Derbyshire's Sustainable Community Strategy

2009–2014

Working together for a better Derbyshire

Derbyshire is special because…

'It is home to some of the UK's most stunning scenery, beautiful wildlife and is home to kind people. I couldn't think of anywhere better to live. I love Derbyshire.' (North Wingfield resident)

'It's got the right mix of everything – down to earth people, bustling towns, super scenery – all on our doorstep.' (Long Eaton resident)

'This beautiful county, a sea of green,
Historical places that must be seen,
Its industry, its people, its magic, its flare,
A gift to the nation in this we share,
The heart of the country, the jewel in the crown,
This is where Derbyshire be found.' (Heanor resident)

'As a newcomer to Derbyshire I am much impressed by the county's natural beauty. Further, having lived and worked in many places both in England and overseas, I have never witnessed anywhere else the friendliness, helpfulness and general good humour displayed here. Neighbourliness and good manners are delights to enjoy.' (Ashover resident)

The people are warm, kind and friendly, the countryside is beautiful with differing landscapes and interesting historic houses. The pretty villages are full of community spirit and the towns are well equipped with the shops and services required by all ages. It has everything and we feel very safe here.' (Eyam resident)

'Here, the heart of England beats in a steady, orderly way,
Here, the people safely thrive as they learn or work or play,
Visitors are welcome to share our natural bounty,
But the lucky ones are those who live in God's own blessed county.' (Heage resident)

'It's views are the best in the world to me,
Now that I have turned sixty I see them for free,
I never feel lonely or down on my luck,
Because someone always says 'hello duck'!' (Calow resident)

'It's a friendly place, where even people who don't know you seem to care and offer advice and also help whenever needed.' (Chesterfield resident)

Derbyshire has
Everything from
Rural beauty to
Bustling
Young
Shopping centres
Here you can
Involve yourself in a
Really good quality of life
Everything you could ever want. (Belper resident)

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Foreword

I am pleased to welcome you to the new Derbyshire Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-14.

The strategy is the overarching guiding framework for partnership working in Derbyshire, reflecting the collective priorities of over fifty local organisations.

It has been produced because partners know that by working together they can achieve more than they could do individually to improve social, economic and environmental wellbeing for local people. This includes making communities safer, giving children and young people the best start in life, encouraging healthier lifestyles, providing affordable decent housing, protecting the environment, strengthening the economy, improving highways and transport and widening cultural and leisure opportunities.

Over one thousand individuals have contributed to the development of the strategy, which is informed by local and national research, the views of Derbyshire people and the knowledge and expertise of key local service providers. We are confident that it addresses the needs of communities in Derbyshire and are committed to working together to deliver this ambitious agenda.

I hope that the strategy helps everyone to understand the challenges facing our area and enables partners to achieve their shared vision for 'everyone in Derbyshire to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future'.

Cllr Andrew Lewer
Leader, Derbyshire County Council

Chairman, Derbyshire Partnership Forum

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derbyshire partnership forum

A guide to this strategy

What is a Sustainable Community Strategy? How does it make a difference? How is it delivered? Who delivers it?

Over fifty organisations in Derbyshire have made a commitment to work together through the Derbyshire Partnership Forum (DPF), as they recognise that they cannot improve quality of life for local people alone. This section explains what a community strategy is and how it is delivered through partnership working.

About Derbyshire

This section provides an overview of what Derbyshire is like and outlines some key challenges for the future.

A vision for 'everyone in Derbyshire to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future'

The partnership vision 'for everyone in Derbyshire to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future' is explained from the perspective of local people.

Reducing inequality

This strategy champions the needs of the most disadvantaged or vulnerable people in Derbyshire. Statistics tell us that Derbyshire is a great place to be. Its stunning scenery is celebrated and local people tell us how proud they are to live in this friendly place where the countryside is on the doorstep and cities are within easy reach. However, good standards of living for the majority of people in Derbyshire mask stark inequalities. These inequalities must be tackled in order to achieve the vision for everyone to enjoy a good quality of life. To help partners tackle inequality this strategy highlights the need to develop cohesive communities with a thriving third sector and outlines key principles of working for partners.

Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How will we get there?

Local people's views, research, performance data and partners expertise have been analysed to develop priorities for Derbyshire. The information is organised into five themes which outline how we will achieve our priorities.

- Safer communities
- Children and young people
- Health and wellbeing
- Culture
- Sustainable communities.

What is a Sustainable Community Strategy?

The Sustainable Community Strategy is a guiding framework for organisations working in Derbyshire. The Local Government Act 2000 places a duty on every local authority to work with its partners to produce a sustainable community strategy for the area and to promote the social, economic and environmental wellbeing of its communities.

How does it make a difference?

Its purpose is to help everyone understand the complex challenges facing communities in Derbyshire and to establish a shared future vision and priorities for joint action. It adds value to existing activities by bringing partners together to avoid duplication of work and achieve more creative and efficient solutions to problems. Partners and local people have contributed to the development of this strategy to ensure that it reflects the needs of local communities in Derbyshire.

How is it delivered?

The Derbyshire Local Area Agreement (LAA) is the main delivery mechanism for the Sustainable Community Strategy. The LAA is an agreement between Derbyshire and central government which sets out specific local targets for the area. In addition, partners own strategies, plans and activities also help to deliver the overall vision. Visit **www.derbyshire.gov.uk/partnershipforum** to find out more about the Derbyshire LAA and how it helps to deliver this strategy.

Who delivers it?

This strategy is delivered by organisations working together through the **Derbyshire Partnership Forum (DPF)**, a collection of over fifty partners, which was established in July 2000 to improve joint working in Derbyshire.

These organisations recognise that by working together they can achieve more for local communities in Derbyshire than they could do alone. The Derbyshire Partnership Forum is the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for Derbyshire and a list of members can be found at the end of this strategy.

The strategy guides partnership working in Derbyshire (including the parts of the Peak District National Park within Derbyshire) but not Derby City. In Derby, local partners work together in a similar way through the Derby City Partnership.

About Derbyshire

Characteristics

Derbyshire lies in the centre of England, in the north-west part of the East Midlands region. It is a county of strong contrasts with a predominantly rural west, urban east, upland north-west and low land south-west, although many parts of Derbyshire have a rural element. The city of Derby lies in the south of Derbyshire and the largest town is Chesterfield. Other large towns include Belper, Buxton, Dronfield, Glossop, Ilkeston, Long Eaton, Ripley and Swadlincote. Compared to the national picture, more people in Derbyshire live in rural areas or on the edge of town and fewer people live in urban areas.

The challenge for Derbyshire is to ensure services are flexible enough to respond to the diverse needs of people living in both rural and urban areas.

Unique, high quality environment

Derbyshire is a spectacular county with a rich, diverse heritage set against a beautiful natural backdrop. It boasts the important landscapes of Britain's first National Park, the Peak District National Park, which is one of the most visited in the UK, unique and world class attractions such as Chatsworth House, Creswell Crags and the National Forest. The county has a wealth of significant historic, industrial, cultural and wildlife heritage giving the different parts of Derbyshire, upland and lowland, industrial and rural, their unique and distinctive character.

Derbyshire's local landscapes, from parks and open spaces in towns and villages to the spectacular countryside of the Peak District National Park, are assets for local communities. They provide environmental resources (e.g. fresh air, drinking water, soil, food, minerals, flood management and climate change mitigation), economic benefits (e.g. tourism, farming and agriculture, business opportunities), health benefits and social opportunities (e.g. opportunities for healthy active recreation and specialist sports).

The challenge for Derbyshire is to maintain, improve and enhance the county's natural assets without spoiling them so that they continue to contribute to people's quality of life. Mitigation of the impact of activities on local communities (e.g. visitor pressure, pollution, traffic congestion and high property prices) is also important.

Central location

For both work and pleasure many Derbyshire residents are fortunate to have good access to Derby, Stoke on Trent, Sheffield, Manchester and Nottingham. The M1 runs through eastern Derbyshire, a direct rail link connects Derbyshire to London in just over two hours (from Chesterfield and Derby) and Manchester, Birmingham, East Midlands and Doncaster airports are close by.

The challenge for Derbyshire is to maximise the potential of this central location whilst retaining its character and to improve accessibility in the more isolated areas.

Industrial legacy

Some communities in Derbyshire, particularly in the north and east of the county, have endured a long and difficult period of industrial structural change following the decline of coal mining and traditional manufacturing activities. A legacy of environmental degradation, poor health, low skills and unemployment persist in these areas. There are particularly high levels of unemployment in Derbyshire's former mining communities.

However, Derbyshire communities have great strengths, including:

- an attractive living environment with a mixture of market towns and villages in a countryside setting, relatively inexpensive housing, lower living costs and a strong sense of place

- a distinctive architectural, archaeological and landscape heritage which can be used to help communities experiencing economic change to develop 'pride of place'

- an existing tourism base (such as the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, the National Forest, Creswell Crags, Hardwick Hall and Bolsover Castle, canals and former railways etc)

- close proximity to the Peak District National Park and Derbyshire's high profile tourist attractions such as Chatsworth House

- an availability of sites and premises to support business growth and expansion from small centres through to strategic employment sites (including the new Markham Vale Business Park).

In addition, industrial changes have left many rural areas in Derbyshire with a low-wage, low-skills economy.

> **The challenge for Derbyshire** is to continue successful regeneration schemes so that the many positive aspects of these areas can be fully utilised to ensure future economic prosperity. It is also important to develop Derbyshire's rural economy in ways which promote appropriate high-wage, high-skilled employment.

Changing population

Ageing population

Derbyshire has an ageing population profile with fewer people of working age. The number of people over the age of 65 is projected to increase by 52% in the next 20 years from 134,400 in 2008 to 204,700 in 2028 and the 85+ age group is projected to increase by 82% from 17,700 people in 2008 to 32,200 people in 2028.

> **The challenge for Derbyshire** is to be able to understand and respond to the needs of this increasingly ageing population. This is particularly true for health and social care provision for people over the age of 85 who require additional support.

Uneven population growth

Current population projections suggest that Derbyshire's population is set to grow by 3.7% between 2008 and 2013. A further increase of 3.9% is expected over the five years beyond that. The increases are similar to those for England but lower than those expected for the East Midlands. It is likely that over the next 10 years there will be uneven population growth, with South Derbyshire expected to see the largest increase (17.8%) and Derbyshire Dales the smallest (3.8%).

The challenge for Derbyshire is to ensure that where the population is growing and the demand for new development is high, any development is sustainable. There is the need to provide the right kind of good quality, energy efficient, affordable housing and associated infrastructure (e.g. schools, transport, shops, leisure and health services) underpinned by long term integrated planning delivery, involving many different partner organisations.

Migration

Internal migration is the main contributor to population change in Derbyshire. Young adults leave the county in greater numbers than they arrive, but for other age groups the converse is true. A small number of international migrants have come to Derbyshire in recent years.

The challenge for Derbyshire is to retain young talent in Derbyshire and to enable young people who have grown up in the area to stay. Additionally, there is the need to understand and respond to the needs of a changing, more diverse population.

Beyond Derbyshire's boundaries

Although partners have little control over what happens outside Derbyshire's boundaries, it is important to acknowledge the impact on local communities. Globalisation means that local people in Derbyshire are affected by social, economic and environmental issues from around the world such as the economic downturn, climate change, rising fuel and food prices, conflict and disease. In addition, close proximity to nearby towns and cities means that Derbyshire is affected by events closer to home but outside the county. For instance, local people use many services outside the county and conversely many people outside the county boundaries may wish to travel into Derbyshire.

The challenge for Derbyshire is to build sustainable communities which are flexible and adaptable to change. It is also important to work successfully with organisations working around Derbyshire's border. In particular, working with neighbouring authorities is fundamental to ensuring 'joined up' services and good accessibility.

A vision 'for everyone in Derbyshire to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future'

The long term vision of this strategy is for 'everyone in Derbyshire to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future'. More than 1,000 people in Derbyshire have told us what they consider to be the essential ingredients of a good 'quality of life'[1] and some of their thoughts are included below.

'Being safe and secure in your home and neighbourhood is important. I want my little girl to be able to play out, walk in the park, enjoy the area without worrying about her' – 'I think the most important thing is to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime because you won't have to be scared to go out at night and feel safe anywhere' – over half of all comments related to community safety.'

'Health and wellbeing always should be a priority and should be available to all' – 'Fun is important. It's good for physical and mental health' – 'Active bodies and minds – equals happy and healthy communities.'

'Parking on the pavements and parking on double yellows annoys me – sometimes you can't walk up the street' – 'Ability to get out and about.'

'Children and young people need to have positive activities to increase confidence, self esteem and ability.'

'We need a choice of housing at affordable prices to meet all needs – good quality housing is central to an individual's quality of life.'

What makes Derbyshire special?

When we asked what makes Derbyshire special, local people were very positive about where they lived and the people who lived there. The following themes dominated the responses.

Countryside	Beautiful and makes Derbyshire unique.
Attractions	Lots of interesting things for people to see and do.
Public Services	People trust public services and feel they are there when they need them.
People	Seen as friendly and helpful and an asset to Derbyshire.

Local people's views, research, performance data and partners' expertise have been analysed to develop all aspects of this strategy, including the priorities for Derbyshire outlined in the later themes.

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[1] Local people shared their thoughts on what makes a good quality of life for them through Community Forums and other focus groups between September 2008 and February 2009.

Reducing inequality

Hayfield and Hadfield lie only a few miles apart in the north west of Derbyshire. Yet the difference between life expectancy at birth for a woman in Hadfield North and a woman in Hayfield is 18 years!

Good standards of living for the majority of people in Derbyshire mask stark inequalities. Most notably, a clear socio-economic divide exists between the more rural west and the former coalfields in the east, but equally pockets of deprivation exist in otherwise affluent parts of Derbyshire particularly in isolated rural areas as illustrated above.

This strategy aims to reduce inequalities by supporting the most disadvantaged and/ or vulnerable people in Derbyshire by:

- Improving the quality of life of those who are more likely to have low educational achievement and skills, less likely to be employed, more likely to have poor health and often suffer from higher levels of crime, in the small proportion of Derbyshire communities which have been unable to break the cycle of deprivation

- Supporting and understanding the needs of those living in parts of the county where hidden pockets of deprivation exist, particularly those vulnerable individuals experiencing inequalities which are compounded by rural isolation

- Understanding and responding to the diverse needs of people in Derbyshire who, regardless of where they live, may find themselves vulnerable or disadvantaged. Such individuals may face barriers throughout their life or experience disadvantage periodically for a variety of reasons such as level of education and skills, income, ability to travel, housing needs, physical or mental health, age, gender, disability, sexual orientation, race, religion and belief.

Cohesive communities with a thriving voluntary and community sector

Community cohesion is the 'glue' which binds communities together. This 'glue' is strengthened when people get on well together, respect each other, take responsibility for their actions and feel they can influence decisions. It can be weakened when people feel they do not enjoy the same life opportunities as others. Many local people in Derbyshire have told us that community spirit is still strong and that this makes their neighbourhood a good place to live. However, they do worry that this is diminishing. People value good neighbours and worry about the effects of the inconsiderate behaviour of others.

Partners recognise that that this strategy cannot be delivered without the help of local people and that cohesive, integrated communities are essential to improving quality of life in Derbyshire. To achieve this, partners will:

- Undertake research locally to gain a better understanding of what factors influence community cohesion in Derbyshire's towns and villages

- Help build the capacity of local communities

- Support community based activities and volunteering to encourage a thriving voluntary and community sector

- Tackle hate crime and harassment

- Put the following partnership principles into action.

Partnership principles

Understanding communities and delivering services which are accessible to all

A comprehensive understanding of the needs of communities across Derbyshire (based on a range of research, consultation and performance data) is essential in order to deliver the right services, at the right time, where the need is greatest. In addition, giving local people the opportunity to shape decisions which affect their lives, responding appropriately to these views and delivering our services in a way everyone can access is vital to improving quality of life.

Partners will:

- Ensure that their activities are inclusive and that the diverse needs of communities inform all key decisions and that appropriate community groups, networks and forums feed in their knowledge and expertise

- Be committed to achieving equality and diversity in service delivery and employment

- Co-ordinate consultation and engagement activities, in particular through the Derbyshire Community Engagement Group (DCEG).

Looking at the bigger picture

Every issue contained within this strategy is linked to another and each activity we undertake will affect the success of another. In a global economy, factors beyond our control will also affect Derbyshire. Adopting a long term, sustainable and integrated approach will not provide the perfect solution but it will increase the likelihood of achieving win-win outcomes which have a lasting effect.

Partners will:

- Consider the long term impacts of all decisions and activities

- Identify the knock on effects of activities and wherever possible avoid conflict with other objectives by integrating social, economic and environmental needs

- Ensure the long term sustainability of local infrastructure planning.

Working together to achieve more

Organisations come together through the Derbyshire Partnership Forum because they recognise that the complex challenges facing Derbyshire's communities cannot be solved by individual organisations working alone. Partnership working helps to deliver better services to local people by adding value to existing activities and avoiding duplication of effort.

Partners will:

- Identify opportunities for sharing ideas and resources

- Continually improve methods of communication between partners

- Continue to promote the 'Derbyshire Compact' and create a thriving voluntary and community sector in Derbyshire to recognise the valuable contribution made by local community based activities and volunteers.

Being prepared to be flexible and 'do things differently'

Partners continually need to be able to adapt to changing circumstances. Exploring creative and innovative approaches will ensure activities become more efficient and effective in terms of providing value for money, saving resources, avoiding waste and protecting the environment.

Partners will:

- Integrate the work of the Derbyshire Transformational Partnership (local authorities, police, fire and voluntary sector – co-ordinating the improvement of services by promoting joint working and delivering cost savings and efficiencies more effectively into partnership activities)

- Work to achieve a balance between preventative and reactive services

- Make better use of their influence and assets e.g. by promoting campaigns to staff and service users and through innovative use of land, buildings and materials.

Where are we now? Where do we want to be? How will we get there?

The following five themes contain more detailed information about Derbyshire's communities and how partners intend to work together to improve quality of life.

- Safer Communities
- Children and Young People
- Health and Wellbeing
- Culture
- Sustainable Communities.

The information in each theme is structured as follows;

What local people have told us

A selection of comments received during face to face discussions with local people between September 2008 and February 2009.

Where are we now?

A summary of the research, information and performance data which (together with local people's views) tells us what Derbyshire is like and what challenges we face.

Where do we want to be?

The partnership priorities and the changes local people should expect to see as a result of this strategy.

How will we get there?

Activities to be undertaken including the people and places we may need to target to reduce inequalities, the knock on effects of this activity and the potential contributions of other theme activities.

Who is responsible?

How the work will be taken forward and by whom.

How will we know that our activities have had the desired effect?

This section includes information about performance management arrangements and lists the main plans and strategies which have both informed this strategy and which will help to deliver the vision.

Safer communities

What local people have told us

'In your neighbourhood you want to feel safe and secure. You don't want to keep looking over your shoulder.'

'Crime prevents community cohesion and activities are stopped as people don't go out at night.'

'Being safe and secure in your home and neighbourhood is important. I want my little girl to be able to play out, walk in the park, enjoy the area without worrying about her.'

'People's fear of crime is often worse than the reality of it. Anti social behaviour creates fear. Everyone has the right to feel safe.'

'I want to feel safe walking around town in parks and not to see people drinking and behaving badly.'

Where are we now?

Although crime rates are low in Derbyshire, fear of crime persists among local residents. In recent years there was a downward trend in serious acquisitive crime (including robbery, vehicle crime, theft from a vehicle, domestic burglary). However, this crime type is the most likely to rise during any economic downturn.

Derbyshire has seen the smallest rise in violent crime in the region but tackling violent crime remains a high priority. Criminal damage is the most frequently reported crime in Derbyshire. Domestic and sexual abuse is a hidden problem. It often goes unreported and the most vulnerable people are affected disproportionately, usually women and children.

Many local concerns in Derbyshire relate to anti-social behaviour. Groups of teenagers hanging around on the streets and people using drugs are the major concerns, closely followed by graffiti and vandalism. Younger people strongly expressed their concern about groups of teenagers whilst there is a trend of declining concern among older residents. Residents categorised as 'Moderate Means' or 'Hard Pressed' in the ACORN[2] Consumer Classification are more worried about groups of teenagers in their local area than 'Wealthy Achievers'. There is less concern about abandoned vehicles, loud parties and noisy neighbours across Derbyshire. Perceptions of anti-social behaviour can be influenced by factors other than the actual level of anti-social behaviour (ASB), such as the appearance of a neighbourhood and knowing someone who has been a victim. Evidence suggests that people who read national tabloids are more likely to think that crime has risen 'a lot'.

Drug and alcohol misuse has far reaching effects for individuals, families and communities and over 90% of prolific offenders have a drug or alcohol problem. Violence and anti-social behaviour related to alcohol and drugs are often associated with the night time economy. In Derbyshire, admissions to hospital for alcohol related harm are lower than the England average. However, admissions for under 18s are worse than the regional average and concerns about under age drinking have been reinforced by the Ofsted 2008 Tell Us Survey. Derbyshire was significantly higher than the national average for those who said they had been drunk three or more times in the last few weeks (11% in Derbyshire and 6% nationally).

There are fewer young offenders entering the criminal justice system in Derbyshire. Support for managing offenders is a high priority because a significant number of crimes are committed by a small proportion of repeat offenders. In particular, there is a need to focus on violent offenders. Waiting times to access drug and alcohol treatment programmes, the availability of jobs and suitable accommodation underpin success in preventing re-offending and thereby reducing overall crime.

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[2] ACORN is the leading geo-demographic tool used to identify and understand the UK population and the demand for products and services.

Safety on Derbyshire's roads has improved but the rate of reduction of road casualties was slower in Derbyshire than most other East Midlands counties. Derbyshire's topography and scenery attracts large numbers of motorcyclists, especially on summer weekends, leading to a higher proportion of motorcyclists killed or injured than in other counties.

Where do we want to be?

Derbyshire's priorities are to…	So that…
Reduce crime and the fear of crime	• People in Derbyshire are safer, feel safer and have confidence in policing and public services to tackle crime.
Reduce the harm caused by drugs and alcohol	• Fewer people in Derbyshire misuse drugs and alcohol and as a result local people do not feel threatened or suffer abuse or violence due to drug and alcohol use.
Tackle anti-social behaviour and the effect it has on communities	• People in Derbyshire are confident that the Police and Local Authorities understand their concerns and can enjoy living in their neighbourhood, walk the streets and use local facilities without feeling intimidated by the behaviour of others.
Improve the safety of local people	• People in Derbyshire have safer homes, are safer on Derbyshire's roads and are less likely to be harmed by fire.

How will we get there?

To achieve the above priorities we will:

- Implement effective prevention and diversionary programmes

- Provide effective and timely treatment and support (e.g. training, health, housing, financial and relationship advice) to offenders and drugs users to prevent re-offending and problematic drug use

- Ensure specialist alcohol services are in place to meet need and that frontline staff are aware of how and where to refer people

- Continue our successful programmes which have seen crime fall significantly and improved the safety of local people, for example, safer car parks and transport facilities, street lighting improvement, road safety initiatives, home security programmes, home fire safety checks, reducing underage sales of alcohol and tobacco, illegal trading, health and safety, planning for emergencies etc

- Continue to tackle burglary, vehicle crime and violent crime (including domestic violence, sexual violence and hate crime)

- Continue to design out crime in new developments

- Provide support to families e.g. financial, relationship and parenting advice.

We will tackle inequalities by focusing on:

- Communities in Derbyshire where the risk of being a victim of crime is the greatest

- Derbyshire's rural communities – because vulnerable individuals may find it more difficult to access support services (e.g. drugs and alcohol and domestic violence) and because many road accidents happen in rural areas

- Women – because they are disproportionately affected by domestic and sexual violence, particularly young women

- People from a black and minority ethnic (BME) background, those with disabilities, members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) community and people with certain religions and beliefs – because in some areas of Derbyshire they have suffered hate crime.

The knock on effects of safer communities

Health and wellbeing – People are less worried about their safety so emotional wellbeing is improved and there is improved mental wellbeing as the number of victims of crime reduces. Fewer people are injured/ affected by crime, reducing hospital admissions. Drug and alcohol users do less harm to their own health. People walk more in safer environments. Smoking rates fall.

Culture – In a less threatening environment local facilities thrive as people are confident to use them.

Children and young people – Children and young people are safer, feel safer (because of the support victims are offered) and are less likely to engage in criminal behaviour themselves (through successful preventative/ diversionary programmes) leading to better future life chances and health.

Sustainable communities – People are confident to walk the streets to get to the shops, work etc, leading to a cleaner environment and more social interaction. The place becomes more attractive to investors and people have pride in their community.

Contributions from other themes

Health and wellbeing – People with good physical and emotional health are more likely to be able to find stability in life and less likely to commit crime .

Culture – Positive activities and 'things to do' locally for all ages helps people to gain confidence and life skills leading to a more productive life with less likelihood of turning to crime. A thriving voluntary and community sector helps to deliver specialist services and supports valuable local activities.

Children and young people – A good education and skills for life, gained through Forest Schools for example, will help young people to make positive choices and be less likely to commit crime.

Sustainable communities – Good planning and design can help to reduce crime (but we must be wary not to segregate communities or create more pollution). The development of greenways networks helps to walk and cycle in a safe environment. Codes of conduct for vehicle use in the countryside help to reduce local problems associated with inappropriate activity. Skilled people in work are less likely to commit crime.

Who is responsible?

The Safer Communities Board is responsible for bringing relevant partners together to achieve partnership priorities agreed within the Local Area Agreement. Locally, work is co-coordinated through District Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships (CDRPs) to identify areas of risk for development along with good practice which has achieved positive outcomes. Representatives of the CDRPs attend the Safer Communities Advisory and Tasking Group to discuss areas of risk across the County identified through intelligence gathered by the Safer Derbyshire Research and Information Team. This activity underpins the decision making of the Safer Communities Board.

How will we know that our actions have had the desired effect?

We will measure success through performance management of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and through the evaluation of partners' own plans and strategies, including:

- The County Community Safety Agreement
- Derbyshire Policing Plan
- Fire and Rescue Community Safety Strategy and Corporate Business Plan
- Derbyshire Local Transport Plans.

Children and young people

What local people have told us

'Children are the citizens of tomorrow and deserve proper investment in their growth and development – encourage young people – inspire them!'

'You don't get very far without a good education and you don't realise until it's too late.'

'Good grades at school so I can have a good future.'

'Children and young people need to have positive activities to increase confidence, self esteem and ability. Also this is a distraction from more anti-social activities.'

Where are we now?

Derbyshire is a comparatively healthy place to grow up for many children. However health outcomes for both children and adults are uneven and children in disadvantaged areas experience significantly poorer health. There are particular concerns in poorer communities regarding high rates of teenage pregnancy, childhood obesity, alcohol abuse by young people, children smoking and low rates of breastfeeding.

The majority of children grow up safely. However, a small minority of children are victims of abuse and agencies provide specialist support to protect these children. Work continues to better identify the needs of vulnerable children and to provide preventative services before problems become acute. Young people tell us that bullying and the fear of bullying is a real concern for them. Despite anti-bullying initiatives in schools (including cyber-bullying) the numbers of reports of bullying incidents remain high.

Many children in Derbyshire achieve good test and examination results, above those of similar areas of the country at all key stages. However, many children could get better results and vulnerable groups achieve less well. Educational outcomes in Derbyshire for some children may be affected by household income – children who receive free school meals are far less likely to achieve 5 A*-C grades at GCSE than other children. Although GCSE results for children in care have improved in recent years, there is still room for further improvement. A safe, secure family environment gives young people the best chance to be happy in life.

A developing network of elected forums has provided opportunities for children and young people to become involved in contributing to key decisions made by public services. The network includes the Derbyshire Youth Council and Youth Councils in every district and most schools. In addition, Caring Voice is a representative group of children in care. Children's Trust partner agencies routinely consult with both children and young people and with parents and carers. Schools increasingly involve children in developing a personalised approach to their education and high numbers of children in care are involved in their review meetings. Campaigns to project positive images of children and young people are run regularly to combat negative media images. The proportion of young people aged 13 to 19 reached by publicly-funded youth services is high.

The number of young people involved in apprenticeship programmes and studying for diplomas has increased. The number of children living in low income households is a persistent problem, especially in the most disadvantaged parts of the county. The impact of the economic downturn on children is already evident with increasing numbers of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET), more entitlement to free school meals and increased requests for welfare rights services.

A programme is underway to transform how services are provided for disabled children and their families. Working closely with people who use our services, we are improving the quality and availability of services and developing a programme of short break services.

Where do we want to be?

Derbyshire's priorities are to…	So that children and young people in Derbyshire…
Enable more children and young people to **be healthy**	• Enjoy good physical, mental, emotional and sexual health and choose to follow healthy lifestyles (eating a healthy diet and participating in physical activity) without misusing alcohol, tobacco or illegal drugs.
Ensure children and young people **stay safe**	• Are protected from abuse, bullying and discrimination.
Help children and young people **enjoy and achieve**	• Achieve well at school, develop personally and socially and enjoy recreation.
Enable children and young people to **make a positive contribution**	• Engage in decision making and develop self-confidence and positive, enterprising behaviour.
Help children and young people **achieve economic wellbeing**	• Live in households free from low income and engage in further education, employment or training on leaving school.

How will we get there?

To achieve the above priorities we will:

- Reduce obesity by promoting healthy eating and physical activity
- Reduce the number of teenage pregnancies
- Improve levels of oral health
- Protect children from abuse
- Reduce the severity and numbers of children who are bullied
- Improve educational attainment at all key stages and for vulnerable and disadvantaged groups
- Work with the families of very young children, particularly in disadvantaged areas, to improve literacy skills

- Increase the range of positive activities for young people, including sport, recreational, outdoors, music, arts, creative and community safety activities
- Minimise and reduce the number of children in low income households
- Reduce the numbers of young people aged 16 – 19 not in education, employment or training (NEET)
- Develop a full service offer of short breaks for disabled children and their families
- Provide advice and support to families, e.g. good parenting, relationships, finance and debt etc.

We will tackle inequalities by focusing on:

- Communities in Derbyshire where children have low aspirations, gain fewer qualifications, have poorer health (poorer diets and a lack of physical activity) and are more likely to need protection and support
- Children and young people in isolated rural areas – because they may find it difficult to access social and leisure activities and facilities and education, training and employment
- Disabled children – because parents need more choice and support and children could achieve better outcomes

- Children in care – because they are less likely to do well at school and are more likely to offend
- Children with learning difficulties – because they are more likely to be excluded from school than their peers
- Teenage parents and care leavers – because they may need additional support to participate in employment, training or education
- University leavers – because there are insufficient opportunities for graduates in this area, leading to a loss of young talent

- Vulnerable families – because families may become stressed for a variety of reasons such as financial worries, debt, ill health, lack of work, drug and alcohol abuse and this can increase the vulnerability of children and young people in those households

- Children in a caring role – because they may suffer more stress than their peers due to their caring responsibilities and therefore require additional support to enjoy a good quality of life.

The knock on effects of better outcomes for children and young people

Safer communities – A good education and skills for life will help young people to make positive choices and be less likely to commit crime. Positive activities reduce nuisance behaviour.

Health and wellbeing – A good education provides the ability to make informed decisions/ healthier lifestyle choices. Active leisure improves health.

Culture – Schools can provide a good, accessible place for arts, cultural and leisure activities to take place.

Sustainable communities – A better educated community and greater aspirations has many positive knock on effects for sustainable communities, including better life opportunities through improved job prospects.

Contributions from other themes

Safer communities – Children and young people are safer, feel safer (because of the support victims are offered) and are less likely to engage in criminal behaviour themselves (through successful prevent/ diversionary programmes) leading to better future life chances.

Health and wellbeing – A healthy start in life helps learning, concentration and future achievement.

Culture – Involvement in arts, sport and cultural activities can help to improve educational performance and build confidence. A thriving third sector and volunteering helps to deliver specialist services and supports valuable local activities.

Sustainable communities – Better transport improves access to education, employment, healthcare, leisure and recreation. Better job opportunities and affordable decent housing enables more talented young people to stay in Derbyshire. More skilled families in work means fewer children in low income households. Safe routes to schools and local facilities encourage walking and cycling.

Who is responsible?

The Derbyshire Children and Young People's Trust is responsible for leading partner agencies to improve outcomes for children and young people. Locally, work is co-ordinated through District Children and Young People's Partnership Groups which feed directly into the Children's Trust.

How will we know that our actions have had the desired effect?

We will measure success through performance management of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and through the evaluation of partners' own plans and strategies, including:

- The Children and Young People's Plan
- Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan
- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
- Derbyshire Local Transport Plans.

Additionally, individual services (including schools, hospitals, children's homes and services) are inspected by OfSTED, the Healthcare Commission and other inspectorates. The outcomes of these inspections are monitored and the recommendations acted upon.

Working together for a better Derbyshire

derbyshire partnership forum

Health and wellbeing

What local people have told us

'Good health allows you to enjoy life.'

'Good to have the doctors local, it's only 5 minutes away.'

'People want to stay in their own homes, they are happier and more secure when they are with friends and family and in an environment they know.'

'An ageing population makes this important to consider now before it becomes a bigger unmanageable problem.'

'A healthier community costs less and potentially can contribute more. Other than the obvious that it is better to be healthy.'

'Active bodies and minds equals happy and healthy communities.'

Where are we now?

Overall people in Derbyshire enjoy good health and a good sense of wellbeing. However, major inequalities exist across the county and those living in more deprived areas or in vulnerable households are often the worst affected by ill health. For example, people living in Bolsover and Chesterfield are more likely to die young or suffer poor mental health than the rest of the county. There is also a close link between long term illness and unemployment. An estimated 10,000 people aged 65 and over in the county have some form of dementia and this is likely to rise to over 15,000 by 2025. Smoking is the single biggest preventable cause of early death in Derbyshire and causes about half the mortality gap between the most and least deprived.

Life expectancy also varies depending upon where you live in the county. The link between deprivation and health is particularly apparent in parts of Bolsover, Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire. People's lifestyle choices also play a huge part in determining the state of their health.

Understanding the needs of Derbyshire's ageing population is particularly important for health and social care in the future. The number of people over the age of 65 is projected to increase by 52% in the next 20 years from 134,400 in 2008 to 204,700 in 2028 and the 85+ age group is projected to increase by 82% from 17,700 people in 2008 to 32,200

people in 2028.

Smoking is declining, but slowly and remains high in deprived communities. It is the biggest contributor to premature death. Obesity and harm from alcohol are rising, with sexual health an ongoing concern. In 2006/07 the proportion of children aged between 4 and 5 who were obese was above the national average. The number of women smoking during pregnancy is higher in Derbyshire than the national average. Chesterfield and High Peak have significantly higher rates of alcohol-related hospital admissions than the national average. The number of new cases of chlamydia across the county rose by 24% between 2001 and 2007 and the number of known people living with HIV is expected to rise by 60% to 230 in 2010.

There is an increased need to provide local people with choice and control about the health and social care they receive and this personalisation of care will present challenges and opportunities for both the statutory and voluntary sector.

Where do we want to be?

Derbyshire's priorities are to...	So that ...
Promote health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities	• People in Derbyshire enjoy the benefits of following a healthier lifestyle and live longer, healthier lives.
Increase independent living and improve quality of life	• People in Derbyshire enjoy the benefits of living at home and those in care homes have the best support.
Promote choice and control	• People in Derbyshire have access to health and social care which is centred around their unique, personal needs and is within easy reach.
Improve inclusion and contribution	• People in Derbyshire have a say about the health and social care services they use and participate fully in community life.
Enhance dignity and safety	• People in Derbyshire are well looked after by the people who care for them.

How will we get there?

To achieve the above priorities we will:

- Provide information and support to help people in Derbyshire to eat a healthier diet and drink responsibly

- Encourage more people to participate in physical activities

- Encourage more people not to start smoking and make it easier for people to stop through co-ordinated campaigns, action on illegal tobacco, creating smoke free environments and ensuring easy access to support

- Put people at the heart of the care we provide to ensure each person's needs and wants are fully understood and the appropriate personalised services are provided

- Give people more choice and control over their health and social care, e.g. through individual budgets and Direct Payments

- Screen people who may be at risk from cardiovascular disease and provide healthy living support and treatments

- Provide effective treatment for more people who are drug users and misuse alcohol

- Encourage breast feeding

- Provide education, advice and support to improve sexual health and reduce sexually transmitted diseases (STDs)

- Utilise the Local Involvement Network (LINk) and other public consultation and engagement methods to ensure local people's views inform health and social care services

- Improve emotional and mental health, and provide more mental health services in GP practices

- Provide support to informal carers

- Enable vulnerable people to live independently in their own homes, by improving services and advice for stroke and dementia sufferers

- Ensure at the end of their life, people receive effective, high quality services and have more choice in decisions about their care and where they die

- Further develop the Supporting People Programme to provide housing related support to assist vulnerable people to live independently e.g. through sheltered housing, women's refuges and floating support

- Respond to the increasing number of older people and people with learning disabilities

- Promote the safeguarding of all vulnerable adults in Derbyshire

- Ensure good health and safety standards across Derbyshire.

We will tackle inequalities by focusing on:

- Communities in Derbyshire suffering from poor health

- Derbyshire's rural communities – because accessibility to care (in particular delivering the personalisation agenda) may be more difficult and will require a flexible and creative partnership approach

- Older People – because Derbyshire's ageing population will place greater demands on health and social care services, particularly the growing 85+ age group

- Parents – because their own health and attitudes to health have an impact on their children's future and we want to give children the best start in life

- People on low incomes – because income deprivation and debt have implications for both physical and mental health

- Informal carers – because Derbyshire has high numbers of informal carers who are placed under a great deal of pressure and do not always utilise support available to them

- Disabled people and people with learning disabilities, mental health issues or physical or sensory impairments – because they may face barriers to achieving good health and well being

- People from BME backgrounds – because language and cultural barriers exist in accessing and utilising health services.

The knock on effects of better health

Culture – With better physical and emotional health people are able to participate in local activities and volunteering.

Safer communities – Treating those who misuse drugs and alcohol will help to reduce acquisitive crimes which are associated with drug and alcohol abuse in addition to reducing harm to individuals and families.

Children and young people – A healthy start in life helps learning, concentration and future achievement.

Sustainable communities – Healthier people are better able to develop skills for life and maintain relationships, a home and employment. Better health brings greater freedom to participate in community life.

Contributions from other themes

Children and young people – Education increases ability to make informed decisions and healthier choices. Participation in active leisure improves health.

Safer communities – Less crime and anti-social behaviour means people feel safe getting out and about.

Culture – Involvement in local activities promotes physical activity and well being. Derbyshire's natural environment can be used for walking, jogging, cycling etc. A thriving community and voluntary sector helps to deliver specialist services and supports valuable local activities.

Sustainable communities – Cleaner, greener surroundings, fresh air, high quality natural environments and biodiversity, less congestion, and decent housing all improve health and well being. Developing skills and maintaining a job instils confidence and improves health. Raising household income is also very positive for physical and mental health. Good transport links to local healthcare facilities, healthy food outlets, cultural and leisure facilities are essential. Active travel promotes improved physical and mental health. Development and promotion of greenways and other easy access routes helps health and mobility.

Who is responsible?

The Health and Wellbeing Partnership is responsible for bringing relevant partners together to achieve partnership priorities.

How will we know that our actions have had the desired effect?

We will measure success through performance management of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and through the evaluation of partners' own plans and strategies, including:

- Derbyshire Director of Public Heath Annual Report
- Derbyshire County Council Older People's Strategy – Ageing Well in Derbyshire: Improving Life for Local People
- Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust Strategy and Operating Plan
- NHS Tameside and Glossop Public Health Annual Report
- NHS Tameside and Glossop World Class Commissioning Priorities and Operational Plan
- The Derbyshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
- Derbyshire Local Transport Plans.

Culture

What local people have told us

'Activities for adults have long term benefits particularly with regard to physical activities and health. Access is particularly important in a rural area like the High Peak. Costs can also be another factor that may prohibit people from taking part in activities, being on a pension etc.'

'Sports and leisure facilities improve health – physical and mental. Social outlet to overcome loneliness and social isolation.'

'There should be plenty to do in your neighbourhood. Community groups are important to making an area friendly.'

Where are we now?

Derbyshire has a wide and varied cultural life, both locally and within easy reach of the nearby cities of Derby, Sheffield, Nottingham and Manchester. The area boasts a range of cultural attractions including Cresswell Crags, Haddon Hall and world renowned attractions such as the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site, Chatsworth House and the spectacular towns and villages of the Peak District National Park.

In addition to extensive local attractions, many community based events, activities and festivals bring Derbyshire people together across the county. A rich mix of arts, music, dance and other creative celebrations take place regularly and in particular, Derbyshire's villages are well known for their annual well dressings.

Interest in arts, culture and leisure is high amongst Derbyshire's residents but despite everything on offer surveys reveal that generally, people's satisfaction with local cultural services for example, museums, libraries and theatres etc is fairly low. There may be a perception that local facilities compare unfavourably with offerings in larger cities outside the county. Local people may also not consider the privately owned attractions from which the area benefits. However, satisfaction among users is very high (94% satisfaction with libraries). In March 2008 Chesterfield Library was confirmed as the 5th busiest library in the country, despite serving a population of only 100,000.

Libraries act as important community hubs for many vulnerable people across the county, providing them with a place to socialise and access the internet. They also provide a safe environment for young people to learn and develop and an access point for other statutory and community services.

People in Derbyshire have on their doorstep a wonderful natural and built environment for sport and recreation. In 2005/6 21.4% of people in Derbyshire participated in sport and active recreation 3 times a week for 30 minutes at moderate intensity. This figure is broadly similar to the national average (21.3%) and partners aim to increase participation to 25.4% by 2010/11. Chesterfield has seen the most improvement in recent years whilst participation is lowest in Bolsover, High Peak and South Derbyshire. The number of people volunteering to support sport for one hour per week has increased in recent years and again, compares well to the national average. Satisfaction with local sports facilities has declined nationally and this trend is reflected locally in Derbyshire.

Where do we want to be?

Derbyshire's priority is to…	So that…
Increase participation in arts, sports, cultural and leisure opportunities.	• People in Derbyshire engage in a range of local activities and events and enjoy their free time.

How will we get there?

To achieve the above priority we will:

- Make local people aware of the opportunities and benefits of taking part in cultural, arts, sports and leisure activities including volunteering

- Make full use of Derbyshire's landscapes, biodiversity, network of paths and trails and built heritage for recreation and leisure e.g. walking, cycling, climbing and education

- Conserve and enhance Derbyshire's landscape character and built heritage

- Strengthen work in partnership to protect and manage the county's historic environment in particular through management and promotion of the Derwent Valley Mills World Heritage Site

- Encourage more organisations to recognise the value of sport in improving quality of life and adopt local plans and promote and support initiatives which help local people to become more engaged in sport and physical activity e.g. the 'Active Derbyshire' brand, Jog Derbyshire and GP referrals

- Improve the use of public libraries, recognising their value as community spaces for many local people and work with partners to embrace new technology and opportunities for shared services in order to meet the diverse needs of users

- Support a vibrant, diverse and independent voluntary and community sector.

We will tackle inequalities by focusing on:

- Areas with existing cultural assets – because these should be retained for future generations to enjoy and may attract investment to Derbyshire

- People in isolated (often rural) areas – because transport to cultural and leisure activities can be problematic, especially for young people, older people and those without a car

- Young people – because arts, sports and cultural activities can provide a rich learning experience and can divert young people from anti-social behaviour

- People without access to IT – because they can benefit from access to information, support and learning opportunities provided through libraries

- Disabled people – because of the barriers they face in accessing cultural and leisure activities

- People from a BME background – because of language and cultural barriers they face in accessing cultural and leisure opportunities.

The knock on effects of improved culture

Health and wellbeing – There is a direct link between regular physical exercise and improved health and wellbeing. Libraries can provide accessible information about health. A thriving community and voluntary sector helps to deliver specialist services and supports valuable local activities.

Sustainable communities – Participation in community life through local activities can help create pride in the area and a greater sense of community.

Children and young people – Involvement in arts, sport and cultural activities can help to improve educational performance and build confidence. A thriving community and voluntary sector helps to deliver specialist services and supports valuable local activities.

Safer communities – Involvement in arts, sport and cultural activities and volunteering can help to build confidence and leadership skills, counter social exclusion and help build safer communities.

Contributions from other themes

Children and young people – Schools can provide a good, accessible place for arts, cultural and leisure activities to take place.

Sustainable communities – Good transport is essential to enable people to get to activities and facilities. Derbyshire's high quality natural environment is perfect for recreational activities.

Health and wellbeing – Good health enables people to participate in local activities.

Safer communities – In a less threatening environment local facilities thrive as people are confident to use them.

Who is responsible?

The Culture Board is responsible for bringing relevant partners together to achieve partnership priorities.

How will we know that our actions have had the desired effect?

We will measure success through performance management of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and through evaluation of partners' own plans and strategies, including:

- Plan for Sport in Derbyshire
- Active Derbyshire Action Plan
- Making Change Happen – 3D (Third Sector Support for Derbyshire) Development Strategy
- Derbyshire Local Transport Plans
- Conservation Area Management Plans, Historic Landscape Characterisation and Buildings at Risk Register and Heritage at Risk Register
- National Survey of Third Sector Organisations (MORI).

Sustainable communities

What local people have told us

'We want it to still be here in the future. We can't take the environment for granted.'

'Clean streets create confidence in an area. However this needs to be achieved through prevention and community ownership not just sweeping.'

'Good employment opportunities provide a decent standard of living and increase the opportunities available to you and your family.'

'Parking on the pavements and parking on double yellows annoys me – sometimes you can't walk up the street.'

'Transport is important – so that we can get to places more easily when we need to.'

'Impossible to save up deposit for a home while renting. People who don't work get housed while people who do work have to rent and it takes all their money.'

Where are we now?

Natural beauty is important for Derbyshire, an area which boasts attractive places to live in and visit and an extremely high quality, wildlife abundant natural and built environment. Derbyshire's local landscapes, from parks and open spaces in towns and villages to the spectacular countryside of the Peak District National Park, are assets for local communities. They provide environmental resources (e.g. fresh air, drinking water, soil, food, minerals, flood management and climate change mitigation), economic benefits (e.g. tourism, farming and agriculture, business opportunities), health benefits and social opportunities (e.g. opportunities for healthy active recreation and specialist sports).

Climate change is potentially one of the greatest threats to quality of life in Derbyshire with wider knock on effects for local communities. There is the potential for hotter, drier summers, milder, wetter winters and less predictable, intense weather. These may have wide ranging impacts on the local environment, health, community safety (e.g. crime levels and personal risks associated with flooding) and the economy including businesses, tourism and agriculture. CO_2 emissions are the highest in Amber Valley, South Derbyshire, High Peak and Derbyshire Dales and lowest in Bolsover (total emissions and per capita emissions). Apart from Derbyshire Dales, all district areas in Derbyshire have seen an increase in CO_2 emissions between 2005 and 2006. 47% of emissions are from industry and commerce (quarrying and associated industries have a

particularly big impact locally), 28% from domestic sources and 25% from road transport.

The instability of oil prices has potential consequences for both decent living standards (affordable warmth and food) and the cost of travel and the provision of essential services. A reduction in reliance of fossil fuels to provide energy will help to reduce these risks for Derbyshire's communities.

Following many successful local initiatives and campaigns, 41% of Derbyshire's 361,000 tonnes of household waste was recycled or composted in 2008/09 compared to 27% in 2005. It is intended to raise this figure to over 50% but there will still be over 200,000 tonnes of waste to deal with in Derbyshire (including Derby City). New waste treatment facilities are needed to reduce waste going to landfill and avoid the production of harmful greenhouse gases and heavy fines.

Before the current recession Derbyshire had relatively stable economic conditions, with low levels of unemployment. However, there were pockets of deprivation and low levels of skills (particularly within hard to reach communities).

The sector split of businesses in Derbyshire is very similar to that regionally with the largest industry groups being distribution, hotels and restaurants. However, compared with England, the production and agriculture sectors are more prominent in Derbyshire and the finance, property and business services sector less so.

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The employment structure in Derbyshire is more heavily dependent on manufacturing than both the East Midlands and England. Conversely, the banking, finance and insurance sector is under-represented in the county. The significance of the rural economy to the county could also contribute to the importance of the distribution, hotels and restaurants sector compared to the regional and national averages.

The dependence of the county on manufacturing has been a source of vulnerability in the recent past, despite some modest growth (0.9%) between 2006 and 2007. Between 1998 and 2005, 23,000 manufacturing jobs were lost, a period in which overall employment in Derbyshire increased by only 0.3%. Employment levels in manufacturing also declined regionally and nationally but, over the same period, overall employment increased by 8.8% in the East Midlands and 12.2% nationally.

Some local economies, particularly in the north east part of the county have, historically, been very dependent upon declining traditional industries but have sought to diversify their employment base, achieving great success in some areas. Key sectors for development in Derbyshire include tourism and leisure, high value engineering, rail and automotive industries, logistics, food and drink, creative industries, health care and public services and construction. The state of the economy has far reaching effects for communities and in particular financial exclusion can lead to wider social exclusion.

Unemployment is less than the national average but there are hotspots, particularly in the north-east of the county where levels of unemployment are more than twice the national rate. Those claiming job seekers allowance and similar benefits increased between 2007 and 2008 after a long period of decline. The number of working age people claiming out of work benefits is not generally high but there are 26 Lower Super Output Areas where it equals or exceeds 25% (the Derbyshire and England average is around 9%).

Even in areas with low levels of worklessness, low wages present a real problem. Rural communities in the Peak District in particular, suffer from inequitable wages which are £40 per week below the Derbyshire average and 20% below national levels. Low paid, low skilled jobs in these localities, for instance in the farming and tourism sectors, causes higher skilled people to travel out of the area to access better employment opportunities.

Derbyshire is above the regional average in Level 2 and Level 3 qualifications as a percentage of working age economically active adults. However, higher level skills (Level 4 and upwards) need to be raised further. The proportion of adults without any qualifications is high in Bolsover, South Derbyshire, North East Derbyshire and High Peak. In some areas of Derbyshire there is a need to increase the number of people gaining university level qualifications.

Improvements have been made recently to ensure young people are engaged in education, training or employment but geographical inequalities persist and vulnerable groups include teenage mothers and care leavers. Overall, the number of young people not in education, training or employment has fallen successively from 8.3% (1,655 young people) in 2004 to 5.98% (1,216 young people) in 2007.

The number of people who own their own homes is high (74% compared with an England average of 69%). There is a shortage of affordable housing, especially social housing, meaning that in difficult economic conditions the potential for homelessness extends far beyond known vulnerable groups such as older people, offenders and people with mental health problems. It is also sometimes difficult for young people to afford to live in the places where they grew up.

Targets have been achieved to provide 95.5% of the most deprived areas with an hourly or better bus service during the week. Accessibility remains a particular problem in isolated, particularly rural, parts of the county (e.g. settlements south and east of Ashbourne and to a lesser extent between Bakewell and Buxton). While 96% of the road network is in good condition, this is still a major concern for local people. The condition of the non-principal classified road network is a priority as these are the roads that are used most frequently to access services and travel around the local area. A targeted programme of highways schemes are being implemented to secure further improvements to their condition. Rights of Way which are easy to use has improved from 51.5% in 2003/4 to 72.5% in 2009.

Many people regularly move in and out of the county for work and pleasure. Commuting, especially by car, can cause congestion and pollution in Derbyshire. It is suggested that better broadband speeds could help more people to work from home and to retain small and medium sized businesses in the area.

Where do we want to be?

Derbyshire's priorities are to…	So that …
Improve and protect the local environment	• Natural resources in Derbyshire are protected for the future • People can access and enjoy Derbyshire's high quality landscape and heritage • Communities are more resilient to climate change.
Support a thriving local economy and sustainable communities	• Businesses are competitive and make appropriate use of the resources Derbyshire has to offer • People in Derbyshire have a good education, take part in learning opportunities, have the right skills to gain employment and can access high wages and skilled jobs locally • People in Derbyshire have affordable and decent housing.
Provide well connected communities	• People in Derbyshire have the services they need and can get to where they need to go, e.g. shops, work, doctor, school, family and friends • People in Derbyshire use their cars less by accessing car share schemes, using public transport, walking and cycling.

How will we get there?

To achieve the above priorities we will:

- Enhance and protect the natural and built environment
- Work with organisations and communities to protect, enhance and, where appropriate, create opportunities for biodiversity
- Reduce carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gas emissions by reducing the environmental impact of partners' buildings and operations and through the sustainable management of Derbyshire's landscapes and biodiversity (for example through the Moors for the Future Partnership)
- Provide advice and support to enable local organisations, schools, communities and individuals to become more energy efficient, embrace renewable energy technologies and in turn reduce carbon dioxide emissions and the impact of climate change
- Support communities to be resilient and adaptable to climate change
- Manage waste in a more sustainable and integrated way (reducing, re-using, recycling, composting, recovering more value from waste and land filling less)
- Reduce fly tipping and litter
- Recognise Derbyshire's role as a provider of minerals, locally, regionally and nationally whilst minimising the impacts of quarrying on local landscapes and communities (e.g. dust, quarry vehicles on country lanes and heavy traffic in villages) and maximising environmental, biodiversity and recreational benefits
- Ensure the good quality design, cleanliness and wildlife value of streets, parks and open spaces
- Develop appropriate measures to meet the skills and employment needs of the Derbyshire economy, labour market and local businesses
- Create a strong culture of skills and career development and upgrade the skills and qualifications of local people to take

advantage of quality employment opportunities

- Raise aspirations and confidence and equip and encourage those in low paid work or out of work with the drive and ambition to progress and achieve

- Encourage employers to adopt recruitment practices targeting local people where possible and to provide support in the work place for people with specific needs (e.g. disabilities)

- Support sustainable and appropriate development of the local economy, particularly in deprived areas, market towns and rural communities

- Provide support to local businesses, in particular to encourage the sustainable development of sectors such as tourism and leisure, high value engineering, rail and automotive industries, logistics, food and drink, creative industries, health care and public services and construction

- Provide advice and support to help people increase their financial capability, gain access to affordable borrowing and receive the benefits they are entitled to

- Provide affordable, decent housing

- Promote initiatives and support people to keep warm at home more efficiently

- Manage, maintain and improve the transport network, in particular non-principal roads, whilst reducing congestion and the environmental impacts of travel

- Improve local accessibility and promote healthy and sustainable travel choices, for example, by ensuring new facilities can be accessed by means other than the private car; improving the quality and use of public transport and more demand responsive transport; improving public transport information; travel planning and improving public rights of way, footpaths and greenways to encourage walking and cycling.

We will tackle inequalities by focusing on:

- Communities in Derbyshire where people are likely to have fewer skills, lower wages, are more likely not to work because of mental health issues and disability and less likely to own a car, making it difficult to access training and employment opportunities and work (e.g. developing skills and access to employment opportunities in areas of regeneration)

- Derbyshire's rural communities – because access to services, training and jobs may be more difficult, homes are often more expensive and local people may be priced out of the market, wages may be lower and careful planning is required to ensure development is sensitive to local communities and the natural environment

- Young people, particularly in areas where educational achievement is low, because raising aspirations is vital to improving their skills and future employment prospects

- Young people with complex needs (e.g. those leaving care), older people with support needs, disabled people, people with learning difficulties, people with substance misuse problems, people with mental ill health and

offenders – because they require additional housing support to avoid becoming homeless

- People without access to transport – because reliance on the private car is high in Derbyshire and without access to transport they may find it difficult to 'get about' and may become isolated

- Disabled people – because they are more likely to face barriers in accessing training and employment

- People from BME backgrounds – because they may face language and cultural barriers to training and employment, for example, lack of relevant skills

- Places with poor internet access – because slow download speeds in some areas of Derbyshire prevent businesses from growing in the area and broadband enables more people to work from home, reducing travel congestion and emissions.

The knock on effects of sustainable communities

Health and wellbeing – Better transport improves access to healthcare. More generally, health is affected in positive and negative ways by transport choices i.e. walking and cycling is good for health but air pollution and traffic congestion may lead to poor health. Cleaner, greener surroundings, fresh air, biodiversity, less congestion and decent housing improve health. Good skills and employment improves wellbeing, including those with health problems and disability. Being warm in winter reduces the risk of physical and mental illness.

Culture – Good transport provides access to facilities, countryside facilities, parks and opens spaces. Biodiversity is an important part of our cultural heritage and identity and helps to create opportunities for community engagement and volunteering.

Children and young people – Better transport improves access to education. Better job opportunities and affordable decent housing enables more talented young people to stay in Derbyshire. More families in work means fewer children in low income households.

Safer communities – A stronger economy, clean streets and public spaces create pride in the area helping to support safer communities. Good quality, well maintained roads are safer and help to reduce casualties and accidents.

Contributions from other themes

Children and young people – A better educated community and greater aspirations has many positive knock on effects for sustainable communities, including better life opportunities through improved job prospects.

Culture – The creative economy is the region's fastest growing. Derbyshire's cultural assets are an attraction for investment into the area.

Health and wellbeing – Schemes such as GP referrals for stopping smoking, healthier lifestyles, walking, jogging and cycling help more people to improve fitness. With better health people are in a better position to gain employment and participate fully in community life. Worklessness related to ill health and disability is very high in some areas so better health can help people to gain employment.

Safer communities – People are confident to walk the streets to get to the shops, work etc leading to a cleaner environment and more social interaction. The place becomes more attractive to investors and people have pride in their community.

Who is responsible?

The Sustainable Communities Board is responsible for bringing relevant partners together to achieve partnership priorities. There are also specific sub groups working on housing, transport, accessibility, climate change, waste and street scene, regeneration, employment and skills.

How will we know that our actions have had the desired effect?

We will measure success through performance management of the Local Area Agreement (LAA) and through the evaluation of partners' own plans and strategies, including:

- Local Development Frameworks
- Derbyshire Local Transport Plans (including asset management, public rights of way and the county and local accessibility strategies)
- Derbyshire Waste Management Strategy
- Peak District and Lowland Derbyshire Biodiversity Action Plans
- Moors for the Future Partnership Future Project Strategy
- Air Quality Action Plans
- Local Housing and Homelessness Strategies
- The Supporting People Strategy
- Local Economic Assessment
- Sub Regional Investment Plan
- Derbyshire Employment and Skills Board Skills Strategy
- Derbyshire Financial Inclusion Strategy
- Derbyshire and Derby Creative Industries Strategy
- Read On Write Away Business Plan – A Strategy to Improve Literacy in Derbyshire and Derby City.

An integrated approach

A joint approach to land use and infrastructure planning will ultimately help to deliver sustainable communities. Good quality, sustainable and integrated land use planning is an essential component to the success of this Sustainable Community Strategy, ensuring facilities such as schools, transport, housing, shops and leisure opportunities are accessible and that carbon emissions and the need to travel are reduced. Partners will work together on an ongoing basis to ensure that both the strategy and associated activities are aligned with the following planning frameworks:

- The **Regional Spatial Strategy for the East Midlands** (also known as the Regional Plan and prepared by the East Midlands Regional Assembly – EMRA)

- The **Local Development Frameworks** in Derbyshire (prepared by the district and borough councils in Derbyshire and Derby City Council in Derby City – dealing with land use planning matters excluding minerals and waste)

- The **Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks** (prepared jointly by Derbyshire County Council and Derby City Council)

- The **Peak District National Park Local Development Framework** (prepared by the PDNPA which deals with all land use planning matters within the National Park boundaries including minerals and waste).

As these plans may be subject to change throughout the lifetime of this Sustainable Community Strategy partners will need to adopt a flexible approach in order to respond appropriately.

A close working relationship exists between the DPF and the Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) working in Derby and Derbyshire's districts and boroughs to combine resources wherever possible and avoid duplication of effort.

The LSPs in Derby and Derbyshire are:

- The Derbyshire Partnership Forum (DPF) (covering Derbyshire, excluding Derby)
- Derby City Partnership (covering Derby)
- Amber Valley Partnership
- Bolsover LSP
- CHART LSP (covering Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire)
- Erewash LSP
- Derbyshire Dales and High Peak LSP (covering the Peak District Sub Region)
- South Derbyshire LSP.

Members of the Derbyshire Partnership Forum (DPF)

Advice Derbyshire

Amber Valley Borough Council

Amber Valley Council for Voluntary Service (CVS)

Amber Valley Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

Big Lottery Fund

Bolsover District Council

Bolsover LSP

CHART LSP

Chesterfield Borough Council

Church & Society Forum

Citizens Advice Bureau

Chesterfield College

Chesterfield Royal Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Community and Voluntary Partners (Bolsover)

Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

Derbyshire Arts Partnership

Derbyshire Association of Local Councils

Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire Chamber of Commerce

Derbyshire Community Foundation

Derbyshire Connexions

Derbyshire Constabulary

Derbyshire County Council

Derbyshire County Primary Care Trust

Derbyshire Dales CVS

Derbyshire Dales District Council

Derbyshire Dales and High Peak LSP (covering the Peak District Sub Region)

Derbyshire Economic Partnership

Derbyshire Employment and Skills Board

Derbyshire Fire and Rescue Service

Derbyshire Learning and Skills Council

Derbyshire Learning Partnership

Derbyshire Mental Health Services Trust

Derbyshire Probation Service

Derbyshire Sport

Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

East Midlands Strategic Health Authority

English Heritage

Environment Agency (East Area, Midlands)

Erewash Borough Council

Erewash CVS

Erewash LSP

Government Office for the East Midlands

Groundwork Derby and Derbyshire

Groundwork Creswell, Ashfield and Mansfield

Health & Safety Executive

High Peak Borough Council

High Peak CVS

Highways Agency

Job Centre Plus

Links Chesterfield and North East Derbyshire CVS

Natural England

National Farmers Union

North East Derbyshire District Council

Peak District National Park Authority

Police Authority

Rural Action Derbyshire

South Derbyshire CVS

South Derbyshire District Council

South Derbyshire LSP

Sport England

Tameside and Glossop Primary Care Trust

The University of Derby

Third Sector Support for Derbyshire (3D)