increase the range of facilities and services available.
- Improve access to & around, public services and local shopping centres for everyone, especially people with disabilities & children.
- Improve access to service information for everyone.

WHAT'S ALREADY HAPPENING?

Service Improvements: The District Council, The Primary Care Trust, Leicestershire County Council, The Police and other public service providers, including voluntary and community organisations, already work extremely hard to provide good access to the services that they provide. Many of these organisations have detailed consumer service plans to improve their services and their availability. New initiatives like Sure Start have been developed to provide support to families with children under four years old.

The County Council is seeking to improve all its services through its Better Access to Better Services Initiative, so that all Leicestershire people can access services in the way they prefer. The District Council is also consulting people about its services to make them more responsive to people's needs. The Primary Care Trust is constantly trying to make health services more convenient and accessible. Organisations such as the Leicestershire Rural Partnership and Rural Community Council play a vital role in delivering practical projects, which can make a real difference to people living and working in rural Leicestershire. There are also a number of "One-Stop-Shops", such as those at Ibstock and Measham, which provide a wide range of local and service information in one place. Internet facilities and training is provided for provided for all people at all libraries and at Measham, Moira and Appleby in addition to facilities at local colleges.

Market Towns: The Market Towns Initiatives for Ashby and Coalville are also looking at how to improve these market towns as hubs for business, shopping and services. We will also be looking at the main villages, which provide services for rural areas.

Schools and Colleges: The facilities at community colleges and some schools are open outside school hours for use by the community, some in partnership with the District Council. There are also programmes such as "Leisure Link" which provide subsidised or free leisure activities for those on means-tested benefit.

Public Transport: There is a range of initiatives to improve public transport in the district. The County Council supports many bus services and is developing a comprehensive network of hourly services as well as improved services to more rural areas. Working with the voluntary sector it also supports dial-a-ride services and has a target of providing services for disabled people across

the whole county area. The Rural Transport Partnership, involving the district and county councils, the bus companies and the voluntary sector, works to improve services and facilities in the more rural parts of the district.

Information: The Advice Forum provides a focus for all organisations interested in advice provision to meet and plan initiatives, discuss current issues and help break down barriers between statutory, and voluntary providers of advice and information. The major piece of work the group has organised is the Advice Strategy for the District, and Benefit Take-up campaigns.

User Forums: Planning and delivering services are often complex. Services often have to be provided with very limited resources. Service users are consulted about the best ways to manage and deliver services through Forums such as the Health Forum and the Disability Forum.

OUR AIMS, ACTIONS AND TARGETS

Aim: Increase the range of facilities and services available.

Actions & Targets

Work with businesses to promote our two Market Towns and principal service villages and develop their facilities and services.

- Complete the Town Centre Master Planning exercise for Coalville by March 2004.
- Implement the actions in the Ashby Town Centre Strategy by 2010.

Extend the hours that leisure and community centres, schools and colleges open their facilities to the wider community at affordable prices.

- Explore the "Extended School Programme" funding possibilities by 2005.

Improve services and facilities for young and elderly people.

- Identify issues and actions by 2005.

Promote the establishment of the National Forest Railway line and a link to the main rail network.

- Lobby for national and regional policy change.

Aim: Improve access to & around, public services and local shopping centres for everyone, especially people with disabilities & children.

Actions & Targets

Work with transport operators to provide better and more frequent services to our two Market Towns and principal service villages.

- 95% of all households within 13 minutes walk of an hourly or better daytime bus service by 2004/5.

Extend services like dial-a-ride and other forms of community transport to give full coverage across the district.

- Work with the Rural Transport Partnership to ensure that the 5% of people who do not have access to an hourly daytime bus service have appropriate access to facilities by 2004 and thereafter work to improve this access further.

To offer advice on, and investigate the implications of, the Disability Discrimination Act, working with the Disability Forum.

- All public buildings will comply with the Disability Discrimination Act by 2004.

Aim: Improve access to advice and information for everyone.

Actions & Targets

Develop a directory of services available for people in North West Leicestershire and make this available on-line.

- Complete the directory by 2005.
- Make the directory available on-line by March 2005.
- Getting through to the right person in a public agency to answer a query will take no more than two phone calls.

Extend and improve the network of publicly accessible Internet facilities.

- Investigate the need for additional internet access centres and training by 2005.
- Promote Broadband access to rural areas
- Broadband to be available to all households and businesses by September 2004 (Leicester Shire Economic Partnership).

Develop online access to services like, booking GP appointments, leisure services etc.

- Investigate the use of online booking by 2005.

The Advice Forum to develop an action plan.

- Advice Forum Action Plan published by September 2004.

Develop the shared use of facilities by different service providers, increasing "one-stop shop" use.

- Investigate the provision of joint service centres by 2005.

..... AND IN CONCLUSION

If we really want to make things happen - and make a difference, we will all have to play our part - as service providers, as local organisations, as voluntary groups and as individuals.

The requirement to produce a Community Strategy means that, for the first time, local people and organisations have a clear route, through the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire, to get their views across to service providers and policy makers.

By working together we should be able to combine resources and co-ordinate activities to best effect - so that as ordinary citizens we get a better deal and work towards agreed changes and improvements.

We all have the opportunity to contribute to the strategy - and to making things happen.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN

This Action Plan sets out the actions to be undertaken for the delivery of the Community Strategy produced by the Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire. The first part is the Action Plan for the Partnership to deliver its priorities for improving North West Leicestershire. The Second part is a Detailed Delivery Framework of the actions the Partnership Members and others are involved with, in supporting and achieving the aims, actions and targets set out in the Community Strategy for North West Leicestershire. The Action Plan should be read in conjunction with the Community Strategy. (The Detailed Delivery Framework is available on request).

Action Plan - January 2004 to April 2005

Action	Description	Date	Who
1	<p><u>Identification and Selection of Topic Areas for Action by the Partnership</u></p> <p>Determine the topics for action by the Partnership as a whole.</p> <p>From the consultation on the Community Strategy and with the Partner Organisations the following areas are suggested for consideration</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Development • Young People • Economy • Environment/Ecology • Transport • Communication / Information Exchange 	February 2004	Partnership Board
2	<p><u>Set Up Working Groups</u></p> <p>Appoint a co-ordinator for each topic supported by a working group (where appropriate this should be an existing working group or forum)</p> <p>Note: The Co-ordinator will be responsible for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identifying the issues to be addressed under each topic • Identifying the priority of each issue • Preparing a detailed delivery plan • Producing regular progress reports and an annual statement of achievement against the delivery plan and targets <p>The Co-ordinator's role should be shared across the Partnership and together with the membership of the working groups should not be restricted to the Partnership Organisation's only</p>	March 2004	Partnership Board
3	<p><u>Identification of issues to be addressed in each Topic Area</u></p> <p>Identify all the main issues for improving North West Leicestershire within each Topic Area. The priority for each of these issues including those for action by April 2005 and a time frame for all other issues will be identified</p> <p>Consideration of reports from each working group detailing priority for dealing with issues by April 2006 and ongoing timetable. Finalise issues to be addressed by working groups.</p>	<p>June 2004</p> <p>July 2004</p>	<p>Working Groups</p> <p>Partnership Board</p>

Action	Description	Date	Who
4	<p><u>Production of Delivery Plans</u></p> <p>Preparation of detailed delivery plans for the priority issues in each Topic Area approved by the Partnership Board</p> <p>Note: The Delivery Plans will detail the actions to be taken, resources required, lead organisations, a timetable for delivery, targets and outcomes</p>	October 2004	Working Groups
5	<p><u>Approval of Delivery Plans</u></p> <p>Consideration and approval of Delivery Plans with or without modification</p> <p>Alteration of Delivery Plans to meet Partnership Board requirements</p> <p>Re-consideration of Delivery Plans and approval</p>	November 2004 December 2004 Jan 2005	Partnership Board Working Groups Partnership Board
6	<p><u>Implementation of Delivery Plans</u></p> <p>Commencement of work to ensure implementation of Delivery Plans to timetable</p>	December 2004 onwards	Working Groups
7	<p><u>Monitoring Arrangements</u></p> <p>Consideration of quarterly reports from working groups on progress in implementing Delivery Plans</p> <p>Review progress of Delivery Plans against targets and outcomes via annual report from working groups. To include previous performance where information exists</p> <p>Consideration annually of performance of Partnership Organisations in supporting actions set out in Community Strategy</p>	Quarterly June Annually June Annually	Partnership Board Partnership Board Partnership Board
8	<p><u>Determination of Priorities for inclusion in Annual Programme</u></p> <p>Review current priorities and current issues against emerging issues and new priorities to determine annual work programmes including necessary modifications to Delivery Plans</p> <p>Consideration of the Working Group's reviews and recommendations</p> <p>Production of Annual Delivery Plans</p> <p>Approval of Annual Delivery Plans</p> <p>Implementation of Delivery Plans</p>	September Annually October Annually December Annually January Annually April Onwards	Working Groups Partnership Board Working Group Partnership Board Working Groups
9	<p><u>Co-ordination of Delivery of Actions not included in Topic Areas</u></p> <p>Lead Partner(s) to take on lead role working with Support Partners to ensure delivery of all actions not covered by the Topic Area Working Groups is co-ordinated; opportunities for partnership working is fully explored; and that the action sheets included in Part B of this Action Plan are further developed to reflect this approach.</p>	January 2004 Onwards	Lead Partners

Action	Description	Date	Who
10	<u>Assessment and Review</u> Undertake an annual assessment and review of the Community Strategy to ensure it is still relevant to local issues, reflects community aspirations, is aligned to national, regional and local strategies, policies and plans and addresses issues such as equality and sustainability Amend Community Strategy in light of the assessment and review	July Annually	Partnership Board
11	<u>Performance Management</u> Identification of suitable framework/model to allow the Partnership to assess and improve the performance of the Partnership	Within 12 months of approving this plan	Partnership Board

THE PARTNERSHIP FOR IMPROVING NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE

List of Members

The Partnership for Improving North West Leicestershire Board is responsible for producing this draft strategy. The members are listed below.

Mick Wells (Chairman)	Charnwood & North West Leicestershire Primary Care Trust
Cllr Mark Chadbourn	North West Leicestershire District Council
Rev. G Glasius	Voluntary Sector Representative
Mr Noel Melvin	Secondary Education Representative
Mr Max Boden	Leicestershire Chamber of Trade & Industry
Inspector ??????	North West Leicestershire Partnership in Safer Communities
Chief Superintendent Geoff Feavour	Leicestershire Constabulary
Vacant	NW Leicestershire Association of Parish Councils
Mr D Raith	Higher Education Representative
Reverend J Stevenson	Faith Representative
Mrs J Cryar	Job Centre Plus (Business Development Manager)
Cllr Lesley Pendleton	Leicestershire County Council
Cllr Alison H Harrop	NW Leicestershire Health Forum
Cllr	NW Leicestershire Cultural Forum

This membership may change as the partnership develops.

KEY STRATEGIES AND PLANS

Strategy/Plan	Contact Officer
Advice Strategy	Dave Berry, Social Inclusion Officer, NWLDC
Air Quality Strategy	Gareth Crossley, Head of Environmental Protection, NWLDC
Anti Poverty Strategy	Dave Berry, Social Inclusion Officer, NWLDC
Biodiversity Action Plan	Mags Bainbridge, Conservation Officer, Leicestershire & Rutland Wildlife Trust
Contaminated Land Strategy	Gareth Crossley, Head of Environmental Protection, NWLDC
Criminal Justice Plan	Supt. Chris Garnham, Leicestershire Constabulary
Cultural Strategy (Leicestershire)	Heather Broughton, Head of Heritage Services, LCC
Early Years and Childcare Strategy	Margaret Aust, Service Manager, LCC
Education Development Plan	Mary Hufford, Education Officer, LCC
Health Strategy	
Housing Investment Programme	Derrick Swallow, Manager of Housing, NWLDC
Leicester and Leicestershire Economic Regeneration Strategy 2002-2012	Kishor Tailor, Chief Executive, LSEP
Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy	Joanna Guyll, Team Leader, LCC
Leicestershire Rural Strategy	Tim Frenneaux, Rural Officer, LCC
Leicestershire Supporting People Strategy	Diane Esmond, Supporting People Manager, LCC
Leicestershire Teenage Pregnancy Strategy	Anne Mitchell, Teenage Pregnancy Strategy Co-ordinator, LCC
Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland Sports Strategy	Anne Thompson, Sport England
Leicestershire's Education Development Plan (2002 – 2007)	Jackie Strong, Director of Education, LCC
Local Plan	Colin Chapman, Head of Development Planning, NWLDC
Local Transport Plans	Douglas Reid, Local Transport Plan Manager, LCC
National Forest Strategy	David Evans, National Forest Company
National Policing Plan (NPP)	Supt. Chris Garnham, Leicestershire Constabulary
North West Leicestershire Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy	Pam Simmonds & Michelle England, Community Safety Officers, NWLDC
NWL Cultural Strategy	David Halstead, (Acting) Manager of Community Services, NWLDC
Three Year Policing Plan	Supt. Chris Garnham, Leicestershire Constabulary
Tourism Strategy	Joanne Cooper, Tourism & Promotions Officer, NWLDC
Valuing People Strategy	Sue Wilson, Valuing People Co-ordinator, LCC
Voluntary Sector Compact	Martin Gage, Chief Executive, NWLCVS
Youth Justice Plan	Phil Hawkins, Youth Offending Services Manager, LCC

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