

Report and Update **2008**  
A Community Plan for Carlisle





Carlisle is Cumbria's historic and dynamic Learning City in a stunning location, committed to realising the potential of our diverse communities in a sustainable environment.

## A Community Plan for Carlisle

**Foreword by the Carlisle Partnership Chairman, Councillor Mike Mitchelson**

Welcome to the first Annual Report and a refresh of "A Community Plan for Carlisle".

I am delighted to say that the Carlisle Partnership has had a successful year. We have established the Partnership as a significant player in many areas of city life. The Economic Strategy, the success of the Safer, Stronger group in reducing crime, the early interventions in support of our young people and the Communities for Health projects, amongst others, have begun to make a real difference.

We need to build on this good practice and use our increasing expertise and experience to widen the scope of our work which will benefit all our communities individually, and Carlisle as a whole, by reducing inequalities of opportunity, health and prosperity.

*Mike Mitchelson*

**Councillor Mike Mitchelson**

## Climate and the environment

The Carlisle Partnership is well placed to tackle the challenges associated with environmental sustainability. The issues of climate change, waste and bio-diversity are complex and cross-cutting. They require an integrated, co-ordinated approach and determined action from the whole community.

We recognise that a strategic and balanced approach, connecting the agendas of different organisations and individuals, is needed to help align environmental sustainability with many of our ambitions. For example, increasing economic growth and providing affordable and improved housing will lead to prosperity and health benefits for residents but can also reduce energy consumption and emissions.

The need for awareness raising and innovative, long-term thinking is critical. Our challenge is to identify priorities and lead by example, encouraging and supporting residents, businesses and organisations to make a contribution.

Last year, we set ourselves the target to become one of the lowest 25% of districts in England for CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. We have revised the measurement in light of new research. Each year, we will report the percentage change in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, per capita, for the district against the 2005 baseline of 9.5 tonnes, this is in line with the Local Area Agreement targets for Cumbria.

Priority outcome	Indicator	Area	Baseline (tonnes- 2005)	Targets 3% per annum		
				08/09	09/10	10/11
Minimise impact on climate change	CO <sub>2</sub> emissions per capita (NI 186)	Carlisle	9.5	9.25	8.9	8.4
		Cumbria	11.3	11.0	10.6	10.0
		NW Region	7.6	-	-	-
		UK	7.9	-	-	-



## Economic Development and Enterprise Priority Group (EDE)

The Economic Development and Enterprise Group (EDE) completed the Economic Strategy for the city, “Growing Carlisle - An Economic Strategy for the Carlisle City Region” in January 2008. Detailed action planning for the strategic themes of “People, Place and Connections” has already started and the delivery of the strategy is about to begin.

The founding partners of Carlisle Renaissance (Carlisle City Council, Cumbria County Council and the Northwest Development Agency) have created a Carlisle Renaissance Board to take forward the Economic Strategy. The board will concentrate most of its efforts where its principle skills and capacities lie - in the delivery of the large-scale physical regeneration projects associated with the Place and Connections themes of “Growing Carlisle”.

The EDE Group will be reformed to have representation from organisations delivering on the vital, social, educational and business-orientated elements in the People theme. The group will also champion Tourism, Rural Business and Enterprise - support and growth, Walking and Cycling.

These two groups, with mutually supportive but different aims, skills and capacities will be linked through the Chair of the Carlisle Renaissance Board, who will be a member of the Carlisle Partnership Executive and the EDE Group. The Carlisle Partnership will develop its role in overseeing the delivery of all three elements of the Economic Strategy.

## 'People' Priorities

- **Reduce Worklessness**
  - Helping people into employment
  - Better use of resources by multi-agency working
  - New employment and training opportunities linked to investment and growth
- **Improve Workforce Skills**
  - Promote 'Skills for Life'
  - Management development
  - Skills for areas of economic growth
- **Business Growth and Support**
  - Better business engagement
  - Encouraging growth sectors and business incubation
  - Knowledge transfer
  - Funding for growth
  - Enhanced business support services

## 'Place' Priorities

- **Growing Carlisle**
- **City Centre**
- **Revitalising Communities**
- **Promoting Carlisle**

## 'Connections' Priorities

- **Carlisle Airport**
- **Carlisle Rail Gateway**
- **Regional Roads**
- **Local Roads**
- **Public Transport**
- **Walking and Cycling**
- **Information and Communications Technology Connectivity**



## Children and Young Peoples Planning Group (CYP)

In 2007, this Carlisle CYP Planning Group concentrated on setting up the structural support needed to set in place strategic planning in all its partner organisations. The group has succeeded in bringing the Children's Services and Carlisle Partnership agendas together and is looking forward to using the particular characteristics of statutory working and partnership working to complement each other in the delivery of services, facilities and opportunities to Carlisle's children and young people. Further training and team building events will continue in 2008.

Involving a wider group of interested organisations, parents, the public and most importantly, children and young people themselves, has been achieved at the

twice-yearly forum events. These have been well received and very well attended.

Priority setting for 2007, was based on local knowledge rather than hard, local data. This lack of local data has made it difficult to benchmark and measure progress. A data working group has been set up to resolve these issues.

The group stresses two key issues, which must underpin all our activities for the foreseeable future:

- the active engagement of young people in all our discussions and projects
- the disruption to young people resulting from school reorganisation.

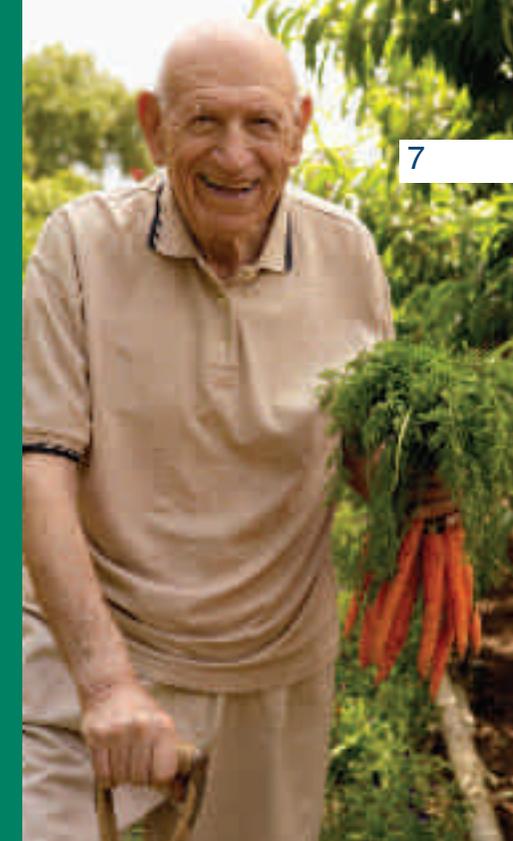
Priority for action	Contributing elements	New Targets	Lead group	Lead partner
Homelessness	YMCA Foyer Project	20 additional places by 2009	CYP	YMCA/Carlisle City Council
Increase post-16 participation	Removing barriers	Reduce young people not in education, employment or training to less than 5.3%	CYP	Connexions Cumbria
Reduce risk taking	Teenage pregnancy, Alcohol misuse	Access to services in schools not clinics	CYP	Cumbria Primary Care Trust
Reduce bullying	Safer Schools Initiative	Positive role models	CYP	Cumbria Constabulary
	MEND	10% increase in uptake	CYP	Carlisle Leisure Ltd
	Increase facilities	Play Strategy	CYP	Carlisle City Council
Raise aspirations	Improve access to opportunities	Improve and remove "year 9 performance dip"	CYP	Children's Services (Cumbria County Council)

# Healthy Communities and Older People Priority Group (HCOP)

The Healthy Communities and Older People Group (HCOP) has supported eight projects with Communities for Health (CFH) programme funding from the Department of Health. These are: Smoke Free Carlisle; Income Maximisation for Older People; Active Carlisle; Healthy City; Keep Warm; Lifestyle on the Road; Worthwhile Days and On Your Bike. A showcase event to raise awareness of the HCOP Group and to celebrate the work of our partners in delivering these projects was held in March 2008. Details of these activities are featured in the 'Communities for Health Programme Summary Report', available from the Carlisle office of Cumbria Council for Voluntary Services.

The HCOP Group will continue to support our Smoke Free Carlisle, Income Maximisation for Older People, and Healthy City projects into 2008/09.

The group is reviewing what our health statistics are telling us about Carlisle. We still continue to have higher than average levels of smoking, premature death and other significant health inequalities. There is now a wealth of evidence to link these health issues with wider inequalities - such as income, housing, low skills and aspirations. The HCOP Group is keen to address some of these wider causes of poor health in the coming year by working towards the World Health Organisation 'Healthy City' accredited standard.



Priority for action	Contributing elements	New Targets	Lead group	Lead partner
<b>Smoking</b>	Cumbria Stop Smoking Service	Reinforce front line advisory staff and increase four week quitters to 825 for 2008/09 (2007/08 target 779 - achieved 371)	HCOP	Cumbria Primary Care Trust
<b>Obesity</b>	Active Carlisle; Lifestyle on the Road; Worthwhile Days; On Your Bike	Increase participation especially amongst families and hard to reach groups	HCOP	Carlisle Leisure Ltd; Carlisle MENCAP and Impact Housing
<b>Reduce health inequalities</b>	Healthy City Network	Roll out further initiatives to community centres, into rural areas and via the media	HCOP	Cumbria Council for Voluntary Service
<b>Maximise income</b>	Outreach and referral programme	Increase uptake in rural area 08/09 (£500,000 additional benefits claimed 75% urban 25% rural 07/08)	HCOP	Age Concern Carlisle and District



## Safer, Stronger Communities Priority Group (SSC)

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP) Strategy for 2008 prioritised the safer elements for Carlisle by considering the interests of the community and key areas of under performance. The priorities will form the basis of an improvement plan for the partnership.

**Anti-social behaviour (ASB):** Carlisle has the highest counts of ASB in Cumbria and the community continues to identify it as the number one priority.

**Violent crime particularly relating to Domestic Violence:** Domestic violence is a key part of this priority and in its current form includes a range of abuses wider than violence.

**Criminal damage, especially to motor vehicles:** Criminal damage is the highest volume category of any crime type.

The “Stronger” agenda: Difficulties remain with the formation of an effective way to address “Stronger Community” issues specifically:

- community engagement and empowerment
- cohesion
- equality and diversity
- consultation and representation.

Task and Finish groups will be set up to focus efforts in these areas.

Priority for action	Contributing elements	New Targets	Lead group	Lead partner
<b>Anti-social behaviour</b>	Average of 43 incidents a day (total crime 36 a day)	40/day total crime 34/day (Basic Command Unit North)	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	Cumbria Constabulary
<b>Violent crime especially relating to domestic violence</b>	Wounding and common assault leaving the victim with a serious injury	2.6/day (Basic Command Unit North)	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	Cumbria Constabulary
<b>Criminal damage, especially to motor vehicles</b>	Average of 11 crimes a day (motor vehicles average of five a day)	10/day (4/day) (Basic Command Unit North)	Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership	Cumbria Constabulary
<b>Community empowerment</b>	Identify pilot areas (urban and rural)	Establish multi-agency working within pilot areas	SSC working group	Carlisle City Council
<b>Community empowerment</b>	Proportion of residents who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	In 2007, only 37% of respondents agreed they could influence decisions affecting their local area	SSC working group	Carlisle City Council

## Community Planning

We are committed to letting communities have greater influence over decisions that affect them, as directed by the 2007 Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act.

Community or Parish plans offer a source of detailed information and evidence accompanied by a rational explanation of needs and priorities as agreed at a local level after a structured review. The process encourages communities to take responsibility for those issues that can be addressed locally. It promotes and propels grass roots evidence and opinion into higher level strategies such as the District Community Plan and the Local Development Framework.

This input is important to help with strategic priority setting and for identifying gaps and omissions in strategic plans.

Community planning also gives an opportunity to make a significant contribution to local place shaping and to show community leadership. In rural Carlisle, 63% of our parishes are undertaking or have completed plans, whilst in the urban area, Denton Holme has already gone through this process.

Community planning gives local groups the influence to shape policy. The Carlisle Partnership, and particularly, the City and County councils have adopted a community planning protocol, committing them to support and promote good working practices between local authorities and community groups.

Priority Action	Contributing Element	Target for Improvement	Lead Group	Lead Partner
<b>Delivery on rural priorities</b>	Carlisle Partnership uses evidence from community plans to identify and deliver on rural priorities	At least one rural target identified for each priority group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Safer, Stronger Communities</li> <li>• Children and Young People</li> <li>• Economic Development and Enterprise</li> <li>• Healthy Communities and Older People</li> </ul>	Carlisle City Council

# An integrated approach to sustainable community and spatial planning

Sustainable Community Strategy

Spatial Planning Themes



The Carlisle Partnership is committed to promoting equality and cohesion in the diverse communities of the city

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