

# Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy

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This document, the second community strategy for Nottinghamshire, outlines the key priorities for the county over the next ten years.



Good schools, cutting crime and anti-social behaviour, effective healthcare, care for older and vulnerable people, transport links, interesting and attractive places to visit and positive things for young people to do. These are all vital services that make Nottinghamshire a great place to live. You tell us you care about public services – so our job is to make them the best they can be. The draft Strategy was consulted on and this final version reflects your views on the best way forward for the county.

The Nottinghamshire Partnership includes all the county's local authorities, and all the major organisations representing health, community safety, businesses and the voluntary sector (see Appendix i). They have all been involved in agreeing our priorities for the future and are committed to working together to achieve them.

We need **your** commitment to work with us all to meet these priorities. We would like to receive your comments and suggestions about how we might achieve this together (see Section 12 for information on how to contact us).

*Councillor Martin Suthers, OBE  
Chairman of the Nottinghamshire  
Strategic Partnership Board*



## 2 | Introduction

**This strategy replaces All Together Better, the first community strategy for Nottinghamshire, which ran from 2005 to 2009.**

Government guidance on sustainable community strategies says that they should 'tell the story of the place – the distinctive vision and ambition of the area, backed by clear evidence and analysis.' They give a context for the work of all partners and link them with local development frameworks, regional, sub-regional, local, parish and neighbourhood plans.

The guidance suggests the sort of information that should be in a sustainable community strategy:

- ambitious ideas of what the county should look like or be like – things which make it a better place – all of which is based on firm evidence of what people want and need
- what things are most important (based on these ambitious ideas) and also what can be realistically achieved in the timescale.

The Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three year agreement between the Nottinghamshire Partnership and Government which sets out the priorities for the county. It is a set of indicators reflecting local priorities and targets are negotiated with Government. The overall LAA and delivery plans for each theme outline the detailed actions to deliver these targets in the immediate future; these will be refreshed as part of a rolling programme, to enable us to learn from experience and be able to respond to changing circumstances where necessary.

This strategy will also guide the wider policies and delivery plans of all local partners and will provide a framework within which more localised and longer term plans can be developed. These will enable us to report progress on how well we are doing in delivering on targets outlined.

We recognise that we won't be able to do everything all at once and that it will be necessary to prioritise actions and respond to short-term issues should they arise; however, we believe that the strategy gives all local partners a shared plan for the next decade which will guide everyone in Nottinghamshire towards a better future.

# Nottinghamshire's Boroughs and Districts



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# 3 | Nottinghamshire – Our Vision for 2020

## Proud of our past, ambitious for our future

The Nottinghamshire Partnership has a shared vision for the future of the county.



The ambition of this vision will be achieved by focusing on the following areas:

- Economic success
- Better quality of life
- High quality environment
- Fair and sustainable communities

We will create a mixed and vibrant economy, supported by an educated, skilled and flexible workforce and improved infrastructure.

We will ensure full inclusion for all citizens by creating safe and healthy communities and a more prosperous county.

We will create sustainable communities which are able to access a wide choice of housing, leisure, sporting and cultural opportunities, and which are located in high quality environments in urban, suburban and rural settings.

The Partnership is committed to improving the lives of everyone in Nottinghamshire and will provide the leadership to ensure that this happens.



The six priorities for the future outlined in Section 10 have been identified from wide-ranging research and consultation which has been done. They are:

- **A greener Nottinghamshire** – this includes improving the environment, recycling, public transport, decent and affordable housing, the countryside, biodiversity, green space and cutting greenhouse gas emissions
- **A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential** – this includes education, safety, health, opportunities to enjoy sports, leisure and arts facilities, and economic issues affecting children and young people
- **A safer Nottinghamshire** – this includes crime and anti-social behaviour
- **Health and well-being for all** – this includes improving general health and life expectancy, tackling obesity, helping disabled people, as well as ensuring older people and vulnerable people are well looked after
- **A more prosperous Nottinghamshire** – this includes helping businesses to start up, grow and flourish, making sure that there are enough jobs, and people have the right skills and qualifications
- **Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger** – this includes access to services, culture, heritage and sport, community life, and a sense of community belonging and identity

Whilst targets for the next three years have been identified under each of the priorities, the current recession and its wider impact make forecasting the future very difficult when organisations are uncertain about future financial commitments. We suggest therefore that although the overall priorities should remain constant for the next 10 years, the three-year targets within this high level document will need to be reviewed in successive three-year programmes aligned to the LAA timetable, so that we can plan the best ways to address concerns and aspirations, and take advantage of future opportunities.

## 4 | How we put this strategy together

### What is this document based on?

- We have based it on the first community strategy, All Together Better 2005 – 2009, and work carried out by the Nottinghamshire Partnership and LAA groups.
- We have used information produced by all partners in the last year, which provides strong evidence on the current state of the county.
- We have consulted widely over the last two years; this has included your comments from the nationwide Place Survey, the Nottinghamshire Citizens' Panel, the Tellus youth survey and themed surveys on health and well-being and community safety. We have also used information from recent conferences and seminars on the local economy, and young people's views.
- We have included the work of district Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and their sustainable community strategies.

### How this document links with other important documents?

- This document has not been drafted in isolation. It sits within a context which includes the following strategies and action plans:

#### **Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement 2, 2008 – 2011**

The Local Area Agreement (LAA) is an important deliverer of many of the targets contained in the strategy. However many targets sit outside this and will be delivered by existing and developing partner plans.

#### **Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**

This strategy and related documents such as the Regional Economic Strategy (RES) provide a framework within which all partners work. There is also a series of specialist documents covering issues such as waste, minerals, and the Local Transport Plans. As of 1 April 2010, the East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy and Regional Economic Strategy were re-designated as the 'Single Strategy'.

#### **Local Development Frameworks (LDFs)**

Local authorities are developing local development frameworks for their areas which set out their land use planning (spatial planning) strategy. The local development framework will be made up of a number of documents which take into account local needs for development and growth such as land for housing and employment uses, whilst seeking to protect and enhance the environment, and maintain and develop the well-being of local communities.

#### **Partner strategic plans**

This strategy has been developed with reference to partner strategic plans. We have liaised closely with Nottingham City Council and One Nottingham as they have developed their sustainable community strategy. This has shown the important overlaps and relationships between the county and city areas.

Thematic county-wide partnerships are driving improvements in community safety, health and well-being, older people, children and young people, and other matters.

#### **Parish plans**

Over 40 parish councils in the county have produced parish plans focusing on their areas and many more are under development.

## Rural Strategy

The area of Nottinghamshire is largely rural and so it is important that the Nottinghamshire Rural Strategy has been developed alongside this document.

## Our evidence base

- We have chosen our six priorities based on facts and figures available on the state of the county and recent consultations, including:
  - Condition of Nottinghamshire 2009
  - The State of Nottinghamshire 2009
  - Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
  - Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment (Community Safety) 2009
  - Place Survey 2008
  - Headline Economic Assessment 2009
  - Nottinghamshire Opportunity Age 2009/12

For more information, see Appendix III.

# 5 | Nottinghamshire – the timeline

See Appendix V for full word version.

**1016**  
First written record of Nottinghamshire.

**11th century**  
Nottingham, Newark and Laxton castles are built along with churches at Worksop and Blyth and Southwell Minster.

**12th - 13th centuries**  
First mention of Robin Hood and of coal mining at Beauvale Abbey and Selston.

**15th century**  
Battle of East Stoke draws a final line under the Wars of the Roses.

**14th century**  
Expansion of the market towns Newark, Retford, Worksop and Mansfield.

**17th century**  
Pilgrim Fathers leave north Notts; the Civil War begins in Nottingham and marks Newark and other places with sieges and skirmishes.

**18th century**  
Domestic textiles and clothing production are affected by the rise of new technologies, building of earliest factories for cotton, silk and framework knitting, leading to industrialisation and the growth of new towns.

**19th century**  
Urbanisation and rapid population growth, railways, textiles and coal industry expand. Population doubles in the first half of the century and movement from rural/village areas into rapidly growing towns such as Mansfield, Sutton, Kirkby and Worksop. Coal production grew from 700,000 tonnes in 1862 to almost 7 million tonnes by 1897.

**20th century**  
DH Lawrence puts Notts on the literary map. Major power stations built along the Trent Valley. Other industries such as food processing, pharmaceuticals, engineering and tobacco expand.

**The first decade of the 21st century**  
has seen further rapid change, in population, the economy, technology, health services and education.



## 6 | Nottinghamshire today

**Nottinghamshire is a large county covering 805 square miles (2,085 sq km).**

There are three very distinct areas:

- the relatively affluent suburbs surrounding the City of Nottingham;
- the towns and villages in the north west which grew out of the textile and coal industries;
- rural areas to the east and south characterised by prosperous market towns and villages in the Trent Valley.

Outside Greater Nottingham, the main towns are Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield and Kirkby-in-Ashfield, Newark-on-Trent, Worksop and Retford. About a third of the county's population lives in rural areas where ensuring that services are accessible can be challenging.

The county has good transport links including the A1 and M1 motorways and the East Coast and Midland Mainline rail lines, as well as the proximity of East Midlands Airport and Robin Hood Airport.

In mid 2008, the population was 776,500 with each district/borough area being home to between 100,600 and 116,500 people. Population figures show a high number of older people in Newark and Sherwood and Gedling, a high number of young adults in Broxtowe, and higher numbers of young children in Ashfield and Mansfield. Although birth rates have risen recently, the longer-term projected decline in the number of children and young people, and rising numbers of older people raise significant issues for the type of services needed in the future.

Under 3% of the county's population is from ethnic minority groups, although there is a larger percentage in the areas close to Nottingham.

The largest group is Indian. There has also been a substantial increase in the number of migrant workers since 2004, although the number of entrants has decreased more recently.

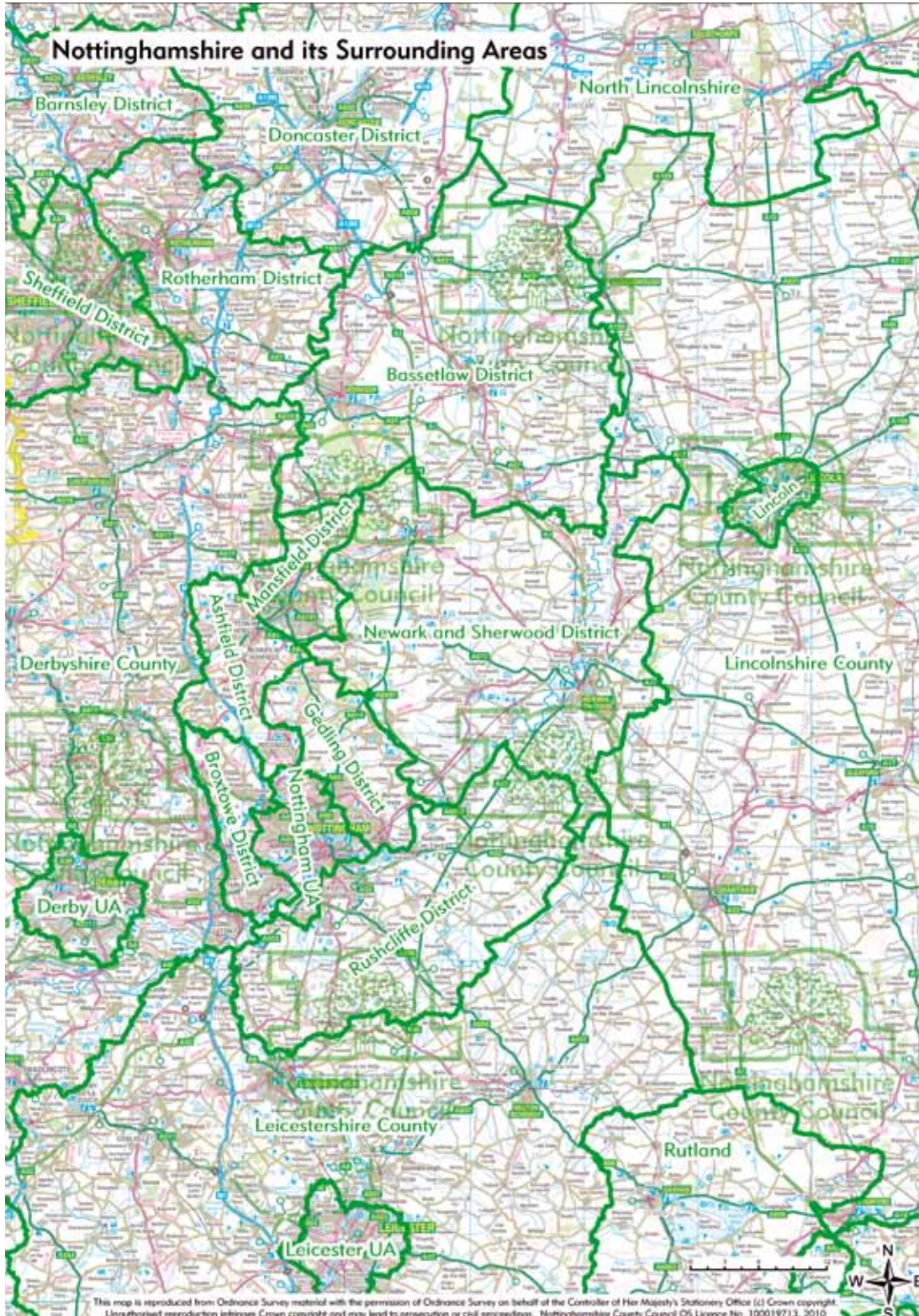
Until very recently, unemployment has been very low and employment rates reached record levels although levels of worklessness and qualification, and skills' levels have caused concern in some areas. In 2008, the recession began to impact upon the local economy and employment, with substantial numbers of job losses reported. Whilst the length and depth of the recession remains uncertain, it will clearly impact upon the county's economy in the longer term. Nottinghamshire's environment and landscape is varied and valuable. The timeline refers to the events that have shaped the countryside, buildings and people's sense of belonging. Our natural and historic landscape, the 4,000 listed buildings, 28 registered parks, 150 historic towns and villages designated as conservation areas, all contribute to environmental quality and sense of place.

The structure of the public sector is complex, with seven district/borough councils, 10 town councils, 151 parish councils and 38 parish meetings. Each of the districts has its own local partnership and its own local community strategy – and these are described further in Section 11 and Appendix VI. Many organisations operate on a county-wide basis – for example, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, Connexions, Jobcentre Plus, the Probation Service, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT). Others, including the two Primary Care Trusts and the four Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, follow different and variable boundaries. In addition partners

in Greater Nottingham have been undertaking joint work in planning, housing, transport and economic issues, recognising its important role as an employment, retail, service and cultural hub for southern Nottinghamshire.

many parts of the county have with other areas in the region and beyond: the Three Cities sub-region of Derby, Leicester and Nottingham with the urbanised south east of the county; east Derbyshire and the M1 corridor with Ashfield and Mansfield; South Yorkshire with Bassetlaw; and Lincolnshire with Newark and Sherwood.

The map below shows the basic administrative geography of the county and also draws attention to the important external links which



## 7 | Key background issues

There are a number of important background issues affecting the priorities identified in this strategy.

- **Changing population.** Although birth rates have increased recently, there will be smaller numbers of children and young people, and rising numbers of older people in the next few years. This needs to be considered in the planning of future services, particularly education, social care and housing. The number of over 85 year olds is set to double in the next 15 years. As a result, it is estimated that the number of care home places, or their equivalent in terms of intensive home care support, will need to double by 2025. Population projections and demographic change, for example the increasing numbers of single-person households, inform us that there will be a need for 100,000 new homes in the next few years.
- **Disparities** in deprivation, health, crime, education and employment between districts and communities within Nottinghamshire present real questions for all partners. We should work to improve all areas but intervene early, where possible, to prevent these arising.
- **Access to services** by all is crucial. Growing numbers of people are choosing to live in the rural or semi-rural areas of the county which can impact on the quieter lifestyles they are looking for. Also, decisions over the location of facilities such as post offices, village schools, banks, shops and pubs are crucial for the longer-term survival of rural or isolated communities.
- **Sustainability and Development.** Development of housing and transport, and economic regeneration can conflict with future environmental quality, our plant and animal species, and the green assets and image of the county. The effects of climate change have been felt in recent flooding and we need to ensure that we take wider environmental considerations into account when taking decisions about the location, nature and size of new developments.
- **Globalisation and Localism.** Growth of other economies does not necessarily have to damage our own and could stimulate innovation, higher-level skills and a more diverse economy. We may need to become more self-sufficient rather than relying on imported goods to avoid the effects of shrinking export markets, and rising prices for food, energy and raw materials. We need to ensure that our services are relevant and appropriate to local communities and that they make decisions about how they are delivered.
- **Information and communications technologies** and how they are used in commerce, education and retail may have unexpected consequences. How, for example, will the growth in internet shopping affect the future of our high streets and market towns? Will culture and sport be an individual rather than community experience? Will fewer people need to travel to work than we have seen in the recent past?
- **Quality of life and well-being** affect how satisfied people are with their communities and, usually, the services provided by public, private, voluntary and community organisations. Local environmental quality also affects how people feel about living in Nottinghamshire.



- **Raising aspirations** of people, communities and the county as a whole is crucial to achieving future prosperity and inclusion. Raising everyone's aspirations in education, jobs, health and the economy will help to reduce the disparities in some of the county's communities. Telling people about what a great county Nottinghamshire is will give it a stronger image and reputation across the world.

## 8 | Nottinghamshire's economy – recession and recovery

### Communities need a healthy economy to prosper and flourish.

It is important for us to map the places where people live and where they work so that we can plan for their overall well-being. Nottinghamshire is made up of a complex mosaic of relationships between people and places, many of which overlap with other counties and cities (see the map of Nottinghamshire on page 16). History shows that an over-reliance on traditional industries can create serious difficulties. In the early 1990s Nottinghamshire experienced major shocks due to the structural economic changes affecting coal, textiles, clothing and other manufacturing industries. These changes had a very serious impact on some communities. After that time the county recovered well as new industries came to the area, existing businesses expanded, and employment grew to record levels.

During 2008 the world-wide recession, caused by the near collapse in financial markets, brought the period of sustained economic growth to a sudden end. There has been a significant drop in output and unemployment has risen sharply. In Nottinghamshire, finance, retailing, construction and manufacturing have been the most affected.

It is difficult to predict how long this recession will last and what the effects will be; however, we know from previous recessions that falls in economic output will have a longer-term impact on employment. Unemployment is likely to rise for many months before companies have enough confidence to start recruiting again. It is thought that it will take several years before a sustained recovery in employment levels takes place. Although Nottinghamshire's economy has become more diverse and innovative some areas of the county have low skills, low innovation, and low wages. There are significant concentrations

of worklessness in several areas of the county caused by limiting long-term illness. Some highly qualified Nottinghamshire residents have to accept jobs which require lower-level knowledge and skills. Nottinghamshire businesses are concerned about attitude and basic skills such as literacy, numeracy and communication. Flexibility and adaptability are increasingly required and we need to ensure that people are better enabled to help themselves. The public sector is a significant source of jobs in the county and it is likely that we will see far less investment in public services in the future. This has significant implications for future planning.

It is likely that we will need to prioritise creation of long-term jobs. Development of knowledge-intensive sectors will be important to make the local economy more adaptable and resilient. Possible action includes: encouraging businesses to start-up and grow, promoting innovation, and attracting inward investment. Science, environmental and sustainable technologies, and tourism/hospitality/leisure sectors are growing but are not yet at a level to replace jobs lost in more traditional areas. We want to be in a position where the first class history, heritage and culture of the county can be exploited in a positive but sustainable way by, for example, developing excellent visitor destinations and organising major sporting and cultural events. The county's diverse historic environment, its countryside, towns and landmarks help support local economies by enhancing the county's reputation.

Regeneration work is taking place in major urban areas, market towns, district centres and strategic employment sites around the county.

Significant housing growth is being planned and is expected to stimulate the economy. Investment in infrastructure is critical for many regeneration projects to succeed as it will improve residents' access to jobs and delivery of goods and services. The Government is trying to bring forward investment in some large-scale infrastructure projects, in transport such as the A46 widening in Nottinghamshire, and in Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to extend broadband coverage. This will stimulate local and regional economies. Nottinghamshire partners are also working together to strengthen economic resilience and improve companies' chances of survival through, for example, more speedy payment for goods or services supplied, and widening competition for public sector contracts.

Many of the above issues were highlighted by the Future Economic Prosperity Group which met in January 2009 to discuss a coordinated countywide response to the recession. The four medium-term priorities for the county and city highlighted by the Group were: enterprise and skills; reputation and aspiration; science and innovation; and transport and infrastructure. These themes were considered at consultation meetings in mid 2009 which highlighted the need for concerted action to address city/county/borough issues such as skills, Science City opportunities, reputation and joint cultural and sporting opportunities.

The Headline Economic Assessment, referred to in Appendix III, was produced by City and County Councils in 2009. It highlights the need for long-term planning; challenges raised by a projected growing population; demand for housing; more investment in infrastructure; demand for, and supply of, skills; the need to share resources; and recognition of economic issues which cross organisational and geographic boundaries.

## 9 | Key strategic challenges

The ten most important strategic challenges for the county (in no particular order) are:

- **Reducing crime and anti-social behaviour:**  
Ensure that crime reduces and residents' fear of crime matches actual crime levels.
- **Improving education:**  
Improve educational attainment of children and young people so that levels of performance at age 11 are maintained through to age 16. This would improve their own life chances and the social and economic life of Nottinghamshire.
- **Increasing skills:**  
Support people of all ages to learn and develop better skills and qualifications to improve their own lives and benefit the local economy.
- **Rebuilding the local economy:**  
Stimulate enterprise and job opportunities as well as help regenerate local communities.
- **Improving opportunities for young people:**  
Develop more activities for young people across the county to increase their sense of belonging to local communities.
- **Promoting Nottinghamshire:**  
Sustainably develop and promote our rich historical, natural, cultural and literary heritage, and our unique countryside, landscape and sporting assets to build our reputation and provide better quality of life.
- **Improving health and well-being:**  
Address preventable public health issues such as smoking, obesity, avoidable injuries, drug and alcohol misuse. Focus on the promotion of good health and on prevention which empowers people to take responsibility for their health and to lead healthy lives. To further assist vulnerable, disabled and older people by developing universal, early intervention and prevention services.
- **Better quality of life in our communities:**  
Ensure that streets are clean, roads and pavements are in good repair and traffic congestion is reduced, as well as provide a range of sporting, community and cultural activities, and high quality green space.
- **Greater choice for older people:**  
Respond positively to population change and focus on the needs of the county's growing number of older people.
- **Protecting the local environment:**  
Safeguard our countryside and other green space, and our animals and plants, and take a sustainable approach to our activities, including planning development, to respond to the challenges of climate change.



## 10 | Our priorities for the future

Each of the following priorities describes where we are now, what you told us, what we know, and what we will do up to 2020. The Local Area Agreement (LAA) describes what we are doing up to 2011.

### A greener Nottinghamshire

#### Where are we now?

Nottinghamshire is a rural county and it is known worldwide for assets such as Sherwood Forest so we should capitalise on this. The floods in summer 2007 brought the issue of climate change into everyone's minds and the Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership advises work to reduce our impact. Recycling rates vary between 21% and 51% within the county and so dealing with waste in the most environmentally friendly manner and encouraging reduction and reuse is a necessity. The county-wide plan is supported by all partners and a major Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract will guide future improvements.

The two local transport plans are well regarded and are supported by accessibility strategies for access to services and employment sites. Joint work on transport has attracted significant investment including, for example, funding of the Robin Hood Line and the Nottingham Express Transit system. Public transport use in Nottinghamshire has increased, bucking national trends, and surveys suggest that satisfaction with local bus services is the highest in the country.

Housing is an important issue across the county, with significant housing growth expected over the next 20 years. There are many issues connected with housing such as too few affordable homes, poor quality housing conditions, a lack of homes suitable for special needs households and there are low demand and empty homes in various parts of the county.

#### What you tell us

- Clean streets are of increasing importance and people want a quick and reactive service.
- People want roads and pavements repairing quickly.
- People rate good public transport highly and young people want better and cheaper public transport.
- 68% of public transport users are satisfied with local bus services and 79% are satisfied with public transport information - some of the highest satisfaction levels in the country.
- Nottinghamshire's parks and open spaces are ranked highly.
- Affordable, decent housing is the fourth most important priority, and housing and the Decent Homes' Programme are a priority in several districts' sustainable community strategies.
- Reducing traffic congestion is also considered as a priority.

#### What we know

- Around 65% of people who have difficulty paying for fuel (in fuel poverty) are older people whose health may be at risk. This is being addressed through the LAA (NI 187).
- Waste has declined by 36kg per person and is now 530kg per person each year. This is comparable with similar counties.
- Performance on recycling across the county is variable with rates ranging between 21% in Bassetlaw to over 51% in Rushcliffe.

- Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions (2005) range from 4.9 tonnes per head in Gedling to around 10.1 tonnes per head in Bassetlaw, and Newark and Sherwood. This is being addressed by the LAA (NI 186).
- There were 35 million bus passenger journeys in 2008/09 and bus use has increased by 9% since 2005/06.
- Research by parish councils indicates that rural priorities include the need for housing provision, rural transport and its cost, access to jobs and services, and better facilities for young people and communities.
- 81% of people aged 60 and over have a concessionary bus pass.
- Access to key services by public transport remains high, with 94% of households having easy access to district centres and 92% to hospital.
- Greenwood Community Forest has created 1,300 hectares of new woodland since the 1990s.
- Almost 90% of our nationally important wildlife sites are in favourable or recovering condition.
- There are 0.76 hectares of local nature reserve per 1,000 population.
- We will implement a climate change engagement programme for partners and businesses across the county and Nottingham.
- We plan to increase the number of parks and open space holding Green Flag status from 37 to 59.
- We plan to reduce congestion and restrict the rise in average journey time to no more than 30 seconds per mile in the morning peak by 2010-11 (NI 167).
- To tackle fuel poverty, we will increase the percentage of people on income-based benefits who are living in homes with high energy efficiency ratings to 34%, and reduce the percentage of people in homes with low energy efficiency ratings to 4% by 2010-11 (NI 187).
- We will reduce fly tipping across the county by 5% by 2010-11 (NI 196).
- We have a regional target to reduce emissions of the 6 greenhouse gases contributing to climate change by 12.5% (based on the 1990 level) by 2012.
- We will develop a new visitor centre at Sherwood Forest to promote the legend of Robin Hood and better conserve the National Nature Reserve.
- We will work to develop a long-term management and conservation plan for the Sherwood Forest Regional Park and improve the country park facilities at the National Water Sports Centre.

### **What are we doing in the next three years?**

- We aim to increase the percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting to 43.9% by 2010-11 (NI 192).
- We aim to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions to 6.57 tonnes per person by 2010-11 (NI 186).
- Through the Bus Quality Partnership we are identifying hot spots which delay bus services and will address these through Local Transport Plans.
- In this period, it is possible that the recession might reduce economic activity, resulting in fewer and shorter car journeys, the amount of freight transport and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. In addition, reduced levels of industrial activity could also lower the levels of water extraction, air pollution, and emissions from local power stations.

- The recession could also affect the supply of energy and raw materials, and the cost of food crops, with some potential benefits for local production and processing, more local sourcing, and fewer air and road miles in delivering goods to consumers. This could result in a boost for local farming and food processing industries but could also mean that farming could become more intensive, reversing some of the environmental gains of recent years.
- The targets for housing growth in the immediate future may have to be revisited due to the impact of the recession, however longer-term targets will still need to be met. Growth Point and other developments are therefore likely to be delayed. In the meantime, the work of the Homes and Communities Agency is likely to be important in stimulating demand, development, and local authority involvement in the continued provision of social housing.

### What will we do by 2020?

- The target in the EU Landfill Directive is that the amount of waste going to landfill should reduce to 33% of the 1995 level by 2020.
- There is a national target to reduce 80% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (based on the 1990 level) by 2050.
- The Woodland Trust has an aspirational target that everyone should have access to a two hectare wood within 500 metres of their homes, and a 20 hectare wood within 4 kilometres.
- At the local level, Greenwood Community Forest partners aspire to increase woodland cover to 30%.
- There is a national target that 15% of all energy should come from renewable sources by 2020.
- We will plan for better use of water resources, especially in light of forecast housing developments, and undertake flood risk management.

- We will encourage green infrastructure such as footpaths and cycle tracks to encourage more sustainable travel and provide more opportunities for exercise and improved health. We will aim to improve access to green space working to Natural England's standards.
- We will safeguard nature conservation sites from inappropriate development, and enhance local wildlife sites and corridors.
- We will care for the county's distinctive heritage, halving the number of buildings and other assets on the At Risk register.
- We will develop management plans for all conservation areas, and ensure that infrastructure and regeneration plans have regard for natural, historic and built environments.
- Nottinghamshire has a good record on waste recycling and recovery, and new ways to cut waste, together with recycling centres, will allow long-term recycling targets to be met.

### Which organisations are responsible?

The Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership advises on making the county more 'green', while other specific work under the 'environment' theme is carried out by the Waste Joint Officer Group, the Fly Tipping Forum, the Strategic Road Safety Partnership, the Nottinghamshire Biodiversity Action Group and the Fuel Poverty Group. District councils, voluntary and community groups, and national agencies such as the Environment Agency and Natural England, are involved in many environmental areas, while rural issues are driven by Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN).

### This work links to

Many of the other priorities but most strongly to Health and well-being for all, and a more prosperous Nottinghamshire.



## Bowbridge School, Newark

Bowbridge School in Newark is one of the leading schools in the country to develop Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). This encourages the children to look after themselves, their family, friends, school, community and ultimately their planet.

The school uses green technology in its buildings and demonstrates what is possible, including lifestyle choices that young people can take back to their homes and use in their day to day life. (75% of parents of Bowbridge schoolchildren say they have changed their lifestyles as a result of messages from their children).

There is a clear link at the school to health and well-being through the promotion and use of local food, their school nutrition action group, the food for life partnership, the school travel plan, participation in sport projects and their gardening project.

The school is also a venue for community activities and groups, for example the Citizens Advice Bureau operate from the school. It has achieved the Quality in Extended Services accreditation.

Bowbridge is contributing to the prosperity agenda through adult skills and training being freely available to local people and is a great user of information technologies, including the internet and computers, equipping their pupils (and their parents) with the knowledge and confidence needed for future employment.

As well as specific programmes to tackle issues such as substance misuse and bullying, the school provides a range of out of school activities and engenders a sense of community, all making Hawtonville a safer and stronger community. The general behaviour in the area has improved, for example less litter.

Through its buildings, initiatives, teaching and whole way of working the school promotes a greener lifestyle and is an excellent example of education for sustainable development being at the heart of creating sustainable communities.



# A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential

## Where are we now?

The Children and Young People's Plan 2009 – 2011 is the main strategic document and this follows the national Every Child Matters priorities.

In general across the county, Nottinghamshire children and young people do as well as those in similar places elsewhere. Their health compares well with the average for England, the percentage of 16-18 year olds who are working or learning is higher than the England average and the number of young people committing crimes for the first time is below the national average. Although Nottinghamshire young people do less well in GCSE examinations than young people in other areas of England, examination results in Nottinghamshire have improved at a significantly higher rate than nationally in recent years.

The prevalence of obesity increases as deprivation increases, and by the end of primary school is significantly higher in boys than girls. Far fewer teenagers are getting pregnant, reducing well compared with many other places, but rates of pregnancy remain high in some wards and districts. For the last few years GCSE results are starting to catch up with the average, and young people from most minority ethnic groups achieve better than their peers. However, far fewer young people have good qualifications by the age of 19, especially those from low income families, and the educational attainment of children in care is low.

Effectiveness of a large majority of inspected services and settings is good. Most special schools, nursery schools, childminders and childcare settings are judged good or better.

Provision in social care settings, including almost all children's homes, the local authority adoption agency and private fostering, is good. An above average proportion of primary schools are good or better when compared with similar areas and nationally. Secondary education is more variable but all local college provision is adequate or better and West Nottinghamshire College is graded as outstanding.

## What you tell us

- In the 2008 Place Survey, 'activities for teenagers' was the issue you felt most needed improving; facilities and activities for young children have also been identified as priorities at other times.
- In the 2008 Tellus survey, Nottinghamshire's children and young people say they feel less safe in their communities than the national average and are concerned about bullying, although not significantly different from the national average.
- Nottinghamshire's children and young people have a more responsible attitude to drinking, and report less use of illegal drugs than is the case nationally.
- Young people feel that the media unfairly portray them in a poor light and this affects people's perceptions; they also feel that bad behaviour should not be rewarded.
- Young people feel that there should be more options in education – vocational training and apprenticeships for example, for those who don't want to go to university.
- Young people feel that access to things like leisure facilities could be made better and cheaper. They also want better and earlier information on career choices.
- Education provision is ranked as your sixth most important priority in terms of making an area a good place to live.

## What we know

- In 2009, 68.5% of pupils in the county achieved 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE and equivalent, and we have increased at a rate greater than that seen nationally (7.3 percentage points increase from 2008 compared to a national increase of 4.4).
- At District level, 65.3% of Rushcliffe pupils achieved 5 GCSEs A\*-C including English and mathematics, followed by Broxtowe (52.4%), Gedling (48.9%), Newark and Sherwood (43.1%), Ashfield (42.6%), Mansfield (39.2%), and Bassetlaw (39.0%).
- By the end of primary school almost one in three children are overweight and one in six obese. Rushcliffe has a rate which is 6% lower than that of Mansfield. The prevalence of obesity for this age group in Nottinghamshire is significantly lower than the national average for girls and significantly higher than the national average for boys.
- The prevalence of obesity of boys at the end of primary school is significantly higher in Bassetlaw (29.7%) than the regional average of 19.5%.
- Recent action by Nottinghamshire Police, the Youth Service and the Safer Schools Partnership has reduced the number of young crime victims and the number of crimes committed by young people.
- The percentage of children killed or seriously injured in road accidents has decreased beyond the target set nationally in recent years, but 31% of deaths amongst 5-14 year olds and 29% of deaths among 15 to 19 year olds, are caused by road traffic accidents.

- Nottinghamshire has made good progress in reducing teenage conception rates which have been driven down in recent years, reducing by 24.1% since 1998, but there are hotspots in 17 wards spread across 6 of the 7 districts in the county. Rates for the termination of pregnancy are higher in more affluent areas.
- Alcohol related hospital admissions have declined for young men but not for young women in the last four years.
- At the end of December 2009, Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) in Nottinghamshire was 4.4% for the 16-18 cohort. This is a slight increase from 4.2% in December 2008 which largely reflects the impact of the economic downturn. Particular groups of young people who are over represented in NEET in Nottinghamshire are teenage mothers, and young people who have learning difficulties or disabilities, particularly those who were assessed as requiring School Action Plus whilst in mainstream education to meet their educational needs.

## What are we doing in the next three years?

- The Children and Young People's Plan 2009-11 identifies ten improvement priorities, with improvement targets set and reviewed annually. The latest version should be consulted for the current improvement targets.
- All Nottinghamshire schools will have Healthy Schools status by the end of 2010.
- By 2010 the extended schools programme aims to ensure that every primary and secondary school will offer access to a range of services including childcare, parenting support, study support (homework clubs, special interest clubs, play opportunities etc), community access, and adult learning where there's unmet demand.
- We will increase information, advice and guidance services to years 7 and 8 to provide learning support to young people aged 14-19.

- We aim to reduce the under-18 conception rate to 23.2 per 1,000 by December 2010 (a reduction of 50% on the 1998 level) (NI 112).
  - Obesity amongst primary age school children in reception years will reduce to 10.5% by 2010-11 (NI 55). We will support initiatives on breast feeding, Healthy Schools and Children's Centres.
  - We will improve mainstream provision for preventing substance abuse (in particular in schools and children's services).
  - We aim to reduce the percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET) to 4.1% by 2010-11 (NI 117).
  - Self-reported emotional health of children will increase by 5% to 67.3% by 2010-11 (NI 50).
  - We will continue to work to reduce the number of children who are bullied or report a fear of bullying.
  - We are planning to invest more resources in activities for teenagers, and particularly target those areas of the county where there is less provision.
  - We will reduce permanent exclusions from schools to 0.12% by 2010-11 (NI 114).
  - We plan to increase the proportion of 16-18 year olds in out of school sporting activities.
  - We will continue to develop diversionary activities, and detached youth workers will direct young people to positive activities.
  - We will develop a 2012 legacy before, during and after the games which inspires and encourages young people to take part in sport and culture, and achieve their potential.
- What will we do by 2020?**
- Population projections suggest that between 2010 and 2020 the number of 0-4 year olds and 5-8 year olds will increase by 6%, whilst the number of 15-19 year olds will decline by 12%. We will plan now to manage these changes in terms of childcare, education, health and social care services.
  - From 2015, all children and young people will have to participate in some form of learning until they are 18. From 2013, they will have to participate in some form of learning until they are 17.
  - The Government's Children's Plan has a target for 2020, that all young people will have the skills for adult life, with at least 90% achieving the equivalent of 5 higher grade GCSEs by the age of 19, and that employers will be satisfied with young people's readiness for work.
  - The Children's Plan also has a target that child poverty will be eradicated by 2020, and we will seek the reduction of inequalities in health across the county.
  - We will update our Children and Young People's Plan on a three-yearly cycle, with our next plan being for 2011-14. As we develop each new plan, we may update our more detailed priorities for action to reflect new circumstances.
  - We will continue to plan for these changes. Our plans will also be based around what we know about the lives of children and young people in Nottinghamshire, maintaining a focus on our five priority themes:
    - Safeguarding the most vulnerable children
    - Improving educational attainment
    - Reducing child poverty
    - Addressing health inequalities
    - Aligning and integrating our work, to deliver joined-up services, including developing joint commissioning intentions.

- Nottinghamshire NHS's Strategic Plan has a target that childhood obesity will have stabilised just above the 2006/07 baseline at 9.6% by 2013/14.

### **Which organisations are responsible?**

Nottinghamshire's Children's Trust brings together services responsible for children, young people and families across the county, and its Children's Trust Board is responsible for joint planning and commissioning of services. Legislation defines 'relevant partners' with a duty to co-operate to promote children's well-being as the County Council, our district and borough councils, Bassetlaw PCT, NHS Nottinghamshire County, Nottinghamshire Police Authority and the chief officer of police for Nottinghamshire, Nottinghamshire Probation Board, the Youth Offending Service, Connexions Nottinghamshire, the Learning and Skills Council, Jobcentre Plus, all schools within Nottinghamshire, and sixth form and further education colleges. In addition, the voluntary sector is represented on the Board through NAVO. Several other partnerships report to the Board, including the Nottinghamshire Teenage Pregnancy Partnership, the Nottinghamshire NEET Partnership, the Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) Strategic Commissioning Group, the Tackling Obesity (0-5s) Group, the Nottinghamshire Behaviour and Attendance Strategy Group, and the 14-19 Strategy Group.

### **This work links to**

Every other priority but particularly to health and well-being for all, a safer Nottinghamshire, and making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger.

## Improvement in GCSE scores (Key Stage 4)

**Results**     **2006:** 51.1% 5A\*-C,  
40% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

**2009:** 69.2% 5A\*-C,  
47.2% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

The aim was identified 'to ensure Nottinghamshire is a learning community where all schools and providers can demonstrate they add value!'

It was designed to ensure that schools felt a responsibility for all young people in the schools and shared good ideas, skills and resources. Significant improvement since 2006 against the national figures demonstrates the strategy is working.

High achieving schools act as partners to those in more challenging circumstances and school improvement officers progress good practice across the county. Improved information and school leader networks have helped schools target need more effectively.



## The Manor School, Mansfield Woodhouse

**Results**     **2006:** 32% 5A\*-C, 25% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

**2009:** 61% 5A\*-C, 44% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

Manor school has become a learning community with the motto 'We can do anything in our school as long as we do it together!'

The school moved from a top-down model of target setting to a model where the staff identified individual potential of students. Subject leaders then worked with their teams to focus on the students' progress. The school is re-designing the curriculum to ensure that all young people are able to engage in lessons that motivate them and meet their needs. Young people played an active part in understanding what levels they can achieve and what they needed to do improve. Every student in the school now has a personal mentor and parents are kept fully engaged in the learning process.

As a member of the learning community, the school works in partnership with other leaders in Mansfield, with primary schools and as a partner for a school in challenging circumstances.

The Manor School has been involved in a national programme 'The Extra Mile' and, as a result, has been invited to share its success at both national and local level.



# A safer Nottinghamshire

## Where are we now?

Safety is a major priority for local people and, although overall crime rates have fallen in recent years (by 7.8% in 2008/09, meaning that there were some 9,700 fewer victims of crime), the feelings about crime and community safety issues remain high. Surveys continue to show that crime is the most important issue affecting quality of life. However, the 2008 Place Survey found there had been a 3% fall in people saying that crime levels were their top priority, and a 6% fall in the numbers feeling that crime levels most needed improving.

The Nottinghamshire Community Safety Agreement for 2008–11 outlines how partners will work together to tackle crime, disorder, and substance abuse.

The overall aim of the Nottinghamshire Community Safety Strategic Plan is:

"To build safe and cohesive communities and to ensure that communities are confident that the community safety issues that matter most to them are being tackled effectively."

This will be actioned through the local Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs); all CDRPs updated their own strategic assessments in 2007–08, identifying local priorities which then translated into LAA indicators. County-wide issues will need to be actioned through joint working, including the City of Nottingham and their own CDRP.

## What you tell us

- The 2008 Place Survey said that 'teenagers hanging around on streets' was the top priority for Nottinghamshire residents. 52% of residents felt that parents did not take enough responsibility for the behaviour of their children.

- Nottinghamshire's young people say they feel less safe than other young people nationwide, and are more concerned about bullying.
- Criminal damage is a concern of all CDRPs except South Nottinghamshire, and this is the third most important priority.
- All CDRPs identified vehicle crime as a priority, and thefts from vehicles were specifically identified in Ashfield and Mansfield.
- 93% of Bassetlaw residents feel safe where they live compared to 74% of Ashfield residents. 54% of Bassetlaw residents think that using or selling drugs is a problem in their area, compared to only 12% in Rushcliffe.
- Domestic burglaries are the most important community safety concern, but violent crime is also an issue across the north of the county.
- The Nottinghamshire Listens Panel showed that a substantial proportion of local people feel that addressing drunk and disorderly behaviour should be a priority.
- Anti-social behaviour (ASB) was a concern by all CDRPs, and in South Nottinghamshire alcohol and drug-related ASB was a particular issue.

## What we know

- Burglaries in Mansfield, Ashfield, Broxtowe and Gedling all have higher rates than the regional and national averages.
- There have been notable reductions in total offences (by over 20% in Broxtowe and Gedling), but an increase in Bassetlaw. The highest rates of total offences per 1,000 population are in Mansfield (57.6), followed by Bassetlaw and Ashfield, and the lowest in Newark and Sherwood and Rushcliffe (27).



- There has been significant progress on addressing serious acquisitive and drug-related crime, but challenges remain on anti-social behaviour, domestic violence and car crime.
- Nottinghamshire Police's Policing Plan 2009-12 states that in 2008/09 there were falls in the number of burglaries, criminal damage, theft, violence, firearms offences and vehicle crime.
- Although the perception of drug use remains high, access to screening and treatment for drug users remains prompt. There are an estimated 3,600 problematic drug users in the county; although drug misuse accounts for only a small proportion of direct crime, it may contribute to many of the other problems in the county.
- The county is working towards a joined-up system for Home Fire Safety Checks and the total number of fires has fallen by 30% over the past five years.
- The number of people killed and seriously injured on roads has fallen over the past four years.
- Alcohol and binge drinking are problems and contribute to anti-social behaviour and rowdiness, particularly in town centres.
- Targeted education and tackling illegal sales has reduced the incidence of retailers selling to underage drinkers.
- We will reduce the number of 10-17 year olds who are first time entrants to the youth justice system to 1,440 per 100,000 population by 2010-11 (NI 111).
- We will increase the number of drug users in effective treatment by 1% each year in 2009-10 and 2010-11 (NI 40).
- We will reduce the rate of assault with injury by 5% on the 2008-09 baseline (NI 20).
- We will reduce to 26% the number of domestic violence cases reviewed at the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) that have also been discussed in the previous 12 months (NI 32).
- We will work with young people to reduce arson, accidental fires and road traffic collisions.
- Project teams will work with vulnerable families, resulting in more children attending school and reduced anti-social behaviour.
- We will use the Youth Inclusion Support Programme to move at risk young people from situations where they may be drawn into crime.
- We aim to reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents to 490 by 2010-11 (a reduction of 7% on the 2007-09 figures) (NI 47).

### What are we doing in the next three years?

- We aim to drive serious acquisitive crime rates down to 18.51 per 1,000 population by 2010-11 (NI 16).
- We aim to reduce the perception of anti-social behaviour by 5.75% across the county by 2010-11 (NI 17).
- We will reduce adult re-offending by those supervised by Probation by 6.45% by March 2011 (NI 18).
- Nottinghamshire Police's current priorities are to reduce anti-social behaviour, substance abuse, re-offending, violence, acquisitive crime and organised crime.
- We will support victims of crime and provide public reassurance through local campaigns.
- We aim to reduce risk from fires by reviewing the provision of home safety checks, fire safety provision and home handy person's services.

### What will we do by 2020?

- In recent MORI surveys, residents said that in ten years' time 'a safe area with low levels of crime and disorder' will be the most important factor for where they live. Local partners will continue to ensure that crime is addressed through early intervention with individuals, families and communities to improve confidence and satisfaction levels.
- Nottinghamshire Police Authority and Nottinghamshire Police's Policing Plan (which runs to 2012), focuses on protection and reassurance, visibility and accessibility, and flexibility and responsiveness. The Safer Nottinghamshire Board's Community Safety Strategic Plan 2008-11 has three key objectives: early intervention, prevention of crime, and increasing the confidence and satisfaction of local communities.

### Which agencies drive this work?

Overall direction comes from the Safer Nottinghamshire Board and its Executive Group. Other groups involved include: the Crime and Disorder Delivery Group, Reducing Re-offending Board, Substance Misuse Strategy Group and the Integrated Youth Support Board. Nottinghamshire Police's Policing Plan 2009-12, the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service's Service Plan 2010-13 and the Nottinghamshire Community Safety Strategic Plan are the main delivery plans for this priority.

### This work links to

The making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger, and a place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential priorities.

## Anti-social behaviour and night-time economy



Launched in Ashfield and Mansfield in September 2009, **Operation Animism** ensures a patrol team, dedicated to responding to reports of anti-social behaviour, is operating at times when complaints are at their highest, particularly Friday and Saturday evenings.

Since the launch, 30 under 18 year olds found to be causing anti-social behaviour have been taken home to their parents/carers and 91 warning letters have been sent out to homes of that age group.



Pubs have received closure notices for not having operational CCTV systems, and off licenses are visited by Police and County Council Trading Standards Officers to warn them of their responsibilities. Other successes include joint firework patrols with the County Council's Trading Standards Officers in Ashfield to crack down on fireworks misuse, and closure of an alleyway in Hucknall after complaints from residents.

**Operation Anenome**, now part of Operation Animism, began in January 2009. Since its introduction, there has been a 23% reduction in alcohol-related violence and disorder in Hucknall town centre.

Special Constables carry out high visibility patrols and work with licensees, door staff and police officers in taking a zero tolerance approach to disorderly behaviour. They carry out stops or searches, give direction to leave notices and make arrests for various offences, including actual bodily harm, and drunk and disorderly behaviour.



# Health and well-being for all

## Where are we now?

The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) (see Sections 4 and Appendix III) gives a comprehensive and up to date picture of health and well-being across the county. Some of the key findings of the studies are outlined below.

Putting People First, the first phase of which is now in effect up to 2011, provides a vision for social care for vulnerable and older people in the future and will mean that partners implement a radical overhaul of the social care system. It focuses on prevention of ill-health and helping people to fully recover after illness. The reformed social care system will focus on four key areas; early intervention and prevention to avoid ill-health, universal services, stronger and supportive communities including informal social networks, and choice and control through self-directed support.

Health is an important priority for Nottinghamshire and clearly affects quality of life. The vision for the Health and Well-being Partnership Board is to focus on the promotion of good health, and on prevention which encourages people to take responsibility for their health and lead healthy lives.

## What you tell us

- In 2006, people ranked health services as their second highest priority in terms of making their area a good place to live.
- In the 2008 Place Survey, residents ranked good health services as the third most important priority.
- In the same survey, 72.8% of people reported that their health is good or very good, 3% below the England average.
- Young people are aware of healthy eating issues and obesity but feel that media messages on food are a bad influence.
- Patient satisfaction surveys show that people are less satisfied with GPs' opening hours than others nationwide, with Saturday opening a particular issue. People in Bassetlaw are the most satisfied within the county.
- Decent homes and affordable housing are among the highest priorities, and are essential for a better quality of life.
- Surveys of young people show that 95% of those whose parents smoke wish they would quit.

## What we know

- Smoking is the biggest single cause of avoidable illness and preventable death, and the largest contributing factor to health inequalities.
- Lower life expectancy and low birth weight are found in areas that have higher levels of deprivation. There is a twelve year gap in life expectancy between the most and least deprived wards.
- According to the JSNA, obesity is 'public health enemy number two' and is a major concern in the county. Adult prevalence ranges from 29% in Ashfield to 19.5% in Rushcliffe. Estimated prevalence appears to be higher in more deprived areas than in the least deprived.
- The National Child Measuring programme reports that in reception year almost one in four children was classed as overweight or obese, with highest percentages in Bassetlaw and Mansfield.
- We know that the benefits offered by a good environment can help to promote good physical, mental and emotional health.

- Alcohol-related harm costs the NHS in Nottinghamshire over £23 million each year and there are 280 deaths related to alcohol, either due to chronic diseases or acute incidents.
  - Emotional and mental health and psychological well-being is as important as physical health, and the Mental Health Needs Index shows that Bassetlaw, Ashfield and Gedling have high levels of need compared to the national average.
  - Avoidable injuries are an issue across the county; the East Midlands have the second highest rate of hospital admissions in the country due to accidents for both children aged 0–14 and older people aged 65 or over. For children aged 0–14, Bassetlaw, Mansfield and Ashfield have rates higher than the regional average. For older people, mortality due to accidents is higher than the England average, and 34% of all avoidable injury hospital admissions occur in the 16% of the population aged 65 and over. Falls and resulting fractures contribute to mortality rates and hospital admissions; they also lead to loss of mobility and confidence, and may lead to older people being admitted to care.
  - Ashfield and Mansfield have higher death rates for respiratory disease.
  - The chance of having a limiting long-term illness increases with age, affecting 50% of people aged 85 and over. The chances of getting such illnesses are also associated with deprivation, the highest rates being in Mansfield and the lowest in Rushcliffe.
  - The most common illnesses amongst people aged 65 or over are depression and dementia, with 10–15% of this group estimated to have depression.
  - Excess winter deaths are higher than the national average, with Rushcliffe and Gedling having the highest rates and Ashfield the lowest. This has a clear link with housing conditions and fuel poverty.
  - 21% of adults take part in regular sport and active recreation.
- What are we doing in the next three years?**
- We will increase the number of people quitting smoking to 968.2 per 100,000 by 2010–11 (NI 123).
  - We will increase the number of the adult population having their height and weight measured to 42.7% by 2010–11.
  - We aim to reduce rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions to 1,316 per 100,000 population by 2010–11 (NI 39).
  - The all age, all cause mortality rate for males will be reduced to 638.4 per 100,000 population by 2010–11 (NI 120).
  - The all age, all cause mortality rate for females will be reduced to 458.2 per 100,000 population by 2010–11 (NI 120).
  - There is a target to increase the percentage of vulnerable people achieving independent living to 80% by 2010–11 (NI 141).
  - We will reduce the proportion of vulnerable adults and older people who require long term residential or nursing care by supporting them at home, and increasing the number of people managing their own care through personal budgets.
  - We will encourage more adults, including older people, to be more active, including increased physical and outdoor activities, and countryside access, to stimulate active lifestyles and improve physical, emotional and mental health.

- To assist the population of vulnerable and older people we aim to develop an overarching partnership strategy covering universal services, stronger and supportive communities, and early intervention and prevention services.

### What will we do by 2020?

- The NHS Strategic Plans for Nottinghamshire and Bassetlaw outline how health services will be commissioned and delivered from 2008-2013. The key areas of improvement include focusing on life expectancy and health inequalities, and addressing smoking, alcohol and obesity.
- Population projections show substantial increases in the numbers of older people – the number of 65 year olds or over will increase from 138,000 to over 196,000 by 2025, and the number of 85 year olds or over will increase by over 70% from 17,600 to over 30,500 by 2025. Consequently, the number of care home places, or their equivalent in the community, will need to increase substantially by 2025. We need to plan now for this increase.
- Nottinghamshire Opportunity Age, the countywide strategy for an older population, outlines the five new themes under which work with older people in the period to 2012 will be delivered.
- The projected ageing population is anticipated to have a dramatic effect on the number of people living with dementia, with numbers expected to rise by 53% by 2025. It is expected that the number of older people with depression will increase by between 30 and 40% by 2025.
- The dependency ratio (pensioners to the working age population), which was 27% in 2000, is projected to rise to 47% by 2051. This will affect current retirement and pension patterns, and working arrangements. We need to think about the implications, and the roles of carers and volunteers, when planning for these changes.
- By 2013/14, we will have stopped the increase in childhood obesity, stabilising it just above the 2006-07 baseline.
- Nottinghamshire NHS Strategic Plan contains a target to extend working hours in primary care by 4% in both of the next 2 years, and to provide 70,000 appointments in this time period by 2013-14.
- We will continue to reduce alcohol-related hospital admissions by 1% to 1,226 per 100,000 by 2013-14.
- We have a target to increase the number of people using psychological therapies by 100% by 2013-14.
- We will reduce hospital admissions due to fractured neck of femur by 10% by 2013-14 (to 453 per annum).
- We will improve early diagnosis, care and support for people with dementia, doubling the number of patients on the register to 6,000 by 2013-14.
- We will implement the Putting People First agenda, and encourage independent living and greater quality of life. We will improve cross-agency work to ensure universal services and early intervention. This will include wider use of recreational facilities, developing inter-generational activities, and safeguarding work in local communities and people's own homes.
- We will support opportunities for people to use their local environment through walks and other activities to gain health benefits.

### Which organisations are responsible?

This work is led by the Health and Well-being Partnership Board, and there are strong partnerships with public health and the voluntary sector. Affiliated groups include: Nottinghamshire Countywide Obesity Steering Group, the Tackling Obesity Group, Nottinghamshire Tobacco Commissioning

Alliance, the Children and Young People Tobacco Group, Nottinghamshire Avoidable Injury Group, Countywide Falls Steering Group, Countywide Children's Avoidable Injury Group, the Nottinghamshire Older People's Advisory Group, the Learning Disability Partnership Board and NI 39 Alcohol Strategic Group.

**This work links to**

A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential, and making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger priorities, in particular.

## First Contact Signposting scheme

First Contact is a simple checklist scheme, which helps to deliver extra vital services to people's homes.

When a person from any of the partner agencies goes into a home, they complete a checklist to find out if the older person has any other particular needs such as meals at home, pension advice or a home safety check. This information is then fed back to one central number at Nottinghamshire County Council, where staff then make referrals to other agencies and ensure that these are followed up.

Between September 2008 and August 2009, the following number of checklists were carried out with older people:

- Ashfield: 563
- Bassetlaw: 633
- Broxtowe: 657
- Gedling: 793
- Mansfield: 873
- Newark & Sherwood: 1,019
- Rushcliffe: 600







# A more prosperous Nottinghamshire

## Where are we now?

Until 2008, the county enjoyed strong growth which led to high employment levels. In the last twelve months however, the global recession is having a major impact upon Nottinghamshire businesses; as a result unemployment has risen substantially - by over 7,700 in the 12 months to December 2009, although the rate of increase has begun to level off in recent months.

Government deprivation figures show that although the county and all districts became more prosperous in the last few years, some issues such as education, skills and training continue to cause concern, with parts of the county performing badly. Skill levels and qualifications impact on future employment, productivity and wage rates. Councils and other partners need to address these issues if the county is to prosper and social mobility is to increase.

A further important area is enterprise, with some parts of the county doing less well than competitors in terms of the numbers of small firms being created, and concerns about their long-term survival. This is important as small firms are one of the drivers of future employment growth.

## What you tell us

- Young people feel that guidance on qualifications and career choices could be better, and need to be given earlier.
- Local employers identify skills, training, and knowledge economy jobs as future priorities.
- Employers feel that improving business links and joint working with schools and universities are essential.

- The most important issue for employers is transport and infrastructure within and outside the county, and the need for all organisations to improve these.
- Local companies want all councils to work together to improve roads, rail, public transport and ICT.
- They also want councils and other public agencies to streamline buying processes and cut red tape, so local companies can bid for, and win, contracts.
- They feel that the county needs to develop a strong single message, better leadership and a vision for its economic future which would, in turn, build a stronger reputation.

## What we know

- Long-term change in employment levels shows strongest growth in Rushcliffe, Newark and Sherwood, and Broxtowe but falls in Bassetlaw and Gedling. However, experience tells us that the global recession will have a marked, and probably prolonged, impact on employment rates.
- The county's unemployment rate of 3.5% is below the East Midlands' 4.0% and the UK's 4.1%. In December 2009, rates varied between 4.5% in Ashfield and Mansfield, to 2.1% in Rushcliffe. 34% of unemployed people in Nottinghamshire are aged 24 and under.
- Qualification levels show some areas which partners need to address - over 60,000 people have no qualifications (12.8% of the county's working age population), whilst 46% have qualifications above NVQ3.
- Whilst employment levels are relatively high, the county has a large percentage of its workforce working part-time - 4% higher than the regional and national rate.

- In recent years the strongest growth in small firm start ups has been in Mansfield, Ashfield, and Newark and Sherwood, with Gedling performing worst. However in 2008, new registrations of small firms fell across the county.
- In terms of benefits claimants, the county has lower rates of Job Seekers Allowance, but higher rates of Incapacity Benefit, carers and disabled people, and these exclude many people from the job market.
- We recognise the importance of tourism and the role that history, heritage and culture play in promoting a positive image of the county. We will review the tourism strategy, with a focus on increasing sustainable tourism, enhancing visitor facilities, and supporting the development of major sporting and cultural events in both the city and the county.
- We will improve careers education and guidance in schools and other providers by implementing the 14-19 reforms.

### **What are we doing in the next three years?**

Clearly, the recession and global credit crunch which began in 2008 will have a serious impact upon economic activity and prosperity in the short to medium-term, and will also affect longer-term plans too. Evidence from previous recessions suggests that even when economic activity picks up, unemployment continues to rise and it could be several years before there is significant improvement in employment levels. Efforts to stimulate economic development need to be sustained over a long period if these problems are to be addressed.

- We will establish new strategic governance arrangements for economic development to ensure that partners across the county and city work more effectively to lead and deliver economic prosperity. These will work closely with the Nottinghamshire: City and County Employment and Skills Board.
- We will ensure that the future skills needs of the county are reflected in the new regional Skills Strategy.
- We will reduce the effects of the recession through the Response to Redundancy and the Six Month Offer programmes (8,000 places in 2009/10), and Future Jobs Fund Programme (over 900 jobs to be created for young people).
- We aim to reduce the percentages of working age people on out of work benefits to 15.33% in Ashfield, 13.9% in Bassetlaw, and 16.76% in Mansfield, by May 2010 (NI 152).
- We aim to increase Level 2 skills amongst adults by 2.5% (based on 2009 data) (NI 163).
- We aim to increase the percentage of people able to access employment by public transport to 88% by 2010-11 (NI 176).
- We will undertake an economic assessment of the county and city, and use this to inform future strategy and investment plans. This assessment will commence in April 2010 and be updated at regular intervals.
- We aim to increase the small firms' birth rate to 91.5% of the regional average by 2010-11 (NI 171).
- We aim to increase investment in Nottinghamshire by developing and promoting the county's assets, including the business, sports, tourism and cultural offers.
- We aim to lessen the effects of the recession, and have a target that the county will have an employment rate of 68.65% by mid 2010 (NI 151).
- We have a target (matching the East Midlands Single Strategy) to provide 2,930 dwellings per annum to 2010-11 (NI 154).
- We will expand Adult Apprenticeships and Skills for Life provision.

- We aim to identify and develop key economic sectors in Nottinghamshire including: science and green technologies, logistics and distribution, health and retail. We also recognise the need for wide-width broadband, including in rural areas, and its importance for businesses in growth sectors such as media and design.
- We will co-ordinate the development of social enterprises, particularly those that can deliver personalised social care and drive local self-help solutions.
- We will help schools and others make links with business to create work placements, and encourage young people to be enterprising and ready for work.
- We aim to increase employment levels of adults with learning disabilities who are known to Adult Social Services.
- We are now planning for the economic recovery to ensure those companies which emerge stronger will benefit from a county-wide campaign to promote the city and county as having a strong economy and a capable, skilled and adaptable workforce.
- There are national targets for 2020 that 95% of adults will have functional literacy at Level 1 and functional numeracy at entry Level 3. There is also a national target for 2020 that 90% of adults will be qualified to at least Level 2 and 68% of the adult population will be qualified to Level 3.

### **Which organisations are responsible?**

The Nottinghamshire Economic Development Partnership Board, and the individual organisations that comprise it, and the Nottingham: City and County Employment and Skills Board. Other major contributors include East Midlands Development Agency (emda), East Midlands Business (EMB), The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA), the two Transport Partnerships and their associated Accessibility Partnerships, and the County Planning Officers' Forum. Business representative bodies such as the Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce (DNCC), Federation of Small Businesses (FSB), Confederation of British Industry (CBI), and Institute of Directors (IoD) all have an important role to play in strengthening the local economy, as do companies such as Nottingham Business Venture, Nottingham Development Enterprise and Nottingham Regeneration Ltd. Experience Nottinghamshire provides a county-wide coordination and promotion role for tourism.

### **What will we do by 2020?**

- The impact of the recession and the pace of recovery need to be monitored, and the overall strategy will need to be reviewed every year to take account of any changed circumstances.
- However, we need to work together to address the county's enterprise, education, qualifications, skills and training deficit. We can improve education/business links, encourage the transfer of knowledge between universities and business, and try to stimulate innovation.
- We are planning to influence decisions on new infrastructure development. This includes upgrading the Midland Mainline.
- The National Children's Plan outlines the goal that by 2020 every young person should have the necessary skills for adult life and further study, with at least 90% achieving 5 higher level GCSEs by age 19. The plan also has a 2020 goal that employers will be satisfied with young people's readiness for work.

### **This work links to**

The making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger, and a place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential priorities, in particular.

## Making the Connection – Connecting skills with employment

Laing O'Rourke, a large construction company, is recruiting staff for a new factory in Worksop, providing potential employment for local people. The factory manufactures a range of pre-cast concrete products used within construction projects like the 2012 Olympics construction.

Making the Connection (MTC) is Nottinghamshire County Council's recruitment and skills solution service, hosted by the Economic Regeneration Service.

The project team worked with Laing O'Rourke to develop and deliver two pre-employment gateways. So far 44 local unemployed people have completed training which provided them with the relevant skills, qualifications and understanding of the manufacturing sector aimed at improving their chances of obtaining employment with Laing O'Rourke. The training was delivered in partnership by North Nottinghamshire College.

Everyone who completed the training was guaranteed an interview with Laing O'Rourke, which involved them attending an assessment centre. This resulted in 19 confirmed offers of employment, with other applicants still under consideration. Laing O'Rourke have requested further employment gateways from Making the Connection, demonstrating the project's ability to respond flexibly to the needs of businesses and to ensure that local people benefit from new job opportunities.



# Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger

## Where are we now?

Research in late 2008 highlighted the problems of family poverty and long-term deprivation, and drew attention to those areas and families at particular risk of social isolation and exclusion. The research also highlighted what young people want, and the type of communities in which people live as being important determining factors affecting future life chances. More recent papers stress the important role that can be played by traditional family life, by informal childcare, and by the activities of voluntary and community agencies in building stronger communities, encouraging self-help and co-operation, and building social justice.

The JSNA documents (see Sections 4 and Appendix III) reveal how important it is that people feel good about where they live. It is affected by the amount of contact with friends and family, by levels of trust and support, interest in organisations and neighbourhood activity. This can affect physical and mental health, and can be affected by, for example, increasing age, as the number of friends decline and people have fewer opportunities to socialise.

The county's cultural life is critical for wider well-being, health, prosperity and long-term viability. Services such as arts, sports, leisure, heritage, adult learning, play and recreation make a big contribution to the quality of life of older and young people. Facilities such as sports venues, libraries, arts centres, museums, country parks, theatres and tourist venues such as Trent Bridge, Rufford Abbey, Sherwood Forest, Clumber Park, Newstead Abbey and the National Water Sports Centre, as well as neighbourhood parks and community woodlands, all contribute massively to the sense of well-being enjoyed by residents, tourists and visitors.

Taking part in cultural and recreational activities, and community life helps people feel better

about themselves and build strong communities. Stimulating top-class sport is crucial and we need to build on role models such as Rebecca Adlington, but we should also emphasise the role that sport can play for all, in inclusion, health and wider benefits.

A county-wide Community Cohesion Strategy has been developed by partners, and the support group is delivering a range of activities including community festivals, inter-generational projects and support for economic migrants.

Access to services such as post offices and banks (where networks have shrunk significantly in recent years), can be crucial for stimulating social interactions. The role of libraries as centres for adult and community learning, as well as one of the most valued and important community resources, could be built on to create hubs for many communities.

## What you tell us

- In the 2008 Place Survey, 77% of respondents said that their local area was one where people from different backgrounds got on well together and this had increased by 5% since 2006/07.
- In the same survey, 72% of people said that they felt unable to influence decisions affecting their local area and only 28% said they could.
- Young people say that we should disregard negative stereotypes of young people.
- Young people said they need more opportunities to mix with older people and black and minority ethnic groups, more community events, and better inter-school activities.
- The 2008 Place Survey said that 22.3% of Nottinghamshire people regularly volunteered at least once a month (NI 6). This compared to 27% nationally.

## What we know

- The Government's Taking Part survey showed that those taking part in activities in their neighbourhoods – library use, arts activities etc – were more likely to know more local people and trust their neighbours.
- In Nottinghamshire in 2008/09, 21.56% of the population aged over 16 took part in sport or active recreation (ranging from 27.9% in Rushcliffe and 18.4% in Mansfield) (NI 8).
- Satisfaction with sport/leisure facilities and with libraries is higher in the county than nationally, by 7% and 3% respectively.
- Some areas of the county are not now within reasonable distances of post offices or GPs/ health centres, and the progressive closure of pubs is also having a damaging effect on rural areas.
- Newark and Sherwood, Gedling and Bassetlaw have higher percentages of their populations aged 65 and over, and Newark and Sherwood has the highest dependency ratio.

## What will we do in the next three years?

- We will build closer working relationships with voluntary and community sector organisations to enable the third sector to grow and thrive. This will build on the Compact Plus agreement and the work of the Nottinghamshire Infrastructure Consortium (NI 7).
- We will deliver the Community Cohesion Action Plan to build stronger and more cohesive communities.
- We will increase the percentage of people who feel that people from different backgrounds get on well together by 3% by 2010-11 (NI 1).
- We will increase the number of people saying they can influence decisions in their locality to 32.4% by 2011 (NI 4).

- We will look at ways of enhancing the infrastructure of communities, especially in rural areas (see the Nottinghamshire Rural Strategy).
- We will promote the Robin Hood legend alongside the wider heritage offer and the range of cultural opportunities in the county.
- We will encourage access and information, adult and community learning, and informal learning through libraries and other routes.
- We aim to increase the number of adults taking part in sport and active recreation to 25.2% by 2010/11 (NI 8).

## What will we do by 2020?

- If current trends continue, more small communities will lose their local facilities such as schools, shops, post offices and pubs. Where this happens, we will undertake studies to see whether there are innovative local solutions which can find alternative ways of providing key community facilities for use by local people. These issues, together with affordable housing, are particularly critical in rural communities.
- Together we will work to build trust and confidence in and between communities, with a view to building aspirations and independence.
- We will stimulate an environment in which third sector organisations can thrive so that they are able to encourage stronger engagement and become more involved in service delivery.
- We will enhance community engagement and fuller participation by continuing to develop engagement strategies for the wider community and people of specific groups such as children and young people, older people, different religions and beliefs, race and ethnic groups including gypsies and travellers, people with physical and learning disabilities, all sexual orientations, genders and different socio-economic backgrounds.

### **Which organisations are responsible?**

The Stronger Communities Network is the lead agency but is supported by: the Crime and Disorder Delivery Group, the Reducing Re-offending Board, the Substance Misuse Strategy Group, the Joint Youth Crime Delivery Group, the Community Cohesion Steering Group, the Nottinghamshire Local Authority Cultural Partnership, Sport Nottinghamshire, the Consultation Practitioners' Forum and the Nottinghamshire Infrastructure Consortium. Nottinghamshire Police's Policing Plan 2009-12, the Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service's Plan 2010-13 and the Nottinghamshire Community Safety Strategic Plan are main delivery plans covering this area.

### **This work links to**

The Health and well-being for all, and a greener Nottinghamshire priorities, as people who are more involved tend to be less isolated and have a better quality of life, and to a place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential priority, as young people are encouraged to become more involved in deciding their own futures.



## Nottinghamshire's sporting successes

Sport brings challenge, inspiration, excitement and enjoyment to people of all ages and backgrounds, whether as players, coaches, officials or spectators. Local people tell us that sport is an important part of making the county a good place to live. It is one of the things we are famous for.

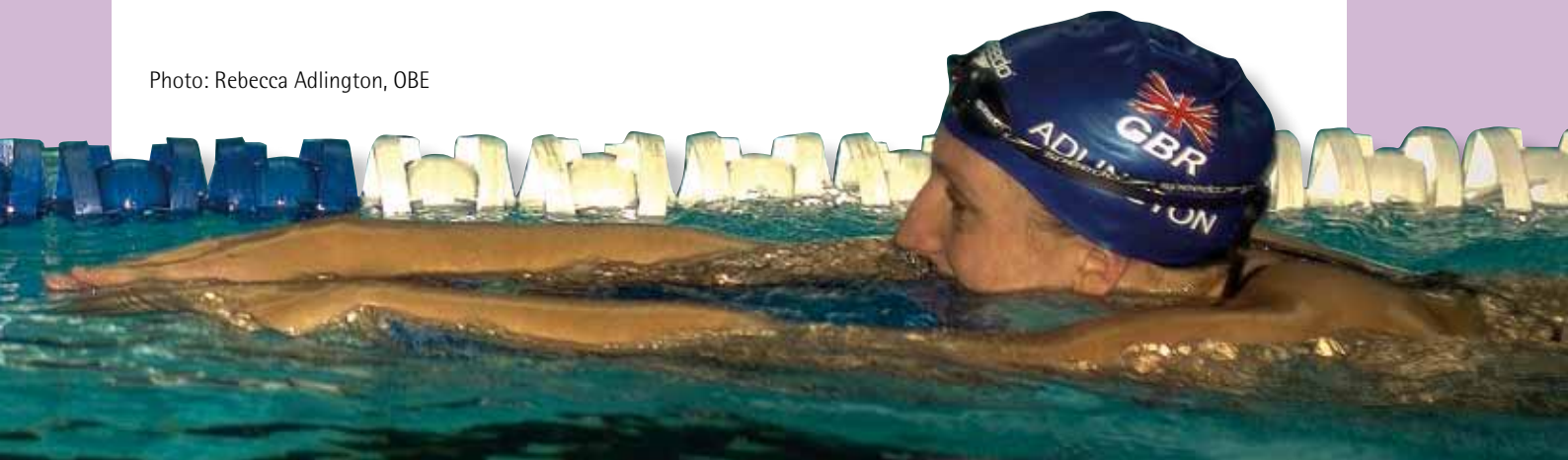
Success at the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics in 2009 gave the county a much needed boost in otherwise difficult times. The scenes of jubilation in Mansfield at Rebecca Adlington's homecoming were a sign of what sport means to local people. The gold medals brought back by Rebecca, Sam Hynd and Tim Brabants were no accident. They were the result of supreme talent and dedication by all three athletes, but also the product of the sports system in the county, which has been in place for over thirty years, and due to partnerships between the county and districts councils and the voluntary sector. In total our athletes brought home five Olympic and five Paralympic medals.

Rebecca Adlington's record breaking achievements rapidly elevated her to stardom. In 2009 she was awarded an OBE, acknowledged as Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year, and the former Sherwood Colliery Pit Head Baths in Mansfield, where she learned to swim, were redeveloped and renamed in her honour.

The real story behind the headlines for her was over three thousand training sessions (half of which were early mornings), over twenty five thousand kilometres in the pool, and more than 150,000 miles in the car to and from home in Mansfield to pools in the county.

Now an ambassador for the County Council's work to promote sport across Nottinghamshire, Rebecca is keen that her fame should be used to encourage Nottinghamshire residents to become more active and inspire young people to achieve their potential.

Photo: Rebecca Adlington, OBE



## 11 | Borough/District community strategies

Each district and borough council, and the local strategic partnerships (LSPs) which are associated with each of their areas has a sustainable community strategy, and all of these have been redrafted, consulted upon and refreshed in the last few years (the complete district chapters are available in Appendix VI). There is much common ground between these documents and this county-wide community strategy, with many shared priorities.

It is however, important to stress that each of these community strategies reflects the particular characteristics of their areas, and some address additional priorities which reflect these characteristics; housing, for example, is an important issue in several areas, and whilst 'children' do not appear as a heading in some community strategies, the heading 'learning' does incorporate many of the issues that the alternative priority might otherwise cover. In addition, town centre issues are particularly identified by Mansfield, and the importance of Greater Nottingham by Gedling.

The following paragraphs summarise the district-based sustainable community strategies of the county's LSPs, drawing attention to contextual matters and outlining their priorities for the next few years.

### Similar yet different

The seven districts face many similar challenges in the coming years – the need for more affordable housing, additional housing pressures for either more homes to be built or for existing homes to be brought up to a better standard. All face a decline in birth rates, yet a desire for

more and better things for young people to do. Nottinghamshire's population is ageing and this causes pressure for certain services. Districts are seeking better community cohesion and to create communities where people positively welcome other people's difference. Nottinghamshire's district councils and LSPs are striving to make their streets and environment cleaner, to drive crime rates down, improve educational attainment, make sure businesses thrive and people have decent jobs. There are many other similarities – the need to make services sustainable and to encourage everyone to reduce their impact on climate change. All councils are working hard to improve the health and well-being of their citizens by tackling obesity and smoking, and working with partners to reduce health inequalities.

While there are many similarities in intent shown by districts and LSPs, there are distinct differences across the county, both in terms of strategic direction and the particular challenges faced. While districts are similar in population size, there are stark differences in health and life expectancy, say between the south and north. Nottinghamshire has a strong tradition of mining and textiles, and the decline of these industries has hit areas such as Mansfield and Ashfield harder than, say Rushcliffe. The topography of each place also has a big influence – with areas such as Sherwood Forest and its popular attractions making tourism a naturally high priority, while in other areas it is a low priority. Crime is high in some areas and the more deprived areas suffer from higher crime rates. The county is one of contrasts in terms of deprivation – with Ashfield, Mansfield, and Bassetlaw having higher deprivation compared

to Rushcliffe, Gedling, Broxtowe, and Newark and Sherwood. Educational attainment also varies across the county, with the more deprived areas having lower attainment. Districts vary in size and rurality – with the two largest districts (Bassetlaw, and Newark and Sherwood) experiencing more problems caused by rurality (access, jobs, transportation etc), which are not experienced to the same degree in more densely populated areas such as Gedling and Broxtowe. There are marked contrasts in traditional measures of success across the county too – with Rushcliffe being the most affluent, with the highest owner occupation and highest house prices, higher educational attainment and so on, compared to areas such as Mansfield and Ashfield where unemployment is high and housing standards are lower. While each area has its own particular challenges, the overarching aim of each council and LSP is to make Nottinghamshire a better place.

## Ashfield

Ashfield is home to distinctly different communities which, while they do not naturally cohere, all face similar challenges based on deep-seated deprivation. The future looks brighter though with more focus on cutting crime, plans for young people, projects to get people more physically active and tackling issues at a neighbourhood level. Residents want a good, clean safe place to live, with decent housing, activities for teenagers and good education. Work will be tackled across six key areas. Partners want to cut crime and anti-social behaviour – focusing on burglary, car crime, violent crime, domestic violence and other anti-social behaviour. Secondly, they want to make sure children are healthy, active, safe and improve the image of youngsters. Climate change and protecting wildlife and the environment are also big issues. A big push is needed to stimulate the economy so partners will focus on creating jobs, improving business survival and attracting business to relocate to Ashfield. As health tends to be worse than average, emphasis will be placed on tackling

smoking, obesity and substance misuse. Finally, to make stronger communities, organisations will try to coordinate what they do to remove duplication, and people will be made to feel more involved with where they live.

## Bassetlaw

Bassetlaw is a District of contrasts with a mix of urban and rural communities. Some parts of the District have high levels of deprivation and others are relatively affluent.

Its location makes it an attractive choice for businesses and support is in place to help them thrive – particularly during the recession. A “Backing Bassetlaw” campaign and Loyalty Card scheme is encouraging people to ‘buy local’, external funding is helping rural businesses diversify and Enterprise Centres are attracting more innovative businesses. A potential growth zone in Harworth and the Robin Hood Airport could offer more jobs in the future.

The natural environment contributes to the quality of life in Bassetlaw and the local economy. Its large area of open countryside, containing parts of Sherwood Forest and the famous National Trust Clumber Park, make it popular as a place to live but also to visitors. House prices are affordable when compared with neighbouring areas – particularly Sheffield.

The District faces the combined challenges of low skills levels, poor levels of health and higher crime rates than most other areas of Nottinghamshire.

Crime rates are being reduced with targeted work to detect burglars, improvements to town centre safety through extra patrols including Street Pastors, support for victims of domestic violence and action to stop anti-social behaviour.

Action to help people stop smoking is taking place – with a new focus on work with employers. Weight management programmes are widely available for children and adults, and

physical activity is promoted along with healthy food choices. The Change for Life campaign is being used to promote positive health messages.

Bassetlaw PCT, working with partners across the LSP and local people, are to deliver a neighbourhood management initiative, utilising priorities from the LSP community strategy in a phased approach aimed at reducing inequalities across our most deprived communities. In addition, a range of inter-generational programmes are being developed to help bridge the gap between young and old, aimed at reducing fear of crime, sharing skills and creating employment opportunities.

Encouraging people into learning by providing a wide range of opportunities, including outreach programmes, is key; celebrating the success and achievements of local people and work with local employers to develop their employees are just a few examples of the Partnership's work on increasing skills.

## Broxtowe

Broxtowe has made good progress in recent years in tackling its key challenges of reducing crime, unemployment and health inequalities. There's a need for more activities for children and higher educational attainment, better and more affordable homes, making the borough greener and improving community relations. Broxtowe wants to reduce unemployment and reduce the number of young people not in work, education or training by working with schools and by making more jobs available with town centre developments. Three south Nottinghamshire councils have recently merged their crime and disorder reduction partnerships into one overall body and this should bring better shared intelligence and remove duplication – this is leading to a reduction in crime. The partnership also wants people to feel safer. Broxtowe will encourage more people to be more active more often. Children will be urged to be more active to cut obesity and partners will help children to be the best they can be. Partners will ensure more

affordable, high quality homes are built in the borough. To ensure people from different cultures and backgrounds get on well together, the local strategic partnership will make sure the area is one where everyone is treated fairly – a caring community where people feel they belong.

## Gedling

Gedling has the ambition to be a place where people want to live, work and do business by 2026. By working with existing communities and planning for those of the future, housing need, pockets of deprivation, issues of poor health and low skill levels will be addressed. The reduction in crime levels must continue and the challenges of its ageing population considered. Gedling recognises the importance of preserving the distinct nature of its suburban and village areas, the need to protect the environment and the difficulties posed by the current economic recession.

Gedling's Vision 2026 is built around five key priorities. By understanding and acting upon the needs of all its communities, Gedling can be a place where people are treated fairly and have the opportunity to get involved. As a place of safe and strong communities, people in Gedling will feel they can make a positive contribution to and feel part of their local community. People will respect and support each other and take responsibility for their own actions. This will increase people's confidence to report and confront wrong-doing and help to reduce fear of crime and levels of crime and anti-social behaviour. As a place where we take care of our environment, buildings and natural areas will be effectively managed, and parks and open spaces maintained. In addition, people will be encouraged to act responsibly, for example by not dropping litter and acting to combat climate change. As a place where people can lead a healthy and active lifestyle, there will be opportunities for people to become socially and physically active, be better informed about lifestyle choices such as diet, smoking and drinking alcohol, and have access to the housing

that they need. As a place that contributes to a vibrant and prosperous Greater Nottingham, Gedling will have businesses that grow and prosper, and people who can access skills that enhance their employment prospects and support the growth of their local economy.

## Mansfield

The vision for Mansfield is to create a district that attracts people, business and investment to the area, and gives its communities the opportunity to experience a good quality of life with confidence, pride and dignity. To achieve this Mansfield must tackle a number of challenges including issues such as crime and community safety; employment and skills; housing; health; and educational attainment.

The priority areas for action naturally focus on these challenges but are based primarily on the aspiration for economic prosperity and growth. Mansfield will help to stimulate economic growth through projects to develop local enterprise and employment, as well as encourage business growth and start-up. It will also seek to improve infrastructure and local transport facilities. Furthermore, Mansfield will work hard to improve skills and educational attainment, as well as create the opportunities for graduates to stay in Mansfield or move to the district from outside.

The district will become a better place to live with a more attractive and prosperous town centre, cleaner streets and better homes. Crime will also be reduced through the targeting of prolific offenders and neighbourhood crime issues. Mansfield will have healthier communities with partners working together to target smoking, obesity, substance misuse and teenage pregnancy rates.

At the heart of everything Mansfield does there will be a focus on the improvement of services through the involvement of local people and increased participation in local decision making.

## Newark and Sherwood

Newark is the largest district in the county. The particular issues faced include a much higher than average rise in the number of retired people, high house prices and the need for more affordable housing. The area has a good quality of life, scores high on many environmental indicators and has relatively low unemployment. The district is also relatively prosperous and safe. The partnership will continue to focus on its green and clean achievements, keeping areas free from fly-tipping and encouraging people to recycle more and reduce their waste. Another priority is to encourage people to raise their educational aspirations – improve education, make it more available in rural and deprived areas, and encourage a lifelong approach. One of the challenges is to make the district more accessible which is why there is support for dualling the A46, improving the main bus station and encouraging more use of public transport. Health priorities focus on the need to cut smoking and obesity, but also include reducing accidents and improving sexual health. Newark and Sherwood is known for its cultural heritage and wants to make sure people are more culturally connected in their neighbourhoods, attract more tourists to local events and raise pride in the area. Finally, crime and persistent offenders will be targeted, neighbourhood policing teams will be formed and efforts will be focused on high crime/deprived areas.

## Rushcliffe

Residents like living in Rushcliffe and they have a good quality of life. The area comes out top on many quality of life indicators – low crime, good health and educational attainment. However, the area also faces many challenges. One of the bigger issues surrounds housing – finding room for over 15,000 new homes which the Government wishes to see built over the next 15 years, and making sure there are enough affordable homes. More homes mean thousands more people which in turn puts pressure on infrastructure, facilities and services in the area.

People are living longer and more older people in Rushcliffe are owner-occupiers living on a reduced income, making them more likely to become a victim of fuel poverty. Binge drinking and drink-related anti-social behaviour is becoming an increasing concern, particularly in locations with a thriving night time economy, such as West Bridgford. While Rushcliffe is the safest area in Nottinghamshire, people still want crime reduced and to feel even safer. The attractive mix of urban and rural life brings a very good quality of life to most, but also presents challenges in terms of access to services and the need for good transport links. One big challenge is the need to tackle climate change – as residents produce more carbon dioxide than anywhere else in Notts. The priorities which partners will tackle include continuing the focus on being clean and green, while protecting the built and natural environment and reducing the carbon footprint. There is emphasis on helping business to grow, encouraging people to get involved in helping shape what their communities look like in the future, as well as making the Borough safer. While Rushcliffe is relatively healthy, there is a need to reduce obesity and tackle health inequalities. Young people will be urged to get more physically active and get involved in community activities.



## 12 | Next steps and contacts

**This document outlines what we wish to do together for the county in the next three years, and in the longer term for the next ten.**

We recognise that we won't be able to do everything all at once, and that it will be necessary to prioritise actions and respond to short-term issues should they arise; however, we believe that the strategy gives all local partners a shared plan for the next decade which will guide everyone in Nottinghamshire towards a better future.

The Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three-year agreement between the Nottinghamshire Partnership and Government which sets out the priorities for the county. It is a set of indicators reflecting local priorities, and targets are negotiated with Government. The overall LAA and delivery plans for each theme outline the detailed actions to deliver these targets in the immediate future; these will be refreshed as part of a rolling programme, to enable us to learn from experience and be able to respond to changing circumstances where necessary. This strategy will also guide the wider policies and delivery plans of all local partners, and will provide a framework within which more localised and longer-term plans can be developed. These will enable us to report progress on how well we are doing in delivering on targets outlined.

If you have any comments or queries about the Strategy or would like to know what you can do to help to meet these priorities then, please, contact:

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# What is the Nottinghamshire Partnership and who was responsible for producing Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy?

### Nottinghamshire Partnership

The Nottinghamshire Partnership was formed in 2005. It is the Local Strategic Partnership for Nottinghamshire.

It comprises key partner organisations including borough/district councils, the voluntary sector, the business community, Primary Care Trusts, schools and further education colleges, police, fire, Connexions, Jobcentre Plus and many others.

The purpose of the Nottinghamshire Partnership is to act as a body for sharing information, creative thinking and policy development. It brings senior representatives of all the partner organisations together to discuss issues of common interest. It plans for the future and delivers services by working collaboratively, across sectors and levels of government, in new and more effective ways.

### Nottinghamshire Strategic Partnership Board

The Strategic Partnership Board is the overarching body which provides strategic direction to the Partnership. It is chaired by the Leader of Nottinghamshire County Council. It was responsible for approving the final version of this strategy.

The Board provides accountability and determines the overall Partnership framework and structure. It produces and reviews strategy, which is ambitious for the people of Nottinghamshire, and holds the Executive to account for the achievement of this strategy. It also provides an annual review of performance to the Forum and,

through it, to members of the public. It uses its collaborative status to positively influence the regional and national agenda, and ensure that appropriate structures are in place for the engagement of communities in Nottinghamshire. In addition, it provides financial oversight of grants received by the Partnership and makes recommendations to partner organisations for the pooling and alignment of other funds.

Membership of the Board reflects the principal public services, together with the private, voluntary and community sectors. Membership is reviewed annually or at a meeting called for that specific purpose.

### The Nottinghamshire Partnership Forum

The Partnership Forum is a stakeholder meeting open to Nottinghamshire elected Members and partner agencies, and to any organisation invited by them. It meets periodically to share best practice and facilitate networking. It is the group to which the Partnership Board will publicly account for its activities (as well as through other democratic processes).

The Forum is not a formal decision-making body and has no powers. It is a group whose role is to challenge, consult and influence, helping to shape strategy and future direction. The Board has a duty to listen to the Forum and provide it with an annual review of performance. All meetings of the Forum are open to the public and press. The Forum was consulted on the draft of Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy.

## Nottinghamshire Partnership Executive

The Executive takes overall responsibility for the achievement of strategic objectives and reports progress to the Board, as well as any risks to success. It coordinates high level planning, including cross-thematic activity, and oversees the Performance Management Framework for the Partnership. It recommends financial strategy to the Board, drives Partnership development and ensures effective locality working, i.e. sub-county level.

Membership of the Executive reflects the principal partners who contribute resources (both financial and 'in kind') to the Partnership and is subject to the approval of the Board. Members did respond to the consultation on this strategy on behalf of their organisations.

For more information about the Nottinghamshire Partnership, have a look at the website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk).

## Nottinghamshire Sustainable Community Strategy Working Group

The Nottinghamshire Strategic Partnership Board formed the Working Group and asked it to produce the draft of Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy. The Working Group was chaired by the Chief Executive of Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire (RCAN) and comprised of representatives from Nottinghamshire County Council; the district/ borough councils – Ashfield District Council, Bassetlaw District Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Gedling Borough Council, Mansfield District Council, Newark and Sherwood District Council, and Rushcliffe Borough Council; Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations (NAVO); NHS Nottinghamshire County; Nottinghamshire Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT); Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service; Nottinghamshire Police; and Nottinghamshire Probation.

## Appendix II

### Underpinning principles

Partners will work to the following principles to achieve the six priorities:

#### Access and opportunity for all

We will provide information and services in a variety of ways and forms, and in as many locations as possible to ensure that services are well understood, accessible and reliable. We will explore innovative approaches to engage members of the public and communities so that local people can influence decisions and become fully involved in making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger.

#### Sustainability

We will ensure that the actions we take provide opportunities for current generations but do not reduce them for future ones; we will ensure that decisions we take on economic, social or environmental matters enhance future well-being and quality of life.

#### Fairness, diversity and equality

Everyone, regardless of age, gender, disability, background, ethnicity, culture, belief and sexual orientation should have the opportunity to participate in decision making, to access services and buildings, and expect the same fair treatment and level of service.

#### Quality, efficiency and accountability

We will ensure that spending is based on need and that we make open and transparent decisions about how we allocate resources. We will work together to reduce duplication, and be efficient and effective in providing value for money services. We will provide regular reports on progress to communities and citizens.

#### Partnership with a purpose

One of the central principles of this strategy is that it is owned by as wide a group as possible and reflects the input and feedback of local people, businesses and communities. In future we will be judged by how we work together and draw on the skills, experience and expertise of all partners to deliver effective services which avoid duplication.

#### Disparity and disadvantage

The evidence base and priorities sections of the strategy (Sections 4 and 10 respectively) highlight that people's life experiences vary in different areas across the county. We should take shared and personal responsibility for our actions and recognise the effect on others. We need to work to minimise the causes and effects of disadvantage through getting to know our local communities, and intervening earlier to ensure opportunity for all.



#### Condition of Nottinghamshire 2009

The sixth edition of Condition of Nottinghamshire was published in January 2009 and examines the county, its districts and wards. Condition of Nottinghamshire reflects the six priorities of this strategy. Copies can be requested from the Research and Information Team, Communities Department, Nottinghamshire County Council; it can also be downloaded from the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshire.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshire.org.uk/index/publications)

#### The State of Nottinghamshire 2009

This report, commissioned by the County Council from the Local Futures group in January 2009, examines the economic, social and environmental position of the county and of each of the districts, and in most cases each ward, against national and regional performance. The report can be found on, and downloaded from, the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications)

#### Joint Strategic Needs Assessment 2008

Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNAs), are now required by the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007. In Nottinghamshire, the production of the JSNA was steered by the County Council, Primary Care Trusts, East Midlands Public Health Observatory researchers and voluntary sector bodies. It explores, in detail, the health and well-being needs of the population of the county, both now and in the medium-term.

The four volumes, covering Children and Young People; Older People; Adults, Hard to Reach and

Vulnerable People; and an Executive Summary, were consulted on and published during 2008. The JSNA documents can be found on, and downloaded from, the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at:

[www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications/jsna](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications/jsna)

#### Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment (Community Safety) 2009

This assessment was published in February 2009 in support of the Nottinghamshire Community Safety Agreement 2008-11, and provides a detailed analysis of community safety issues in the county. The assessment draws heavily on data from Nottinghamshire Police, and on each of the assessments undertaken by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) in the county. The Executive Summary is available on the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications)

#### Place Survey 2008

The results of the above survey, undertaken in autumn 2008, were released in June 2009 and provide an authoritative view of local people's perceptions of local services and organisations. The headline results from the survey are reported under each of the six priorities under the 'what you tell us' sections, alongside other feedback. One important general finding is that local people's satisfaction with the local area as a place to live has increased by 5%, from 74% in 2006/07 to 79% in 2008/09. The full details of the Place Survey results for Nottinghamshire can be found on the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications)

### **Headline Economic Assessment 2009**

New legislation has placed a statutory duty on county and city councils to undertake a Local Economic Assessment in conjunction with other local partners and district councils. This will start in April 2010 and it is expected that assessments should be completed within one year. In advance of the statutory assessment, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council have produced a Headline Economic Assessment covering the geographic county. This provides data on current economic conditions in Nottinghamshire including demography, labour market and skills, infrastructure, investment and enterprise. These details have advised the 'a more prosperous Nottinghamshire' priority as well as other sections of this strategy. This is available on the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications)

### **Nottinghamshire Opportunity Age 2009-12; countywide strategy for an ageing population**

This document, building on the previous strategy for 2006-9, and developed following involvement by older people in the county and full consultation, focuses on five themes; creating an age friendly society; preparing more effectively for later life; making later life a time for opportunity; providing the right support at the right time; and strengthening delivery – improving services. The strategy explores forecast changes in population and shows how services need to change to take account of these as well as outlining how groups focusing on the above five themes will be established to develop and implement plans. This is available on the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications)

Various surveys, including the Place Survey 2008 (see Appendix III) have been referred to in the development of Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010–2020.

We have also held events or consultations with other organisations and special interest groups to find out what they think about the priorities identified in the Strategy and the potential impact on them.

These include:

- District Local Strategic Partnerships
- Elected members
- Gypsy and traveller community representatives
- Independent Advisory Groups run by Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations (NAVO):
  - disability
  - race and ethnicity
  - religion and belief
  - sexual orientation
- Local businesses and business support organisations - Future Economic Prosperity Event and follow-up business breakfast events

- Nottinghamshire County Council Overview Committee
- Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement theme groups
- Nottinghamshire Older Peoples' Advisory Group
- Nottinghamshire Partnership Forum
- Young people's event

See Appendix XII for information about the Equality Impact Assessment undertaken for the strategy.





## Appendix V

### Nottinghamshire - the timeline

**Pre-history:** Stone Age and Bronze Age findings; Cresswell Crags occupied for centuries.

**Iron Age and Celtic periods:** remains found across the county including at several hill forts.

**1st – 3rd centuries AD:** Romans left their mark in roads, forts, villas and farmsteads.

**4th – 10th centuries:** Angles, Saxons and Danes; archaeological remains and scores of place names across the county. Danes overwinter in Nottingham in 867; Nottinghamshire created in the 10th century and has kept to virtually the same boundary ever since.

**1016:** first written record of Nottinghamshire in the Anglo Saxon Chronicle.

**11th century:** Normans – the building of castles such as Nottingham, Newark and Laxton; Worksop and Blyth Priory churches; Southwell Minster and the development of its important collegiate role.

**12th – 13th centuries:** first mention of coal mining at Beauvale Abbey and Selston. First mention of Robin Hood.

**14th century:** expansion of market towns such as Newark, Retford, Worksop and Mansfield.

**15th century:** Battle of East Stoke draws a final line under the Wars of the Roses.

**16th century:** dissolution of monasteries; Sherwood clearances and enclosures contribute to the growth of large estates. By the end of the century, output from Nottinghamshire pits rises to 50,000 tons per year.

**17th century:** Pilgrim Fathers leave North Nottinghamshire; the Civil War begins in Nottingham, and marks Newark and other places with sieges and skirmishes.

**18th century:** domestic textiles and clothing production affected by the rise of new technologies and the building of earliest factories for cotton, silk and framework knitting, leading to industrialisation and the growth of new towns; canal building; growth in turnpiking of roads; the rise of non-conformism and Methodism. The agricultural revolution, with new techniques of cropping, drainage and stock breeding, increases production and builds trade in commodities such as wool, revenues from which helps build new larger estates and new civic amenities.

**19th century:** Byron; urbanisation and rapid population growth; railways, textiles and coal industry expansion. Doubling of the population in the first half of the century, and movement from rural and village areas into rapidly growing towns such as Mansfield, Sutton-in-Ashfield, Kirkby-in-Ashfield and Worksop. Coal production grew from 700,000 tonnes in 1862 to almost 7 million tonnes by 1897. Coal mining shifted eastwards with the sinking of deeper pits, and resulted in the building of new mining communities.

Emergence of current settlement patterns and, around Nottingham, the consolidation of villages into suburbs – for example Arnold, Carlton, Beeston and West Bridgford. Major public health worries led to improvements in planning, and building of new amenities and infrastructure.

**20th century:** Lawrence and Sillitoe; expansion of coal mining eastwards affecting growth of new communities in former rural areas; major power stations built along the Trent Valley; other industries such as food processing, pharmaceuticals, engineering and tobacco expand, and later consolidate into interlinked companies before the later decline of manufacturing and diversification into newer service industries. Further growth and consolidation of suburbs and other towns, and of the county's population. This, and the agricultural intensification and huge changes to land use, affected the landscapes of the county, its settlement patterns and the environment.

**The first decade of the 21st century** has seen further rapid change; in population, the economy, health services and education. Nottinghamshire's history has created the county we know today – it has defined its landscape and shaped its towns, and frames the perception of local residents and visitors. Local people's work over centuries has created a unique heritage, diverse character and a distinct sense of place, providing a foundation for its future prosperity and a strengthened reputation.

## Ashfield

### Demographic

Ashfield District covers an area of 10,956 hectares and is located on the western side of Nottinghamshire. It has an estimated population of 115,900 (ONS, 2007). The 2001 Census showed that just 1.9% of the District's population is from a group other than 'White British' compared to 8.7% in the East Midlands and 13% nationally. The majority of this population together with associated housing, jobs and services, are concentrated within the three main towns of Sutton in Ashfield, Hucknall and Kirkby in Ashfield together with three large villages in the substantial rural area mainly to the west of the M1 motorway.

The main settlements share strong historic, economic and cultural links based around the growth and subsequent decline of coal mining, textiles and engineering industries. This is reflected in Ashfield's rank as 81st most deprived area in England out of 354 local authorities (IMD 2007), and the 6th most deprived in the East Midlands. However, the ranking is a significant improvement on figures released in 2000 when the District was ranked 31st reflecting the efforts of the Council and its partners to address the key issues related to local deprivation.

### The Challenges and opportunities in Ashfield

#### Community Safety

Crime in the District is high, although by the end of February 2010 there have been significant reductions in serious acquisitive crime (dwelling

burglary, theft of and from motor vehicle) and criminal damage. Violent crime has also reduced over recent months but not enough to meet the crime reduction target for 2009/10. There is still significant fear of crime and anti-social behaviour locally and Ashfield has been identified as a key area of focus for the Home Office. This follows the recent Place Survey and the red flag for community safety for the north of the county in the Nottinghamshire Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA). The level of crime is seen as the area most in need of improvement in the Place Survey 2008/09.

A range of initiatives have been introduced in relation to the reduction in crime including the Integrated Offender Management Team that targets prolific and priority offenders.

Anti-social behaviour (ASB) and perceptions of ASB is a priority area for the Ashfield Partnership Against Crime (APAC) and efforts to tackle this are being put in place. An improvement plan for ASB has been developed in conjunction with the Home Office. A booklet containing the minimum service standards that people can expect in relation to ASB has been produced and is being circulated to every household in Ashfield, under the 'Respect for Ashfield' header. Communications has been recognised as a key priority and the "You Said We Did" campaign aims to improve the way in which information about partner activity to address crime and disorder is communicated to the public.

The District Council will shortly employ three ASB officers to maximise the use of ASB enforcement tools and powers against known offenders and an ASB victim and witness support worker

to work solely with the victims of ASB will be located in the APAC team.

The District Council has invested in a Community Protection Service in the District to work alongside the Police Safer Neighbourhood Teams to give a visible and active presence on the streets. As the eyes and ears of the community, CPOs are now reporting on environmental issues and criminal activity to the relevant agency. This will hopefully address the fear of crime and have a positive impact on actual crime such as criminal damage and ASB through the close partnership working. This is supported by Operation Animism, a dedicated Police response to ASB at weekends that is starting to show a positive impact.

Alongside ASB, the priorities being tackled by APAC include Serious Acquisitive Crime including Domestic Burglary and Vehicle Crime, Violent Crime, Domestic Violence, Drug and Alcohol Misuse, Community Confidence and Reducing Re-offending.

### Children and Young People

Educational achievement in the district is improving but remains a challenge. Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at KS2 in 2008/09 was 73.2% against a national rate of 72%, whilst Nottinghamshire as a whole was 75.6%. Achievement of 5 or more A\*-C grades at GCSE including English and Maths was 42.9% in 2008/09 with a national rate of 49.8% which shows there is room for improvement. The rate of permanent exclusions from school in Ashfield is higher than any other district in Nottinghamshire. Perceptions held about young people and ASB amongst some elements of the population is also a challenge in Ashfield. Activities for teenagers came second to crime as the area most in need of improvement in the Place Survey 2008/09.

In 2008/09 4.3% of 16 to 18 year olds were not in education, training or employment (NEET) in Ashfield, whilst the rate at the end of quarter 2 2009/10 was 5.2%. The quarter 2 2009/10 rate

is higher than the Nottinghamshire average of 4.5% but lower than the national rate of 6.7%. Destinations after Year 11 continue to improve, with 85.9% entering education or training in 2009, compared to 78.0% in 2008. The Nottinghamshire average in 2009 was the same as Ashfield's.

Engaging young people is particularly important to the Partnership and there are plans for a Children and Young People themed Partnership Assembly in 2010. It is envisaged that this event will be planned by the young people themselves. In 2009 there was consultation in schools on the Local Development Framework which worked particularly well.

The development of Joint Access Teams across the district has provided a multi agency focus on early intervention. Joint Access Teams often find that it is the needs of the family as well as the child or young person that need addressing. Parenting / Families with low aspirations is one of the cross cutting challenges that Ashfield Partnership will be addressing in 2010/11.

### Economy & Skills

Indications (via Experian) suggest that Ashfield has been particularly badly hit by the recession in comparison to the regional and county averages with the economy shrinking by 5.8% (GVA) during 2009. Traditional sectors for the district such as Engineering and Construction have been seriously affected. In order to drive forward recovery, economic resilience is key to insuring against any future shocks and building the profile of Ashfield within the sub-regional context as a place to invest.

A joint Ashfield / Mansfield Economic Masterplan is being developed and scheduled for completion in late 2010. Work being carried out in support of the Economic Masterplan will build a model for resilience and the Econometrics study completed in 2009 has already indicated the potential growth sectors for the district – Business Services, Wholesale, Health, Manufacturing of Transport Equipment and Transport & Logistics.

In addition the sub-region should look to exploit potential in the Knowledge Economy and other strategically important sectors such as Food & Drink, Environmental Technologies and, of course, Construction. Driving forward transformation by forging together target sector growth and inward investment with the excellent development opportunities and transport infrastructure provided within the Sherwood Growth Zone.

The skills and qualification levels of the adult population in Ashfield is also a challenge and remains a barrier to economic growth. This is reflected in Ashfield's position of 286th out of 408 Districts in Great Britain on the skills and qualifications score, with just 15.6% of the population qualified to at least NVQ Level 4 equivalent – first degree and above. It is key to economic prosperity that the skills of the local workforce meet the employment opportunities created by growth and investment in the area.

The Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) programme has proved hugely successful in promoting enterprise and entrepreneurship, supporting business start ups and providing the infrastructure required to assist business growth. With programme funding ending in March 2011, considerable efforts are required to help mainstream LEGI products where possible, shape the delivery of business support via Business Link "Solutions for Business" or, ideally, provide a model for Local Enterprise Organisation (LEO) to continue operating as a commercial entity.

Closely allied to skills, worklessness is also a challenge in Ashfield with a rate in May 2009 of 15.8% which exceeds the 2009/10 target. Initiatives such as the Future Jobs Fund (960 new jobs for the County), Routes into Work, pre-employment routeways and Community Task Force (which goes live in January 2010) should have an impact on this area. Worklessness is also one of the cross cutting challenges that Ashfield Partnership will be addressing in 2010/11 and close liaison is required with key partners and the County Employment & Skills Board to ensure progress.

To tackle this partnership efforts need to concentrate on increasing participation in education (vocational and non-vocational) and increasing qualification rates; pro-actively working with Jobcentre Plus in linking local people with emerging jobs by ensuring training is provided to meet demand (e.g. Local Employment Partnerships and the use of s106 development agreements) and, culturally, raising aspiration particularly amongst young people (which has been successfully demonstrated through LEGI and other initiatives).

### Environment and Housing

Clean streets are important to local people and they are getting cleaner, although local people are not happy with how well the streets are kept clean according to the Place Survey (only 48% of respondents were satisfied with litter and refuse clearance). The District Council has published Neighbourhood Charters setting out the minimum standards local residents can expect and there has been excellent performance against these standards. A proactive approach to prosecutions is also now in place with regard to litter, graffiti, fly-tipping and vandalism and this is starting to have an impact. Media campaigns will follow successful prosecutions in order to get the message out to local people that this will not be tolerated in Ashfield.

Despite five parks across the district now having green flag status local people are not satisfied with their parks and open spaces, with only 58% being satisfied according to the Place Survey 2008/09. It has been recognised that we need to proactively promote the green flag parks in the district and ensure the community is aware of this achievement. The Council has plans for Green Flag events to promote activities aimed at reducing ASB and environmental crimes and aims to improve public perceptions by encouraging community events and activities on the parks.

The East Midlands Regional Plan identifies 11,200 new houses to be built within the district by 2026. This will provide a massive challenge to existing communities but should provide a

catalyst for economic and social transformation. Accommodating such growth is central to the Ashfield Local Development Framework and it is clear that such development must be sustainable and supported through the appropriate physical and community infrastructure.

The Sherwood Forest Area Housing Strategy 2008/18 has been agreed setting out the future direction for sustainable neighbourhoods, a partnership between the three districts of Ashfield, Newark and Sherwood, and Mansfield. The Strategy includes three outcomes:  
Outcome 1 – People can live in homes that meet their needs and are affordable, whatever their circumstances  
Outcome 2 – People are able to fulfil their potential and aspirations  
Outcome 3 – Homes and neighbourhoods provide a healthy, safe and sustainable environment.  
An Action Plan has been developed to deliver the Strategy and there have already been positive developments. Ashfield District Council and Mansfield District Council have formed View Point, the Choice Based Lettings (CBL) Scheme to deliver greater choice to all those seeking housing and to enable people to make well informed decisions about their housing options.

The level of owner occupation in the area is slightly below the regional average, but with an above average number of private properties considered unfit. The council has an opportunity to improve the thermal comfort of over 100 houses in the district through a regional housing board grant which will have a positive impact for a small number of vulnerable residents.

House prices are amongst the lowest in the County, however, the ratio of house prices to earnings means that affordability is still an issue for many people in the District. An Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) has been approved allowing section 106 contributions to be commuted to bring empty homes back into use.

The District Council has developed a climate change strategy that looks at how the council can address climate change issues. The challenge for the Partnership is to work together to develop further actions that can be rolled out across the district to help the district to become more 'climate aware'. The opportunity exists to engage directly with communities and collaborating organisations to plan to adapt and mitigate against the changing climate.

The work with the East Midlands Improvement and Efficiency Partnership will enable business, communities and partner organisations to look at ways in which they can reduce their carbon footprint. The Nottinghamshire Wildlife Trust promotes community engagement and partnership working that engages business and individuals in working together to improve their local surroundings.

### Health and Well-being

There has been a significant achievement in reducing the under 18 conception rate in Ashfield. In 2005 the rate was 50 per 1,000 population, but this had reduced to 36.9 by 2007, although the rate is still high and remains a challenge. Other key indicators show a very challenging picture with life expectancy below regional and national averages, incidence of death from heart disease, stroke and cancer far greater than elsewhere. Smoking and adult obesity rates all reflect this difficult picture, together with high mortality rates from illnesses often related to the industrial past. Only 63.1% of the population are able to record "good" general health and there is a high level of disability in the local population. In addition this agenda is often also linked to worklessness and ASB. Clearly better targeting of joined up services is vital to tackling such weaknesses.

An Active Lifestyles Strategy is in place and is being delivered through the successful Active Ashfield Community Sports Network. A GP referral scheme is in place and three Community Wellbeing Trainers have been employed by the District Council with funding secured from the

Nottinghamshire County Primary Care Trust. The massive investment in the Kings Mill Hospital (via PFI) has already delivered a first class facility into the area with more development still to come.

On Sutton Lawn in Sutton in Ashfield, an adiZone was officially opened in November 2009, measuring 625sq metres and boasting sporting facilities inspired by Olympic and Paralympic sports that include a basketball, football and tennis area, a climbing wall, an outdoor gym and an open area to encourage dance, aerobics and gymnastics, all available completely free of charge.

### **Stronger Communities**

Only 67% of respondents in the Place Survey felt that people from different backgrounds get on well together in the local area. Whilst this is seen in its broadest context incorporating neighbour disputes, intergenerational issues and a general feeling of being unsatisfied with the area as a place to live rather than a sign of ethnic tension, it is still an issue that the Partnership is seeking to address. Similarly, only 22% of respondents in the Place Survey felt that they could influence local decision making in the local area.

The Partnership identified engagement and cohesion as two of the cross cutting challenges that we will be addressing in 2010/11. A Comprehensive Engagement Strategy has been developed and partners are now working more closely together. A pilot Participatory Budgeting initiative in the Huthwaite area (Sutton West Ward) was successful with over one hundred people attending. Further events are planned for later in 2010 in other parts of the district. This will hopefully have a positive influence on the proportion of people who feel that they are empowered to shape and indeed deliver services in their locality and can influence local decision making.

### **Ashfield's Sustainable Community Strategy Vision and Priorities**

In November 2006, the Ashfield Partnership

as the area's Local Strategic Partnership published its second Sustainable Community and Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy covering the period 2006-2021. The overall vision for the strategy is that "By 2021, our district will be dynamic, sustainable, safe and inclusive – a place we can be proud of, created by confident thriving communities and a culture of enterprise and skills".

It was accepted that the main elements of the vision must have synergy with the stated aspirations of all communities, however to achieve the overall objective, three overarching aims linked to the district's communities were set:

Economic – create Enterprising Communities  
Social – create Confident Communities  
Environmental – create Green and Sustainable Communities

There is also a major commitment to tackling deep seated deprivation so that no one is disadvantaged by where they live in the district.

Following the Peer Challenge in 2007, the Ashfield Partnership restructured in 2008 in line with the recommendations in the Peer Challenge Report. There are six theme areas of activity for the Ashfield Partnership, which align with the six themes of the Nottinghamshire Partnership.

**Community Safety** – The Vision for Ashfield Partnership Against Crime is "Making our communities safer and our residents feel safer". The priorities being tackled are Serious Acquisitive Crime including Domestic Burglary and Vehicle Crime, Violent Crime, Domestic Violence and Anti-social Behaviour including Criminal Damage, Drug and Alcohol Misuse, Community Confidence and Reducing Re-offending.

**Children and Young People** – key themes include ensuring that children and young people are healthy, active, involved, safe, and that perceptions of young people are improved.



**Economic Regeneration** – key themes include improving business survival and growth rates, improving access to employment opportunities, ensuring the workforce are suitably skilled and ambitious, ensuring that Ashfield is an attractive location for businesses to settle and tackling worklessness.

**Environment and Housing** – key themes include tackling climate change, creating sustainable neighbourhoods and protecting and enhancing local biodiversity.

**Health and Well-being** – key themes include tackling smoking, obesity, alcohol misuse, mental health and avoidable injuries.

**Stronger Communities** – key themes include coordinating community engagement across partners and tackling duplication, developing neighbourhood governance across Ashfield, strengthening community engagement, supporting community development, strengthening the infrastructure and supporting the organisations of the third sector and tackling community cohesion.

It can be seen that the key themes are very much focused on high level objectives and it is recognised that the activities of the Thematic Groups need to address the issues which have been identified by the community in relation to making the area a good place to live.

The existing Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) was adopted in 2006 and although it runs to 2021, the Ashfield Partnership has agreed that a new Strategy will be produced. It is envisaged that the new Sustainable Community Strategy will be in place by 31 July 2010 and will run until 2026, aligned to the Local Development Framework timescale. Community consultation on the key issues for the new SCS has already taken place with some joint consultation on the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework in all areas of the District.

## Bassetlaw

### Geography

Bassetlaw is the most northerly district in Nottinghamshire and is bordered by South Yorkshire, Derbyshire and Lincolnshire. The District covers an area of 63,688 hectares which is almost a third of the area of Nottinghamshire. It has two principal towns – Worksop and Retford. These towns are surrounded by a network of rural settlements which vary in size and character.

### History

The origins of the name 'Bassetlaw' are believed to come from the old English boernet (burnt place), soete (dwellers), and hlaw (hill), literally 'hill of the dwellers at the burnt place'. Bassetlaw is mentioned in the Domesday Book as 'Bernedslaue, but even older are its historic sites where evidence of Roman, Bronze Age and Stone Age artefacts have been discovered. Bassetlaw prides itself on being the birthplace of the United States of America as it was here that the beginnings of religious Separatism are to be found. Three of the first four signatories to the Mayflower Compact came from Bassetlaw and the neighbouring county of South Yorkshire.

### Demography

The District has a population of approximately 112,000 with 49,647 households. The majority of the District's population lives in its principal towns of Worksop and Retford, whilst the remaining 42% of the population live in the surrounding rural District. Only 17 settlements have a population of 1,000 or more.

### Economy

Bassetlaw's central location, good communication links, flexible workforce and affordable housing (compared to neighbouring areas) make it an attractive location for business. Manufacturing is well represented and recent work has estimated that almost 8,000 jobs in the Worksop and Retford travel to work area are in high and medium technology manufacturing; far fewer of the District's residents work in the

service sector – 6% fewer than the average for the county. The District has high levels of industrial and manufacturing units but very low percentages of office space.

Productivity has been below the national average but better than in much of the county and the rest of the Sheffield City Region.

Bassetlaw has had relatively low enterprise rates with small firms also having poorer survival rates than elsewhere; however, in recent years, small firm formation rates have improved significantly.

The Bassetlaw economy is re-structuring. There is an emphasis on:

- identification of suitable development sites – of the right type/location that will attract inward investors e.g. office, advanced manufacturing, business services, food/drink, healthcare and the public sector. These sites would also support the expansion and development of existing businesses;
- supporting the creation of innovative businesses that will also help retain skilled individuals within the District;
- skills development that will match employers needs;
- rural diversification;
- business start-ups;
- sustaining existing businesses (many of which are small or medium sized enterprises).

There are some constraints to business expansion due to the availability of employment land – some of which has been lost to recent housing development.

### Environment

Bassetlaw has a unique natural environment that contributes to the quality of life in the District. Much of the countryside of Bassetlaw is open and in agricultural use. Bassetlaw supports 19 Sites of Special Scientific Interest that reflect its variety of open space, landscape character and rich habitat and geology. These include unimproved grasslands, ancient woodlands, fens,

open water and reed-beds. The western half of the District contains the remains of the northern-most reaches of the historical Sherwood Forest, with important ancient woodland, wood pasture and heathland habitats still surviving. The area is also well known for the attraction of Clumber Park. This National Trust Park receives over a million visitors per year and is valued by residents and visitors to the District.

### Unique challenges

#### Population changes

Between 1991 and 2005, Bassetlaw recorded the third highest increase in population in Nottinghamshire at 5.63%. The overall birth rate has declined significantly in Bassetlaw in the ten-year period 1996-2005. Between 1991 and 2001, the district saw an increase of 5.5% in the number of 0-17 year olds compared to the county average of 2.3%.

However between now and 2020 the total population is expected to increase by 11.8% compared to a county increase of 12.7%.

Numbers of young people aged 0-9 years are expected to rise slightly in the next few years with increases in the number of 0-4 year olds but decreases in some older cohorts. Population projections for older people show that the number of 65 year olds or over will increase from 19,000 in 2008 to 30,400 by 2025. Population projections for all ages between 2003-2013 show an expected increase for the District of almost 6% compared to a county average of 3.8%.

These population changes, both current and predicted, will change the demand for services and service delivery and is something that must be planned for.

#### Health

The health of people in the District is worse than the England average. The average life expectancy in Bassetlaw is 75.3 years for males and 80.1 years for females. In the most deprived areas men can expect to live 4 years less than men

living in the least deprived areas of the District. Early deaths from cancers, heart disease and strokes have declined in the last 10 years to around the England average.

Obesity is more prevalent in Bassetlaw than in other parts of the country. Local rates of smoking are lower than the regional average but 3% higher than the Great Britain average; road deaths are a significant problem, especially amongst children and young people.

There are high levels of limiting long-term illness and Incapacity Benefit claimants – almost 6,000 of the latter in May 2009.

### Levels of Deprivation

The district improved its relative ranking on the Indices of Deprivation (ID) between 2004 and 2007 from 77th most deprived to 101st. Bassetlaw is less deprived than several other districts in Nottinghamshire and all the districts in the Sheffield City Region except two.

### Employment

Earnings of people working in Bassetlaw are significantly below the Nottinghamshire, East Midlands and UK averages. However, when the earnings of Bassetlaw's employed residents are examined, we find that earnings match the regional rate; this may be partly due to commuting patterns.

The District has seen a rise in unemployment with an increase in the percentage of people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in the last year to 3.4% (approximately 2,500 claimants as at January 2010) – probably linked to the economic downturn. The rate of increase has declined sharply in recent months. The situation is far worse in our more deprived communities with the percentage of claimants of Job Seekers Allowance rising to over 5% in some wards.

The group with the lowest employment rates is men aged between 16 and 24 years. Bassetlaw's young women (aged 16 to 24 years) have the highest employment rates out of all women.

Bassetlaw has relatively poor skill levels. The district has 19% of its workforce that are highly qualified with NVQ4 level qualifications but 20% with no qualifications.

### Crime

Bassetlaw has the second highest rate of recorded crime in the county despite overall crime reducing by 17% last year, with similar reductions in anti-social behaviour. The District is working with its partners in the Bassetlaw, Newark and Sherwood Community Safety Partnership to reduce crime and the perception and fear of crime.

### Unique opportunities

#### Growth Zone, Harworth/Robin Hood International Airport

The District has seen some major investment and development in recent years. The Robin Hood International airport just outside the District's boundary at Doncaster is a prime example. The airport provides valuable opportunities for local business and local people. A high percentage of the support staff in the airport are drawn from the Bassetlaw workforce and local businesses have the potential to supply the airport with goods and services. It is important that we capitalise on these potential benefits now and in the future. The Harworth Growth Zone also has the potential to improve the economic prospects of Harworth, improve housing provision, and achieve other community benefits.

#### Rural Diversification

A successful Leader bid has been submitted, which has brought £1.6 million into the Bassetlaw and Newark and Sherwood districts. £500,000 will be allocated for agricultural business, £500,000 for micro-enterprises, conservation work and training. The goal is to diversify 22 rural businesses, have at least 44 people employed within micro businesses, increase the number of visitors to the District and increase skills levels of residents in rural areas.

### Retford Enterprise Centre

A centre to promote innovation in Retford is currently under construction. The Retford Enterprise Centre will be completed by 2010 and should see the creation of 85 jobs and 30 new businesses over three years.

### Rate of new business creation

Bassetlaw has seen an increase in the number of new businesses being created in the District. The majority of new businesses employ between 0–4 people. The challenge will be to support the sustainability and growth of these new businesses.

### Geographical Location

Bassetlaw is an attractive place to live, work and enjoy leisure time. It is also well connected in terms of road and rail links.

The A1 (south to Newark) A614 (south to Nottingham) form the backbone of the District, which is bisected East-West by the A57 Sheffield-Lincoln route.

The East Coast Mainline runs North-South through Retford and the Regional Railways Sheffield-Lincoln line through Worksop.

The Robin Hood Line links Worksop with Nottingham and provides access to all main villages and towns in the west of the County.

### Tourism

The tourism industry already contributes over £140 m to the local economy and supports 2,470 jobs. With attractions within the District and many more on our doorstep the challenge is to encourage day visitors to stay overnight – and therefore increase the value of tourism to the local economy.

### Community strategy visions and priorities

The priorities within the Bassetlaw Community Strategy are based on consultation with communities using a variety of techniques e.g.

Citizens' Panel. Communities in Bassetlaw ranked their priorities for the District and their own quality of life as follows:

- Good policing
- Safety/low crime rate
- Good schools
- Jobs and employment
- Road safety/speed of traffic
- Affordable housing
- Good quality housing
- Children's play and recreational areas
- Parks and open spaces
- Sports and leisure facilities
- Low volume traffic
- Cultural/recreational facilities e.g. theatres and cinemas
- Peaceful area
- Facilities for pedestrians and cyclists

Our most recent community consultation specific to the Sustainable Community Strategy priorities took place in 2007 when we refreshed the Sustainable Community Strategy and also the District Council Corporate Plan. From this consultation we confirmed the overarching priorities of Jobs and Enterprise, Clean and Green and Safe and Strong. The theme groups all contribute to these overarching themes.

The Bassetlaw Local Strategic Partnership has a long term 2020 vision for the future of Bassetlaw.

Our Vision:

- By 2020 Bassetlaw will have a national reputation as a place to live and work and as a tourist destination
- Our residents will have pride in the District and reach their full potential
- Educational attainment will exceed the national average
- Bassetlaw will have a clear identity with strong sub-regional links to South Yorkshire, North East Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire
- We will understand the needs of our communities, young and old and shape services to meet those needs

- The Bassetlaw Local Strategic Partnership will have strong links with Nottinghamshire and will take a lead in the delivery of the Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement in Bassetlaw

## Our Priorities for the Partnership

### Theme Groups

Bassetlaw is to align its local development framework and its sustainable community strategy. Our current priorities are detailed below but could change as a result of this joint approach.

### Economic Regeneration

Priority 1: Increase economic prosperity in Bassetlaw

Priority 2: To create a climate for investment and competitiveness

Priority 3: To regenerate key areas within Bassetlaw

### Learning & Skills

Priority 1: Support the effective engagement of Bassetlaw communities in learning activity

Priority 2: Rural and Community/ Outreach Education Provision

Priority 3: Raising Aspirations

Priority 4: To increase employment and economic activity rates by supporting workforce development

Priority 5: Act as a Networking/ Liaison Body for local providers

### Environment

Priority 1: Reduce, Re-use, Recycle

Priority 2: Promotion/ Awareness Raising of environmental issues

Priority 3: Conserve and expand areas of open green space

Priority 4: To achieve cleaner and greener public spaces

### Health

Priority 1: Reduce smoking prevalence within the population, reduce impact of second-hand smoke

Priority 2: To reduce prevalence of obesity within the population

Priority 3: Address the adverse effects of alcohol on the population of Bassetlaw

Priority 4: To improve emotional health and well-being and social inclusion

Priority 5: To promote health, well-being and active life in older age in Bassetlaw

Priority 6: To deliver on cross-cutting themes of importance to health in Bassetlaw

### Transport and Accessibility

Priority 1: To monitor and influence the 'Transport to Health' project in Bassetlaw

Priority 2: To maintain and develop existing transport and accessibility services for Bassetlaw

Priority 3: To identify and address gaps in service provision

### Community Safety

Priority 1: To reduce serious acquisitive crime

Priority 2: To improve public perception about the area

Priority 3: To reduce violent crime associated with domestic abuse and the night time economy

Priority 4: Using evidence based problem solving to reduce harm caused by drugs and alcohol

Priority 5: To improve the life chances of those most vulnerable to becoming offenders or victims of crime

Priority 6: To prevent children and young people becoming offenders or victims of crime

### Children & Young People

Priority 1: Improve and support emotional well-being of children and young people and promote positive mental health

Priority 2: Reduce the number of teenage pregnancies and support young mothers

Priority 3: Support parents and encourage positive relationships while enabling involvement in children/young people's development

Priority 4: Reduce the prevalence of childhood obesity and promote healthy living

Priority 5: Increase the aspirations of young people and support increased attainment and positive contribution

Priority 6: Ensure the safety of children and young people and reduce the risks to children and young people

Priority 7: Support disabled children, young people and their families and those transitioning to adult care/those in respite care

### Stronger Communities Group

This is a new Sub-Group of the Partnership as a result of merging Social & Community Development and New Community Group. They are still in the process of defining their new priorities/Action Plan. However, activity will focus on the issues of community cohesion, sustainable communities, arts and culture.

## Broxtowe

*Broxtowe Borough Partnership –  
Creating a Better Broxtowe for All*

### Background

The borough of Broxtowe is a very special place for those who live, work and visit here. We occupy a narrow stretch of land covering 8,055 hectares in South Nottinghamshire. Our relatively small size makes us one of the most densely populated districts in the East Midlands. In Attenborough Nature Reserve we have a facility of international renown for wildlife. Green areas, such as Bramcote Park, Moorgreen Reservoir and Colliers Wood, provide opportunities for recreation as well as nature conservation. In the north of the borough we also have access to a beautiful rural landscape that our local world famous author, DH Lawrence, referred to as "The country of my heart", not to mention the countryside of Derbyshire and the Erewash Valley. Our key towns, Eastwood, Beeston, Kimberley and Stapleford, each have a different identity.

As a borough, we are ideally placed in the heart of England, with good connectivity to the core city of Nottingham and all the opportunities that presents, including access to world class universities. In the north we have a strong mining heritage. Employment in the coal industry has long since diminished, bringing the need for the economy to diversify into different areas. Jesse Boot (1850–1931) was born and established Boots The Chemist in Nottingham. The company, with its headquarters based in

Beeston, has continued to take a leading role and involvement in the community. Companies such as Plessey and Siemens also have a long and important association with the borough, while more recently Ikea, Sainsbury and Tesco have all become important retailers within our area.

The modern community that the organisations in the Broxtowe Partnership serve is fiercely proud and independent. This continues the area's tradition of independent free thinkers. Henry Ireton, son in law to Oliver Cromwell, born in Attenborough, was the person chiefly entrusted with the drawing up of proposals for a constitutional monarchy which moved this country from an absolute monarchy to its modern system of governance. The Carthusian monks of Beauvale Priory were martyred rather than accept the supremacy of King Henry VIII as head of the church. D H Lawrence, Poet and Novelist, born in Eastwood, risked prosecution and shocked twentieth century society by pushing the boundaries of sexual propriety to create many memorable works of literature.

Today, a mix of suburban towns, villages and former mining communities has in recent times been enriched by migrants, many of them students, bringing with them different cultures. Chinese, Asian and now new European communities are changing the shape of our community life. Of our 110,415 population (mid 2006 estimate), with its 48,037 households, 6.8% are of minority ethnic origin, with the largest BME groups being Indian and Chinese. Although our BME population is generally well integrated across the whole community, the Chinese population tends to be concentrated in the Beeston area due to its proximity to the University of Nottingham and a prominent further education college with links to South East Asia.

### Broxtowe's challenges – 2009 to 2026

Broxtowe faces a number of challenges and these are summarised overleaf:

- **Employment** - There are stark contrasts in the unemployment rate across the borough. For example, unemployment in Eastwood South is significantly higher than in Attenborough and Brinsley. The length of time people over 50 and under 24 spend seeking work is rising and above the regional average. Unemployment problems in Eastwood South are compounded by lower levels of educational achievement and high numbers of lone parents and claimants on income support. Our jobs density at 0.58 is lower than the British and East Midlands average (0.8).
- **Community safety** - Crime affects both deprived and affluent areas, but not all parts of the borough are equally affected. Although overall crime rates continue to fall, Broxtowe has a relatively high crime rate when compared with similar areas and this reflects itself in the extent to which local people think crime is a top priority issue in making somewhere a good place to live. 72% of people in Broxtowe think tackling crime is a top priority issue and 46% think this is an area of activity that needs improving. Attenborough, Eastwood South, Nuthall East and Strelley and Beeston West suffer more crime than other wards.
- **Healthy Living** - The health of people in Broxtowe is generally significantly better than the England average. There are health inequalities within Broxtowe by gender, level of deprivation and ethnicity. For example Eastwood South ward is relatively deprived; and men from the most deprived areas have 4 years shorter life expectancy than those from the least deprived areas. Over the last ten years, deaths from all causes have decreased for men and women in Broxtowe, and have remained close to the average for England. The death rate from smoking is lower than average, however smoking still kills about 170 people in Broxtowe each year. (Broxtowe Health Profile 2008: APHO and Department of Health) Teenage pregnancy rates, although lower than the national average, are increasing, and there is variation between wards. Beeston Central, Chilwell West and Stapleford North have been identified as having high rates. Along with England as a whole, increasing obesity and increasing alcohol use are a concern for the population's health in the future.
- There is considerable health inequality in Broxtowe, with people living over six years less in Brinsley, Eastwood South, Beeston West and Beeston Central than people in Toton and Chilwell, Bramcote, Nuthall West and Greasley, Nuthall East and Strelley and Trowell. This same pattern is reflected in admissions to hospital for coronary heart disease and death rates. Relatively high levels of smoking and obesity point to the potential for future health problems and unhealthy lifestyles. People living near the motorway also suffer poorer air quality than those living in other parts of the borough.
- **Children and Young People** - Local people think that increasing activities for children and young people is the area that most needs improving in Broxtowe. There is significant disparity in levels of educational achievement between different parts of the borough and different ethnic groups. There is evidence of educational under-achievement in Eastwood South, Awsworth and Brinsley. People from Chinese ethnic groups achieve significantly more GCSE passes than White or Black groups. Asians achieve better than White or Black groups and Black and Mixed Race groups achieve significantly below Chinese, Asian and White ethnic groups.
- **Housing** - There are growing differences between the "decency" of private and public sector housing due to big investment in recent years in the public sector stock. Despite recent falls in house prices, house affordability continues to be an issue, magnifying the gap between home-owners and non-home owners. The annual combined income required to secure an average sized property in the Broxtowe area is over £50,000. The number of households is predicted to increase by 6%

up to 2011. There is an urgent need for more affordable housing to meet this need.

- **Green Issues** – 42% of people in Broxtowe think clean streets should be our second highest priority after crime. Our levels of litter, graffiti and fly posting put us below average local authority performance, although we have improved steadily over recent years. Although 73% of people are satisfied with parks and open spaces, we want to do better. We have an excellent recycling record and local people are challenging us to build on this still further, as well as increasing composting rates. We have a strong foundation of work around addressing climate change, but we need to do more and place greater emphasis on energy conservation and improve environmental management and making greater efforts to improve our public transport system to reduce reliance on the car.
- **Community relations** – Local residents think it's important that people get on well together and we have made great efforts to bring people together to share their experiences and develop a common understanding. Our minority ethnic population is 6.8%, the 8th highest in the East Midlands. There is a greater proportion of people from minority ethnic communities living in the Beeston area. This may suggest areas to target for community cohesion initiatives and requires a better understanding of the implications of this for service delivery. Migration is becoming an increasingly important factor and is changing the ethnic make up of the borough. 81% of people in Broxtowe think this is a place where people get on well. Although this places us above the average for district council areas, we are not complacent and would want to see our performance improve to move us into the top quartile performers (84% and above). 46% of people in Broxtowe say there are problems with people not treating each other with respect. This is higher than the average of the lowest quartile of comparators (41%). The age profile of the borough is such that there is a predominance of middle aged people. It is

easy in such a context for the voice of younger residents or the voice of certain elderly groups to be neglected or under-represented.

### **Broxtowe's opportunities – looking forward to 2026**

- **Employment** – We have big opportunities to create more employment, and create economic impact, with the regeneration of Beeston Town centre and redevelopment of important employment sites at Boots and Beeston Business Park. Working with our local schools, further education establishments and other providers will be of vital importance if we are to raise the skills levels of our local population to meet the economic challenges over the next 20 years.
- **Community Safety** – The 3 Crime and disorder reduction partnerships (CDRPs) in South Nottinghamshire have merged into a single body for the area to capitalise on the advantages of sharing expertise and resources across the locality. It is early days for the merger but we have a unique opportunity to cement the merger still further, creating an efficient and effective partnership which can successfully reduce crime and promote community safety in South Nottinghamshire, as well as working successfully with neighbouring CDRPs in Nottingham, Derbyshire and North Nottinghamshire.
- **Healthy Living** – Broxtowe is fortunate to benefit from a range of good quality recreational facilities. These include green flag parks at Bramcote Hills and Colliers Wood, a range of out-door pitches and play parks, high quality countryside such as at Attenborough Nature Reserve and the Nottingham Canal corridor along the Erewash Valley. We have great opportunities to improve these facilities still further by recognising, in particular the value of green space to our local population. Maintaining and improving the network of paths at Attenborough Nature Reserve as part of Trent River Park is a key opportunity



and there is great potential to establish a similar linear park along the Erewash Valley, working with partners in Derbyshire. We also have an excellent opportunity to work with partners such as local schools, community groups via the Broxtowe Community Sports Network and the local health sector to raise exercise participation rates in order to tackle rising obesity levels and address issues such as coronary heart disease. The needs of our ageing population will also need to be addressed.

- **Children and Young People** – The Broxtowe Partnership has taken particular care to ensure that children and young people have been involved and consulted on their needs, what they like and dislike about the place where they live and so what needs to improve. Having started this conversation with children and young people, we have a great opportunity to ensure that their voice continues to be heard and their needs are built into the way we routinely operate as a partnership. We must also ensure that we listen and respond to these conversations for example by continuing to make improvements to recreational facilities for young people. Specifically, as part of our commitment to the Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan, we want to ensure that children and young people are healthy, stay safe and are protected from abuse, that they can make a positive contribution to society through greater participation in out of school learning, community engagement and citizen activities and finally can achieve economic well-being through the promotion of enterprise initiatives and increasing business involvement in local schools.
- **Housing** – Greater Nottingham is required to allocate land for a substantial number of dwellings over the next 20 years, reflecting projected future demand. Broxtowe will, of course, need to take its share of this development which will be a huge challenge, but also presents an opportunity to work with partners in the public and private sector to ensure that any new housing is of a high

quality in terms of design and energy efficiency, with surrounding facilities which enhance quality of life.

- **Green Issues** – Our residents place green issues as one of their top priorities when asked, so it is important that Broxtowe rises to the challenges it faces in delivering real improvements in the quality of the public realm, green open spaces and even better recycling performances. We have a number of opportunities we can foster to help achieve these goals including: building on the success of Attenborough Nature Reserve through the Trent River Park partnership to improve the area still further as an important wildlife haven and linear park for the benefit of all conurbation residents; working with partners in Derbyshire to explore the potential of creating a similar linear park along the Erewash Valley; exploring the potential for a wind turbine to be created at Weirfields in Beeston Rylands to capitalise on the site's high and consistent wind speed; improving public transport to reduce the reliance on car travel through schemes such as the tram and Quality Bus Partnerships; greening the borough and impacting positively on our carbon footprint by pursuing a target of planting 100,000 trees in the borough over the next 5 years.
- **Community relations** – Broxtowe has a good record of people feeling they get on well together. We wish to build on these community relations and ensure we prevent any future threat from extremist views which could fracture community relations. We can do this by building on our grass roots community development work and our thriving voluntary sector, including encouraging volunteering to provide people with a wide experience of community life in Broxtowe. We have good links with local community leaders of all faiths and the local university and will continue to bring people together from different backgrounds to share their experiences and foster an understanding of the diverse population which makes up our borough. A key opportunity is to ensure that young people

from all backgrounds are brought together to develop a common understanding, which will help to still further cement future community relations in Broxtowe.

## **Broxtowe's Community Strategy vision and priorities**

Our vision for Broxtowe is that in 2026 Broxtowe will be a thriving place, where people enjoy living, working and spending their leisure time:

### **Employment**

- To make Broxtowe a thriving and vibrant place with access to services, jobs and opportunities for all. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - Overall employment rate (NI 151).
  - Reductions in the number of young people not in education, employment or training (NI 117).

### **Community Safety**

- To make Broxtowe a safe place, where crime is under control, people do not have to live in fear and where there are fewer accidents on the road and at home. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - Overall crime rate per 1,000 population (NI 16) (NI 20).
  - Resident perceptions of crime and anti-social behaviour (NI 17).

### **Healthy Living**

- To make Broxtowe a healthy place, where improving health enhances people's quality of life. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - Reductions in fuel poverty (NI 187).
  - Rate of adult participation in sport (NI 8).

### **Children & Young People**

- To make Broxtowe a place where children and young people are aspirational and are respected for participating in the community. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:

- Reductions in obesity levels in children (NI 55).
- Improvements in the physical and emotional well-being of children (NI 50).

### **Housing**

- To make Broxtowe a place where everyone has access to a good quality affordable home, with access to excellent community facilities. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - The rate of managed new build (NI 154).
  - The number of affordable new homes delivered (NI 155).

### **Green Issues**

- To make Broxtowe a clean and green place, which is an attractive area in which to live, work and play and where the environment is cared for and respected both today and for future generations to come. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - Rates of recycling and composting (NI 192).
  - Per capita CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local area (NI 186).

### **Community Relations**

- To make a place where everyone is treated fairly, a caring community where people feel they belong. Key ways in which we will measure success in this area will be:
  - The percentage of people who feel they can influence decision-making in Broxtowe (NI 4).
  - The percentage of people who think Broxtowe is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together (NI 1).

## **Gedling**

### **What's special about Gedling Borough?**

Gedling Borough is located in the heart of Nottinghamshire and includes a substantial part of the Greater Nottingham conurbation. It borders Sherwood Forest to the north, the River Trent to the south-east and the City of Nottingham to the south-west. The name is

taken from the present day suburban village of Gedling, which was mentioned in the Domesday survey of 1086 as Ghellinge.

The Borough has a distinctive mix of urban and rural areas. It is made up of Greater Nottingham's north and eastern suburbs and of villages located in some of Nottinghamshire's most picturesque countryside. It covers an area of 46.3 square miles or 120 square kilometres, with a large proportion being hilly.

The majority of the Borough's population live in the main suburban areas of Arnold, Carlton, Gedling, Mapperley and Netherfield. The remainder live in the ten rural parishes of Bestwood Village, Burton Joyce, Calverton, Lambley, Linby, Newstead, Papplewick, Ravenshead, Stoke Bardolph and Woodborough. The Borough's eleventh parish, Colwick, forms part of the suburban area.

The Borough's industrial heritage is based on textiles and coal, but both industries have now all but disappeared. The entire Borough falls within the principal economic area of Greater Nottingham, which also includes the City of Nottingham, the boroughs of Broxtowe and Rushcliffe, and the town of Hucknall. As a result, the majority of the Borough's residents look to Greater Nottingham for employment.

### **Your unique challenges and opportunities/ What's important to your population?**

Gedling Borough's Vision 2026 is based on 'Key Issues' derived from research and consultation. Our 'Key Issues' are derived from facts, trends or public views that may have an impact on those people who live, work and do business in Gedling Borough. These highlight the key challenges and opportunities for the Borough.

#### **The 'Key Issues' for Gedling Borough**

##### **Housing**

Our residents have expressed the need for a range of quality housing and support to suit their particular needs, such as being able to live more

independently or having the ability to afford a home of their choice. We also have a requirement to build new homes in Gedling Borough to meet the demands of housing supply and this needs to be balanced against the local characteristics of our rural and urban areas and with the needs of local people.

##### **Ageing Population**

Population estimates show that Gedling Borough has an ageing population. It is predicted that over 40% of the Borough's population will be over 50 by 2026. This equates to over 50,000 people, according to the Office for National statistics.

##### **The Urban and Rural Mix of Gedling Borough**

The Borough consists of a mixture of both urban and rural communities. 80% of the Borough's households are part of suburban Greater Nottingham and 20% are in the rural area.

##### **Targeting Specific Communities**

This refers to targeting specific communities when designing and delivering services, in order ensure their specific needs are met. These might be groups of people connected by a common interest or similarity, for example, the Borough's local business community or our young people. This might also involve a recognised geographical community in the Borough, such as one of our villages, suburban areas or even our smaller estates.

##### **People Feeling Safe and Secure**

Consultation shows that the most important issue for people in the Borough is feeling safe from crime, anti-social behaviour and harm. This is despite recent reductions in the levels of recorded crime in the Borough.

##### **Protecting the Environment; Sustainable Transport and Lifestyles**

The need and desire to protect our local and global environments, by reducing the impact on the environment from the activity of local organisations and the way people go about their everyday lives. This also refers to the need to be

responsible in the future development of land in the Borough and residents' desire to have access to reliable public transport across the Borough.

### **Pockets of Deprivation**

Although the Borough overall is not considered deprived when compared to other areas, there are pockets of deprivation within some of our villages and neighbourhoods we should not ignore.

### **A Healthy Population**

Although the Borough as a whole is a healthy place to live compared to some other areas, there is a significant health inequality between our most deprived and well off areas. There is also room for improvement with regard to healthy lifestyle choices such as physical activity and smoking and in the levels of obesity in the Borough.

### **Having A Sense of Community and Respect**

Having positive feelings about each other and the place where we live are important issues raised through consultation. People in the Borough also want to be able to make a positive contribution to the community, through activities such as volunteering, but need the facilities and support to enable them to do so.

### **Education, Employability and Skills**

Although, the Borough is 8% above average for its national deprivation score, education attainment amongst Gedling Borough's children is only 1% above average. The Gedling Borough unemployment rate has risen from 1.7% to 2.1% between September 2007 and September 2008 and the levels of education, skills and training in the Borough are not as high as other areas.

### **A Quality Local Built and Natural Environment**

Our residents believe the quality and appearance of our buildings, roads, open spaces and countryside is important.

### **Access to Services**

There is generally good access to services and transport in Gedling Borough, but there are exceptions in our rural areas and when travelling across the Borough.

### **Facilities and Activities for Children and Young People**

Residents believe that having facilities and activities for our children and young people is important, however families in the Borough are unaware of existing facilities, activities and services that are currently available to them.

### **The National and Local Economy**

Supporting business and retail in the Borough was highlighted as important in our consultation. The more recent downturn in the national economy has the potential to impact on the success and viability of local businesses and our voluntary sector, as well as on the jobs, prospects and prosperity of our residents.

### **Your community strategy visions and priorities**

In December 2008, Gedling Borough's new Vision 2026 was agreed. Gedling Partnership is currently developing an Implementation Plan that will detail activity to deliver Vision 2026 and the '5 Priorities'. This Plan will be based on local findings of short, medium and long-term impact and other national, regional, sub-regional and county requirements and priorities.

### **Vision 2026**

Gedling Partnership will continue to work together with other organisations across Nottinghamshire to achieve the Vision of Gedling Borough in 2026:

*Gedling Borough - the part of Nottinghamshire where people want to live, work and do business:*

#### **A place of safe and strong communities**

A friendly place where people make a positive contribution to and feel part of their local

community, respect and support each other and take responsibility for their own actions. Where they feel safe in their homes and on the streets at any time of the day and night.

### **A place where people are treated fairly and have the opportunity to get involved**

A place where everybody has an equal chance to realise their potential and enjoy the lifestyle they want. Where the needs of the villages and suburban neighbourhoods with regard to public transport, local jobs, access to services and housing are met. Where people can be confident that the organisations on which they rely for essential services will meet their needs and respond to their preferences when designing and delivering those services.

### **A place where we take care of our environment**

A place that achieves a balance between the natural and built environment and makes people feel good about their surroundings. A place with clean streets, well maintained open spaces and well managed countryside, where we take steps to preserve the environment for present and future generations. A place where there is a variety of distinctive and attractive buildings, that are of high quality and reflect the character of the local area.

### **A place where people can lead a healthy and active lifestyle**

A place where people have the opportunity to enjoy a healthy lifestyle. A place where people can be physically and socially active, have a good range of accessible health, recreational and leisure facilities and where there is a balanced mix of decent housing meeting the needs of the population.

### **A place that contributes to a vibrant and prosperous Greater Nottingham**

A place that attracts investment, to create a variety of convenient facilities for essential services and shopping, cultural and social activities and also to provide business opportunities and local jobs. A place where

people of all ages can have access to good quality education and training in order to gain the skills which will give them the best possible employment prospects and to support the economy of Greater Nottingham.

### **The '5 Priorities'**

Our '5 Priorities' below have been taken directly from the 2026 Vision of Gedling Borough. They highlight what we regard as our priority areas for action in order to achieve the Vision.

#### **Safer and stronger communities living together in Gedling Borough**

We believe that the stronger our communities are, the safer Gedling Borough will be. We believe that if more people can make a positive contribution and feel part of their community, then together we can reduce people's fear of crime, increase their confidence to report and confront wrong doing and continue to reduce levels of crime, anti-social behaviour and harm.

#### **A fairer, more involved Gedling Borough**

By understanding who makes up our population, we will have the knowledge that helps us provide all communities with the chance to get involved in shaping and delivering essential services. We believe this will provide a greater opportunity for people to achieve their ambitions in life and to access the services they require.

#### **A well looked after environment that meets the present and future needs of Gedling Borough**

We believe the local built and natural environment should make people feel good about their surroundings and improve their quality of life. For example, parks and other green spaces not only support nature and biodiversity, but can also contribute towards mental and physical good health, reduce the effects of climate change and increase the economic value of nearby housing. We need to keep our streets clean, maintain our existing buildings and make sure our new buildings are of high quality design. We must also effectively manage our transport

infrastructure, open spaces and countryside for recreation and work. We recognise that new built development must include provision for new, accessible "green infrastructure" as well as for roads and utilities.

To protect our global environment we need to reduce the contribution that our everyday activity and our future development of land makes to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. If we enhance the quality and look of our environment in a sustainable manner, our residents will feel proud of the Borough and their children and grandchildren will enjoy a better standard of living in the future.

### **Healthy and active lifestyles in Gedling Borough**

The more active people in Gedling Borough are, the greater opportunity for them to have a healthier lifestyle. We want to support people of all ages to be both socially active, through friendship and interaction with others, and physically active, by having the opportunity to exercise in a manner that best suits their needs. We want to inform people of healthy lifestyle choices, particularly in terms of diet, smoking and drinking alcohol. We also believe that everyone should be able to access quality housing that best reflects their needs. We believe that these opportunities will help improve people's emotional and physical health.

### **Contributing to a vibrant and prosperous Greater Nottingham**

Greater Nottingham is the principal economic driver for our region. The residents and businesses of the Borough value the fact that the Borough is part of but distinct from the rest of the conurbation of Greater Nottingham. They understand the benefits they gain from the City's prosperity and their contribution to this prosperity. In valuing and supporting our local economy we can prosper from the choice and easy access to quality jobs, housing and education that it offers. We can contribute by investing in our Borough and residents to provide the opportunity for new business and jobs. This

may include defining a role for our town and shopping centres to reflect the needs of our local communities. We also need to tailor skills, training and education opportunities for our residents in response to the changing needs of the local job market and economy. We believe that this will lead to greater prosperity for our Borough.

## **Mansfield**

### **Mansfield Area Strategic Partnership (MASP) District Chapter**

#### **What's special about Mansfield District?**

The district of Mansfield is a largely urban area situated in the north west of Nottinghamshire populated by 100,100 residents and 45,830 domestic households. Adjacent to the urban area of Sutton-in-Ashfield, Mansfield is the only major sub-regional centre in Nottinghamshire covering an area of 78 square kilometres. The Centre for Cities (2009) recognises Mansfield as one of Britain's cities by categorising the town as a 'small city'.

Mansfield district has been influenced by the past century of industrial wealth based on the coal mining and textile industries. Evidence of this history still exists with pit headstocks and textile mills still visually prominent in some areas. Another key landmark of the district is the newly rejuvenated 19th century viaduct in Mansfield town centre. Fifteen arches span the town making it one of the largest viaducts in England.

Mansfield town centre is also well known for its market. Since Mansfield's Market Charter was first granted in 1227 there has been a tradition of high quality markets in the town. The main market currently hosts over 50 stalls.

Mansfield has ten conservation areas, more than 600 acres of parks and open spaces including nine Local Nature Reserves. Three of Mansfield's parks have received the prestigious Green Flag award and the district has been awarded the Silver-Gilt medal in the prestigious Britain in Bloom Competition.

Mansfield also has a rich heritage relating to Robin Hood and Sherwood Forest. Less commonly known is that Mansfield is home to the 'Centre Tree', rumoured to mark the historical centre of Sherwood Forest.

Mansfield district is home to 6,114 businesses, which have created and sustained 41,305 jobs. The district is home to a diverse range of businesses and sectors of employment, including many national and international companies. The largest sector of employment for Mansfield's resident working population is manufacturing and construction with 9,019 jobs, the remaining workforce is employed in a variety of sectors, providing a balanced economy.

Mansfield is also the home to a vibrant neighbourhood business incubation community with four bases currently around the district. The current occupancy level for these units is nearly 80%, the units have created 19 new businesses and 75 jobs have been created/safeguarded.

West Nottinghamshire College, located in Mansfield, has been awarded 'outstanding' status by OFSTED and has become the first college in Nottinghamshire to achieve Learning and Skills Beacon status, which identifies and recognises excellence and innovation within the further education system.

Mansfield is home to excellent cultural and leisure facilities. The Mansfield Museum has recently been accredited by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council and awarded Renaissance East Midlands Nottinghamshire Museum of the Year for 2008. In addition the museum was joint winner of the award for Renaissance East Midlands Nottinghamshire Best Exhibition for its 'Golden Sands' the beach exhibition. The museum has received further recognition for its 'Mansfield in the Blitz' event which was 'highly commended' by the Museum and Galleries Month national panel of judges. The event was judged as fourth best out of numerous entries from museums across the UK.

The Mansfield Palace Theatre will be 100 years old in 2010, and receives national recognition for its annual pantomime. The theatre is a thriving regional facility drawing its audiences from both the district and well beyond its boundaries.

Mansfield is the only local authority area in the county to have a directly elected Mayor giving Mansfield strong democratic leadership and direct engagement with the local people. In October 2008 Mansfield elected its first Youth Mayor. Turnout at elections was high with 3,500 young people aged between 11 and 18 voting in schools across Mansfield and at West Nottinghamshire College.

### [What's important to the people of Mansfield?](#)

#### [The Key Issues for Mansfield District](#)

##### **Crime and Community Safety**

Tackling crime and disorder is a priority that presents a number of major challenges. Although a lot of good work has been carried out in recent years Mansfield continues to experience higher than average levels of violent crime, substance abuse, theft from vehicles, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour (ASB). The rate of violent crime is a particularly significant challenge with town centre violence and domestic violence rates being well above regional and national averages.

Another key challenge is enviro-crime. This includes fly-tipping, littering and abandoned vehicles all of which are a significant blight on our environment if not tackled effectively.

The key priorities for Mansfield Area Strategic Partnership and the Mansfield Partnership Against Crime (MPAC) are reducing the following; domestic burglary, violent crime including domestic violence, theft from vehicles, criminal damage, alcohol misuse, drug abuse and anti-social behaviour.

## Housing

As an area suffering from high levels of deprivation, low income and relatively high unemployment; housing affordability and increasing house prices present a particularly significant problem for the district. The impact of this is felt most by young people, many of whom are struggling to enter the housing market.

Further challenge comes from housing demand. At present supply falls short of demand increasing pressure on partners to look at new ways of managing empty properties, redeveloping old sites and identifying new sites for development.

The quality of housing is another persistent concern particularly in the private sector. To address this issue the Decent Homes Improvement Programme will continue to be rolled out on all Council owned housing and a strategy for private sector housing will also be implemented.

Another challenge is presented by climate change and the need for increased housing energy efficiency. This needs to be considered in the refurbishment of old housing and the development of new homes. As a district with high levels of older housing stock this is a particularly significant problem.

## Deprivation

Deprivation in Mansfield is high but has shown an encouraging trend of improvement over recent years. According to the Indices of Multiple Deprivation (IMD, 2007), the district is ranked as the 34th most deprived out of 355 local authority areas in England, making it one of the top 10% most deprived areas in the country.

Significant steps have been taken to tackle deprivation and comparison between 2000 and 2007 IMD figures reveal a positive pattern of change. Since 2000, Mansfield has improved from being the 29th to 34th most deprived local authority area in England. This may be attributable to investment in Mansfield

town centre, the impact of the Government's Neighbourhood Renewal Fund intervention and a number of high profile regeneration projects.

The unemployment rate in Mansfield is rising. The rate is currently 6.2%, the East Midlands 5.4% and Great Britain is 5.2%. For those that are in employment, jobs are largely unskilled and wages are low. The gross weekly wage in Mansfield is £412.70 which is £36.90 lower than the East Midlands regional average weekly wage of £449.60, and £66.60 less than the Great Britain average of £479.30.

## Health

The health of Mansfield's population is a significant issue. This is illustrated by a life expectancy that is lower than the national average. Male life expectancy is 75.9 yrs which is 1.4 years lower than the national average of 77.32yrs, whilst female life expectancy stands at 80.6 which is 0.7 years lower than national figures. Mansfield also has a high teenage pregnancy rate of 49.7 per 1,000 compared to an East Midlands rate of 40.1 per 1,000, and national rate of 41.2 per 1000.

Furthermore, 24.2% of Mansfield's population suffers from a limiting long term illness, based on figures from the 2001 census. This represents nearly one quarter of Mansfield residents and is higher than the national figure of 17.9%. Consequently, Mansfield has 910 people claiming Disability Living Allowance and 6,870 people claiming Incapacity Benefit. These represent higher figures than any other Nottinghamshire district but may go some way to explaining the relatively high level of economic inactivity amongst Mansfield's working age population.

## Educational Attainment

Educational attainment in Mansfield is low. Figures reveal that 16.6% of the population has no qualifications compared to 13.5% in the East Midlands region and 13.1% nationally. Of those that do possess qualifications, only small percentages are educated to a higher level. Just 15.3% are qualified to NVQ Level 4 or



equivalent and above. This includes those with Higher National Diplomas, degrees or higher/postgraduate degree level qualifications.

### Young People

The 2008 Place survey shows that 23% of people surveyed stated that 'activities for teenagers' were important in making somewhere a good place to live. 43.05% stated that 'activities for teenagers' needed most improving; replacing crime as the most important area for improvement.

Through close working between Mansfield District Council, Nottinghamshire County Council and the NHS a wide selection of opportunities have been provided for young people in Mansfield to live active and healthy lifestyles in a safe and stable environment.

The Mansfield Youth Mayor and Deputy Youth Mayor's brief is to represent the views of young people in the district and have an influencing role in local decision making. They will consult with young people through a variety of networks including schools and the Mansfield Youth Assembly which will be chaired by the Youth Mayor. The Deputy Youth Mayor is also part of the Mansfield Youth Assembly Executive.

### Mansfield's Sustainable Community Strategy, Visions and Priorities

'The Big Picture': Mansfield's Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2015 has been produced by MASP in conjunction with Mansfield District Council. It is the overarching strategic plan for the district and is based on what local people have told us are the important issues for Mansfield.

The purpose of the strategy is to bring together Mansfield's main service providers from the public, private and voluntary/community sectors to set a shared vision and agreed priorities for the district.

### Vision

'A Mansfield District where everyone enjoys a good quality of life, with confidence, pride and dignity, and which attracts people, business and investment to our area'

### Priorities

The seven priorities identified for Mansfield in 'The Big Picture' are listed below. They highlight what the residents, communities and service providers in Mansfield regard as priority areas for action in order to achieve the District's vision.

#### People in our Community

- To improve public service delivery, and ensure that more people will feel they have influence over how public services are delivered.
- To increase social inclusion by reducing poverty, discrimination and other forms of social exclusion.
- To provide integrated services for children and young people through multi-agency teams being established supporting children within the community.
- To enhance community cohesion, increasing the number of volunteers working within their own community.
- To provide support for older people, giving greater support and improved services, and creating an older people partnership with more influence on public services.
- To increase participation in leisure and cultural activity.
- To provide facilities for younger people and increase participation by young people in community based activity.

#### Liveability

- To achieve the Decent Homes Standard by 2010/11, and to improve the availability of affordable housing within the district.
- To increase people's awareness in environmental education.
- To make year on year improvements in cleanliness, recycling and land use.
- There will be a continued commitment to bio-diversity and Mansfield nature reserves.

- To reduce Mansfield's carbon footprint and tackle climate change.

### Our Economic Prosperity

- To reduce the gap between the average income in the district and the rest of the East Midlands.
- To increase employment rates and the number of working age people in employment.
- To encourage business growth and increase the number of business start-ups and stronger business survival rates.
- To develop an enterprise culture through the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI) delivered to target, with an emphasis on young people and enterprise.
- To develop employment sites around the Sherwood Growth Zone, optimising MARR (Mansfield and Ashfield Regeneration Route) route and town centre opportunities.
- To develop a new transport interchange for Mansfield and improve rail services.
- To improve the cultural and leisure infrastructure.

### Our Town Centre

- Through transport facilities and access improve accessibility to jobs, homes, and services through the creation of a high quality transport interchange.
- To create high quality town centre developments including the Townscape Heritage Initiative, the Town Hall and Stockwell Gate. Creating an improved business mix.
- To create an attractive and safe environment.
- Through well marketed, planned and attended events increase the footfall.
- To create a revitalised and multi-functional market place with general and speciality markets for the 21st century.
- To improve culture and tourism activities based in the town centre.

### Learning

- To improve pupil attainment year on year, particularly at Key Stage 3 and GCSE level.
- To provide study support for pupils through Extended Services Programme (ESP).

- To establish vocational programmes for school pupils involving schools, colleges and employers.
- To create a year on year increase in the average skill levels in the workplace.
- To develop a learning culture in all our communities which will be evidenced through adult participation levels, particularly amongst hard to reach groups.
- To attract and retain creative and innovative people, encouraging more graduates to live and work in Mansfield.
- To build a new college for the people of Mansfield and Ashfield. The aim is for the college to be built by 2010.

### A Safer Mansfield District

- To reduce re-offending rates. Providing a continued reduction in all crime and through a reduction in re-offending by our most prolific offenders.
- To increase the number of people who feel safe. Safer Neighbourhood Teams (neighbourhood policing) are being established in all of Mansfield's district neighbourhoods.
- To reduce anti-social behaviour and criminal damage.
- To reduce violence and disorder through targeted activity and through the management of alcohol reduction.
- To increase the number of reported incidents of domestic violence and to reduce the number of re-victimisation incidences.
- To improve the support for victims and witnesses. This will result in an increased number of people giving evidence against offenders.
- To reduce the number of local problematic drug users.

### A Healthier Mansfield District

- To provide a year on year reduction in the prevalence of smoking in our communities.
- To reduce the prevalence of obesity, particularly in children, halting the upward trend.
- To reduce the harm caused by alcohol and drugs through a co-ordinated multi-agency strategy.

- To reduce teenage pregnancy and to identify and treat the most common sexually transmitted infection-Chlamydia.
- To reduce accidents and consequently the number of associated hospital admissions and fatalities.
- To create a year on year increase in the number of workplaces that adopt approaches which support psychological well being and reduce levels of stress.

## Newark and Sherwood

### Newark and Sherwood Partnership

Vision; "Our aim is for residents in Newark and Sherwood to feel that their area offers them the best quality of life in the East Midlands. By 2010 we aim to be one of the top 10 rural districts in the region and by 2015 one of the top 5."

### The District Profile

Newark and Sherwood is the largest district in Nottinghamshire, covering a third of the county. The area is bounded by the more urbanised Greater Nottingham and Mansfield areas to the west and by Lincolnshire to the east. The remnants of Sherwood Forest to the west and the Trent Valley in the east are the two most dominant natural features of the landscape. The woodlands and heathlands of the forest and parklands of the Dukeries estates of the west are popular with both local people and visitors.

The district has approximately 112,000 people, with Newark being the main town, but there is a dispersed pattern of settlements with 7 of the 26 wards having a population of less than 3000. Newark, with over 26,000 population, forms the largest populated area in the district. The town has a long and varied history and a rich heritage of buildings and archaeological remains. The town acts as the main shopping, employment and service centre for the surrounding rural area and has a successful livestock market, a thriving open market and a wide selection of both local speciality shops and national multiples.

Settlements in the west of the district owe their growth to the former coal industry, which, apart from the only surviving coalmine at Thoresby has almost disappeared. Settlements such as Ollerton/Boughton, with almost 12,000 population, Edwinstowe, Rainworth, Bilsthorpe, Blidworth and Clipstone, each of which has a population of between 5–3 thousand, grew to serve their local pits. Although employment growth and diversification has taken place in these areas, partly addressing the economic, social and environmental degradation which followed the colliery closures, deprivation does still exist and is recognised by a range of incentives such as Development Area, EU grants and other measures.

Other towns and centres include Southwell, with its 12th century Minster, Farnsfield and Lowdham. The southern and eastern parts of the district have a number of attractive villages which are increasingly attractive to commuters searching for tranquillity whilst being able to access work in other parts of the county and further afield. The area has good transport links, both road and rail, with the rest of the county and beyond, with the A1, A46 and A17 passing through or close by Newark, along with the East Coast Main Line and the Nottingham Lincoln rail line and the recently dualled A46 to Lincoln.

### Key Issues for the District

- Ageing population; a particular issue in the district, with numbers of over 65 year olds expected to increase by 55% by 2029.
- Housing; house prices increased more rapidly than the average increase for the county and affordability has become an issue. This is being addressed by a focus on increasing the number of affordable homes, the Growth Point work and the wider Local Development Framework.
- Quality of life; the area has a high comparative quality of life score and satisfaction levels.
- Environment; the district scores highly on many environmental indicators and there have been successes in terms of awards for parks and country parks; partners aim to build on these successes and to ensure that Sherwood Forest is maintained and improved.

- Education; although there have been some recent improvements in qualification levels several schools in the area remain below the Nottinghamshire average in terms of GCSE scores.
- Employment; the district has lower unemployment than many other parts of the county but recent increases caused by the recession will be challenging to address.
- Business and enterprise; again the district has a good record in terms of self employment, small firm formation and survival. The work of the Beacon business innovation centre, the Sherwood Energy Village and that which will flow from the Growth Point should ensure that the area retains its competitive edge.
- Prosperity; the district has a good record on relative levels of prosperity.
- Transport; due to the rural nature of much of the district, the area is less well connected to public transport than much of the county. However, work by partners aims to address public transport infrastructure and usage; projects such as the Newark Bus Station, dualling of the A46 and improvements to the East Coast Mainline will be helpful.
- Accessibility; in spite of the issues around rurality, access to services is thought to be better than in many comparable areas.
- Health; overall life expectancy is good although there are some inequalities; issues such as obesity, smoking and teenage conceptions are a problem in some parts of the district.
- Cultural connections; the area has won many awards for its cultural services, including for museums, theatres, sport and leisure and will identify where other infrastructure needs to be developed to fill any gaps.
- Community safety; the overall crime score for the district is better than the average for the county and for England as a whole. The area has seen significant falls in rates of burglary, robbery and vehicle crime. Anti-social behaviour is also being addressed through targeted work with young people.

- Community cohesion; again this is an area where the district scores well. The LSP is working on a range of issues including migrant workers, race relations and cultural awareness to ensure that this track record is maintained.

### Newark and Sherwood's Sustainable Community Plan 2006–2016

The Plan is supported by a three year delivery plan which sets out the key projects and links to the Nottinghamshire LAA. The LSP has agreed that communities in Newark and Sherwood need to be;

- Clean and green
- Learning and Earning
- Accessible
- Healthy
- Culturally connected
- Safe and Strong

Each of the above has a series of outcomes and objectives that the LSP is working towards.

Clean and Green priorities include; encouraging people to take pride in green and open spaces by working with agencies to involve them in helping clean up target areas; raising awareness and encouraging action about sustainable development including climate change and reducing waste and fly tipping; preserving local plant and animal life; coordinating volunteers through training, information and support.

Learning and Earning priorities include; raising aspirations – self belief and employment opportunities; improving opportunities for lifelong learning; improving the quality of education and making it available as locally as possible; encouraging the creation, retention or expansion of rural services; supporting the development of market towns in the district; develop commercial activity in deprived areas; supporting and encouraging the development of higher educational achievement to create a skilled economy.

Accessible priorities include; dualling of the A46; Newark Bus Station; encouraging more people to walk or cycle; improving road safety; dealing with congestion hot spots; encouraging use of public transport by raising awareness through publicity and information; improving accessibility to health services, shopping, work, leisure and cultural activities; encouraging local discussion on the longer term of sustainable transport and access issues.

Healthy priorities include; targeting actions on areas of most need; focusing on key areas in the public health white paper which have been determined as local priorities in the district; effective action through partnership to reduce obesity, focusing on healthy eating and exercise; reducing the number of people who smoke; reducing accidents, particularly amongst children and older people; improving sexual health and particularly emphasising the reduction of teenage pregnancy; improve mental health and well-being; encouraging sensible drinking, particularly amongst young people; promoting healthy and active lifestyles amongst older people and helping children and young people lead healthy lives.

Culturally connected priorities include; improving access and encouraging participation – through better communication, information and involvement, better access to cultural events and facilities; developing local cultural infrastructure through the LDF, raising civic pride and aspirations by supporting and promoting local historical and living heritage and attracting visitors and increasing spend by them; developing and supporting local talent, encouraging inter-generational activity, celebrating the positive contributions of young people and raising the profile of significant local people to raise local aspirations.

Safe and Strong priorities include; working with partners to tackle crime and persistent offenders; forming neighbourhood policing teams and concentrating efforts in high crime/deprived areas; tackling issues of local concern including

domestic violence; increasing the number of volunteers and the opportunities open to them; securing the future of the voluntary and community sector, documenting their work and improving communication channels.

## Rushcliffe

### Rushcliffe Community Partnership

#### Welcome to Rushcliffe

Characterised by attractive villages, rich farmland and rolling countryside, Rushcliffe covers an area of 157 square miles and has a population of around 109,000<sup>1</sup> people, about one-third of whom live in West Bridgford. Rushcliffe also benefits from a rich sporting heritage. West Bridgford can boast that it is the home of two of the most famous names in the world of sport – the Trent Bridge Cricket Ground and the City Ground, home of Nottingham Forest Football Club.

The latest statistics show that there are slightly more females (51%) than males, whilst the percentage of “non-white” minority ethnic backgrounds has increased to 6% of the population, whilst 65 years old and over now represent 20% of the population.

Rushcliffe is the most affluent area in the county, with higher than average incomes and ranked 331st (out of 354) on a national deprivation scale – although there are some pockets of need, for example in parts of Cotgrave. It is also a popular place to live, with nearly 80% of homes being owner-occupied.

Rushcliffe has a relatively low unemployment level of 1.8%<sup>2</sup>, the lowest in Nottinghamshire, and significantly more people in the Borough are self-employed than the national and county averages. Rushcliffe can also be said to be the safest place in Nottinghamshire – with a moderate to low crime rate.

<sup>1</sup> 2007 Mid year estimate.

<sup>2</sup> Nottinghamshire County Council January 2009 Employment Bulletin.

## The key challenges and opportunities for the Borough of Rushcliffe

**Our key emerging challenges and opportunities, as at 2009, for the Borough over the next 17 years are:**

**Housing** - The new East Midlands Regional Plan, which was published in March 2009, is likely to have a very significant impact upon the Borough. This requires the Borough Council to accommodate additional development that will have significant impact upon the local environment as well as upon the existing infrastructure in the area. The current proposal for Rushcliffe is for 15,000 new homes to be built between 2006 and 2026. This pressure is greatest around the main urban area of Nottingham and our larger towns and villages. Although it is acknowledged that there will continue to be a need for housing growth in Rushcliffe, the level specified in the Regional Plan has been consistently contested, with concerns regarding infrastructure and the loss of Green Belt. The Borough Council will continue to work towards meeting its statutory obligations through the production of the Local Development Framework. However it will also continue to voice its objections in relation to the numbers currently required. The expansion of existing communities and the development of new communities will need to be undertaken in such a way that the quality of life of existing and new residents is maintained and where possible improved.

Affordability of housing in Rushcliffe is still a pressing issue despite the down turn of prices experienced in 2008/09. The Nottingham Core Strategic Housing Market Assessment, published May 2007, suggested that there was a need for an affordable housing requirement, to meet demand, of 60% of all newly built houses within the Borough.

The Department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) has identified the potential for an Eco-town in the Borough. The final list of locations will be set out by the Government in a

Planning Policy Statement expected in 2009. If Rushcliffe is selected as a suitable location for an Eco-town this could mean the development of an additional 6,000<sup>3</sup> new homes in the Borough. Extra housing will also bring the need and opportunity for improved transport, new schools, parks and other community facilities.

**Ageing Population** - The elderly population is growing in the Borough. Latest population estimates indicate that people of 65 years and over represent 20% of the total population of the Borough. This trend is set to increase over the next 16 years. By 2025 the elderly could represent nearly 28%<sup>4</sup> of the population. This change will have a significant impact on the needs and requirements of the residents of Rushcliffe and the nature of the services provided by the partnership.

**Fuel Poverty** - Fuel poverty is a challenge for Rushcliffe because it has a greater than average proportion of owner occupied properties where the head of the household is over 60 years of age. This age group are generally on lower household incomes (65% receive less than £10,000) and are therefore unable to undertake works to improve thermal efficiency (insulation). A significant amount of the older housing stock (pre 1919 converted flats) is privately rented. Tenants within these properties again are more likely to be on lower incomes (38.7% of private rented tenants earn less than £10,000 per year) and so too are more likely to experience fuel poverty, especially where thermal improvement works have not been undertaken by their landlords.

**Alcohol abuse** - Alcohol related hospital admission rates in Nottinghamshire match the average for England, however increasing alcohol misuse by young people is a concern, and impacts on both crime and health.

<sup>3</sup> Eco-town submission – June 2008.

<sup>4</sup> Nottinghamshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment – Chapter 2 – March 2008.

Whilst the lowest in South Nottinghamshire, there were still 883<sup>5</sup> alcohol related offences in Rushcliffe recorded by the Police in the last three years. Binge drinking and drink related anti-social behaviour is becoming an increasing concern, particularly in locations with a thriving night time economy, such as West Bridgford.

**People feeling safe and secure** - Consultation, via the "Nottinghamshire Listens" citizens' panel, consistently shows that the level of crime and feeling safe is one of the most important issues for the residents of Rushcliffe despite relatively low levels of crime experienced in the Borough. In fact, low levels of crime is seen by those surveyed (69%) as the most important aspect in making an area a good place to live<sup>6</sup>.

In terms of total recorded crime Rushcliffe is the lowest in Nottinghamshire with 62.2 recorded per 1,000 population in 2007/08<sup>7</sup>, but this does not give rise to complacency, the partnership will continue to tackle crime as a priority to make the community an even safer place.

**Community Cohesion** - Linking to many of our challenges is helping to ensure that everyone can identify with their community and, if they want, to have the opportunity to get involved to achieve change within their communities. The attractive mix of rural and urban settlements characterises Rushcliffe, but it also presents its own set of challenges. It is important that our rural and urban communities equally feel that there is good access to services; transport links and that their concerns are listened to.

Recent surveys consistently tell us that that the majority of residents (87%) are satisfied with their local area as a place to live and that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get along well together (74%). This is positive feedback from our residents and the partnership will continue to be committed to and promote equality and diversity. The challenge for the partnership is to build on and improve these feelings as the Borough develops in the future.

**Climate Change** - Rushcliffe faces challenges to reduce the carbon emissions. We perform slightly worse than the national average, producing 7.8 tonnes of carbon emission per resident, compared to the national average of 7.6 tonnes per resident<sup>8</sup>.

The area of emissions we need to tackle most is that arising from the domestic sector where we perform worst in Nottinghamshire. Rushcliffe produces 2.7 Kt of CO<sub>2</sub> / 1000 population from the domestic sector compared to the Nottinghamshire average of just 2.5 Kt of CO<sub>2</sub> / 1,000<sup>9</sup>. Similarly, we are producing 2.5 Kt of CO<sub>2</sub> / 1,000 population when compared to 2.4 for the Nottinghamshire average with regard to traffic emissions.

**Contributing to the overall targets of the Local Area Agreement whilst improving Rushcliffe Local Strategic Partnership's performance** - It is recognised that Rushcliffe could be seen to be in a fortunate position. In many cases Rushcliffe's performance already exceeds the Local Area Agreement targets at a county level. This does not, however, translate into complacency on Rushcliffe's part. On the contrary, one of our challenges will be to achieve our targets set at the district level and to take what opportunities are available to contribute to all of the LAA priorities.

### **Rushcliffe Sustainable Community Strategy Vision and Priorities**

The 2026 vision for the partnership is:

"Rushcliffe will be an excellent place to live, work and visit for everyone."

To achieve the vision, partners will work together to deliver priorities over six key themes.

<sup>5</sup> Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment 2009.

<sup>6</sup> MORI Tracker Survey 2007/08.

<sup>7</sup> The Condition of Nottinghamshire 2009, Section B.

<sup>8</sup> Health Summary for Rushcliffe 2008.

www.healthprofiles.info

<sup>9</sup> The State of Nottinghamshire 2009, Nottinghamshire County Council.

### Protecting and enhancing the environment

- Contribute to the reduction of Rushcliffe's "carbon footprint"
- Promote environmentally responsible behaviour and attitudes
- Protect and enhance the built and natural environment
- Promote a sustainable mix of housing

### Supporting the local economy

- Assist business development and sustainable growth, helping to create thriving town centres and villages in Rushcliffe
- Promote a healthy workforce
- Help enable businesses to recruit, develop and retain staff locally
- Assist to maintain and develop a thriving local market place

### Building strong communities

- Encourage and enable all local people and community organisations to take an active role in shaping their communities
- Improve the provision of information, services and resources that will enhance the independence of elderly and vulnerable people living at home
- Encourage and enable personal growth and community involvement through volunteering
- Ensure new developments have mixed tenure to promote community cohesion

### Making communities safer

- To continue to reduce the incidents of domestic burglary, vehicle crime and robbery
- Reducing youth crimes through education, positive activities and engagement
- Reducing drug and alcohol related crime with education, treatment and enforcement
- Improving the public's perception of crime through:
  - Positive communication
  - Community involvement in decision making
  - Co-ordinated partnership
- Providing housing support for vulnerable households

### Enabling healthy lives

- Promoting healthy lifestyles by:
  - Reducing the prevalence of obesity in the borough
  - Raising awareness of alcohol misuse
  - Reducing the number of people who smoke and are exposed to second hand smoke
  - Gaining a better understanding of the emotional health and well-being issues and needs of our residents
- To contribute to the reduction of household domestic violence
- To improve housing conditions
- Provide lifetime homes and supported housing to enable households to remain independent in the community

### Supporting children and young people

- To protect the most vulnerable children and young people
- To provide children and young people with more places to go and things to do
- Reduce the amount of crimes committed by young people and stop children and young people being as scared about becoming victims of crime
- To improve the health and well-being of children and young people
- To listen to and actively involve children and young people in developing services
- Promote a sustainable mix of housing which includes building more family homes
- Promote quick access and move on accommodation





The following case studies appear in shortened form in the main Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010–2020 document, one to illustrate each priority:

Case study: Bowbridge School, Newark  
Priority: A greener Nottinghamshire

Case study: Improvement in GCSE scores (Key Stage 4)  
Priority: A place where Nottinghamshire's children reach their full potential

Case study: Anti-social behaviour and night-time economy  
Priority: A safer Nottinghamshire

Case study: First Contact Signposting Scheme  
Priority: Health and well-being for all

Case study: Making the Connection - Connecting skills with employment  
Priority: A more prosperous Nottinghamshire

Case study: Nottinghamshire's sporting successes  
Priority: Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger

The full versions of these same case studies are contained in this Appendix.

## A greener Nottinghamshire

### Bowbridge School

Bowbridge School in Newark encompasses all of the key priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy for Nottinghamshire and is giving young people of today a real opportunity to thrive in Nottinghamshire in 2020 and beyond.

Bowbridge is one of the leading schools in the country to develop Education for Sustainable Development (ESD). In essence, this encourages the children to look after themselves, their family, their friends, their school, their community and ultimately their planet.

With sustainability being a core theme across the school the young people are in a place which is using green technology in its buildings and demonstrating what is possible, including lifestyle choices that young people can take back to their homes and use in their day to day life. (75% of parents of Bowbridge schoolchildren say they have changed their lifestyles as a result of messages from their children).

There is a clear link at the school to health and wellbeing through the promotion and use of local food, their school nutrition action group, the food for life partnership, the school travel plan, participation in sport projects and their gardening project.

The school is a central part of the community, not just an educational establishment for children but a venue for community activities and groups, for example the Citizens Advice Bureau operate

from the school. It has achieved the Quality in Extended Services accreditation.

Bowbridge is contributing to the prosperity agenda through adult skills and training being freely available to local people and is a great user of information technologies, including the internet and computers, equipping their pupils (and their parents) with the knowledge and confidence needed for future employment. The Bowbridge E-Learning Foundation gives parents an affordable way of helping the school to provide first rate ICT equipment and connectivity and it has a community wireless network.

As well as specific programmes to tackle issues such as substance misuse and bullying, the school provides a range of out of school activities and engenders a sense of community, all making Hawtonville a safer and stronger community. The general behaviour in the area has improved, for example less litter.

Head teacher David Dixon said, "Our school is a one stop shop for the community, where parents can access advice on health, jobs and learning as well as offering further education".

Through its buildings, initiatives, teaching and whole way of working the school promotes a greener lifestyle and is an excellent example of education for sustainable development being at the heart of creating sustainable communities.

## A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential

### Raising Attainment at Key Stage 4

Results 2006: 51.1% 5A\*-C, 40% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

Results 2009: 69.2% 5A\*-C, 47.2% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

To improve standards, the aim identified was 'to ensure Nottinghamshire is a learning community

where all schools and providers can demonstrate they add value.'

It was designed to ensure that schools felt a responsibility for all young people, in the schools and as a result shared good ideas, skills and resources to achieve the aim.

Although our results are still not as high as we would yet wish, the significant improvement since 2006 against the national trajectory demonstrates the strategy is working. Virtually all secondary schools are in at least one network of 5 or 6 schools where planning and practice is collaborative.

High achieving schools act as partners to those in more challenging circumstances and school improvement officers drive and broker good practice across the county. Improved data information has helped schools target need more effectively. This, linked to a very successful self-evaluation network for school leaders, enables schools to be more focused.

The Nottinghamshire National Strategy leads and coordinates subject specialist development as well as general teaching, learning and assessment strategies. This has led to increased confidence by teachers in delivering the curriculum.

The grant provided by the County Council enabled and enhanced the activity and the outcomes demonstrate the value of this support.

### Case study – The Manor School, Mansfield Woodhouse, Nottinghamshire

Results 2006: 32% 5A\*-C, 25% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

Results 2009: 61% 5A\*-C, 44% 5A\*-C inc English and maths

Manor school has become a learning community with the motto 'We can do anything in our school as long as we do it together'.

There have been a number of major strategies designed to improve both standards of attainment and achievement.

The school moved from a top-down model of target setting to a model where the staff identified individual potential of students using data as information. Then subject leaders worked with their teams to focus on the students' progress.

A conscious effort was made to ensure the young people played an active part in understanding their attainment levels and what they needed to do improve. Every student in the school now has a personal mentor and parents are kept fully engaged in the learning process.

As the student is at the centre of the learning process the school is re-designing the curriculum to ensure that all young people are able to engage in lessons that motivate them and meet their needs.

As part of being a learning community the leadership of the school work in partnership with other leaders in Mansfield, their family of primary schools and as a partner school for a school in challenging circumstances.

The Manor School has been involved in a national programme 'The Extra Mile' and as an outcome it has been invited to share its success at both national and local level.

## A safer Nottinghamshire

### Anti-social behaviour and night-time economy

#### Operation Animism Nottinghamshire Police

Operation Animism was launched in Ashfield and Mansfield in September 2009.

The project ensures a patrol team dedicated to responding to reports of anti-social behaviour is operating at the times when complaints are at their highest, particularly Friday and Saturday evenings.

Since September, 30 under 18's have been taken home to their parents/carers and 91 warning letters have been sent out to homes of under-18s found to be causing anti-social behaviour.

Two pubs have also received closure notices, both for not having operational CCTV systems and off licenses were visited by Police and County Council Trading Standards Officers to warn them of their responsibilities. Two men in Sutton-in-Ashfield were issued with £80 on-the-spot fines for buying beer for children.

Other successes include joint firework patrols with the County Council's Trading Standards Officers to carry out joint patrols in Ashfield to crack down on fireworks misuse, and an alleyway closure in Hucknall after complaints from residents.

#### Operation Anenome

Operation Anenome is now incorporated into Operation Animism. Since its introduction in January 2009 there has been a 23% reduction in alcohol-related violence and disorder in Hucknall town centre.

Special Constables carry out high visibility patrols and work with licensees, door staff and police officers in taking a zero tolerance approach to disorderly behaviour.

They have carried out 88 stops or searches, given 17 direction to leave notices and made 16 arrests for various offences, including actual bodily harm and drunk and disorderly behaviour.

# Health and well-being for all

## First Contact Signposting scheme – Nottinghamshire County Council

First Contact is a simple checklist scheme, which helps to deliver extra vital services to people's homes.

When a person from any of the partner agencies goes into a home, they complete a checklist to find out if the older person has any other particular needs such as meals at home, pension advice or a home safety check. This information is then fed back to one central number at Nottinghamshire County Council, where staff then make referrals to other agencies and ensure that these are followed up.

Between September 2008 and August 2009, the following number of checklists were carried out with older people:

- Ashfield: 563
- Bassetlaw: 633
- Broxtowe: 657
- Gedling: 793
- Mansfield: 873
- Newark & Sherwood: 1,019
- Rushcliffe: 600

### Case study one: Rushcliffe

Christine from Rushcliffe is in her 80s. She had a visit from The Pension Service, who told her how she could claim more benefits to help her continue to live independently at home.

The person from The Pension Service took Christine through the First Contact checklist to find out if there were any other services she needed. As a result, she has now had:

- a social care assessment from the County Council, which has led to her receiving a raised bed and shower seat

- a visit from fire fighters who have fitted a 10 year smoke detector and checked that she has no fire hazards in her home
- a visit from police officers who have checked that her home is secure.

Christine said: "First Contact is absolutely brilliant. People should use it a lot more. You get one thing, but they offer many other services. For an older person it is very good. My family live further away and I need a bit of extra support, so First Contact gives me an extra link to important services."

## A more prosperous Nottinghamshire

### Making the Connection – Connecting skills with employment

Laing O'Rourke, a large construction company, is recruiting staff for a new factory in Worksop, providing potential employment for unemployed people in Nottinghamshire. The recently opened factory manufactures a range of pre-cast concrete products used within construction projects like the 2012 Olympic construction.

Making the Connection (MTC) is the County Council's recruitment and skills solution service, hosted by the Economic Regeneration Service. The project team have worked with Laing O'Rourke to develop and deliver two pre-employment gateways. So far 44 local unemployed people have completed training which provided them with the relevant skills, qualifications and understanding of the manufacturing sector aimed at improving their chances of obtaining employment with Laing O'Rourke. The training was delivered in partnership by North Nottinghamshire College.

Everyone who completed the training was guaranteed an interview with Laing O'Rourke, which involved them attending an assessment centre. To date this

process has resulted in 19 confirmed offers of employment, with other applicants still under consideration. Laing O'Rourke have requested further employment gateways from Making the Connection, demonstrating the project's ability to respond flexibly to the needs of businesses and to ensure that local people benefit from new job opportunities.

## Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger

### Nottinghamshire's sporting successes

Nottinghamshire has a proud history of sporting success which brings pride and prestige to the county.

Sport brings challenge, inspiration, excitement and enjoyment to people of all ages and backgrounds, whether it is as player, coach, official or spectator. There is a vibrant sporting culture in Nottinghamshire. Local people tell us that sport is an important part of making the county a good place to live. It is one of the things we are famous for.

Success at the Beijing Olympics and Paralympics gave the county a much needed boost in otherwise difficult times. The scenes of jubilation in Mansfield at Rebecca Adlington's homecoming were a sign of what sport means to local people. The gold medals brought back by Becky, Sam Hynd and Tim Brabants were no accident. They were the result of supreme talent and dedication by all three athletes, but also the product of the sports system in the county. In total our athletes brought home five Olympic and five Paralympic medals.

Rebecca Adlington's record breaking achievements rapidly elevated her to stardom. In 2009 she was awarded an OBE, acknowledged as Laureus World Breakthrough of the Year and received the honour of the former Sherwood Colliery Pit Head Baths in Mansfield, where she learned to swim, being redeveloped and renamed in her honour.

This success was the product of a system in place for over thirty years and the result of partnerships between the County Council, Districts Councils and the voluntary sector. The real story behind the headlines for her was over three thousand training sessions (half of which were early mornings), over twenty five thousand kilometres in the pool, and more than 150,000 miles in the car to and from home in Mansfield to pools in the county.

Now an ambassador for the County Council's work to promote sport across Nottinghamshire, Rebecca is keen that her fame should be used to encourage Nottinghamshire residents to become more active and inspire young people to achieve their potential.



## Appendix VIII

### Other relevant strategies and action plans

Other relevant strategies and action plans include:

Active People survey (Sport England)

Community Cohesion Delivery Plan 2009-2011

Compact Plus

Condition of Nottinghamshire 2009

County Community Cohesion Strategy

County-wide Older People's Strategic Plan 2009-2013

District Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)  
Sustainable Community Strategies

EU Landfill Directive

Every Child Matters

Future Economic Prosperity Group – event outcomes

Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) 2008:

- Children and Young People
- Older People
- Adults, Hard to Reach and Vulnerable People
- Executive Summary

Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2, 2009-2012

Local Area Agreement/Partnership Theme Board strategic plans:

- Nottinghamshire County Strategic Assessment (Community Safety) 2009
- Nottinghamshire Climate Change Partnership Board

Local Development Frameworks

Local Economic Assessment  
- Headline Economic Assessment

Local Transport Plans

National Children's Plan

Natural England standards

Nottinghamshire Children and Young People's Plan 2009-2013

Nottinghamshire Community Strategy, "All Together Better" – 2005-2009

Nottinghamshire Early Years and Childcare Partnership

Nottinghamshire Listens citizens' panel surveys

Nottinghamshire Opportunity Age 2009-12; countywide strategy for an ageing population

Nottinghamshire Rural Strategy

Parish Plans



Partner organisation strategic plans:

- Bassetlaw PCT Strategic Plan 2009-2013
- Nottinghamshire County Council Strategic Plan 2006-2010, 2010-2014
- NHS Nottinghamshire County's Strategic Plan 2009-2013
- Policing Plan 2009-12 (Nottinghamshire Police)
- Service Plan 2010-13 (Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service)

Place Survey 2008

Putting People First

Regional Plan, Regional Spatial Strategy

State of Nottinghamshire 2009

Supporting People

Taking Part survey (Government)

Tellus2 Survey

## Appendix IX

### Performance management – how will we know that we have achieved our targets?

The Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) is a three-year agreement between the Nottinghamshire Partnership and Government which sets out the priorities for the county. It is a set of indicators reflecting local priorities, and targets are negotiated with Government. The overall LAA and delivery plans for each theme outline the detailed actions to deliver these targets in the immediate future; these will be refreshed as part of a rolling programme, to enable us to learn from experience and be able to respond to changing circumstances where necessary. For more information about the Nottinghamshire LAA look at, "This is Nottinghamshire" - Nottinghamshire's Local Area Agreement 2008-2011, on the Nottinghamshire Partnership website at: [www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications](http://www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk/index/publications). This provides detailed information on key performance measures and outcome action plans.

This strategy will also guide the wider policies and delivery plans of all local partners, and will provide a framework within which more localised and longer-term plans can be developed. These will enable us to report progress on how well we are doing in delivering on targets outlined.

Performance against these identified key performance measures and action plans are set out in the LAA, and are monitored on a quarterly basis and reported to the Nottinghamshire Partnership Executive. The Nottinghamshire Strategic Partnership Board will receive an annual progress report on the Sustainable Community Strategy. Refreshes will take place every three years in line with the LAA timetable.



## Appendix X List of acronyms

We have tried to minimise the use of acronyms in this strategy, or certainly include it first with the term or name which it stands for in full. However the following list may help:

ASB	Anti-Social Behaviour	JSNA	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic	LAA	Local Area Agreement
CAA	Comprehensive Area Assessment	LDF	Local Development Framework
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services	LEGI	Local Enterprise Growth Initiative
CBI	Confederation of British Industry	LSP	Local Strategic Partnership
CDRP	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
CO2	Carbon Dioxide	MARR	Mansfield and Ashfield Regeneration Route
DAAT	Drug and Alcohol Action Team	MORI	Market & Opinion Research International
DNCC	Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce	NAVO	Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations
EMB	East Midlands Business	NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
EMDA	East Midlands Development Agency	NHS	National Health Service
EU	European Union	NI	National Indicator
FSB	Federation of Small Businesses	NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
GCSE	General Certificate of Secondary Education	PCT	Primary Care Trust
HCA	Homes and Communities Agency	PFI	Private Finance Initiative
ICT	Information and Communication Technology	PI	Performance Indicator
ID	Indices of Deprivation	RCAN	Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire
IoD	Institute of Directors	RES	Regional Economic Strategy
		RSS	Regional Spatial Strategy
		SCS	Sustainable Community Strategy



We have tried to minimise the use of jargon and terminology which is not widely used by members of the public. However, inevitably in a strategy document of this kind, such wording is included. We hope this glossary will help:

### **adiZone**

adiZones, developed by The Great Outdoor Gym Company and adidas, are free multi-purpose outdoor fitness facilities, with a large outdoor gym, basketball and football area, climbing wall, tennis wall and a freestyle area for aerobics, dance, yoga and martial arts. The adiZone programme was awarded central government funding from the Department of Children, Schools and Families in June 2009 and they are now being rolled out across the country with at least 40 becoming available by the end of 2010. The key objective of the adiZone programme is for adiZones to act as a hub to encourage partnership working amongst services such as schools, clubs, activity providers, community facilities, health centres and residential groups.

### **Affordable Housing**

Affordable housing includes social rented and intermediate housing, provided to specified eligible households whose needs are not met by the market.

### **At Risk register**

See "Buildings at Risk" register.

### **Biodiversity**

The range of life forms which constitute the living world, from microscopic organisms to the largest tree or animal, and the habit and ecosystem in which they live.

### **Black and Minority Ethnic (BME)**

Based on each person's perceived ethnic group or cultural background, BME generally includes all those people who fall within Mixed, Asian or Asian British, Black or Black British and Other Ethnic Groups.

### **Buildings at Risk register**

The Buildings at Risk register includes buildings that have been identified in the County Council's condition survey as being 'at risk' by using a set of national criteria devised by English Heritage (the government's advisory body on heritage in England). This may mean that a building has fallen into disuse, dereliction and disrepair.

The aim of this register is to raise awareness of the problems relating to historic buildings at risk to the wider public. It also aims to prompt the owner or members of the public to take action to get these buildings repaired and secure their long-term future.

### **Census of Population**

A survey of the entire population of the United Kingdom, undertaken on a ten-yearly basis.

### **Child and adolescent mental health services (CAMHS)**

CAMHS promote the mental health and psychological well-being of children and young people, and provide high quality, multi-disciplinary mental health services to all children and young people with mental health problems and disorders to ensure effective assessment, treatment and support for them and their families.

## Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA)

The Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA), developed by partner inspectorates, focuses on improved outcomes for the area rather than looking back to see how an organisation has performed. The assessment is given in two parts:

- Area Assessment - this forms an opinion of the work of the partnership for the county. The assessment generates red and green flags - green flags for exceptional performance or innovation that others can learn from, and red flags for significant concerns and actions needed.
- Organisational Assessment - this is focussed on the county as an organisation and how it manages its performance, and how it uses its resources. This part of the assessment is scored between 1-4, 1 being poor and 4 being excellent.

## Condition of Nottinghamshire

The Condition of Nottinghamshire provides information and statistics about the county. It is an evidence base (see below) for the Nottinghamshire Sustainable Community Strategy. It includes a number of data sets sourced by the Research and Information team and other departments in Nottinghamshire County Council as well as partnership organisations such as district and borough councils, NHS Nottinghamshire County, the East Midlands Public Health Observatory, Nottinghamshire Police, the Environment Agency, the Teenage Pregnancy Unit and Sport England. The 2009 edition was the sixth one which has been produced. It is produced every two to three years. (See Appendix III).

## Economic Assessment

Local Economic Assessment - new legislation has placed a statutory duty on County and City councils to undertake a Local Economic Assessment in conjunction with other local partners and district councils. The Assessment will involve collation of data on economic conditions in Nottinghamshire. This will start in

April 2010 and it is expected that Assessments should be completed within one year.

Headline Economic Assessment - in advance of the statutory Assessment, Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council have produced a Headline Economic Assessment covering the geographic county. This provides data on current economic conditions in Nottinghamshire including demography, labour market and skills, infrastructure, investment and enterprise. (See Appendix III).

## Every Child Matters

Every Child Matters: Change for Children sets out national Government's approach to promoting the well-being of children and young people. This includes the five Every Child Matters Outcomes of: Be healthy, Stay safe, Enjoy and achieve, Make a positive contribution, and Achieve economic well being. The Children Act 2008 provides the legal foundation to achieve this.

## Evidence base

The evidence base is the wide range of information and statistics collected from a wide range of sources including the 2001 Census, data sets sourced by various partnership organisations in Nottinghamshire, and findings from consultations and surveys.

## Extended schools

*In the Schools: Achieving Success* White Paper (2001) there is a Government commitment to provide access to a core offer of extended services by 2010. Working in clusters and with local providers, extended schools will provide access to a varied menu of study support activities in both primary and secondary schools, combined with childcare in primary schools; parenting support; swift and easy referral to specialist services (such as health and social services); and wider community access to their facilities. Local authorities must ensure that local extended service provision is joined up and meet the needs of the local community.

### Green infrastructure

The network of protected sites, green spaces and linkages which provide for multi-functional uses relating to ecological services, quality of life and economic value.

### Green space

A subset of open space, consisting of any vegetated land or structure, water or geological feature within urban areas.

### Greenhouse gases

Gases such as Carbon Dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) which relate to, or contribute to, the greenhouse effect, by absorbing the infrared radiation emitted by the planet's surface as a result of exposure to solar ultraviolet radiation, thus increasing the mean temperature of the planet.

### Indices of Deprivation

The Index of Multiple Deprivation combines a number of indicators, chosen to cover a range of economic, social and housing issues, into a single deprivation score for each small area in England. The Indices are used widely to analyse patterns of deprivation, identify areas that would benefit from special initiatives or programmes and as a tool to determine eligibility for specific funding streams.

The Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2007 comprises seven domains which relate to:

- Income deprivation;
- Employment deprivation;
- Health deprivation and disability;
- Education, skills and training deprivation;
- Barriers to housing and services;
- Living environment deprivation;
- Crime.

### Infrastructure

The basic services needed to support development. These include roads, access, water and sewage facilities.

### Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)

The Nottinghamshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment has been produced following the

publication of the Commissioning Framework for Health and Well-being by the Department of Health in March 2007. It pulls together a range of data and information on health and well-being issues and provides the basis for strategic planning and delivery of services. It consists of three chapters, on: children and young people; older people; adults, hard to reach and vulnerable people; and an executive summary. It has informed a number of targets in the health and well-being for all priority. (See Appendix III).

### Joint working

This is the way that different organisations in the public, private and/or voluntary sectors work together by sharing ideas, co-ordinating activities and sharing resources in the most effective way to deliver services to members of the public or other organisations.

### Knowledge Economy

Classification of a particular individual industry, if 25% of its workforce is qualified to graduate standard. Often used as a term for an economy dominated by these business types, with generally higher-skill levels and higher wages than found in lower-technology sectors.

### Landfill

An area of land identified for the deposit of waste.

### Local Area Agreement (LAA)

The Local Area Agreement is a three year action plan which sets out the priorities and detailed targets for a local area. It was introduced following the publication in 2004 of the Local Government White Paper, "Strong and Prosperous Communities", which detailed Government legislation to create a new relationship with local government. The first Nottinghamshire Local Area Agreement ran from 2004-2007 and Local Area Agreement 2 covers the period 2008-2011. It measures progress against targets (or performance indicators) set to achieve the priorities identified by the Nottinghamshire Partnership to achieve its vision for the county. It consists of 34 National Indicators (NIs) and 3



Local Indicators where agreement was reached that no indicator from the National Set was adequate. Data is collected, collated and analysed against each Indicator. The six themes contained in the Local Area Agreement, which are in line with those priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy, are: a safe place to live, a strong sense of place, children and young people achieving their full potential, health and well-being for all, a thriving economy, and sustainability.

### **Local Development Framework (LDF)**

A portfolio of Local Development Documents which set out the spatial strategy for the development of the local authority area.

### **Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI)**

LEGI is a joint government department programme of Communities and Local Government (CLG); HM Treasury; and Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS) which provides local institutions with flexible, devolved investment and authority to best determine the needs, options and solutions for stimulating economic development in their areas.

### **Local Enterprise Organisation (LEO)**

LEO is the trading name for the Alliance for Enterprise, an initiative designed to support the growth and development of new and existing businesses in the deprived areas of Ashfield, Mansfield and Bolsover. Backed by Ashfield, Bolsover and Mansfield District Councils, the initiative has secured a total of £7.2 million of funding from the Local Enterprise Growth Initiative (LEGI).

### **Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)**

An overall partnership of people that brings together organisations from the public, private, community and voluntary sectors within a local authority area, with the objective of improving people's quality of life.

### **Local Transport Plan (LTP)**

Five year strategy prepared by Derbyshire County Council covering Erewash, and

Nottingham City and Nottinghamshire County Councils jointly covering the rest of Greater Nottingham. Sets out the development of local, integrated transport, supported by a programme of transport improvements. Used to bid for Government funding towards transport improvements.

### **National Indicator (NI)**

The Government identified 198 performance indicators in "The New Performance Framework for Local Authorities and Local Authority Partnerships: Single Set of Indicators", published in 2007. These are known as National Indicators and "are the only means of measuring national priorities that have been agreed by Government".

### **New Growth Point**

An agreement between councils and the Government, whereby the Government agrees to providing funding for new infrastructure to deliver an agreed amount of new homes. The amount of new homes to be delivered is established through the Regional Spatial Strategy. Greater Nottingham is part of the Three Cities Growth Point, which also includes Derby/ Derbyshire and Leicester/Leicestershire.

### **Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET)**

It is a Government priority to reduce the proportion of young people aged 16-18 who are Not in Education, Employment or Training. It is one of the National Indicators.

### **Nottinghamshire Listens - Citizens' Panel**

Citizens' panels are a representative group of members of the public who are consulted to obtain public opinion about a wide range of services/issues. Major public sector partner organisations can contribute to these consultations with the result that they can be coordinated and so the numbers of consultations reduced. The Nottinghamshire Listens panel has been created to: assemble a group of people representative of the population as a whole using statistically valid sampling; use integrated communication solutions to allow

the members of the panel to communicate in the way they prefer; use a deliberative approach to engagement rather than merely a 'tick-box' survey.

### **The Nottinghamshire Partnership**

The Nottinghamshire Partnership was formed in 2005. It is the Local Strategic Partnership for Nottinghamshire.

It comprises key partner organisations including district councils, the voluntary sector, the business community, Primary Care Trusts, schools and further education colleges, police, fire, Connexions, Jobcentre Plus and many others. (See Appendix I).

### **Partnership**

Partners are a group of individuals and/or organisations who have shared aims and work to an agreed terms of reference towards a common purpose.

### **Performance management**

This is the method and process by which the progress against set Indicators and targets is measured. Performance management of the Sustainable Community Strategy is the agreed method and process by which the success of the Nottinghamshire Partnership in delivering on its stated priorities will be measured.

### **Place Survey**

The Place Survey was developed by the Department for Communities and Local Government. It collects information from local citizens on 18 of the 25 National Indicator Sets which are informed by the views and perspectives of members of the public. The survey is administered by, or on behalf of, each local authority every two years. (See Appendix III).

### **Regional Plan, Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS)**

Strategic planning guidance for the Region that Development Plan Documents have to be in general conformity with. The East Midlands Regional Plan (RSS) was issued in March 2009,

and is undergoing a Partial Review. See 'Single Regional Strategy' below.

### **Renewable Energy**

The term 'renewable energy' covers those resources which occur and recur naturally in the environment. Such resources include heat from the earth or sun, power from the wind and from water, and energy from plant material and from the recycling of domestic, industrial or agricultural waste, and from recovering energy from domestic, industrial or agricultural waste.

### **School Action and School Action Plus**

School Action is support for children and young people with learning difficulties that is additional to, or different from, interventions normally provided as part of the school's usual curriculum and strategies.

School Action Plus is the next stage on from School Action. Strategies additional to, or different from, those used at School Action are put in place involving outside advice and support. This could include, for example, a speech and language therapist on a language programme, an occupational therapist's suggestions or a medical diagnosis and report giving recommendations as to how to work differently with the child in class.

### **Single Regional Strategy**

As part of the sub-national review, Regional Development Agencies have executive responsibility to produce a single regional strategy which brings together its spatial, economic, social and environmental strategies, and build a long-term vision for the region. On 1st April 2010 the East Midlands Development Agency redesignated its existing Regional Economic Strategy and Regional Spatial Strategy as the 'East Midlands Single Regional Strategy'.

### **Skills for Growth**

Skills for Growth is the Skills Strategy published by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills. Its purpose is to give people and businesses the skills they need to help drive economic growth.

### **Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs)**

Businesses and companies who employ a maximum of 50 employees (Small) and 250 employees (Medium).

### **Spatial Planning**

Spatial planning goes beyond traditional land use planning to bring together and integrate policies for the development and use of land with other policies and programmes which influence the nature of places and how they function. This will include policies which can impact on land use by influencing the demands on, or needs for, development but which are not capable of being delivered solely or mainly through the granting or refusal of planning permission and which may be implemented by other means.

### **Sub-regional**

A sub-division of a region. In planning terms, it is an area with particular characteristics which is identified to address strategic issues and functional relationships, particularly in relation to economic development, regeneration, housing and transport.

### **Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)**

According to Government guidance, a sustainable community strategy "sets out the vision for a place" and provides "a vehicle for considering and deciding how to address difficult cross-cutting issues such as the economic future of an area, social exclusion and climate change". The identified priorities are based on evidence and consultation to improve the quality of life for local people. Local agencies then work together in partnership to accomplish these priorities.

### **Sustainable Development**

A guiding principle for all activities in their relationship with the environment. One of the most popular definitions is that "sustainable development meets the needs for the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs".

### **The Tellus Survey**

Tellus is a national survey which gathers children and young people's views on their life, their school and their local area.

### **Worklessness**

Refers to people who are unemployed or economically inactive, and who are in receipt of working age benefits. (Social Exclusion Unit, 2004).

The Race Relations Amendment Act 2000, the Disability Discrimination Amendment Act 2005 and the Equality Act 2006 require all public bodies to produce equality schemes.

One of the specific requirements of an equality scheme is to assess services, functions and policies to ensure they are delivered fairly. We do this by carrying out equality impact assessments.

Each service is risk assessed for how well equality practice is complied with in relation to race, gender and disability, and also sexual orientation, religion and belief, age and social exclusion.

The equality impact assessments undertaken by Nottinghamshire County Council can be found at: [www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/your\\_council/equalities/esdreviews.htm](http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/your_council/equalities/esdreviews.htm)

An equality impact assessment was undertaken when developing Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy 2010–2020. This impact assessment is called "Sustainable Community Strategy" and can be found on the above website using the 'sort by service' facility.

See Appendix IV for further information on consultation undertaken when developing the strategy.

## Notes



Photos supplied by: Bowbridge School, Newark; Laing O'Rourke; Nottinghamshire County Council.  
D&P/5.10/Comms/52371