

St Albans and District Sustainable Community Strategy

Shaping our District together for 2021

Revised June 2009



ST ALBANS
& DISTRICT
LOCAL STRATEGIC
PARTNERSHIP





Contents



| | |
|--|---------|
| Shaping our District together for 2021 | page 3 |
| Our vision for St Albans and District | page 4 |
| Our unique and historic District | page 5 |
| Challenges facing the District | page 6 |
| Our approach to the Sustainable Community Strategy | page 7 |
| Four key priorities for the District | page 8 |
| Targeting the gaps | page 10 |
| Delivery partners and plans | page 14 |
| How progress will be measured | page 17 |

Appendices

| | |
|--|---------|
| A: Local Strategic Partnership members | page 18 |
| B: Achievements since 2007 | page 19 |



Shaping our District together for 2021



This document sets out our vision for the District and has been produced by St Albans & District Local Strategic Partnership – a group of key local public, business and voluntary/community sector organisations working together to improve the quality of life for everyone in the District.

In 2007 the partnership prepared a new strategy. Priorities were identified from residents' surveys and other research and based on extensive consultation with residents, community groups and other local organisations. **In particular the partnership identified where priorities were unlikely to be met by existing plans and activities, and developed clear action to address significant gaps.**

Since then we have made **real progress in achieving our objectives** (see appendix B). 90% of residents rate St Albans as a good place to live. Fewer people are worried about crime and anti-social behaviour. There are more facilities for young people. Work is underway to tackle deprivation and the partnership has started innovative work to help reduce environmental impact through the St Albans Values Energy (SAVE) campaign with residents and businesses.

But we know there is more to do. Since 2007, the economic situation has deteriorated at a rapid rate. Evidence of the challenges of climate change has become undeniable and as our population ages we face increasing pressures to take care of the needs of older generations.

In the light of these challenges, we have worked together as local partners to update this strategy. It now includes a new priority on economic sustainability, as well as increased emphasis throughout on caring for older people. In addition, we have set out our plans to take specific partnership action on youth provision, supporting the voluntary sector, engaging the community, protecting the environment and reducing inequalities.

The priority now is delivery. This document describes how we intend to measure and report progress to the community. Later in the year we will publish detailed project plans which set out the practical steps the LSP will take to fill gaps in existing work and help make this vision a reality. This document also sets the overall direction for the District Council's Local Development Framework (LDF) – the planning strategy which explains how growth and development will be guided over the next 15 years or more. A consultation document on emerging options for the LDF will be published in July 2009 alongside the final version of this strategy.

I do hope that you will play a part in helping to shape your District and your future and we would welcome your feedback on how well we are doing, either through our website, by contacting us directly, through our partners or by attending our Annual Community Conference.

Councillor Robert Donald

Chair of the St Albans & District Local Strategic Partnership

Our vision – a progressive, unique and vibrant District, which values its environment, heritage and culture, and cares for the future: an outstanding place to live where everyone can flourish.



Our vision for St Albans and District



A progressive, unique and vibrant District, which values its environment, heritage and culture, and cares for the future: an outstanding place to live where everyone can flourish.

The Local Strategic Partnership has a leadership role in identifying an overall direction for the District and setting out the vision for what we want for St Albans District now and in the future. But what does it actually mean?

By progressive we mean –

- Maximising the potential of our built environment, natural landscape and cultural heritage, and setting the standard for the county
- Being ambitious in developing new skills, industries and technologies and diversifying our economy, so that the District continues to be a premier place to live, visit and do business in the future
- Encouraging individuals and groups within our communities to use their voice, take action and get involved in developing and implementing local solutions to local issues

By unique we mean –

- Recognising the unique character of our city, towns and rural villages, all of which are distinct and their communities have different needs and aspirations
- Celebrating and promoting our cultural and environmental heritage

- Ensuring that the District's valued landscapes, wildlife and heritage are accessible for everyone and are safeguarded for future generations to enjoy

By vibrant we mean –

- Everyone in the District, no matter where they live, has the opportunity to enjoy the same great quality of life and access the same services and facilities
- People are encouraged and supported to make positive changes to their lifestyles for better physical and emotional health
- Individuals and groups work together to influence decisions and make a real difference in their local communities

It is important to us that the District is a place where everyone, regardless of age, race, gender, disability, religion, belief or sexual orientation, has access to the same high quality services and facilities. We also want to create a sustainable community by improving the quality of life for everyone who lives here now in a way which will safeguard the prospects of our future generations. These principles underpin our vision and all of our actions in the community strategy.



Our unique and historic District

St Albans and District lies in the heart of Hertfordshire, only 20 miles from central London.

Not only does the District enjoy the strong economic influence and facilities of London, but also it is set in beautiful rolling countryside and is rich in history. The city of St Albans grew out of the medieval borough dominated by the great monastery devoted to St Alban, first British Christian martyr from the nearby Roman city of Verulamium. Protecting this natural and historic environment, including the highly regarded twice weekly market, is vital if we are to maintain the District's unique and special features for the future.

The District is home to around 133,500 people living in St Albans city, the town of Harpenden and many villages, all with their own distinctive features and characteristics. Outcomes from the City and Rural Vision projects are helping us to identify and understand the needs and future direction for these individual communities which make up the District.

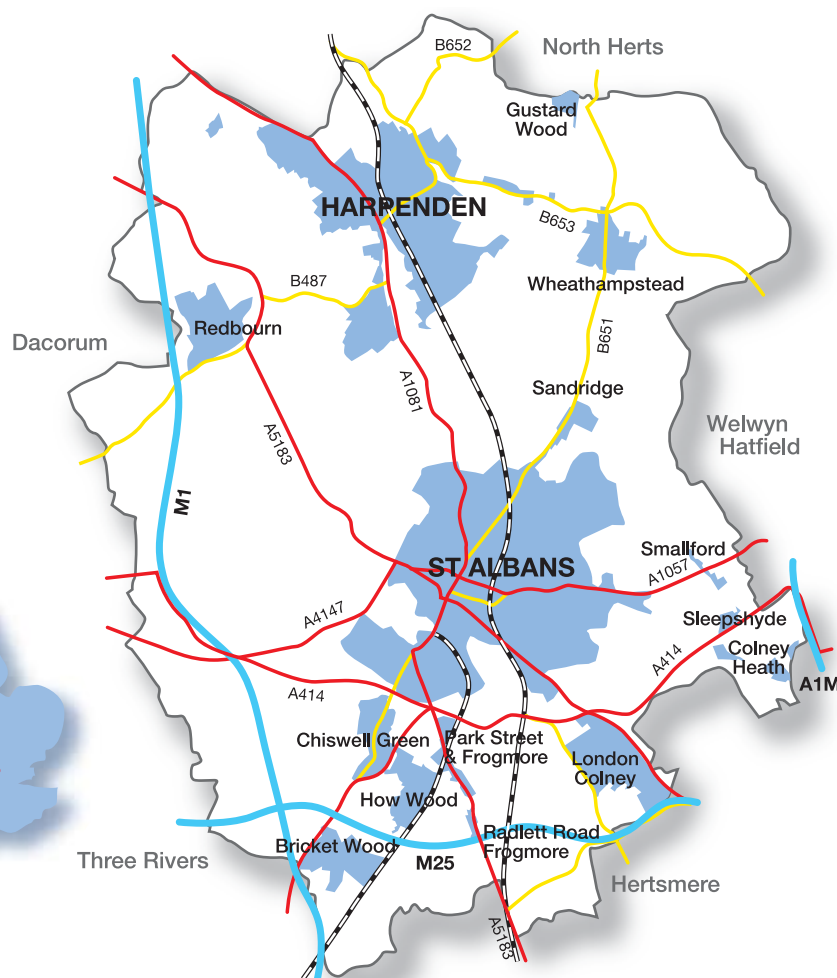
St Albans District is highly regarded as a place to live. Provisional results from the most recent survey conducted at the end of 2008 rated the District top in Hertfordshire on various measures, including 90% of people who are satisfied with the area as a place to live¹ (up from 84% in 2006/07²).



Evidence from surveys suggests that the following are viewed as positive features of living and working in the District:

- Historic environment, green spaces and good transport links along with low levels of crime and good access to services
- Good sports and cultural facilities, parks and open spaces
- High levels of employment and qualifications
- High life expectancy and low rates of premature death
- High levels of volunteering and levels of turnout at local elections

The District is home to around 133,500 people living in St Albans city, the town of Harpenden and many villages, all with their own distinctive features and characteristics.



¹ Place Survey 2008

² MORI/St Albans City and District Council Residents Survey 2006/7



Challenges facing the District



Evidence from surveys also points to areas where we could improve further, including:

- Affordable housing. The price of housing is high in the District and has persistently been a key local priority for improvement.
- Providing accessible facilities and activities for young people.
- Encouraging a diverse and sustainable economy and increasing participation in education and skills development at all ages – including a focus on the 17% of our population who have no qualifications¹ and those affected by rising unemployment due to current economic conditions.
- Tackling traffic congestion. Thousands of people from the District commute into London each day, but 42% of local jobs are taken by people commuting into the District². This includes improving the road network and developing our public transport services and green travel alternatives.
- Road and pavement maintenance. This is a continuing local priority requiring us to work effectively to support the County Council in its role as provider of these services.
- Reducing health inequalities. There is a 7 year gap in the life expectancy between the most and least deprived areas, and despite recent improvements, 1 in 6 adults in the District still smoke, 1 in 6 adults are obese and over half of those aged 50 and above do not participate in physical activity³.
- Supporting older people. Issues around the health of older people will become increasingly significant. It is forecast that the number of 65 year olds and over living in the District will increase by 22% over the next 10 years⁴.
- Reducing pockets of social and economic inequality within the District where individuals and groups are not enjoying the same high quality of life. We have identified five areas within our communities where the level of disadvantage is above the national average.
- Protecting our environment for the future. A recent report produced by the Hertfordshire Environmental Forum calculated that St Albans District has the largest per capita carbon footprint compared to the ten district areas in Hertfordshire⁵.
- Encouraging community engagement and participation – especially groups who have been less involved in the past.

¹ Office for National Statistics: Census 2001

² Office for National Statistics: Census 2001

³ West Herts PCT: Public Health Report & Health Profile for St Albans 2008

⁴ West Herts PCT: Public Health Reports

⁵ Hertfordshire Environmental Forum: Quality of Life Report 2008



Our approach to the Sustainable Community Strategy

Many issues that face our District, such as facilities for young people or provision of affordable housing, are problems that cannot be tackled fully by one organisation acting alone. Identifying an overall direction and priorities for the District makes it easier for local organisations to tackle these issues together.

As part of our work to refresh the strategy, we have looked again at the priorities for the District, and the key gaps where we believe we need targeted action. In doing so, we have also sought to align, where appropriate, with other local, regional and national targets and plans (this includes the Sustainable Community Strategy for the County 'Hertfordshire 2021: A Brighter Future', the Hertfordshire Local Area Agreement 2 and the East of England Plan).

A summary of our priorities, including what we expect to change by 2021, and the focus of action, is listed overleaf. We believe that the three priorities we identified in 2007 are still key issues for the District. But, following

consultation, we have identified a new priority on economic sustainability. We have also sought to reflect more fully the needs of the increasing numbers of older people who will be living in the District by 2021.

Much of the work to deliver these priorities is already underway through the plans, activities and targets of individual organisations or existing partnerships who work in the District. We have included a list of key partner organisations and their plans later in this document. In these areas, the LSP will take an overview and will monitor and promote progress.

For some other areas of work, we have identified specific gaps where we believe we need more targeted and co-ordinated action. These are set out in the section titled 'Targeting the gaps'. Here we expect the LSP to take a more direct role in identifying the practical steps, measures and responsibilities needed to deliver real change.

Much of the work to deliver these priorities is already underway through the plans, activities and targets of individual organisations or existing partnerships who work in the District.

Making the vision a reality





Four key priorities for the District



Ensuring the District is a great place to be

2009-12 we will focus on:-

- Continuing to protect our Green Belt
- Protecting, enhancing and promoting our historic environment, heritage and culture
- Tackling crime, anti-social behaviour and increasing feelings of community safety
- Supporting arts, leisure and sports activity
- Providing accessible facilities and activities for young people
- Supporting the development of affordable housing to include social rented and intermediate housing

By 2021 St Albans District will:-

- Be a cultural centre and visitor destination of choice
- Celebrate and support the unique character and aspirations of its city, towns and rural villages
- Provide a safe environment and first class facilities for all
- Be a vibrant and sustainable district, preserving green space while providing an appropriate mix of housing and supporting infrastructure

Creating a diverse and sustainable economy for the 21st century

2009-12 we will focus on:-

- Promoting sustainable local economic development including a focus on new sectors
- Encouraging participation in education and skills development so that people can access local job opportunities and progress in their careers
- Encouraging business, entrepreneurship and enterprise
- Securing a well-maintained, accessible and safe network of transport links across the District

By 2021 St Albans District will:-

- Have a healthy, diverse and strong economy including a new focus on creative and knowledge industries, tourism and the green/environmental sustainability sectors
- Offer employers a highly skilled and flexible local workforce
- Lead the way for innovative business development
- Provide an integrated transport network offering green travel options and reducing traffic congestion



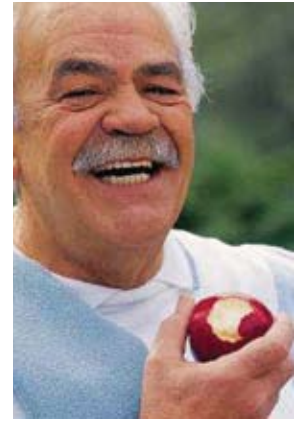
Keeping the District healthy

2009-12 we will focus on:-

- Encouraging and supporting healthy lifestyles and wellbeing
- Ensuring residents have access to excellent healthcare services and empowering individuals to self care
- Helping to build the capacity of the voluntary and community sector to provide preventative and support services
- Meeting the needs of an ageing population
- Supporting the needs of carers

By 2021 St Albans District will:-

- Be a healthy place to live with access to high quality facilities and services which support active lifestyles
- Provide easy access to healthcare services, especially for the more vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in the community
- Offer a comprehensive range of preventative and support services through its thriving voluntary and community organisations
- Enable independent living for older people



Supporting an active community that has pride in itself and cares for its future

2009-12 we will focus on:-

- Reducing our impact on the environment
- Encouraging green and sustainable travel
- Reducing inequalities
- Encouraging and promoting community engagement and participation

By 2021 St Albans District will:-

- Be working towards carbon neutral status
- Offer a range of green travel options including reliable public transport and integrated walking and cycling routes
- Meet local challenges through communities and individuals getting involved and implementing local solutions
- Provide access to the same great quality of life and excellent services to all its residents



Targeting the gaps



The Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has reviewed where local organisations or partnerships have existing plans which aim to deliver specific work under each of the priorities within this strategy (see 'Delivery partners and plans'). It will be the responsibility of these organisations or partnerships to deliver against their plans and to update the LSP on progress and results.

Where the review has identified gaps in activity to deliver the strategy it is proposed that the LSP will either be the lead partnership or seek specific activity from existing partnerships to identify the practical steps, measures and responsibilities needed to deliver real change.

The areas of work which the LSP will focus on between now and 2012 are detailed below along with the proposed group or partnership who will lead and the initial actions suggested through themed focus group discussions. These initial actions will be worked up into full plans with measurable (SMART) targets to be published in October 2009.

It is acknowledged that this process of developing the action plans may result in combining areas of work where appropriate or a more focused approach to some of the gap areas.

| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|---|--|
| <p>Providing accessible facilities and activities for young people</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable the District Children's Trust Partnership to fully take on responsibility for this area of work • Clarify needs of the specific age ranges and where the focus needs to be • Review the directory of facilities and ensure that current facilities are widely available • Review opening times to include more evening and weekend provision • Actively promote activities and facilities for young people including both arts and sports opportunities • Develop formal and informal mechanisms for listening to the voice of young people • Focus on providing sport facilities and activities • Promote positive images and stories of young people • Respond to the impact of the economic downturn on young people when planning e.g. consider NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) increases, family pressures, graduate returners |



| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|---|--|
| <p>Helping to build the capacity of the voluntary and community sector to provide preventative and support services</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a project group led by St Albans Centre for Voluntary Service • Review service demands to address the immediate impact of the recession • Identify the infrastructure needs over the next three years and look at innovative ways of generating income • Contribute to the development of the countywide Voluntary Sector Strategy • Reduce the bureaucracy for achieving grants/funding and simplify processes where possible • Prioritise preventative services • Identify community solutions which can be delivered by voluntary and community organisations and funded through performance reward grant monies • Optimise contribution from volunteers (using their skills to maximum effect) • Develop financial management skills within voluntary and community organisations • Recruit more volunteers with the right skills/training (including focus on younger age groups) • Explore opportunities for joint working and social enterprise |



| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|---|---|
| <p>Encouraging and promoting community engagement and participation</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a project group led by Hertfordshire Constabulary • Develop an engagement strategy to foster community cohesion and empower individuals to get involved with their local community • Provide support and advice to those who wish to start up a community group or partnership • Engage with the business sector and promote the positive role that business and the private sector plays in District • Promote corporate social responsibility opportunities • Share good practice examples and innovative ideas for volunteering, community engagement, cohesion and participation • Develop a 'Welcome to St Albans' facility available from the St Albans City & District Council and LSP websites to signpost opportunities for individuals to get involved in their local community |



Targeting the gaps (con't)



| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|---|--|
| <p>Promoting sustainable local economic development</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LSP to establish an Economic Sustainability Partnership to lead on this area of work • Develop links to the countywide economic group (Hertfordshire Works) • Develop a communication strategy and data/intelligence sharing • Provide joined up help and advice • Focus on the effects of the current recession for the young, NEETs (Not in Education, Employment or Training) and vulnerable people aged 16 – 65 • Explore opportunities for building links between work on the economy and the environment • Explore opportunities for social enterprise • Promote diversity and more self reliance in the local economy • Explore needs of local employers and ensure appropriate skills development of local workforce (including through apprenticeships and work based learning) • Explore opportunities for developing or attracting new sectors to the District: creative and knowledge industries, tourism and the green/ environmental sustainability sectors |

| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|--|---|
| <p>Meeting the needs of an ageing population</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enable the Health, Housing & Social Care Partnership to fully take on responsibility for this area of work • Co-ordinate communications and signposting of services for the elderly • Provide opportunities for face to face advice/signposting for older people in the community • Review existing community transport options for the elderly and identify gaps in the service • Identify services or facilities needed to help older people maintain their independence • Develop a range of opportunities for physical activity and healthy living promotions (for the over 50s) • Ensure older people have opportunities to take an active role in their community • Review emerging mental health problems and provide relevant support services • Develop a local forum to listen and respond to the needs of carers |



| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|--|---|
| Reducing our impact on the environment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a project group led by St Albans City & District Council • Translate national drivers/initiatives into local projects (e.g. reducing congestion, renewables etc) • Ensure the Local Development Framework for the District incorporates sustainable principles at all levels (including protection of the Green Belt) • Raise awareness with general public and businesses of individual action needed to address our carbon footprint (bite size changes promoted through the St Albans Values Energy campaign) • Encourage partner organisations to develop 'adaptation to climate change' strategies • Develop standards for energy efficient homes • Reduce allotment waiting lists and consider community allotment schemes • Consult on a low emission zone for the city centre and emission standards for public transport (working with Quality Network Partnership) • Investigate a District heating system • Investigate projects to decrease 'food miles' • Consult on a business recycling scheme |



| Identified gap area | What we will do over the next 12 months |
|-----------------------|---|
| Reducing inequalities | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a project group led by St Albans City & District Council – to include representatives from all other project groups and partnerships • Work with latest Index of Multiple Deprivation data (2007) to analyse trends and highlight contributing factors to any significant changes since 2005 • Develop community engagement activities to investigate local circumstances and identify local need • Focus on hard to hear, hidden or most vulnerable communities in the District • Build community profiles • Implement community based projects in most disadvantaged areas • Work with other partnerships/project groups to identify key actions to address inequalities (i.e. health, facilities for young people, employment opportunities etc) |



Delivery partners and plans

Ensuring the District is a great place to be

While the LSP focuses on the identified gap areas where it can add the most value, remaining areas of work under the four broad priorities will be delivered by organisations or partnerships who already have or are developing action plans to address these issues. These tables give an overview of the key partners and partnerships responsible for delivery and their relevant plans.

| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|--|--|--|
| District Children's Trust Partnership | Children and Young People's Plan | www.stalbanslsp.org.uk |
| | Children, Schools and Families Service Plan | www.hertsdirect.org |
| Hertfordshire Constabulary | Policing Plan Policing Pledge | www.herts.police.uk |
| Hertfordshire County Council | Corporate Plan | www.hertsdirect.org |
| | Hertfordshire 2021: A Brighter Future | www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward |
| | Libraries for the 21st Century | www.hertsdirect.org/libbleisure/libraries/services |
| Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service | Community Safety Plan | www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/fire |
| St Albans City & District Council | Corporate Plan 2009-2012 Local Development Framework Cultural Strategy Green Spaces Strategy Museums Development Plan Sport and Recreation Facilities Strategy Playing Pitch Strategy Housing Strategy City Vision Rural Vision | www.stalbans.gov.uk |
| St Albans Community Safety Partnership | Community Safety Strategy Partnership Plan | www.stalbanscsp.org.uk |

Creating a diverse and sustainable economy for the 21st century

| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|--|--|--|
| Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce & Industry | Business Plan | being developed – www.hertschamber.com |
| Hertfordshire County Council | Corporate Plan | www.hertsdirect.org |
| | Hertfordshire 2021: A Brighter Future | www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward |
| | Economic Development Strategy (Economic Partnership) | www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward |
| | Urban Transport Plans | www.hertsdirect.org |
| | Libraries for the 21st Century | www.hertsdirect.org/libbleisure/libraries/services |



Creating a diverse and sustainable economy for the 21st century (con't)

| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|---|---|--|
| Oaklands College | Oaklands 2011 – Vision to Reality | www.oaklands.ac.uk |
| St Albans Arts | Business Plan | being updated – www.starts.org.uk |
| St Albans City & District Council | Corporate Plan 2009-2012 Local Development Framework Economic Action Plan | www.stalbans.gov.uk |
| St Albans District Chamber of Commerce | Business Plan | being developed – www.stalbans-chamber.co.uk |
| St Albans Enterprise Agency (STANTA) | Business Plan | being updated – www.stanta.co.uk |
| St Albans Learning Partnership | Partnership Action Plan | being developed |
| University of Hertfordshire (Quality Network Partnership - QNP) | Memorandum of Understanding | www.stalbans.gov.uk/transport-and-streets |



Keeping the District healthy

| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|--|--|--|
| District Children's Trust Partnership | Children and Young People's Plan | www.stalbanslsp.org.uk |
| | Children, Schools and Families Service Plan | www.hertsdirect.org |
| Health, Housing and Social Care Partnership | Partnership Action Plan | being developed – www.stalbanslsp.org.uk |
| Hertfordshire County Council – Adult Care Services | Adult Care Services Plan Herts Multi-agency Carers Strategy | www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/acswww |
| Hertfordshire County Council | Herts Forward – HCOP Health & Well Being Strategy & Action Plan | www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward |
| | Libraries for the 21st Century | www.hertsdirect.org/libbleisure/libraries/services |
| NHS West Hertfordshire (formerly PCT) | West Herts PCT Annual Report 2007-08 Public Health Annual Report 2008 Hertfordshire Joint Strategic Needs Assessment PCT Five Year Strategic Plan | www.wherts-pct.nhs.uk/ (publications) |
| St Albans Arts, Sports & Health Development Team | Physical Activity Strategy | being developed |
| St Albans Centre for Voluntary Service | St Albans CVS Business Plan St Albans City & District Compact | www.cvsstalbens.org.uk |



Delivery partners and plans (con't)

Keeping the District healthy (con't)



| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|--|---|--|
| St Albans Centre for Voluntary Service | Valuing Volunteers: Volunteering Strategy for Hertfordshire | www.volunteeringherts.org |
| | Herts CVS Strategic Plan | www.hertscvs.org.uk/newsletter.asp |
| St Albans & Harpenden Practice Based Commissioning Group | STAHCOM Ltd Commissioning Plan | www.wherts-pct.nhs.uk/ (publications) |

Supporting an active community that has pride in itself and cares for its future

| Organisation/partnership | Existing strategy or plans | Website or link for information |
|--|---|--|
| Hertfordshire Environmental Forum | Quality of Life Monitoring Report (Also action plans of constituent groups) | www.hef.org.uk |
| Hertfordshire Constabulary | Policing Plan Policing Pledge | www.herts.police.uk |
| Hertfordshire County Council | St Albans Urban Transport Plan Southern St Albans Transport Plan Hertfordshire Biodiversity Action Plan (BAP) | www.hertsdirect.org |
| | Herts Forward – Safer and Stronger Communities – Community Cohesion Strategy | www.hertslink.org/hertfordshireforward |
| Hertfordshire Fire and Rescue Service | Dacorum and St Albans District Plan | www.hertsdirect.org/yrccouncil/hcc/fire |
| St Albans Centre for Voluntary Service | Business Plan | www.cvsstalbens.org.uk |
| | St Albans City & District Compact | www.stalbanslsp.org.uk |
| | Valuing Volunteers: Volunteering Strategy for Hertfordshire | www.volunteeringherts.org |
| St Albans City & District Council | Corporate Plan 2009-2012 | www.stalbans.gov.uk |
| | Local Development Framework | |
| | Carbon Management Plan | |
| | Nottingham Declaration Action Plan | |
| | Cycling Strategy | |
| | Walking Strategy | |
| | Green Travel Plan (integrating several strands of work) | |
| Homelessness Strategy | | |
| University of Hertfordshire | Tackling Deprivation Action Plan | being developed in partnership between St Albans City & District Council & the University |
| | District Travel Plan | |



How progress will be measured

Progress against the Sustainable Community Strategy and the projects undertaken by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) will be the overall responsibility of the LSP Board, with day-to-day progress supervised by an appointed Management Committee.

Organisations, partnerships and project groups who are responsible for delivery against the priorities in the strategy will be required to provide a progress report for the Board at least twice a year. This will enable the Board to monitor performance against key actions and planned outcomes, and produce an annual report of progress against the strategy.

Examples of targets the Local Strategic Partnership already has and will monitor progress against are:-

- At least 35% affordable housing across all new developments
- Achieve 50% household recycling rate by 2010
- Reduce CO₂ emissions for the District by 3% per annum (between 2008 and 2025 based on a baseline year of 2006/07)

Further SMART targets will be agreed by relevant partnerships and project groups as part of developing their plans for delivery of the community strategy priorities.

We will let people know how the community strategy is progressing through an Annual Community Conference for representatives of the wider community and residents. The conference will not only explain the previous year's progress, but also provide an opportunity for delegates to give their views on whether the strategy is still focusing on the right areas of priority for the District.

The strategy will be reviewed every two to three years with input from the community.

You will be able to get a copy of a report on the conference and we will provide ongoing communication through bulletins and the LSP website www.stalbanslsp.org.uk. You will be able to feedback to the LSP on the priorities for the District either through our partners or our website.

If you would like further details or a copy of relevant action plans please contact the LSP co-ordinator: email info@stalbanlsp.org.uk tel. 01727 819349.

SMART targets will be agreed by relevant partnerships and project groups as part of developing their plans for delivery



Appendix A Local Strategic Partnership members



These are the members of the Board of the Local Strategic Partnership. There are many more organisations also playing an active role in the partnership.

Public sector organisations

St Albans City & District Council
Hertfordshire County Council
St Albans District Association of Local Councils
Hertfordshire Constabulary
Hertfordshire Police Authority
Hightown Praetorian and Churches
Housing Association
NHS West Hertfordshire (formerly PCT)

Voluntary and community sector organisations

St Albans District Centre for Voluntary Service
St Albans District Environment Forum
St Albans District Access Group
Age Concern (Hertfordshire)
Churches Together in St Albans
St Albans Racial Equality Council
Youth/Student Council

Partnerships

St Albans District Children's Trust Partnership
St Albans District Crime and Disorder
Reduction Partnership
St Albans District Health, Housing and Social
Care Partnership

Private sector/education and skills organisations

St Albans District Chamber of Commerce
Hertfordshire Chamber of Commerce
Rothamsted Research
Oaklands College
University of Hertfordshire

The membership and constitution of the Local Strategic Partnership is reviewed every two to three years and will be updated in 2009 to reflect the refresh of this strategy. Up to date details can be found on the LSP website www.stalbanslsp.org.uk



Appendix B Achievements since 2007

1 Providing facilities and activities for young people

- Youth consultation and new youth activities offered in areas of greatest deprivation e.g. Play Rangers scheme, On-side football, mobile skate park
- Music Studio relocation agreed and funding secured

2 Supporting the voluntary and community sector to provide preventative and support services

- Growing Stronger multi-agency conference held June 2008 to raise awareness of commissioning opportunities for voluntary organisations
- Launch of Connect St Albans, a brokerage service using business skills, resources and expertise to support our local community

3 Encouraging and promoting community participation and volunteering

- Cross-partnership Communications Forum established to promote positive stories and opportunities for community cohesion and engagement
- Developing an on-line search facility for residents to search a wide variety of sites for opportunities to 'get involved'

4 Reducing our impact on the environment

- St Albans Values Energy (SAVE) campaign launched in July 2008 and 12 road shows held across the District to encourage residents and businesses to take action to reduce their environmental footprint
- Quality Network Partnership established to work jointly to reduce congestion, facilitate integrated travel and consider sustainable green travel solutions

5 Reducing inequalities

- Funding a Partnership Project Officer post since April 2008 to progress projects within the District's five areas of greatest deprivation (e.g. supporting the Sopwell Community Partnership, providing physical activity sessions and healthcare services for sheltered housing schemes, consulting on the needs of young people)
- Health Inequalities Fund has supported nine community projects including an elderly women's lunch club for the BME community, a community gardening project and a support programme for young carers



Over the last two years the partnership has focused on five areas of work and listed here are some of the key achievements during that time.

Also the partnership worked together to respond swiftly to the effects of the **economic downturn** by establishing the **St Albans Executive Forum**, a unique six week support programme for executives coping with redundancy. 60 individuals have been supported so far (March - May 2009) and outcomes for individuals have included involvement as trustees for local voluntary groups and developing new business start-up opportunities.



If you require this information in another format e.g. in large print, Braille, audio or in a language other than English, please contact the Equalities Officer on **01727 814602** or email **equalities@stalbans.gov.uk**



The District Council Offices' text phone number is **01727 819570**. This service is for people with a hearing impairment.

St Albans & District Local Strategic Partnership

St Albans City & District Council Offices
St Peter's Street
St Albans AL1 3JE

Telephone: **01727 866100** **www.stalbanslsp.org.uk**



Printed using vegetable-based inks.

