

LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

2008- 11

DRAFT

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Due to continued negotiation a revised version will be circulated to Cabinet prior to or at Cabinet on 22/05/2008. In the meantime, for further information, please contact Helen Dean, Assistant Chief Executive, on 52(7003)

Shaping Our Future: Executive Summary of the Sustainable Community Strategy for the borough of Stockton-on-Tees

Introduction

Stockton Renaissance is our Local Strategic Partnership which brings together key public, private and voluntary agencies and the Community Empowerment Network which brings together all of the voluntary and community groups in the Borough. We have a duty to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy which outlines how we will work together to improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of our area. During the summer of 2007 Stockton Renaissance listened to residents, communities and key partners in our borough and agreed the key themes for this new, longer term Sustainable Community Strategy.

Our Vision

Stockton-on-Tees is a diverse borough with a thriving population of more than 189,000 people within easy reach of city shopping and leisure facilities, the coast and rural North Yorkshire. A mixture of urban centres, market towns and villages and with an expanding University, Stockton-on-Tees is a place with an exciting future.

We are committed both to economic regeneration through redeveloping our town centres, improving our transport and increasing the number and quality of jobs available in our borough and to improving quality of life by regenerating local communities and providing opportunities and services for individuals. This will help us to achieve our long term and continued vision of “promoting achievement: tackling disadvantage.”

Our vision stretches beyond our boundaries and with the other Tees Valley Authorities we submitted a “city region” business case to the Secretary of State in 2006. It was well received and led to the creation of “Tees Valley Unlimited”, a partnership coordinating economic improvement activity across the Tees Valley. Strong governance arrangements have been developed with a non local authority chair and an overall membership of organisations and people that can add real value to TVU’s objective of improving economic performance in the Tees Valley.

The place related programmes included in the investment plan are being incorporated into a Multi Area Agreement for the Tees Valley. Work on developing the MAA is at an advanced stage and we anticipate that it will be one of the first in the country to be agreed in June 2008. The sign off of the MAA by government will provide both government and TVU with additional comfort that a well thought out plan is in place to improve the economic prosperity of the city region and will help us successfully deliver the ambitious targets in our LAA.

Stockton-on-Tees: The Facts

Our People

Stockton on Tees has a population of 189,100 people who live in 81,086 households, which has risen by almost 7% since 1991 with the rest of the North East seeing a fall of 2%. People of working age account for 63% of the population, children (those under 16) 20% and retired people 18%. Like the rest of the country, our population is ageing with there being increasing numbers of older people and fewer children. At the time of the 2001 Census almost 3% of our population were from Black and Minority Ethnic backgrounds, a figure which is increasing. 66% of our residents feel that their area is a place where people of different backgrounds get on well together. Whilst 20% of residents having a long term illness which limits their day-to-day activities, people in the borough continue to get healthier but deaths from heart disease and cancer are still above the national average.

In March 2008 there were 3,726 people claiming Job Seekers Allowance in Stockton on Tees, giving an unemployment rate of 3.1%, lower than the north east average but higher than the national figure. Our schools continue to improve and over recent years we have seen better results at GCSE. 25% of residents have a degree or professional qualification, a rate which is only slightly below the national level. Both employment rates and educational achievement vary across the borough.

Residents are happy with the borough as a place to live, 84% being positive in 2006, but this figure varies across the borough and we will work towards all residents being proud of where they live and Stockton-on-Tees as a whole.

Our Place

The quality of our environment has improved from being named one of the dirtiest places in England in 2001, we were named one of the cleanest boroughs in 2006, winning the prestigious Britain in Bloom competition a year later. We have the highest rate of two car ownership in the North East at 22% and continue to improve our roads network such as the South Stockton link. However, we are committed to improving our public transport to ensure we do not become reliant on the private car. We have also regenerated large amounts of our housing stock with regeneration activities are well under way in Mandale, Hardwick, Parkfield and Mill Lane.

Crime rates continue to fall within the borough, which now has the lowest crime rate in the Tees Valley and significantly fewer people now feel unsafe when outside during the day. However, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour, as well as people's fear of crime remains a key priority.

The River Tees continues to be a key focal point for the borough, now providing an exciting choice of recreation and sporting activities, including sailing, kayaking and fishing. We have world leading cultural activities such as Stockton International Riverside Festival and Billingham International

Folklore Festival as well as ARC, Billingham Forum, Preston Hall Museum and our excellent parks and countryside facilities.

Our Ambitions

The Sustainable Community Strategy has been developed along five key and three supporting themes. Whilst these are described individually there are key links between them all and only by working in partnership across Renaissance and its thematic partnerships will we successfully achieve our ambitions.

Economic Regeneration and Transport

Our ambition is for a Stockton-on-Tees which is at the heart of an economically successful Tees Valley, which offers high employment levels and improved facilities for shopping, recreation and leisure. One of our key targets is to ensure we have vibrant and successful town centres in each of our communities, concentrating on Stockton, Billingham and Thornaby but also our smaller town centres and markets across the borough. We will have a strong local economy with better jobs and improved employability through further developing our existing employment base as well as attracting new employers to the borough making sure our residents have the necessary skills and qualifications to secure the new jobs created. We will develop improved city-scale facilities across the Tees Valley to ensure that we have shopping, leisure and residential facilities in the area to rival any city and make better use of the River Tees as a leisure facility through iconic projects such as the new footbridge and ambitious Green Blue heart initiative to develop excellent green space between Stockton and Middlesbrough with the Tees at its heart. Finally, we will develop improved transport networks by further developing our road network but also our public transport provision to ensure that Stockton-on-Tees remains an area with low congestion and not one which is reliant only on the private car.

Environment and Housing

We have a vision for a cleaner, greener borough which leads the UK in waste minimisation, has excellent parks and green spaces and the highest quality housing provision. We will have neighbourhoods in which our residents feel pride and have a real sense of belonging and ownership. We will improve waste management by continuing to develop our approach to waste minimisation and recycling and create better open spaces by further developing both our large flagship parks as well as our smaller neighbourhood green spaces and urban grey spaces, such as town and neighbourhood centres. We will tackle climate change by preparing for potential changes in the services we deliver and how we deliver them as well as trying to reduce our own carbon footprint. We will continue to improve our housing carrying on our regeneration activities to offer people the homes they want to live in through regeneration, redevelopment and having sites ready for new developments where needed. We will deliver design quality in our new developments, processing planning applications as efficiently as possible but ensuring that new buildings meet the need and aspirations of our communities.

Safer Communities

Our vision is for a safe borough where all residents are able to live their lives in a borough free from crime and fear of crime. We will reduce crime and fear of crime building on the success we have already had, which makes Stockton-on-Tees the borough with the lowest crime rate, concentrating on further reducing the violent crime and arson rates. We will reduce anti-social behaviour and residents concerns about it. Also we will reduce the impact of alcohol and drugs misuse tackling the supply and use of illegal drugs, and increase the numbers of drug users receiving treatment.

Children and Young People

Our vision across the whole borough is that no child is left behind and that all grow up in loving, stable and safe environments, having the opportunities to achieve their full potential. We will help our children and young people be healthy by tackling childhood obesity, reducing teenage conception rates, reducing substance misuse and helping to support and develop emotional and mental health. It is vitally important that children and young people grow up in a caring environment which ensures they stay safe at all times, this is particularly important for children looked after by the local authority and ensuring their long term stability and securing a placement quickly, is a key priority as is supporting them into education, employment or training on leaving care. Helping our young people, but particularly those who experience disadvantage, enjoy and achieve is a key priority. We will support all our young people to meet their full potential by providing a wide range of educational opportunities. Making a positive contribution is important to our young people and we will seek to continually develop our positive activities and facilities, such as Sure Start Children's Centres, for young people making them as accessible, challenging and enjoyable as possible. Finally we will help our young people achieve economic well-being, eliminating poverty for young people and helping school leavers to access further education, employment and training.

Health and wellbeing

Our vision is for a healthier borough where all residents are able to take control of their own physical and mental health and wellbeing, through living healthy and active lifestyles and having easy access to high quality health services when ill-health does occur. We will reduce health inequalities both between Stockton on Tees and the rest of the UK, for example through the promotion of breast feeding, but also between the most and least well off areas of our borough. We will support and increase the independence of vulnerable people, helping older people remain in their own homes longer by making adaptations and tackling social isolation. We will also seek to develop our support for carers, recognising the important role they play. Increased choice and voice for service users is also important and we will ensure people have a choice in the care they receive and how it is delivered, capitalising on new initiatives such as direct payments. The future of health will be both prevention and cure, as such we will work to improve access to health facilities as well as promote healthy living.

Stronger Communities

Our vision is for a stronger and more cohesive society where there is a common sense of belonging for all communities and one where the diversity of people's backgrounds is appreciated and positively valued, where there is strong community involvement in public life and where there is a strong and vibrant community and voluntary sector. We will seek to increase community pride, promote equality of opportunity and reduce tension and myth bust to help all our communities to continue living peacefully. Also we will ensure financial inclusion for all residents to ensure they are not denied any of the opportunities our increasingly vibrant borough is offering and tackling fuel poverty to ensure their homes are warm and comfortable.

Older Adults

Our vision is that the borough's older people grow older with dignity and maintain a high quality and independent lifestyle. This includes ensuring older adults are at the heart of community leadership and development exercising real choice, control and having easy access to facilities and services within a warm and welcoming community. We will also help older people look after and improve their personal wellbeing through the provision of high quality health and social care, lifelong learning, leisure and cultural activities.

Arts and Culture

Our vision is of culture supporting all aspects of life in our borough. We will continue to harness culture to improve local people's aspirations and well being, increase their pride in the area and in their own achievements, enabling residents to achieve their full potential. We will promote our festivals, the performing and visual arts, sport and leisure and raise the profile of our heritage.

Indicators		Baseline (including source year)	LAA Improvement Target,			Lead Partners	Provisionally Approved
			2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		
NI 1	Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	76% +/- 2% confidence interval (2006/7) BVPI	Target to be within the confidence interval range of national average		Target to be within the confidence interval range of national average	SBC/Police	No
NI 5	Overall / general satisfaction with local area	67% +/- 2% confidence interval (2006/7) BVPI	Target to be within the confidence interval range of national average		Target to be within the confidence interval range of national average	SBC	No
NI 11	Engagement in the Arts						Place retained in LAA for measure to commence 2009
NI 15	Serious violent crime rate	0.72 (2004/05 – 2006/07)	0.69	0.67	0.65	Police/ SBC/ Probation	No
NI 17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour as a problem	29% (2006/07)	28%		26%	SBC/ Police/ Probation/ YOT/ Fire and Rescue	No

Indicators		Baseline (including source year)	LAA Improvement Target,			Lead Partners	Provisionally Approved
			2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		
NI 33	Arson Incidents	93.5 (04/5–06/7) 3 year average	87.9	84.8	81.9	Fire Service/ Police/ SBC	No
NI 40	Drug users in effective treatment	1054	9.01% (from baseline year)	14.23% (from baseline year)	17.07% (from baseline year)	DAT/ PCT/ SBC/ Police	No
NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	Awaiting baseline from PCT	28%	32.9%	38%	PCT SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6	Awaiting baseline from PCT	363	365	367	PCT - SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 63	Stability of placements of Looked After children - length of placement	57.4% (06/07)	60.0%	65.0%	67.5%	SBC	No
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19	43.2% Stockton (05/06)	49%	51%	54% National Target	LSC SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 109	Number of Sure Start Centres	10 (06/07)	11	13	n/a	SBC	Provisionally approved
NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities					SBC / YOT	Place retained in LAA for measure to commence 2009

Indicators	Baseline (including source year)	LAA Improvement Target,			Lead Partners	Provisionally Approved
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		
NI 112 Under 18 conception rate	48.3% (1998)	-22.6%	-31.7%	-50.0%	SBC PCT	Provisionally Approved
NI 117 16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, employment or training (NEET)	12.6%	9.2%	9.0%	8.8%	SBC/ YOT/ Job Centre +/- LSC	No
NI 121 Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75 (per 100,000 population)	TBC	81.6	78.15	74.84	PCT/SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 123 16+ current smoking prevalence rate (per 100,000 population aged 16+)					PCT / SBC	No
NI 130 Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets)	122 per 100,000 (06/07)	200	220	250	SBC /PCT	Provisionally Approved
NI 132 Timeliness of social care assessments	53% (06/07)	60%	65%	68%	SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 135 Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	7.9% (06/07)	15%	20%	25%	SBC	Provisionally Approved

Indicators	Baseline (including source year)	LAA Improvement Target,			Lead Partners	Provisionally Approved	
		2008/09	2009/10	2010/11			
NI 142	Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living	95%	95%	95%	95%	SBC/ Probation	No
NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	72% (06/07)	>70%	>70%	>70%	SBC/YOT/Job Centre +/LSC	No
NI 151	Overall employment rate	Stockton 73.2% Region 71.1% (2006/07)	2.1 percentage points above Region	2.5 percentage points above Region	3.0 percentage points above Region	SBC Job Centre Plus	No
NI 153	Working age population claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	32.3% (2006/07)	31.5%	30.5%	29.0%	SBC Job Centre Plus	No
NI 157	Processing planning applications	Major – 60% Minor – 65% Other – 80 % (2007/8 National planning performance standards)	Major – 70% Minor – 75% Other – 82%	Major – 73% Minor – 78% Other – 85%	Major – 80% Minor – 80% Other – 88%	SBC	No
NI 159	Supply of ready to develop housing sites	.				SBC	No
NI 162	Learners achieving an Entry Level 3 qualification in numeracy					LSC/SBC	No

Indicators		Baseline (including source year)	LAA Improvement Target,			Lead Partners	Provisionally Approved
			2008/09	2009/10	2010/11		
NI 171	VAT registration rate	Stockton 20.4 per 10,000 adults Region 22.2 per 10,000 adults (2006)				SBC	Place retained in LAA for measure to commence 2009
NI 185	CO ² reduction from Local Authority operations	2008/09 baseline to be determined	N/A	4% reduction	4% reduction	SBC	Provisionally Approved based on a 25% reduction by 2013.
NI 187	Tackling fuel poverty – people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating					SBC	No
NI 188	Adapting to climate change	Level 1 2007/08	Level 3	Level 4	Level 4	SBC	Provisionally Approved
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)	5% 2007/08	5%	5%	5%	SBC	No
NI 198	Children travelling to school – mode of travel usually used. (Target based on reducing the % of car usage)	Awaiting baseline from transport	19%	17%	15%	SBC	No

Local Area Agreement Measures by Sustainable Community Strategy Theme

Key

Designated **Agreed with Government**
Local **Agreed by SBC locally for inclusion.**
Mandatory **Required for inclusion by DCSF**

Economic Regeneration and Transport

NI 151	Overall employment rate.	Designated
NI 153	Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods	Designated
NI 162	Learners achieving an Entry level 3 qualification in numeracy.	Designated
NI 171	VAT registration rate	Designated
NI 198	Children traveling to school – mode of travel usually used	Designated
NI 166	Median earnings of employees in the area	Local

Environment and Housing

NI 157	Processing of planning applications as measured against targets for ‘major’, ‘minor’ and ‘other’ application types	Designated
NI 159	Supply of ready to develop housing sites.	Designated
NI 185	CO ₂ reduction from Local Authority operations.	Designated
NI 187	Tackling fuel poverty – people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating	Designated
NI 188	Adapting to climate change	Designated
NI 195	Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)	Designated
NI 154	Net additional homes provided	Local
NI 186	Per capita CO ₂ emissions in the LA area	Local
NI 191	Residual household waste per household	Local
NI 192	Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting	Local

Safer Communities

NI 15	Serious violent crime rate	Designated
NI 17	Perceptions of anti-social behaviour	Designated
NI 33	Arson incidents	Designated
NI 40	Drug users in effective treatment.	Designated
NI 19	First time entrants in the Youth Justice system	Local

Children and Young People

NI 53	Prevalence of breastfeeding at 6-8 weeks from birth	Designated
NI 56	Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6.	Designated
NI 63	Stability of placements of looked after children: length of placement	Designated
NI 72	Achievement of at least 78 points across the Early Years Foundation Stage with at least 6 in each of the scales in Personal Social and Emotional Development and Communication, Language and Literacy	Mandatory
NI 73	Achievement at level 4 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 2 (Threshold)	Mandatory
NI 74	Achievement at level 5 or above in both English and Maths at Key Stage 3 (Threshold)	Mandatory
NI 75	Achievement of 5 or more A*-C grades at GCSE or equivalent including English and Maths (Threshold)	Mandatory
NI 80	Achievement of a Level 3 qualification by the age of 19.	Designated
NI 83	Achievement at level 5 or above in Science at Key Stage 3	Mandatory
NI 87	Secondary School persistent absence rate.	Mandatory
NI 92	Narrowing the gap between the lowest achieving 20% in the Early Years Foundation Stage Profile and the rest	Mandatory
NI 93	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Mandatory
NI 94	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2	Mandatory
NI 95	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	Mandatory
NI 96	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3	Mandatory
NI 97	Progression by 2 levels in English between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	Mandatory

NI 98	Progression by 2 levels in Maths between Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4	Mandatory
NI 99	Children in Care reaching level 4 in English at key stage 2	Mandatory
NI 100	Children in Care reaching level 4 in Maths at key stage 2	Mandatory
NI 101	Children in Care reaching 5 A* - C or equivalent at key stage 4 inc Maths and English.	Mandatory
NI 109	Number of Sure Start Children centres	Designated
NI 110	Young people's participation in positive activities	Designated
NI 112	Under 18 conception rate	Designated
NI 117	16 to 18 year olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)	Designated
NI 148	Care leavers in employment, education or training	Designated
NI 51	Effectiveness of Child and Adolescent Mental Health (CAMHs) services	Local
NI 116	Proportion of children in poverty	Local

Health and Wellbeing

NI 123	16+ current smoking rate prevalence	Designated
NI 130	Social Care clients receiving Self Directed Support (Direct Payments and Individual Budgets)	Designated
NI 132	Timeliness of social care assessment	Designated
NI 135	Carers receiving needs assessment or review and a specific carer's service, or advice and information	Designated

Stronger Communities

NI 1	Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area.	Designated
NI 5	Overall/general satisfaction with local area	Designated

Older Adults

NI 121	Mortality rate from all circulatory diseases at ages under 75	Designated
NI 142	Number of vulnerable people who are supported to maintain independent living	Designated

Arts and Culture

NI 11	Engagement in the Arts	Designated
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