



Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy



the **nottinghamshire**partnership
all together better

2010-2020



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We all want to make Nottinghamshire an even better place to live and work. The purpose of the Nottinghamshire Partnership – see back page for details of who that involves – is to ensure that happens. You have told us what matters to you.

You want:

- A reduction in crime and anti-social behaviour
- Effective health services
- Activities for young people
- Good schools
- High quality care for older and vulnerable people
- Clean streets
- Good public transport
- Excellent sport and leisure facilities

By working together, we can deliver on these and we have set ourselves some challenging targets for the next 10 years to make Nottinghamshire even better. The partnership can't do it alone, it needs your support. We all need to work together to improve this great county.

We have produced a strategy, with agreed priorities and through all our joint efforts we can deliver a better Nottinghamshire.

This document is a summary of the full Nottinghamshire's Sustainable Community Strategy which can be downloaded from: www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk.

This leaflet gives you an idea of the work that is being done by the partnership, what it wants to achieve, and what you can do as an individual to make better communities and ultimately a better county. We will give regular updates on what's been achieved and we would encourage you to contact us to let us know of any activities or projects which you have been involved in, so that we can include these in further reports.

So what are the challenges?

- Crime** Although crime has fallen in recent years, levels are still too high and some people don't feel safe. We need to further reduce levels of anti-social behaviour in our communities
- Education** Many young people aren't getting the qualifications needed for educational courses and jobs
- Economy** Unemployment has risen and some businesses have been having a tough time
- Young people** There needs to be more things to do
- Health** Some of us smoke too much, eat too much or eat unhealthily; there are big differences around the county in how long people live
- Quality of life** Some of our streets are too dirty or have potholes, and there's too much traffic
- Older people** More people are living longer and we need to ensure that older and vulnerable people are cared for and all older people have full opportunities
- Environment** We need to protect the environment for the current and future generations.

We must put Nottinghamshire firmly on the map. We want to increase tourism, and promote the county both nationally and internationally. We want people to feel happy living and working here, and also want to encourage people to visit and explore the county. We want Nottinghamshire to thrive with companies from all over the world investing here. We are proud of our past, but also very ambitious for our future.

So what are we doing?

The six priority areas set out a wide range of activities that you want to see happen to improve the county. Be assured that people from the full range of partner organisations will be working on these areas over the coming months and years. Of course resources are limited and we need to use them wisely. The partnership will therefore be selecting a handful of issues which it believes will be of greatest benefit to the county if we can deliver them. Additional time and resources will be given to these key priority areas to ensure that they are achieved as soon as possible for the good of Nottinghamshire.

Our six priorities

- A greener Nottinghamshire
- A safer Nottinghamshire
- A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential
- Health and well-being for all
- A more prosperous Nottinghamshire
- Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger



Photos: Bowbridge School, Newark

A greener Nottinghamshire

This covers waste, recycling, transport and roads, fuel use and cost, and green spaces.

We are:

- Developing new waste initiatives.
- Increasing recycling rates.
- Supporting more efficient fuel technologies.
- Planning for future housing needs.
- Developing better transport.
- Planting more trees and conserving green spaces and places for wildlife.
- Safeguarding areas at risk from floods.

You can:

- Reduce the amount of food you throw away (plan meals, use leftovers).
- Compost waste.
- Recycle as much as you can (take clothes you don't want anymore to the charity shops).
- Reduce the power you use (don't leave appliances on stand-by).
- Don't waste water.
- Check your insulation is thick enough.
- Leave the car at home when you can and walk or cycle or use public transport.





A place where Nottinghamshire's children achieve their full potential

We need to make sure our children have the qualifications they need to find good jobs in their future. It's not just about GCSEs but also about vocational options. It's about making sure our children are safe from bullying and accidents. Ensuring they can grow up healthy and avoid drugs and alcohol.

We are:

- Increasing the amount of information and advice available to young people.
- Building new schools and improving others.
- Providing good opportunities and activities for young people.
- Reducing teenage pregnancy rates.
- Reducing non-attendance at school.
- Planning for changes in birth rates and demand for skills and readiness for work.

You can:

- Get involved in local schools and colleges by becoming a governor or offering to help at schools.
- Support activities for young people by volunteering.
- Encourage good diet and exercise in children and young people.
- If you're an employer, provide apprenticeships to help young people and your business.



A safer Nottinghamshire

Crime rates have reduced in the county but people still don't feel safe. We need to reduce crime rates even further, concentrating on those crimes which cause the most concern: domestic burglaries, violent crime, vehicle theft, criminal damage. We need to stop people re-offending. We need to tackle anti-social behaviour in neighbourhoods, towns and villages. Crime isn't the only problem, accident rates need to be reduced - particularly road accidents.

We are:

- Working with young people to encourage positive activities.
- Reducing the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents.
- Cracking down on selling alcohol to under-age drinkers.
- Increasing the number of drug users in effective treatment.
- Supporting victims of crime and providing reassurance through campaigns.



You can:

- Secure your property by fitting window and door locks.
- Fit smoke alarms.
- Make sure that you aren't conned (be wary of doorstep traders, check on "Buy with Confidence").
- Report crimes and suspicious behaviour to the Police or Crimestoppers.
- Help with young people's activities (sports clubs, youth centres, uniformed organisations).
- Join or start a Neighbourhood Watch scheme.



Health and well-being for all

We all want good health services – the most important thing to all of us is that our family and loved ones are healthy. Some of us have unhealthy diets, we smoke, or don't exercise enough. People are generally living longer but within Nottinghamshire there are substantial differences between the average life expectancies. For example, someone living in Ashfield generally has a lower life expectancy than someone living in Rushcliffe. We need to reduce these differences.

We are:

- Extending GP working hours.
- Reducing alcohol related hospital admission.
- Reforming social care to focus on preventing ill health and recovery after illness, encouraging informal social networks and independent living.
- Improving care services for people with dementia.
- Encouraging sport and active recreation.
- Providing more support to help people quit smoking.

You can:

- Quit smoking, drink alcohol in moderation, and take exercise.
- Live a healthy lifestyle. Make sure you eat your 5 a day (fruit and vegetables).
- Set up or join a community walking group (or other type of exercise group).
- Keep your mind active and enjoy a healthy social life.



Photo: The Turbine Business Innovation Centre, Worksop

A more prosperous Nottinghamshire

The recession has affected Nottinghamshire, unemployment levels have risen significantly and there are high levels of deprivation in parts of the county. In some parts of the county, skill levels are low which means people can't get good jobs. We need to bring more opportunities for employment to Nottinghamshire and build on the county's economic strengths. Nottinghamshire has a great heritage and we can work to develop it as a major tourist centre, attracting businesses and international sporting and cultural events.

We are:

- Improving careers advice and guidance.
- Supporting local businesses and small firms.
- Actively promoting Nottinghamshire nationally and internationally.
- Developing better roads, transport and communications links.
- Improving adult skill levels.
- Enhancing tourist attractions.
- Improving links between local schools and colleges and local businesses.

You can:

- Learn new skills.
- Recruit new employees and develop their skills, and offer apprenticeships.
- Think about self employment and starting a new business.
- Support local businesses and shop at local farmers' markets when you can.
- Visit local tourist attractions.





Photo: Rebecca Adlington, OBE

Making Nottinghamshire's communities stronger

We need to encourage, promote and support all the diverse communities within Nottinghamshire. We need to encourage community spirit between neighbours and extended families, and stimulate local groups to support each other. This can be achieved by establishing closer social networks and ensuring that no one feels isolated but instead everyone within a community feels part of it and is supported by it. We also need to ensure that local communities have a voice on matters that affect them.

We are:

- Enhancing community facilities.
- Encouraging cross-generational links.
- Encouraging more involvement in local sport and recreation, and cultural events.
- Encouraging the establishment of voluntary and community organisations.
- Encouraging local involvement in local issues.

You can:

- Become involved in community groups or establish one.
- Look out for neighbours, particularly vulnerable or older people who may need help.
- Volunteer in your local area and take an active part in local community affairs.
- Become a school governor or get involved in residents' associations or stand as a councillor on your local council.
- Organise a neighbourhood event such as having a litter picking day in your street, town or village.

You will have lots of ideas and suggestions as to what you can do and the partnership will support those as much as possible. Together we can really make a difference to Nottinghamshire.

The Nottinghamshire Partnership

The Nottinghamshire Partnership was formed in 2005 to bring together all the agencies working to improve quality of life in the county. The main partners include all the local authorities, Nottinghamshire Police, Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service, NHS Nottinghamshire County, the Probation Service, the Drug and Alcohol Action Team, Rural Community Action Nottinghamshire, Networking Action with Voluntary Organisations, and others.

The partnership is driven by a Strategic Partnership Board which has members from all the above agencies and twice each year the full Nottinghamshire Partnership Forum meets to discuss future direction. Groups such as the Health and Well-Being Partnership Board, the Nottinghamshire Children's Trust and the Safer Nottinghamshire Board drive activity under particular priorities.

The partnership developed the first community strategy – All Together Better – which ran from 2005 – 2009 and which framed the development of the Local Area Agreement 2008 -2011 which can be seen as the delivery plan for the strategy.

The Nottinghamshire Partnership website; www.nottinghamshirepartnership.org.uk has details of membership, the full Sustainable Community Strategy, dates of future meetings, agendas of Board and sub-group meetings and details of the Local Area Agreement.

Further details can also be given by:

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