

## What makes a good quality of life in Derbyshire? Consultation with local people on their priorities for Derbyshire

### Disabled People

#### What activities were undertaken and why?

Officers attended the Mental Health Carers Forum and circulated the questionnaires for members to complete. The Supporting Peoples Forum was also involved in discussions. Questionnaires were distributed to organisations which sit on the Disability Partnership Board who completed these with people within their groups. To gain the views of people with learning disabilities, interactive sessions were also held with the Choice and Control Taskforce Group and with the Learning Disability Representatives Board.

Surveys and questionnaires reveal what is important to local people but a variety of reasons may influence their choices. The idea of this consultation was to peel back the layers and get people talking openly and honestly to develop a better understanding of local priorities and use the feedback to help shape future plans, strategies and projects (e.g. the Derbyshire Sustainable Community Strategy and partners' own corporate plans). People were specifically asked what is important to their quality of life to open the discussion and then chose their top priorities.

The sessions focused on the following 19 topics:

- Strengthening a sense of community
- Climate change
- Highways, roads and transport
- Access to services
- Parks and open spaces
- Support people to live independently
- Affordable decent housing
- Fire safety
- Road traffic collisions
- Educational attainment
- Crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime
- Qualifications, skills and job prospects
- Vibrant towns and village centres
- Health and well-being
- Reduce, re-use, recycle
- Clean streets
- Activities for adults
- Activities for children and young people
- Tourism

#### When did the consultation take place?

Discussions took place between September 2008 and January 2009.

#### How many people were involved?

About 160 people were involved and the following feedback forms outline their views.

# Derbyshire Sustainable Community Strategy 2009-2014 Consultation Feedback



derbyshire partnership forum

We asked people what their priorities for their local area were, and what made a good quality of life for them. Below is an overview of what you told us and how this compares to feedback from the rest of Derbyshire.

<b>Disabilities:</b>	<b>Learning Disabilities</b>
<b>Top 5 Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>2. Healthy living and being happy</li> <li>3. Being able to get the service I want when I need it</li> <li>4. Supporting people to live independently</li> <li>5. Being part of the community</li> </ol>
<b>Bottom 5 Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Parks and open spaces</li> <li>2. Reduce, re-use, recycle</li> <li>3. Activities for adults</li> <li>4. Improve fire safety</li> <li>5. Doing well at school</li> </ol>
<b>Top 5 County Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Healthy living and being happy</li> <li>2. Roads and transport</li> <li>3. Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime</li> <li>4. Decent housing</li> <li>5. Activities for children and young people</li> </ol>
<b>Bottom 5 County Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Activities for adults</li> <li>2. Improving fire safety</li> <li>3. Reduce road traffic accidents</li> <li>4. Protecting our world</li> <li>5. Visiting place of interest</li> </ol>

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<b>Disabilities:</b>	<b>Disabilities general</b>
<b>Top Priorities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clean streets</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Parks and open spaces</li> <li>• Support people to live independently</li> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Activities for adults</li> </ul>
<b>Comments:</b>	<p>People felt that rubbish in the streets not only detracted from the appearance of the area but was also dangerous for those with sight impairments or with mobility problems. People also felt that it was important for the appearance of the area and how others perceived it and that dirty streets will just encourage more people to drop litter.</p> <p>Access to services was seen as important not just for physical access but also regarding information about services and sign posting. They suggested consulting access groups and also improving access to bus travel and rail services.</p> <p>Parks and open spaces were important and making some of the footpaths and track ways accessible to those with mobility issues was seen as positive. People recognised that parks were good for all sections of society and some commented that they were also good for mental wellbeing.</p> <p>Living independently was chosen as a top priority and providing help to stay at home for as long as possible was seen as a positive. People felt that providing home helps and household aides was a good but that help was also sometimes needed to get out and about.</p> <p>Feeling safe was also chosen as a priority. People want to feel safe walking around towns and parks and particularly from those drinking and taking drugs.</p> <p>Finally people felt that there should be more family orientated activities and that those activities aimed at adults should be affordable as many were deemed too expensive.</p> <p><i>'Because it is horrible walking around through litter and rubbish and it looks as if no one cares'</i></p> <p><i>'Its important to have a hospital nearby and doctors'</i></p>

	<p><i>surgery so you don't have far to travel'.</i></p> <p><i>'Parks and open spaces are very important for mental wellbeing but need to be kept clean and litter free'.</i></p> <p><i>'I've had fall down bars in the bathroom so that I can stand up in the bath'.</i></p> <p><i>'Tackling crime is important as I want to feel safe walking around town and in the parks and do not want to see people drinking and behaving badly'.</i></p> <p><i>'It's good for adults to do hobbies or do exercise for health'.</i></p>
<b>Top priorities for all disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Highways, roads and transport</li> <li>• Strengthening a sense of community</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Activities for children and young people</li> </ul>
<b>Bottom priorities for all disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improve fire safety</li> <li>• Tourism</li> <li>• Tackling climate change</li> <li>• Reduce road traffic collisions</li> <li>• Educational attainment</li> </ul>
<b>Top 5 County Priorities:</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve health and wellbeing</li> <li>2. Highways, roads and transport</li> <li>3. Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and fear of crime</li> <li>4. Affordable decent housing</li> <li>5. Activities for children and young people</li> </ol>
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<b>Disabilities:</b>	<b>Learning Disabilities Partnerships</b>
<b>Top Priorities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Clean streets</li> <li>• Support people to live independently</li> <li>• Strengthening a sense of community</li> </ul>
<b>Comments:</b>	No comments received due to time restrictions
<b>Top priorities for all disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Highways, roads and transport</li> <li>• Strengthening a sense of community</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Activities for children and young people</li> </ul>
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Disabilities:	Task Force Group
<p><b>Top Priorities:</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support people to live independently</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Strengthening a sense of community</li> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Clean streets</li> <li>• Health and well-being</li> </ul>
<p><b>Comments:</b></p>	<p>Independent living was very important to the group to enable them to live as full a life as possible whilst still having support if needed. The group felt that more support was needed to help people get out into the community, to make friends and to assist with tasks such as shopping and housework. People felt that living in their own homes was important for a good quality of life but also liked day centres as they provided structured activities and social opportunities. Direct payments were welcomed and seen as significant in helping people live independently.</p> <p>The timings that Gold Card could be used was a big issue for this group who felt that they were being discriminated against because they were unable to use it before 9am which hindered getting to work. Many in the group would like to see more wheelchair accessible buses and some carers pointed out that taking part in normal day to day activities was really hard for those with profound and complex learning disabilities as facilities for changing adults are simply not available outside of specialist units.</p> <p>The group also pointed out that simple things such as reading a newspaper were out of reach for many members of this group and wondered why a simpler version of the days headlines could not be made available to them. The group would also like to be heard more and have more access to community forums.</p> <p>This was reiterated in the strengthening a sense of communities comments where one person wanted a 'real' voice for those with learning disabilities. Being part of the community was very important to those who attended this group and the group wanted to be able to undertake paid work as well as voluntary work and take part in activities with a purpose.</p>

	<p>Some in this group had been victims of bullying and anti-social behaviour and the group recognised this bullying as a form of hate crime. They would like to see more done to educate children and young people as young people were whom they most feared. They would also like to see a greater Police presence on the street.</p> <p><i>'We want real jobs with real money and a real purpose'</i></p> <p><i>'Reducing crime (bullying) by those who don't understand learning disabilities'</i></p> <p><i>'People with learning disabilities need to have a real voice locally'</i></p>
<b>Top priorities for all disabilities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime</li> <li>• Highways, roads and transport</li> <li>• Strengthening a sense of community</li> <li>• Access to services</li> <li>• Activities for children and young people</li> </ul>
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# Learning Disabilities Priorities

