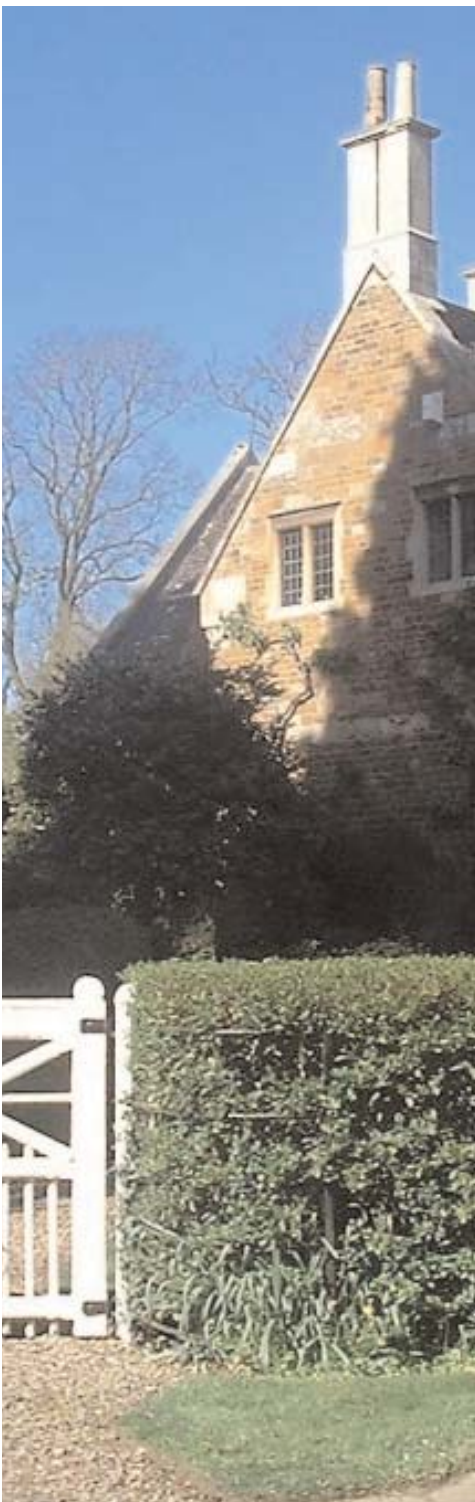


Harborough District Community Strategy

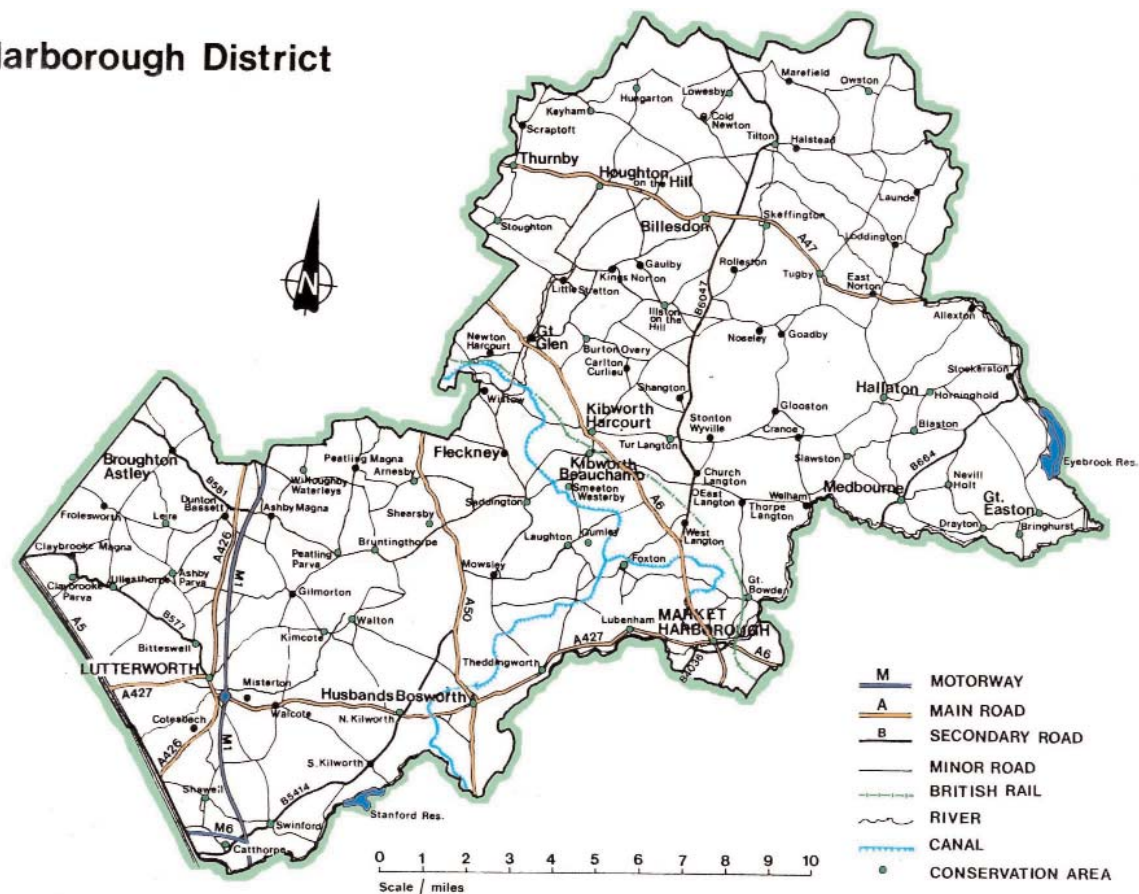


Harborough District
Local Strategic Partnership





Harborough District



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About Harborough District

Size 59,178 hectares **Number aged 16-74 in Employment** 39,815

Total Population (2002)*	78,308	Number of Students	
Male	38,900	0-17	1,465
Female	39,408	18-74	1,408
0-19	19,318		
20-64	46,661	Unemployment Rate	1.76%
aged 65 and over	12,329		

Population Growth (1991-2001) 10.92% **Ward with the Highest Level of Unemployment**

Bosworth	2.4%
----------	------

Number of Households 32,850*1 **Ward with the Lowest Level of Unemployment**

Peatling	0.8%
----------	------

Main Urban Areas	Population
Fleckney	4,474
Great Glen	3,267
Kibworth Beauchamp	3,905
Thurnby	3,201
Broughton Astley	8,675
Lutterworth	8,351
Market Harborough	18,599

* Office of National Statistics mid 2002 estimate
 *1 Leics. Valuation Office 2003





Why Have a Community Strategy?

This is the first Community Strategy for the Harborough District in rural South Leicestershire.

The Community Strategy is an overall plan for improving social, economic and environmental wellbeing in the local communities within the district. At its heart is the Harborough District 2010 vision, a long-term vision for how the district might look in the year 2010, which you can see overleaf.

This strategy has been developed by an organisation known as a Local Strategic Partnership or LSP. All districts have them and they bring together all of the public, private, voluntary and community sectors, to work together in securing long-term improvements for the areas they serve.

The structure of Harborough District's LSP is shown opposite and has brought together forums and partnership bodies to help produce this strategy. These forums have a wealth of knowledge through consulting and working with you in the past, on what really matters for the future in the district.

This is just the start of a long-term process. The LSP forums are made up of many different organisations working in those thematic areas and within them lies the necessary expertise and resource to help deliver the actions set out in the following chapters.

This is not a strategy owned by one individual, group or organisation, it is everyone's strategy that has an interest in this district. Whether you are a resident, an employer or employee or a service provider, this strategy is aiming to bring about real differences in the district for you, now and in the future.

At the LSP we want you to join us and take this strategy forward. The LSP has focussed hard to ensure the actions are challenging but have deliverable targets, ones that can be measured to identify real progress. I am looking forward to hearing your views over the next few months on whether you feel we are 'hitting the right notes' and how you feel you can get involved. Write or email me and share with me your views and thoughts.

Councillor John Fort
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Harborough District Council
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LSP Structure



How the Strategy has Evolved

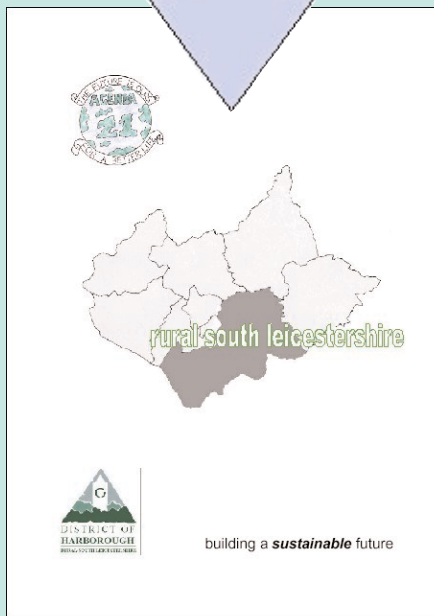
In 2000, the District Council led the development of a plan called Building a Sustainable Future - Rural South Leicestershire. This was known as the Local Agenda 21 Strategy. Local Agenda 21 is about meeting the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. There was wide consultation on LA21 through TalkBACK which helped produce the plan. The plan and your views were instrumental in helping to start the process of developing a long term vision for the district. This sets out the aim of how the district will look in the year 2010 and beyond.

The LSP evolved from existing partnership arrangements as the vehicle to drive this vision forward and as a means of involving all organisations, whether public, private, voluntary or community in implementing the vision.

The Community Strategy sets out how, through adopting an integrated partnership approach, the vision can become a reality. It will be constantly reviewed and revised to reflect community needs and aspirations in the future.



2000

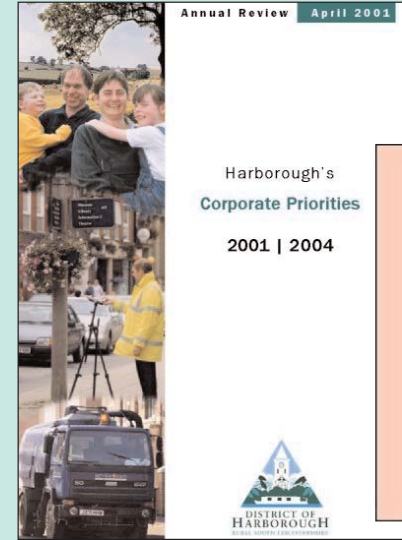


TalkBACK allowed us to gather your views on developing the Local Agenda 21 plan. This document is effectively an earlier Community Strategy and is entitled 'Building a Sustainable Future - Rural South Leicestershire.'

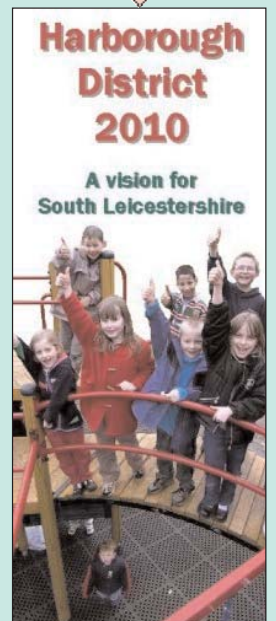


The implementation of the LA21 strategy allowed the formation of a long-term vision to be developed for the district. This process took forward your views given in TalkBACK. The many different partner organisations, forums and groups helped with developing the vision.

6

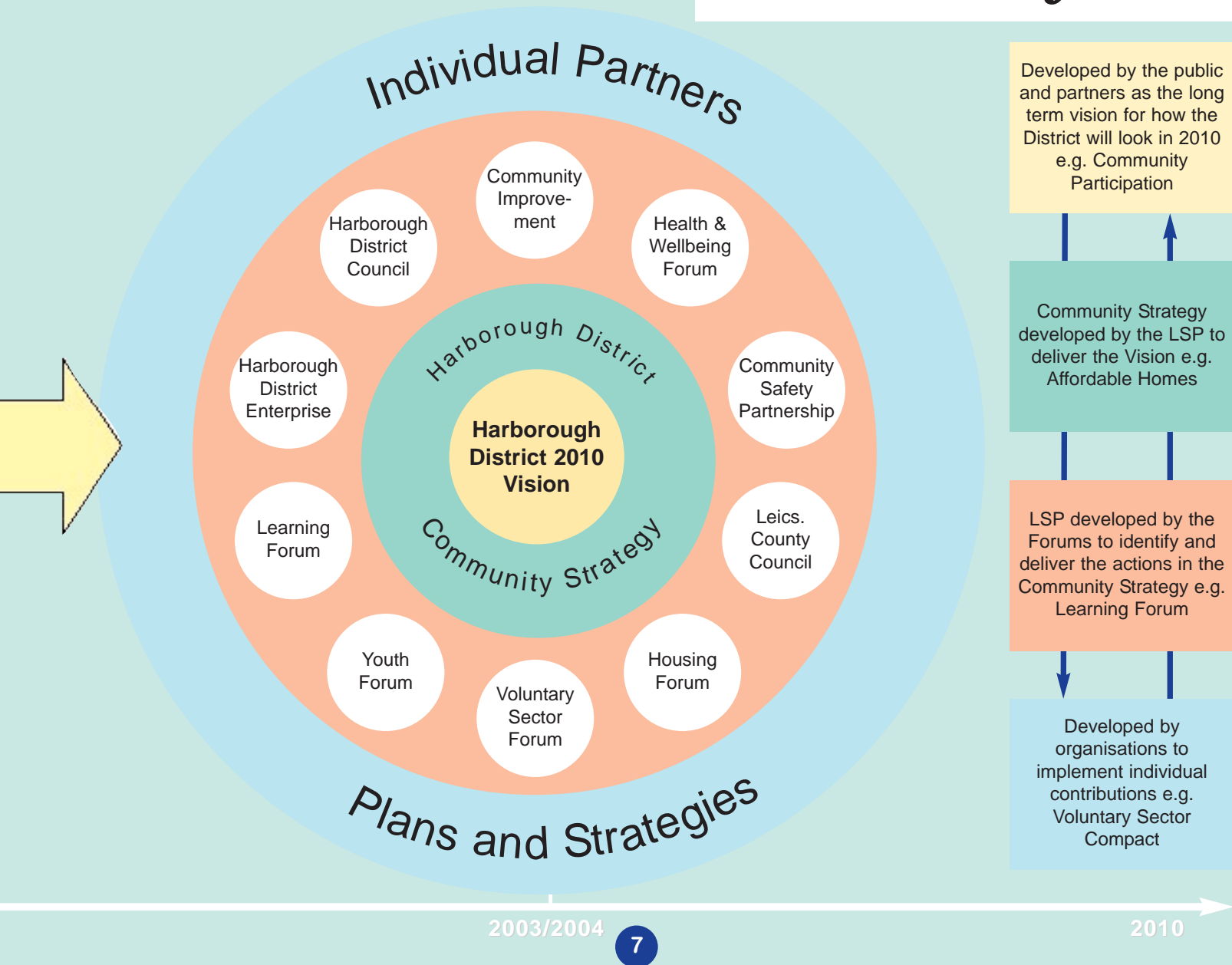


Harborough District Council moved its Corporate Priorities into the 2010 vision process which allows it now to focus more on community orientated development in the future.



2001/2002

The Way Forward



The latest step in the process, which is now working towards bringing everything together in one arena. At the centre, the 2010 Vision with its implementation being supported primarily by this strategy, the Community Strategy. The Community Strategy is driven by the Local Strategic Partnership and its forums to which the many important agencies and organisations belong to. These organisations have brought to the LSP their individual plans and strategies to ensure they play a part in implementing the 2010 vision.

The way forward is to:

- Further develop the LSP to ensure all community groups and partners are given the opportunity to contribute to the further development of the Community Strategy, this includes Parish Councils and Parish Meetings.
- Enhance and further develop our consultation arrangements with you.
- Implement this strategy to make the 2010 vision a reality



Safer Communities

Our long term targets are to reduce the actual low levels of crime and disorder, within the district, through the Public Service Agreements (PSA's) and the current Harborough Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy in order to create safer local communities”

Current Position

☆ **Vehicle Crime**

Vehicle crime currently stands at 570 incidents reported to the police between April 2003 and March 2004



Action Plan

- ☆ Vehicle crime PSA - Reduce vehicle crime by 20% (Leicestershire County Target) to 6961 by year end 2006
- ☆ Domestic Violence PSA - to reduce the overall level of domestic violence by working with victims and perpetrators from 4781 incidences to 5539 incidences (Leicestershire County target)
- ☆ Youth PSA* - improve the basic skills of young people with a basic skills deficit who are receiving community supervision from the Youth Offending Service from 52% to 85% by 2006 (Leicestershire County target)

* this PSA is not directly related to community safety however the lead for this PSA is the Youth Forum working through the Community Safety Partnership

Lead partner: Harborough District Community Safety Partnership

Affordable Homes

Our long term target is to deliver housing and housing services that support safe, sustainable and inclusive communities. Achieving this will effectively contribute to the health and wellbeing of the community and enhance the life chances of vulnerable households in our district.



Current Position

✧ Decent Homes Standard

38% of Council owned homes did not meet the Decent Homes Standard as at April 2002. In 2001, a stock condition survey for private sector housing identified 3% as unfit.

✧ Affordable Accommodation

Expected completions of units of affordable accommodation to be delivered in 2003/4 are 64.

✧ Housing Register

The Housing register of home seekers in the District is updated daily. On 8 January 2004 it stood at 1149.

Action Plan

- ✧ Work towards achieving the 'decent homes standard' across all tenures in the district. The initial aim is to achieve at least a 50% reduction in non-decent council owned homes by 2006.
- ✧ Promote social inclusion with the development of an action plan for improving access to housing and support services by April 2005.
- ✧ Ensure the 'balancing of housing markets' through the Local Plan review and the Housing Strategy. The aim is to seek to achieve at least 80 units of affordable accommodation annually as from 2006/7.
- ✧ Improve the range of quality information regarding housing options, (linking with other agencies) to offer advice and empower the local communities to make informed choices.
- ✧ Work with all partners to combat fuel poverty in all tenures. Housing forum to develop with the Health forum an action plan by April 2006.

Lead partner: Harborough Housing Forum

Support for Voluntary Groups

Our long term target is to secure structured and co-ordinated support for voluntary sector organisations enabling them to focus on better and joint service provision with other LSP partners to the local communities.

Current Position

★ Local Compact

There is a Leicestershire County compact for the Voluntary sector, however a complementary one is sought for the services within the Harborough District.



Action Plan

★ Local Compact

Develop and implement a 'Local Compact' for the Voluntary Sector by September 2004. A Local Compact is a jointly agreed understanding between the statutory service providers (District Council and Primary Care Trusts) and the voluntary sector for the delivery and development of voluntary based services within the District.

★ One Stop Shop

Seek to incorporate voluntary sector services into a 'one stop shop' in Market Harborough to compliment the arrangement in Lutterworth. The aim is to consult with the sector to develop proposals during summer 2004.

Lead partner: South Leicestershire Voluntary Sector Forum

Community Participation



Our long term target is to ensure that opportunities are maximised for community participation and that communities have multi-agency support for helping them develop their local areas.



Current Position

☆ Consulting

All service providers conduct their own consultations on specific themes and initiatives.

Action Plan

☆ Harmonise Consultation

Develop an LSP wide framework for consulting with the local communities, in that all service providers and LSP partners' consultations are harmonised to reduce consultation fatigue. This process to commence in April 2004 and be fully operational by December 2004. The aim is to be publishing joint results by April 2005.

☆ Youth Survey

Ensure the findings of the Harborough District Youth Survey (2004) support and inform future improvement and developments across the District.

Lead partners: *Harborough District Council*
Harborough District Youth Forum



Opportunities for Learning



Our first long term target is to ensure that childcare will be more available to those reentering learning and that there will be more people equipped to take up employment opportunities in this and other care areas. Our second long term target is to improve the attitudes of employers towards training their workforce.



Action Plan

☆ Increase Collaboration

Action 1 is to further develop and increase the level of collaboration, joint planning and partnership working between adult learning providers, those working in the community and the voluntary sector, training agencies and Jobcentre Plus.

☆ Research Venues

Action 2 is:

- to develop and implement an audit of venues
- to identify their associated accessibility problems
- to investigate the possibility / feasibility of mobile venues, using experience elsewhere

The related target is to develop the capacity for childcare training, find ways to support learners into training and develop new childcare provision.

☆ Identify Learning Needs

Action 3 is to develop a detailed needs analysis of community and employer based understanding of learner needs. This should draw together existing information from a range of agencies on a collaborative basis.

The target is to identify target areas and fund cluster based outreach projects with employers.

Lead partner: Learning Forum

Community Improvement

Our long-term target is to reverse the negative effects on the environment through waste minimisation, increased recycling, flood prevention, better use of transport and increased wildlife habitat creation and management



Current Position

☆ Recycling

Recycling in the District is currently 7.9% (2002/03)

☆ Wildlife Sites

There is currently 1 designated local nature reserve in the District.

☆ Transport

Transport planning and initiatives are currently undertaken by different agencies.

Action Plan

☆ Recycling

Develop a district-wide waste reduction and recycling education programme to support the recycling targets of 42% by 31 March 2005. Partnership working will develop a recycling education programme by March 2005.

☆ Nature Reserves

Increase the number of local nature reserves within the District to 5 by 2010.

☆ Transport

Amalgamate all strategic transport planning by January 2005 in the District to reduce duplication.

Lead partners: *Harborough District Council
Leicestershire County Council*



A Prosperous Community

Our long term target is to secure and maintain a highly skilled workforce across the whole district by providing wide opportunity for training and business development.

Current Position

- ☆ **Central Database**
There is currently no central database for training courses in the Harborough District.
- ☆ **Skills Shortage**
A survey conducted mid 2003 by Harborough District Enterprise identified skills shortage as one of the constraints in growth amongst local companies.



Action Plan

- ☆ **Improve Access to Training**
Secure improvements with access to training for local businesses. This will focus on ensuring that better information is available on the choice of training through a central database.
- ☆ **Help New Businesses**
Stimulate the creation of "Incubator" business units with short-term leases and a full business support structure to increase the success rates of new start up businesses.
- ☆ **Rural Diversification**
Develop potential rural diversification ideas and a 'map' indicating all existing and planned projects in the countryside that can be readily updated. The map can also be used to consider gaps in the market.

Lead partner: Harborough District Enterprise

Health and Wellbeing

Our long term target is that by the year 2010, life expectancy will increase by one year from the year 2000 statistics.



Current Position

- ★ 61% of girls and 45% of boys aged 2-15 years do not meet the Government's minimum physical activity guideline of one hour per day.
- ★ 33% of girls and 25% of boys under 16 regularly smoke cigarettes.
- ★ 25% of men and 32% of women aged 45-64 in the East Midlands are obese.
- ★ In 2001, 16% of the District's population were over 65 years, the projected overall district population will grow by 2% in 2006. Projections suggest that the number of people aged 65 and over will exceed the numbers aged under 16 by 2014.
- ★ Life expectancy was 77.7 years for men and 82.6 years for women in 2000

Action Plan

- ★ Identify the health needs of young people in the District and work to develop appropriate services.
- ★ Provide sexual health training and information for staff working with young people.
- ★ Support the Harborough Transport to Hospital scheme and identify options for long term funding to extend the service.
- ★ Contribute to the local target for smoking cessation by 2006.
- ★ To extend the provision of the Active Lifestyle Exercise Referral Scheme by March 2005.
- ★ Assist in the Co-ordination of an integrated falls prevention package, which involves primary, intermediate and secondary care organisations together with social services, district council and relevant voluntary organisations by 2005. This will also include the provision of relevant leisure activities.

Lead partner: Harborough Health and Wellbeing Forum

You can find out more about the Local Strategic Partnership from:

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