

Oxfordshire Partnership
23.10.07

Developing the Sustainable Community Strategy

The draft strategy has been developed through a number of phases:

Stage 1: Discussion of long-term trends affecting Oxfordshire

The Partnership published a discussion document 'Oxfordshire Futures' which described some of the important social, economic and environmental trends affecting the future of the county. Organisations from the Partnership were invited to workshops held in July which debated the implications of these trends and the important issues that the strategy needs to address.

Stage 2: Development of theme papers

Individual partnership groups and organisations have produced a series of 12 thematic briefing papers covering subjects such as community life, community safety and the economy.

Stage 3: Review of draft issues and options

The issues and options from the July workshops and the theme papers were reviewed in 2 workshops held in September, one for Oxfordshire Partnership and district LSPs, and one for Cllrs at County, District and Parish level. Please look at our website for further information www.oxfordshirepartnership.org.uk.

Stage 4: Development of the draft strategy

We brought together a small working group (including district colleagues, PCT) to draw together the data/evidence and the results of the workshops in a first draft of the strategy. This was done by looking at the following:

- 12 themed briefing papers
- 'Oxfordshire Futures'
- Review of issues and options
- Workshop report: July
- Workshop report: Oxfordshire Economic Partnership
- Workshop report: September
- Children and Young People Survey – overall summary

From an analysis of all the above the draft strategy priorities have clearly emerged. We have suggested that the Partnership has a series of pledges e.g. promises the Partnership can make to the community to improve outcomes. We will also be able to report back on progress made on these pledges to the public. Please note that we will be working with key thematic partnerships to develop the actions – so this is very much work in progress.

The results so far (subject to public consultation) indicate that the priorities in the SCS will be:

A World Class Economy: including infrastructure, housing mix/affordability, transport strategy, educational attainment, workforce skills, and opportunities for disadvantaged communities/individuals.

The Environment and Climate Change: including carbon reduction, renewable energy opportunities, household and business waste reduction, water management/alleviating flooding and drought, protecting the natural and built heritage and cleaner and greener communities.

Healthy and Thriving Communities: including supporting our young people, reducing crime and fear of crime, cultural activity, a strong and active voluntary sector, involving communities in decision making, and a range of housing options.

Cross cutting themes: the following are overarching themes within the strategy. This means that every pledge will be checked against each one of these themes to ensure they are being addressed:

- Tackling inequalities and breaking the cycle of deprivation: including addressing the needs of vulnerable people and communities, meeting the needs of vulnerable children, supported housing for vulnerable people and access to services.
- Local people have a greater influence over local decisions and a greater role in public service delivery
- Access to Services

(Please see the table for further information.)

Issues to consider:

- Do you feel the pledges reflect the workshop discussions?
- Can we develop practical actions/measurable outcomes from all these pledges?
- Can we prioritise and reduce the number of pledges?
- Are there partnerships already in place to implement all the pledges?
- Making the link with district sustainable community strategies

Next steps:

There will be a consultation period of 2 weeks to allow partners to discuss within their organisations (comments back by the 6th November). It is also critical that we work with the key thematic partnerships in the development of the targets under each priority.

Re-drafting will be done through November and the revised draft will go to the Partnership for agreement in December. It will then go out for public consultation in January and February. The final version will be adopted by the Partnership in April.

Claire Evans
Strategic Partnership Manager

APPENDIX A:

Key headlines for the Sustainable Community Strategy:

- 1. Foreword (Cllr Keith Mitchell)**
- 2. Introduction – Our Vision for the future** (e.g. we want everyone in Oxon to enjoy a good quality of life, both now and in the future)
- 3. Background to include: how we developed the vision, the evidence, who is involved (info about the partnership and link to district LSPs), why we are doing this** (to be kept short)
- 4. Partnership principles** e.g. working together to achieve more/looking at the bigger picture (what partners will sign up to in order to make sure that partnership activities are delivered)
- 5. Themes** – world class economy/thriving communities/climate change etc.
 - What workshops/consultation told us
 - Where we are now
 - Where do we want to be
 - How are we going to get there
 - Our long term priorities
 - Our pledges for the next 3 years
 - How will we measure success
 - Plans and policies that support development of the theme – signposting
- 6. Implementation**
 - Role of key partnerships
 - LAA2
 - Local place shaping – joining up action in local communities
 - Community involvement
- 7. Monitoring and review**
 - Role of county/district LSPs
 - Quality of life indicators
 - Periodic review of the strategy
- 8. How to find out more – contact details**

**Oxfordshire Partnership
Draft Sustainable Community Strategy**

1. The following are overarching themes within the strategy. This means that every pledge will be checked against each one of these themes to ensure they are being addressed:

- **Breaking the cycle of deprivation and meeting the needs of vulnerable people across the board.**
 - Guaranteed standards for a good start in life
 - Improving teenage pregnancy focussing on the worst affected areas
 - Working on issues in black and minority ethnic communities to improve real choice
 - Improved school attainment where it is poorest
 - Diverting young people from antisocial behaviour, focusing on the worst affected areas
 - Improving value for money through better use of targeted joint resources in our most deprived communities
 - Ensuring that activity will improve inequalities in outcomes and that nothing will have an adverse impact
- **Local people have a greater influence over local decisions and a greater role in public service delivery**
- **Access to Services (does this relate to vulnerable groups?)**

2. 3 key themes for the Strategy:

- World Class Economy
- Environment & Climate Change
- Healthy & Thriving Communities

3. There are examples of what a pledge could include – for example these could include a range of activities which are local to a community/district and/or county focus.

The specific actions will be developed in consultation with the key thematic partnerships and district local strategic partnerships.

Theme	Priority	Pledge – the statement to the public – what the partnership will do	These are examples only of what this could include (e.g. district LSP and or County focus) – to be developed further in consultation with key thematic partnerships
World Class Economy	Affordable Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working together to increase supply of affordable housing and a mix of housing options 	e.g. existing LAA target – to deliver 256 affordable homes
	Infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop partnership working to drive investment in infrastructure so we can build sustainable communities support the needs of the regional and national economy. 	e.g. Establish a robust evidence base for access to Oxford by May 2008 Quadrant project
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Infrastructure and transport strategy that supports local centres as well as larger urban centres and allows access for all to both. 	Access to Oxford Focus on market towns
	Educational attainment and skills	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Raise the standard of education & skills across all ages. 	GSCE attainment - achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades or equivalent including English and Maths Adult skills
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Employers, schools and colleges to develop a Learning & Skills charter. 	Process to support outcome
	Breaking the cycle of deprivation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage vulnerable Communities to build a culture where people engage in learning & skills issues. 	Number of learning projects in low skilled areas

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Environment & Climate Change	Climate Change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory agencies to reduce carbon footprint 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities for use of appropriate renewable energy 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote and support communities and individuals to reduce their carbon footprint, and the use of energy in their homes 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce production of waste 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce demand for water and encourage water use efficiency 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with local communities to maintain and improve their local environment to be cleaner & greener 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promote incentives to encourage private sector to reduce the use of resources 	
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve air quality by reducing the need to travel 	Car share scheme

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Maintain Oxfordshire’s character and built and natural heritage 	Improved local biodiversity Major projects support the character of Oxfordshire
Healthy & Thriving Communities	We want a strong, vibrant and diverse community sector across Oxfordshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implementing Voluntary Sector Development Plan 	Participation in regular volunteering
	Strengthen & support all Oxfordshire’s diverse communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Involve communities in deciding whether services are relevant and appropriate 	Number of people who feel they can influence decisions in their area
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote community led planning and involvement in areas of development/re-generation areas 	Public Sector organisations respond to issues raised in community plans
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Actions which promote integration, cohesion and resilience of Oxfordshire’s communities 	People from different backgrounds get on well in their local area
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote corporate social responsibility to private and public sector employers 	Organisations promote volunteering	

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	Healthy communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Promote healthy lifestyles in all our communities for now and the future 	Including smoking, healthy eating, physical activity, alcohol consumption, sexual health
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address the impact of demographic change across all service provision and pay special attention to the needs of an aging population 	Services will be available and accessible according to need. Need to identify the ongoing need around older people – supporting people to stay in their homes for longer
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevent and Tackle Obesity 	Reduction in number of people classified as clinically obese - children and adults
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Address cross cutting factors to reduce inequalities 	Differences in mortality rates by deprivation. These factors include determinants of health such as housing, fuel poverty, employment, income, crime, educational attainment etc.
	Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To develop a range of housing provision to meet the future needs of the people of Oxon; including supported housing and provision for vulnerable groups, older people and children and young people 	

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	C&YP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Long term support for the outcomes of the Children and Young People’s Plan: Be healthy Enjoy & achieve Stay safe Make a Positive Contribution Achieve Economic Wellbeing 	Focus down on localities – where the specific problems are
	Leisure & Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highlighting the positive impact of leisure & cultural activities on developing a world class economy, improving the environment and supporting healthy & thriving communities. 	Tourism – number of visitors Visits to museums/galleries
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase the participation in physical and cultural activities 	Increase in participation in sport
	Community Safety	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Further develop a multi-agency approach to address Community Safety issues, for example the link between unemployment, lack of housing and re-offending 	Dealing with prolific and priority offenders in the community Dealing with alcohol related crime
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduce crime and the fear of crime by community involvement with particular attention to vulnerable groups such as C&YP, OP and BME. 	Domestic violence Fear of crime

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep a locality focus though NAGs 	Understanding of local concerns about anti-social behaviour and crime by local councils and police
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Positive activities for young people 	Youth clubs
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce Anti-social behaviour 	