

# A Fair Place

## Developing your community, with equal access to services for everyone

**Our Vision:** Develop communities with a strong sense of local pride and identity.

Strong communities, where people have pride in where they live and help others, provide the foundation on which we can build our future. We have already supported a number of community initiatives – but there is still much we need to do. As service providers we have not got all the answers. That's why we would welcome the views of Bassetlaw people on what our communities need to be stronger. We want to encourage people to become active citizens - investing their own talents and time in their communities. The Social & Community development Sub-group will take on this exciting and challenging brief through a variety of new ways.

### Our Goals:

- u Ensure that everyone has equal access to services
- u Ensure the availability of high quality, affordable housing
- u Involve young people more in issues which affect them
- u Make it easier for people to enjoy leisure activities
- u Work closely with communities to tackle deprivation and its causes
- u Reduce homelessness
- u Design attractive buildings and landscapes which enhance our quality of life
- u To promote the success of our market towns

### Our Progress: Key Achievements 2003/2004

#### Leisure Developments through PFI

As part of the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) scheme, which will result in all the Secondary Schools within the District being rebuilt or refurbished, Bassetlaw District Council is in negotiations with NCC and developers as to the incorporation of Leisure facilities within the developments. Three of Bassetlaw's prime leisure sites are on joint use school sites owned by NCC:

- u Worksop Leisure Centre (Valley Comprehensive School)
- u Retford Leisure Centre (Retford Oaks High School)
- u Bircotes Leisure Centre (Bircotes & Harworth Community School)

Following consultation with Sport England on local people's views, a set criteria for facilities to be included in the project has been passed to NCC. In the main the objective is to replace 'like with like'. Additional school facilities such as gymnasiums, artificial turf pitches, sports halls will also be available to the public outside school hours.

The developer working with NCC and BDC on the scheme is the Transform Schools consortium, led by Balfour Beatty. In total the scheme will bring in £126.6m to regenerate the schools and leisure facilities.

**County Councillor Mick Storey, NCC Cabinet Member for Education and BLSP Board member said:**

“This is a very ambitious project, which will provide five, modern, well-equipped, state of the art schools for the 21<sup>st</sup> century, which the young people of Bassetlaw deserve. We are delighted to be working with the District Council to provide comprehensive leisure facilities for the residents of Bassetlaw. We will deliver the services better together than we ever could apart.”

Proposed Leisure Facilities

**Worksop**

25m Swimming Pool  
Small Swimming Pool  
60 Station Health and Fitness Suite  
Reception and Social Area  
Dance Studio  
GP Referral Room  
Changing Rooms  
Outdoor Tennis Courts

**Retford**

25m Swimming Pool  
Small Swimming Pool  
60 Station Health and Fitness Suite  
Reception and Social area  
Dance Studio  
GP Referral Room  
Changing Room  
2x Squash Courts  
Outdoor Tennis Courts

**For more information contact Peter Clark on 01909 534507.**

**The Centre Place gets a make-over**

The Centre Place is a ‘one stop shop’, which provides information and support to vulnerable 16-25 year olds. Its services include practical advice, support for those experiencing housing need, laundry services, and getting a hot food courtesy of the kitchen facilities.

The agency received a make-over from the Nottinghamshire Cares scheme – Business in the Community’s national employee volunteering programme – to celebrate the scheme’s first birthday.

Whilst on one level, The Centre Place benefited from ‘a lick of paint’, Annie Fletcher, Centre Manager, believes the benefits are more wide-reaching:

“Thanks to Nottinghamshire Cares, The Centre Place is now an environment where people can feel safe, get advice and counseling, wash their clothes and get a hot meal in comfortable surroundings. Nottinghamshire Cares has helped to raise our profile in the local community which has meant more young people are using our services. Now that we have an improved facility, we are also able to let the space to other community groups, which is generating an additional income stream to support our work. On the day of the team challenge, the Centre users themselves gained confidence from chatting to business people who had taken the time and trouble to come to them in their local community.”



**For more information on The Centre Place contact Annie Fletcher, Centre Manager, on 01909 479191.**

## Disability Discrimination Act 1995

The Disability Discrimination Act 1995 (DDA) was enacted to prevent discrimination in the areas of employment, provision of goods, services and facilities, the selling or letting of land and property, education and transport. The DDA applies to the whole of the UK but not the Channel Islands or the Isle of Man. The act came into force in 1996 however further sections came into force in October 2004, requiring any service that is being offered to be equally available to both disabled and non-disabled people.

While the act is not directed at buildings, it has led to a major re-evaluation of the design and management of new and existing buildings and environments to make them inclusive to everyone. Service providers, which include shops, libraries, restaurants, pubs, clubs, gyms, cinemas, theatres, swimming pools, hotels, hospitals, banks and small businesses are required to make 'reasonable adjustments' either to their premises or the way they provide services. Those who fail to comply could face civil proceedings.

Discrimination can occur if, without justification, a service provider:

- u Refuses to provide a service
- u Provides a service to a lesser standard
- u Provide a service on inferior terms
- u Fail to provide the service by a reasonable alternative means



The Carlton Park Centre and Village Hall (left) is a good example of a recently completed building that is accessible. Access was considered at an early stage in the design and has resulted in a building that is 'accessible for all'. It has easily accessed parking, level access to the entrance, wide doors and corridors and accessible toilet facilities.

Apart from the risk of a civil claim, and the resulting adverse publicity, there is another strong case for complying with the act. A recent estimate puts the collective spending power of the UK's 8.6m disabled people at more than £ 50bn a year. Many improvements for people with a disability will benefit other customers, including their friends, families, parents with push chairs, people carrying heavy shopping and some older able-bodied people.

**For more information on the requirements of the Act contact Malcolm Robson on 01909 533195.**

For more information contact:

Pauline Elliott on 01909 533160 or email: [pauline.elliott@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:pauline.elliott@bassetlaw.gov.uk)  
Or alternatively email: [social.community@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:social.community@bassetlaw.gov.uk)

## Key Targets

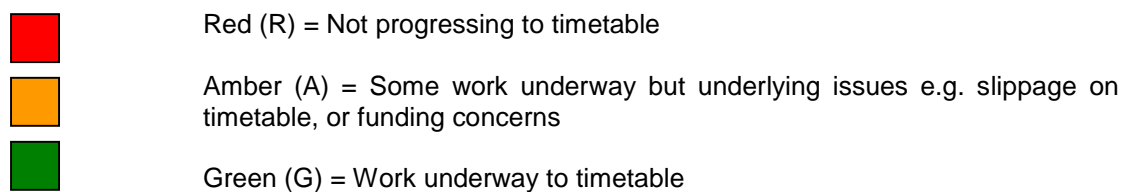
The table below outlines the five key targets agreed by the Sub-Group, as outlined in the Community Strategy Summary, that will be used to measure outcomes of the projects supported by the group. These are monitored closely throughout the year and reported on annually.

Our long term goal... to reduce the number of Bassetlaw wards that are amongst the most deprived in the country (measured by the National Index of Deprivation - IMD)

BLSP Indicator	Definition	Method of Measurement	2003/2004 Performance
S & CD 1	To reduce the number of Bassetlaw wards that are amongst the most deprived in the country (measured by the National Index of Deprivation)	(1) National Index of Deprivation – 10% and 25% most deprived wards  <b>Baseline</b> (IMD 2000) 10% = 4 wards 25% = 7 wards	IMD 2004 <sup>26</sup> 10% = 7 SOAs 20% = 21 SOAs
S & CD 2	Raise the number of homes which meet the basic 'Healthy Homes' standard <sup>11</sup>	(1) BV62 – Proportion of unfit private sector dwellings made fit or demolished as a direct result of action by the local authority  <b>Baseline</b> (2002/2003) = 3%	3.13%
S & CD 3	Bring one third of all Council accommodation to the 'Decent Homes' standard by 2004 and all of it by 2010	(1) BV184a – Proportion of local authority homes that were non-decent at 1 April <sup>33</sup>  (2) BV184b – Percentage change in proportion of non-decent local authority homes between 1 April and 1 April <sup>33</sup>  <b>Baseline</b> (2002/2003) = (1) 24.03% (1966) at 1 April 2002 (2) –116.94% <sup>34</sup> between 1 April 2002 and 1 April 2003	(1) 53.82% (4265) at 1 April 2003  (2) 16.91% between 1 April 2003 and 1 April 2004
S & CD 4	Increase the percentage of people satisfied with the area as a place to live	(1) Citizen's Panel Survey/ QoL 18  <b>Baseline</b> = 70% (Citizen's Panel Survey October 2002)	78% <sup>14</sup>
S & CD 5	To decide 100% of homelessness applications within 33 working days	(1) Local G  <b>Baseline</b> (2002/2003) = 99.47%	100%

## Social & Community Development Action Plan – Our Performance

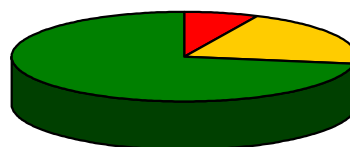
The charts below indicate how the Social & Community Development Sub-Group is performing against the 'Actions' within their Action Plan. The key for the charts is as follows:



This 'traffic light' system was piloted by the Health Sub-Group in October 2003 and January 2004. This was then rolled out to all the Sub-Groups for April 2004, and included in the Interim Report May 2004.

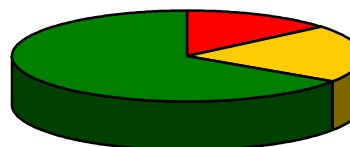
### April 2004

R = 2 (6.9%)  
A = 6 (20.69%)  
G = 21 (72.41%)



### July 2004

R = 4 (13.79%)  
A = 6 (20.69%)  
G = 19 (65.52%)



### October 2004

R = 3 (10.34%)  
A = 7 (24.12%)  
G = 19 (65.52%)

