

# **DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES**

**WAKEFIELD DISTRICT COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2006**

## **FOREWORD**

### **DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES**

Welcome to this review of our Community Strategy which was initially launched in 2003. This was our first strategy for the whole district and our aim was ambitious - to improve the quality of life for people who live and work in and visit our district.

Our vision spans 25 years and holds firm. We still want the district to be motivated by pride and our heritage, our people to look after themselves and each other, with places which are attractive to live, work, learn and invest in and where, with young people, we will ensure the work we do now will stand the test of time.

I said in 2003 that what mattered most was turning a strategy into action. That is why - three years on – we have reviewed our progress and set ourselves new challenges and priorities to take us forward from the good progress we are already making.

The review has shown that all the organisations and groups working together in the Wakefield District Partnership have achieved much of what we set out to do - like reducing crime, improving health, reducing unemployment, raising educational attainment and improving our environment.

Now we have to stop and think. Are we doing the right things? What impact are we having? What do we need to do now?

During the last three years, the voice of citizens has been used many times to change and improve services we and our partners provide. The Wakefield Speaks events brought together more than 700 people at venues across the district to discuss issues which affect them. We must continue to involve citizens in choices about their lives and the services we provide as part of our future direction.

Young people and their families have also been speaking out at events held to develop our Children and Young People's Plan. Young people and citizens are also being consulted on our services through opinion polls and wider exercises. Everyone makes a valuable contribution and we appreciate the time you take in talking to us.

As well as reviewing our Community Strategy, we have also signed a Local Area Agreement with the government, which concentrates all our efforts on making life better for families, and for whole neighbourhoods through giving people more involvement and more influence in what happens where they live.

Together, this agreement and our review of the Community Strategy will make sure we stay on track, building on the progress we can be proud of and focus our energy and resources on what matters most to the citizens of the Wakefield district.

Peter Box

*Chair, Wakefield District Partnership*

*March 2007*

## **SUMMARY**

### **THE REVISED STRATEGY AT A GLANCE**

Wakefield District Partnership has developed the Community Strategy to direct the plans and programmes being delivered in the district to improve quality of life for local people.

The strategy includes a long-term view of what this means for the district in the form of a long-term vision and the key priorities to achieve that vision.

This revised strategy reflects progress achieved since the strategy was first adopted in 2003 and looks to:

- Raise aspirations across the district, and make sure that people know what they can achieve and how to go about it
- Make sure that people gain, use and share knowledge to help inform the important lifestyle choices we make
- Promote greater ownership and pride in the places where we live which provides the basis for a good quality of life

- Make the district cleaner, greener and safer and its people healthier and better skilled

Key to all of these is the acquisition and use of knowledge within communities. These needs are based on a review of progress made since 2003. This has highlighted some key issues:

- We have achieved above average improvements in educational attainment but we still have fewer young people staying on in education than many other parts of the country
- Health is steadily improving but we still have many people taking up poor lifestyle choices that result in poor health
- Streets are cleaner but we still have environments that are spoilt by people who do not care or have any pride in their neighbourhood
- We have more opportunities for people to get involved in what happens in their neighbourhood but there are many who still feel disconnected
- Crime has reduced but we are seeing increasing levels of anti-social behaviour and evidence of young people feeling disaffected

This review seeks to make sense of these concerns and identify our direction in the future. To do this the review is in two parts:

Part 1

## **Looking Back**

Where did we start, what has happened since then and what has changed?

Part 2

## **Looking Forward**

Where are we now and what do we need to do next?

## **PART 1**

### **LOOKING BACK**

#### **KEY POINTS COVERED IN THIS SECTION:**

- Where we started from in 2003
- What we have achieved

#### **OUR STARTING POINT**

The strategy set out a long-term vision based on the kind of district, town, community or neighbourhood the citizens of the district said they wanted to be a part of in 25 years time. It reflected many of the ordinary day to day things that affect people's lives - local facilities, jobs, schools, clean streets, health services and safety. The strategy looked to bring about change in the district by focussing on five key challenges. These are:

- Feeling and being safer
- Looking after ourselves
- Dynamic local economy

- Investing in our people
- Improving our places

These challenges were based on the things people felt contributed most to improving their quality of life. They cover a range of individual priorities that have been used to focus attention on and direct resources to. Progress against each of these priorities has been monitored and this has been used to drive forward improvements.

The approach to these challenges has been guided by key principles that were an important part of the Fast Forward Vision. In 2003 we said that whatever we did we would do so by:

- Engaging local people in deciding what was needed in their communities
- Doing things that contribute to developing cohesive communities that are strong, have high levels of trust and respect and low levels of conflict
- Ensuring the things we did stood the test of time, that is, they are sustainable communities, which are more able to look after themselves

The Wakefield District Partnership has used the strategy to encourage organisations to work together by focussing on the achievement of these challenges and principles.

## **WHAT WE SET OUT TO DO**

### **Feeling and Being Safer**

Most people identified reducing crime as their key priority and something that would contribute most to making their area a better place to live. Surveys indicated that fear of crime and certain types of crime were having a serious impact on people's lives in some parts of the district. In 2003 we set out to deal with this through targeted crime reduction activities and starting a longer term programme designed to tackle the underlying causes of crime. Our key priorities were:

- Fear of crime
- Domestic burglaries
- Vehicle crime
- Drug offences

### **Looking after Ourselves**

Most people saw improving health services and access to services as a high priority in 2003. This was in part a reflection of the high levels of long-term illnesses and chronic

conditions, which were putting a strain on our health and social care services. We needed a long term approach based on improving physical, psychological and social well-being by preventing poor health caused by poor lifestyle choices. Particular areas of concern were:

- People with a limiting long term illness
- Mortality rates for major diseases
- Infant mortality rates
- Health inequalities
- Teenage pregnancies

## **Dynamic Local Economy**

The economy was changing and it was important to build on this by encouraging investment and business growth, nurturing a new entrepreneurial spirit and improving skills. Regeneration issues were strong, in particular urban renaissance in our main town centres and reconnecting our coalfield communities. Particular causes of concern were:

- People not in work
- Youth unemployment

- Vulnerable employment
- Deprived communities

## **Investing in our People**

Many people saw improvements in education as the key to economic regeneration and improving quality of life in the district. While raising levels of achievement in school was seen as important, many also pointed to the need to raise the aspirations of young people. Promoting a culture of learning was considered as key to these needs along with the provision of good accessible learning opportunities for all. Main causes of concern were:

- Staying on rate at 16
- GCSE attainment
- Adult skills
- Engagement in learning

## **Improving our Places**

Having a clean and well maintained environment was a key concern raised across the district, with many feeling this was the one issue that would improve their quality of life. The loss of local services, signs of decline and decay in some residential areas and towns and village centres also featured highly in peoples concerns. People wanted places that were clean, safe, healthy and pleasant so that everyone could be proud and have a sense of ownership of where they live.

Particular problem areas were:

- Public transport
- Green space in residential, town and village centres
- Housing conditions

## **HOW WE MEASURE WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED**

The impact of the strategy can be seen across all of the things we set out to achieve three years ago. Much has been done to improve services and also to put into

effect key projects and programmes. The strategy included key quality of life measures against which progress would be monitored. Most of these have been included within the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and targets have been set against these for the next three years.

We are using a traffic light system to show how much progress we have made since 2003. In each case the assessment is based on the following:

### **Red**

Conditions have got worse on most of the measures in this challenge area since 2003 or conditions in Wakefield are not as good on the majority of measures compared to other areas.

### **Amber**

There has been little change on most of the measures in this challenge area since 2003 or conditions in Wakefield are similar to those in other areas.

### **Green**

Conditions have got better on most of the measures since 2003 or conditions are better in Wakefield compared to those in other areas.

An overview of progress in the last three years is given under each challenge.

Appendix a to this document includes details of performance against these measures and Appendix b includes the targets that have been set in the LAA. In this section a summary of these is given in each challenge area in two ways:

- **How have things changed?**

Movement on key measures since 2003

- **How do we compare?**

How conditions in Wakefield in 2006 compare with that experienced in other areas.

## **FEELING AND BEING SAFER**

Strong progress has been made on the things local people have said are most important to them, with a drop in overall crime and in particular, domestic burglaries which were an area of concern in 2003.

There have been big reductions in crime with total priority crime (these are the crime types that are seen as most important) down by 20%. In 2005/06 there were 23,186 offences in the district, this compares with 29,311 in 2003/04. Total recorded crime per 1,000 population in the district in 2005/06 was 118.4 which compares to the England and Wales average of 104.7.

The following reductions in crime have taken place between 2003/04 and 2005/06:

- Domestic burglary down 41% (from 3598 to 2104)
- Theft of a vehicle down 42% (from 2649 to 1539)
- Theft from a vehicle down 50% (from 6042 to 2994)
- Vehicle interference down 15% (from 425 to 360)
- Criminal damage down 6% (from 9925 to 9266)
- Theft from a person down 8% (from 771 to 707)
- Robbery of personal property down 20% (from 232 to 184)

The 2005 Residents' Survey in the district indicated that two in three people (68%) state that they felt safe when outside in the district after dark. This is a big increase on the 2003 figure.

Not all crime has gone down though. During 2005/06 violent crime in the district has continued to rise due in part to changes in enforcement policies by West Yorkshire Police. These have been aimed at issues such as domestic violence, people being drunk and disorderly and people causing public alarm by their aggressive and threatening behaviour. Since the 2003/04 baseline:

- Woundings are up by 3% (from 4457 to 4596)
- Common assault is up by 39% (from 773 to 1076)

Domestic abuse is a key issue in the district, contributing to levels of violent crime. The level of repeat victims of domestic abuse is currently very high at 48%.

Low crime levels and clean streets are still seen as the most important factors in making somewhere a good place to live. There is increasing concern about anti-social behaviour, with more people feeling that vandalism, noise, teenagers hanging around, drugs and people being drunk and rowdy are big problems.

The level of crime in the most deprived areas in the district is falling, but is still a concern. The average crime rate in neighbourhoods classed as being in the most deprived, is nearly double the district average.

Dealing with these issues through better enforcement is still a key challenge.

This Community Strategy will try to focus on prevention by using information and knowledge to develop understanding within communities. This will help us to understand problems better and help local people take more control of their lives and the places where they live.

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Involving young offenders in carrying out environmental improvements**

This project provides diversionary activities for convicted youth offenders by carrying out environmental improvements as part of their reparation orders. Activities include building otter holts, providing wheelchair access to vegetable gardens, litter and footpath clearance and fence, footpath and bird aviary construction.

The aim is to provide a programme of activities for young offenders, youths at risk of offending and those on any rehabilitation programmes to steer them away from crime. This is delivered by the British Trust for Conservation Volunteers (BTCV) and the Council's Youth Offending Team. The programme is based on three days per week of

environmental activities, taking place on sites such as local allotments and the southern washlands area at Eastmoor, with participants developing team working skills, confidence in themselves and practical skills connected to environmental activities.

## **PERFORMANCE CHECK 2003-2006**

**Change: Green**

**Comparison: Red**

Significant progress has been made to reduce levels of crime and this has been reflected in improvements in the majority of crime measures, including people feeling safer. Despite improvements, the rate of crime in the district is higher than the average for other similar areas and Britain as a whole.

## **LOOKING AFTER OURSELVES**

There has been a general improvement in the health of the population.

The legacy of poor health and high tobacco use, unhealthy diets and low rates of physical activity in the district however, has meant that progress on life expectancy and mortality rates has lagged behind improvements for the England average.

People are living longer in the district. The increase in male life expectancy in the district has kept pace with the England average and in 2003 had increased by 1.8 years since 1997. The gap between the England average has remained the same at 1.2 years. The increase for women has not been as great at 0.9 years and the gap between England and Wakefield has also remained relatively static.

There have been reductions in the number of people dying of circulatory diseases and cancers as measured by the Standardised Mortality Rate. The rate for cancers fell in Wakefield by 7% between 1997 and 2004 but this decrease has not kept pace with the England reduction, which has been 12%. Wakefield is still just below the average rate for Yorkshire and the Humber.

There has been a big fall in the rate for circulatory diseases, which in 2004 was 32% lower than in 1997. This fall is higher than the national rate for that period of 29%.

The number of pregnancies in the district amongst girls aged under 18 years has increased in Wakefield for the second year running. The rate in 2004 was 52 per 1,000 pregnancies in the district compared to the national rate of 41.5. This is a reduction of 8% on 1998 but it is below the target reduction of 15%.

Nearly a third of the population in the district live in neighbourhoods that are within the most health deprived in the country. More people here than in many other areas describe their health as 'not good' or are registered as having diabetes, severe mental health problems or misusing drugs. There are still higher than average rates of smoking in the district. Childhood obesity is another cause for concern.

Surveys show that people in this district are more likely than average to indulge in binge drinking and less likely to follow healthy eating guidelines. These 'lifestyle' issues remain key public health challenges for the district. To overcome these, the revised Community Strategy will continue to improve services, but also focus on the things that influence people, particularly young people, to lead unhealthy lifestyles.

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Helping people with chronic conditions to manage their health**

The Expert Patients Programme (EPP) is a self management course, to help people with long-term chronic health conditions to develop new skills to manage their condition better. EPP focuses on people with arthritis, asthma, diabetes, heart disease and lung disease.

Individuals and communities have been provided with literature regarding the availability of EPP to enable them to make use of services, which are currently available to them at no cost. Those attending EPP courses are given additional details of services available to them to signpost them to other initiatives and widen their social network.

People completing the course can further develop the skills they have gained by becoming EPP volunteer tutors, capable of delivering EPP in their own and other communities. This provides increased work or job prospects, which may have been previously unknown/ unavailable to them.

## **PERFORMANCE CHECK 2003-2006**

**Change: Amber**

**Comparison: Red**

Progress has been made on the key measures of life expectancy and mortality rates, however high rates of limiting long term illness, smoking, obesity and binge drinking are holding these improvements back and Wakefield still has significantly poorer health compared to the national average.

## **DYNAMIC LOCAL ECONOMY**

We have seen an upturn in the local economy and major regeneration schemes are now in progress in the priority areas of Wakefield city, the Five Towns and the South East.

Unemployment has remained low and new businesses have continued to rise. However we are still concerned about high numbers of people not in work, deprivation caused by low incomes or not being in work, low skills, high levels of youth unemployment and a continuing decline in employment in the manufacturing sector.

The number of businesses in the district as measured through VAT registrations reached an all time high in 2005 with 6,810 businesses registered. This is an increase of 15% over 10 years and is the highest rate of increase in West Yorkshire. Increasing confidence in the area has been reflected in Wakefield being named Britain's best second tier city for business.

Despite this, business registrations per capita in the district is still the lowest in West Yorkshire.

Employment levels in the district are at a record high - despite job losses over recent years between 1991 and 2004. Employment has increased by 23.4%, which is in line with the national trend.

While the service sector now dominates the district's economy, traditional manufacturing still accounts for 18% of employment compared to 12% in Great Britain.

Unemployment rates in the district have remained more or less the same over the last three years. The rate in May 2006 was 2.8% with around 5,500 people claiming job seekers allowance.

While the official number of people unemployed has remained the same there are parts of the district where there are many people without work and claiming benefits. There are around 30,000 people in the district claiming incapacity benefit and Severe Disablement Allowance.

The number of young people that are unemployed has also increased slightly from an already high level in 2003 and there are high levels of 16-18 year olds not in employment, education or training.

Recent trends in business and enterprise place Wakefield above the national average in terms of business start-ups. However the proportion of employees and businesses in what is known as the 'knowledge sector' finance, business services, research and development and education is very low. A recent survey ranked the district 364th out of 408 districts on this measure. This is a result of low skill levels in the district as well as low levels of enterprise. This is seen as contributing to people having low aspirations, lacking a willingness or motivation to improve themselves and to gain higher skills. There is also a reluctance among some businesses needing high skill levels to locate in the district. A low skilled workforce in the district will attract business needing low skills and in turn businesses requiring low skills will be an attraction for young people to leave school at 16 rather than to stay on to gain higher level skills.

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Successful Relocation of Warburtons Bakery**

Europe's largest bakery was opened at Tuscany Park, Wakefield in March 2006, making Wakefield Yorkshire's centre for baking excellence. The £60 million Warburtons 'super bakery' covers almost 13 acres and houses a visitor centre telling the story of bread making and the history of the family bakers.

Warburtons have been baking bread in Wakefield for 20 years and the new Normanton based bakery replaces the original and only bakery in Yorkshire at Westgate End, Wakefield. The new bakery will recruit up to 200 people to work alongside current staff who moved from the old bakery. The proposed recruitment gave a further boost to the district's job market. New teams are to be added and developed as the bakery grows.

The new super bakery has enabled the firm to quadruple its bread production in Yorkshire, baking approximately 2 million loaves of bread and 500,000 packets of rolls per week.

## **PERFORMANCE CHECK 2003-2006**

**Change: Green**

**Comparison: Amber**

Progress has been made on most of the key economic measures - business formation is increasing, unemployment remains low and there has been significant progress in delivering key regeneration projects. Compared to the national picture Wakefield still lags

behind in key areas relating to high levels of youth unemployment, incapacity benefit, wage rates and knowledge driven employment and businesses development.

## **INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE**

We have seen consistent improvements in education, with higher levels of achievement in all age groups.

While adult skills have improved and the numbers of young people staying on in education are rising these are still low in comparison to other areas.

In 2005 for the first time, Wakefield's school attendance was above the national average for both primary and secondary schools. In 2005 the proportion of pupils achieving 5+ A\*-C Grades at GCSE (or equivalent) was above the national average for the first time, at 56.5%. In 2006 this figure increased to 57.8%. Wakefield also tops the list of West Yorkshire authorities.

There are however disparities across the district with achievement of 5+ A\*-C Grades at GCSE (or equivalent) in some neighbourhoods as low as 12.5%.

In 2006 Key Stage 2 test results for 11 year olds were close to the national average and that of similar areas. At Key Stage 3 results for 14 year olds have moved in line with national trends.

There has been a significant increase in the number of 16 year olds staying on into further learning. In 2005 this was higher than at any time in the last five years. The proportion however is well below the regional and national average and the percentage of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or learning is the second highest in West Yorkshire.

Services to improve basic skills in the adult population are now being co-ordinated and targeted to particular groups and areas, this is helping to match learning provision more closely to the skill needs of the district.

Despite this over 26% of people employed at workplaces situated within the district have no qualifications at all, the highest rate in the region and well above the 18% national average.

Over 39% of people living in the district (aged 16-74) have no qualifications, rising to 77% in some parts of the district. This is the highest in West Yorkshire.

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Encouraging people into learning**

Steps and Ladders is aimed at encouraging people in deprived areas to take up learning opportunities and to help them to progress from community courses to higher level programmes. This has the aim of increasing skills levels and raising the chances of securing employment.

Learners are mentored in order to allow them to make informed choices about training and education. Potential new learners are contacted in community centres, libraries, schools and job centres and leaflets and information have been supplied in venues such as the Riding Shopping Centre and local markets.

Over 400 people have been seen during the life of the project with six learners being nominated for the National Adult Learner of the Year Awards and one receiving an award at the Regional Ceremony in Doncaster.

## **PERFORMANCE CHECK 2003-2006**

**Change: Green**

**Comparison: Amber**

Progress has been made on most of the key learning measures including the more difficult one of increasing staying on rates and adult participation. Wakefield is now matching or exceeding educational attainment levels nationally, however, it still lags behind in adult skills and progression rates into higher education and training.

### **IMPROVING OUR PLACES**

The state of the environment and in particular street cleanliness and public spaces in residential areas and town centres remains a key issue.

Progress has been strongest in cleaning up local areas, recycling and improving housing. Slower progress has been made in improving quality of public spaces such as parks, public transport provision, access to leisure facilities and activities for young people.

Over 7,000 houses have been improved by Wakefield and District Housing to bring them in line with the Decent Homes Standard during the period April 2004 to March 2006. In the period 1st April to end of December 2006 a further 4,386 houses were improved. The aim is for all properties in the district to meet this standard by 2010.

The proportion of land with significant deposits of litter and detritus in the district is reducing and has gone down from 28.9% in 2004/05 to 20.9% in 2005/06.

The amount of household waste recycled or composted has increased by more than 4%, from 17% in 2003/04 to over 21% in 2005/06. Official figures for 2004/05 show that Wakefield is the highest performing local authority in West Yorkshire, achieving the government's household waste recycling target of 18% ahead of the 2005/06 deadline.

Closer working and cooperation with utility companies (water, gas, electric and communications) to reduce congestion on the district's highways has seen an increase in roadworks completed on time to over 90% in 2005/06 compared to 83% in 2004/05.

21 children were killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents in the district in 2005, this is now at the lowest ever level and is already below the 2010 target of 25. We continue to work to prevent all deaths on our roads.

The growth in traffic levels across the district has been around 1% per annum however growth in the morning peak in Wakefield has been 4% per annum. Use of public transport has increased overall with significant increases in rail travel, however, bus use has fallen back to below 1999/2000 levels.

Over a quarter of Wakefield residents are active members of clubs where they participate in sport. However only around 10% of the population live within 20 minutes travel time from sports facilities in the district.

## **CASE STUDY**

### **Improving the neighbourhood environments**

Neighbourhood Action is Wakefield Council's biggest clean-up and community safety campaign. Designed in response to widespread consultation, Neighbourhood Action services are designed to deliver a cleaner more liveable environment and in doing so contribute to having safer and stronger communities. It involves bringing together teams that clean the street with those that work on the general environment, such as grass

cutting, and organises them into multi-functional, area-based teams. These teams use their knowledge of the local environment to ensure that issues important to the community are addressed.

These teams work alongside Neighbourhood Patrollers and Neighbourhood Environment Teams to deliver a targeted and co-ordinated service. The creation of this unified service enables actions to be implemented quicker and with the involvement of local people for issues such as anti-social behaviour and vandalism.

## **PERFORMANCE CHECK 2003-2006**

**Change: Green**

**Comparison: Green**

As this area was given high priority in 2003 progress has been made on most of the key environment measures. Areas proving most difficult to change include accessibility, in particular public transport.

There has been a shift in emphasis from concerns about the cleanliness of streets to the quality of public amenities such as parks and community green spaces.

## **FAST FORWARD PRINCIPLES - ENGAGEMENT, COMMUNITY COHESION AND SUSTAINABILITY**

Measuring progress on the Fast Forward principles means we need to know more about what people think about how things have changed for themselves and the communities they are a part of.

### **ENGAGEMENT**

The involvement of local citizens was seen as key to the successful delivery of the strategy. Particular efforts have been made to involve local people by holding events and meetings in neighbourhoods and in different parts of the district, including events such as Vision On and Wakefield Speaks. Despite this, around one fifth of people in the district, feel they are not well informed about how they can get involved in local decision Making. More work needs to be done in this area.

## **COHESION**

We describe a cohesive community as one where residents feel a sense of belonging and demonstrate respect for each other. In cohesive communities there are high levels of trust between residents, differences are valued and everyone feels they have the same opportunities regardless of background.

Surveys in 2006 indicated that most people (68%) agreed that their local area is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together – this is an increase on the 2003 figure. The majority of people also feel residents respect ethnic differences. Surveys in 2006 show that over 90% of residents felt that they belonged to their local area and 89% felt that they belonged to Wakefield district as a whole. These are both big increases since the surveys were last done in 2003.

## **SUSTAINABILITY**

Sustainability means ‘doing things that will stand the test of time’ and to bring about long-term change. In Fast Forward we said that we needed to look at improving quality of life

by dealing with the causes of issues rather than just the symptoms and also recognising the local and global consequences of our decisions.

Implementation of the strategy has seen these principles being used to shape how services and activities are planned and delivered. There has been an increasing shift to more preventative approaches - particularly in relation to health and the needs of young people. So far this has resulted in equal progress across social, economic and environmental issues. More detailed ways of measuring sustainability will be developed as part of the ongoing evaluation of the strategy.

## **PART 1**

### **LOOKING FORWARD**

#### **KEY POINTS COVERED IN THIS SECTION:**

- Being clear about what we want to achieve
- What citizens have said is most important to them
- What other influences there are on the strategy
- Our priorities

### **OUR VISION**

The Fast Forward vision was shaped around the issues the citizens of the district raised as the most important things for their quality of life. It described the sort of district, town, community or neighbourhood we all want to be a part of. The vision was that in 25 years time Wakefield district will be a place:

- Moving forward motivated by pride and its heritage
- Where our people look after themselves and each other so that they are safe and healthy, having the skills and confidence to take more control over their lives

- With places that are attractive to live, learn, work and invest in and where our diverse towns and villages work together to promote the well being of the whole of the district
- Where together with the younger people of the district we will ensure that the work we do now will stand the test of time

This vision is still relevant and our experience has shown that we are making progress on all of the key issues in the vision in:

- Reducing crime
- Improving health
- Reducing unemployment
- Raising skills
- Improving the environment

While making sure we continue to improve in these areas, this review has also identified issues that relate to more long standing weaknesses in the area and these are holding back progress on the strategy.

Examples of these weaknesses are:

- Achieving above average educational achievement at 16, but having fewer young people staying on in education than anywhere else in West Yorkshire
- Improving health in the district, but there are still many people taking up poor lifestyle choices with high rates of smoking, binge drinking and substance misuse
- Keeping the streets cleaner but still having environments that are spoilt by people who do not care about or show any pride in their neighbourhood
- Providing more chances for local people to have a say in what happens in their neighbourhood, but many still are not aware of what is happening or do not feel the need to be involved
- Reducing overall crime but seeing increasing levels of anti-social behaviour and young people feeling disaffected. Violent crime also remains a challenge

These weaknesses all link in the end to challenges around culture and aspirations - the things we expect and want for ourselves, our families and the places where we live. What seems to be apparent in the district is that many do not want to, or feel they cannot aspire or aim to achieve something better for themselves, their families or the place where they live. Raising people's aspirations is a challenge facing the district.

The importance of knowledge in all its forms is the underpinning theme for this revised Community Strategy. If we want to raise aspirations this can only be achieved if people know what they can achieve and how to go about it. Gaining, using and sharing knowledge in the district not only underpins aspirations, it informs the important lifestyle choices we make, promotes greater ownership and pride in the places where we live and provides the basis of a good quality of life.

The work done by partners has successfully attracted £400m in private sector funding for the key regeneration sites in Wakefield City Centre alone. Local partners have transformed their services to focus on achieving clear results in making the district cleaner, greener and safer, and its people healthier and better skilled. This progress would be greater still if the talents of each and every member of the community could flourish. Lack of knowledge results in people being excluded and in wasted human potential. The task is now to develop cultures and aspirations among all communities, reducing the reliance on and costs to public services.

## **PLACE SHAPING DEVELOPING KNOWLEDGE COMMUNITIES**

The Fast Forward Vision identifies the sort of place we want Wakefield to be.

Key to this will be having communities that are more able to look after themselves, their families and the places where they live. This lies at the heart of what is called a sustainable community, one that is less and less reliant on additional help from others to maintain or improve quality of life. A sustainable community is built on three key forms of capital:

### **Human Capital**

This is having committed and skilled individuals

### **Social Capital**

This is having strong support networks both within and between communities

### **Knowledge Capital**

This is having communities and individuals connected both internally and to the wider world, aware of opportunities, open to ideas and able to realise the benefits of change

Realising the potential of new technology to transform lives and life chances is integral to achieving our vision of sustainable communities.

A key part of developing knowledge communities is to bring about an increased emphasis on culture in the way we deal with issues in neighbourhoods. This means understanding more about:

- Where we come from and who we are
- How we think and behave
- Where we are going
- How we balance community and individual interests
- The ways in which we inform learn and entertain ourselves and each other

To do this we need to think about things such as our:

- Heritage
- Identity
- Attitudes and values

- Behaviours
- Communities
- Futures and possibilities

These things all contribute to a knowledge community by building strong common bonds, the things that link people and places. Culture will be used to inform and entertain, to bridge different communities and help people to achieve their potential. It is also an important part of the Fast Forward vision, in particular ensuring people:

- Are motivated by pride and heritage
- Look after themselves and each other and take more control over their lives
- Are part of our diverse towns and villages working together

## **MOTIVATED BY PRIDE AND HERITAGE....**

Sustaining community pride and networks through place shaping, pride in the places where people live and the common heritage we all share in the district, is key to the success of many actions that will be taken forward to deliver this strategy.

Services to improve the environment such as Neighbourhood Action are based on the need for local people to be more involved in the place where they live, keeping it clean and safe and having greater ownership.

This however, is a short-term solution, unsustainable in a world of increased demand on resources. The cleanest neighbourhoods are not those where public spending has swept the streets most often - they are where the least litter is dropped. Likewise, the healthiest communities are those with least need for medical support, not where the greatest spend on health has taken place.

Developing `civic pride' and `community pride' through place shaping can be achieved through involving people in the things that happen in their area and to their families and neighbours. To do this we need to look at better ways of involving people by developing and sharing local knowledge. Knowledge about the local community goes beyond facts and figures. We need knowledge about the area, about the people in the area and the things that matter most.

## **WITH PEOPLE WHO LOOK AFTER THEMSELVES AND EACH OTHER AND TAKE MORE CONTROL OVER THEIR LIVES....**

Helping people to have more control over their lives by being more aware of the consequences of their actions and more aware of their own potential is essential to break out of the problem of low aspirations in the district. The strategy seeks to change this by helping people to make the right choices in life. An important part of this is dealing with the issues affecting individuals in the context of the families and community networks they are a part of.

The 'Total Family Support' approach developed as part of the LAA is based on better co-ordination and better informed actions and focuses on prevention through better understanding and effective sharing of knowledge and skills in communities.

Our challenge is to use knowledge to encourage and support behaviour that benefits individuals, families and communities. Developing individual and community knowledge, will enable people and communities to take control of their own lives, and reduce the long-term reliance on both local services and local taxpayers.

Local services, whether public, private and voluntary, also face the challenge to share information to increase efficiency and value for money for local people.

## **WHERE OUR DIVERSE TOWNS AND VILLAGES WORK TOGETHER....**

Diversity or difference is a strong feature of the district. We have a wide range of different communities with differing issues. While much of our work has been focused on bringing these communities together, the strategy needs to be developing and nurturing communities. At the heart of this is changing attitudes and behaviours by building trust and respect in those communities. Respect includes maintaining and protecting values that most people in the community share - consideration for others and a recognition that we all have responsibilities as well as rights, civility and good manners. The most visible signs of breakdowns in trust and disregard of these values include anti-social behaviour and disorder, drug and alcohol misuse and an unwillingness to work.

## **THE ROLE OF TECHNOLOGY**

New technologies are vital in developing and connecting our communities. Developing and sharing knowledge is made easier through initiatives such as e-learning and CCTV.

Developing local skills in digital technologies will also raise the skills and confidence of local people to benefit their lives and neighbourhoods.

Better use of new technology and the sharing of information will also help the Council and other organisations to better understand issues in the district and to target their activities effectively. It will also support both improvements to engagement with local people and access to information.

## **THE ROLE OF KNOWLEDGE**

Knowledge is not just about academic learning, or for that matter the development of skills for work or life. In its broadest form it is about developing an understanding of the world, and how individuals and communities can interact with the wider world to sustain and improve their economic, environmental and social well-being.

Sharing and pooling this knowledge, both within and across communities, supports us in developing solutions to current and emerging challenges, as well as strengthening local democracy, cohesion and social bonds.

Knowledge underpins place shaping. Local people sharing information and developing shared solutions to problems, increases both quality of life and allows communities to shape their own destinies. The new approaches to service provision and democracy are designed to identify new ways of informing and engaging local people, and support them to better develop knowledge to shape the future of their communities and neighbourhoods.

## **WHAT YOU HAVE TOLD US**

The Wakefield District Partnership agreed to review the Fast Forward Community Strategy at the same time as developing the Local Area Agreement. This has meant that there has been extensive involvement across all sectors and groups in identifying priorities. These have been shaped through the following activities:

- The Making it Happen Partnership Conference - Sept 2005
- Joint Workshop involving WDP, VAWD and VOX - Sept 2005
- Wakefield Area Partnership Meetings - Sept – Nov 2005
- Joint Partner Meeting with IDeA - Nov 2005
- Consultation on the Children and Young Peoples Plan - Sept - Oct 2005
- Partnership Challenge Event - Dec 2005

- Wakefield Speaks Events - March, May and June 2006
- VOX Convention - May 2006
- Local Member Workshop - July 2006

In addition to engagement, a number of sources of information have been used to check on the performance of the strategy and to identify new baselines and priorities in 2006.

This includes nationally available data sets and locally commissioned research and includes:

- The Index of Deprivation 2004 (ID04)
- Audit Commission Quality of Life - Area Profiles (2005)
- Neighbourhood Renewal Unit - Floor Targets Interactive (2004)
- State of the District - An Economic, Social and Environmental Audit of Wakefield District – Local Futures (2005)
- Neighbourhood Profiles Neighbourhood Statistics (2005)
- Residents Survey - Wakefield MDC (2005)
- Evaluation of Wakefield District Partnership CRESR (2006)
- Knowledge Economy Audit for Wakefield – Local Futures (2006)

All of these sources have been used to inform discussion, highlight the changing nature of the issues the strategy has been used to address, and to identify key issues in 2006.

While much of the evidence of change over the last three years is based on specific measures, we also have a range of information about what local residents feel about the changes that have occurred.

## **LOCAL SURVEYS**

Local surveys indicate that 74% of residents are satisfied with their area as a place to live. When asked on the whole how their area has changed over the last 12 months 9% thought it had got better and 12% felt that it had got worse. This compares well to national surveys where 24% felt it had got worse.

When asked about aspects of the local area that have got better or worse, people said: level of crime, health services, employment have all got better, facilities for young people and cultural activities have got worse. 36% of residents felt that the provision of activities and facilities for young people was the most important factor, which needed improving in their area.

The Wakefield Speaks Events have also highlighted specific activities as working better than others. These include substantial support for:

- Neighbourhood Patrollers and Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs)
- Using education and awareness raising to promote healthy lifestyles
- Improving basic skills and work skills
- Actions that improve public transport services including community transport
- Youth Vans and activities for young people
- Re-cycling initiatives and locally owned environmental improvement initiatives

## **OTHER INFLUENCES**

Since 2003 there have been some important changes to national, regional and local approaches to issues that have had an impact on how this strategy is being delivered and also on how it should be taken forward.

These include:

## **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES**

The outcome of successful place shaping can be seen in sustainable communities. These are places where people want to live and work, now and in the future. Places that meet the diverse needs of existing and future residents, are sensitive to their environment, and contribute to a high quality of place. They are safe and inclusive, well planned, built and run. They offer equality of opportunity and good services for all. While this aim is consistent with the original vision of the Community Strategy it focuses attention on communities and neighbourhoods. This links with the government's view, that to secure sustainable improvements in public services, we need to encourage citizens to play a role in local democracy in their own neighbourhoods.

## **ENGAGED AND COHESIVE COMMUNITIES**

The revised Community Strategy will be a means by which local people can participate in decisions on the things that happen where they live. The more communities understand the issues and limitations around decisions on services in their neighbourhood,

the more realistic and sustainable those decisions are likely to be. In turn, engaging citizens at neighbourhood level will enable public services to be more effective and responsive by tailoring them more closely to the needs of their users and providing greater choice. This revised strategy needs to provide a stronger framework for the engagement of citizens.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE**

One of the biggest challenges facing local service providers over the coming years is climate change. There is a clear need for all local service providers to work closely with communities, as well as their local, regional, and national partners, to address the causes and effects of a changing climate. This will include addressing issues around energy use and transportation, as well as continuing to improve the quality and scale of waste recycling.

Wakefield has already made some progress down this road. Earlier in the year the Wakefield District Partnership agreed to the formation of a Climate Change Working Group, to tackle the issues involved using the shared resources of the wider partnership. This group has representation from, amongst others, the Primary Care Trust, Wakefield and District Housing, Groundwork Wakefield and the local Biodiversity Action

Group. It is hoped that through this group, climate change can become a partnership priority.

Ultimately, however, it is the Council to whom people will turn for leadership on this issue. The White Paper gives local government new opportunities to drive local action on climate change through:

- Strong and visible leadership
- Leading by example through its own practices and the services it delivers
- Responding to calls for action and the priority local people place on tackling these issues
- Co-ordinating innovative partnerships, which can deliver real changes

Taking on big issues like climate change has two clear advantages: it gives the community a means of tackling a global threat while improving the local environment and it offers the Council a means of delivering wider social and economic benefits.

## **DELIVERY PRIORITIES - FAMILIES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS THE WAKEFIELD LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT (LAA)**

The LAA came into force in April 2006 - this agreement is the main delivery plan for the Community Strategy and its development has provided an opportunity for the Council and its partners to rationalise the number of existing delivery plans and associated reporting processes. The LAA has been designed to simplify the relationship between national and local priorities and has reduced the need for further planning documents and processes. The LAA does not include everything in this strategy, but it does provide an important focus for the approach to delivering the strategy. This includes the 'Families and Neighbourhoods' idea, which involves developing interventions that relate to the needs of individuals in the context of the family and the places where they live.

### **FAMILIES, CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

Achieving sustainable improvements in communities means we have to concentrate on families and the neighbourhoods they live in. The Total Family Support approach, adopted through the LAA will transform current services from a mainly reactive, individual

centred approach to a proactive and preventative approach that identifies and meets the underlying causes within a wider family unit. Total Family Support not only deals with ongoing issues within families, but also brings agencies together to devise and deliver tailored packages to support prevention and early intervention. We will seek to ensure that every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, has the support they need to be healthy, stay safe, enjoy and achieve, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being.

The priorities for the district are based on the vision of the Children and Young People's Plan for children and young people being safe, supported and fulfilled.

## **THE CHANGING ECONOMY**

The economic environment has changed significantly even during the first three years of the strategy. Global economic change is increasingly being reflected in change in the local economy with a steady decline in employment in traditional industries and growing employment in what are called knowledge based industries. This has been identified as a clear long-term challenge for the district, especially given the industrial legacy and current economic structure of Wakefield. Historical issues around skills development and

higher education within the district, and their subsequent impact on workforce capacity and retention of individuals in knowledge working, have also been identified as needing to be addressed.

Important regional influences are the Northern Way Growth Strategy aimed at closing the economic output gap between the North of England and the national average and the Regional Economic Strategy, which provides the 10-year blueprint for the Yorkshire and Humber economy.

Wakefield district has an important contribution to make to these because of its location in the Leeds City Region and because of its location in the North's transport system. The Council and local partners have considered the impact of this strategy and have agreed a Wakefield perspective on the growth strategy called the Wakefield Way.

The proposed Wakefield Regeneration Strategy priorities are an integral part of the Fast Forward challenge to develop a dynamic local economy in the district and will need to be reflected in the revised priorities for the strategy.

## **LAND USE PLANNING**

Fast Forward has been the main influence on the developing land use plan for the district. The Wakefield Local Development Framework will become the main planning document in the district in 2008, replacing the Unitary Development Plan. The Regional Spatial Strategy for the Yorkshire and the Humber Region is also a key influence on the Local Development Framework as it sets out the scale, priorities and broad locations for change and development in the region over the period to 2021. The Local Development Framework will be based on a number of underpinning principles that will ensure land use in the district reflects and contributes to achieving the challenges and priorities of the Community Strategy. The principles are:

- Focusing new development in the district within urban areas
- Wakefield city and the other town centres should be the focus of development activity
- Development in smaller settlements and rural areas should be to meet local needs only
- Priority should be given to development on previously developed land
- New sites for development should be in accessible locations

- New development should be accessible by non car modes of travel
- Settlement identity should be maintained
- When considering the need for new development, high priority should be given to conserving, protecting and enhancing the districts natural and built environment
- New development should contribute to improving the quality of the design
- New development must enhance the quality of life for district residents

The Local Development Framework has also been developed to link in to the three area based priorities of Fast Forward, which are:

- The urban renaissance of Wakefield city
- Reconnecting the Coalfield Communities in the South East and
- The Five Towns Initiative

## **CULTURE AND SPORTING DEVELOPMENTS**

Over the last few years there has been increasing recognition nationally and locally of the role of culture in the well-being of communities. Creative and cultural places are also successful, thriving places with strong and sustainable communities.

A new Cultural Partnership and Cultural Strategy are being developed to put culture at the heart of social and economic regeneration and to bring about a positive change in the ambition and self-confidence of the district.

Alongside this, a Sports Strategy is being developed by the Council to bring together the perspectives of many different organisations involved in sport and recreation.

## **THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR**

Development of a strong and successful Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) is another way by which local people and communities can be empowered to take control of their own lives and contribute more effectively to shaping the future of their communities and the wider district.

This has been identified as another challenge for the Wakefield LAA and work is under way to build on the Compact agreed with the Voluntary Sector in 2004 to support them contributing to effective problem solving and service delivery within the district.

## **OUR PRIORITIES**

Overall progress in the district has been good, however this review has shown that there are some important long-standing issues that need to be reflected in the new challenges and priorities. In 2003 our challenges were:

- Feeling and Being Safer
- Looking after Ourselves
- Developing a dynamic Local Economy
- Investing in our People
- Improving our Places

It is proposed that these challenges will be revised to reflect the changing circumstances in 2006:

- Safer and Stronger Communities
- Healthier Communities
- Skills, Enterprise and Work

In addition the following three cross cutting challenges are proposed:

- Voluntary and Community Sector
- Children and Young People
- Culture

The revised strategy will continue to focus attention on engagement, cohesion and sustainability by retaining these as key underpinning principles that are relevant to all challenges. The priorities and outcomes relating to these are included under the earlier section 'Other Influences'.

The strategy also retains the same geographical focus relating to regeneration set out in 2003. This identifies the three sub-district regeneration areas as:

- Wakefield City
- The South East
- The Five Towns

## **2006 REVISED CHALLENGES**

### **SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

#### Priorities

- Dealing with anti-social behaviour and neighbourhood issues
- Domestic abuse
- Young people involved in crime
- Supporting families and strengthening communities

#### To ensure communities are:

- Active and inclusive
- Well designed and built
- Clean and green
- Well connected
- Well run

#### Outcomes

- Less domestic abuse

- To reduce crime, the harm caused by illegal drugs and to reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti social behaviour
- To build respect in communities and to reduce anti-social behaviour
- Fewer young people involved in crime
- To have cleaner and greener public spaces that are valued and used by local communities
- Better quality housing and housing environments
- Improved quality of life for people in the most disadvantaged neighbourhoods and ensure services are more responsive to neighbourhood needs and improving delivery
- More people feeling empowered and having a greater voice and influence over local decision making and the delivery of services

## **HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES**

### Priority

- Improved health in the district, increased life expectancy and reduced health inequalities

## Outcomes

- Less smoking in the district
- Lower premature mortality rates for cancers and circulatory diseases
- Increased participation in cultural activities, sport and physical exercise
- Reduced obesity
- Improved mental health
- Reduced impact of alcohol on health
- Improved well being for older people who are able to access a range of preventative services and are more involved in their communities

## **SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE**

### Priorities

- Bring more people into employment
- Meet employers skill needs
- Build a more entrepreneurial district

### Outcomes

- Improved employment rates in the district and in particular in the neighbourhoods with the worst labour market position

- To have more people with mental health and learning disabilities in employment
- To have a higher skilled work force in the district
- An increased stock of businesses in the district and increased business growth
- Reduced business crime
- To have higher wage rates, higher skills and more knowledge driven business
- Increased skills, confidence and motivation of local people through access to services and cultural learning

## **CROSS CUTTING CHALLENGES**

### **THE VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR**

This cross cutting challenge recognises the important contribution the voluntary and community sector can make to the well-being of the district and in particular to the needs of the most disadvantaged communities. To do this the challenge will be to support and develop a growing and vibrant sector in a way that leads to sustainable improvements.

## Priorities

- Increase capacity in the sector
- Increase the involvement of the sector in delivery

## Outcome

- A growing voluntary and community sector shaping and contributing to effective service delivery in the district

## **CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

This new challenge relates to the approach adopted by the government to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19, as set out in *Every Child Matters*. The priorities for the district are based on the vision of the *Children and Young People's Plan*, to ensure every child, whatever their background or circumstances has the support they need to be safe, supported and fulfilled.

## Priorities

To ensure children and young people:

- Are healthy
- Stay safe

- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Achieve economic well being

## Outcomes

- Improved personal safety of children and young people
- Improved achievement of children and young people in primary education
- To have higher standards of achievement at 16 and 19 with more young people staying on in learning
- Improved health and well being of children and young people and their parents
- Increased opportunities for development through play, sport and cultural activity.

## **CULTURE**

This new challenge recognises that if Wakefield is to be a prosperous, competitive, cohesive and sustainable community it needs culture at the very heart of its plans for the future. For all the things that Wakefield wants to achieve over the next few years through this Community Strategy, it will find many of the ideas, inspiration, energy and leadership will come from the people who are actively engaged in sport, the arts and local heritage.

## Priorities

- To put culture at the heart of social and economic regeneration
- Getting people to start, stay and succeed in sport and provide facilities for people to participate in sport

## Outcomes

- Boosting the local economy through culture
- Raising people's confidence and changing their life chances
- Strengthen neighbourhoods and communities
- Raising Wakefield's profile and reputation
- Making places and spaces for culture
- Improvement in health and quality of life in the district
- Meet the physical activity needs of local communities

## **MOVING FORWARD**

The review of the Community Strategy is not only a testament to the success of the actions planned and delivered after 2003, but is shaped by what we have learnt from those actions.

Moving forward this strategy seeks to work with local people to support them in becoming confident and capable of managing their own lives, their own wellbeing and their own communities. A true measure of future success will not be how much local partners have contributed to ensure well-being - it will be how little they have needed to ensure that well-being.

The next phase of the Community Strategy is citizen focussed and citizen led. It is about ensuring that local communities and neighbourhoods are aware of the opportunities to increase their life chances and quality of life. If communities can be supported to seize those opportunities then patterns of low aspiration, and subsequent low achievement can be changed. The experiences of local partners since 2003 strongly point to the fact that these cycles can be broken, and through focus, innovation and trust, the communities of the Wakefield district can achieve their potential and deliver the promise made in the Community Strategy vision.

**APPENDIX A**

**PERFORMANCE MEASURES**

<b>MEASURE</b>	<b>WAKEFIELD</b>	<b>ENGLAND</b>
<b>FEELING AND BEING SAFER</b>		
Total Recorded Crime per 1,000 population in the district 2005/2006 (Source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	118.4	104.7
% of Domestic Abuse incidents that are repeat victims (Source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	48	—
Criminal Damage per 1,000 population (Source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	29.0	22.3

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>FEELING AND BEING SAFER</b>		
Violent Crime per 1,000 population (Source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	24.8	20.0
Burglary Dwelling per 1,000 households (Source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	15.7	13.5
% Residents in the district stating they feel safe in their local area after dark (source: General Household Survey 2005)	68	N/A
Primary fires (deliberate and accidental) per 10,000 population (source: West Yorkshire Fire & Rescue Service 2005/06)	31.5	27.3

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>FEELING AND BEING SAFER</b>		
Theft of a vehicle per 1,000 population (source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	4.8	4.0
Theft from a vehicle per 1,000 population (source: West Yorkshire Police 2005/06)	9.4	9.5
<b>LOOKING AFTER OURSELVES</b>		
Life Expectancy - Males (source: ONS 02/04)	75.4	76.6
Life Expectancy - Females (source: ONS 02/04)	79.8	80.9
Teenage Conceptions (source: ONS 02/04)	48.1	42.1

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>LOOKING AFTER OURSELVES</b>		
Mortality Rates - Circulatory Disease (source: ONS/DH 02/04)	108.3	96.7
Mortality Rates - Cancers (source: ONS/DH 02/04)	133.9	121.6
<b>DYNAMIC LOCAL ECONOMY</b>		
% of working age adults claiming incapacity benefit/severe disablement allowance in the district (source: DWP Information Directorate Aug 2006)	9.9	7.4
Overall employment rate (source: Annual Local Area Labour Force Survey employment rates 2004/05)	78.3	74.8

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>DYNAMIC LOCAL ECONOMY</b>		
Employment rate of lone parents (source: Annual Local Area Labour Force Survey employment rates 2004/05)	65.6	50.2
Employment: Over 50's (to age 69) (source: Annual Local Area Labour Force Survey employment rates 2004/05)	53.3	54.6
VAT Registrations per 10,000 adults (source: ONS, NOMIS 2005)	29	38
Average Household Income (source: Acxiom Lifestyle Survey 2005)	£24,840	£30,549

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>DYNAMIC LOCAL ECONOMY</b>		
% of households in the district with children under the age of 16 classified as experiencing child poverty (source: Acxiom Lifestyle Survey 2005)	25	21
% of the total workforce employment represented by the cultural industries sector (source: Annual Business Enquiry, NOMIS 2005)	9.8	12.2
% of the total workforce employment represented by the Knowledge Driven sectors (source: Annual Business Enquiry, NOMIS 2005)	14.2	24.1
% of the working age population claiming working age benefits (source: DWP Information Directorate August 2006)	18	14.8

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>DYNAMIC LOCAL ECONOMY</b>		
% of the working age population claiming Job Seekers Allowance (source: ONS, NOMIS 2006)	2.6	2.6
% of Job Seekers Allowance Claimants aged under 24 (source: ONS, NOMIS 2006)	35.2	31.2
% of Job Seekers Allowance claimants out of work for over one year (source: ONS, NOMIS 2006)	9.8	15.6
% of households in receipt of Housing Benefit (source: DWP Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Summary Statistics, August 2006)	18	16.1
% of households in receipt of Council Tax Benefit (source: DWP Housing Benefit & Council Tax Benefit Quarterly Summary Statistics, August 2006)	21.8	20.2

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE</b>		
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 2 Level 4 or above in Maths (source: DfES 2006)	78	76
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 2 Level 4 or above in English (source: DfES 2006)	77	79
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 2 Level 4 or above in Science (source: DfES 2006)	86	87
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 3 Level 5 or above in Maths (source: DfES 2006)	78	77
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 3 Level 5 or above in English (source: DfES 2006)	74	73

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE</b>		
% of pupils achieving Key Stage 3 Level 5 or above in Science (source: DfES 2006)	71	72
% of 16 year olds achieving 5+ A*-C Grades at GCSE (or equivalent) (source: DfES 2006)	57.8	59.2
% of 16 year olds achieving the equivalent of 5 GCSEs A*-C or equivalent including English and Maths (source: DfES 2006)	42.9	45.8
Progression rates into post-16 learning (source: Connexions November 2006)	76.17	—
% of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (source: Connexions December 2006)	8.2	—

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>INVESTING IN OUR PEOPLE</b>		
Free School Meal Eligibility	15.1 (2006)	14.3 (2005)
<b>IMPROVING OUR PLACES</b>		
% of relevant land and highways assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus that falls below an acceptable level (BVPI 199a)(source: ENCAMS 2006)	20.9	24
% of residents who are satisfied with their local area as a place to live (General Household Survey 2006)	74	86

MEASURE	WAKEFIELD	ENGLAND
<b>IMPROVING OUR PLACES</b>		
Number of homeless acceptances (source: WMDC 2004/05)	326	—
Number of households in temporary accommodation (source: WMDC 2004/05)	242	—
Road Accident Casualty Rate: Children Killed or Seriously Injured per 1,000 population (source: Department for Transport 2005)	0.3	0.3
% of residents satisfied with local parks and open spaces (source: DCLG 2003/04)	64	72

**APPENDIX B****LAA INDICATORS**

<b>INDICATOR</b>	<b>BASELINE</b>	<b>2009 TARGET</b>
<b>SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE</b>		
Number of lone parents or people who have been claiming an incapacity benefit living in the Kinsley and Fitzwilliam, Castleford Ferry Fryston, Agbrigg, Lupset and South Elmsall areas who are helped by WMDC into sustained employment of at least 16 hours per week for 13 consecutive weeks or more - cumulative. (WMDC)	10 (2005)	330
Number of working age adults claiming Incapacity Benefit / Severe Disablement Allowance in the district (Job Centre Plus)	20,000 (Feb 2005)	18,500

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE</b>		
Number of people known to mental health (MH) and learning disability services (LDS) in the year and have moved into paid work, preparation for work, accredited or non-accredited learning and volunteering (MH & LDS)	46 (2005)	112
Numbers of adults achieving the National Skills for Life tests at Full Entry 3 and levels 1 and 2 from those neighbourhoods where need is greatest and where current achievements are below the district average (Learning Partnership/WYLSC)	Target areas: 262 pa (2004/05)	452
Progression rates into post 16 further learning (Connexions)	81.65 (2005)	84.5

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE</b>		
% of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment or training (Connexions)	9.6 (Nov 2005)	7.8
% of 16 year olds achieving the equivalent of 5 GCSEs A*- Cs or equivalent (DfES)	56.4 (2005)	59
% of 16 year olds achieving the equivalent of 5 GCSEsA* - Cs or equivalent including English and Maths (DfES)	40 (2005)	51
Number of business enquiries to the first Property Pilot Database that result in a major investment outcome - cumulative (first)	13 pa (2004)	78

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE</b>		
Number of new businesses assisted by first into incubation that survive for 12 months or more - cumulative (first)	0 (2004)	48
Number of business crimes in industrial and business zones in the most deprived neighbourhoods (West Yorkshire Police)	670 (2004/05)	560

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Cumulative number of additional premises designated as smoke free (WMDC Survey)	0 (2005)	75
Smoking prevalence in localities of high deprivation (Axiom National Lifestyle Survey)	District 28.86% (2004) Wakefield East 35% Ferry Fryston 32.63% Hemsworth 31.87%	26.61% 32.75% 30.38% 29.62%

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Premature mortality rates in cancers and circulatory disease. Age standardised rates from circulatory diseases and cancer, under 75 years. (ONS)	Circulatory 119.53 (2001-03)  Cancer 141.05 (2001-03)	107.31 (04/05)  127.36 (04/05)
% of adults participating in at least 30 minutes of moderate intensity sport on three or more days each week on average over a year (Active People Survey)	Baseline to be based on Active People data	+ 0% above baseline (+4.5%)
Number of people in high-risk groups participating in 5 x 30 min session of physical activity sessions each week in targeted neighbourhoods (Active People Survey)	Baseline and Targets to be based on the Active People Survey 2006	

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Patients aged 16 yrs and over with a Body Mass Index (BMI) greater than or equal to 30 in the last 15 months. Quality and Outcomes Framework (QOF)	30 (2006)	30
Number of GP practices implementing the Weight Management Pathway	0 (2005)	30
Number of GP practices participating in obesity training	0 (2005)	30
Number of people referred to the PLATT team with mental health problems reported to have positive recovery as a result of treatment (PLATT Team)	400 (2005)	484

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Number of people presenting to the Wakefield Alcohol Team cumulative (DoH Alcohol Needs Assessment Research Project)	178 (2005)	356
Number of Primary Health Care staff in the District that have received training in screening and brief interventions in primary care for alcohol problems	125 (2005)	250
Numbers of alcohol treatment requirements granted through the courts (Alcohol Treatment Service)	0 (2004)	90

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of domestic abuse incidents that are repeat victims (West Yorkshire Police)	48 (2004/05)	28
% of domestic abuse arrest rate	29 (2004/05)	55
% of sanction detections	43 (2005/06)	49
Violent Crime offences. (Crime in England and Wales - Home Office 2005)	7,275 (2004/05)	*
% residents in the district stating that they feel safe in their local area after dark (General Household Survey)	68 (2005)	75

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
BCS Comparator crimes across the district (Crime in England and Wales - Home Office 2005)	29,311 (2004/05)	*
% gap in the level of all crimes in the most deprived SOAs and the District level (West Yorkshire Police)	+180 (2004/05)	+150
Incidence of primary fires in the district (both deliberate and accidental) (WYFS)	1,146 (2001/02)	974
% of offenders in the district remaining in drug treatment after 12 weeks (National Treatment Agency)	50	*

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of convictions amongst prolific and priority offenders (PPO's) since joining the PPO scheme	30 (2005/06)	50
% of residents satisfied with their area as a place to live (Residents Survey)	74 (2005)	80
% of residents who believe that the level of anti-social behaviour in their area has got worse during the past 12 months	46 (2005)	37
Number of homeless acceptances (WMDC)	326 (2004/05)	200
Number of households in temporary accommodation (WMDC)	242 (2004/05)	90

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Number of young people entering the criminal justice system for the first time (Youth Offending Team)	856 (2005/06 projection)	733
% of young people re-offending following a YOT intervention (Youth Offending Team)	69.4(2005/06)	59.5
% of parents completing a YOT parenting intervention (Youth Offending Team)	14	20
% of relevant land and highways assessed as having combined deposits of litter and detritus that falls below an acceptable level (BVPI 199a)	28.9 (2004/05)	11

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of people satisfied with the cleanliness standards in their area (BVPI 89)	50 (2004/05)	65
Number of public parks and green spaces in the district awarded Green Flag status	0 (2005)	2
Numbers of Local Nature Reserves (LNRs) under active management within the district (WMDC)	7	16
Number of hours volunteering in support of these Local Nature Reserves and other open spaces - cumulative	4,200 pa	25,200

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of land designated as Sites of Specific Scientific Interest (SSI) within the Local Authority area which is found to be in favourable/unfavourable recovering condition (English Nature)	50(2006)	75
Cumulative number of Blueprint Master plans developed for priority housing areas in the district through community engagement and partnership working (WMDC/Wakefield District Housing)	3(2005)	21
Number of Community Interest Companies (or equivalent) set up in the district to devolve the management and care of community spaces to the Voluntary and Community Sector	0	5

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Year-on-year reduction in total number of enforcement actions taken to deal with fly-tipping (Audit Commission, new BVPI for 2005/06)	Grade 3	Grade 1
Gap in aspects of liveability between the worst wards/neighbourhoods and the district as a whole	Liveability Indices based on neighbourhood areas that take into account agreed partnership-based service standards and performance measures will be developed and will form the basis of baselines and targets	
% of unfit private sector dwellings. (Housing Conditions Survey - to be repeated in 2009)	3.1 (2003)	2.5

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of social sector homes that fall below the decent homes standard. Wakefield District Housing (WDH) only - no figures for other Registered Social Landlords (RSL)	72.8	20
% of vulnerable households in the private sector who live in homes that are in decent condition (Calculated using ODPM ready reckoner)	63.3 (2005)	69
% of domestic household energy efficiency (Based on 1995 Home Energy Conservation Act data externally verified by National Energy Services)	18.8 (2005)	25

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Number of fuel poor private sector households that access financial assistance in order to improve their home energy efficiency and therefore achieve affordable warmth	1,000 (March 2006)	6,000
Average SAP rating of public sector housing	56 (March 2006)	62
% of residents satisfied with delivery of local services and believing service providers are more responsive to their needs (General Household Survey)	Baseline and targets to be developed for the District using information from Citizen Panel by Sept 2006	
	Neighbourhood Areas (to be established)	+10pa

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
% of residents who feel they can influence decisions affecting their area (General Household Survey)	District 18 (2003)	33
	Neighbourhood Areas (to be established)	+10pa
% adults who feel that working together they can influence decisions affecting their local area (General Household Survey)	District 18 (2003)	33
	Neighbourhood Areas (to be established)	+10pa
% residents (i) serving or (ii) willing to consider serving in citizen governance roles such as school governor or as community advocates or representatives	Baseline and targets will be developed for the District with the CEN	

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES</b>		
Number of adults in neighbourhoods who feel empowered as a direct consequence of CEN support (CEN)	104 (2005)	180
Numbers of volunteers representing the Voluntary and Community Sector on strategic decision making bodies (CEN)	39 (2005)	55
Number of independent communities of geography networks	8 (2005)	17
Number of independent communities of interest networks	7 (2005)	12

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES</b>		
Proportion of domestic abuse cases, where children are present and following an intervention, where there is a further incidence of domestic abuse	This is a new target area and baselines/targets will be developed with the Wakefield Community Safety Partnership by Sept 2006	
% of children working within and beyond the early learning goals	Baseline to add March 2006	Targets to be developed by Sept 2006
% of boys achieving Level 4 and above at Key Stage 2 in English	69.3 (2005)	Targets to be developed by Sept 2006
Schools with less than 50% of pupils achieving level 5 or above in English, Maths and Science	3 (2006)	0

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES</b>		
% of children in Wakefield classified as obese as measured by NHS Community Information System	5.2 of five year olds (Dec 2004)	6.25
Conception rates for under 18 year olds per 1000 women aged 15-17	48.1 (2003)	40.5 (2006)
Number of healthy schools in the district awarded National Healthy Schools status in accordance with the 2005 NHSS Criteria	1 (2005)	146
Proportion of people supported to live in their own home. PAF C32 (BV54) 2004. Pilot areas - Eastmoor and Normanton	Eastmoor 97 (2006) Normanton 70 (2006)	To be developed To be developed

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND THEIR FAMILIES</b>		
Number of older people receiving preventative services in the pilot areas	0	To be developed
Admission rates to residential and nursing care in pilot areas - Key Threshold Indicator C72 (District and Pilot Area) 2004/05	Eastmoor 20 (June 2006)  Normanton 21 (June 2006)	Eastmoor 18  Normanton 19
Number of physical activity groups for older people, attendees and qualified tutors through Extend Course	Groups 10  Attendees 84  Tutors 15	10  120  15
Number of older people's forums and members	5 forums with 147 members	260

INDICATOR	BASELINE	2009 TARGET
<b>VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY SECTOR</b>		
% of residents who affirm they have carried out voluntary work in an organisation once a month or more in the past year	20 (2006)	26
% of VCS groups affirming growth in activity over the past year	40 (2006)	46
Value and number of contracts between WMDC and VCS organisations	£10.5m	£11.481m
Number of VCS organisations bidding for contracts	15(2006)	21
% of VCS organisations having more confidence and trust in statutory organisations	87 (2006)	93

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