

## **Cabinet – 23 March 2005**

### **Local Neighbourhood Partnership Plans**

<b>Portfolio:</b>	Councillor Zahid Ali
<b>Service Area:</b>	Community Engagement and Organisational Development
<b>Wards:</b>	All
<b>Forward Plan:</b>	No

#### **Summary of report**

This report presents to Cabinet the initial areas for action in each of the LNP Partnership Plans and details the process for taking these forward over the next 12 months in the 9 LNP areas.

#### **Recommendations**

- 4) Cabinet endorse the initial areas for action identified by the LNPs, as outlined in Section 2 and detailed in **Appendix 1** of this report.
- 5) Cabinet welcome the arrangements in place for LNPs to take forward these actions.

#### **Resource and Legal Considerations**

Budgetary provision has been made in the current year for set up costs of the new LNPs. In addition, financial resources are being set aside to assist the LNPs in implementing their partnership plans (detailed in a separate report to this Cabinet meeting). These resources will be linked to the local priorities set out in the plans and will pump prime longer term change at a local level.

#### **Citizen Impact**

The LNP Plans will capture local issues and concerns and prioritise areas for action, ensuring those likely to achieve a high level of impact in a short timescale are delivered quickly. The LNPs are bringing citizens and service providers together with a range of community leaders (for example, Councillors, headteachers, police inspectors, magistrates and youth workers) to agree on how best to deliver services at a local level to achieve the 2008 Vision. The LNP task groups and community forums, as well as the main LNP meetings, are engaging and involving local residents, community and voluntary groups and young people in deciding on priorities for their area.

## **Community Safety**

The LNP plans contain a range of identified community safety issues and agreed actions to be taken forward over the next 12 months. All LNPs have participated in the recent crime audit, which has informed the updated Crime and Disorder Strategy. Clear links have been established across all 9 areas with the Safer Walsall Borough Partnership (SWBP). A representative from this partnership supports the work of the individual LNP crime task groups. In addition, the collation of crime data has been aligned to the LNP boundaries. This has facilitated joined up working at a local level with a range of partners and local residents.

## **Environment Impact**

Initial priority areas for action will contribute significantly towards achieving a clean and green borough. The LNPs are delivering local environmental actions (such as clean ups, new open spaces, environmental awareness raising) and by involving local stakeholders are improving each area's opportunity to deliver sustainable solutions with longer term impact and benefit. The environmental issues and areas of concern also link to crime and community safety, housing and education. These areas incorporate the government's drive to create cleaner, greener and safer neighbourhoods.

## **Performance Management and Risk Management Issues**

Each plan will be managed and monitored by the neighbourhood partnerships team with support from the Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership's (WBSP) Shared Partnership Information Resource (SPIR). This will evidence and track change in key targets covering LNP boundaries. Progress reports will be published annually and made available to the public. This will be consistent with the council's performance management arrangements.

## **Equality Implications**

Discussions are continuing with the Community Empowerment Network and Walsall Voluntary Action, to look at different ways of engaging local communities, voluntary and community groups. In addition, an equalities impact assessment of the LNP Plans will be undertaken to assess how effectively they are working with and involving the wider community in supporting partnership activities and implementing the plans.

## **Consultation**

Each LNP plan contains a calendar of activities detailing a range of events that will take place over the next 12 months. The aim of these events is to consult with different geographic, thematic and interest communities on the difference the LNP is making to their area and to seek their views on how to continue to develop the work of the partnership. Alongside this, the neighbourhood partnerships team is working with the core consultation group of the Council to join up consultation at a local level, aligned to LNPs, and to avoid duplication and consultation overload.

## **Vision 2008**

The feedback from LNP consultation events and the tracking of improvements at a local level (through improved performance data) will gather evidence of how the Council is listening to what local people want and taking action in response to this.

The dialogue and joint working between service providers, Councillors and citizens at a local level will introduce a range of improvements to service delivery. The performance management system and links to the Community Plan will show how the LNPs are able to impact on a number of pledges and priorities in the 2008 Vision, in particular around safe and secure, clean and green, image and access to services.

#### **Background Papers:**

- Report to Cabinet – 14 September 2003, Consultation on Local Governance Arrangements in Walsall
- Report to Council – 12 January 2004, Leader of the Council's Proposals for the Establishment of Nine Local Neighbourhood Partnerships
- Report to council – 19 April 2004, Local Neighbourhood Partnerships
- Report to Cabinet – 12 May 2004, Local Neighbourhood Partnerships (LNPs) – Progress Update
- Report to Cabinet – 14 July 2004, Local Neighbourhood Partnerships: Guidelines on Selection Processes for Locally Appointed Partners (LAPs)
- Report to Cabinet – 19 January 2005, Implementing Local Neighbourhood Partnerships

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**Signed**



**Executive Director : Jamie Morris**  
**Date 14 March 2005**

**Signed**



**Portfolio Holder: Councillor Zahid Ali**  
**Date 14 March 2005**

## **1 Progress to date**

At its meeting of 19 January 2005, Cabinet noted and welcomed the progress made in implementing local neighbourhood partnerships (LNPs) and agreed that Cllr Zahid be authorised to consult LNPs on their emerging priorities. Cabinet also agreed that all LNPs should be encouraged to set up arrangements to consult and involve young people in their area.

Workshops were held in September and October with all LNPs at which they identified initial areas for action. Draft plans have been developed using the agreed template for LNP plans. The draft plans were agreed at the January and February LNP meetings.

## **2 Initial priorities identified by the LNPs**

Initial priorities for each LNP have been identified through a range of mechanisms. The Shared Partnership Information Resource (SPIR) has provided local intelligence by LNP area that has been used to identify trends and patterns in relation to headline data such as education, access to services, health, crime and housing. In addition to this, super output area data (recently introduced by government) has been able to pin point particular issues in smaller areas within wards. Breaking statistics into smaller neighbourhoods has provided the LNP with a really good understanding of specific areas within their locality which may be in need of attention.

Existing consultation data (for example from the Health Action Zone Steering Groups and local committee plans) has also been fed into the draft partnership plans. This bottom up information has been updated and added to through workshops and other local consultation events.

The local issues and areas of need have also been linked into the existing plans and strategies of the Council and partner agencies such as the Police, Safer Walsall Borough Partnership and Education Walsall. The partnership plans, therefore, also reflect and include major initiatives planned through these agencies, for example Children's Centres.

At their meetings in January and February 2005, the LNP agreed initial priority areas for action broadly grouped as follows:

- Safe and secure
- Clean and green
- Listening to what local people want
- Access to services

Appendix 1 details those specific actions that LNPs plan to take forward over the next 12 months. Common actions include:

- Address problems of litter and graffiti, particularly in district centres and around local shops.
- Increase the provision and activities for young people.
- Address anti-social behaviour in identified hot spot areas.
- Strengthen enforcement measures – flytipping, litter and alcohol.
- Increase car parking provision and improve existing car parks.
- Work with local employers to improve skills base in the area.
- Increase the presence of police/neighbourhood wardens to reduce fear of crime.

Over the next 6 months the plans will evolve and further detail and information added as the task groups become operational. Partner agencies are keen to work with LNPs at a local level to look at ways in which their headline targets (for example tackling obesity) can be tackled and delivered at a local level through the LNPs.

### **3 Implementing the LNP plans**

A separate report to Cabinet on this agenda gives details of the £250,000 Council resource that is to be made available to LNPs in 2005/06. LNPs are currently prioritising quick wins from their initial list of actions that can utilise this resource over the next 12 months through their task groups.

All LNPs have established task groups linked to their key areas for action. Membership is initially being drawn from LNP members plus the emerging Community Forums in the area. Terms of reference will be agreed at their first meetings and they will report on their progress at each LNP meeting.

The primary objective for the task groups is to drive forward action in the key areas identified by the LNP. It will be important for the groups to link into the relevant service areas of the Council and other partners to ensure that solutions developed are linked into mainstream provision at the outset. The neighbourhood partnerships team is in the process of securing representation from a range of service areas and partner agencies to support the work of the task groups. A schedule of meetings for the task groups covering the next 12 months will be presented to the next round of LNP meetings.

The partnership plans will also come alive through the securing of external funding, such as that recently awarded to the Redhouse Estate in Aldridge. The separate funding report on this Cabinet agenda also details how the LNPs will be supported to attract external funding to deliver local priorities. A joined up approach will be taken through the LNP Chairs Forum and the LNP officer project team to avoid duplication and to introduce collaborative bidding and cross LNP working for the wider benefit of the Borough.

The plans will be a critical tool of influence of the Council's service planning process for 2006/07 and also of our partners through the Walsall Borough Strategic. It will be important for the plans to evolve into a tool that is fit for purpose, containing a balance of local issues linked to wider strategic priorities of the Council and other stakeholders. This way the LNPs will be able to achieve longer term sustainable change by influencing how the mainstream budgets are allocated across the Borough in order to address locally identified needs.

**LNP PARTNERSHIP PLANS  
KEY AREAS FOR ACTION – 2005/06**

Safe and secure	Clean and green	Listening to local people	Access to services
<b>ALDRIDGE SOUTH AND STREETLY</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop community wardens schemes – Aldridge Town Centre and Redhouse Estate</li> <li>• Introduce drinking ban to address house burglaries and vandalism around shops on Redhouse Estate</li> <li>• Hardwick Wood – address underage drinking, drugs issues and access issues</li> <li>• Lighting improvements in robbery “hot spot” areas and where fear of crime is high</li> <li>• Address anti-social behaviour – Aldridge Community Centre, Blackwood Park, night club, Foley Rd Community Centre, Lazy Hill shops, Leighswood Park</li> <li>• Targeted police operations against drug dealers</li> <li>• Introduce rapid litter and graffiti removal</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aldridge Town Centre noted as in need of “gold standard” clean up</li> <li>• Local shops in need of attention – Anchor Rd, Boundary Rd</li> <li>• Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Walsall Airport</li> <li>○ Anchor Meadow</li> <li>○ Blackwood Park</li> <li>○ Goodwood Drive</li> <li>○ Redhouse play area</li> <li>○ Improvements to roof and changing rooms – Streetly CA</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Aldridge South and Streetly Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Map existing youth provision to inform development of other activities to reduce youth nuisance</li> </ul>

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<b>BLAKENALL AND BLOXWICH</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater enforcement to reduce underage drinking and smoking</li> <li>• Consider introducing banning orders for convicted shop lifters</li> <li>• Public reassurance through patrols by specials, police officers and wardens (Blakenall)</li> <li>• Research levels of domestic violence and develop a plan for the area</li> <li>• Develop multi-agency support service for asylum seekers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater enforcement to restrict parking on grass verges</li> <li>• Develop policy to deal with derelict buildings</li> <li>• Install more litter bins along with education on environmental awareness</li> <li>• Promote and implement more recycling services, initiatives and facilities</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ North Walsall and Ryecroft/Coalpool</li> <li>○ Leamore Park</li> <li>○ Goscote NRC</li> <li>○ Abbotts Street</li> <li>○ Bloxwich Park</li> <li>○ King George V playing fields</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Empower people to shape services – work with parents to increase awareness</li> <li>• Work with young people from an early age</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish better facilities and services for elderly residents, including improved meals on wheels and better mix of housing</li> <li>• Encourage employers to locate in Walsall – develop relevant skills training</li> <li>• All primary schools to have access to sports hall or theatre</li> <li>• Establish links to youth groups to focus on literacy problems and support young people in networking</li> <li>• Improve the image of education</li> <li>• Introduce more health-related educational programmes in schools</li> <li>• Invest in analysing why people are dying younger (cancer particular concern)</li> <li>• Bring specialist services into GP surgeries</li> <li>• Enable young people to have access to a youth service – access funding for summer programmes</li> </ul>

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<b>BROWNHILLS AND ALDRIDGE NORTH</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater range of interventions needed to reduce incidence of crime</li> <li>• Focus on needs and issues relating to young people</li> <li>• Introduce higher profile policing to offer reassuring presence</li> <li>• Review the effectiveness of witness care arrangements</li> <li>• Develop a multi agency support service for asylum seekers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop masterplan for Brownhills Town centre</li> <li>• Town centre manager and support for existing shop owners</li> <li>• Ascertain status and future plans of major buildings and land in the area</li> <li>• Request environmental health to check on fast food take away premises</li> <li>• Seek input from Streetpride to undertake "litter blitz" and on the spot fines</li> <li>• Greater surveillance on sites with history of fly tipping</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Greenwood Road</li> <li>○ Holland Park</li> <li>○ Oak Park</li> <li>○ Andrews Road</li> <li>○ Coppice Road</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce good neighbour scheme to support elderly people</li> </ul>



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<b>DARLASTON</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• CCTV – identify hotspots and investigate deployment</li> <li>• Lighting – identify problem areas</li> <li>• Traffic calming – identify hotspots and develop programme</li> <li>• Alleyways – identify problem areas and look at measures to improve (eg, alleygating)</li> <li>• Alcohol ban and enforcement – resolution to be proposed to Council</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strengthen enforcement measures – litter and fly tipping. Target private land owners</li> <li>• Take action on dog fouling</li> <li>• Improve or introduce surveillance on sites with a history of tipping</li> <li>• Update Darlaston Town Centre Plan</li> <li>• Secure funding for gateways and signage (eg Darlaston Town arch)</li> <li>• Look at lack of secure car parking</li> <li>• General maintenance of parks and footpaths – need to influence current contracts</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ George Rose Park</li> <li>○ The Barn, Bentley</li> <li>○ Broadwater Road</li> <li>○ Victoria Mews</li> <li>○ Kingshill Park</li> <li>○ Bentley New Centre</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Develop future projects – parks for children</li> <li>• Redesignate open play areas as parks</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hold events on market days</li> <li>• Establish a Youth Forum</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve health related outreach services – focus on teenage pregnancy, low birth weight, smoking, drugs/alcohol abuse</li> </ul>

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<b>PALFREY AND PLECK</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Target areas attracting anti-social behaviour</li> <li>• Introduce more community policing and presence of crime wardens</li> <li>• Support to implement exclusion orders and rehabilitation programme at Alumwell School</li> <li>• Take action against racial harassment – Wton/Bentley Rd, area around Joseph Leckie College</li> <li>• Address prostitution in the area</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply parking restrictions in Wallows Lane (preventing access to HGVs)</li> <li>• Address flytipping – Rutter Street car park; land opposite Palfrey Junior School</li> <li>• Improve condition of derelict flats in Bescot Street</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Primley Avenue</li> <li>○ Palfrey Park</li> <li>○ Pleck Park</li> <li>○ Silverdale Park</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Improve the street scene through regular clean ups and targeted campaigns</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness of cultural and religious events to encourage greater integration</li> <li>• Identify and involve key stakeholders</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish a One Stop Shop to access services</li> <li>• Introduce “safer estates agreement” to improve relationship between tenant and landlord</li> </ul>

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<b>PELSALL AND RUSHALL</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tightening of licence laws</li> <li>• Map the locations of recurring youth nuisance and the extent of youth provision</li> <li>• Youth worker for area to create diversionary recreational activities</li> <li>• Make more use of schools liaison officer</li> <li>• Introduce measures to address domestic burglary</li> <li>• Continue positive enforcement by police relating to drugs</li> <li>• High profile policing initiatives to address excess car speed and off road motor cycling</li> <li>• Develop inter generational project and mentoring scheme</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve access to car parking around community association</li> <li>• Assess cost of provision of car parking spaces at Stanley Place</li> <li>• Introduce limited waiting signs at St Michael's School</li> <li>• Install 2 hour waiting restrictions and more disabled parking near shops</li> <li>• Encourage schools to introduce walking buses to relieve pressure on local roads and parking</li> <li>• More stringent monitoring and enforcement, plus raise awareness of tip opening hours</li> <li>• Private landlords to take greater responsibility regarding rubbish collection</li> <li>• Greater enforcement of dog fouling by-laws with high profile prosecutions</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engaging with young people by developing a Youth Forum linked to the LNP</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Implement intervention schemes in schools focusing on health and lifestyle choices to reduce teenage pregnancy, excess drinking and smoking</li> <li>• Check best practice regarding introducing exercise programmes</li> <li>• Lobby major retailers to supply subsidised shopping bus</li> <li>• Use local libraries as potential venues for "one stop shops" offering range of services for local people</li> </ul>

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<b>PHEASEY AND PADDOCK</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Feasibility study into park and ride</li> <li>• Investigate options to introduce walking buses</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maintain vegetation, particularly around traffic islands</li> <li>• Agreements with developers to ensure investment in local services to match the forecast increase in demand</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Doe Bank Park</li> <li>○ Newquay Road</li> <li>○ Arboretum</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Engage and interact with local small businesses</li> <li>• Target appropriate groups to cover specific issues</li> <li>• Increase communications with the voluntary and community sector</li> <li>• Ensure close liaison with BME groups</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initiative review of public transport links with Centre and conduct comprehensive traffic survey to establish local needs</li> <li>• Ensure facilities in the area provide appropriate access, eg address lack of community resource in Paddock</li> <li>• Better transport access for elderly people</li> <li>• Address traffic congestion and pest control in Park Hall</li> <li>• Improve community transport</li> <li>• Support SMEs to meet DDA requirements</li> <li>• Undertake further research to establish the extent of hidden health issues</li> </ul>

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<b>ST MATTHEWS, BIRCHILLS AND LEAMORE</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish sub group for crime issues</li> <li>• Birchills – crime and fear of crime an issue. Lobby for CCTV.</li> <li>• Target areas identified re anti-social behaviour and youth nuisance</li> <li>• Prostitution an issue in identified streets</li> <li>• Lighting needed in Comwall Close</li> <li>• Address speeding and vehicle nuisance in Stephenson Avenue and Bloxwich Lane</li> <li>• Tackle drink related nuisance in town centre and drug related problems</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Introduce local management of housing linked to control over how resources are used locally</li> <li>• Town centre – address issues of litter, violence and alcohol, poor image, transport links, taxi compliance</li> <li>• Caldmore – issues around cleanliness of streets and recycling. Also car parks in White Street</li> <li>• Redevelopment opportunities Birchills playing field and Gladstone House</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Caldmore Junion School</li> <li>○ Beechdale Park</li> <li>○ Reedswood Park</li> <li>○ WS2 skate park</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agree a dedicated central place where local people can meet to build community cohesion</li> <li>• Consider specific actions aimed at breaking down barriers between ethnic groups</li> <li>• Link to Forum for young people elected from schools</li> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Beechdale – empty row of Council owned shops a concern.</li> </ul>

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<b>WILLENHALL</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Address anti-social behaviour in identified hot spots</li> <li>• Wood Lane estate – address drug problems</li> <li>• CCTV – concern not properly monitored in the town centre</li> <li>• Lack of wardens in the town centre</li> <li>• Poor perception of police presence and accessibility</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish plan to revitalise the area</li> <li>• Celebrate heritage of area and ensure public places are free from litter</li> <li>• Wood Lane estate – address problems with rubbish/litter</li> <li>• Canal – promote as an attraction</li> <li>• Town centre – improve appearance, more disabled parking needed</li> <li>• Field Road – car parking areas in need of repair</li> <li>• Spring Bank – relocate industries away from inappropriate areas</li> <li>• Fibbersley – poor condition of roads</li> <li>• Noose Lane – location of new school in inappropriate place</li> <li>• Castle Drive shops – private sector refurbishment needs to continue</li> <li>• Implement Transforming Your Space projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Harlech Road</li> <li>○ Hartill Street</li> <li>○ Manor Farm</li> <li>○ Willenhall Park</li> <li>○ Gomer Street</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Create green shields around industrial centres</li> <li>• Lack of facilities at Hawthorn Road</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish Community Forum</li> <li>• Consult with young people on what they want</li> <li>• Establish process to respond quickly to residents complaints</li> <li>• Consult with local people and publish their views</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Create training programmes providing access to new skills and future job opportunities</li> <li>• Develop local learning hubs to attract learners</li> <li>• Support business infrastructure development by creating business parks/sustainable business centres</li> <li>• Support childcare initiatives which enable people to return to work</li> <li>• Develop community enterprises</li> <li>• Reuse or recycle skills of retired people for the benefit of others</li> <li>• Shortage of GPs in the area</li> <li>• Lane Head – concern over threat to withdrawn transport</li> <li>• Improve public transport links</li> <li>• Pool Hayes Community School – need for new building</li> </ul>