

LEICESTERSHIRE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

FINAL DRAFT

MARCH 2008

Introduction

I am pleased to present our Sustainable Community Strategy to you on behalf of Leicestershire Together, the Local Strategic Partnership for Leicestershire. Leicestershire Together includes all of the organisations and partnerships that deliver public services in Leicestershire, and we seek to improve the quality of life and of public services in the County.

This draft Sustainable Community Strategy proposes priorities for improvement in Leicestershire over the next 5 years. These are largely based upon two draft evidence base reports 'This is Leicestershire' and 'Places in Leicestershire'.

The structure of the new Sustainable Community Strategy is quite different to that of the previous Community Strategy in that it focuses on **what** we are going to do rather than **how** we are going to do it. Our second Local Area Agreement (LAA2) is the key delivery framework for the strategy (the 'how' bit) - and more details on the LAA can be found later in this document.

The challenge that faces us now is to deliver the ambitions outlined in this Strategy, making a real and measurable difference to the lives of Leicestershire people.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Leicestershire Together

Leicestershire Together is the Local Strategic Partnership for Leicestershire and includes all of the organisations and partnerships that deliver public services in the County. Our aim is to improve the quality of life for the people of Leicestershire and make Leicestershire the best possible place to live and work for everyone.

You can find out more about the structure, membership, mission/principles and work of Leicestershire Together at www.leicestershiretogether.org.

Vision for Leicestershire

We have developed a new vision for Leicestershire which sets out what we want the County to be like in 2026. This can be found within the full SCS and on the Leicestershire Together website.

Leicestershire Performance Framework

Together, our new Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and second Local Area Agreement (LAA2) form the core of a new performance framework for Leicestershire. It is the Leicestershire response to the changing national picture for the way Local Government and partners are expected to deliver improved outcomes together and anticipates the introduction of the Comprehensive Area Assessment.

This framework (on page xx) shows the cross-cutting nature of our work and how different themes interrelate within the high level themes. There are seven overarching themes which provide the framework for the SCS and LAA2:

1. Improved life chances for vulnerable individuals and places
2. Stronger, more cohesive communities
3. A safe and attractive place to live and work
4. A more effective response to climate change
5. A prosperous, innovative and dynamic economy
6. A healthier Leicestershire
7. More effective and efficient service delivery

The framework through the LAA2 and other wider delivery arrangements, to be developed in partnership over the coming months, will show how partnerships and organisations will work together to deliver shared outcomes comprising top priorities as well as lower priorities.

The SCS sets out what we are going to do (or the difference that we will make) in a full list of outcomes and sub-outcomes. LAA2 outlines how we will make that difference by delivering the top priorities for Leicestershire Together partners.

Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy

The first section of the Sustainable Community Strategy sets the context for the rest of the document, including an update on what we achieved through our first Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement, and includes a summary of key issues for Leicestershire drawn from the 'This is Leicestershire' report (available on the above website).

The Sustainable Community Strategy sets out our priorities for improvement in Leicestershire over the next 5 years. These are largely based upon two draft evidence base reports 'This is Leicestershire' (which covers people and themes) and 'Places in Leicestershire'.

There are 49 outcomes in total. The 'headline' or top level outcomes are, in most cases, supported by sub-outcomes which break the issue down into a greater level of detail. Delivering each of the sub-outcomes will help us to achieve the overall headline outcome.

The 49 outcomes cover the following themes:

- Vulnerable People
- Vulnerable Places
- Access to Services
- Rural
- Volunteering
- Sport and Culture
- Climate Change
- Equalities
- Efficiencies
- Safer Communities
- Stronger Communities
- Cleaner and Greener
- Economic Development
- Transport
- Housing
- Children & Young People
- Older People
- Healthier Communities

These outcomes focus on people and themes and have been developed through the lead theme and cross-cutting partnerships.

There are also a large number of outcomes for places in Leicestershire which have been developed with the District Local Strategic Partnerships. These relate to the 27 Community Forums in the County, arranged in seven chapters based around the seven Districts. These chapters also show how the 'place' priorities relate to the theme and people priorities.

The SCS will be reviewed annually and a full mid-Strategy review will take place in late 2010 - this should fit with the timescale for developing our next (third) LAA, assuming that national policy does not change and the three year LAA cycle is retained.

Local Area Agreement

Our second Local Area Agreement focuses on a set of priority outcomes from the SCS - the things that it is most important that we tackle between 2008 and 2011. By being included in the LAA they are supported by the new duties to co-operate and have regard for target introduced by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

The priority outcomes have been selected for a number of reasons - in some cases because we need to improve our performance in this area, in others because we have the ambition to further improve already high levels of performance, because it is a cross-cutting issue that tackles a number of priorities or because it is an emerging issue that we can only tackle effectively in partnership.

In more detail the content of the LAA falls into the following categories:

- A set of up to 35 indicators that will have target figures and will be signed in June 2008 by local partners and government after a period of negotiation.
- A set of 16 mandatory indicators covering children and young people's issues where the negotiations are specifically around the target figure to apply.
- Local targets which are for the purpose of the local partnership
- The 12 reward targets agreed as part of the first LAA, these run for a further year until March 2009.

By sign-off there will also be more detail on how measurement of the priority targets is to be disaggregated. We will report on our performance against the overall targets to the Government through our government office.

Partnership Risk Assessment

An Area Based Risk Assessment was carried out in late 2007, involving the County Council, the Police and the Primary Care Trust. The assessment identifies the main and high risks facing Leicestershire, including the implications of these in relation to priority outcomes identified in the SCS. A summary of the workshop outcomes are set out on **page xx of the Appendices.**

ABOUT LEICESTERSHIRE TOGETHER

Leicestershire Together is the partnership of partnerships for the County and provides an over-arching framework within which other thematic and area-based partnerships operate. Our aim is to improve the quality of life for the people of Leicestershire and make Leicestershire the best possible place to live and work for everyone.

ABOUT OUR STRUCTURE AND PARTNERS

There are four main levels to the Leicestershire Together structure:

- 1) the Board and the Strategic Senior Officer Group (decision making)
- 2) the Local Area Agreement Leads and Leads Plus Groups (co-ordinating)
- 3) the seven key theme partnerships, plus other supporting and cross-cutting partnerships, including District-based Local Strategic Partnerships. (delivering)
- 4) the Leicestershire Together Forum. (discussing)

We also hold an annual conference which involves people across all levels of the structure and a wide range of other stakeholders.

Our structure is set out on **page xx of the appendices**, which lists the partners involved in the different levels. For more information about Leicestershire Together and its structure, please visit www.leicestershiretogether.org.

OUR MISSION, VISION AND PRINCIPLES

Mission

“Working together we will deliver improved public services so that we make Leicestershire the best possible place to live and work for everyone”.

Vision

We have developed a new vision which sets out what we want Leicestershire to be like in 2026. This is shown on the following pages.

In 2026, Leicestershire will be made up of thriving, sustainable, safe and secure communities and be recognised locally, regionally and nationally, for:

- The strength of social capital in its towns, villages and suburbs where;
 - Leicestershire and Leicester City are integrated and cohesive places.
 - strong elected parish councils and community organisations work together to empower and engage local people to shape the future of their settlements.
 - people have pride in the social diversity of their towns, and have a clear understanding of the role they play in providing employment and services.
- Its engaged, informed and optimistic people who;
 - look to the future and recognise the needs of future generations.
 - actively engage in the life of their communities.
 - seek to protect vulnerable people within their communities and support them to live independent lives.
 - respect the needs of different social groups and accept social diversity and new people in their place or community.
 - take responsibility for their own physical and mental well being whatever their age.
 - as children and young people, benefit from the 'Good to Great' programme and our top class Universities to get the most from their education and want to put something back into Leicestershire.
 - feel safe in their communities without the fear of crime.
 - adapt to change through life long learning.
 - have equal opportunities for long and healthy lives.
 - are able to secure accommodation that meets their housing needs.
 - are generally satisfied with the public services they receive.
- A strong (Leicester and Leicestershire) economy that plays to its strengths including its location, culture, specialist products and services, tourism and environment, and has;
 - developed successful business clusters and attracted new business to the sub region.
 - developed and attracted higher levels of skills that match business requirements.
 - maintained high employment levels.
 - adequate employment land to meet future demands of the economy.
 - seen Loughborough achieve its full potential as a major economic and cultural centre in the heart of the 3 cities sub region.
 - ensured that transport interchanges including East Midlands Airport, Leicester, Loughborough and Midlands Parkway stations and M1 Junction 21 are linked to business growth.
 - entrepreneurial businesses in rural areas trading in strong local supply chains and networks and supported by high quality Information Technology (IT).
 - enough to offer to persuade many graduates from our Universities to stay in Leicestershire.
 - quality tourism attractions which encourage overnight stays and visits to Leicestershire as a holiday and leisure destination.
- Its attractiveness as a place to live and work because;
 - of its accessible countryside where food production and environmental quality are balanced, ensuring

- parks, waterways and rights of way are well-used for leisure and exercise.
 - farms are diverse, profitable and well-run.
 - tree cover is increased, particularly in the National Forest and in the countryside around Leicester.
 - habitats are protected and new habitats retain and encourage bio-diversity.
 - A recognition of the contribution that the historic environment makes to landscapes and townscape character.
 - o its main attractions - like the National Forest, Conkers, Foxtan Locks, Bosworth Battlefield and Snibston - are managed as centres for understanding Leicestershire's heritage and culture.
 - o its National Forest is fully planted and supports leisure, tourism and local employment.
 - o steps have been taken to protect places along the M1 corridor from noise or other pollution.
 - o town and village centres, urban parks and streets are places where people of all ages can enjoy a high quality environment free from traffic, litter, dirt, anti-social behaviour and unnecessary traffic.
 - o there are excellent transportation networks which make getting about easy.
 - o vibrant and sustainable rural communities where people can both live and work.
 - o there is good access to sport and recreational facilities and opportunities.
- Making a full contribution to a sustainable future for the world because;
 - o waste generated and landfilled is minimised, most waste is recycled and some waste provides renewable energy.
 - o people use their cars less because there are attractive opportunities to use foot, cycling and public transport for most journeys, including park and ride facilities ringing Leicester.
 - o buildings and new development achieve the highest environmental standards.
 - o carbon emissions have been reduced.
 - o the implications of climate change have been fully investigated. Measures have been taken to mitigate the impacts and the area is adapting to the changes and making the most of the opportunities.
- High quality, responsive, efficient and accessible public services;
 - o which are accessible to all, personalised and offer choice and control to customers.
 - o where the quality and cost balance is one that most local people support.
 - o where the service is more important than the agency or agencies that provide it.
 - o where a range of health provision is available, mostly in locally delivered community services and facilities.
 - o where schooling is second to none, which reduces levels of crime and tackles problems caused by alcohol and drugs.
 - o which provide the infrastructure needed to support new development.

Principles

The members of the partnership have agreed a set of principles to guide our work. These principles are Partnership, Equality, Quality of Life, Community Involvement and Participation, Sustainability, Quality and Accountability. For definitions of these principles, please see www.leicestershiretogether.org.

ABOUT THIS DRAFT SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY - AND HOW IT FITS WITH OUR SECOND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

This Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) outlines the things that local people see as a priority and our Local Area Agreement sets out how we will tackle the most important of these issues. Together they form the basis of the new Leicestershire Performance Framework (see page xx).

The first Leicestershire Community Strategy was produced in 2003 and reviewed in 2005. It was based around local priorities “The people of Leicestershire want...” and what, together, partners would do to tackle these priorities. The section on page 12 highlights some of our achievements since 2003.

Our first Local Area Agreement was signed in March 2006. It set targets, agreed between Leicestershire Together and the Government, for improvement. A number of these are universal - applying to everyone and everywhere in the County, but it also included a new focus on 19 priority neighbourhoods - small areas with above average problems (see page xx) - and vulnerable people.

This new Sustainable Community Strategy builds upon these two documents and outlines the priorities for Leicestershire in the form of outcomes that we want to work together to achieve by 2013. The headline or top level outcomes are, in most cases, supported by sub-outcomes which break the issue down into a greater level of detail. Delivering each of the sub-outcomes will help us to achieve the overall headline outcome.

These outcomes focus on people, themes and places and have been developed through the lead theme and cross-cutting partnerships (including the District-based Local Strategic Partnerships). They are based on two evidence base reports - ‘This is Leicestershire’ and ‘Places in Leicestershire’. These are important documents which outline the key issues for Leicestershire, including the findings from consultations and what makes people in Leicestershire happy.

Our second Local Area Agreement focuses on a set of priority outcomes from the SCS that have also been subject to a negotiation with central government - the things that it is most important that we tackle over the next three years. The priority outcomes have been selected for a number of reasons - because we need to improve our performance in this area, because we want to maintain already high levels of performance, because it is a cross-cutting issues that tackles a number of priorities or because it an emerging issue that we can only tackle effectively in partnership.

Progress against each of the outcomes in the second LAA will be measured through a set of up to 35 indicators (plus a further 16 relating to children and young people) drawn from the national indicator set (NIS). Where we do not think the NIS includes relevant indicators which will allow us to measure performance effectively, we will also include local indicators to address gaps in the national indicator set and/or focus on issues which are important to us but not so important to central government. These will not be reported to Government, but progress against our local indicators will be assessed regularly by Leicestershire Together.

We will measure progress against the other outcomes in the SCS (the ones not included in LAA2) through a wider performance and delivery framework. The intention is to work with existing strategies and delivery plans rather than set up a new planning structure.

Progress against the non-LAA indicators will be reported to the Strategic Senior Officer Group and the Leicestershire Together Board.

The SCS will be reviewed annually and a full mid-Strategy review will take place in late 2010 - this should fit with the timescale for developing our next (third) LAA, assuming that national policy does not change and the three year LAA cycle is retained.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

A Sustainable Community Strategy should explain how the often competing priorities for economic, social and environmental issues are reconciled within Leicestershire (Figure 1- DEFRA (2005) Inspiring a Sustainable Local Future p44). This means, for example, encouraging investment to help development of the economy or developing community facilities to give people better access to leisure and other social opportunities. It also means ensuring that any investment and development isn't at the expense of the environment in the long term.

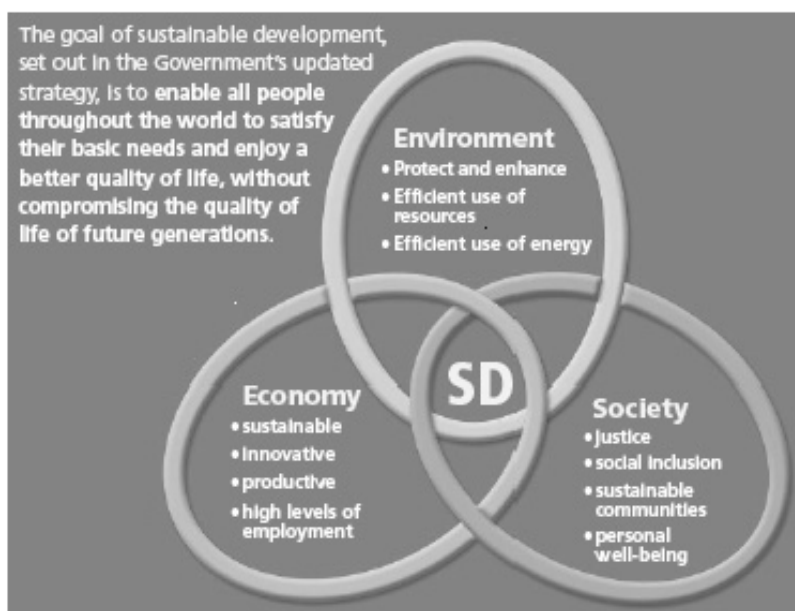


Figure 1- DEFRA (2005) Inspiring a Sustainable Local Future p44

To ensure the right balance for Sustainable Development to be achieved, a Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken on the outcomes contained in the final draft SCS (see page xx of the Appendices)

Sustainability considerations will be integral to the development of delivery plans for all outcomes within the SCS, although the Sustainability Appraisal has highlighted a number of outcomes within the SCS where economic, social and environmental considerations will need careful consideration in the development of delivery plans. These outcomes have been highlighted within each chapter with a (S) symbol.

As the key delivery plan for the SCS, the LAA2 will be subject to a more comprehensive Sustainability Appraisal. Sustainability considerations will be revisited when the SCS and LAA2 are reviewed.

LEICESTERSHIRE IN CONTEXT

Leicestershire is not an island cut off from surrounding areas. Nor is Leicester a self-contained enclave encircled by the County. People who live in the County work and play in surrounding areas and vice versa. There is a constant process of people (and businesses) moving in and out. At any one time there will be many people in the County who neither live nor work here, but are visitors or people travelling through. Large quantities of goods are also transported from, to and across our area. Some developments and investments in adjoining areas will bring benefits to Leicestershire residents and businesses; others will pose challenges.

There exists, therefore, a complex set of socio-economic, environmental and demographic inter-relationships between Leicestershire, the City of Leicester, other parts of the East Midlands and adjoining regions. Not least through the freight and passenger facilities at East Midlands Airport in the north of the County, these relationships are becoming increasingly international.

This means that effective solutions to issues such as transport, housing, the economy, climate change and sustainable living are not likely to be found solely by taking action at a County or sub-county level. We will need to work with our neighbouring local authorities, including the City Council and Leicester Partnership (the LSP for the City), and other agencies with sub-regional, regional and national roles to find the best answers to the challenges facing us.

On some issues Leicestershire can play its part in addressing global issues, such as climate change. On others we will be contributing to national agendas, including the need for more housing and improved skills. We will need to continue to influence international and national agencies where appropriate and also maximise access to the funding they can make available to us.

The same applies at a regional level where the successful implementation of regional strategies, such as the Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Plan, will both influence and rely on the achievement of successful outcomes in Leicestershire. If Leicestershire prospers this will be good for the region. But it is also true that our own prosperity will depend on how the region as a whole fares.

It is being increasingly recognised that Leicestershire forms part of a wider area within the East Midlands which shares common opportunities and faces similar challenges. Agencies across the Three Cities and Three Counties sub-region (including Leicester, Derby and southern Derbyshire, and Nottingham and southern Nottinghamshire) are already collaborating on strategic land-use planning, housing, transport and green infrastructure and have secured Government funding (New Growth Point) through this joint working.

More locally, the boundary of Leicester and Leicestershire as a sub-region provides a reasonably good match for real economic, labour market, travel to work, shopping catchment and housing market areas. This is reflected in enhanced joint working and it has recently been agreed that the economic, housing, transport and strategic green infrastructure aspects of the Leicester and Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategies will be complementary and some elements, particularly those relating to the economy, will be included in a Multi Area Agreement covering the City and County which will consolidate our collaboration on these issues.

THE LOCAL CONTEXT

This Strategy sits on top of other, more detailed, strategic frameworks covering the full range of themes. So, for example, for issues affecting Children and Young People there is a Children and Young People's Plan for Leicestershire which goes into more detail on those issues. The Strategy should set specific themes within a wider context and add value by ensuring that cross-cutting issues are integrated appropriately across all themes. It should also help to ensure that the LAA is a driver for more co-ordinated delivery in places. Each theme chapter includes information on the main strategic documents where the reader can find more detail on that theme.

The LAA as a delivery framework must have clear links to the Local Development Frameworks (LDF) that are produced by District Councils. This is because LDFs are the spatial delivery frameworks for places in Leicestershire. They will show how it is proposed that land use over the next 20 years will change to meet, amongst other things, housing needs and the requirements of the economy. LDFs are also, therefore, a key channel for delivering the spatial aspirations of the Community Strategies produced at both County and District levels.

OUR PRIORITIES FOR 2003 - 2008: HOW DID WE DO?

The current Leicestershire Community Strategy has been in place since 2003. The strategy contains a large number of actions around three themes:

- Leicestershire - A County to be proud of
- Leicestershire - Where there are Quality Services for all, and
- Young People - Leicestershire's Future

Progress on the Strategy has been monitored on an annual basis, and reported to the Leicestershire Together Board. A performance review of the full Strategy is underway, which will be completed ahead of the new Sustainable Community Strategy being published.

What did the Strategy achieve?

Outcomes

- The LSR Online (Leicestershire Statistics & Research) website. <http://lsr-online.org> was launched in 2004 - offering statistical information on communities in Leicestershire, including economic data, education, deprivation, census, crime and health. LSR Online is widely used by organisations from all sectors across the County, including as a source of information to support funding bids.
- 11,452 new childcare places were created in Leicestershire.
- 2 Citizens Juries have been held to gain community views on service delivery in the County - the first jury involved disabled people and the second people from Black and Minority Ethnic groups.
- 'The Jitty' www.thejitty.co.uk is a very successful website designed and managed by young people for young people across Leicestershire. It provides a range of information and advice and signposts young people to events, opportunities and sources of support.
- Recycling and composting sites/facilities have improved considerably; a total of 111,160 tonnes of waste was recycled in 2006.
- Car crime has reduced by 20% in Leicestershire in 2005/06.

- A web based funding toolkit has been developed to offer better information, advice and guidance on funding opportunities for community groups in Leicestershire. www.fundingtoolkit.org has helped a number of local groups to access funding from local, regional and national sources.
- We have supported more than 50 Parish Plans and other consultation exercises and helped community groups to tackle the priorities identified.
- Access to the countryside has been increased by improving the Rights of Way network, making it easier to identify and use Rights of Way in the County.
- Access to and quality of libraries has increased, with extended opening hours including weekends.
- A County Youth Council (CYCLe) has been established and meets regularly. CYCLe has contributed to the Children and Young Persons planning process and is actively engaged in designing and delivering services.
- We worked with the Valuing People team to carry out an audit of community facilities (available on www.leicestershiretogether.org). This provides information on over 500 venues across the county, including rooms available to hire, opening hours, accessibility and contact details.

What are we still working towards?

- **Crime and Community safety** - A collection of actions around mapping and targeting specific types of crime, tackling the increase in violent crime and reducing the fear of crime have progressed. These are now included as indicators within the Safer Communities theme of the LAA.
- **Disabled access to County Council buildings** - we are slightly behind our target to ensure that 90% of County Council buildings open to the public have disabled access by 2010. This is partly due to the number of buildings added to the list of public buildings; however we still progressed this year by achieving a 5% increase. Our slightly revised milestones to achieve the 90% target in 2010 now stand at: 82% by 2007/08, 86% by 2008/09 and 90% by 2010.

A review of the full Community Strategy 2003 - 2008 will be published on the Leicestershire Together website www.leicestershiretogether.org, following the publication of the new Sustainable Community Strategy.

THE LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA) - HOW ARE WE DOING?

As outlined in the previous section, our Local Area Agreement is an agreement between Leicestershire (through Leicestershire Together, and Leicestershire County Council as the accountable body) and the Government (through the Government Office) on priorities for the area and targets for improvement.

The process of negotiating and agreeing the LAA and the first 18 months of delivery have already resulted in improved outcomes for Leicestershire.

Outcomes

Some examples of improved outcomes between 2006 and 2007 include:

- the number of first time entrants into the Criminal Justice System reduced by 7.8%, against a target reduction of 2%.
- the percentage waste recycled at Civic Amenity sites has increased to 47% from a 40% baseline.

- there was a 14.7% increase in take up of youth service activities by vulnerable groups (the target for 2006-07 was 5%).

Partnership

In terms of partnership, the Leicestershire Together structure has been revised following a peer review in March 2006 which has led to more effective partnership arrangements and a stronger focus on new/priority issues and a clarification of the relationship between, and role of, partnership organisations and their constituent members.

At a theme level, a Health Partnership and Economic Strategy group has been developed. These bodies bring together key delivery agencies to consider how evidence on what will improve outcomes for people in Leicestershire is translated into the delivery of effective interventions.

At the delivery level, practical partnership collaboration is evident throughout the LAA. For example, to improve support to people thinking of going into business, the LAA has business support partners to identify and address support needs within the County and develop a more effective referral system. Another example is the Stronger Communities theme initiative where a Rural Housing Enabling Officer is employed in partnership with Leicestershire Rural Housing Association to increase the availability of affordable housing in rural areas. A third project uses a successful multi-agency approach to increase levels of physical activity amongst the hardest to reach groups through Active Together.

New Policy Focus

The LAA introduced a number of relatively new outcome areas which required further work to measure outcomes and specify delivery. So for example youth crime prevention and anti-social behavior were already priorities prior to the LAA, but including them within it has added emphasis and accelerated progress. The Healthier Communities theme has included an outcome aimed at achieving better health by focusing on access to food and promoting healthy eating. Similarly, within the Cleaner Greener theme, a local outcome is to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide - CO₂ - emitted by public buildings.

The specific emphasis in the Stronger Communities theme on carrying out a social capital survey (see glossary) has been a significant achievement. Within 20 neighbourhoods LAA partners have, working with local volunteers, measured the principle factors contributing to social capital which will enable clear measurement over time of changes in levels of social capital.

This is a flavour of the achievements of the first LAA. These developments and many others will feed into consideration of the new framework.

THE EVIDENCE BASES

As part of the process of developing the Sustainable Community Strategy for Leicestershire and the next Local Area Agreement (LAA), the Research and Information Team at Leicestershire County Council were asked to summarise existing evidence about what it is like to live in Leicestershire. The outcome of this was the production of a report titled 'This is Leicestershire - An Evidence Base'.

This report, which focuses on people and themes, draws upon detailed national and local research to highlight the issues that the Strategy and LAA should include. The report is structured around ten themes, looking at how Leicestershire has changed in recent years, what it is like now and what it will be like in the near future. Using information from a number of recent surveys, there are two sections looking at what people in Leicestershire say they want, and what issues are important in making people happy.

The introduction to each theme chapter of the Sustainable Community Strategy is a summary of the evidence for that theme in the 'This is Leicestershire' evidence base.

The 'This is Leicestershire' report is complemented by the 'Places in Leicestershire' reports (*Appendix X*) which focus on the main towns, priority neighbourhoods, rural centres and rural areas in each of the 27 Community Forum areas in the County. The report was produced on behalf of the Policy Team at Leicestershire County Council and uses information from sources including the Indices of Deprivation 2004, Town and Village Centres Survey, Parish Plans, Leicestershire Rural Partnership Access to Services Report, Leicestershire Social Capital Survey and input from District and Borough Councils and District-based Local Strategic Partnerships.

The 'Places in Leicestershire' evidence base is a good starting point but needs further work to make it more robust. Over the next few months we will be adding further data and information, and agreeing priorities with each of the 27 Community Forums.

Throughout the lifetime of the Sustainable Community Strategy, there is a commitment to regularly review and update the evidence base reports so that we continue to have the most current and complete picture of what it is like to live in Leicestershire.

'THIS IS LEICESTERSHIRE' - SUMMARY OF ISSUES FROM THE EVIDENCE BASE

Location

Leicestershire is in the heart of England and has been described as being on the north/south divide, at the outer limits of the area prospering from the effects of the economy of London and the South East. Leicestershire encompasses eighteen diverse landscape character areas - including The Wolds, Charnwood Forest, High Leicestershire, and the Soar Valley.

Leicestershire is a rural County with over 300 settlements with a population of fewer than 10,000. The majority of these are very small, with nearly half having a population of under 250. Agriculture is the main land use accounting for 80% of the land area.

Economy and labour market

The Leicestershire economy has a strong manufacturing heritage but, in terms of the number of jobs, manufacturing has declined since the mid-1960's with the strong emergence of a service sector based economy over the last few decades. Today, after a major shift in the structure of the local economy, more than three quarters of all jobs in Leicestershire are in the service sector with just less than one fifth in manufacturing. In future the fastest growing sectors are predicted to be communications, business services, health, other services and hotels and catering.

Unemployment is low. Claimant rates have fallen steadily from a high in 1993 to a low in 2004. Since 2004 the rate has increased slightly, mirroring the national trend, but unemployment in Leicestershire is still low and lower than the average for both the region and the UK.

Population

Leicestershire's 2006 mid-year population stood at 635,100 which placed it seventeenth largest of England's thirty four Shire counties. There has been some natural increase in population due to the difference in births and deaths, but most of the population increase has been due to migration, both from other areas of the UK, and from overseas. Based on past trends, it is projected that by 2029 the population of Leicestershire will have increased by around 14.5 per cent to 714,400 (2004-based projections, Office of National Statistics). Increases in life expectancy together with a declining birth rate has led to an ageing population, with the population in Leicestershire ageing at a rate that is faster than that regionally or nationally.

Along with natural change the effect of these migration changes has been a broadening of the diversity of Leicestershire, with the non-White 'British' population now approximately 9 per cent, lower than the regional and national figure. Four groups make up over two thirds of the county's non-White 'British' population (in order of size): Indian, Other White, White Irish and Chinese.

Deprivation

The Indices of Multiple Deprivation 2004 showed that overall deprivation in Leicestershire is low, ranked the 136th most deprived local authority area out of 149 in England. With the exception of Rutland, Leicestershire is the least deprived local authority area in the East Midlands. Nevertheless, there are pockets of deprivation.

Health

The health of the local population is now better than ever. Overall, the decline in the incidence of infectious diseases has coincided with an upsurge in the importance of the so-called 'chronic diseases' and diseases associated with 'lifestyle'. Obesity is now considered the number one public health challenge facing the nation with the health service now beginning to see cases in children of the type of diabetes linked to obesity that was once restricted to middle age and beyond. Only 12% of the population are taking the recommended five 30 minute sessions of exercise per week.

The demographic shift towards an older population will have a significant impact on the health and health needs of the population as diseases such as coronary heart disease, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, stroke and dementia are all more prevalent in the older populations.

Crime

In 2006/07 the crime rate in Leicestershire was 44 per 1,000 people, compared to 63 in the East Midlands and 61 for England and Wales. So compared to the region and England and Wales, Leicestershire is a relatively safe place to live. However it is important to remember that around 60 per cent of crimes are not reported to the Police.

The total number of recorded offences has remained stable over the last few five years at around 44,000 offences, although for the last year of data, recorded crime had increased slightly by 3 per cent. The biggest year-on-year increases have been in burglary dwelling and damage to a motor vehicle.

Educational attainment

For educational attainment at Key Stage 1, children aged 7 in Leicestershire achieved results in reading, writing, and maths which were above the national average and in recent years local results are above the County's 'Statistical Neighbours'. At Key Stage 2, the proportion of 11 year olds in the County achieving level 4+ in English remains well above the average for both national and statistical neighbours. At Key Stage 3, Leicestershire's results are outstanding and at Key Stage 4 the proportion of 15 year olds achieving 5+ A* - C at GCSE or equivalent (including English and Maths) is now above the national average - however progress from Key Stage 3 requires improvement.

Community cohesion

The evidence of community cohesion in Leicestershire shows that locally, as is the case nationally, the picture is a positive one where overall perceptions of cohesion are good. The majority of those surveyed as part of the social capital survey in 2006 think their area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on and that their neighbourhood was a good or very good place to live. Participation was much higher for informal volunteering than for formal volunteering, but nevertheless there was a more positive picture of community cohesion in some areas of the County than others. For more information, please visit:

www.lsr-online.org/reports/cohesive_communities_in_leices.

Housing

It is apparent that the current supply of houses is not enough to keep up with changing demographic trends, such as an ageing population and the increase of single person households and smaller family sizes.

The change in housing market ratios between 1997 and 2006 illustrates the extent to which the affordability of housing has decreased. The relationship between house prices and average earnings has more than doubled across the County, as well as the region and country. The average house price has gone from being just over three times the average annual salary in 1997, to over seven times across Leicestershire. The lack of affordability is particularly noticeable in Harborough district, with the average house costing almost nine times the average salary.

Resident satisfaction with the area

When asked, 67% of people in Leicestershire said they were satisfied with their area as a place to live. To put this figure in context, this is below the average level of satisfaction for all single tier and county authorities (which is 71%) and considerably below the average for all County Councils (which is 78%).

Individuals' satisfaction with their area as a place to live is a complex issue that can be influenced by a range of factors. Levels of satisfaction differ by key demographics, for example older people aged over 60 are more satisfied with their area than younger people aged 18-29. Also, those people that have been living in their area for less than 20 years and in particular those people that have been in their area for 5 years or less, are much more satisfied than those people who have been in the area for over 21 years.

Environment

We need to conserve and enhance the local historic natural and built environment for the well-being and enjoyment of Leicestershire people and the economic prosperity that it brings. The thread that runs through this theme is the need to create well managed, high quality, working rural landscapes and urban environments for the mutual benefit of both people and wildlife.

Finally, one of the greatest influences on the Leicestershire environment will be climate change. There is overwhelming scientific evidence that the changes to our climate are as a direct result of human activity. This activity is causing the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, trapping energy from the sun and causing our climate to change. The effects of climate change will impact on every aspect of the way we live, not just on the environment. Please see the section on Climate Change under Cross Cutting themes for further information.

LEICESTERSHIRE PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

The Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) provides the basis of a new Leicestershire Performance Framework, which sets out the priorities for Leicestershire's people and places over the next five years.

This framework, and the way in which the high level outcomes from the SCS are arranged within it, represents the cross cutting nature of our work and the inter-relationships that exist between different themes.

Our first Local Area Agreement is structured around seven themes - Safer Communities, Stronger Communities, Cleaner and Greener, Children and Young People, Economic Development and Enterprise, Older People and Healthier Communities. Although these themes remain key for Leicestershire Together, a number of issues have emerged that are either 'enablers' in that they help us to deliver the main themes (for example getting more people involved in sport will benefit older and younger people, help to develop strong communities and improve health) or relate to specific target groups or areas. These additional themes link into many, if not all of the key themes listed above.

Our performance framework therefore represents both theme and cross cutting priorities, grouped under seven new, high-level and cross-cutting themes.

Page xx of the Appendices identifies the links between each of the 49 high level outcomes in the SCS, against all other theme and place based outcomes and sub-outcomes in the Strategy (these links are also shown underneath the each outcomes in the seven 'place' chapters). The LAA2 delivery plans will show how partnerships will work together to deliver shared outcomes.

ADD COPY OF PERFORMANCE FRAMEWORK

VULNERABLE PEOPLE

The current LAA includes a number of targets that apply to everyone and everywhere in the County, but it also introduced a new focus on vulnerable people, for example children leaving care, people with mental health problems and older people with support needs. This is a theme that cuts across each and every one of the other themes in the Strategy and is key to tackling its priorities and achieving the targets in the LAA.

There are already a number of partnerships, for example Supporting People and Valuing People, who are working to support vulnerable people in the County.

There are likely to be higher concentrations of vulnerable people within the priority neighbourhoods in the County (see page 58) and therefore enhancing individual life chances is intrinsically linked to what we do to ensure that people are not disadvantaged by where they live.

The term vulnerable people means different things to different people but the suggested list of priority groups for Leicestershire Together, based on the Supporting People Strategy, is as follows:

Priority A:

- Younger people: including those Leaving Care, at Risk (including at Risk of Offending or Re-Offending), Teenage Parents, with Drug Problems, Single Homeless People with Support Needs and with Mental Health Problems.
- Offenders and Offenders with Mental Disorders.
- Older People with Support Needs/Frail Elderly/Older People with Mental Health Problems/Dementia.
- People with Learning Disabilities.

Priority B:

- Homeless Families.
- Remaining People with Mental Health Problems.

Priority C:

- People with HIV/AIDS.
- People at Risk of Domestic Violence

Other client groups covered in the Supporting People Strategy are people with physical and sensory disabilities, refugees, travellers, rough sleepers, older single homeless and people with drugs problems not covered by the younger persons group. There is also reference to people with a generic range of needs which cover several categories. All of these areas, plus new arrival/migrant communities, have been prioritised for further work.

The Government has introduced a new PSA target around vulnerable people - 'increasing the proportion of socially excluded adults in settled accommodation and in employment, education and training', where the target groups are care leavers, adult offenders under probation supervision, adults in contact with secondary mental health services and adults with moderate to severe learning disabilities.

Leicestershire Together wants to adopt a person centred approach, a single collective view across all agencies of the needs of our target groups, an understanding of the key trigger points in people's lives and joined up interventions.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The Supporting People programme offers vulnerable people the opportunity to improve their quality of life by providing a stable environment which enables greater independence. Local authorities and their partners plan, commission and provide quality housing related support services, which help vulnerable people to live independently in the community. Enhanced advice on debt, benefits and housing can also help to achieve independent living. The Supporting People 5-Year Strategy (2005 - 2010) was agreed and submitted to the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister on 31st March 2005.

http://www.leics.gov.uk/index/social_services/general_information/supporting_people.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 1.1: Improved life chances for vulnerable individuals and families (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.1.1 Improved access to services by new arrival and black and minority ethnic communities
- 1.1.2 More vulnerable people supported to achieve and sustain independent living
- 1.1.3 Improved access to housing and housing related support
- 1.1.4 More people (including children, young adults and their families) with a long-term illness or disability supported to be independent and in control of their condition
- 1.1.5 Older and disabled adults are protected from violence and abuse

Page xx of the Appendices shows the links between the priorities within this chapter and other relevant people, theme and cross-cutting priorities.

The links between the priorities in this chapter and specific 'place' priorities can be seen in the seven 'Places in ...' chapters, as well as **pages xx-xx of the Appendices**

VULNERABLE PLACES/PRIORITY NEIGHBOURHOODS

People in Leicestershire generally enjoy a good quality of life. The County does not experience the levels of deprivation experienced in some parts of the Country. Nevertheless, there are areas where people individually and collectively are more likely to have reduced life chances, poorer health, be unemployed or in low skilled jobs, live in low income households and experience higher levels of crime and poor living environments.

The current Local Area Agreement (2006-09) identified 19 priority neighbourhoods - areas which perform significantly worse than other parts of the County across a basket of deprivation indicators. These are parts of:

Ashby
Bagworth
Burbage St Catharine's
Castle Donington
Charnwood South
Coalville, Thringstone and Whitwick
Earl Shilton and Barwell
Enderby
Greenhill
Hinckley
Ibstock
Loughborough East
Loughborough West
Market Harborough
Measham
Melton Mowbray
Moir
Mountsorrel
Wigston and South Wigston

The business case for tackling underperformance in these areas is strong. Effective joined up interventions can bring about very significant savings to the public purse as well as real improvements to the lives of those who live and work in these areas. The savings can be many more times the investment needed to bring them about, freeing up resources to spend on other priorities. A partnership approach is crucial to ensure co-ordinated action and avoid unnecessary duplication and unintended consequences of single agency intervention. It is also necessary as the savings generated by effective interventions will not always accrue to the agency making the initial investment.

Neighbourhood management initiatives in the priority neighbourhoods have been co-ordinated by District-based Local Strategic Partnerships. Models vary across the County depending on capacity and existing structures, but the approach adopted in most areas is based on having a *neighbourhood manager*, a *neighbourhood action team* ((NAT) made up of people working on the ground in the area) and a *neighbourhood forum* (made up of local representatives) to oversee the work of the NAT. Neighbourhood profiles have been produced for each of the priority neighbourhoods, providing an evidence base to guide interventions and identifying the specific areas of need within each neighbourhood.

Work in the priority neighbourhoods is all about understanding need in that specific area and adopting a joined up, action-focused approach to tackling this need. It relies on

agencies working together, sharing information/intelligence and working smarter in a sustained way to tackle deep-rooted problems.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The development of neighbourhood management arrangements in Leicestershire has been informed by advice from IMPOWER who were commissioned to suggest appropriate models of neighbourhood management. The IMPOWER report has been taken into account by local partners establishing arrangements in the 19 priority neighbourhoods. For more information about neighbourhood management in Leicestershire and contact details, visit http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/index/neighbourhood_management.htm

PRIORITY OUTCOMES

OUTCOME 1.2: Improved quality of life for people living in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods (at a faster rate than the County generally) (S)

Over the next few months, and before the final draft of this Sustainable Community Strategy is published, we will develop a set of shared sub-outcomes for all priority neighbourhoods in Leicestershire.

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ACCESS TO SERVICES

There is a range of evidence that suggests that there are barriers which prevent some people from accessing services which are important to their quality of life. 'This is Leicestershire' identifies barriers to accessing services for a wide range of people, for example: older people, offenders, rural communities, new arrival communities and those with a mental illness.

The main factors affecting access to services are:

- Mobility - people may not own or be able to access appropriate transport to help them travel to services, and/or their physical mobility may prohibit/limit access
- Location - people may live a long way away from their nearest services geographically, services may not be physically available in their neighbourhood and/or have been withdrawn e.g. post office, bank and shop closures in rural and deprived areas.
- Access to Information and Advice - there may be a lack of understanding/ awareness about service provision, rights and entitlements among some members of the public, including about where they can go to for information and advice. Lack of access to the Internet (a growth channel in terms of service delivery) or the skills to use the Internet to access information or identify sources of advice and support can also be a significant barrier
- Complex/Multiple needs - people may present with numerous and/or complex needs to an agency/organisation that is only designed for addressing some of those needs. This can result in 'failure demand' - people moving from one service to another without being able to resolve all of their issues.
- Equalities - there are specific access barriers facing certain communities. For example: new arrival communities (who may have urgent needs around access to basic services such as health and education), older people who proportionately have less access to computers and their own transport, people with English as an additional language, people with learning disabilities, people with mental health issues and disabled people (who may not be able to use certain types of media, for example the telephone or computer).
- Income - lack of income can be an additional barrier, for example people may not be able to afford public transport or to pay for sessions on the internet that would reduce their social isolation

It is proposed to include specific 'Access to Services' outcomes within this Strategy to build on existing developments and, through the LAA support further improvements to address the access issues highlighted above.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The current LAA and related mainstream services include a range of interventions designed to improve access to services such as the Older People's Handbook, Children's Centres and Extended Schools Services, Access Centres and the Local Transport Plan Accessibility Strategy. There are also drivers from the E-government agenda which promotes the use of technology to support service delivery. Developing a new

Sustainable Community Strategy and LAA framework provides an opportunity to ensure that the links are made between initiatives designed to improve access to services.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES

OUTCOME 7.1: Access to facilities and services is enhanced across the County (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 7.1.1 Improved access to employment, education, housing, sport, leisure, recreation and culture, health and social care, community facilities and food shopping, specifically for vulnerable individuals/groups/communities for whom access is a particular challenge (including through enhanced use of the internet to access services)
- 7.1.2 Increased coverage by community transport schemes
- 7.1.3 Improved information provision, referrals between services, and service co-ordination in places in Leicestershire
- 7.1.4 Improvements to market town centres, shopping centres and rural centres to enable more effective access to services

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Map of rural/urban at the start of this section

RURAL

Leicestershire is a rural County - 32% of the population live in its hamlets, villages and rural centres. Rural Leicestershire is diverse in terms of its landscape, its economy and the people that live within it. We must ensure that rural communities are sustainable and therefore need to work better together to plan and deliver services in rural areas in order to achieve this.

Living in rural areas brings with it access to open spaces and a sense of community. Its attractiveness is evident in the net migration from those living in urban areas to our rural communities. However, living and working in rural areas also brings unique issues and challenges:

Accessing Services relies on the availability of public and community transport, access to education, learning and work opportunities, shopping and health facilities, affordable housing and community facilities. Rural isolation can be a particular challenge for young people and older people.

Sense of community often centres on village facilities and activities and is reliant on everyone, including new communities, being empowered and getting involved. People are key to rural communities and everyone must feel that they are able to contribute and participate if they wish to do so.

A strong rural economy is essential to the sustainability of rural areas in terms of income, wealth generation and employment as well as the environmental benefits of minimising travel to work distances and traffic congestion.

Surrounding landscapes are a key resource, whether this is the National and Charnwood forests in the north-west or the rolling agricultural landscape of the east, and our landbased industries play a significant role in managing these landscapes. These areas include significant habitats in terms of biodiversity and bring with them tourism, as well as broader recreational and environmental benefits.

Include a map of landscape character areas

In Leicestershire, partners work together through the Leicestershire Rural Partnership to tackle key priorities, including:

- Developing social capital and empowering local people to play a role in the development, support and activities of their rural communities, including through volunteering.
- Providing affordable homes so that young people and families can afford to continue living in their home communities.
- Supporting business start-up, growth, retention and diversification in rural areas (particularly in sectors important to the rural economy such as micro-enterprise, woodland economy, land based sector, food and drink, creative industries, knowledge based businesses and tourism).

- Increasing accessibility of community resources, education, learning, work, healthcare, cultural provision and leisure by retaining and enhancing facilities and services whilst improving rural public transport.
- Improving the quality of market town and rural centre environments (see page XX for a definition) as well as the surrounding rural landscapes.
- Increasing the quality, quantity and management of green infrastructure, whilst retaining local distinctiveness and improving the strategic connections between these areas and encouraging their use by local people.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The third Leicestershire Rural Strategy, which will provide a strategic framework for the work of the Leicestershire Rural Partnership (LRP) for the next seven years, was published in June 2007. The new Strategy reflects the fact that the policy context within which we operate has changed considerably, for example with the advent of Local Area Agreements, the creation of the Commission for Rural Communities and Natural England and the development of the Regional Rural Action Plan. For more information about the work of the LRP, please visit www.oakleaves.org.uk.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES

Outcome 7.2: High quality and accessible services and facilities in rural areas (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 7.2.1 Better co-ordinated and integrated service planning and delivery in rural areas
- 7.2.2 Increased coverage of tailored rural transport, including community transport schemes
- 7.2.3 Increased business start-up, growth and diversification in rural areas
- 7.2.4 Increased number of affordable homes for local people in rural areas
- 7.2.5 Reduced isolation of older, disabled and young people living in rural areas
- 7.2.6 Broader access to visitor sites and the wider countryside

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VOLUNTEERING

Volunteers make a fundamental contribution to society and the new Investors in Volunteering scheme sets a new standard in terms of the quality of volunteering. Volunteering is a key element to building community spirit and cohesion and has wide benefits for both the individuals involved and local organisations and businesses, including the following:

- Volunteering helps older people to stay active, make new friends and learn new skills (Wheelock 2006).
- Volunteering benefits young people, engaging them in their community and teaching them invaluable skills.
- People with disabilities and disadvantaged groups benefit both from volunteering and by being supported by volunteers.
- Volunteering in sport can create huge health benefits, by getting people actively involved in sporting activities.
- Local people can contribute to Safer Communities through formal and informal volunteering. These activities can include road safety groups, Neighbourhood Watch schemes and activities to engage young people, which can help to reduce crime and the fear of crime, as well as anti-social behaviour.
- Community Transport schemes run by volunteer drivers give people access to shops, medical facilities and social activities.
- Many environmental projects and benefits have been delivered by volunteers.
- Volunteering can help people to learn new skills and use these skills to progress (back) into employment or training.
- Volunteering can generate huge benefits in terms of health and well-being.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Nationally, Volunteering England has produced a strategy called "Strategy for Volunteering Infrastructure 2004-2014", which can be found at <http://www.volunteering.org.uk/Resources/publications/strategyforvolunteeringinfrastructure20042014.htm> in consultation with the voluntary and community sector. It outlines a ten-year vision and strategy for the volunteering infrastructure in England together with proposals for the new core functions that the infrastructure should perform locally, regionally and nationally.

In Leicestershire the network of Volunteer Centres, most based with Voluntary Action Centres, seek to implement this, but at present face an uncertain future with the infrastructure changes in 2009-10 in Leicestershire. However building on the work in the first LAA they will seek to identify volunteering opportunities across all the themes of the SCS and ensure high standards of recruitment and support for volunteers and volunteer-involving organisations. (see

<http://www.volunteeringleicestershire.org.uk/> for further information)

Life in Leicestershire is better because of all the hours of volunteering which are provided every day in every place. Volunteers assist in building social capital within and between communities, are active citizens and therefore stakeholders in local communities, and enhance the rich tapestry of people who are building sustainable communities.

OUTCOME 2.7: Well-supported volunteering opportunities are provided within and by the community (S)

Sub Outcomes

- 2.7.1 More older people are engaged in volunteering activities that maintain an active lifestyle, and enable them to use their experience and give back to society
- 2.7.2 More young people are engaged in volunteering that contributes to society, develops skills and opens up employment opportunities
- 2.7.3 More people with mental health issues, learning difficulties and disabilities have opportunities for supported volunteering and there are more volunteers to support these individuals
- 2.7.4 More employers offer work taster/volunteering programmes for staff
- 2.7.5 More people volunteer in the Criminal Justice System
- 2.7.6 There are a diverse range of new and existing, formal and informal, quality volunteering opportunities in the statutory and voluntary sectors
- 2.7.7 More people are aware of the benefits offered by volunteering
- 2.7.8 Volunteers are trained and supported effectively to an agreed quality level

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SPORT AND CULTURE

Culture can mean different things to different people. It could mean researching your family tree, utilising one of our libraries, making or listening to music or visiting one of our art galleries or museums. It can also mean participating in sport, or enjoying the county's country parks and nature reserves or our network of more than 3000 kilometres of local paths, or visiting one of our theatres, all providing access to learning and recreation.

Leicestershire is a county of diverse communities and cultures and one steeped in history. Culture has an important place in the country's industrial and rural heritage and is an emerging tourism destination of importance. Its visitor attractions, including Bosworth Battlefield, Charnwood Forest, the National Forest, Snibston and Foxton Locks show how tourism helps boost the local economy and generate prosperity. Creative industries also contribute to employment, and now account for 8 per cent of the national GDP (Gross Domestic Product).

Culture and sport work in many ways to help build cohesive, empowered and active communities. Communities thrive in well-designed environments that incorporate accessible green space and 97 per cent of people believe that parks and green spaces help to create a nicer place for them to live. The rich network of country parks and green spaces in Leicestershire is well used and appreciated by residents and tourists and we want to ensure that communities of the future will have ready access to high quality green spaces. Local wildlife and heritage groups tracking changes in their local communities can help develop identity and a sense of place and help influence future plans and designs.

Culture and sport bring people together and help people get to know each other. Research shows that people taking part in sport and cultural activities are 20% more likely to know 'many people' in their neighbourhood and 60% more likely to trust each other. Giving young people a focus for social interaction through culture and sport can help contribute to safer communities; Vulnerable and Looked after Young People's engagement in programmes of cultural activity leads to positive outcomes in learning and wellbeing. Culture and sport can also build stronger communities through offering varied opportunities for volunteering and for people from different social and religious backgrounds to network and make contributions for personal and community benefit. Libraries offer one of the few places where all sections of the community can meet on a regular basis, being free and open to all.

Involving people in sport and physical activity has many positive benefits in terms of health and happiness, for all ages, abilities and interests. The County Sports Partnership is working with communities to increase the numbers of people actively participating in physical activity. Alongside Leicestershire's elite rugby, hockey, basketball, cricket and football teams, and Loughborough University's internationally recognised Sports status, there is a collective ambition to raise levels of physical activity in all ages to work towards a healthier, more physically active Leicestershire. It is also recognised that sport provides enjoyment and fulfilment in its own right and can help develop the skills and confidence often required in the world of work. Leicestershire has a key role to play in the build up to 2012. Recent research has shown that dance, music, painting and creative work can measurably increase our wellbeing and lower levels of anxiety and depression.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

While there are numerous policies relating to specific sporting and cultural activities, the link between sport and culture and the building of communities was identified by the Social Exclusion Policy Unit. http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/07A1BD1B-9367-422D-A5A2-65AD2D9A3B0D/0/PAT10_foreword.pdf.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 6.1: Improved physical health, well-being and community cohesion through enhanced access to sport, recreation and cultural activities (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.1.1 Increased high quality access to arts, recreation and active pursuits, including through the provision of appropriate, accessible facilities
- 6.1.2 Everyone is able to participate in the cultural life of the county and this provision addresses issues of equality and access

OUTCOME 2.6: Improved community cohesion through shared learning and recreation (S)

Sub outcomes:

- 2.6.1 To strive for everyone to participate in the cultural life of the county and for cultural provision to embrace issues of equality and access
- 2.6.2 To support learning through the provision of opportunities for people to value heritage and the diversity of cultures

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CLIMATE CHANGE

Our climate is changing. There is overwhelming scientific evidence that the changes to our climate are as a direct result of human activity. This activity is causing the release of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, trapping energy from the sun and causing our climate to change. The central England temperature rose by almost 1°C over the last century.

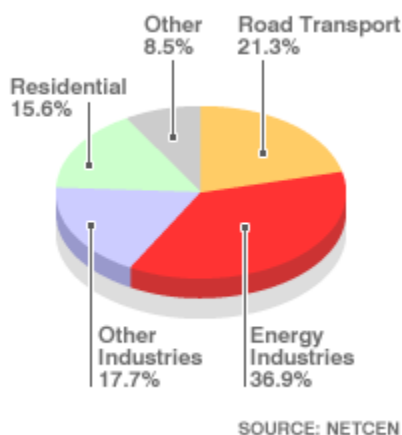
The UK Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP) data for Leicestershire, which builds upon the results of the Potential Impacts of Climate Change on the East Midlands¹ report, suggests that climate change could include the following adverse effects:

- A risk of less water available for domestic, industrial and agricultural purposes, this could effect Leicestershire more than other places as the county has a greater reliance on river catchments as a source of water;
- A risk of more extensive and frequent flooding - records indicate that there are around 25,000 properties in Leicester and Leicestershire at risk of flooding;
- A risk of increased temperatures, (of up to 2 to 3.5°C) with a greater number of 'hot periods', such as the summer of 2003; and
- Whilst sea level rise and increased desertification² will not directly impact on Leicestershire, we do need to consider the ethical issues of whether we can stand idly by whilst they happen as well as the issues of increased migratory pressure that they will cause.

It is inevitable that we will all experience the effects of climate change. We therefore need to both reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (mitigation) and to be prepared for living with the effects of climate change (adaptation).

Scientific evidence shows that the emissions of six greenhouse gases are responsible for the changes in our climate. The most abundant of these in terms of emissions is carbon dioxide (CO₂). Carbon dioxide is produced when fossil fuels such as coal, oil and gas are burnt.

The largest contributors of carbon dioxide in the UK are show below.



¹ Potential Impacts of Climate Change on the East Midlands – East Midlands Sustainable Development Round Table 2000

² The process by which fertile land becomes desert typically because of drought

In Leicestershire 35.7% of carbon emissions come from industry and commerce, 28.2% come from domestic sources, 33.1% from road transport and 3% from land use change.

Using our energy more efficiently will help to reduce our overall use of energy but we will still require energy for our homes and businesses. Clearly efficient energy use and renewable energy generation have major roles to play in reducing the potential impact of climate change. At a wider level we need to become more efficient in the way we use other resources such as water, our raw materials and waste.

Local authorities have a vital role to play in reducing emissions of greenhouse gases and leading the way to a low carbon future, through managing their estate to reduce emission of greenhouse gases and increase the use of energy from renewable sources, through housing provision, the planning process and transport planning and as a community leader to work directly with other public, private and voluntary sector organisations to promote joint action on climate change.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT

Leicestershire Together has developed a climate change declaration which was approved by the Board at its meeting in May 2007. This is accompanied by a Climate Change Action Plan (CCAP) which maps out a menu of actions that are available to people as individuals, as part of communities or as part of organisations. The thinking behind this is that 'by developing a coherent approach to the development and implementation of the CCAP, we can improve overall environmental performance, quality of life for residents and protection from the threats posed by our changing climate.'

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 4.1: Our contribution to Climate Change is reduced (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 4.1.1 CO₂ emissions will be reduced across the County including public sector operations and estates
- 4.1.2 Enhanced energy efficiency of buildings
- 4.1.3 Improved resource efficiency
- 4.1.4 Increased renewable energy generation and use of alternative fuel sources

OUTCOME 4.2: There is high resilience to the effects of Climate Change (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 4.2.1 Resilience/adaptation plans are prepared and resourced
- 4.2.2 The climate risk profile for the County is understood by all partners, including the risk of flooding

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EQUALITIES

Leicestershire is an ethnically and culturally diverse County, benefiting greatly from close links with Leicester City, one of the most culturally diverse cities in the UK. Black and minority ethnic groups make up about 9% of the County population.

In the early 1970's there was a substantial immigration to Loughborough of people of Bangladeshi and Gujarati origin. More recently there has been movement out of the City of Leicester into Leicestershire, substantial migration into the County of people from Eastern European countries and there are significant communities of Gypsies and Travellers, refugees and asylum seekers. International migration has had, and will continue to have, an impact on both service provision/access and community cohesion across the County, as new arrival communities integrate, and are integrated into, existing communities.

The ethnic diversity of the County is reflected in the wide range of religions and beliefs followed by local people including Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim and Sikh faiths.

The Census 2001 showed that 15.5% of the population have a long term limiting illness, which compares with 10.5% from the 1991 Census. It is recognised that this will represent a broad range of disabilities.

Overall, there is an equal gender split between women and men - 50.6% and 49.4% respectively. However, there are more females over the age of 75 (61.8%) than males (38.2%).

Whilst no specific data is available for Leicestershire, research suggests that in Britain lesbian, gay and bisexual people constitute 5 - 7% of the total adult population.

Ensuring equality of access to services and employment, and promoting good relations between people from diverse backgrounds, is fundamental to the work of Leicestershire Together as it strives to meet the needs of everyone in the County.

The Leicestershire Together partners use frameworks such as the Equality Standard for Local Government, to guide their work and to ensure that they understand and respond appropriately to the needs of all sections of the community. A community engagement framework exists which supports the establishment of fora for interest groups. A number of citizens juries and panels have taken place (including one exploring issues facing minority ethnic communities and one for disabled people) and many of the theme and cross cutting partnerships have their own consultative groups.

In Leicestershire we have a Hate Incident Monitoring project, a multi agency initiative which seeks to develop effective reporting of incidents and inform work undertaken across the County to tackle hate incidents. The Police estimate that most racist and religious crime and as much as 90% of homophobic crime goes unreported because victims are too frightened or embarrassed to let someone know. This under-reporting prevents us from being able to take effective action against all hate crime, in particular against marginalised groups. We need to know the number, type and range of hate incidents in Leicestershire. This will show us where the problem areas are and help us to improve services to deal with hate incidents.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

Public bodies have general and specific legal duties to promote equality and eliminate discrimination on the grounds of race, disability and gender. These sit alongside other anti-discrimination legislation relating to age, sexual orientation and religion or belief. Though less extensive in their coverage, these other legal requirements are also important and action needs to be taken to ensure that discrimination does not take place on any of the above grounds.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 2.3: Leicestershire is integrated, cohesive and inclusive (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.3.1 Social justice and mutual respect is promoted through all our services and in our employment practices
- 2.3.2 The needs of all sections of the community are understood and all residents can access essential services
- 2.3.3 Levels of hate incidents are reduced

OUTCOME 2.4: Equality of access to life opportunities (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.4.1 No individual experiences disadvantage because of their race, disability, gender, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief
- 2.4.2 People have equality of access to life opportunities, employment, learning and services that meet individual needs

OUTCOME 2.5: All sections of the community are empowered to influence local decision making (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.5.1 The barriers that prevent people from being involved in affecting the decisions that affect their lives have been removed
- 2.5.2 All sections of the community can, and are actively encouraged to, influence local services

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EFFICIENCIES

Value for money and efficiently delivered public services are important to the people of Leicestershire. This is borne out by public consultation on budget decisions and surveys of customer satisfaction with public services.

Public expenditure will not grow very fast in relation to demand in the next three years which means that the achievement of efficiency savings is essential if funding is to be made available to invest in priority services and if council tax increases are to be restricted.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The Government has set a 3% per year savings target for the whole of government (including locally delivered services such as health, police, transport, waste collection and disposal, youth services and education) for the next three years. The Government expects this to be achieved by agencies collaborating more, services being redesigned, smarter procurement and better management of assets such as buildings.

Within all these areas, partnership working has a very important role and some organisations will not be able to achieve the targets without working together.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

Outcome 7.3: Public Services are provided in the most efficient and effective way (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 7.3.1 Services are shared by a number of agencies to reduce costs and make delivery more effective
- 7.3.2 Common mechanisms are used to engage and consult with communities and to share information
- 7.3.3 Economies of scale are achieved whenever possible, without reducing (and if possible enhancing) the delivery experience

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SAFER COMMUNITIES

Crime can have a devastating effect on the lives of victims, offenders, families and communities.

Our priorities are making communities stronger and more effective, reducing serious violent crime, reducing the harm caused by drugs and alcohol, building a culture of respect by tackling anti-social behaviour effectively, and improving people's lives so that they are less likely to commit offences or re-offend.

To put this into context, however, Leicestershire is a relatively safe place to live and the likelihood of being a victim of crime is lower than both the rest of the East Midlands and England and Wales. Nonetheless, we need to make it still safer.

Some facts about crime in Leicestershire are as follows:

- Violent crime, criminal damage, theft and theft from motor vehicle accounted for over half of recorded offences in 2006/07, with violent crime alone accounting for one in five recorded offences.
- A total of 554 hate incidents were reported to the police in 2006/07.
- Locally, we want to increase reporting of domestic violence and reduce repeat offending. A total of 6,380 incidents of domestic violence were reported to the police during 2006/07.
- Town centres account for 21% of all violent crime.
- Anti-social behaviour includes a variety of behaviour that makes life unpleasant and holds back the regeneration of disadvantaged areas, creating an environment where more serious crime can take hold. However, perceptions of anti-social behaviour as a serious problem fell between 2003 and 2006.
- Reducing re-offending is key to the reduction of crime and disorder - it is estimated that 10% of the active offender population is responsible for 50% of all crime committed.
- One of the common motivators for high levels of offending and re-offending among Prolific and Priority Offenders (PPO's) is drug abuse, particularly heroin and crack.

The creation of safer environments involves a range of issues with strong links across most, if not all, the other themes in this Sustainable Community Strategy. This includes the improvement of public spaces, the availability and design of housing, road safety, reducing exclusion, increasing education, training and employment opportunities, community involvement in crime prevention activities, improving access to advice services and reducing the fear of crime.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The National Community Safety Plan 2006-2009, [updated in November 2006](#), sets out the Government's commitment and plans to improve community safety in England and Wales. This is complemented by the Home Office's [Cutting Crime Strategy for 2008-11](#), which focuses on building upon crime reduction success. Locally in Leicestershire there are seven district-based Community Safety Partnerships, each with a Community Safety Plan that outlines the priorities and delivery plans for that partnership. The Community Safety Programme Board coordinates priority setting across Leicestershire. Partners are currently working on a Partnership Strategic Assessment which will inform the new district community safety plans and an overarching county community safety agreement for 2008-11. The work on this Assessment is summarised in this evidence base, ensuring that these plans complement each other.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 3.1: People feel (and are) safer from violence (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.1.1 Levels of serious violent crime are reduced
- 3.1.2 Levels of repeat domestic violence offending are reduced

OUTCOME 3.2: Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and people feel that anti-social behaviour is being tackled effectively in their area (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.2.1 Levels of recorded anti-social behaviour are reduced
- 3.2.2 Levels of criminal damage are reduced

OUTCOME 6.2: The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.2.1 The number of drug users in effective treatment is increased
- 6.2.2 The rate of drug related offending, particularly the level of acquisitive crime, is reduced
- 6.2.3 The number of alcohol related incidents is reduced

OUTCOME 1.3: The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.3.1 Levels of re-offending by both young and adult offenders are reduced
- 1.3.2 Young people are diverted from criminal behaviour and numbers of first time entrants to the Criminal Justice System are reduced

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STRONGER COMMUNITIES

This Stronger Communities Strategy seeks to empower communities to define themselves, so that the members identify with each other, to recognise other communities, and to engage effectively with the authorities who plan and provide public services in order to improve the lives of everyone in Leicestershire.

Strong communities are integrated and cohesive communities where social capital is high. Locally the picture is a positive one where overall perceptions of cohesion are good. The majority of people think their area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on and that their neighbourhood is a 'good' or 'very good' place to live.

A number of social capital and cohesion issues (sense of belonging, perception of neighbourhood, trust, social contact) affect how strong a community is and therefore we need to address a number of different factors which impact on an area and the perceptions and circumstances of the people living there:

- Greater participation of residents in their communities and devolution of power to local people so that they feel that they have a say in what happens in their neighbourhood.
- Opportunities for local voluntary groups to emerge and develop, as well as network together.
- Extending volunteering opportunities and promoting neighbourliness.
- Responding to emerging new communities and changing demands for services, particularly in areas without previous experience of diversity.
- At a strategic level, providing access to services to all, giving opportunity to local people to influence the planning of those services. Issues like affordable decent housing and provision of meeting places will all contribute to enhancing social capital. However it is important that communities are supported to set their own priorities for addressing these issues.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

Work on the Stronger Communities Strategy is ongoing. To contribute to this strategy please visit <http://www.ccp.org.uk/strongercommunitiesstrategy2008-.html>.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 2.1: Stronger communities (both geographical and interest) where people are involved, engaged and play a role in decision making (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.1.1 Social capital is enhanced, particularly through work benefiting the priority neighbourhoods
- 2.1.2 The voluntary and community sector is vibrant and Parish Councils/Neighbourhood Forums/Local Development Groups, Local Voluntary and Community Groups, Faith Groups, School organisations, Local businesses/Social Enterprises are frontline delivery organisations for strong communities
- 2.1.3 Neighbourhoods have a greater voice and a role in scrutinising service delivery
- 2.1.4 Increased levels of financial and social inclusion in deprived areas
- 2.1.5 Increased Parish Council capacity
- 2.1.6 Even more effective Parish Plans and other forms of community consultation

- 2.1.7 Local communities are assisted to find local solutions to local problems
- 2.1.8 Children and young people play a positive role in their communities and use their time for constructive activities

OUTCOME 2.2: There is a positive view of diversity and equalities

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.2.1 We understand, embrace, celebrate and value the culture of others
- 2.2.2 The needs of emerging and minority communities are taken into account in planning services
- 2.2.3 The contribution of people with disabilities is valued and enabled

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CLEANER AND GREENER

The Cleaner and Greener section of the evidence base highlights the need to make Leicestershire a cleaner, greener and better place to live by improving:

Green Infrastructure - the network of green spaces and natural elements that intersperse and connect our cities, towns and villages. More than this, it is a holistic approach to viewing the natural environment that acknowledges the multiple benefits and vital functions it provides for the economy, wildlife, people and communities alike.

Biodiversity - the historical management of land within Leicestershire has led to a loss of natural and semi-natural habitats and their associated species. Although there are areas of beautiful and well maintained countryside, traditional estates and special areas such as the National Forest, Leicestershire is one of the 'poorest' counties in terms of the biodiversity it supports and its biodiversity is continuing to decline. The geo-diversity of Leicestershire is very special and needs to be protected.

Mineral Resources - there are extensive mineral resources in the County, including igneous rock and fire clay. Mineral workings are of national importance and essential for meeting local and regional community needs but there is a conflict between ensuring continuity of supply and the environmental consequences of extraction.

Water - water quality is generally good or fair. The County is covered by a Nitrate Vulnerable Zone which means that farmers need to reduce the amount of nitrates lost from their land into the water. There is significant pressure on surface water resources in summer and the efficient use and conservation of water resources is therefore essential. However, in recent years flooding of low-lying areas and town centres (through overwhelmed drainage systems) has also become an issue of increasing concern.

Waste - 4.8 million tonnes of waste are generated per year and the amount of waste produced is increasing. The way in which waste is managed has significant implications for the environment. The Waste Management Strategy identifies three key areas - waste prevention and re-use, recycling and composting.

Quality Built Environment - how we design and maintain our urban, suburban and village environments has a significant impact on people's sense of place, quality of life and how communities function.

A well-designed built environment contributes to a wide range of benefits such as improved public health, reduced carbon emissions or reduced levels of crime.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

ENABLE (Environmental Action for a Better Leicestershire) is the lead strategic partnership for this theme. ENABLE is a countywide forum for the protection and enhancement of the environment whose mission is "To unite Leicestershire for the protection and enhancement of the environment". The partnership aims to create, enable and promote action and to help prioritise issues and monitor environmental change in the County. ENABLE have recently developed a draft Leicestershire Together Declaration on Climate Change for the Board.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 4.3: Less waste is produced and a reduced proportion of this goes to landfill

Sub Outcomes:

- 4.3.1 Increase recycling and composting of waste whilst reducing overall growth in waste arisings
- 4.3.2 Commitment to move towards a more sustainable system of waste management, providing infrastructure (supported through the Waste Development Framework) which reduces our reliance on landfill and maximises opportunities for recycling, recovery and composting

OUTCOME 3.3: Increased resident satisfaction with the built environment and improved green infrastructure (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.3.1 New development, including housing, incorporates high quality green infrastructure both within the development itself but also, where appropriate, reaching out to link into adjoining areas too
- 3.3.2 High quality design of employment sites and public and private buildings
- 3.3.3 An enhanced, better maintained and protected environment and better access to this
- 3.3.4 Improved street and environmental cleanliness and maintenance with regard to fly-tipping, graffiti and littering
- 3.3.5 Improved air quality (see Transport section) and water quality

OUTCOME 4.4: An enhanced accessible natural environment with improved protection (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 4.4.1 Improved local biodiversity, geodiversity and natural habitats
- 4.4.2 An adequate and steady supply of minerals to satisfy society's needs, balanced against protection of the environment and the impact on local residents
- 4.4.3 Local communities use, understand and appreciate the natural and historical environment, which are well managed
- 4.4.4 Enhance local access to the natural environment

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND ENTERPRISE

Leicestershire has a strong enterprising economy, with high levels of self employment, strong business survival rates, a highly skilled workforce and is home to a number of successful international companies. Gross Value Added (GVA) is the main indicator used to measure productivity. At present, GVA per head in Leicestershire is above that for the East Midlands and the UK. However, the average annual growth rate has fallen below the national levels. GVA per head in Leicester City has been consistently above the regional and UK averages since 1996, which is often the case for cities. GVA per head in Leicestershire County has fallen below the regional average since 1999. Improving our sector structure and encouraging innovation will have a positive impact on GVA. Innovation will inspire and unite our different sectors, communities and individuals to make our economy prosperous.

Our vision is to create the right climate for innovation to drive the economy and to transform the way people think about Leicestershire. The outcome will be a successful and dynamic economy, with thriving communities, creative people and international recognition as a centre for innovation. The Leicestershire economy cannot be viewed in isolation from the economy of the city of Leicester. There are very strong inter-relationships between their economies, and the two administrative areas taken together broadly cover the functional economic sub-region, particularly in terms of travel to work. Most of the economic solutions for Leicestershire will only be sensibly achieved through joint working at a sub-regional level.

Leicestershire enjoys a central location in the UK with excellent transport links by road, rail and air. We have three world-class universities and a high performing further education sector. Most of our businesses are prosperous and we have a tradition of innovation across many sectors. The County of Leicestershire has a high quality natural environment, vibrant market towns and attractive villages which provide for a high quality of life and a draw for tourism and recreation. Leicester City is a truly international city of culture and drives the sub-regional economy. Historically, Leicestershire was strong in manufacturing and this continues through to today, with growth in innovative and high technology manufacturing businesses. We are also seeing growth in the service sector, knowledge based employment and in the creative industries sector.

To achieve a prosperous and sustainable economy, we must improve our sector structure so that we have more employment in high skill and high wage sectors and more resource efficient businesses across the sub-region, including our rural areas. This will increase our overall productivity and generate more wealth for the local economy. It will also drive up the employer demand for skills and have a positive impact on the labour market. There is an opportunity to build on the high technology manufacturing base and the expertise of the University at Loughborough. Knowledge based services are under-represented in Leicestershire although the position is improving and knowledge based service employment has increased. Consumer services play a prominent employment role in the County, particularly within the growing tourism and retail sectors.

Although skill levels in the County are high, there is a need to ensure that training and learning opportunities are available to adapt to the changing needs of employers. A large proportion of people have graduate level qualifications, therefore we need to provide high quality employment options for these people by promoting inward investment and supporting the growth and start up of high value businesses. In order to

achieve this, local partners will need to work together to provide the appropriate infrastructure and employment land and premises required by existing businesses and potential investors. A recent sub-regional employment land study has shown that there is currently an inadequate amount of quality employment land and premises available within both the City and County.

The unemployment rate in Leicestershire is significantly lower than the national average and a high proportion of unemployment is concentrated in the Priority Neighbourhoods. We need to ensure that our activities are aimed at improving skills and access to employment and learning in these areas so that all people have the opportunity to make a positive contribution to the local economy. The number of people claiming incapacity benefits in the County has not reduced over the past eight years even when the number claiming Job Seekers Allowance has declined and the number of people employed has increased. The Government has set a target of increasing employment by moving people off inactive benefits and into work. There are a considerable number of people in the County who are hidden from the traditional unemployment measures and can be encouraged into employment.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

Economic interventions at regional level are led by the east midlands development agency (emda) in the context of the Regional Economic Strategy (RES). More locally, the Leicester Shire Economic Partnership (LSEP) takes the lead at a sub-regional level working closely with local authorities and other key economic development agencies. Leicester Shire Promotions leads on inward investment and tourism. A new employer-led Employment and Skills Board will improve the co-ordination and targeting of skills interventions. The economy outcomes included in this Sustainable Community Strategy will form part of a new sub-regional economic strategy for Leicester and Leicestershire, meaning that there will be one single set of economic priorities for the sub-region.

In the context of the Government's Sub-national Review of Economic Development and Regeneration, consideration is currently being given to the most appropriate arrangements for governing and managing economic and related initiatives at sub-regional level including the development of a Multi Area Agreement (MAA). The potential delivery role of an Economic Development Company (EDC) is also being assessed.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 5.1 A prosperous and dynamic economy driven by innovation

Sub Outcomes:

- 5.1.1 Increased number of business start-ups
- 5.1.2 Increased business survival and growth rates

OUTCOME 5.2: An improved image for business and tourism and recognition as a centre for innovation (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 5.2.1 Increased number of new businesses attracted and key sectors developed
- 5.2.2 Increased visitor economy and cultural tourism

OUTCOME 3.4: Quality employment sites and premises are more widely available

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.4.1 Increased provision of premises for employment use
- 3.4.2 Earlier release of land for employment uses
- 3.4.3 Increased re-use of brownfield land for employment uses

OUTCOME 5.3: A highly skilled, motivated and innovative population and more people in high value jobs

Sub Outcomes:

- 5.3.1 Increased numbers of young people and adults qualified to Level 2, adults with Level 3 qualifications and people progressing to higher level skills (Level 3 and beyond)
- 5.3.2 Increased number of people with improved basic skills
- 5.3.3 Increased number of people taking apprenticeships
- 5.3.4 Increased number of young people and adults equipped with employability skills
- 5.3.5 Increased number of graduates retained in the local labour market
- 5.3.6 Reduced gap between the unemployment rate amongst disadvantaged places and groups and the overall rate
- 5.3.7 Increased employment rate of disadvantaged groups including lone parents, Incapacity Benefit (IB) customers, Ethnic Minority Communities, people with disabilities, offenders, carers, those aged 50+ and those with lower qualifications

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TRANSPORT

An effective transport system is not an end in itself, but a means of helping to deliver wider aims like strengthening the economy or tackling social deprivation. Transport is a cross-cutting issue which has strong links to all LAA themes and has therefore an important role in improving quality of life in Leicestershire. The County's longer-term transport strategy must therefore ensure that the transport system can meet the many demands placed on it in the future.

Traffic growth in Leicestershire is higher than the national average for England and the cost of owning and running a car has fallen significantly in real terms over recent years. This is a real disincentive for people to travel by other means, even though 95% of all people in Leicestershire have access to an hourly daytime bus service.

The aim is "to achieve a transport system for Leicestershire which meets our requirements for access and economic development in a way which seeks continuous improvement in sustainability and people's quality of life". Guided by this, the following objectives have been developed for the next five years:

- Tackling congestion
- Improving access to facilities including employment, education, health care and food shopping
- Reducing road casualties
- Improving air quality in the traffic-related air quality management areas
- Reducing the impact of traffic through local communities, near schools and within town centres
- Managing transport assets effectively

Linked Access to Services priorities, including transport accessibility, can be found in the Access to Services chapter (page 24).

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The Local Transport Plan (LTP) sets out our transport strategy for Leicestershire, which is based on a thorough review of transport needs.

In March 2006 we published our second LTP for 2006/07 - 2010/11. Find out more at http://website/index/highways/transport_plans_policies/ltp/ltp2_summary/local_transport_plan_pdf_index.htm.

In July 2006 we produced a Delivery Report on our Local Transport Plan delivery over the whole of the first LTP period from 2001/02 to 2005/06. http://website/whole_delivery_report_without_photos_and_plans_shrunk.pdf

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 4.5: Growth of road congestion is reduced (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 4.5.1 Increased use of public transport (including rail), walking and cycling, car sharing and community transport
- 4.5.2 Reduced growth in car mileage
- 4.5.3 More effective use of congested road space

OUTCOME 6.3: The number of road casualties is reduced (S)

Sub Outcome:

- 6.3.1 Effective local safety schemes, speed management activities, road safety education, training and publicity campaigns

OUTCOME 6.4: Air quality is improved

Sub Outcome:

- 6.4.1 Nitrogen dioxide concentrations are reduced in Air Quality Management Areas

OUTCOME 3.5: The impact of traffic on communities and individuals is reduced (S)

Sub Outcome:

- 3.5.1 Vehicle speeds through local communities, near schools and within town centres are reduced

OUTCOME 3.6: Transport assets such as roads and footways are well managed and maintained

Sub Outcome:

- 3.6.1 Condition monitoring is robust, intervention timely and effective and repairs and renewals cost efficient

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HOUSING

The availability, price and quality of homes in Leicestershire is an issue that affects every resident of the County.

At expected rates of housing replacement, the existing dwelling stock will continue to provide the majority of housing within the County into the foreseeable future. Fortunately the existing stock is generally of high quality although there are areas where housing conditions are relatively poor.

The Decent Homes initiative was launched by the Government in 1997 and Public Service Agreement Target 7 (2004) stated that "By 2010, bring all social housing into a decent condition with most of this improvement taking place in deprived areas, and for vulnerable households in the private sector, including families with children, increase the proportion that are in decent condition". A decent home, in the private or social sectors, is one that meets the current statutory minimum standard for housing, is in a reasonable state of repair, has reasonably modern facilities and services and provides a reasonable degree of thermal comfort.

There is evidence that new homes built in recent years have not been built to especially high standards - for instance CABE (write acronym in full or say who they are) has reported that just 3% of new residential developments in the East Midlands were rated as either 'good' or 'very good'.

The building of new homes offers opportunities for people to secure better quality homes provided as part of high quality developments. The provision of the right number and types of homes in the right places and to high design and environmental standards will have an impact on housing prospects and circumstances in the County.

The numbers and broad locations of homes to be provided in Leicestershire will be decided in the Regional Plan with more detailed site allocations being agreed through Local Development Frameworks. The Draft Regional Plan includes proposals for a rate of house building significantly above previous levels, and sufficient to support the designation of Leicestershire as part of the Three Cities and Three Counties New Growth Point. In the context of the Government's housing aspirations and updated evidence on future household growth, the scale of provision could increase further. Getting the level and location of housing provision right is not only important in meeting housing needs and demands but will also support future economic growth, determine travel needs and ensure the protection of land not needed for new development.

Ensuring that the housing needs of all sections of the community are met will be a particular priority. The provision of affordable homes, including as part of large new developments, but also in smaller developments in rural areas, will be particularly important. An appropriate mix of house types, in terms of size and tenure, as part of new developments will also assist in meeting the full range of housing demands.

New large sustainable urban extensions will form a key part of the future strategy for new housing provision. Sustainable urban extensions are currently proposed at five general locations adjoining the Leicestershire urban area (to the north in Charnwood and to the west in Blaby), and at Coalville, Hinckley sub regional centre and Loughborough. Large urban extensions provide the best new opportunities to secure very high quality developments with very low or zero carbon impacts fully supported by necessary social,

economic, transport and green infrastructure (for example schools and health facilities). Master planning will be vital to ensure the highest standards are achieved. The development of strong social capital will be a key aspect of ensuring these new communities are integrated. The precise scale and locations of these large developments will be agreed in Local Development Frameworks.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The Government has introduced a new planning system to manage how development takes places in towns and the countryside. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced a new 'two-tiered' planning system comprising:

- Regional Spatial Strategies prepared by the Regional Assembly. These set out a broad spatial planning strategy for how a region should look in 15 to 20 years time and possibly longer.
- Local Development Frameworks - a folder of local development documents prepared by District Councils or unitary authorities that outline the spatial planning strategy for the local area.

The Local Development Framework, together with the Regional Spatial Strategy, will determine how the planning system will help shape Leicestershire communities.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 3.7: The housing needs of the people of Leicestershire are met (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.7.1 Increased provision of homes to meet household growth
- 3.7.2 More people live in decent homes
- 3.7.3 A better mix of homes to meet peoples needs/demands
- 3.7.4 More vulnerable people are supported to maintain independent living
- 3.7.5 Improved access to housing advice services

OUTCOME 1.4: An increase in the provision of affordable housing

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.4.1 There is a strategic approach to housing affordability
- 1.4.2 Parish Councils and local groups have more influence
- 1.4.3 More affordable homes in rural areas

OUTCOME 3.8: New developments are built to higher design and environmental standards and better supported by services and infrastructure

Sub Outcomes:

- 3.8.1 More homes built to better environmental/energy efficiency standards
- 3.8.2 More new homes provided as part of master planned and mixed use new developments which include or have good access to the infrastructure and services needed to ensure the development is sustainable
- 3.8.3 Social capital is strong in new communities

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CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

The Every Child Matters agenda requires all Local Authorities to produce a Children and Young People's Plan, including a needs analysis. The Leicestershire Plan for 2008/11 will expand on the outcomes below and provide additional detail about how partners will continue to work together to improve the lives of Children and Young People.

There are currently approximately 152,300 (mid 2005 estimates) children and young people aged 19 and under. The population of children and young adults is expected to stay stable over the short-term, but with a slight decrease to 149,800 by 2019.

There are a range of issues for children and young people aged 0-19 around attainment and achievement, health, safety, making a positive contribution and economic well-being:

- Be Healthy - issues such as self harm, obesity, smoking, alcohol consumption, disability, teenage pregnancy and substance misuse.
- Stay Safe - child protection services are good and this is an area where we need to remain vigilant. Bullying is reducing, however more than one in ten children have been bullied and young people are more likely to be victims of crime.
- Enjoying and achieving (including attendance and attainment) - issues to tackle include children in care missing at least 25 school days and the proportion of 15 year olds achieving 5+ A-C at GCSE or equivalent.
- Make a positive contribution - promoting of opportunities for young people to get involved in positive activities, reducing exclusions from school and involving them in decisions affecting their lives.
- Economic well-being - issues such as groups of young people being less likely to be in employment, education and training, relative poverty and the effect of a deprived background on health, achievement and attaining economic well-being in adulthood.

In all its work, Leicestershire will pay special attention to:

- making sure the voice of children and young people is heard.
- the needs of vulnerable children and young people are met.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

The Children and Young People's Plan for Leicestershire was published in April 2006 under the strategic guidance of the Leicestershire Children and Young People's Board. The Plan is a key tool in achieving the improvements in outcomes for children and young people that are expected following the publication of Every Child Matters: Change for Children and the passing of the Children Act 2004. http://website/children_young_peoples_plan_web_version.pdf

The Board are currently developing the second Children and Young People's Plan, which will be published by April 2008. Leicestershire will continue to work with children, young people, parents and carers from across the county to ensure that their views are captured.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 6.5: Children and Young People in Leicestershire are Healthy

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.5.1 Reduced levels of obesity in children
- 6.5.2 Maintain high levels of immunisation and vaccination
- 6.5.3 Maintain high levels of breastfeeding
- 6.5.4 Reduction in teenage pregnancy rates
- 6.5.5 Improved mental health of children and young people

OUTCOME 1.5: Children and Young People in Leicestershire Stay Safe

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.5.1 Reduction in permanent exclusions
- 1.5.2 Reduction in young people's homelessness (including improving the range and provision of appropriate accommodation for care leavers and unaccompanied asylum seekers and young offenders access to suitable accommodation)
- 1.5.3 Reduction in repeat offending by first time offenders
- 1.5.4 Improved outcomes for looked after children
- 1.5.5 Corporate parenting further developed for children in care
- 1.5.6 Children are safe from bullying
- 1.5.7 Safe recruitment policies are implemented

OUTCOME 5.4: Children and Young People in Leicestershire Enjoy and Achieve

Sub Outcomes:

- 5.4.1 Improved achievement at foundation and key stages, particularly Key Stage 4
- 5.4.2 Increased participation in physical and positive activities
- 5.4.3 Improved quality of teaching at foundation and each Key Stage
- 5.4.4 Improved quality of leadership and management, including governance, in all learning settings
- 5.4.5 Increased school attendance and reduced persistent absence
- 5.4.6 Reduced school exclusions

OUTCOME 2.8: Children and Young People in Leicestershire make a Positive Contribution

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.8.1 Children and Young People are involved and engaged, have places to go and things to do
- 2.8.2 Offending by Children and Young People is reduced

OUTCOME 1.6: Children and Young People in Leicestershire achieve Economic Wellbeing (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.6.1 Reduced Homelessness among children and young people
- 1.6.2 Further reduction of children Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)

Page xx of the Appendices shows the links between the priorities within this chapter and other relevant people, theme and cross-cutting priorities. The links between the

priorities in this chapter and specific 'place' priorities can be seen in the seven 'Places in ...' chapters, as well as **pages xx-xx in the Appendices**.

OLDER PEOPLE

Leicestershire has an ageing population and it is predicted that, by 2028, a quarter of its population will be over 65. People over 85 is the fastest growing age category and the percentage of the population aged 85 plus is projected to increase from 1.8 % in 2003 to 3.6 % in 2028. With older people becoming an ever more significant proportion of the population there is an opportunity to explore the even larger contribution older people can make to society, and prepare more effectively for the new horizons of later life. Being older or being a pensioner does not equate to dependence. Rather than make assumptions about age we must focus on the contributions individual's make to their communities.

In 2006 the Older People's Engagement Network was established to look at key priorities. When consulted, members of this group have told us that services do not currently support older people respectfully and responsively enough and there is strong feeling that older people should be put at centre of service delivery via a 'Charter for Dignity in Later Life'.

A number of factors make a difference to older people's wellbeing. Often the foundations for a good quality of life for older people include good relationships with family, friends and neighbours, participation in social, voluntary and community activities, living in a good home and neighbourhood and having a positive outlook.

Studies have identified loneliness as an issue adversely affect older people. 20% of people over 50 and 50% of people over 85 live alone with many having only limited contact with friends and family. This isolation can leave people feeling vulnerable and isolated and there are strong links between loneliness and poor mental health, in particular depression and anxiety amongst older people. Participation is also an important element in developing a cohesive community and community well-being. Engagement of older people in service planning and decision making helps to make services more relevant to users.

Problems of isolation can be exacerbated by a reducing access to a car as people age (either due to economic or health reasons). High quality public transport is therefore essential in providing access to services. 95% of households, including 76 percent of rural households, are now within 800 meters of an hourly bus service. This helps support an identified need of increased participation in cultural, learning, leisure and sporting activities closer to home. However, aside from transport, some older people have a much broader range of needs which services have to be able to address. It is also crucial that people have access to good information and advice, across all agencies, so that they can understand the options they have and make informed choices and decisions.

Crime, and the fear of crime, has a negative impact on the quality of life for older people, with people over the age of 75 being amongst the most 'worried'. Crimes such as distraction burglary are increasing which has led to 14 'No Cold Calling Zones'. Figures in these areas show overall crime reducing by up to 80% with an even bigger impact on distraction theft.

Figures for the county show that 11% of the over 60 population live in income deprived households and experience fuel poverty (where 10% or more of household income is spent on maintaining a satisfactory heating regime). Support in helping people to manage finances and avoid debt, along with ensuring people accept their benefits

entitlement, can all assist in helping older people have sufficient income. Linked to economic wellbeing is the increasingly important role of older people in the labour market and the need for more flexible working arrangements and a change in the attitude of employers to older people in the workplace.

Older people are significant users of healthcare services. Although people aged over 65 account for only 16% of the population they occupy almost two thirds of general and acute hospital beds, and account for 50% of the recent growth in emergency admissions.³ Therefore, while health is an important issue for all age groups, preventative actions are particularly important for older people, including promoting physical activity, home safety and fire prevention, and falls prevention schemes. In 2005 there were 39 deaths in Leicestershire due to falls, and these were mainly females aged over 75. Stroke is the third largest cause of death in the UK, responsible for 11 per cent of all deaths in England and Wales. Between 20 and 30 per cent of people who have a stroke die within a month. The increasing importance of mental health in over 65's is evident in prevalence rates of dementia and depression. In Britain it is estimated that one in every four people aged over 65 has depression (or serious symptoms) and one in every five aged over 80 has dementia. Developing programmes of healthy activities for older people like walking the way to health is important as the population increase. Deaf, hard of hearing, deafened and deaf blind older people living in Leicestershire will inevitably increase in the next 20 years. Equal access to services for all older people will be a priority.

Independence is a significant desire for many older people, especially for those over 75 who are the highest users of social care services. Supporting people to live independently in their own homes with local community support is preferred by many but it is essential for all service agencies to provide dignified care. As more older people are supported to live at home the role of informal/family carers becomes increasingly important.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

At a local level the County Integrated Partnership for Older People (CIPOP) is developing an Ageing Well Strategy for the County. On a national level there are numerous policies influencing the delivery of services. While much of the National Service Framework for Older People promotes access to medical services, standard 8 is focused on promoting health and active life in older age. The Standard emphasises the importance of multi-agency initiatives to promote health, independence and well-being in later life, and requires communities to develop programmes "to promote healthy ageing and to prevent disease in older people".

Currently in development is the National Strategy for Housing an Ageing Society which is looking at how local and national government can support the provision of high quality housing solutions for older people. The government are currently consulting on this and a link to the outline of the consultation document can be found by using this link

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/housing/pdf/324804>.

³ Living Well in Later Life - A review of progress against the NSF OP March 2006.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 1.7: More older people are able to live independent lives

Sub Outcomes:

- 1.7.1 More older people are supported to live at home
- 1.7.2 The income of older people is maximised
- 1.7.3 Older people have improved access to advice and information to support decision making

OUTCOME 6.6: The health and well-being of older people is increased (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.6.1 Older people have access to a wide range of cultural and learning activities
- 6.6.2 The number of older people unnecessarily admitted to hospital and residential care is reduced
- 6.6.3 Older people's well-being is at the centre of services

OUTCOME 2.9: Older people are empowered to play an active part in the community (S)

Sub Outcomes:

- 2.9.1 The Older People's Network and Older People's Champion Network enable older people to play an active part in decision making

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HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES

Health in Leicestershire is generally better than average when compared to the East Midlands and England. People in Leicestershire have above average life expectancy and low rates of premature mortality from the major killers.

However, whilst the overall picture is good, health experience is distributed unequally across our local communities. Whilst the pattern of ill health is similar to that for deprivation, it is also influenced by other factors including ethnicity.

The demographic shift towards an older population will have a significant impact on the future health and health needs of the population, and diseases such as coronary heart disease, chronic kidney disease, diabetes, stroke and dementia are all projected to rise by over 10% by 2014. This will be exacerbated by increasing levels of obesity.

The major cause of death in adults in Leicestershire is cancer, followed by circulatory disease and accidents. The main causes of death in people over 65 are diseases of the circulatory system, cancers and diseases of the respiratory system. Less than 0.15% of total deaths are 0-14 year olds and the infant mortality level in the County is similar to the national average.

Leicestershire County and Rutland (LCR) PCT, in partnership with Leicestershire and Rutland County Councils, commissioned a lifestyle survey, which was completed in April 2007. The main points arising from this survey were:

- Most respondents were eating 3 portions of fruit & vegetables a day
- Less than 50% of respondents were eating 5 or more portions
- Younger age groups were less likely than older groups to be eating 5 or more portions daily
- 1 in 5 respondents were taking little or no regular exercise
- "Lack of time" was cited as main reason for taking little exercise
- Significantly more men were overweight (45%) than women (31%)
- However overall obesity levels were similar (18% vs 17%)
- Men were more likely than women to be consuming alcohol over the 'safe limit'

Six joint health issues which require multi-agency action have been agreed in Leicestershire:

- Smoking - a leading cause of preventable illness and premature death, it is estimated that 126,000 people across the Primary Care Trust (PCT) area smoke. Smoking prevalence in 14-16 year olds is estimated to be over 20%.
- Obesity - it is estimated that 128,100 adults and 18,500 children are obese and that these levels will continue to rise - if the current trend continues then one-third of adults, one-fifth of boys and one-third of girls will be obese by 2020.
- Physical activity - Only 37% of men and 24% of women currently meet the minimum recommendation for activity in adults.
- Accidents - preventable injury is one of the main causes of death, ill health and disability and has a considerable cost to society as a whole.

- Sexual Health - there has been a rise in the number of people diagnosed with Sexually Transmitted Infections, in risk taking sexual behaviour and a small increase in teenage pregnancy.
- Mental Health and Well-Being - Mental illness affects up to a quarter of the population and contributes to health inequalities with those having a serious mental illness being 1.5 times more likely to die prematurely.

STRATEGIC CONTEXT:

There are a number of legislative and related national health policy drivers influencing the strategic context:

In terms of public health The Choosing Health White Paper (launched in 2004) followed by Challenge Health sets out the principles for supporting the public to make healthier and more informed choices in regards to their health. This has influenced the existing LAA focus on health eating, exercise, smoking cessation and other aspects of a healthy lifestyle.

The Our health, our care, our say White Paper sets out a vision to provide people with good quality social care and NHS services in the communities where they live. NHS services are half way through a 10 year plan to become more responsive to patient needs and prevent ill health by the promotion of healthy lifestyles. Social care services are also changing to give service users more independence, choice and control

The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act (2007) places a duty on upper tier local authorities and Primary Care Trust's (PCT's) to undertake a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for their area. JSNA is a process that will identify the health & wellbeing needs of the local population over the next three to five years. It informs the Sustainable Community Strategy and the priorities and targets set by the Local Area Agreement. It should form the basis of agreed commissioning priorities that will improve health and social care outcomes and reduce health inequalities.

A partnership approach is integral to the JSNA. In Leicestershire, the process has been co-ordinated through a multi-agency steering group, with representatives from the PCT, Leicestershire County Council, a district council and the voluntary sector. This work is also reported to the Healthier Communities Partnership body, which will be taking on a wider commissioning role for Health & Wellbeing. This body also acts as the oversight partnership on Health & Wellbeing.

PRIORITY OUTCOMES:

OUTCOME 6.7: Improved health outcomes for people in Leicestershire including a reduction in health inequalities

Sub Outcome:

6.7.1 Vulnerable people and areas experience less health disadvantage

OUTCOME 6.8: Improved mental health and wellbeing

Sub Outcomes:

6.8.1 Improved mental health and wellbeing in workplaces

6.8.2 Vulnerable people have better mental health

6.8.3 People get more help to meet their own mental health and wellbeing needs

6.8.4 There are more volunteers to support people with mental health problems

6.8.5 Professionals have a greater understanding of mental health and well being issues, including the stigma attached to it

OUTCOME 6.9: More people are physically active at a level which makes them healthier

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.9.1 Improved and more accessible facilities and opportunities for physical activity
- 6.9.2 People with long-term conditions and other vulnerable people are assisted to access physical activity

OUTCOME 6.10: Obesity is reduced and there has been an increase in healthy eating in all age groups

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.10.1 Families make healthy food choices and eat for health
- 6.10.2 Fewer children are obese
- 6.10.3 Healthy food choices are available at workplaces

OUTCOME 6.11: Fewer people smoke

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.11.1 Fewer women smoke during pregnancy
- 6.11.2 Vulnerable people and people in priority areas get greater support to give up smoking
- 6.11.3 Increased number of smoke free homes

OUTCOME 6.12: Improved sexual health, particularly for young people

Sub Outcomes:

- 6.12.1 Improved access to a range of appropriate support services
- 6.12.2 Referrals to drug and alcohol services are increased (drugs and alcohol are factors which increase risk taking behaviour)

OUTCOME 6.13: There are fewer accidents in the home

Sub Outcome:

- 6.13.1 Health and safety co-ordination and information across a range of sectors is improved

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PLACES IN LEICESTERSHIRE

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this section of the Sustainable Community Strategy is to identify priority outcomes for places in Leicestershire. It is important that service providers understand how priorities vary across the County and what people consider to be most important for their area. Leicestershire is a mix of different environments and communities, with a diverse range of aspirations and challenges. The Leicestershire Together partnership recognises that a 'one size fits all' approach is neither possible nor desirable, so has worked closely with District LSP's to develop this section.

Our ambition for this section of the Strategy is to ensure it truly reflects the priorities of each Community Forum area. "Community Forums" (or "Area Forums" / "Have Your Say" meetings as they are also known) bring together County, District, Parish Councillors and the public, to identify and address the priorities for that area. Community Forums also have a key role in scrutinising the way in which services are delivered and resources allocated in a particular area. **The map on (page xx)** shows the location of the 27 Community Forums in Leicestershire.

The draft priorities suggested in this section of the Strategy are based upon the "Places in Leicestershire" evidence base reports which are available to view at http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/index/sustainable_community_strategy/new_sustainable_community_strategy.htm. The priorities have also been informed by District Councils and District Local Strategic Partnerships (LSP's), including relevant place based priorities from their Community Strategies, and by prioritisation exercises at the first round of Community Forums meetings.

District Councils and District based LSP's will be producing delivery plans over the coming months to show how the place based priorities, and other priorities in this SCS will be delivered at a 'place' level

The priority outcomes relate to the following type of places:

Main Towns

These 17 settlements were identified in our first Local Area Agreement as key large service centres which provide health services, employment, education, leisure and shopping facilities for the surrounding population.

Some of these have been identified in the draft Regional Spatial Strategy as a Sub Regional Centre (SRC).

Blaby	Hinckley (SRC) ¹
Loughborough (SRC)	Melton Mowbray (SRC)
Shepshed (SRC)	Coalville (SRC)
Birstall	Ashby
Syston	Wigston
Thurmaston	Oadby
Market Harborough (SRC)	South Wigston
Lutterworth	
Broughton Astley	

1 = The Hinckley and Bosworth LDF identifies the Main Town as the 2urban areas" of Hinckley, Burbage,

Barwell and Earl Shilton

The Principle Urban Area (PUA) of Leicestershire includes the built up parts of the settlements of Glen Parva, Braunstone, Leicester Forest East, Kirby Muxloe, Glenfield, Birstall, Thurmaston, Scraptoft, Thurnby and Bushby, Oadby, Wigston and South Wigston.

Priority Neighbourhoods

Identified in the Local Area Agreement 2006-09, these 19 neighbourhoods are small areas of the county with bigger than average problems, usually in relation to multiple aspects of deprivation. They cover parts of:

Enderby	Coalville, Thringstone and
Loughborough East	Whitwick
Loughborough West	Greenhill
Mountsorrel	Ashby
South Charnwood	Measham
Central Market Harborough	Ibstock
Hinckley and Burbage	Moira and Albert Village
Earl Shilton and Barwell	Castle Donington
Bagworth and Thornton	Wigston and South Wigston
Melton Mowbray	

Rural/Service Centres

These are smaller rural or service centres, identified through the through District Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) or by the Leicestershire Rural Partnership, that provide a range of facilities for the surrounding rural villages and hamlets. They vary in size, but are all a focal point for a cluster of smaller settlements. The table below shows where the classification of these settlements is derived from:

<u>DISTRICT AND SETTLEMENT</u>	LDF	RS
<u>Blaby</u>		
Countesthorpe		RS
Enderby		RS
Narborough		RS
Sapcote		RS
Stoney Stanton	LDF	RS
Whetstone		RS
<u>Charnwood</u>		
Anstey	LDF	RS
Barrow upon Soar	LDF	RS
East Goscote	LDF	
Hathern	LDF	
Mountsorrel	LDF	RS
Quorn	LDF	RS
Rothley	LDF	
Sileby	LDF	RS
Woodhouse Eaves		RS
Wymeswold		RS
<u>Harborough</u>		
Billesdon	LDF*	RS
Fleckney	LDF	RS
Great Glen	LDF	RS
Husbands Bosworth	LDF*	RS
Kibworth Beauchamp	LDF	RS
Ullesthorpe	LDF*	
<u>Hinckley and Bosworth</u>		
Bagworth	LDF	
Barlestone	LDF	
Desford	LDF	RS
Groby	LDF	
Markfield and Field Head	LDF	RS
Market Bosworth	LDF	RS
Newbold Verdon	LDF	
Ratby	LDF	
Stoke Golding	LDF	
Thornton	LDF	
<u>Melton</u>		
Asfordby	LDF	RS
Bottesford	LDF	RS
Long Clawson	LDF	
Waltham on the Wolds	LDF	
<u>North West Leicestershire</u>		
Castle Donington	LDF	RS
Ibstock	LDF	RS

Kegworth	LDF	
Measham	LDF	RS

Rural Areas

This section covers the rural parts of each Forum area and identifies the priorities based on aspects of deprivation (particularly the Barriers to Housing and Services domain of the IMD), poor access to services (identified in the LRP Access to Services report) or specific needs identified through a Parish Plan. Parish Plans are produced by communities and identify key issues relating to that parish (or village).

A list of all communities completing a Parish Plan in the last three years is shown below:

Croft
 Countesthorpe
 Leicester Forest East
 Anstey
 Barrow upon Soar
 Burton on the Wolds
 Cossington
 Mountsorrel
 Rearsby
 Wanlip
 Woodhouse (Eaves)
 Wymeswold
 Claybrooke Magna and Parva
 Cotesbach
 Folesworth
 Hallaton
 Husbands Bosworth
 Kibworth
 Medbourne
 Stoughton
 Thurnby and Bushby
 Swinford
 Barlestone
 Groby and Field Head
 Ratby
 Sheepy
 Twycross
 Eastwell
 Harby
 Long Clawson
 Stathern
 Twyford and Thorpe
 Heather
 Measham

PLACES IN BLABY

Blaby Central Community Forum Area (B1)

This Forum area includes the Main Town of Blaby and the settlements of Countesthorpe, Narborough and Whetstone in the Central Leicestershire Policy Area. It also includes the Priority Neighbourhood of Enderby and the Fosse Park shopping complex

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- B1.1 More older people are living good quality independent lives and are able to access support and advice, benefit take-up has increased and incomes are improved in Enderby & St. Johns and North Whetstone.
[Older People 1.7, 1.7.2, 1.7.3; Stronger Communities 2.1.4]
- B1.2 People are healthier, with improved mental health and well-being and the number of people suffering from long-term limiting illness and disabilities has reduced, particularly in Enderby & St Johns.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8, 6.9.1, 6.10, 6.11; Older People 6.6; Children and Young People 6.5; Vulnerable People 1.1.4]
- B1.3 Young people are able to make positive choices about their health, behaviour and life chances, and have been actively involved in making decisions about their future and the services and facilities they need.
[Children and Young People 6.5, 2.8.1, 1.5, 6.12; Equalities 2.5.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.10.2]
- B1.4 Children and Young People reach their maximum potential including improvement in educational attainment, particularly in Blaby South and North Whetstone.
[Children and Young People 5.4, 5.4.1, 5.4.2; Volunteering 2.7.2]
- B1.5 There are reduced levels of, and fear of, crime in Glen Parva, Enderby and Countesthorpe, including business related crime in Carlton Park, Grove Park and Fosse Park, and anti-social behaviour in Countesthorpe, Whetstone and Blaby.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]
- B1.6 The Central area has well integrated communities where people of all ages and backgrounds and needs are able to engage with and access support and services, particularly in Saxondale and North Whetstone.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1; 2.2.1; Access to Services 7.1; 7.1.1; Equalities 2.3; 2.3.2; Older People 2.9]
- B1.7 The environment has been improved with a reduction in excessive pollution (air, noise and light), particularly along the M1 corridor, around Junction 21 and Fosse Park.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3, 3.3.5, 4.4; Transport 6.4.1, 3.5]
- B1.8 Unemployment rates in Blaby South and Saxondale have been reduced and local people's skills and qualifications well-matched to the needs of local employers, particularly in Blaby South.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.6, 5.3.7]

- B1.9 Improved vitality and viability of Blaby Town Centre so attracting more people to shop there.
[Access to Services 7.1. 7.1.4; Economic Development 3.4.2]
- B1.10 Housing standards have improved and meet the needs of those living in the area and there are a range of affordable, high quality and sustainable homes, in particular in relation to Countesthorpe.
[Housing 3.8, 1.4, 3.7.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.3; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]
- B1.11 An integrated transport system has been achieved with improved access to work, services, retail opportunities and facilities, particularly linking villages in the central area across the district.
[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1]
- B1.12 Communities are empowered with the skills and confidence to shape the future of their local areas, particularly in North Whetstone and Saxondale.
[Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.7; Older People 2.9; Equalities 2.9]

Blaby North Community Forum Area (B2)

This Forum area borders Leicester City and includes the Principal Urban Area settlements of Braunstone Town, Kirby Muxloe and Glenfield. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- B2.1 More older people are living quality independent lives, with good access to services and integrated public transport, particularly within the Forest ward.
[Older People 1.7; 1.7.1; 1.7.2; Access to Services 7.1]
- B2.2 People are healthier both physically and mentally, particularly within Fairstone and Millfield and there has been a reduction in the number of hospital admissions for people Aged 65+ suffering from falls and hypothermia in Forest.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8; 6.9.1, 6.10, 6.11, 6.13; Older People 6.6]
- B2.3 Young people are able to make positive choices about their health, behaviour and life chances and have been actively involved in making decisions about their future and the services and facilities they want.
[Children and Young People 6.5, 2.8, 2.8.1, 1.5, 5.4.2; Equalities 2.5; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Safer Communities 6.2; Healthier Communities 6.10.2, 6.12]
- B2.4 Children & Young people reach their maximum potential including improvement in Educational attainment at Key Stage 2 in Ravenhurst & Fosse and at GCSE in Ravenhurst & Fosse and Winstanley.
[Children and Young People 5.4, 5.4.1; Volunteering 2.7.2]
- B2.5 There are reduced levels of and fear of crime in Glenfield, Braunstone and Thorpe Astley, and anti-social behaviour in Leicester Forest East and Millfield.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]
- B2.6 The North area has well integrated communities where people of all ages, backgrounds and needs are able to engage with and access support and services, particularly in Fairstone.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1; 2.2.1; Access to Services 7.1; 7.1.1; Equalities 2.3; 2.3.2; Older People 2.9]
- B2.7 The environment has been improved with a reduction in excessive pollution (air, noise and light), particularly around the M1 corridor and Narborough Road South.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3, 3.3.5, 4.4; Transport 6.4.1, 3.5]
- B2.8 Unemployment rates have been reduced, particularly in Ravenhurst & Fosse and people have the right skills and qualifications to meet the needs of employers.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.6, 5.3.7]
- B2.9 Housing standards have improved and meet the needs of those living in the area, particularly in Fairstone, Ravenhurst & Fosse and Winstanley, and

there are a range of affordable, high quality and sustainable homes, in particular in relation to Kirby Muxloe.

[Housing 3.8, 1.4, 3.7.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.3; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]

B2.10 Public transport is integrated with improved links to work, services and retail opportunities and facilities, particularly linking villages in the North area across the district.

[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1; Rural 7.2.2]

B2.11 Communities are empowered with the skills and confidence to shape the future of their local areas, particularly in Winstanley and Fairstone.

[Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.7; Older People 2.9; Equalities 2.5]

Blaby South Community Forum Area (B3)

This Forum area includes the Rural Centres of Stoney Stanton and Sapcote, plus a wider rural area. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- B3.1 More older people are living good quality independent lives and are able to access services supported by improved integrated public transport, particularly in Stanton & Flamville.
[Older People 1.7; 1.7.1; 1.7.2; Access to Services 7.1; Rural 7.2.1]
- B3.2 People are healthier and there has been a reduction in the number of hospital admissions for people aged 65+ suffering from falls and hypothermia in Stanton & Flamville.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8; 6.9.1, 6.10, 6.11, 6.13; Older People 6.6]
- B3.3 Young people are able to make positive choices about their health, behaviour and life chances, and have been actively involved in making decisions about their future and the services and facilities they want.
[Children and Young People 6.5, 2.8, 2.8.1, 1.5, 5.4.2; Equalities 2.5; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Safer Communities 6.2; Healthier Communities 6.10.2; 6.12]
- B3.4 Children and Young People reach their maximum potential including improvement in educational attainment has increased at Key Stage 2 in Normanton and Stanton & Flamville and GCSE level in Croft Hill.
[Children and Young People 5.4, 5.4.1; Volunteering 2.7.2]
- B3.5 There are reduced levels of and fear of crime in Stanton & Flamville, including anti-social behaviour.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]
- B3.6 The South area has well integrated communities where people of all ages, backgrounds and needs are able to engage with and access support and services, particularly in Normanton.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1; 2.2.1; Access to Services 7.1; 7.1.1; Equalities 2.3; 2.3.2; Older People 2.9]
- B3.7 The environment has been improved with a reduction in excessive pollution (air, noise and light).
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3, 3.3.5, 4.4; Transport 6.4.1, 3.5]
- B3.8 There has been a reduction in the level of traffic, especially heavy vehicles through villages in the South area, and speeding is reduced.
[Transport 3.5, 3.5.1, 4.5]
- B3.9 Local people are well equipped with the skills and qualifications needed to respond to the needs of local employers.
[Economic Development 5.3, 5.3.1, 5.3.4]

- B3.10 Housing standards have improved and meet the needs of those living in the area particularly in Croft Hill, and there are a range of affordable high quality sustainable homes, in particular in relation to Elmesthorpe.
[Housing 3.8, 1.4, 3.7.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.3; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Rural 7.2.4]
- B3.11 An integrated transport system has been achieved with improved access to work, services, retail opportunities and facilities, particularly linking villages in the South area across the District.
[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1; Rural 7.2.2]
- B3.12 Communities are empowered with the skills and confidence to shape the future of their local areas, particularly in Croft Hill.
[Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.7; Older People 2.9; Equalities 2.5]

PLACES IN CHARNWOOD

Loughborough East, Loughborough North West and Loughborough South West Area Forum (C1-3)

Four Area Forums cover the Main Town of Loughborough, the three above and a small part of the Shepshed, Dishley and Hathern Forum. Loughborough is a Sub-Regional Centre and includes two priority neighbourhoods - Loughborough East and Loughborough West - and is one of the areas in the County where a Sustainable Urban Extension has been proposed in the draft Regional Plan.

Loughborough is the largest town in Leicestershire. On one hand it has one of the best Universities in the country. On the other a substantial proportion of the population have lower than average earnings, there are higher levels of benefits claims, low skills and school attainment levels. It hosts major business but the town centre does not attract all the major retailers. It is a town with great potential for growth and improvement partly because of its excellent transport links and relatively youthful population.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- C1.1 An improved town centre, better range of shops, leisure and evening economy, less crime and anti social behaviour, less litter and graffiti and reduced air pollution.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2, 3.3.4, 3.3.5; Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1, 3.2; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Economic Development 5.1, 5.2; Sport and Culture 2.6]
- C1.2 A wider range of knowledge based businesses and employment opportunities.
[Economic Development 5.1, 3.4]
- C1.3 Higher adult skills levels and increased attainment for school children.
[Economic Development 5.3, 5.3.1, 5.3.2, 5.3.4; Children and Young People 5.4.1]
- C1.4 Improved social cohesion where resident and students, old and young, different cultures and faiths continue to get on well together.
[Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.2; Equalities 2.3; Sport and Culture 6.1]
- C1.5 Children and young people have spaces, places and activities to engage them.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2; Children and Young People 1.5, 2.8, 5.4.2; Access to Services 7.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Sport and Culture 2.6]
- C1.6 Relative deprivation, as measured by the Indices of Multiple Deprivation, has been reduced in the priority neighbourhoods, with specific attention to reducing crime and anti-social behaviour.
[Vulnerable People 1.1; Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1, 3.2]

- C1.7 New development is physically and socially integrated and environmentally sustainable and housing is of an excellent standard and meets local housing needs.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Housing 3.7, 3.8, 3.8.1, 3.8.3; Vulnerable People 1.1.3]
- C1.8 More travel by public transport, walking and cycling means that traffic is less of a problem and congestion is reduced in the town.
[Transport 3.5, 4.5, 4.5.1]
- C1.9 Historic and environmental assets, including the Great Central Railway, have been safeguarded.
[Cleaner and Greener 4.4.3; Transport 3.6]
- C1.10 Better access to health facilities across the town.
[Healthier Communities 7.1.1]
- C1.11 The 2012 Olympics has been used to benefit the town.

Bradgate and Rothley, Mountsorrel and Birstall Area Forum (C4)

This Forum covers the Main Town of Birstall (included in the Principal Urban Area of Leicester), the Rural/Service Centres of Rothley, Anstey and Mountsorrel and a priority neighbourhood which covers part of Mountsorrel.

The area lies between the northern fringes of Leicester City and the southern fringes of Loughborough, the attractive Charnwood Forest and the busy Soar Valley. There are some larger villages, (Birstall, Mountsorrel, Rothley and Anstey) but most villages are relatively small. Most people have higher incomes than the county average and children do well at school. Some villages have older than average populations. There are substantial new developments at Birstall (housing) and Rothley (employment).

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- C4.1 Village centres including Anstey, Birstall & Mountsorrel are maintained and improved with less litter and vandalism and fear of crime
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2, 3.2.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4]
- C4.2 The relative deprivation in the Mountsorrel priority neighbourhood is reduced with specific attention to reducing anti-social behaviour
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 3.2]
- C4.3 Youth facilities including the Soar Valley Centre are fully used.
[Access to Services 7.1.1; Rural 7.2.5; Children and Young People 1.5, 2.8.1, 5.4.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]
- C4.4 Cohesion in communities is improved and communities living in the new developments are integrated with previously existing communities.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.6, 2.2.1; Housing 3.8, 3.8.3]

South Charnwood Area Forum (C5)

This Forum covers the Main Town of Syston and Town/Large village of Thurmaston (within the Leicester Principal Urban Area), the key Rural/ Service Centre of East Goscote and a priority neighbourhood covering Syston and Thurmaston. It is also one of the areas in the County where a Sustainable Urban Extension has been proposed in the draft Regional Plan.

This area extends from the north eastern fringe of Leicester through the villages in the Wreake Valley and to farming areas in the east. There are shopping facilities in Syston and at Thurmaston which adjoins Leicester and where an 'out of town' shopping centre was completed a few years ago. The eastern part of the area is far more rural in character.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

C5.1 Syston and Thurmaston centres are developed with better shops and businesses, improved parking, less litter, vandalism and anti social behaviour.

[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Safer Communities 3.2.1; 3.2.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4; Economic Development 5.1, 5.2]

C5.2 New development provides more affordable housing and a wider range of knowledge based employment that is physically and socially integrated and environmentally sustainable.

[Housing 1.4, 3.8; Economic Development 3.4, 5.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]

C5.3 Cohesion in communities is improved and communities living in the new developments are integrated within previously existing communities.

[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.6, 2.2.1; Housing 3.8, 3.8.3]

C5.4 New development allows significant improvements to infrastructure and local services on the northern fringe of Leicester, improving accessibility from the rural part of the Forum area.

[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.4; Rural 7.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

C5.5 Relative deprivation is reduced in the priority neighbourhoods in Syston and Thurmaston with:

- less fear of crime
- less anti-social behaviour
- better educational attainment
- fewer school exclusions

[Vulnerable People 1.2; Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2.1; Economic Development 5.3.1; Children and Young People 1.5.3, 5.4.11, 5.4.6]

Shepshed, Dishley and Hathern Area Forum (C6)

This Forum includes the Main Town of Shepshed, part of the Loughborough west priority neighbourhood of Dishley, and the Rural/Service Centre of Hathern and surrounding rural area.

Shepshed is a small town and Hathern a village to the east and north of Loughborough respectively. Shepshed has higher than average manufacturing industry but its town centre has declined. Hathern experiences considerable traffic volumes along the A6.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

C6.1 Shepshed Town Centre is improved with better range of shops, improved cleanliness and less antisocial behaviour in the evening.

[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2, 3.3.4; Safer Communities 3.2.1; Economic Development 5.2.1]

C6.2 Less traffic goes through the centre of Hathern.

[Transport 3.5, 4.5]

Quorn, Barrow, Sileby and The Wolds Area Forum (C7)

This Forum covers the Rural/Service Centres of Barrow-upon-Soar, Quorn and Sileby and the rural area around these Centres. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods.

Quorn is a large and generally prosperous village in the A6 River Soar corridor close to Loughborough. Barrow & Sileby are on the other side of that corridor on the eastern side of the Soar Valley. Villages in the Wolds are generally small and some to the east of Loughborough experience considerable traffic volumes.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- C7.1 People in the area have improved access to facilities, particularly through development of Quorn, Barrow and Sileby as service centres.
[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Rural 7.2.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

- C7.2 The effects of traffic have been mitigated.
[Transport 3.5, 4.5]

- C7.3 Improved response to problems caused by flooding.
[Climate Change 4.2.1, 4.2.2]

PLACES IN HARBOROUGH

Market Harborough Community Forum Area (H1)

This Forum covers the Main Town of Market Harborough (a Sub Regional Centre) including a priority neighbourhood.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- H1.1 Market Harborough is a strong community where people are involved, engaged and play a role in decision making.
[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1]
- H1.2 Levels of recorded anti-social behaviour and crime are reduced - Market Harborough is a "safe" community.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2.1, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]
- H1.3 Improved street and environmental cleanliness i.e. fly-tipping, graffiti and littering are reduced.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4]
- H1.4 Increased levels of participation amongst teenagers in a wide range of activities accessible within their communities.
{Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2; Children and Young People 1.5 2.8, 2.8.1, 5.4.2 Healthier Communities 6.9.1}
- H1.5 Increased provision of free play for children and young people.
[Access to Services 7.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]
- H1.6 There are a range of community arts and leisure facilities and community buildings.
[Sport and Culture 6.1, 6.1.1; 2.6; Access to Services 7.1.1]
- H1.7 Older and younger people are engaged in volunteering that contributes to society, develops skills and opens up employment opportunities and volunteers are trained and supported effectively.
[Volunteering 2.7.1, 2.7.2, 2.7.3, 2.7.7, 2.7.8; Stronger Communities 2.1; Children and Young People 2.8; Older People 2.9]
- H1.8 New developments are built to higher design and environmental standards, are sustainable, better supported by services and infrastructure and are affordable for local people.
[Housing 1.4, 3.8, 3.8.1, 3.8.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]
- H1.9 More vulnerable people are supported to maintain independent living.
[Older people 1.9, 1.7; Healthier Communities 6.7; Access to Services 7.1.1; Vulnerable People 1.1]
- H1.10 There is good local healthcare.
[Older People 6.6; Healthier Communities 6.7; Access to Services 7.1.1]

H1.11 Market Harborough maintains a strong local economy, with a range of work opportunities and its town centre is attractive to both visitors and residents.

[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4; Economic Development 3.4, 5.1, 5.2.2; Access to Services 7.1.4]

H1.12 The effects of traffic congestion are reduced and through traffic is well managed.

[Transport 3.5, 4.5]

Lutterworth Community Forum Area (H2)

This Forum consists of the Main Town of Lutterworth and the surrounding rural area, including the settlement of Ullesthorpe. There are no priority neighbourhoods or Rural Centres.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- H2.1 Lutterworth town centre is more attractive to both visitors and residents with less traffic and litter.
[Access to Services 7.1.4; Economic Development 5.2.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4; Transport 4.5]
- H2.2 Levels of recorded anti-social behaviour in Lutterworth are reduced.
[Safer Communities 3.2.1]
- H2.3 New developments are built to higher design and environmental standards and better supported by services and infrastructure.
[Housing 3.8, 3.8.1, 3.8.2]
- H2.4 Lutterworth and surrounding villages are strong communities where people are involved, engaged and play a role in decision making.
[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1; Equalities 2.3.2]
- H2.5 Nitrogen dioxide concentrations are monitored and reduced in Air Quality Management Areas.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.5, Transport 6.4.1]
- H2.6 The impact of traffic on communities and individuals is reduced.
[Transport 3.5, 4.5, 6.3]
- H2.7 Local employers have adopted Green Travel Plans
[Transport 4.5.1, 4.5.2]
- H2.8 There is integrated local healthcare.
[Older People 6.6; Healthier Communities 6.7; Access to Services 7.1.1]

Broughton Astley and Rural West Community Forum Area (H3)

This Forum covers the Main Town of Broughton Astley, the Rural Centre of Husbands Bosworth and the surrounding rural area. There are no priority neighbourhoods.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

Broughton Astley

H3.1 Levels of recorded anti-social behaviour in Broughton Astley are reduced.
[Safer Communities 3.2.1]

H3.2 Broughton Astley maintains a strong local economy and its town centre provides a range of retail services and facilities and space for local businesses.

[Economic Development 5.1, 5.2.1, 3.4; Access to Services 7.1.4]

H3.3 There is additional formal and informal recreation space, including sports pitches and allotment sites.

[Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Access to Services 7.1.1]

Forum Area

H3.4 The town and villages are strong communities where people are involved, engaged and play a role in decision making.

[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1; Equalities 2.3.2]

H3.5 There are a wide range of services, activities and leisure facilities for young people within their communities.

[Rural 7.2; Children and Young People 1.5, 5.4.2, 2.8; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1; Equalities 2.4.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

H3.6 Increased number of affordable homes, particularly in rural areas.

[Housing 1.4; Rural 7.2.4]

H3.7 Increased business start-up, growth and diversification in rural areas

[Economic Development 5.1.1, 5.1.2; Rural 7.2.3]

H3.8 Access to facilities and services is enhanced.

[Access to Services 7.1; Equalities 2.4.2]

H3.9 Increased coverage by community transport schemes

[Access to Services 7.1.2; Rural 7.2.2; Transport 4.5.1]

H3.10 Communities take action to reduce their impact on the environment.

[Climate Change 4.1]

Mid Rural Community Forum Area (H4)

This Forum consists of the Rural Centres of Great Glen, Kibworth and Fleckney and surrounding rural area. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods in this Forum area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- H4.1 The impact of traffic on the A6 on communities and individuals in Kibworth is reduced.
[Transport 3.5, 4.5]
- H4.2 Increased number of affordable homes.
[Housing 1.4; Rural 7.2.4]
- H4.3 Increased business start-up, growth and diversification.
[Economic Development 5.1.1, 5.1.2; Rural 7.2.3]
- H4.4 Access to facilities and services is enhanced, especially for older and younger people.
[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1; Stronger Communities 2.1.8, Children and Young People 5.4.2; Rural 7.2.1; Equalities 2.4.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]
- H4.5 Increased coverage by community transport schemes.
[Access to Services 7.1.2; Rural 7.2.2; Transport 4.5.1]
- H4.6 Strong local communities where people are involved and engaged, play a role in decision making and take action to reduce their impact on the environment.
[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1; Cleaner and Greener 4.1]
- H4.7 Reduced isolation of older and young people living in rural areas.
[Rural 7.2.5; Volunteering 2.7.1, 2.7.2; Older people 6.6]

Rural East Community Forum Area (H5)

This Forum area is based around the Rural Centre of Billesdon and surrounding rural area, plus the Principal Urban Area of Leicester settlements of Thurnby, Bushy and Scraftoft. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- H5.1 Increased number of affordable homes.
[Housing 1.4; Rural 7.2.4]
- H5.2 Increased business start-up, growth and diversification.
[Economic Development 5.1.1, 5.1.2; Rural 7.2.3]
- H5.3 Access to facilities and services is enhanced, especially for older and younger people.
[Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.1; Stronger Communities 2.1.8, Children and Young People 5.4.2; Rural 7.2.1; Equalities 2.4.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]
- H5.4 Increased coverage by community transport schemes.
[Access to Services 7.1.2; Rural 7.2.2; Transport 4.5.1]
- H5.5 Strong local communities where people are involved and engaged, play a role in decision making and take action to reduce their impact on the environment.
[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1; Climate Change 4.1]
- H5.6 Reduced isolation of older and young people.
[Rural 7.2.5; Volunteering 2.7.1, 2.7.2; Older people 6.6]
- H5.7 Communities feel safe and anti-social behaviour such as fly tipping is controlled.
[Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1, 3.2.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4]

PLACES IN HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH

Hinckley Area Community Forum Area (HB1)

This Forum includes the Main Town of Hinckley (The Hinckley and Bosworth LDF identifies the Main Town as the urban areas of Hinckley, Burbage, Barwell and Earl Shilton). The area surrounding the sub regional centre is largely rural. This is one of the areas in the County where Sustainable Urban Extensions will be delivered.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

HB1.1 The image of Hinckley is good - more people live in the Town Centre, there is good range of shops, including specialist shops, more leisure and cultural and tourism facilities, and people feel safe in the Town Centre at all times.
[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Sport and Culture 6.1; Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1; Economic Development 5.2.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

HB1.2 The relationship between pedestrians and traffic in the Town Centre is improved, accessibility is better for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport, and there are better links across the town centre.
[Transport 3.5.1, 4.5.1, 6.3]

HB1.3 The sustainable urban extension will contribute to town centre improvements; shops fronts and factories have been enhanced, street furniture is improved and the Earl Shilton by-pass is completed.
[Access to Services 7.1.4; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.1, 3.3.2; Transport 3.5]

HB1.4 There is better access to health facilities, sports facilities and all shops in Barwell.
[Access to Services 7.1.1; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Economic Development 5.1.1, 5.2.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Equalities 2.3.2; Children and Young People 6.5.1]

HB1.5 There is less anti-social behaviour, litter, damage and graffiti, on the streets and in jitties, violent crime and domestic violence are reduced, there are fewer burglaries in Earl Shilton and Barwell and fewer assaults in Barwell.
[Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1, 3.2.2, 6.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4; Children and Young People 1.5]

HB1.6 People feel that they have influence over their lives and the decisions affecting them.
[Equalities 2.5, 2.5.1, Stronger 2.1, 2.1.1, 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1]

HB1.7 Less people are obese, people eat well and levels of smoking and binge drinking are reduced (particularly in Barwell).
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.7.1, 6.9, 6.10, 6.11, 6.11.2; Safer Communities 6.2; Children and Young People 6.5.1]

HB1.8 There are more facilities, activities and meeting places for children and young people, fewer young people are Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), fewer pupils excluded from school and children do well at all Key Stages.

[Children and Young People 1.5.1, 1.6.2, 2.8.1, 5.4.2; Access to Services 7.1.1, Volunteering 2.7.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

HB1.9 Household income levels are higher in Earl Shilton and Barwell and fewer children and older people experience poverty, more people are economically active and there are fewer job seeker allowance (JSA) and income support claimants.

[Stronger Communities 2.1.4; Economic Development 5.3, 5.3.6, 5.3.7]

HB1.10 There are decent, well managed, high quality and affordable homes in Hinckley, Earl Shilton, Barwell & Burbage.

[Housing 1.4, 3.7, 3.7.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.3]

HB1.11 A reduction of emissions and green house gasses in Burbage, and a reduction in the amount of waste going to landfill.

[Cleaner and Greener 4.3; Climate Change 4.1.1]

HB1.12 Excellent public transport, walking and cycling links exist between the urban extensions, Earl Shilton, Hinckley Town and Barwell centre.

[Transport 4.5.1, 3.6]

Markfield, Groby and Ratby Community Forum Area (HB2)

This Forum includes a priority neighbourhood, covering parts of Bagworth and Thornton, the key rural centres, the key Rural Centres of Bagworth, Desford, Barlestone, Groby, Ratby and Markfield and the surrounding area. There are no Main Towns in this Forum area

Draft Priority Outcomes:

HB2.1 Fear of crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour is reduced.

[Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1, 3.2.1, 3.2.2; Children and Young People 1.5.3]

HB2.2 People get on well with other people from different backgrounds, there is good community spirit, and people feel involved in decision making.

[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.7, 2.2.1; Equalities 2.5; Children and Young People 2.8.1; Older People 2.9.1]

HB2.3 People in the area have better access to health facilities and amenities particularly for ageing and disability needs.

[Vulnerable People 1.1.4; Access to Services 7.1.1, Healthier Communities 6.7; 6.9.1; Equalities 2.3.2; Older People 6.6]

HB2.4 Improved access to employment and public transport in the area.

[Economic Development 5.3, 5.3.7; Transport 4.5.1]

HB2.5 Speed of traffic around the schools in Groby and Markfield has been reduced and through traffic is minimised with better traffic management on the A50 and A46 roads.

[Transport 3.5.1; 6.3, 6.3.1, 4.5]

HB2.6 Pollution, including noise pollution from the A50 and M1 roads and light pollution, has been reduced.

[Transport 6.4.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.5]

HB2.7 Environmental degradation caused by parked vehicles has been reduced in both Groby and Ratby.

[Transport 3.5]

HB2.8 There are more facilities and activities for young people in Desford and the village hall has been improved.

[Access to Services 7.1.1; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2]

HB2.9 Deprivation in relation to income, employment and income deprivation affecting children in Bagworth and Thornton has been reduced.

[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.4; Children and Young People 1.5]

HB2.10 People are healthier in the priority neighbourhood and fewer people Smoke.

[Healthier Communities 6.7 - 6.12, Children and Young People 6.5.11]

HB2.11 There are better education and health facilities.

[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4]

HB2.12 Development of affordable Housing for the area, supporting a sustainable community.

[Housing 3.7, 1.4, 3.8.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.3; Rural 7.2.4]

HB2.13 There has been a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gases and the amount of waste that goes to landfill.

[Climate Change 4.1.3, Cleaner and Greener 4.3]

Bosworth Community Forum Area (HB3)

This Forum covers the key Rural Centre of Market Bosworth and the surrounding rural area. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods within this area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

HB3.1 There is less HGV traffic and speeding through the villages.

[Transport 4.5, 3.5.1, 6.3.1]

HB3.2 The range and quality of shops in Market Bosworth has been maintained.

[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4]

HB3.3 Access to employment is improved, supported by improved public transport.

[Access to Services 7.1.1; Rural 7.2.2; Equalities 2.4.2; Economic Development 3.4]

HB3.4 Access to all types of housing, including affordable housing is improved.

[Housing 3.7, 1.4; Vulnerable People 1.1.3; Rural 7.2.4]

HB3.5 There are more facilities available to the elderly, young people and young children.

[Access to Services 7.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Children and Young People 5.4.2; Older People 6.6]

HB3.6 There are more leisure and learning opportunities for all ages.

[Sport and Culture 2.6, 6.1; Access to Services 7.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

HB3.7 The heritage and tourism potential is maximised.

[Economic Development 5.2.2, Cleaner and Greener 4.4.3; Rural 7.2.6]

HB3.8 There has been a reduction in emissions of greenhouse gasses and the amount of waste going to landfill

[Climate Change 4.1.3, Cleaner and Greener 4.3]

PLACES IN MELTON

Melton Mowbray Community Forum Area (M1)

This Forum covers the Main Town/Sub Regional Centre of Melton Mowbray and one priority neighbourhood divided into three zones - Town Centre Flats, Egerton and Fairmead and South Melton. There are no rural centres.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

M1.1 Melton Mowbray Town Centre is clean, safe and accessible with a wide choice of employment, shops, office accommodation, affordable housing, leisure and entertainment.

[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Safer Communities 3.1, Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4; Economic Development 5.1, 5.2.1, 3.4; Housing 1.4; Equalities 2.3.2]

M1.2 There are good transport links into the town centre, including from the station.

[Transport 4.5.1]

M1.3 The amount of traffic in the centre of Melton has been reduced.

[Transport 3.5.1, 4.5, 6.3]

M1.4 The employment base is more competitive and diverse.

[Economic Development 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 3.4]

M1.5 Fewer people binge drink.

[Healthier Communities 6.7; Safer Communities 6.2]

M1.6 Land and buildings meet current and future employment needs.

[Economic Development 3.4]

M1.7 The heritage and tourism potential of the area is maximised.

[Economic Development 5.2.2; Cleaner and Greener 4.4.3; Rural 7.2.6]

In the Melton Town Centre Flats priority neighbourhood zone:

M1.8 Less older people experience financial exclusion.

[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.4; Older People 1.7]

M1.9 Anti-social behaviour has been reduced, as has violence against the person and theft.

[Safer Communities 1.3, 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.1; Children and Young People 1.5.3; Vulnerable Places 1.2; Vulnerable People 1.1]

M1.10 People eat more fruit and vegetables - as a result fewer people in the area are obese.

[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.10; Children and Young People 6.5.1]

In the Melton Egerton and Fairmead priority neighbourhood zone:

M1.11 Household incomes are higher and less people are poor.

[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.4]

M1.12 Levels of domestic violence, violence against the person, theft and theft from motor vehicles are all lower.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 3.1.1, 3.1.2, 3.2.2, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]

M1.13 Anti social behaviour is reduced and therefore a decrease in criminal damage.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 1.3, 3.2.2]

M1.14 There are fewer obese people - people eat more fruit and vegetables and exercise more.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.9, 6.10; Children and Young People 6.5.1]

M1.15 Fewer people smoke.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.11]

M1.16 Fewer children and young people are excluded from school and Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET), and educational attainment is much better at all Key Stages.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Children and Young People 1.6.2, 5.4.1, 5.4.6, 1.5.1]

M1.17 Car use for travel to work is reduced and cycling, walking, and community transport increased.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Transport 3.5, 4.5.1]

In the South Melton priority neighbourhood zone:

M.1.18 Levels of domestic violence have been reduced.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 1.3; 3.1.2]

M.1.19 Burglary and theft from motor vehicles is reduced.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Safer Communities 1.3; 3.1]

M.1.20 Average household income is higher;
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.4; Older People 1.7.2; Children and Young People 1.6]

M.1.21 Increase the amount of people at working age who are economically active.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Economic Development 5.3.6, 5.3.7]

M.1.22 Attainment at Key Stage 2 is as good as it is at Key Stages 3 and 4; and fewer children are excluded from school.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Children and Young People 5.4.1, 5.4.6, 1.5.1]

M.1.23 Fewer people smoke;
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.11]

M.1.24 People eat more fruit and vegetables and exercise more. *[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.9, 6.10; Children and Young People 6.5.1]*

Melton West Community Forum Area (M2)

This Forum consists of the Rural Centre of Asfordby and surrounding rural area. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods within this Form area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- M2.1 The living environment is improved in Asfordby, more people attend training and education and fewer older people live in income deprived households.
[Economic Development 5.3, Stronger Communities 2.1.4; Older People 1.7.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]
- M2.2 Local people have a choice of affordable housing and access to key services; (health, post office, libraries etc) is improved, including through the provision of mobile services and better public and community transport.
[Rural 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.4; Housing 3.7, 3.8.2, Access to Services 7.1.1; Transport 4.5.1; Vulnerable People 1.1.3]
- M2.3 Less people are obese and people have better access to sport and leisure facilities and to healthy food;
[Healthier Communities 6.9.1, 6.10.1; Children and Young People 6.5.1]
- M2.4 People have a strong sense of community.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.2; Equalities 2.5]
- M2.5 More people who are working age are in employment and self employment is supported.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.3, 5.3.4, 5.3.7]
- M2.6 There are more activities for young people.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Rural 7.2.5, Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Children and Young People 1.5, 2.8.1, 5.4.2; Volunteering 2.7.2]

Belvoir Community Forum Area (M3)

This Forum covers the Rural Centres of Bottesford, Long Clawson and Waltham on the Wolds and the surrounding rural areas. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods within this Forum area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- M3.1 Local people have a choice of affordable housing and access to key services; (health, post office, libraries etc) is improved, including through the provision of mobile services and better public and community transport;
[Rural 7.2.1, 7.2.2, 7.2.4; Housing 3.7, 3.8.2, Access to Services 7.1.1; Transport 4.5.1; Vulnerable People 1.1.3]

- M3.2 Traffic volume and speed has been reduced and roads have been improved;
[Transport 3.5, 4.5, 6.3]

- M3.3 There are improved facilities and activities for young people.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Rural 7.2.5, Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Children and Young People 1.5, 2.8.1, 5.4.2; Volunteering 2.7.2]

- M3.4 People feel safer and there is less anti social behaviour.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2.1, 1.3, Children and Young People 1.5.3]

- M3.5 People feel that they can influence local decision making.
[Equalities 2.5; Older People 2.9; Stronger Communities 2.1.3; Children and Young People 2.8]

PLACES IN NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE

Coalville Community Forum Area (NW1)

The area covered by this Forum includes the Main Town/Sub Regional Centre of Coalville, two priority areas within the town and a small rural area. This is one of the areas in the County where a Sustainable Urban Extension is proposed.

Coalville Town Centre

Draft Priority Outcome:

NW1.1 Coalville Town Centre is a quality, sustainable, urban environment, providing a range of business, retail, leisure and cultural opportunities that are suitable for all ages and communities.
[Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Equalities 2.3.2, 2.4; Economic Development 5.2, 3.4]

Draft Sub-outcomes

NW1.2 A strong and vibrant night-time economy.
[Economic Development 5.1]

NW1.3 More places, spaces and activities for children and young people (especially teenagers).
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Children and Young People 2.8.1, 5.4.2, 1.5]

NW1.4 Reduced levels and fear of crime.
[Safer Communities 3.1; 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]

NW1.5 The town's carbon footprint is reduced.
[Climate Change 4.1]

NW1.6 All housing and other growth has been developed using sustainable principles and practices.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Housing 3.8.1; Climate Change 4.1.2]

Priority Neighbourhoods

Draft Priority Outcome:

NW1.7 The inequality between the priority neighbourhoods and the rest of the County has been reduced and people are able to access a range of quality services, support and advice locally.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2, Access to Services 7.1, 7.1.3; Healthier Communities 6.7.1; Equalities 2.4.2]

Draft Sub-outcomes:

NW1.8 More older people are living independent lives.
[Vulnerable People 1.1.2; Older People 1.7, 2.9.1, 6.6]

NW1.9 Children's Centres provide spaces and opportunities for families to develop their skills and help provide a sure start in life for 0-5 year olds.
[Access to Services 7.1.1]

- NW1.10 Educational attainment for all children & young people is rising, particularly progression rates between KS3 & KS4 and the number of young people leaving full time education at 16 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is falling.
[Children and Young People 5.4.1, 1.6.2]
- NW1.11 People are active and healthier and are able to access support, advice and information locally, including drug and alcohol services, smoking cessation and mental health services and are able to make lifestyle choices to improve well-being.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8, 6.8.2, 6.9, 6.10, 6.11; Safer Communities 6.2.1; Children and Young People 6.5]
- NW1.12 Public transport is integrated and enables everyone to have greater access to a wider range of learning, training and employment opportunities.
[Children and Young People 5.4, Economic Development 5.1, 5.3.4]
- NW1.13 People want to live in the Greenhill and Coalville Urban area and have a sense of belonging, pride in where they live, and feel safe.
[Safer Communities 3.1; Vulnerable Places 1.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.2]

Ashby Community Forum Area

This Forum area includes the Main Town of Ashby, including a priority neighbourhood, two Rural Centres - Measham and Ibstock - and the rural areas around these.

Ashby

Draft Priority Outcome:

NW2.1 Ashby Town Centre provides a range of quality business, retail, leisure and cultural opportunities that supports and encourages sustainability locally.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Economic Development 2.1, 3.4, 5.1]

Draft Sub-outcomes:

NW2.2 Sustainable business opportunities have been developed in sectors associated with the local environment including wood products and tourism.
[Economic Development 5.1, 3.4; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Rural 7.2.3]

NW2.3 The role and coverage of the National Forest has been increased.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Economic Development 5.2.2; Climate Change 4.4.1, 4.4.3; Rural 7.2.6]

NW2.4 More spaces, places and activities for young people within Ashby and surrounding neighbourhoods.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Children and Young People 2.8.1, 5.4.2, 1.5]

NW2.5 The quality of the urban environment has been improved with all growth, including housing, developed using sustainable approaches.
[Climate Change 4.1; Housing 3.8.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]

NW2.6 The carbon footprint of the town is reduced.
[Climate Change 4.1]

NW2.7 There is less crime and fear of crime, particularly during the evening
[Safer Communities 3.1, 1.3; Children and Young People 1.5.3]

Priority Neighbourhoods

Draft Priority Outcome:

NW2.8 The inequality between the priority neighbourhoods and the rest of the County has been reduced and people are able to access a range of quality services, information, support and advice close to where they live.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2, Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.3, 7.1.4; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Equalities 2.4.2; Sport and Culture 6.1.1]

Draft Sub-outcomes:

- NW2.9 Older people are living independent lives and have good access to learning opportunities.
[Vulnerable People 1.1.2; Older People 1.7, 6.6; Sport and Culture 2.6]
- NW2.10 Children's Centres provide spaces and opportunities for families to develop their skills and help provide a sure start in life for 0-5 year olds.
[Access to Services 7.1.1]
- NW2.11 Educational attainment for all children & young people is rising, particularly progression rates between KS3 & KS4 and the number of young people leaving full time education at 16 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is falling.
[Children and Young People 5.4.1, 1.6.2, 1.5]
- NW2.12 People are more active and healthier and are able to access support, advice and information locally, including drug and alcohol and mental health services and receive support to help them make lifestyle choices to improve well-being.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8, 6.8.26.9, 6.10, 6.11; Safer Communities 6.2.1; Children and Young People 6.5]
- NW2.13 The number of teenage parents has reduced.
[Children and Young People 6.5.4]
- NW2.14 Public transport meets the needs of all local people by providing access to employment, training, leisure and cultural activities in and around the area.
[Access to Services 7.1.1; Transport 4.5.11]
- NW2.15 People have pride in where they live, have reduced levels of crime and fear of crime and are involved in making decisions about their neighbourhood.
[Safer Communities 3.1; Equalities 2.5; Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.3; Older People 2.9.1]

Rural Centres-Measham and Ibstock

Draft Priority Outcome:

- NW2.16 There are increased opportunities for people locally to access services, retail, leisure and cultural activities which has been achieved by the unique collaboration achieved through being at the heart of the National Forest. The quality of the local environment has been enhanced and sustainable developments delivered.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 4.4.1, 4.4.3; Access to Services 7.1.1; Housing 3.8.1]

Draft Sub-outcomes (in addition to those covered under Priority Neighbourhood):

- NW2.17 More opportunities have been created in sustainable business developments, particularly with those associated with wood products.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.2, 3.4; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Rural 7.2.3]
- NW2.18 All members of the many communities within the area feel included and intolerance is challenged.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.2, 2.2.1; Equalities 2.3.3, 2.4.1]
- NW2.19 Anti-social behaviour has been reduced.
[Safer Communities 3.2.1, 1.3]
- NW2.20 People have better access to health services
[Access to Services 7.1; Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.9.1]

Valley Community Forum Area (NW3)

This Forum consists of the key Rural Centre of Castle Donington and Kegworth, a priority neighbourhood and a large rural area. There are no Main Towns within this Forum area.

Priority Neighbourhood

Draft Priority Outcome:

NW3.1 The inequality between the priority neighbourhood and the rest of the County has been reduced and people are able to access a range of quality services, information, support and advice close to where they live.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2, Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.3, 7.1.4; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Equalities 2.4.2; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Economic Development 5.2, 3.4]

Draft Sub-outcomes:

NW3.2 More older people are living independent lives.
[Vulnerable People 1.1.2; Older People 1.7]

NW3.3 Children's Centres provide spaces and opportunities for families to develop their skills and help provide a sure start in life for 0-5 year olds.
[Access to Services 7.1.1]

NW3.4 Educational attainment for all children & young people is rising, particularly progression rates between KS3 & KS4 and the number of young people leaving full time education at 16 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is falling.
[Children and Young People 5.4.1, 1.6.2]

NW3.5 People are more active and healthier and are able to access support, advice and information locally, including drug and alcohol and mental health services and receive support to help them make lifestyle choices to improve well-being.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8, 6.8.26.9, 6.10, 6.11; Safer Communities 6.2.1; Children and Young People 6.5]

NW3.6 Roads and public transport has been improved and enable people to access services, training and employment opportunities.
[Transport 3.6, 4.5.1; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.2]

NW3.7 People have pride in where they live, have reduced levels of crime and fear of crime and are involved in making decisions about their neighbourhood.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 1.3; Equalities 2.5; Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.3; Older People 2.9.1]

Rural Centres

Draft Priority Outcomes:

NW3.8 The range of local employment opportunities, access to services, retail, leisure and cultural activities has been developed to meet the needs of the people of Castle Donington and Kegworth. This has been achieved by building on the unique opportunities provided locally through the Airport and Donington Race track and has been developed to enhance the quality of the local environment.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2, 3.3.3, 4.4.1, 4.4.3; Access to Services 7.1.1; Housing; 3.8.1; Economic Development 5.1; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Rural 7.2.3; Equalities 2.4.2]

Draft Sub-Outcomes:

NW3.9 Young people have been involved with creating more places, spaces and activities for them to take part in and use.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Volunteering 2.7.2; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Children and Young People 2.8.1, 5.4.2, 1.5]

NW3.10 Educational attainment for all children & young people is rising, particularly progression rates between KS3 & KS4 and the number of young people leaving full time education at 16 who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) is falling.
[Children and Young People 5.4.1, 1.6.2, 1.5]

NW3.11 The night time economy is strong and vibrant with the centres being used by all.
[Economic Development 5.1]

NW3.12 More opportunities have been created in sustainable business developments, particularly with those associated with wood products.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.2.1, 3.4; Rural 7.2.3]

NW3.13 People have pride in where they live, have reduced levels of crime and fear of crime and are involved in making decisions about their neighbourhood.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 1.3; Equalities 2.5; Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.3]

NW3.14 Public transport meets the needs of all local people by providing access to employment, training, leisure and cultural activities in and around the area.
[Transport 3.6, 4.5.1; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.2; Rural 7.2]

NW3.15 People are more active and healthier and are able to access support, advice and information locally, including drug and alcohol and mental health services and receive support to help them make lifestyle choices to improve well-being.
[Healthier Communities 6.7, 6.8, 6.8.2, 6.9, 6.10, 6.11; Safer Communities 6.2.1; Children and Young People 6.5]

NW3.16 All members of the many communities within the area feel included and intolerance is challenged.
 [*Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.2, 2.2.1; Equalities 2.4.1, 2.3.3*]

PLACES IN OADBY AND WIGSTON

Oadby Community Forum Area (OW1)

This Forum covers the Town of Oadby. There are no Rural Centres or rural areas.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- OW1.1 Oadby is a safe and attractive place to shop, live and work with an improved image, a pedestrian friendly environment and good accessibility to local facilities.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.4; Safer Communities 3.1; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Housing 3.7; Transport 4.5]
- OW1.2 The buildings are high quality and well designed and there are good physical and economic links within the town, and between the town and surrounding catchment.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2; Economic Development 5.1; Transport 3.6]
- OW1.3 All services are accessible to a growing population, regardless of ethnicity or age.
[Equalities 2.4, 2.4.2; Vulnerable People 1.1.1; Access to Services 7.1]
- OW1.4 There is more recreational and social activity amongst different groups.
[Sport and Culture 6.1.1, 6.1.2; Children and Young People 6.5.1; Stronger Communities 2.1.1]
- OW1.5 There is better cohesion between communities and cultures and people feel that they belong.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1; 2.2, 2.2.1; Equalities 2.4.1]
- OW1.6 Young people are engaged in rewarding pursuits and contribute towards the reduction in fear of crime.
[Children and Young People 1.5.3, 5.4.2, 2.8; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Safer Communities 1.3; Volunteering 2.7.2]
- OW1.7 Better training and employment opportunities have reduced the unemployment rate amongst disadvantaged places and groups.
[Vulnerable Places 1.2; Economic Development 5.3, 5.3.6, 5.3.7, Equalities 2.4.2; Vulnerable People 1.1]
- OW1.8 There are more high quality businesses in the area, which has led to increased economic activity.
[Economic Development 5.1, 5.2.1, 3.4]

Wigston Community Forum Area (OW2)

This Forum covers the Town of Wigston.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- OW2.1 Wigston town centre has a diverse range of local facilities and shops, including spaces for young people.
[Access to Services 7.1.4; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Healthier Communities 6.9.1]

- OW2.2 Wigston town centre is a safe and clean place where the numbers of young people involved in positive activities and contribute towards a reduction in the fear of crime, drug crime and anti-social behaviour.
[Safer Communities 3.1, 3.2.1, 1.3, 6.2; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Children and Young People 1.5.3, 2.8.1; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.4]

- OW2.3 Residents have a strong sense of belonging and contribute towards the development of services and the long-term viability of the area.
[Stronger Communities 2.1.1, 2.1.3, 2.1.7; Children and Young People 2.8, Older People 2.9; Equalities 2.5]

- OW2.4 Wigston is an attractive and accessible place to shop, live and work.
Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.1]

- OW2.5 Wigston looks like a better place with high quality properties / buildings.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]

South Wigston Community Forum Area (OW3)

This Forum covers the Town of South Wigston.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- OW3.1 There is a vibrant, safe, attractive and successful town centre, South Wigston looks better and there are more local businesses and high quality educational facilities.
[Cleaner and Greener 3.3.1, 3.3.2, 3.3.4; Safer Communities 3.1; Access to Services 7.1.1, 7.1.4; Housing 3.7; Transport 4.5; Economic Development 3.4, 5.1, 5.2]
- OW3.2 South Wigston is more outward looking and maximises its countryside and canal side setting.
[Economic Development 5.2.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.2]
- OW3.3 There are better facilities for businesses, education and communities so that local people can access employment, training and social activities.
[Housing 3.8.2; Economic Development 3.4; Vulnerable Places 1.2; Equalities 2.4.2]
- OW3.4 There is good access to public transport and people travel less by car – contributing towards a reduction in pollution levels.
[Transport 6.4, 4.5; Climate Change 4.1.1; Access to Services 7.1.2; Cleaner and Greener 3.3.5]
- OW3.5 Young people are engaged in the decisions that are made about the area, participate in high quality and rewarding leisure and recreation activities and contribute towards a reduction in the fear of crime.
[Children and Young People 1.5.3, 5.4.2, 2.8; Stronger Communities 2.1.8; Healthier Communities 6.9.1; Safer Communities 1.3; Volunteering 2.7.2; Sport and Culture 6.1.1; Equalities 2.5]
- OW3.6 There are accessible, safe and pedestrian friendly routes by all modes, to key destinations in and around the town centre.
[Transport 3.5, 3.6]