

## Consultation Results - the future of Hastings & St Leonards and Bexhill

# APPENDIX G Castle Ward



Produced by Clive Jacotine & Associates Limited  
with Nick Wates Associates

On behalf of the Hastings Local Strategic Partnership

With support from Hastings Borough Council  
South East England Development Agency  
English Partnerships

January 2003

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## **ATTACHMENT**

A	<i>Castle Ward Local Action Plan</i> – draft brochure	
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# 1 Introduction and conclusions

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## 1.1 ABOUT THIS APPENDIX

- 1.1.1 This Appendix sets out the results of public consultation which took place during November and December 2002 on the Castle Ward Local Action Plan
- 1.1.2 The exercise was part of a wide ranging consultation programme on the future of Hastings & St Leonards. This Appendix covers only the feedback on the Castle Ward draft Local Action Plan. It should be read in conjunction with the report on the overall consultation programme (*Consultation Results; the Future of Hastings & St Leonards and Bexhill*) as well as Appendices on other plans and strategies.
- 1.2.3 This report provides a record of a key stage in the process and sets out data which may be useful in several ways in future. Already the process has moved on, with feedback being presented directly to the Forum and changes agreed to the draft Action Plan, ready for a round of facilitated workshops with key partnerships.

## 1.2 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 1.2.1 The Castle Ward Forum had been looking at a number of local issues for some time. Their experience of living in the area and data collected was used to draft the Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy (LNRS).
- 1.2.2 Clive Jacotine & Associates were appointed in August 2002 to work with the Forum and develop a Local Action Plan as part of the LNRS to be agreed by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) for Hastings. The Plan also had to make links with the Community Strategy being developed at the same time.
- 1.2.3 The twin starting points for developing the Local Action Plan were the statistical information on local issues set out in the LNRS and the views of the local community. After a walkabout in the area with local residents and discussions with key service managers, a draft plan was drawn up. This was developed at meetings with the Forum, before agreeing the draft consultation document.
- 1.2.4 A 4-page brochure was produced on the draft plan with tick boxes and comment boxes for people to complete (see attachment). 500 copies were photocopied in black and white for use at a local consultation event on 23 November. This was a four-hour drop in session in the Sussex Rooms, White Rock Theatre which about 180 people attended. The consultation presentations included the Community Strategy, the Masterplan, the Millennium Community project, the Housing

Renewal Area proposal, the Greenway project and the detailed plans of the Forum itself.

- 1.2.5 Following this event, people were given five days to return completed questionnaires.
- 1.2.6 Responses were analysed and the results were discussed at a meeting of the Forum on 5/12/02, where various changes were agreed. The Plan was produced in a chart form more suitable for project management purposes, in preparation for the facilitated workshops with key partnerships.

### **1.3 THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE**

- 1.3.1 36 questionnaires were returned by the deadline and were analysed. A further 6 were received afterwards making a total of 42 to date.

### **1.4 CONSULTATION FINDINGS SUMMARY**

- 1.4.2 The draft Local Action Plan was substantially endorsed. The average level of agreement with the priorities for action suggested was 82%.
- 1.4.3 Many useful suggestions for improvements were made (and have already been taken on board in revising the Plan).
- 1.4.4 There was considerable enthusiasm about the community planning process and several people made offers of help.

### **1.5 CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.5.1 The consultation was important for informing people about the local action plan and giving them the opportunity to help shape it. It demonstrated public support for the proposals and provided a great deal of useful suggestions for improving it.
- 1.5.2 The offers of help should be followed up (see 2.5).
- 1.5.3 General feedback on the consultation needs to be disseminated, through *About* magazine, on HBC and other websites and through local newsletters and media.
- 1.5.4 As well as incorporating a summary of the final Local Action Plan in the Community Strategy, it would be useful to produce a version for circulation to all addresses in the neighbourhood. The artwork used in the consultation draft could easily be adapted for this purpose.

## 2. Questionnaire results

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### 2.1 INTRODUCTION

2.1.1 This section sets out the results of the 36 forms returned by the deadline.

2.1.2 Responses have been minimally edited for clarity.

### 2.2 KEY ISSUES

#### **Other Key Issues and Comments - from questionnaires.**

Numbers in brackets = number of returns making the same point.

Other numbers = reference numbers of questionnaires.

#### 1 CRIME & SAFETY

- a) Lack of police presence at all times. 2
- b) Need for self defence training. 26
- c) Boy racers at night are a danger. (3) 1, 19, 26
- d) White Rock Gardens unsafe after dark. 22
- e) Positive encouragement needed of a sense of security. 34
- f) Underage drinking – cards should be insisted on for verification. 5
- g) Unhealthy lifestyles driven by consumerism. 8
- h) Prompt follow up needed of reported crime. (2) 7, 18
- i) Drunks after closing time. 19
- j) Skateboarders and BMX bikers are dangerous in the town centre. (2) 13, 28
- k) Attacks on foreign students. 32
- l) Street wardens overstretched. 35

m) Unsure of responsibility for antisocial behaviour. 11

## 2. HOUSING

- a) Rents are too high for the quality. 11
- b) Housing Associations should provide affordable housing without purchase options in order to keep it available for those who need it. 26
- c) Positive programme, known to public, of maintenance of support services needed, ie sewage, pavements, etc. 34
- d) Compulsory purchase orders needed for negligent and/or absentee landlords. 8
- e) Street drinking policy not properly enforced, especially important for youngsters. 1
- f) Lack of low cost quality housing for young and single people. 28

## 3. ENVIRONMENT

- a) Not enough music venues in town for amateur bands. 11
- b) Special emphasis on street cleaning and other 'cosmetic' programmes. 34
- c) Greenway project need promoting and pushing forward. 6
- d) Tree planting needed – but not on the road edge. 1
- e) No way of dealing with mess created by fast food outlets. 18
- f) Seafront vandalism – uprooting of plants – linked to lack of facilities for the young and alcoholism. 31
- g) Serious lack of green areas. 25
- h) Badly maintained front gardens. 17
- i) St Andrews Square not achieving its potential. 35

## 4. EDUCATION AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- a) Lack of self help. 34

- b) 0-4 group not mentioned in draft document. More should be made of Surestart and Play Link coming to the area. 10
- c) More environmentally friendly outdoor activities needed. 8
- d) In school citizenship needs to include respect for each other and your home patch.  
1
- e) Need to publicise existing things to do for kids of all ages. 33

## 5. COMMUNITY FACILITIES

- a) No dedicated venue for pre-school children. 22
- b) SureStart finding it difficult to find suitable premises in the area. 10
- c) Lack of amenities for young mothers with babies and toddlers. 7

## 6. HEALTH

- a) More GPs needed. 34
- b) Shortage of health visitors. 10
- c) Too much smoking and not enough walking. 8
- d) Lack of public health education on smoking, alcoholism, drug abuse etc (2) 28, 31
- e) More traffic calming needed. 13
- f) Need promotion of physical fitness. 2

## 7. TRANSPORT

- a) Stagecoach should not be allowed to continue running the bus services. (2) 1,26
- b) Promenade and key amenities link needed – regular services especially in the summer and during special festivals. Summerfields – Pier – White Rock – St Mary’s – Old Town – Stables. 34
- c) Poor public transport to Conquest hospital. 12

- d) Access to existing transport difficult with a double buggy. 10
- e) Present traffic design and management encourages car use. 16
- f) Lack of cycle paths. (6)
- g) Too much catering for the car. 8
- h) Tramway throughout town needed – the dream solution. (21)
- i) Continual lobbying of rail authorities needed to improve services. 33
- j) Need transport from town centre to the old town for the elderly especially. 35

## 8. POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

- a) Need better quality jobs. 11
- b) Need affordable business rents/ office space. 26
- c) Need to invest in infrastructure for community development – community arts schemes and employment schemes. 26
- d) Development of industrial estates with adequate transport and parking needed. 34
- e) Too much money spent on cars, drink and cigarettes. Promote allotments.
- f) Help needed for unemployed, many of whom may be functionally illiterate. 7
- g) Vet incomers – refuse relocation from inner cities. 21
- h) Skills training and childcare needed. 2

## 9 TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

- a) Consultation programme is not aimed at the ‘common man’ – too highbrow and clichéd. 11
- b) Consultation needs to be a dialogue not a sales pitch and pretence (as HBC have done in the past). 1

- c) Town Centre Manager needs a higher profile and should be part of the Castle Forum. 28
- d) Rat running between South Terrace and Queens Road – blocking off of Cornwallis Terrace needed. 33

## 2.3 PRIORITIES FOR ACTION – ANALYSIS OF CHECKBOXES

### 1. SAFER PLACE

#### 1A. Tighter control and enforcement of licensed premises in the town centre.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	1	20	0	0	5
30-39	4	67	1	17	1	17	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	6	67	1	11	2	22	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	2	100	0	0	0	0	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>36</b>

#### 1B. More visible police presence in the evenings with the police post open more reliably.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	2	100	0	0	0	0	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>36</b>

#### 1C. Review with residents of lighting and planting around paths and twittens in the West Hill area.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	2	40	1	20	2	40	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>

1D. Review with residents of street warden service and how to increase its effectiveness.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>

## 2 DECENT HOMES

2A. Promote the accreditation scheme for private landlords and the registration scheme for Houses in Multi-Occupation (HMOs).

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>36</b>

2B. Carry out inspections with effective enforcement against bad landlords.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>36</b>

2C. The University project to help tackle poor quality private rented housing in the area.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	5	83	0	0	1	17	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	5	56	0	0	4	44	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>75</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>36</b>

### 3. A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

3A. Coordinate street cleansing with refuse collection days.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	3	60	1	20	1	20	5
30-39	5	83	0	0	1	17	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>

3B. Council to regularly publicise its bulk refuse collection service.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	1	20	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	1	20	0	0	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>36</b>

3C. Council to reorganise its street-based staff to increase supervision of the streetscape and tackle flytipping.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	1	20	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>83</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>

3D. Promote responsible dog ownership and enforce dog fouling laws.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	3	60	2	40	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>36</b>

3E. Adequate refuse storage to be an absolute condition of planning permission for all new housing and conversions.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>36</b>

3F. Agree standards with residents for improving steps, footpaths, alleyways and small green spaces.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	3	60	1	20	1	20	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>36</b>

3G. Improvement of Wellington Square as a showcase for improving the whole area. Council to improve external condition of its own offices.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	3	60	1	20	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>36</b>

#### 4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

4A. Agencies to jointly agree with the Forum a comprehensive plan for local children and youth provision.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	2	40	0	0	3	60	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>

4B. Produce a calendar of all youth-related events for next year.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	1	20	0	0	4	80	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36</b>

## 5. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

5A. Provide a dedicated venue for community use, along with improved community development support.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	1	20	0	0	4	1	5
50-59	4	100	0	0	0	0	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>

## 6 A HEALTHIER PLACE

6A. Local service point for comprehensive primary care to be developed by the Primary Care Trust.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	5	83	0	0	1	17	6
40-49	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	7	78	0	0	2	22	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36</b>

6B. Promote healthy lifestyles through physical activities, eating fresh fruit and vegetables, and reducing smoking.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	2	40	1	20	2	40	5
30-39	4	67	1	17	1	17	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	7	78	1	11	1	11	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	0	0	1	50	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>36</b>

## 7 TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

7A. Set up task force to integrate improvements to the Town Centre and station. Members to include the Forum, the Council, South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and Town Centre Management.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>36</b>

7B. Town Centre Management and the Forum to explore how to increase local employment and support for local businesses.

Age group	Agree		Disagree		Not sure		Total Number
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	5	100	0	0	0	0	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	3	60	0	0	2	40	5
50-59	2	50	0	0	2	50	4
60-69	8	89	0	0	1	11	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>81</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>36</b>

8C. Hold a major community planning event in 2003 so the community can be involved in designing the changes to the town centre.

<i>Age group</i>	<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>Total</i> <i>Number</i>
	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	<i>Number</i>	<i>Percent</i>	
-18	0	n/a	0	n/a	0	n/a	0
19-29	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
30-39	6	100	0	0	0	0	6
40-49	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
50-59	3	75	0	0	1	25	4
60-69	9	100	0	0	0	0	9
70+	4	80	0	0	1	20	5
no age given	1	50	0	0	1	50	2
<b>totals</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>86</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>36</b>

## 2.4 PRIORITIES FOR ACTION - OTHER PRIORITIES/COMMENTS

Comprehensive listing from questionnaires.

Numbers in brackets = number of returns making the same point.

Other numbers = reference numbers of questionnaires.

### 1 A SAFER PLACE

- a) Extend licensing hours to avoid bottleneck of drinkers. 24
- b) Licensed premises to include off licences. 36
- c) More visible police presence at all times. (re B) (2) 2, 16
- d) Quicker police response to incidents. 1
- e) More neighbourhood watch schemes. 1
- f) Review of lighting in whole area. (re C) 25
- g) Better lighting in alleyways. 27
- h) Lighting to be in keeping – not ‘horrible modern designs’. Planting to be appropriate. 8
- i) Reduce volume of pub music. 5
- j) Ban on cycling, skateboarding, rollerblading etc on pavements and pedestrian ways in town centre. 29
- k) Invite ideas to encourage more use of White Rock Gardens.
- l) A development along road to South of White Rock Gardens. 22
- m) Address vandalism to cars and break-ins at the Enterprise Centre by Safeways. 26
- n) Self defence classes locally. 27
- o) Extend greening and tree planting to Town Centre. 34
- p) Study rat runs and close off roads like Cornwallis Terrace. 34

## 2. DECENT HOMES

- a) Promote a statutory registration scheme (re A) (2) 5, 25
- b) Review length of tenancy licenses (6 months too short) 13
- c) Promote sustainable renewal and improvement of existing properties. 1
- d) Extend neighbourhood renewal area into Castle Ward. 22
- e) Council to stop implicit support of Marcel Sulc. 26
- f) Programme of rewards for house and flat dwellers who embark on their own improvement schemes. 34

## 3. A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

- a) Additional and more extensive recycling facilities. 31
- b) Bulk refuse collection service needs to be free and needs more staff. (re B) 16
- c) Encourage refuse awareness. 11
- d) Get people actively involved in keeping their streets clean, and get people to produce less waste. 8
- e) Provide more adequate dog fouling bins. 18
- f) Empty dog bins more regularly. 26
- g) Fine people for litter as well as dog mess. 1
- h) Devise an effective means of removing chewing gum from pavements. 1
- i) A nominated council officer to ‘walk the streets’ with a Forum member on a regular basis to monitor progress. 6
- j) Wellington Square is already being improved. (re G)
- k) Traffic flow needs to be addressed – the area is pedestrian unfriendly. 16
- l) Forum to be actively involved in major plans such as the greenway/gateway projects. 5

- m) Use Hastings topography to develop a green ‘skeleton’ through Castle Ward. 22
- n) Promote recycling and worm bins/compost bins for small gardens. 26
- o) Fast food outlets to provide more waste disposal facilities and be more responsible for waste created. 36
- p) Improvement of St Andrews Square to be showcase too – it could be just as beautiful as Wellington Square. 35
- q) Pelham Crescent to be a showcase too – more in the front line than Wellington Square. Needs more enforcement on the condition of facades. 33
- r) Move all industrial and warehousing activities to industrial estates so freeing up Earl Street, Mann Street, Queens Road, etc.
- s) Find solutions to seagull and refuse problems during the summer months – university project?

#### 4. CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

- a) Involve young people in future plans. (2) 1, 17
- b) Get young people involved in the upkeep of their neighbourhood. 8
- c) Encourage growth of self help culture among adolescents rather than negative approach of some-one else must do something. 34
- d) Involve parents of young people in the process to ensure acceptance of responsibilities. 36
- e) Expose young people to more positive role models for their futures. 2
- f) Provide more supervised activities for young people. 18
- g) Provide ‘youth shelters’ for ‘hanging around’. 1
- h) Pilot scheme to engage BMX bikers and skateboarders in a safety scheme – allowing them to bike/skate in return for help in various ways. 6
- i) 0-4 age group needs to be taken into account. More support to SureStart to find suitable premises. 10
- j) Make outdoor area of Clambers free. 22

- k) Review and reward with long term funding young people projects which have proved to be effective in Castle Ward. 24
- l) More facilities and self-defence classes. 26

## 5. COMMUNITY SUPPORT

- a) Restoration of St Mary's Centre, Portland Steps, to include disabled access. 17
- b) Facilities to be properly supervised to avoid or reduce vandalism. 18
- c) How about an environment or green centre. 8
- d) Find a venue for Sure Start and Play Link in Castle Ward. 22
- e) Old missionary building to be used for community use. (re A) 24
- f) Joint venture community and council development for St Mary's Hall. 34
- g) Support for community-led initiatives (eg street parties, festivals, art workshops). 26

## 6. A HEALTHIER PLACE

- a) Health centre in the area. 25
- b) Provide healthy living centre as part of the university centre. 1
- c) Access to duty GPs/nurses for young people even if they have not registered. 24
- d) Late surgery to be held in Castle Ward not Little Ridge. 24
- e) Make fresh fruit and vegetables more affordable to less well off. 2
- f) Promote farmers markets. (2) 1, 26
- g) Promote less car-based lifestyles – more walking and cycling. 8
- h) Too patronizing (re B) 32

## 7. TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

- a) Forum must make sure residents views are expressed through them. 25
- b) Need to assess increase in traffic volumes. 13
- c) Ensure university provides for town as well as gown – maybe a new library/media centre. 1
- d) Concern whether Forum has sufficient time and energy to take on action proposed on local employment and business support. (re B) 6
- e) More publicity and open discussion on what is happening on the station site re the new station proposals and how they link to the University and Millennium Community. 22
- f) The new station to be as beautiful and welcoming as possible – not done ‘on the cheap’ to match Priory Meadow. 26
- g) Cycle paths and pedestrian links. 36
- h) Offer low rents and grants to encourage local businesses to use unused shops. 24
- i) Grants to make St Andrews Market look more attractive (eg better signage). 26
- j) Residents associations should be involved in the task force too. (re A) 33
- k) Promote a positive programme of advertising the good things about Hastings as well as recording the problems. IT IS A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE!! 34

## 2.5 OFFERS OF HELP

### **I would like to help by:**

1. As a member of Friends of the Earth, we might have some advice and planning, transport and wildlife issues (8).
2. Writing to my local MP (12).
3. Distribution (17).
4. Contacting MP (23).

5. I would like to encourage young people at Xtrax to be part of the forum in my role as Acting Manager of Xtrax (24).
6. Attending forum meetings (but advance notice is needed) (26).

## **2.6 GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS**

### **General comments and suggestions:**

1. This should be a town to be proud of. If all this work goes ahead it will be. Keep up the good work, please! (3).
2. A little more though given to the presentation of wildlife areas (8).
3. Good luck guys (14).
4. Go into colleges and inform students of what's going on in Hastings (15).
5. I did not get any literature/questionnaire through my door and only heard about the meeting from the Observer (17).
6. Well done so far! (20).
7. Thanks for the chance to make suggestions (26).
8. Keep up good work (27).
9. 'Youngsters' to whom we chat constantly re-iterate remove the dangerous 'druggies' and the layabouts and help us to be proud of our town. They have a point!! (34).
10. Please keep sending us this sort of questionnaire – it helps to make everyone get involved (35).
11. A very good start, but there needs to be a balance between carrot and stick. Otherwise "buy in" is less likely (36).

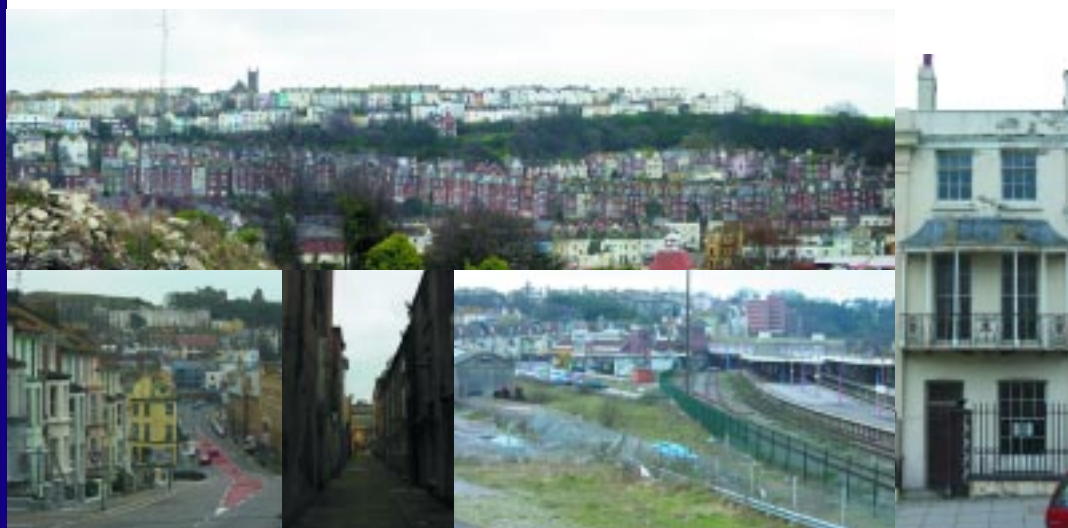
# Who is doing what, where and when

The Castle Ward Forum is a resident-led neighbourhood forum. It works in partnership with agencies and service providers to make the area a better place to live and work. It has sub-groups on:

- Community facilities
- Housing and the Environment
- Crime and Safety
- Young People
- Publicity
- Education
- Health and social care

After consultation with local residents during November, the Forum will revise this draft local plan and send it to the Hastings Local Strategic Partnership. This partnership includes all the main service providers and agencies which operate in Hastings and St Leonards,

Once approved by the Local Strategic Partnership, the plan will be supported and put into action.



Dear Castle Ward Resident,  
You are invited to a

**'Winter Family Fun Party'**  
Games and food  
*Free prize draw - family meal at a local restaurant!*

**Venue:**  
The Pier Ballroom

**From:** 2.30 - **On:** Saturday 4.00  
**4th January**

### Further information

**Castle Ward Forum**  
Judy Russell, Secretary,  
5 Portland Place, Hastings TN34 1QG  
castlewardforum@talk21.com  
www.castleward.net

**Community Services**  
Viv Reddick, Support worker,  
4 Robertson Terrace, Hastings TN34 1JE  
Tel 01424 436218

**Hastings Information Centre**  
Queens Square, Priory Meadow, Hastings,  
East Sussex TN34 1TL  
Tel: 01424 781111  
Email: hic\_info@hastings.gov.uk  
www.hastings.gov.uk

**The Regeneration Centre**  
45a Robertson Street  
Hastings TN34 1HL  
Tel: 01424 429438  
Fax: 01424 445992  
Email: contactus@ourfuture.org.uk  
www.ourfuture.org.uk  
Open 11 to 4 Tues to Sat



Public consultation material produced under contract by Clive Jacotine & Associates Limited with Nick Wates Associates  
Graphic Design: Intergrafix

# CASTLE WARD LOCAL ACTION PLAN

Produced with the Castle Ward Forum

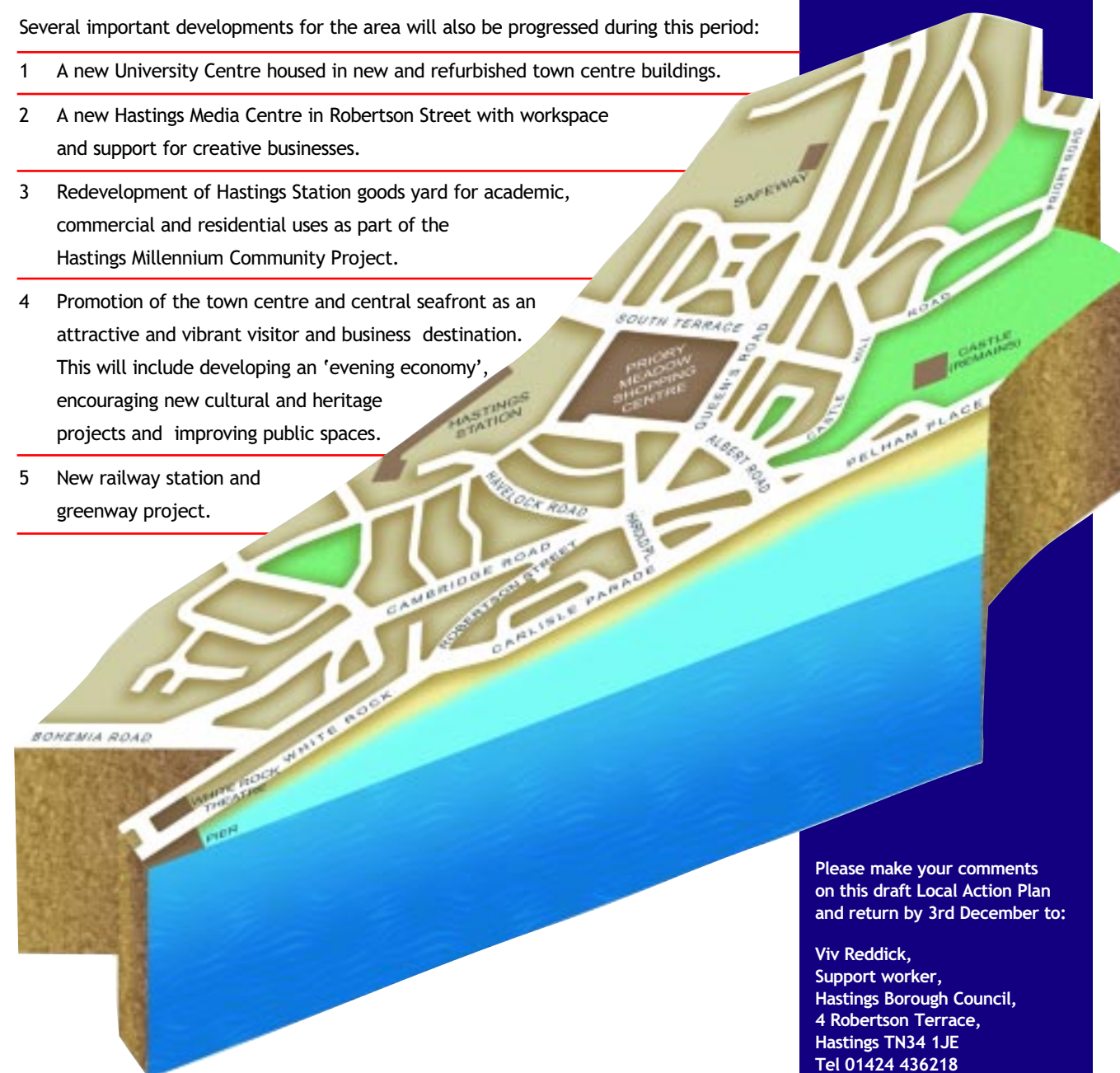
This is our draft Local Action Plan for Castle Ward

After consultation with local residents and with the service providers it will be revised and finalised. It will then become part of the overall Community Strategy for Hastings & St Leonards.

The Action Plan sets priorities for action over the next 12 to 18 months based on key issues identified by the community.

Several important developments for the area will also be progressed during this period:

- 1 A new University Centre housed in new and refurbished town centre buildings.
- 2 A new Hastings Media Centre in Robertson Street with workspace and support for creative businesses.
- 3 Redevelopment of Hastings Station goods yard for academic, commercial and residential uses as part of the Hastings Millennium Community Project.
- 4 Promotion of the town centre and central seafront as an attractive and vibrant visitor and business destination. This will include developing an 'evening economy', encouraging new cultural and heritage projects and improving public spaces.
- 5 New railway station and greenway project.



your views wanted

### Please Complete

Complete your details below (optional) and return by 3rd December to:  
Viv Reddick, Support worker, Hastings Borough Council, 4 Robertson Terrace, Hastings TN34 1JE  
OR post to: FREEPOST PTL (no stamp required)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_ Ethnic Origin: \_\_\_\_\_

Age Group    under 13       13 to 18       19 to 29       30 to 39     
                   40 to 49       50 to 59       60 to 69       over 69  

I would like to help by \_\_\_\_\_

General comments or suggestions \_\_\_\_\_

Please make your comments on this draft Local Action Plan and return by 3rd December to:

Viv Reddick,  
Support worker,  
Hastings Borough Council,  
4 Robertson Terrace,  
Hastings TN34 1JE  
Tel 01424 436218

OR post to:  
FREEPOST PTL

November 2002

# Key Issues

Do you agree that these are the key issues?  
Add any others and make comments in the spaces provided.

## 1 CRIME & SAFETY

A High crime rate - the highest in Hastings with 877 per 1000 population annually, a drugs offence rate 5 times the national average and violence against the person rate of 7 times the national average.

B Young people drinking dominate the town centre at night which can be intimidating, especially for the elderly.

C Lack of police presence at night. Police post not reliably open.

D Vandalism.

E Paths and twittens on West Hill feel unsafe at night, especially for women.

Other key crime issues and comments

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## 2 HOUSING

A High proportion of housing in a poor state of repair and classified as unfit.

B High proportion of housing in multiple occupation with high levels of transience. This undermines the sense of community and makes it more difficult to deal with drugs and resulting crime.

C 40% of housing is private rented which is over four times the regional average.

Other key housing issues/comments

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## 3 ENVIRONMENT

A Litter in public areas, particularly from fast food outlets.

B Poorly maintained and shabby public and private land.

C Lack of storage space for refuse, particularly for upper floor flats.

D Rubbish strewn about due to mismatch between street cleaning and refuse collection days.

E Flytipping of mattresses and other rubbish.

F Dog fouling, especially from dog owners who drive into the area.

G Neglect of the many unique steps, footpaths, alleyways and small green spaces.

H Wellington Square run down and not achieving its spectacular potential.

Other key environment issues/ comments

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## 4 EDUCATION & YOUNG PEOPLE

A Lack of a co-ordinated approach to children and young people.

B Shortage of facilities, especially for 12-16 year-olds who instead 'hang around' in the town centre and get drawn into a drinking culture.

Other key education issues/ comments

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## 5 COMMUNITY FACILITIES

A Lack of a dedicated community centre or hall for use by community groups.

B Not enough community development support for active community members and the Forum.

Other key facility issues/ comments

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## 6 HEALTH

A Reliance on small GP practices with no modern health centre providing a comprehensive service.

B High rates of cancer and heart disease.

Other key health issues/comments

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## 7 TRANSPORT

A Poor public transport.

Other key transport issues/comments

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## 8 POVERTY AND UNEMPLOYMENT

A 14.2% unemployment puts Castle in the worst 100 wards nationally (out of 8414 wards). It is within the worst 10 % of areas nationally for child poverty.

Other key poverty issues/comments

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## 9 TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

A Local residents are not effectively involved with local businesses and in planning the many new developments taking place in the town centre.

Other key town centre development issues/comments

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# Priorities for Action in the next 12 - 18 months

Do you agree these are the right priorities? Add any others and your comments in the spaces provided.

Agree Disagree Not sure

## 1 A SAFER PLACE

A Tighter control and enforcement of licensed premises in the town centre.

B More visible police presence in the evenings with the police post open more reliably.

C Review with residents of lighting and planting around paths and twittens in the West Hill area.

D Review with residents of street warden service and how to increase its effectiveness.

Other priorities/comments

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.....

## 2 DECENT HOMES

A Promote the accreditation scheme for private landlords and the registration scheme for Houses in Multi-Occupation (HMOs).

B Carry out inspections with effective enforcement against bad landlords.

C The University project to help tackle poor quality private rented housing in the area.

Other priorities/comments

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## 3 A GOOD PLACE TO LIVE

A Coordinate street cleansing with refuse collection days.

B Council to regularly publicise its bulk refuse collection service.

C Council to reorganise its street-based staff to increase supervision of the streetscape and tackle flytipping.

D Promote responsible dog ownership and enforce dog fouling laws.

E Adequate refuse storage to be an absolute condition of planning permission for all new housing and conversions.

F Agree standards with residents for improving steps, footpaths, alleyways and small green spaces.

G Improvement of Wellington Square as a showcase for improving the whole area. Council to improve external condition of its own offices.

Other priorities/comments

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## 4 CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

A Agencies to jointly agree with the Forum a comprehensive plan for local children and youth provision.

B Produce a calendar of all youth-related events for next year.

Other priorities/comments

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## 5 COMMUNITY SUPPORT

A Provide a dedicated venue for community use, along with improved community development support.

Other priorities/comments

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.....

## 6 A HEALTHIER PLACE

A Local service point for comprehensive primary care to be developed by the Primary Care Trust.

B Promote healthy lifestyles through physical activities, eating fresh fruit and vegetables, and reducing smoking.

Other priorities/comments

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## 7 TOWN CENTRE DEVELOPMENTS

A Set up task force to integrate improvements to the Town Centre and station. Members to include the Forum, the Council, South East England Development Agency (SEEDA) and Town Centre Management.

B Town Centre Management and the Forum to explore how to increase local employment and support for local businesses.

C Hold a major community planning event in 2003 so the community can be involved in designing the changes to the town centre.

Other priorities/comments

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.....