

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

APPENDIX A

Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy



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On behalf of The Hastings Local Strategic Partnership

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

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Consultation documents - if not attached, available on www.hastings.gov.uk or from Hastings information Centre, Queens Square, Hastings 01424 78111 hic_info@hastings.gov.uk

- A *Our Ideas, your Ideas; Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy* – brochure questionnaire.
- B *The Future of Hastings & St Leonards; what are your views?* - youth questionnaire.
- C *Putting your ideas together; Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy* - full draft and comment sheet.

1 Introduction and conclusions

1.1 ABOUT THIS APPENDIX

- 1.1.1 This Appendix sets out the results of consultation which took place during November and December 2002 on the draft Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy.
- 1.1.2 The exercise was part of a wide ranging consultation programme on the future of the area. This Appendix covers only the results of the questionnaires and other comments received on the draft Community Strategy. 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 the Appendices on other plans and strategies.
- 1.1.3 The results have been summarised and clearly set out in a manner likely to be of most benefit to those undertaking the task of refining the draft Community Strategy in the light of the consultation results and negotiations with service providers. This complements the detailed statistical analysis being undertaken on the Citizens' Panel responses (see 1.2.4 below).

1.2 THE CONSULTATION PROCESS

- 1.2.1 Feedback on the draft Community Strategy was secured in five main ways:
- 1.2.2 A 12-page colour brochure summarising the Strategy was produced entitled *Our Ideas, your Ideas; Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy*. This contained the perceived key problems, solutions and targets identified by the Local Strategic Partnership with tick boxes and comment boxes for people to comment on them. There was also an invitation to submit a 20 word vision statement for the town. This was available at consultation events throughout Hastings & St Leonards and at numerous information points. A freepost return facility was provided. A web version was available on Hastings Borough Council's website which could be completed electronically.
- 1.2.3 A youth 'child friendly' questionnaire was produced by Education Action Zone for use in schools entitled *The Future of Hastings & St Leonards; what are your views?*
- 1.2.4 A longer 'full draft' version of the Community Strategy entitled *Putting your ideas together; Hastings & St Leonards Community Strategy*, together with a comment form, was photocopied and circulated to key organisations in the public, private and voluntary sectors with an invitation to make comments. These documents could also be downloaded from the Council's website.

- 1.2.5 The printed brochure referred to in 1.2.2 above was also sent to 1,226 people on the Council's Citizens Panel.
- 1.2.6 As part of the overall consultation programme, several workshops, conferences and special meetings were held at which the Community Strategy was discussed. It was also discussed at regular meetings of several groups. (See main report for details.)

1.3 THE CONSULTATION RESPONSE

- 1.3.1 100 completed brochure questionnaires have been returned to date of which 87, processed before the end of December 2002, have been analysed for this report (section 2).
- 1.3.2 27 youth questionnaires have been returned from two schools (section 3).
- 1.3.3 19 responses to the full draft and from organisations have been received (section 4).
- 1.3.4 402 completed brochure questionnaires have been received from the Citizens' Panel. These have been analysed separately and are not dealt with in this report.
- 1.3.5 Details of meetings, conferences and workshops can be found in the main report.

1.4 CONSULTATION FINDINGS SUMMARY

- 1.4.1 Response to the questionnaire brochures indicate widespread support for the draft community strategy. The average level of agreement with the suggestions made was 68% for problems, 83% for solutions and 78% for targets. A breakdown into the 7 themes is shown in the table below.

	<i>Theme</i>	<i>Average agreement with problems proposed</i>	<i>Average agreement with solutions proposed</i>	<i>Average agreement with targets proposed</i>
1	A safer town	73	81	78
2	A learning town	61	80	75
3	A decent home for everyone	68	88	77
4	An inclusive town	59	84	80
5	A town that's good to live in	73	87	83
6	A healthier town	67	79	77
7	An economically successful town	76	79	78
	Overall average	68	83	78

- 1.4.2 For most suggestions, a large majority of those not agreeing were 'unsure' or made no response rather than disagreeing. This means that support can be taken as greater than indicated by the percentages above.

- 1.4.3 Varied levels of agreement are clearly identifiable for different suggestions and a wealth of reasons for this are evident from the remarks made in the comment boxes. This will require careful interpretation by the appropriate parties.
- 1.4.4 The youth questionnaire results provide an interesting insight into the views of children on the community strategy themes.
- 1.4.5 Many important issues are raised in the organisational responses which need to be carefully considered, both in terms of the structure and presentation of the strategy and key issues not adequately dealt with.
- 1.4.6 A separate report is available on the analysis of the Citizens' panel responses.

1.4 CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.4.1 There appears to be widespread support for the draft community strategy. It now needs to be refined by the Local Strategic Partnership, taking into account the results set out in this report and those from the Citizens' Panel. In the first instance the material should be considered by the Theme Groups.
- 1.4.2 It is recommended that the brochure questionnaire be used as the template for revising the strategy. Extra pages will be required to cover summaries of the local action plans. The final brochure, aimed at the general public as well as partner organisations, could be printed in A4 or A5 format incorporating additional photos and graphics from the consultation process. A simplified summary could be published in *About* magazine. Additional information, particularly relating to implementation responsibilities and monitoring procedures, should then be in the form of separate back up, and referenced, documents. All the material could be placed on the Council's website, together with the consultation feedback.

2. Brochure questionnaire results

2.1 INTRODUCTION

- 2.1.1 This section of the report sets out the results of the 87 questionnaire brochures processed before the end of December 2002.
- 2.2.2 The results are set out in the same order as in the brochure. Problems, solutions and targets for each of the seven themes are each set out on separate pages to facilitate circulation to those who will need to consider them.
- 2.2.3 Tick box responses are shown in a table indicating both the number of people responding to each point and the percentage of the total that this represents.
- 2.2.4 Comments have been summarised under broad themes. Points have been numbered to assist with referencing and discussion. Numbers shown after each point are the number of people making it. Most popular points are listed first.
- 2.2.5 All the original data is on a database in the Council's corporate planning department. Further more detailed analysis can therefore be undertaken if necessary. For instance it would be possible to analyse results on any aspect by age, gender, area or ethnic origin.

2.2 A SAFER TOWN - problems

Everybody wants to see a safer town where crime is under control and people don't have to live in fear of it.

2.2.1 The problems:

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Despite a general fall in crime levels, the town's crime rate is considerably higher than the national average.	61	71	3	4	18	21	5	4
b	Violent crime continues to grow (much of this is alcohol related) particularly in the Town Centres of Hastings & St Leonards.	63	73	5	6	14	16	5	5
c	Crime in the Town Centres may put off future investors and damage job creation.	73	85	3	4	7	8	4	3
d	Young people commit the most crime and are most often the victims of crime.	60	70	11	13	12	14	4	3
e	Hidden crimes such as racial assaults and domestic violence.	57	66	3	4	21	24	6	6

2.2.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Crime:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. drugs causing crime, 13; 2. poor quality policing/poor response times, 4; 3. not enough police on the beat 3; 4. alcohol abuse causing crime, 2; 5. not enough CCTV, 1; 6. vandalism not being tackled, 1; 7. social deprivation not being tackled, 1; <p>Street safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. lack of street lighting, 2; 9. assaults on young people, 1; 10. perceived threat to women, 1; 11. perceived threats to the elderly 1; 12. perceived general threat during daytime, 1; 13. children/ young people being a nuisance/anti-social behaviour, 1; 14. unsafe footpaths, 1; <p>Racism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. hostility to refugees, 1; 	<p>Mental health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. causing problems, 2; <p>Cars:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. dumped, 1; 18. untaxed, 1; 19. theft from cars, 1; <p>Home/Neighbourhoods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. anti-social neighbours, 1; 21. apparent rise in burglaries, 1; 22. child abuse, 1; <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. bullying, 1; 24. disruptive and anti-social pupils, 1; <p>General atmosphere:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. is improving, 1; 26. too many discos/pubs/amusement arcades, 1; 27. pessimistic attitude to tackling problems, 2; 28. media creates 'climate of fear', destroys community spirit, 1;
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2.2 A SAFER TOWN - solutions

2.2.3 Some solutions:

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Anti Social Behaviour Orders (ASBOs) to restrain people whose nuisance behaviour is making life intolerable for others.	67	80	8	9	6	7	6	4
b	Focussing on neighbourhood policing to allow closer contact between the police and the community.	70	81	5	6	5	6	7	7
c	Tackling public disorder and drunken behaviour in the Town Centres through targeted policing (supported by the street wardens) and pro-active use of licensing powers.	66	77	1	1	13	15	7	7
d	New ways of diverting young people away from criminal behaviour and drug abuse.	70	81	4	5	7	8	6	6
e	Continuing to drive down burglary and car crime and developing work with businesses to reduce the impact of crime on shops and factories.	74	86	1	1	5	6	7	7
f	Monitoring crime to identify hot spots, with all agencies talking to each other and working on local solutions.	72	84	1	1	8	9	6	6
g	Tackling 'hate crime' – particularly racially aggravated crime and harassment.	66	77	0	0	14	16	7	7

2.2.4 Your solutions:

<p>Crime:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. more police on the beat, 11; 2. 'zero tolerance' of low level crime, 5; 3. more street wardens in day/at night, 5; 4. tackle crime through schools/parents/earlier on, 4; 5. community programmes for offenders, 2; 6. tackle social causes of crime, 2; 7. hire private security firms/create neighbourhood vigilante groups, 1; 8. more police around rail/bus stations, 1; 9. publicise local police number (not 0845), 1; 10. make sure punishment fits the crime, 1; 11. involve people thru the courts, 1; 12. provide protection for people who report crime, 1; 13. bring back the birch, 1; <p>Drugs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. more support/counselling for addicts, 6; 15. free heroin for registered addicts, 2; 16. new university will create more drug problems, 1; <p>Alcohol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. more support/counselling for addicts, 2; 18. reduce cheap booze outlets, 1; 19. target repeat offenders, 1; 20. extend No Drinking Zone to cover whole of Hastings & St Leonards, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. return to traditional pub hours, 1; 22. close late license discos, 1; <p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. more youth centres/clubs/play/recreation facilities, 5; 24. more punishment for offenders, 1; 25. better access to empowering information, 1; 26. cheaper bus fares, 1; 27. better wages to create work incentive, 1; 28. create 'youth strategy', 2; <p>Street safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 29. better street lighting/around park areas, 3; 30. provide self-defence classes, 1; 31. clear undergrowth alongside footpaths, 1; <p>Home security:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 32. provide more resources to tackle burglary, 1; <p>General atmosphere:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 33. blacklist/move repeat offender anti-social families, 2; 34. reduce police siren noise, 1; 35. implement equal opportunities legislation, 1; 36. make people 'earn their benefits', 1; 37. provide videos/CCTV to help control anti-social behaviour, 1; 38. create more jobs, 1;
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2.2 A SAFER TOWN - targets

2.2.6 Proposed targets:

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Halve the gap between Hastings & St Leonards and the rest of the country (currently this means reducing recorded crime from 165 to 130 crimes per 1000 people).	62	72	7	8	10	12	8	8
b	Create safer, people friendly town centres, halving the number of people who are currently worried about walking in these areas at night.	75	87	3	4	2	2	7	7
c	Ensure that people reporting 'hate crimes' are satisfied that their case is properly dealt with.	65	76	4	5	12	14	6	5

2.2.7 Your targets:

<p>Crime:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. recorded crime targets are too low, 7; 2. ensure everyone (not just 'hate crime' victims) is satisfied with case handling, 2; 3. increase police 20%, 1; 4. punish and deport criminal immigrants, 1; 5. reduce numbers 'illegal immigrants'/'dumped' social security cases, 2; 6. reduce anti-social behaviour, 1; 7. zero tolerance repeat offenders, 1; 8. ensure 100% are satisfied with case handling, 1; <p>Drugs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. reduce abuse through educational/counselling programmes, 2; <p>Alcohol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. teach self-restraint, 1; 	<p>Street safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. to feel safe in day as well as night, 10; 12. ban unsupervised kids/create child-free zones, 1; 13. create safer footpaths, 1; 14. more/cheaper buses, 1; 15. reduce worried people to 0%, 1; <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. Reduce bullying, 1; 17. reduce excluded kids 50%, 1; <p>General atmosphere:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. provide more affordable accommodation to create better atmosphere, 1; 19. increase bus use, 1; 20. make whole town safer, not just town centres, 1; 21. encourage community spirit, 1; 22. listen to young people and include in planning, 1;
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2.3 A LEARNING TOWN - problems

Everybody wants to see lifelong learning where the imagination of children and adults is stimulated and minds are educated so that people of all ages achieve their full potential.

2.3.1 The problems

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Affordable, quality childcare places are not available for all those who want them.	53	62	4	5	21	24	9	9
b	Primary schools have improved achievements of 11 year-old pupils, but results are still lower than county and national levels.	47	55	5	6	29	34	6	5
c	Low literacy and numeracy levels in early years of primary education.	57	66	3	4	21	24	6	6
d	Despite improvement, the percentage of pupils gaining 5 or more GCSEs at grades A*-C is still lower than the national average of 50%.	47	55	3	4	31	36	6	5
e	Fewer people stay on for further education and training compared to the national average.	51	60	3	4	27	31	6	5
f	Low levels of basic literacy and numeracy (25% of people aged 16-60 face these problems).	58	67	2	2	21	24	6	7

2.3.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Educational aspirations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. lack of aspiration/parental ambition, 4; 2. lack of recognition of the role of education in improving life chances, 1; 3. tackle truancy through parent education, 1; 4. learning not seen as “cool”, 1; 5. low expectations of young people, 1; 6. cost/benefit ratio of higher education not always apparent, 1; 7. lifelong learning is the answer, 1; 8. lack of graduate job opportunities locally, 1; <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. go back to 3 ‘R’s, 1; 10. classes are too large, 1; 11. too much pressure to reach national targets, 3; illiteracy, 1; 12. too much competition for limited 6th form places, 1; 13. start reading and writing later (6+), 1; 14. disruptive pupils, 1; 15. drugs in schools, 1; <p>Miscellaneous resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. lack of support for those with learning difficulties, 2; 17. lack of supervised youth clubs/play areas, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. improved support through Connexions but not enough resources for non-school attendees, 1; 19. childcare is sometimes a necessity, 1; 20. high level of children with special needs, 1; 21. more support needed for carers of the elderly, 1; <p>Old people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. lack of financial help for the mature unemployed, 1; 23. old people not used as mentors, 1; 24. lack of educational opportunities for mature students, 1; 25. too many jobs/educational establishments target younger people, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. shortage of cheap accommodation for benefit claimants, 1; 27. open evenings at HCAT are badly organised, 1; 28. lack of sense of citizenship, 1; 29. wrong skills sets are being developed, 1; 30. local apprenticeships sometimes better than further education, 1; 31. lack of recognition for home education, 1; 32. university students not wanted, 1;
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2.3 A LEARNING TOWN - solutions

2.3.3 Some solutions

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Childcare and education services to meet the needs of young children, families and the community.	71	83	1	1	6	7	9	9
b	Improving overall school performance to the national average and ensuring that 11 year-olds (Key Stage 2) and GCSE results improve faster than the rest of the county.	62	72	4	5	11	13	10	10
c	Increasing post 16 school leaver involvement in education and training.	69	80	3	4	7	8	8	8
d	Providing basic skills and work-based learning opportunities to make sure local people can get jobs.	72	84	1	1	4	5	10	10
e	Increasing levels of advice, guidance and support to ensure everyone has access to learning.	68	79	2	2	8	9	9	10

2.3.4 Your solutions

<p>Aspirations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. give pupils an incentive, provide jobs/affordable housing, 2; 2. work with parents to motivate kids and present positive options, 1; 3. make learning more enjoyable, 1; 4. encourage better parenting, 1; 5. START needs to be more targeted, 1; 6. educate on basic skills and morals, 1; <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. smaller class sizes and extra support for special needs, 1; 8. tackle bullying through special units, 1; 9. more emphasis on practical skills for non-academic pupils, 1; 10. reduce pressure, 1; 11. improve school performance more than national average, 1; 12. tackle disruptive pupils by having mum sit in classroom, 1; 13. more teachers, 1; tackle drugs, 1; <p>Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. more access to advice, 2; 15. create high profile community learning centre with art/science exhibits/'brain gym', workshops, crèche, cafes, etc, 1; 16. new library and cultural centre, 1; 17. create 6th form at Claverham, 1; 18. more help for deprived kids, 1; 19. become more inclusive re: race/disability, 1; 20. offer wider, more diverse ways for people to learn, 1; 21. offer ITC course such as Microsoft Network Support Training, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. provide free internet access with free/volunteer IT training, 1; 23. more educational trips/foreign visits/outside of Hastings, 1; 24. more holiday/summer classes for children, 1; <p>Work/education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. need more apprenticeships, 2; 26. help employees take on trainees, 1; 27. more open days/free trials with celebrities (ie Jamie Oliver), 1; 28. day release work experience for 14-16 yr olds, 1; 29. database of companies who will provide opportunities for school/college leavers with disabilities, 1; <p>Adults/older people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30. provide basic skills and opportunities for locals is v. important, 2; 31. better opportunities for old people, 1; 32. give priority to local people, particularly adults, at new university, 1; 33. make education available to parents during school hours, not afterwards, 1; 34. have 'turn-up-and-learn' informal adult education classes, 1; 35. financial help for re-skilling, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 36. abolish poverty/decent wages for a days' work, 1; 37. promote healthy living to parents, 1; 38. better transport/buses to college, 1; 39. support young mums with kids at home, 1; 40. promote work-based learning, 1; 41. work-based learning is waste of time, 1;
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2.3 A LEARNING TOWN - targets

2.3.5 Proposed targets

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Provide early years education places for all 3 year-olds whose parents want one by 2004..	59	69	7	8	10	12	11	11
b	Improve the number of 11 year-old children achieving National Curriculum level 4 to 85%.	67	78	1	1	10	12	9	9
c	Raise the number of pupils gaining GCSE 5 or more A*-C grades to 55%.	65	76	1	1	12	14	9	9
d	Raise the number of 19 year olds achieving NVQ level 2 or equivalent to 90%.	61	71	4	5	13	15	9	9
e	Raise adult literacy and numeracy by 10%.	71	83	2	2	3	4	11	11

2.3.6 Your targets

<p>Early years education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. not a priority/too expensive/shouldn't be free, 2; 2. provide nursery places for kids with inadequate parents, 1; 3. provide places on basis of need not want, 1; 4. more education via play in non-school settings, 1; <p>Schools:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. don't force education/increase pressure, 2; 6. improve quality of teaching, 1; 7. continue funding for EAZ, 1; 8. make sure teachers feel valued, 1; 9. increase teachers by 10%, 1; 10. focus on brighter kids, 1; 11. improve general education (re: music, nature, art, religion, literature), 1; 12. more foreign language education, 1; 13. tackle disruptive pupils, 1; 14. tackle truancy, 1; 15. focus on important subjects such as science, 1; 	<p>Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. increase community-based learning, 1; 17. financial help for college returnees, especially young people or those on benefits, 1; <p>Work/education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. increase vocational courses and apprenticeships, 4; <p>Literacy and numeracy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 19. set targets higher/sooner, 8; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. move Agricultural College nearer to Hastings, 1; 21. set targets for 16-18 yr olds to be satisfied with education; screen all children for dyslexia and treat the disorder, 1;
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2.4 A DECENT HOME FOR EVERYONE - problems

Everybody wants to see high quality housing and more choice.

2.4.1 The problems

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	A higher percentage than the national average of unfit homes.	60	70	4	5	18	21	5	4
b	A large and often low quality private rented sector with poor conditions, mainly concentrated in the Town Centres.	72	84	3	4	7	8	5	4
c	Shortfall of over 750 affordable homes each year, over 800 households in severe need awaiting assistance.	47	55	7	8	27	31	6	6
d	Around 1,100 private homes empty for 6 months or more.	58	67	4	5	19	22	6	6
e	Short-term private tenancies mean high turnover of short term lets.	58	67	4	5	19	22	6	6
f	Lack of help available for vulnerable people to keep up tenancies.	55	64	4	5	22	26	5	5

2.4.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Private rented sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. abusing tenants/renting out sub-standard properties, 5; 2. too many absentee/non-resident landlords, 4; 3. extortionate landlords/rents too high, 2; 4. should have enforced maintenance contracts, 2; 5. legislation which favours landlords not tenants, 1; 6. legislation which favours tenants not landlords, 1; 7. landlords exploiting young people/benefit system, 1; <p>Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. lack of help for vulnerable people, 2; 9. lack of affordable housing for young people, 2; 10. shortage of options (not renting or buying) for those in need, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. shortage of housing for young people above shops, 1; 12. shortage of adapted homes for disabled/elderly, 1; 13. need pro-active agency to match empty properties with charities for the homeless, 1; 14. lack of affordable housing for families, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. poor soundproofing/insulation needed, 1; 16. rising rents due to regeneration, 1; 17. slow decisions from benefits office, 1; 18. too much empty property, 1; 19. lack of child-free zones for private tenants, 1; 20. lack of help for owners of listed buildings, 1; 21. low wage levels/job losses, 3; 22. too much 'social housing', 1
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2.4 A DECENT HOME FOR EVERYONE - solutions

2.4.3 Some solutions

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Using enforcement action and working with good landlords and residents to improve housing conditions.	77	90	1	1	3	4	6	5
b	Increasing the number of new, affordable homes built on previously used land and bringing empty homes back into use.	74	86	3	4	5	6	5	4
c	Helping people find and keep homes though advice and support.	75	87	5	6	2	2	5	5
d	Helping elderly and vulnerable people to live independently.	76	88	1	1	5	6	5	5

2.4.4 Your solutions

<p>Private rented sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. prosecute landlords who flout the law/enforcement action against bad landlords, 4; 2. set ceiling on number of rented properties, 2; 3. compulsory purchase of showcase properties, 1; 4. enforcement action should be used with care, 1; 5. enforce higher standards, 1; 6. expose unfair lease agreements, 1; 7. create a register of good/approved landlords, 1; 8. encourage tenants to maintain properties, 1; 9. crack the connection between empty properties and laundering drug money, 1; <p>Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. help young people get housed, 2; 11. convert flats above shops, 1; 12. housing associations to provide not-for-profit/sliding scale rents for those that cannot afford to buy but not on benefits, 1; 13. provide walk-in advice centre, 1; 14. put all Housing Association property back under council control, 1; 15. new commitment to build and maintain more social housing, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. promote housing co-ops for those in need, 1; 17. house sharing for elderly people, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. bring empty homes back into use then re-assess need for new build, 3; 19. house people/students in empty buildings, 2; 20. give moving grants, 1; 21. discourage people from moving, 1; 22. don't sell affordable homes to tenants, 1; 23. grants for people who live in listed properties, 1; 24. more security needed on multi-occupancy buildings, 1; 25. encourage new and small businesses to the town, 1; 26. make a new renewal area in St Leonards (concentrate on refurbishing pre-1918 buildings), 1; 27. make social housing available but dependent on good upkeep and decorative order, 1; 28. introduce tax on empty properties, 1; 29. change conveyancing laws to follow Scottish model, 1;
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2.4 A DECENT HOME FOR EVERYONE - targets

2.4.5 Proposed targets

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Halve the gap between our town and the national average for unfit homes and reduce the number of long-term empty homes by 30%.	74	86	2	2	5	6	6	6
b	Declare a new Housing Renewal Area in 2003 and reduce the number of unfit homes in Central St Leonards to no more than double the town average by 2012.	71	83	4	5	5	6	7	6
c	Build 3,300 new homes, with at least 60% on previously used land, and 825 being affordable to young people and others in housing need.	53	62	15	17	13	15	6	6
d	Ensure that 50% of vulnerable people do not become homeless again within 2 years and extend support to 500 more vulnerable people in the community by 2012.	67	78	4	5	8	9	8	8

2.4.6 Your targets

<p>Private rented sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. register/licence all landlords/managing agents, 2; 2. set realistic rents, 1; 3. withhold grants from unfit landlords, 1; 4. identify bad landlords, 1; 5. no exploitation of benefits by unscrupulous landlords, 1; <p>Targets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. unfit homes target needs to be improved, 3; 7. implement unfit homes target by 2005, 1; 8. homeless targets should be 70%, 1; 9. Housing Renewal Area target needs to be more challenging, 1; 10. make Hastings next Housing Renewal area, 1; <p>Resources:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Provide more affordable housing, 4; 12. provide more funding for Seaview Project, 1; 	<p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. new build on brownfield sites only, 8; 14. regenerate existing stock before new build, 5; 15. send refugees home/stop unemployed moving here, 2; 16. don't build on allotments, 1; 17. don't build on gardens, 1; 18. don't increase population density, 1; 19. fewer grants to undeserving homeowners, 1; 20. set high design standards for new housing, 1; 21. ensure infrastructure is available to support new housing, 1; 22. sell Housing Association stock to private tenants, 1;
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2.5 AN INCLUSIVE TOWN - problems

Everybody wants to see a town where people are treated equally and fairly.

2.5.1 The problems

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Local services are delivered by different agencies which sometimes makes it hard to know who to go to for information and action.	61	71	4	5	14	16	8	8
b	The traditional networks for individual, family and community support have disappeared.	43	50	7	8	30	35	7	7
c	The town is now multi-racial and multi-cultural but this is often not reflected in decision making.	38	44	16	19	25	29	8	8
d	People in deprived communities have often been unable to feed their opinions into the decision-making process.	53	62	11	13	16	19	7	6
e	Young people's needs and ideas are not always taken into account when decisions are made.	50	58	14	16	16	19	7	7
f	Public buildings need to be more accessible to more people.	57	66	3	4	19	22	8	10

2.5.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Participation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. not enough time in consultations for people to respond, 1; 2. public meetings are too early in the evening for working people, 1; 3. council offices not open at convenient times for working people, 1; refugees excluded because of language difficulties, 1; 4. process is dominated by "usual suspects", HBC does what it wants anyway, 1; 5. local councillors in our ward are perceived as distant and disconnected, 1; 6. powerful lobby groups influencing policy unfairly, 1; <p>Multiculturalism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. town is mono-cultural apart from Greeks/Italians/students/refugees, 1; 8. send immigrants home, 1; 9. race problems very limited, e.g. friction with refugees, 1; 10. representation of minorities must remain pro rata to numbers, 1; <p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. needs are 'hardly ever' taken into account, 1; 12. lack of youth centres, 1; 13. need to make them feel a part of the community, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. they should get off their backsides, 1; 15. young people not encouraged to participate by HBC unless they are easy to access, 1; <p>Old people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. often feel isolated, 1; 17. lack of advice workshops, 1; <p>Disabled access:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. refer Disability Discrimination Act 2004, 1; 19. lack of access for deaf and non-English speakers, 1; <p>Library:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. is useless, 1; 21. needs improving, 1; 22. convert into Arts Centre, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. poverty and low self-esteem causes friction, 1; 24. undemocratic enforcement of some policies (parking, speed humps), 1; 25. money is main priority, shouldn't be, 1; 26. lone individuals don't feel empowered, 1;
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2.5.3 Some solutions

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Clear, relevant and up to date information about where to go for help and advice.	77	90	1	1	3	4	6	5
b	Giving everybody the chance to feed their views into how services are provided.	72	84	4	5	4	5	7	6
c	Agreeing targets for the involvement of disadvantaged groups and creating equal opportunities for all.	66	77	7	8	7	8	7	7
d	Accessible community facility for use by local residents in each ward.	74	86	4	5	3	4	6	5
e	Increasing opportunities for local residents to take decisions on issues affecting their neighbourhood.	76	88	2	2	3	4	6	6
f	Tackling disadvantage caused by discrimination.	68	79	4	5	8	9	7	7

2.5.4 Your solutions

<p>Participation/consultation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. council should listen more, 2; 2. local councillors should listen more/run more clinics, 2; 3. distribute questionnaires in different languages, 1; 4. disseminate info more widely, 1; 5. council should act to improve problem areas, 1; 6. using clear language and easily accessible info (EG notice boards at bus stops outside town hall), 1; 7. better disabled access to planning applications, 1; 8. start public meetings later (19:30-20:00), 1; 9. open council offices on occasional evenings and have different agencies represented, 1; 10. need central office to bring government agencies and support groups under one roof to make access easier, 1; 11. more widely publicised and frequent opportunities to meet local representatives, 1; 12. employ more people with communication skills, 1; 13. put all information in just one leaflet instead of dozens, 1; 14. have only one place for enquiries, 1; 15. town information centre is ok, 1; <p>Inclusion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. give statutory training to all middle management on on inclusion and equalities issues, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. discrimination against patriotic, elderly white racists should be outlawed [sic], 1; 18. imposed political correctness sucks, 1; 19. don't be sidetracked by race issues, 1; 20. funding for language service for refugees at doctors/dentists etc, 1; 21. a high profile multicultural centre, 1; <p>Community:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. institute Community Awards Campaign, generate pride in community, 1; 23. more special interest clubs to allow old people to have social events and networking, 1; 24. policies seem very inclusive already, 1; <p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. support the Ice House in Rock-a-Nore, 1; 26. cheaper public transport for all young people and students, 1; 27. develop youth strategy with 'participation' agenda, 1; 28. accessible youth and info services to include R R I [?], 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 29. ignore NIMBYs – why Save Our Coach Park?, 1; 30. target help/education on problem families, 1; 31. implement mentoring schemes, 1; 32. allotments for refugees, 1; 33. only provide facilities where they are being used regularly, 1;
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2.5 AN INCLUSIVE TOWN - targets

2.5.5 Proposed targets

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Increase by 25% the number of residents who say that they are "well informed" about services and find it "easy" to access them.	72	84	3	4	3	4	9	8
b	Agree by the end of 2003, targets for involving marginalised groups and ensure equality of access and involvement in services by 2012.	64	74	6	7	7	8	10	11
c	Ensure that each ward has an accessible community facility.	69	80	4	5	5	6	9	9
d	Ensure that 80% of people have a neighbourhood forum or similar so that people can influence services and take decisions affecting their local area.	68	79	5	6	4	5	10	10
e	Set clear equality targets for housing, crime reduction, culture, health, employment, education and key services by the end of 2003, and achieve these by 2012.	68	79	5	6	5	6	9	9
f	Agree new ways of carrying out public consultation by the end of 2003 and make sure future consultation reaches groups who have not been involved in the past.	70	81	3	4	3	4	11	11

2.5.6 Your targets

<p>Participation/consultation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. noticeboards for events, council issues etc in public places with plenty of time for people to see what's going on, 1; 2. get somebody reliable to deliver leaflets door-to-door, 1; 3. a cabinet tour each year (this was a brilliant idea), 1; 4. similar system with local agencies/service providers, 1; 5. ensure 'outcomes' are more transparent, 1; 6. more consultation, less jargon, 1; 7. encourage more residents to get involved and vote in local elections, 1; 8. more publicity about who to approach re: community problems, 1; 9. monthly surgeries to discuss community problems, 1; 10. allow time for real discussion in consultations, 1; 11. individuals as well as groups to have their voices heard, 1; <p>Multiculturalism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. don't let minorities take over, 1; 13. too many refugees, 1; <p>Targets:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. no point in goals if there is no clear need and purpose, 1; 15. difficulties of reaching targets, 1; 16. hope it happens, my target: be happy, safe and full of intelligence to help others, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. a more integrated world, 1; 18. set fewer but more relevant targets, 1; <p>Community:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 19. financial help for groups acting as focal points, 1; 20. aim to generate a positive community, involvement in successful group projects raises self-esteem and empowers people, 1; 21. community facilities to include old people's activities, 1; 22. introduce residents associations in private areas, 1; 23. have grave concerns about accountability of community forums, 1; 24. include all residents in neighbourhood forums, 1; 25. for community groups to be effective they need powers and a budget, just reporting back to council is pointless, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. less "woolly" solutions needed, 1; 27. sort out the local paper so that when you read it you feel proud to live here, 1; 28. the media to give as much priority to positive news, e.g. Silchester Mews Community Centre is brilliant but never gets much coverage, 1;
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2.6 A TOWN THAT'S GOOD TO LIVE IN - problems

Everybody wants to see a town that's an enjoyable and healthy place to live in, work in and visit, where people can enjoy a better standard of living.

2.6.1 The problems

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	The town's parks, beaches and play areas are there for everybody to enjoy, but many people cannot get to them easily.	51	59	15	17	17	20	4	6
b	Public transport is poor, so many people without cars cannot easily get to work, shops or medical facilities.	76	88	4	5	3	4	4	3
c	We need to dispose of 30,000 tonnes of household waste each year in more environment friendly ways.	72	84	3	4	7	8	5	4
d	Many people do not feel they can access or take part in local leisure, play, sport, learning and cultural activities due to their cost, location, or inaccessible buildings.	61	71	10	12	12	14	4	3
e	Many people, often the elderly, young families or people who are housebound, suffer from fuel poverty and cannot afford to keep warm.	50	58	7	8	25	29	5	5
f	Increasing demand for new development and redevelopment in the town could place pressure on the town's green spaces.	67	78	3	4	12	14	5	4

2.6.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Parks/Beaches:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. they're not easily accessible, 2; 2. need more signage to little parks, etc, 1; <p>Public transport:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. high cost/bring down fares, 5; 4. needs improving, 2; 5. poor Sunday services, 1; 6. poor services to Conquest, 1; 7. poor services to Conquest at weekends, 1; 8. poor services direct to college, 1; 9. poor services to Ravenside, especially in the evenings, 1; 10. shorter and more frequent services (e.g. along seafront, St Leonards to the Old Town) are needed, 1; 11. trains need improving, 1; <p>Street safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. boy racers, 1; 13. feel unsafe walking, especially at night, 1; <p>Houses:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. poor quality of some new building, 1; 15. too much emphasis on building, not enough on repairing, 1; 16. housing density too high, 1; <p>Waste:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. town is litter-strewn, 5; 18. not enough recycling collections, 3; 19. not enough bottle banks, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. inadequate facilities for TV disposal, 1; 21. dumped cars, 1; 22. rubbish fly-tipped in woodlands, 1; 23. lack of co-operation from residents in disposing of waste, 1; 24. drain clearance, 1; <p>Vehicle use:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. traffic congestion, 1; 26. too much car use, 1; 27. commercial vans parked overnight/weekends in residential areas, 1; 28. large backlog of highways works, 1; 29. pollution worse since Priory Meadow, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 30. opening times of some facilities not convenient, 1; 31. no proper concert or theatre hall in St Leonards, 1; 32. vandalism to allotments, 1; 33. private gardens policies need revising, 1; 34. new tarmac pavements are revolting, 1; 35. high cost of leisure activities, 1; 36. uneven wealth distribution around town, 1; 37. Old Town could be bigger tourist attraction, 1; 38. drugs, crime, vandalism main problems, 1; 39. lack of comprehensive cycle network, 1; 40. councillors do not fully appreciate town's heritage in buildings and parks, 1; 41. fuel poverty is a priority, 1; 42. fuel poverty is worse for key card users, 1;
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2.6 A TOWN THAT'S GOOD TO LIVE IN - solutions

2.6.3 Some solutions

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Everyone should have access to open space including formal parks, beaches, pocket parks and town squares.	79	92	0	0	2	2	6	6
b	Improving access to affordable and regular public transport to help reduce traffic congestion and air pollution.	77	90	1	1	3	4	6	5
c	Reducing how much waste we throw out and achieving long-term waste management by re-using, recycling and composting	75	87	3	4	4	5	5	4
d	Improving access to and involvement in cultural and leisure activities to improve everyone's quality of life.	75	87	3	4	3	4	6	5
e	Helping people suffering from fuel poverty (where they spend more than 10% of their income to heat their home).	68	79	2	2	10	12	7	7
f	Conserving green space by developing previously used land and using existing buildings.	73	85	1	1	6	7	7	7

2.6.4 Your solutions

<p>Transport:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increase competition/bring down fares/better routes, 6; 2. encourage walking and cycling, 3; 3. implement Greenway scheme/build cycle network linking all areas of town, 2; 4. more stringent application parking regulations/less car parking, 2; 5. modern trams on seafront routes, 1; 6. improve Hastings station, 1; 7. shuttle mini-bus service along seafront, 1; 8. make town more pedestrian-friendly, 1; 9. discourage car use for short journeys, 1; 10. ban overnight parking of vans in residential areas, 1; 11. introduce park-and-ride, 1; 12. invest in highways maintenance, 1; 13. make sure public transport is pollution free, 1; 14. need alternative sea route, 1; 15. public consultation re: routes and fares, 1; 16. bring back the bypass, 1; <p>Leisure/tourism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. a bandstand in West St Leonards available to all, 1; 18. address winter closing issue, 1; 19. create nightlife area with bright lights/evening activities, 1; 20. provide safe, friendly play spaces, 1; 21. more 'Sticky' type family events, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. make more of heritage/cherish fishing fleet, 1; 23. map of children's play areas, 1; 24. a youth strategy which looks at play and leisure spaces, 1; <p>Recycling/waste:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 25. doorstep collections/more recycling points for recycled waste as well as paper, 8; 26. reduce packaging on goods/waste in general, 7; 27. find more efficient ways of dealing with dumped items/discourage fly-tipping, 4; 28. more targeted recycling, deposits on all cans and bottles, 3; 29. volunteers to clean up litter/in woods, 2; 30. improve the SKRAPP project, using allotments to recycle waste, 1; 31. miscreants should clean up litter, 1; 32. more improvements at Pebsham, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 33. re: fuel poverty, invest more in insulation/alternative energy systems, 2; 34. conserve green space won't work unless council listens to neighbourhood concerns re: overcrowding, 1; 35. multi-occupancy (EG Marlborough House) as solution to fuel poverty/housing, 1; 36. improve quality policing/clamp down on crime, drugs, vandalism, 1; 37. encourage commuters from London to live here, 1;
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2.6 A TOWN THAT'S GOOD TO LIVE IN - targets

2.6.5 Proposed targets

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Ensure 90% of all people can enjoy access to public open spaces (including the beach) within 300m of their homes.	72	84	1	1	7	8	7	7
b	Increase the number of bus passenger journeys by 20% compared with 2001 levels.	74	86	3	4	3	4	7	6
c	Increase the amount of household waste recycled and composted from 10% in 2002 to 25% by 2012.	73	85	4	5	3	4	7	6
d	Ensure 80% of people are "satisfied" with provision of sports, play, arts and cultural activities.	66	77	5	6	8	9	8	8
e	Ensure everyone can afford to heat and light their homes, and no one has to spend more than 10% of their income on this.	72	84	2	4	6	7	7	5

2.6.6 Your targets

<p>Transport:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. reduce bus fares/more buses, 7; 2. bus operators who cancel services should be fined, 2; 3. current bus services should be replaced with small, frequent minibuses with flat rate, pre-paid fares, 2; 4. increase passenger journeys more/by 100%/50%, 3; 5. keep smelly traffic away from seafront, 1; 6. repair all roads in 2 yrs, 1; 7. 75% of town to have cycle network connection, 1; <p>Recycling/waste:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. set recycling targets higher (by 40%/50%/90%) 6; 9. more community education on waste reduction/recycling/energy conservation, 5; 10. more kerbside/doorstep collections, 3; 11. keep streets and open spaces litter-free, 2; 12. create a "green house" exhibit/alternative energy centre/exhibition programme, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. free energy saving light bulbs for elderly and low income families, 1; 14. provide for cardboard recycling, 1; <p>Leisure/tourism:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. increase by 50% number of visitors; ensure 85% are satisfied with provisions, 1; 16. preserve woodlands and areas of natural beauty, 1; 17. play grounds on beach, as Brighton, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. 90% of allotments let and worked to good standard, 1; 19. introduce community wardens, 1; 20. grants for cheaper housing, 1; 21. grow towards happiness, security and safety, 1; 22. 'encourage' property owners to maintain properties, 1; 23. ensure value for money on all projects, 1; 24. provide more police, 1; 25. provide affordable fuel, 1;
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2.7 A HEALTHIER TOWN - problems

Everybody wants to see a town where people's health does not suffer because of where they live.

2.7.1 The problems

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	People here die younger on average than elsewhere in the South East largely due to high rates of cancer and heart disease.	33	38	5	6	42	49	7	7
b	The town has one of the highest teenage conception rates in the South East.	54	63	4	5	22	26	7	6
c	Many people suffer from drug and alcohol problems which lead to poor health, violence (including domestic violence) and death.	72	84	2	2	7	8	6	6
d	Higher than average rates of mental illness.	58	67	3	4	19	22	7	7
e	Increasing need for care and support for older people.	72	84	0	0	8	9	7	7

2.7.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. high suicide rates/self-harming, 1; 2. lack of keep-fit facilities, e.g. skate parks/cycle lanes, 1; 3. alienation, 1; 4. lack of school cookery lessons for learning to cook fresh, healthy meals, 1; 5. lack of mental health and other counselling services, 1; <p>Old people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. lack of help (e.g. with shopping) apart from Lifeline, 1; 7. access to informal support (e.g. café) seven days a week needed, 1; 8. more support required for carers, 1 <p>Other vulnerable groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. increased level of support needed for vulnerable people, 1; 10. safe houses needed for victims of abuse, 1; 11. lack of understanding of 'dual diagnosis' personality disorders, 1; 12. number of places in residential care needs to be maintained, level of support insufficient, 1; <p>Drugs/alcohol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. perception of/tolerated of, damages community, 2; 	<p>Health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. need to encourage healthy eating and raise self-esteem, 1; lack of access to cheap fruit and vegetables, 1; 15. more activities needed, 1; 16. hygiene education needed, 1; 17. emphasize more sport in schools, 1; 18. health problems are due to low levels of education, 1; 19. more good GPs needed, 1; 20. cost of dental fees and medicines is too high, 1; 21. improved access needed to primary care, 1; 22. seafront cycle path limited, 1; 23. bus access to Conquest is poor, 1; 24. poor diet due to difficulty of bus travel/shopping, 1; 25. unacceptable waiting times for medical/mental health services, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 26. high cancer/pregnancy rates/drugs/alcohol/only apply because socially-deprived groups/vulnerable people are sent here, 4; 27. too many political rules and regulations, 1; 28. traffic humps cause pollution, eg near schools, 1; 29. problems are due to the psychological effects of a depressed town with a legacy of occultism (e.g. Crowley), which lowers resistance to illness/alcohol etc, 1;
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2.7 A HEALTHIER TOWN - solutions

2.7.3 Some solutions

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Reducing the number of early deaths from cancer and heart disease, by encouraging healthy eating, breast feeding, sensible drinking and exercise and discouraging smoking.	62	72	5	6	9	11	11	11
b	Working with young people to promote contraception and sexual health awareness.	71	83	3	4	2	2	11	11
c	Providing advice and support for drug and alcohol users to help them adopt a healthy lifestyle.	66	77	5	6	3	4	13	13
d	Providing the range of funding, support and parenting advice which lay the foundations for a healthy and stable life.	68	79	2	2	7	8	10	11
e	Enabling older people to live as long as possible in their own homes.	72	84	0	0	4	5	11	11

2.7.4 Your solutions

<p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> more support for self-harmers and attempted suicides, 1; more kids sports clubs, 1; more pressure on parents to take responsibility for their kids, 1; more educational trips out of Hastings to show young people there is more to life than single parenthood, 1; parenting classes in school, 1; supply free contraceptives from shops, kiosks, etc, 1; <p>General/other vulnerable groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> more understanding of 'dual diagnosis' patients, 1; more social drop-in centres needed, 1; help the socially-deprived, 1; continue to support where it is most needed, 1; provide funding for informal social support for distressed people, 1; need a more joined-up approach to mental well-being, linked to education, jobs, healthy workplaces, decent houses, as well as less institutionalised mental health care, 1; reduce waiting list of two years for self-harm and eating disorders, 1; 	<p>Drugs/alcohol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> high-profile abuse centre and clamp down on cheap booze outlets, 1; prosecute drug dealers, 1; more help for charities treating substance abuse, 1; free advice/nicotine patches, 1; better policing, 1; <p>Health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> provide more information/education, 6; increase access to allotments, 2; encourage participation/more affordable access sport, 2/sport in schools, 1; cheaper good food, 2; problems are due to poverty/bad wages, 1; cheaper swimming for families, 1; make sterilisation freely available, 1; improve markets for fresh fruit/veg, 1; ban smoking in all public places, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> people abuse themselves voluntarily/don't waste resources, 2; disqualify single mums from benefits, 1; g et rid of pollution A259, 1; remove landfill, 1; stop dumping problem families, 1; improve transport, 1;
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2.7 A HEALTHIER TOWN - targets

2.7.5 Proposed targets

		Agree		Disagree		Not sure		No resp.	
		no	%	no	%	no	%	no	%
a	Increase life expectancy by two years above the 1996 figures of 74.2 (men) and 80.2 (women).	60	70	0	0	15	17	12	13
b	Reduce the number of emergency admissions to hospital by 20% by raising health standards.	66	77	1	1	8	9	12	13
c	Reduce the under 18 conception rate by 15% by 2004 and 50% by 2012.	67	78	4	5	4	5	12	12
d	Reduce drug related deaths by 20%.	67	78	5	6	3	4	12	12
e	Ensure parenting support services are available to everybody.	71	83	2	2	2	2	12	13
f	One third of older people being supported by Social Services will be able to remain in their own homes.	67	78	1	1	6	7	13	14

2.7.6 Your targets

<p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. parenting support/classes/teach responsibility, 3; 2. educate/train young people better to increase life chances, 1; 3. reduce teenage pregnancy by 25%, 1; 4. by 30% by 2004 and 75% by 2012, 1; 5. increase play parks for 10-16 yr olds, 1; 6. teach tolerance and self-respect in schools, 1; 7. reduce male suicides, 1; 8. reduce self-harm, 1; <p>Old people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. increase targets for those supported at home to 75%, 1; 10. should be allowed to remain at home as long as they wish, 1; 11. house sharing for old people, 1; 12. provide more help for carers, 1; <p>General/other vulnerable groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. provide outreach support for personality disorder patients, 1; 14. to help everyone, 1; 15. use hospice outreach services, 1; 16. set some targets for improved mental health, 1; 17. provide an acceptable, accessible mental health service for over 16 year olds, 1; 18. reduce suicide rates, 1; 	<p>Drugs/Alcohol:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 19. stricter policing on under-age/alcohol/drugs selling, 2; 20. reduce booze outlets by 50%, 1; 21. solve the problem by allowing more dope addicts and peddlers to kill themselves, 1; 22. remove the drugs, 1; reduce alcohol-related admissions to hospital, 1; 23. reduce number of drug/alcohol addicts by 25%, 1; <p>Health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 24. introduce better, cheaper, cleaner public transport, 2; 25. improve standards at Conquest, 1; 26. more doctors surgeries/health centres, 1; 27. more NHS dentists and promote use of them, 1; 28. reduce traffic congestion/pollution, 1; 29. cycle lanes/cycle parks at parks/town centre/beach, 1; 30. basketball pitch at beachfront, 1; 31. outdoor skating rink, 1; 32. more local markets with fresh fruit and vegetables, 1; 33. reduce cancer/heart disease rates by 10% by 2012, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 34. make secure allotment sites/give higher profile, 2;
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2.8 AN ECONOMICALLY SUCCESSFUL TOWN - problems

Everybody wants to see thriving businesses, more jobs and a skilled workforce.

2.8.1 The problems

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	High levels of unemployment (4.5% compared to a national average of 3.1% and East Sussex average of 2.4%).	71	83	0	0	9	11	7	6
b	Unemployment of over 10% in Castle and Central St Leonards wards.	66	77	0	0	14	16	7	7
c	Low wages that are almost £90 a week less than the national average.	71	83	3	4	7	8	6	5
d	A workforce lacking the type and range of skills needed for future economic success.	66	77	0	0	14	16	7	7
e	A lack of modern business and industrial sites for new and growing companies.	53	62	4	5	23	27	7	6

2.8.2 Any problems missing?

<p>Transport:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. poor access in general, 5; 2. poor road access, 1; 3. poor rail access, 1; 4. high costs, 1; <p>Incentives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. perception of Hastings as social deprivation area without suitable workforce, 1; 6. lack of incentives for new businesses, 1; 7. not enough money, 1; 8. high business taxes, 1; <p>Infrastructure/facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. lack of small units for self-employed designers/artists/etc, 1; 10. more training needed in engineering and printing, 1; 11. new businesses to design and build their own premises on brownfield sites, 1; 12. lack of in-work training opportunities for long-term unemployed, 1; 	<p>Young people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. costs and difficulties of reaching work puts them off, 1; 14. demoralised, 'work shy', 1; <p>Old people:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 15. mature unemployed often overlooked, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 16. work needs to be skilled and better paid, 2; 17. wider range of jobs needed, 1; 18. increased industry = increased need for housing, 1; 19. most people find they are better off unemployed (free prescriptions, no council tax, rent), 1; 20. skilled, professional people commuting out of town due to lack of local jobs, 1; 21. too much emphasis on money/consumer culture, 1; 22. high property prices, 1; 23. lack of help for the disabled, 1;
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2.8 AN ECONOMICALLY SUCCESSFUL TOWN - solutions

2.8.3 Some solutions

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Creating more jobs for local people in and around the town.	74	86	2	2	3	4	8	8
b	Supporting those with the greatest difficulties in gaining employment to find and keep jobs.	70	81	2	2	6	7	9	10
c	Building modern business and industrial units for small and growing companies to help develop and sustain a diverse, exciting economy.	61	71	6	7	12	14	8	8
d	Making sure employees and companies receive training and support to help improve their skills.	68	79	2	2	8	9	9	10

2.8.4 Your solutions

<p>Training:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. create apprenticeships/with decent wages/in manual trades, 3; 2. support young people starting out/with affordable housing, 2; 3. more skills and work experience for 14-16 yr olds, 2; more/better craft training for the non-academic, 1; 4. raise awareness of skills (plumber, electrician etc) which will be needed, 1; 5. more accessible courses/people encouraged to learn new skills, 1; 6. learning and skills council should spend money on incentives for small employers to take on trainees (currently they waste money on adverts for apprenticeships which don't exist), 1; 7. training is not local government job, 1; <p>Infrastructure/facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. improve transport/rail/road links, 8; 9. make better use/revamp existing business/industrial units rather than build new ones, 1; 10. build/create more studios/small units/workshops for arts/crafts, 1; 11. science faculty in new university, 1; 12. better bus services to industrial estates, 1; <p>Incentives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. more jobs with a fair wage, 3; 14. lower rents and business rates, 2; 15. encourage good entrepreneurs, 1; 16. don't subsidise business, 1; 17. create reasons for companies to come, 1; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. better support to existing businesses, 1; 19. bring in larger organisations, 1; 20. create 'real jobs', 1; <p>Disadvantaged groups:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 21. enable people to overcome disadvantaged backgrounds to create better futures for themselves, 1; 22. provide IT training or home work for those with caring responsibilities, 1; 23. more support for those with mental health problems, 1; 24. re: helping those with difficulties, especially people with illness but not disabled, 1; 25. support vulnerable employees with a holistic approach, 1; 26. more encouragement for businesses to give people with (learning or physical) disabilities a chance of employment/positive discrimination for disabilities, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 27. link creative culture to regeneration, 1; 28. support ethical and environmentally-responsible, worker-controlled businesses, 1; 29. promote the 'slow city' idea, 1; 30. employ fund-raisers for voluntary sector and increase investment, 1; 31. educate against 'benefit culture', 1; 32. improve Hastings Direct poor wages, 1; 33. create bright lights/entertainment area for night-time/off-season, 1;
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2.8.5 Proposed targets

		<i>Agree</i>		<i>Disagree</i>		<i>Not sure</i>		<i>No resp.</i>	
		<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>no</i>	<i>%</i>
a	Reduce average unemployment to the East Sussex level.	72	84	1	1	4	5	10	10
b	Reduce unemployment in the 5 poorest wards to the national average.	67	78	1	1	9	11	10	10
c	Increase average weekly earnings to national levels.	75	87	1	1	3	4	8	8
d	Build 100 new premises for new and growing businesses.	55	64	7	8	15	17	10	11
e	Increase the number of local businesses which take active steps to train their staff.	66	77	2	2	8	9	11	12

2.8.6 Your targets

<p>Training:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. increase training opportunities for mature unemployed, 1; 2. more skills training needed to increase weekly earnings, 1; 3. don't make it 6 months before you offer training in new job, 1; 4. increase real apprenticeships opportunities for school leavers, 1; 5. training not local government job, 1; <p>Jobs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. for local people as well as incomers, 1; 7. reduce unemployment in all wards, 1; 8. increase capacity of voluntary sector to create jobs, 1; 9. at least 30% posts at new university to be filled by local people, 1; 10. increase range of employment opportunities, e.g. animation, digital film, etc, 1; 11. unemployment should be at London levels, 1; 12. discourage employers who pay below minimum wage, 1; 	<p>Infrastructure/facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. improved road/rail links, 4; 14. renovate old premises/shops, 2; 15. new premises on brownfield only not green belt, 1; 16. how many new premises needed?, 1; 17. in partnership with voluntary sector, eg mental health/social inclusion café, 1; 18. start 20 new ethical, worker-controlled businesses, 1; 19. a thriving university and full employment, 1; <p>Incentives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 20. no subsidies for businesses from public funds, 1; 21. reduce business taxes, 1; 22. help current businesses, 1; <p>Other:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 23. reduce economic activity by 10% over 2 years, 1; 24. increase tourist visitors by 50%, 1; 25. keep advancing, but in happiness, 1; 26. increase environmentally aware businesses, 1;
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2.9 YOUR VISION

2.9.1 What kind of place do you want Hastings & St Leonards to be in 2012?

Using the box below, please tell us what your vision for the future is, in around 20 words...

For example, "A town where everyone knows their neighbours".

<p>General aspirations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. town to be proud of, 9; 2. talked about/stress positive/celebrate achievements, 7; 3. vibrant, 6; 4. friendly, 5; 5. happy, 4; 6. harmony/co-operation, 4; 7. lively/exciting, 4; 8. diverse, 4; 9. dynamic, 2; 10. fun, 2; 11. nice place to live and visit, 2; 12. cosmopolitan, 2; 13. multicultural, 2; 14. peaceful, 1; 15. zest for life, 1; 16. somewhere that remains different, 1; <p>Social inclusion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 17. supportive, inclusive community re: disadvantaged/young people/organisations, 21; 18. equal opportunities, 5; 19. caring community, 3; 20. people play active role, 1; 21. people have hope, 1; <p>Crime/safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 22. safer both day and night/less crime, 17; 23. more police on the beat, 3; 24. more support/funding drug/alcohol projects, 3; 25. less anti-social behaviour, 2; 26. less drug users, 1; 27. less alcoholics, 1; 28. less homeless, 1; less immigrants, 2; <p>Environment:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 29. cleaner, less litter, 10; 30. well-maintained buildings/pride in architecture/heritage, 9; 31. natural resources valued, 6; 32. greener, 3; 33. centre for environmental excellence, 1; 34. sustainable, 1; 35. no cramped housing, 1; traffic-free seafront, 1; <p>Transport:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 36. better public transport system, 9; 37. well-maintained roads, 3; 38. more short-term car parking, 1; 39. traffic-free seafront, 1; 	<p>Activities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 40. keep/encourage good/strong/diverse arts/culture community, 6; 41. more town centre activities/for young people, 4; 42. more play facilities for kids/young people, 2; 43. more community arts events, 2; 44. more sports facilities, adults, 1; 45. more drum-and-bass events, 1; <p>Facilities:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 46. more nightlife, 2; 47. better quality shops/bars/restaurants, 2; 48. big new library, 1; <p>Training/education:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 49. world class centre for learning, 1; 50. better educated population/more adult education. 3; 51. university town, 1; 52. more training for young people, 1; 53. skilled and creative population, 1; <p>Economy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 54. economically successful/prosperous, 6; 55. bright/successful future, 3; 56. renaissance English seaside resort, 1; <p>Health:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 57. healthy, 2; 58. all have access fresh fruit & veg, 1; <p>Council:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 59. more action and less hype from the council, 1; 60. a council that listens, 1; 61. less interference, 1; 62. decentralised borough, 1; <p>Specific locations:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 63. pedestrianise the Old Town, 2; 64. more funding West St Leonards, 1; 65. no Stade 'wave', 1; 66. pedestrianise seafront, 1; <p>Ideas mooted:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 67. a statue of Harold the size of the Statue of Liberty; 68. high-grade seaside pavilions, for winter and wet day use; 69. a Museum of TV, with antique TVs, interactive areas, video workshops, links with British Film Institute, and a Cult TV festival.
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2.9.2 Some notable phrases

1. A town where there are opportunities everybody can share.
2. A lovely town by the sea, where everybody is happy and free.
3. A happy, healthy, economically bouncy town with a bright future for all.
4. A town which looks proud of itself, is fun and safe at all times, and cares for its people.
5. A Future by the Shore
6. A Shore Future
7. I want our town to be peaceful, supportive and safe.
8. A vibrant and diverse town which everyone feels part of.
9. A safe, multicultural society where adults and young people live in harmony.
10. A friendly, dynamic and prosperous town with a breath-taking cultural life.
11. A town which cares for its own [people] and the wider environment.
12. An exciting and vibrant place to live, work and play.
13. A town we can all feel proud of, a positive community which works together to support all its inhabitants, a place that gives us a zest for life.
14. A town where the positive input of everyone is valued and actively sought.
15. A town that is friendly and safe.
16. The renaissance of the English seaside resort.
17. A caring, sharing place to live and enjoy.
18. A town centre where people of all ages are able to feel secure and stroll in the evenings.
19. A forward looking town which celebrates its rich cultural past.
20. A town which we are proud of and where the rest of the country would like to be.
21. Hastings – we made history, now we're making the future.

2.10 RESPONDANT DATA

2.10.1 Sex

	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
Male	40	47
Female	36	42
No response		11

2.10.2 Age

	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
Under 13	0	0
13 to 18	4	5
19 to 29	4	5
30 to 39	15	17
40 to 49	19	22
50 to 59	18	21
60 to 69	9	11
70 and over	6	7
No response		12

2.10.1 Would you describe yourself as having a disability?

<i>Age group</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
Yes	11	13
No	62	72
Prefer not to say	1	1
No response		14

2.10.2 Ethnic origin

	<i>No</i>	<i>%</i>
British	67	80
Irish	1	1
Other white background	4	5
Other	8	9
No response		5

3. Youth questionnaire results

3.1 Introduction

- 3.1.1 This section of the report sets out the results of 27 questionnaires completed by school children aged between 9 and 11. 25 were completed by children at All Saints Junior School and 2 were completed by children from Christchurch Primary School (school council representatives).
- 3.1.2 The questionnaire, designed by Education Action Zone to be ‘child friendly’, uses the same themes as the Community Strategy but slightly rephrased. Children were asked their responses to three questions for each theme:
1. What’s good?
 2. What are the problems?
 3. What needs to be done to make things better?
- They were also asked to say what kind of place they would like Hastings & St Leonards to be in under 20 words.
- 3.1.3 The results are set out in the same order as in the questionnaire with one page per theme to facilitate circulation to theme groups and others who may want to consider them.
- 3.1.4 Comments have been summarised but original wording maintained where possible. Points have been numbered to assist with referencing and discussion. Numbers shown after each point are the number of people making it. Most popular points are listed first.
- 3.1.5 Further information: David Swales, Learning and Teaching Adviser at Education Action Zone, email: david@hstleaz.net

3.2 KEEPING SAFE

3.2.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Speed bumps, 25 2. Pedestrian areas in town centre, 20 3. Traffic wardens, lots of, 10 4. Speed cameras/CCTV, 9 5. Seafront bike lane, 6 6. Traffic lights, lots of, 5 7. Zebra crossings, lots of, 2 8. Clear roads, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Public paths, 1 10. CCTV, 1 11. Bus stops, lots of, 1 12. Speed signs, 1 13. Police stations, 1 14. Zebra crossings, 1 15. Going straight home from school, 1 16. Not talking to strangers, 1
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3.2.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not enough police, 12 2. Badly lit alleyways, 7 3. Too many speeding cars, 7 4. Unsafe boating lake (no fence), 6 5. Skateboarders/colliding with people, 4 6. Road works/too many/taking too long, 4 7. Double yellow lines wearing out/not enough of, 4 8. Too many pubs, 3 9. Motorbikes avoiding speed bumps, 3 10. Too much car crime/arson, 2 11. Not enough zebra crossings, 2 12. Small car parks for motorbikes/not enough of, 2 13. Not enough railings, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Unsafe parking, 5 15. Drug abuse, 2 16. People jumping off Harbour Arm, 1 17. Too much crime, 1 18. Dangerous cyclists, 1 19. Poor transport, 1 20. Too many traffic lights, 1 21. Police control [of?] the subway, 1 22. Not enough affordable housing, 1 23. Not enough traffic wardens, 1 24. Traffic jams, 1 25. Not enough roads, 1 26. Drink driving, 1 27. Only one hospital, 1
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3.2.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More police, 15 2. Better lights in unsafe areas, 10 3. Fence in boating lake, 6 4. More/better painted yellow lines, 6 5. More speed cameras/CCTV, 4 6. More speed bumps, 4 7. Space/park for bicycles and skateboards, 3 8. More/longer bike lanes, 3 9. Less traffic lights, 3 10. Cheaper parking, 3 11. More bike parking, 2 12. Ban skateboarders, 2 13. Better parking, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. More railings on the hill, 2 15. More traffic wardens, 2 16. Fewer yellow lines, 2 17. Better wall on Harbour Arm, 1 18. Police action against drugs, 1 19. Shelter for homeless people, 1 20. More firemen, 1 21. Fewer pubs, 1 22. No gaps in speed bumps, 1 23. More zebra crossings, 1 24. More speeding fines, 1 25. Quicker road works, 1 26. More hospitals, 1
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3.3 EDUCATION AND LEARNING

3.3.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EAZ funding school trips, 12 2. Schools that specialise in sports, 7 3. Historical background of area, 6 4. Using new equipment/computers, 5 5. Plenty of schools, 5 6. New university, 5 7. Learning in general, 3 8. Equality of opportunity, 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Special projects, 2 10. Break times, 2 11. Outside helpers, 1 12. Rising educational standards, 1 13. Resources available for equipment, 1 14. Schools with swimming pools, 1 15. Schools that specialise in drama, 1
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3.3.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not enough teachers/supply teachers, 11 2. Lack of resources/computers, 6 3. Vandalism/theft in schools, 5 4. Broken/not enough playground equipment, 2 5. Need buses to get to school, 2 6. Not enough good quality schooling, 2 7. Not enough time for homework, 2 8. Not enough play, 2 9. Not enough homework, 1 10. Not enough sports, 1 11. Not enough after school clubs, 1 12. Not enough libraries, 7 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Bullying, 1 14. Lack of safety in school, 1 15. Disruptive pupils, 1 16. Classes too big, 1 17. Schools too small, 1 18. Not enough classroom assistants, 1 19. Not enough PE lessons, 1 20. Schools too messy, 1 21. Shortage of stationary, 1 22. Not enough school trips, 1 23. Poor ventilation, 1
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3.3.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More resources/computers, 18 2. More teachers/supply teachers, 8 3. Better security from vandalism, 5 4. Later library closing, 3 5. More libraries, 3 6. More fun sessions, 3 7. More homework, 2 8. More specialist schools, 2 9. More schools, 2 10. Better numeracy and literacy lessons, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. More Hastings history, 1 12. More school trips, 1 13. More games, 1 14. Longer playtimes, 1 15. Better ventilation, 1 16. More school buses, 1 17. Bigger schools, 1 18. Smaller classes, 1 19. More mobile libraries, 1 20. Go home earlier, 1
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3.4 HOUSES AND HOMES

3.4.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Wide variety of different types of housing, 11 2. Roofs over our heads/keep us warm and dry, 6 3. Nice decorations, 6 4. Characterful houses, 6 5. Nice estates, 5 6. Clean/neat homes, 4 7. Nursing/retirement homes, 4 8. More houses than flats, 4 9. Refurbishment of seafront properties, 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Close to schools, 3 11. Close to shops, 2 12. Renovation grants, 2 13. Views of sea and town, 2 14. Attached garages, 1 15. Central heating, 1 16. No violence, 1 17. More flats, 1 18. Lots of bungalows, 1 19. Old fashioned cottages, 1 20. Big houses, 1
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3.4.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Houses in poor state of repair/empty, 19 2. Expensive in general/for first time buyers, 9 3. Some too small/for families, 6 4. Poor security, 5 5. Graffiti, 3 6. Some too big, 3 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 7. Not enough shelters for homeless, 2 8. Too many bed-sits, 1 9. Not enough elderly/disabled housing, 1 10. Disabled access, 1 11. Use too much energy, 1
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3.4.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Renovate seafront/give renovation grants, 12 2. More affordable housing, 11 3. Bigger houses/for families, 8 4. More security/CCTV, 5 5. Build more houses, 5 6. More nursing homes/homeless shelters, 3 7. More energy efficient, 2 8. Only one house with scaffolding at a time, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Develop old properties, 1 10. Build less houses, 1 11. Make houses more wheelchair friendly, 1 12. Clean up graffiti, 1 13. Demolish empty houses and build flats, 1 14. Build more bungalows, 1 15. Build less flats, 1
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3.5 EVERYONE TREATED EQUALLY/FAIRLY

3.5.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Disabled facilities, 9 2. Good race relations, 7 3. Equality of opportunity, 5 4. Respect/kindness towards others, 3 5. Availability of nursing/old peoples homes, 3 6. Police to deal with crime/racism, 3 7. Equal pay, 3 8. Access to other languages, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. Positive discrimination programmes, 2 10. Multicultural centres, 2 11. Special programmes for children in need, 2 12. Availability of crèches, 2 13. Self-determination, 1 14. Lack of bullying in school, 1 15. Respect for peoples' differences, 1
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3.5.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Racism/racist abuse, 15 2. Lack of disabled facilities/ramps/respect for disabled, 10 3. Lack of facilities/grants/respect for the elderly, 5 4. Teasing/bullying, 4 5. Lack of language learning facilities, 2 6. Concentration of refugees,Warrior Square, 2 7. Youths picking on overseas students, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Lack of amenities, 1 9. Swearing/fighting, 1 10. Unfair discounts, 1 11. Unfair pay, 1 12. Not enough charities, 1 13. Not enough multicultural centres, 1 14. Stairs/hills problem for disabled, 1 15. Low crime clear up rates, 1
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3.5.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More ramps/disabled facilities, 10 2. More multicultural centres, 6 3. Take action against abusers/racist abuse, 6 4. Better care/care homes for the elderly, 5 5. Better race relations/education re minorities, 5 6. More play areas/crèches, 2 7. Club/other facilities for deaf people, 2 8. Enforce equal pay, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 9. More language learning facilities, 2 10. More, quicker police, 1 11. More street wardens, 1 12. Protect foreign students, 1 13. Better brakes on wheelchairs, 1 14. Better amenities, 1 15. No unfair discounts, 1
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3.6 A TOWN WHERE IT IS GOOD TO LIVE

3.6.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Proximity/quantity of shops, 9 2. Natural surroundings, 7 3. Nice/friendly/good quality people/neighbours, 6 4. Plenty of entertainment/rides, 6 5. Historical background, 6 6. The seaside/pier/harbour/fishing, 5 7. Clean, tidy environment, 3 8. Proximity of schools, 3 9. Not too many fast food outlets, 2 10. The Old Town, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Decent housing, 2 12. Small enough to get around, 1 13. Non-racist environment, 1 14. Reduction in teenage crime, 1 15. Helpful police, 1 16. Plenty of public toilets, 1 17. Plenty of food stalls, 1 18. Good security, 1 19. Boyne Road [?], 1 20. Lie-ins, 1
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3.6.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Too much litter in town/on beach/in sea/not enough litter bins, 12 2. Vandalism/high crime rates, 5 3. Too many pubs/pub fights/drunks, 4 4. Lack of facilities/entertainment/'action', 4 5. Run down houses, 4 6. Drug dealers, 2 7. People falling out of trees/getting hit by boulders [!], 2 8. Car dumping/joy riders, 2 9. Poor transport, 2 10. Anti-social behaviour, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Traffic congestion, 1 12. Noise pollution, 1 13. Getting up early (fishermen), 1 14. Not enough trees, 1 15. Untended grass, 1 16. Shops too far away, 1 17. Not enough wheelchairs, 1 18. Uncleaned toilets, 1 19. Too many building sites, 1 20. Strangers walking around at night, 1 21. Proximity to bad schools/shops/people, 1 22. Too many fast food restaurants, 1
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3.6.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More litter/dog bins, 9 2. More police, 6 3. Make laws stricter/enforce litter fines, 4 4. More entertainment for elderly/families/teenagers, 4 5. Better street cleaning, 3 6. People should smarten up their houses, 3 7. More theme parks/adventure rides, 2 8. More pedestrian areas, 2 9. Make shops tidier, 1 10. Make quick way to school, 1 11. Better roads, 1 12. Stop dumping of rubbish in sea, 1 13. Nice people/shops/houses, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 14. Free buses for children under fifteen, 1 15. Max limit 4 pints or 2 pints/1 spirit in pubs [!!], 1 16. Fine drunk people £50, 1 17. Stop pub fights, 1 18. Less buildings, 1 19. Cut the grass, 1 20. Cut trees down/make protective shields [re: to stop people falling out of trees/being hit by boulders], 1 21. Ban smoking in public, 1 22. Build more shops and supermarkets, 1 23. Buy more wheelchairs, 1 24. Plant more trees, 1 25. Let fishermen have more lie-ins, 1
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3.7 KEEPING HEALTHY

3.7.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Availability of doctors/surgeries/ambulances/nurses, 12 2. Sports centres/gyms, 9 3. Hills, fields/country park for exercise, 6 4. Fruit and vegetables, 5 5. Parental/other guidance on healthy eating, 5 6. Free health care, 4 7. Hospitals, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Availability of fresh fish, 1 9. Availability of fresh meat, 1 10. Availability of fresh water, 1 11. Healthy diet, 1 12. Subsidised food for the destitute, 1 13. Abundance of chemists, 1
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3.7.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Not enough hospitals, 8 2. Too many fast food outlets/greasy food, 7 3. Not enough sports centres/gyms, 5 4. Long waiting times/doctors/A&E unit, 4 5. Not enough swimming pools, 3 6. Doctor's remedies don't work/can't get medicines, 3 7. Paying for hospital car parking, 3 8. People smoking, 3 9. Using cars too much, 2 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 10. Not enough beds/equipment in hospitals, 2 11. Traffic, 2 12. Cycle path not long enough, 1 13. Danger from chemical gases, 1 14. Not enough phone people [?], 1 15. Not enough vets, 1 16. Inaccessibility of doctors/dentists, 1 17. Not enough doctors, 1 18. Not enough staff in hospitals, 1 19. Eating sweets, 1
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3.7.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. More hospitals/equipment/beds, 11 2. More gyms/sports centres, 6 3. More healthy food options, 4 4. More pools, 3 5. Less junk food, 3 6. Promote healthy food, 2 7. Free car parking, Conquest, 2 8. Cut waiting times, 2 9. More doctors, 2 10. Give staff a pay rise, 1 11. More non-smoking areas, 1 12. Follow doctors orders, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. More/longer cycle paths, 1 14. Walking bus schemes, 1 15. Encourage people to exercise, 1 16. Slow down traffic, 1 17. Lower prices (gyms/pools), 1 18. Make less cars, 1 19. Discourage smoking, 1 20. Build more vets [surgeries], 1 21. More phone people, 1 22. Eat less sweets, 1 23. Demolish fast food shops, 1 24. Blow up factories that make chemical gases, 1
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3.8 A PLACE WHERE YOU MIGHT WANT TO WORK

3.8.1 What's good?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Lots of good jobs, 8 2. Quiet/private work place, 5 3. Office with space/good view, 4 4. Earning lots of money, 4 5. Workplace near home, 3 6. Good/tidy work environment, 3 7. Workplace near restaurants/chip shop, 2 8. Good work colleagues, 2 9. Police station, 2 10. Work at home, 1 11. Job satisfaction, 1 12. Break times, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Commuting along seafront, 1 14. Workplace near shops, 1 15. Job centres, 1 16. Fishermen on a boat/fresh air, 1 17. New football pitch/stadium/ manager, 1 18. Lots of restaurants to work in, 1 19. Clammers, 1 20. Jewellery shop, 1 21. Opticians, 1 22. A bank, 1 23. Helping people, 1 24. Work experience placements, 1
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3.8.2 What are the problems?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Low pay rates, 5 2. Not enough job centres , 5 3. Long hours, 2 4. Working in a busy McDonalds, 2 5. Not everyone likes their jobs, 2 6. Offices in the middle of nowhere/long commute, 2 7. Office security, 2 8. Too much road traffic, 2 9. High rates of unemployment, 1 10. Not enough skilled labour, 1 11. Not enough libraries, 1 12. Jewellery shop raids, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 13. Might get hurt [if become policeman], 1 14. Computers crashing, 1 15. Dirty, smelly [workplace environment], 1 16. Not enough space for new jobs, 1 17. Can't work because of traffic noise, 1 18. Being told what to do, 1 19. Unkind people, 1 20. Shops are too expensive, 1 21. Small office, 1 22. In a fire station with bad pay, 1 23. Strikes, 1 24. Advertising of job vacancies, 1
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3.8.3 What needs to be done?

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve pay/conditions (incL better views), 9 2. More job centres, 5 3. Better security, 3 4. Circulate job vacancies, 2 5. Bigger offices, 2 6. Create more jobs, 2 7. Double-glazing to reduce traffic noise, 1 8. More sociable working hours/longer lunch breaks, 2 9. Better roads, 1 10. Reduce traffic, 1 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 11. Build more offices, 1 12. Better armour [for policemen], 1 13. Improve transport links, 1 14. Encourage bigger companies to Hastings, 1 15. Better training/skills, 1 16. Out-of-town work places, 1 17. Create more shops, 1 18. Tidy up workplaces, 1 19. Shorter commute, 1 20. Remove traffic lights, 1 21. Use better computers, 1 22. More libraries, 1
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WHAT KIND OF PLACE DO YOU WANT HASTINGS & ST LEONARDS TO BE?

1. More shops, theme parks and pools. More fun.
2. A place of peace and kindness.
3. A nice, non-fighting place.
4. A peaceful and quiet town to live in.
5. Tidier and cleaner than it is now.
6. A peaceful place to live in with a choice of jobs and wages to match the job. Less crime.
7. Better facilities for children and young people. Good job opportunities. Affordable housing in tree-lined streets. No crime.
8. To have more art features around.
9. A clean place with no violence or vandalism.
10. Better and more exciting than it is now.
11. All peaceful and everyone is nice, all clean facilities.
12. A clean and safe place to live in and grow up in.
13. A nice living place and people [visiting] from all over the world.
14. Safe and hassle-free, keep hold of all the people who disturb others.
15. I would like it to be a safe place to live.
16. Neat and tidy and shops be cheap, more hospitals [near] schools.
17. Fun-filled activity towns for all ages.
18. A nice quiet place where people can enjoy themselves and have fun.
19. A clean and safe place with friendly people.
20. Friendly and happy. Houses will be neat and tidy, the beach will be bright and colourful.
21. A place where its fun for people of all ages, and where people get along, girls, boys, black or white.
22. A nice fun place for everyone.
23. A nice clean town, no litter on the floor.
24. A nice clean place with more roads and zebra crossings.
25. A kind, friendly place for everyone who lives here.

4. Full draft and organisation responses

4.1 Introduction

- 4.1.1 This section of the report sets out the results of responses to the full draft Community Strategy and other organisations responses.
- 4.1.2 Twenty responses were received in the form of completed comment booklets, emails, letters, memorandum, reports and telephone calls.
- 4.1.3 The results are set out in the same order as in the draft Community Strategy, starting with a substantial ‘general ‘section. Only the main points have been included in this report. The original source material is available both on paper and electronically (contact Jane Jackson jjackson@hastings.gov.uk 01424 781481).
- 4.1.4 Contributions have been only minimally edited for clarity with original wording maintained wherever possible. Points are numbered to assist with referencing and discussion. Sources are shown in brackets.
- 4.1.5 Many detailed editing points were made which are not included here and the editor/s of the Community Strategy should check through these at the appropriate time.

4.2 Organisations responding

4.2.1 Responses were received from the following:

1. 1066 Housing Association (1066 HA) (comment form)
2. 1066 Housing Association (letter 20.12.02)
3. Castle Ward Forum (comment form)
4. East Sussex County Council – combined (email 18. 12. 02)
5. East Sussex County Council – (email HJ 28.11.02)
6. East Sussex County Council – Arts Officer (email 29.11.02)
7. East Sussex Transport 2000 (Report 6.12.02)
8. Environment Agency (email 27.11.02)
9. Government Office for the South East (GOSE) – Housing & Communities (email 12.11.02) (response to earlier draft – not included in summary which follows)
10. Government Office for the South East (GOSE) – Housing & Communities (email 6.12.02)
11. Hastings Borough Council – Borough Ecologist (Memorandum 9.12.02)
12. Hastings Borough Council – Regeneration Division (letter 12.12.02)
13. Hastings Borough Council – (email SP 2.12.02)
14. Hastings & St Leonards Allotments Federation (letter 10.12.02)
15. Healthier Hastings Action Group/ Healthier Hastings Partnership Board (marked up draft 16.12.02)
16. Hastings Old Town Residents Association (letter Dec 02)
17. Hastings Regeneration Partnership Board (Report 2.12.02)
18. Hastings Voluntary Action (letter Dec 02)
19. Sussex Wildlife Trust (report 18.12.02)

Comments were also received from the following individuals:

- 1 Cllr Daniels (telephone 12.11.02)

4.3 General points

4.3.1 Decide audience

Need to decide target audience for any documentation produced.
(ESCC – com)

4.3.2 More detailed explanations and target/action information needed

There is a need to provide more detailed explanations and target/action information, for those that are interested and for monitoring etc. There are obviously several ways that this can be done, but the final document needs to ensure that it does achieve its objectives. (For example there is a need for detailed targets to be SMART, but more general targets may be appropriate for a “community” audience – the danger is to avoid an inappropriate mix.) This could be achieved by providing a general simplified leaflet for the wider community, but a more detailed base document that can be provided to those requiring more detailed information. Another level of detail and further more detailed supporting documentation could be cross-referenced and provided on the web for example. The approach to be adopted is very much dependent on your needs and overall approach being adopted by the LSP.
(ESCC – com)

4.3.3 SMART targets with timescales

In general targets should all be SMART and all include a timescale.
(ESCC – com)

4.3.4 Baseline starting points needed for targets

In general, it is not clear what the **baseline starting point** for a number of the targets in each section are. As a consequence the target reduction/increase is not measurable and it is not clear whether the stretch is realistic but challenging. It is necessary to provide a baseline position to set the context and to illustrate the degree of change expected over the life of the Strategy. For example, under Crime, the target ‘ to reduce the number of abandoned cars.... and to have 90% of burnt out cars removed from the streets by 2005’ – it is not clear what the actual number of cars is currently nor the change to be expected. We would welcome clear baselines, with reference to **information sources**, in order to measure progress against targets and the impact of your work.
(GOSE)

4.3.5 Match up delivery agencies for targets

We would suggest that it is useful to match the **key partners/delivery agencies** to the specific solutions/targets for each section. This would also reinforce the existing mechanisms, forums, partnerships etc that are active and committed to the Strategy.

In addition, the Strategy should explain how the actions and targets will be **monitored** over time, who will be involved and how frequently this will happen.
(GOSE)

What is missing from the current document is a link between target setting and delivery, so that it is unclear how deliverable the various targets will prove to be. Some targets are very specific and clearly fall within the remit of a specific Sector Partnership; others are more generic and will require co-operation across Sector Partnerships if they are to be realised.
(ESCC – com)

4.3.6 **Adequate detailed working documents and action plans**

There does need to be adequate detailed working documents/action plans to monitor progress and achieve the desired outcomes.
(ESCC – com)

4.3.7 **Targets not compatible with County Council targets**

In light of the Council's new policy steers and review of priorities etc. a number of the targets referred to are not compatible with the County Council's targets and therefore can't be "signed up to" by the Council unless alternative additional resources are identified and committed by other partners. As a result alternative targets that comply with the County's current targets have been suggested wherever possible. (Following the recent meeting of officers at Hastings – 19/12/02, we will be undertaking some further work to try and map the framework of targets incorporating those from other sources such as the PSA, where appropriate.)
(ESCC – com)

4.3.8 **Targets should be numbered**

Some form of individual identification, such as numbering, of the targets would be appropriate from an officer level, to assist in their identification and aid recognition and monitoring processes.
(ESCC – com)

It might be useful if the document was numbered instead of using bullet points, especially for the solutions and targets. These can then be referenced more easily.
(GOSE)

4.3.9 **Cross reference to other local strategy targets**

It would be useful to cross reference to other **local strategy targets**, for example the Local Transport Plan, and show where there are national PSA targets that your work will be contributing to.
(GOSE)

4.3.10 **Community/residents surveys excessive**

A number of targets are related to undertaking community/residents surveys, some on a biannual basis. In total these seem excessive and could lead to survey fatigue as

well as being potentially very resource hungry and consequently diluting delivery resources and out-turn. In any event these consultations will need to be carefully co-ordinated and programmed, ideally with similar exercises being undertaken by the other partners of the LSP.
(*ESCC – com*)

4.3.11 **Ward boundary issues**

If the ward boundary changes are likely to affect the unemployment/deprivation statistics and consequently “dilute” the problems, we should draw attention to this issue.
(*ESCC – com*)

4.3.12 **Clarify key and other issues**

Need for clarification between ‘key issues’ and ‘other issues’.
(*ESCC – com*)

4.3.13 **Too complex and confusing**

The Strategy contains a plethora of issues, solutions and proposed targets which are difficult to comment upon individually without very detailed analysis and a specialist knowledge of each theme. It is clear that the quantity and diversity of information presented is confusing and detracts from the focus around generating 20 ‘Milestone Targets’, which in turn will act as key indicators to measure progress. The expectation is that greater focus will develop as the Strategy passes through the various stages of consultation and refinement.
(*Hastings Regeneration Partnership Board*)

4.3.14 **Central message will be lost**

Our reservations are related to the fact that the Strategy is so wide ranging. It seems to be so comprehensive and so all-embracing that its central messages will be lost in an effort to represent everyone and all agendas. Priorities will have to be identified at the expense of others but this process needs to be pursued to make the Strategy meaningful and effective.
(*HBC – Regeneration*)

4.3.15 **Presentation.**

In terms of presentation, we think that the Strategy needs to have both a short and a long version. For instance there should be a "text book" for operators and agencies that spells out the detail and how the plan will be implemented, but also the short, accessible, public version (a brochure or smart poster or similar) which communicates a very small number of key messages simply and with immediacy. In this context we were not sure of the status of the "Other" issues/solutions/targets and whether these will remain for the final version (we think they could be omitted without great loss for the Strategy). Again in terms of presentation, there may be merit in an Annual Meeting or "Forum" through which the Town's progress on the key indicators can be fed back to The People. This would need to be thought through

in terms of venue, style etc but should allow for interaction between the Council, other agencies, and the community.
(HBC – Regeneration)

4.3.16 Consultation process welcomed

The attempts to broaden and deepen the consultation process is welcomed and the experience of working on a multi-agency basis to achieve this is an encouraging development. Specifically the use of existing networks and the empowerment of Community Consultants is a useful model for this exercise and also for the future.
(HVA)

4.3.17 Tensions between themes

Developing the community strategy in a number of theme areas was an inevitable part of the process. Each separate area is discrete and contains its own specific targets. However, read together, the strategy contains a number of tensions between chapters which will need to be mediated and resolved. Perhaps the clearest examples are between issues relating to the environment and economic development which will have very different perspectives on issues such as land use.
(HVA)

4.3.18 Clear and consistent feedback needed

The need for clear and consistent feedback on the consultation exercise is emphasised.
(HVA)

4.3.19 Include case studies

Include boxes on specific projects (2 Sure Starts plus Healthy Living Centre. Innovative GP)
(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.3.20 Incorporate the Cultural Strategy

The DCMS now requires Cultural Strategies to be 'subsumed into the Community Planning process' and not to be a separate entity.
(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.3.21 Biodiversity needs to be covered

Government advice is clear on how Community Strategies should be developed, and the relationship the Strategy should have with 'the Government's sustainable development strategy – which provides a national framework for integrating economic, social and environmental concerns – and work on regional sustainable development frameworks'.

This advice is represented through a number of different but related publications, guidance notes and strategies; biodiversity and sustainable development require to be fully integrated into Community Strategies using existing national and regional structures, frameworks and guidance. The draft Community Strategy fails to grasp this fundamental tenet of Government advice and guidance.

The draft Community Strategy fails to;

- Clarify how Community Strategies contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK.
- Establish and set local indicators and targets within a contextual framework of national and regional/local biodiversity/sustainable development indicators and targets.
- Recognise the importance of the natural environment in delivering the national sustainable development strategy to provide for the economic, social and environmental well-being of local communities and their areas.
- Balance the social, the economic and the environmental factors within the community strategy.
- Recognise the importance that Government places on biodiversity and its integration within all local authority activities.
- Recognise the important role local authorities have in protecting and conserving biodiversity.
- Recognise biodiversity is a crucial component of quality of life for the communities that local government serves in England and Wales.
- Implement key Government guidance on biodiversity and community strategies.
- Recognise that protecting and enhancing biodiversity can bring clear benefits to local people.
- Recognise, or mention, the serious and profound implications of climate change, the mitigation of which' Government has stressed can be addressed through local action within Community Strategies.

It is disappointing that issues relating to biodiversity and climate change have received no mention in the draft Community Strategy for Hastings and St Leonard's despite Government guidance to the contrary.

(HBC, Borough Ecologist – conclusions from a detailed paper outlining government and other policy)

The Community Strategy's aim is to "contribute to sustainable development in the Borough by recognising the linkages between economic, social and environmental factors". If sustainable development is to be a reality, the environment and biodiversity issues must be integral to all parts of the Community Strategy and the whole Masterplan.

The Borough of Hastings has a 'Green Network' fully integrated in to the built environment and has a Nature Conservation Strategy to maintain this resource. Biodiversity should therefore be highlighted in the Seven Key Themes, in order to contribute towards the delivery of local and national biodiversity targets and objectives.

The Local Strategic Partnership has been formed to address social, economic and environmental issues equally but the environment sector is inadequately represented.

Neighbourhood Action Plans should identify ways of incorporating biodiversity in the urban setting to improve quality of life for residents.

A sense of pride, involvement and ownership in a community can be effective in improving social welfare and this can include a reduction in crime. Initiatives to involve local people in improving their local environment should include the natural environment and aim to increase awareness of the importance of biodiversity to our lives.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

4.3.22 Traffic demand management needs to be covered

Overall, there is a good description of key issues, but in the area of transport, the document fails to appreciate the major potential for policy objective delivery by way of traffic demand management. For example, a reorganisation of street space in residential areas so that traffic is restrained would result not only in gains through promotion of safe walking and cycling environments, but in improvements in public health, noise reduction, improved air quality, more sociable environments, stronger local neighbourhood economies, reduced crime, and a more widespread concern for the quality of urban design. There would be a bigger market for public transport that would itself strengthen local economies around transport nodes. It is not so easy to describe to an audience the mosaic of interventions that would achieve the objectives, but an attempt should be made. The document misses the opportunity and targets quoted therefore have no contextual meaning.

(East Sussex Transport 2000)

4.3.23 Allotments need to be covered

Summary: Concern that allotments have been overlooked in all regeneration plans. Many of the allotment fields are insecure and frequently vandalised. Allotments provide healthy organic food, regular exercise and mental well being for people from all walks of life, combined with the opportunity to recycle many kinds of domestic waste. Hastings may be under-resourced under the recommendations of the Allotments Advisory Committee which quotes 4 acres of allotments per 1,000 population. Every new housing project should have land allocated for allotments/communal gardens. Substantial funding should be allocated to ensure that allotments are securely fenced, well maintained and well advertised. The appointment of a dedicated allotments manager should be considered.

(Hastings & St Leonards Allotments Federation)

4.4 PULLING IT ALL TOGETHER p4

4.4.1 Refer to and integrate other strategies

Make greater reference to the contribution that the other strategies have across the seven themes and emphasise the links between the strategies and wider impact they can have (i.e. the Cultural Strategy).
(ESCC – com)

There is a need to ensure that the targets coming forward from the various plans/strategies are effectively integrated and unnecessary duplication avoided. Similarly it would be appropriate to incorporate those of the Countywide PSA when they are finalised. The proposed mapping exercise to be undertaken on the 21st January should aim to resolve this.
(ESCC – com)

4.4.2 Explain how strategies fit together

Explain how all the various strategies fit together i.e. show linkage to Neighbourhood Action Plans, Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy, Regeneration Strategy and how it links in with the 5 Point Plan and Master Plan.
(To enhance this the relevant strategies could be indicated at the end of the various themed sections - indicating somewhere where they are available from and the stage they are at.)
(ESCC – com)

4.4.3 Regeneration more than just Economics

The *Pulling It All Together* diagram on page 4 suggests that Regeneration is all about Economic Success (and vice versa). As you would know, this is not the case and Economic Success is only one element of successful regeneration - the other keys being social regeneration and physical regeneration. If challenged, this point should be made clear.
(HBC – Regeneration)

4.4.4 Explain arrows

Explain more clearly what the arrows mean on the diagram on page 4, how the NAPs fit with this diagram and what is the timescale for the NAPs. (suggestion made)
(ESCC – com)

4.5 YOUR LOCAL NEIGHBOURHOOD p5

4.5.1 Explain relationships

Suggest that on page 5 the fit of the LNRS and NAPs is explained (a possible wording has been suggested on page 5).
(ESCC – com)

4.6 OUR VISION FOR THE FUTURE p6

4.6.1 Compact

Include compact with voluntary/community sector
(*Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board*)

4.7 A SAFER TOWN

4.7.1 Drugs and crime under-emphasised

The huge drug scene has been underemphasized. The impact that crime and violence has on residents has been underemphasized. It deters people from living in the Town Centre.

(Castle Ward Forum)

4.7.2 Incorporate Cultural and Public Art strategies

Active engagement in Sports and the Arts has been shown time and again to reduce crime and vandalism by young people. An active evening culture of events/meetings/films/concerts/gigs reduces fear of crime as more/different kinds of people are out and about. Public Art including lighting schemes makes town centre areas more attractive and less crime prone.

The only reference in the draft Community Strategy:

New ways of diverting young people away from criminal behaviour and drug abuse
Does not adequately reflect Hastings and St Leonard's Cultural and Public Art Strategies

(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.7.3 Domestic violence

What provision is there for domestic violence victims with substance misuse/mental health problems? Refuges don't allow these people in - also if have a boy child over 12 years old. Discussion needs to go back to safer town Group? Exclusion?

(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.8 A LEARNING TOWN

4.8.1 Help with community projects

Solutions: Help with community projects and refurbish older buildings that are at present unused.

(Castle Ward Forum)

The Ice House should be built to meet the needs of the under 25s especially.

(Hastings Old Town Residents Association)

4.8.2 Lifelong learning

Does not reflect life-long learning, skills enhancement, and encouragement to re-engage in education through arts and sports projects. Does not mention the potential of Creative Partnerships in engaging children with professionals in cultural industries.

(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.8.3 Split in three target groups

It might be helpful to split the layout of the Learning Town section into three key target groups – Children, Young People and Adults – for a clearer and more focused presentation of solutions and targets. There could perhaps be more mention of specific DfES initiatives/ programmes such as Extended Schools, Neighbourhood Nurseries, Early Excellence Centres etc. Targets could be expressed in terms of national deadlines (as laid out in DfES - Delivering Results: A Strategy to 2006), and should be linked to baselines to show the degree of change that will be delivered.

(GOSE)

4.8.4 More emphasis on workforce development

This chapter seems to concentrate on school based learning at the expense of other areas. Whilst we agree that school age education needs to be the priority, there should be some emphasis on workforce development issues such as developing workplace skills, better opportunities for career progression within the town, and training for key skills such as project management and management. There are examples of these issues in "Other" issues/solutions but they are entirely absent among the priority issues.

Maybe there should also be some recognition of the needs v demand issue in this chapter. There are identified needs for better IT skills and training in many areas, but these do not necessarily translate through to people coming forward to take courses that are offered. Agencies may need to concentrate more on increasing the take-up of training opportunities through measures such as marketing, motivation and publicity.

(HBC – Regeneration)

4.8.5 Add environmental awareness

The ideas for a learning town place lifelong learning "at the heart of social and economic regeneration". If the Community Strategy is to address social, economic and environmental issues, then environmental awareness should be part of the education plan.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

4.8.6 Young parents

New target: 60% of young parents must be in to education/training/employment by 2010 (Government target).

(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.8.7 Details

Under other solutions: third bullet should read **13-19** (25 for those with SEN); bullet point 4, what does "**significant**" mean in terms of a target?

(GOSE)

Under other targets: the incorrect date of **2112** is used; bullet one should be **16** year olds; third bullet should read **Sussex Learning and Skills Council**; is bullet four "**All**" young people, a realistic goal?

(GOSE)

Mention Connexions

(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.9 A DECENT HOME FOR EVERYONE

4.9.1 Unfits

How many unfits are there? – this would provide context for your targets; will your audience know what a Renewal Area is? (this could go in the glossary of terms).

Target 1 and 3 – by when?

Target 4 – not clear what is meant by ‘extend support to 500 more vulnerable people’ – are there particular groups of people with special housing needs, this seems quite general and not sure how it will be measured.

(GOSE)

4.9.2 Antisocial tenants

Issues: The amount and degree of misery and distress that are caused in neighbourhoods by anti social tenants in privately rented accommodation has been underestimated.

Solutions: Establish immediately a voluntary registration system for private landlords.

Make it possible through residents associations to obtain the name and contact details of landlords whose tenants are causing distress in the neighbourhood.

Targets: Compulsory licensing system for private landlords.

(Castle Ward Forum)

4.9.3 Artists/designers

Recognition that artist/designer makers often lead the regeneration of urban areas by their imaginative use of industrial and other buildings. Need for affordable accommodation for young arts/media industry graduates combining home/work.

(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.9.4 Other

Solutions: Homelessness strategy

Proposed targets: Central heating/insulation/cheaper fuel

Proposed targets: Preventing accidents in the home.

(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.10 AN INCLUSIVE TOWN

4.10.1 Satisfaction of residents

This is a comprehensive section. Target 1 should include a baseline figure for the current satisfaction of residents. Expanding and improving consultation processes is important in this section and it would be good, in the light of the current outreach activity, to refer to 'what worked' and send back some general messages to the community about their involvement in this document, when you produce the final version.

(GOSE)

4.10.2 More on employment, skills and training

Although this chapter capably addresses some important community development and capacity building issues, other issues which are central to social inclusion - such as employment, skills and training are not referred to and this seems to be an oversight.

(HBC – Regeneration)

4.10.3 Playing on the streets

Issues: We agree very much with the issue surrounding "young people and a strategic approach". There must be better transport (public) so that everyone can be included in cultural activities.

Solutions: Some of us feel that including young people in our everyday lives means allowing them to play on the streets. New ways should be found for them to do this safely providing they are willing to contribute by being considerate to others.

Targets: "Ensure each ward has an accessible community facility". We in Castle Ward would like to work with the council in a meaningful way towards this target but wonder how seriously this is being taken. We need premises that we can feel a sense of pride and ownership in.

(Castle Ward Forum)

4.10.4 Arts as advocacy

Build on work that celebrates community so all the emphasis is not on problems and their solution and in so doing overcome them. Walking the Fish, Lantern Tree and other community arts projects have been truly inclusive and on a large scale. Use the arts as advocacy tool.

(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.10.5 Cure programme

Solution: Explore the benefits of the cure programme approach

(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

4.10.6 Disabled access quicker

All buses and public buildings should be fully accessible by 2005 not 2012

(Hastings Old Town Residents Association)

4.11 A TOWN THAT'S GOOD TO LIVE IN

4.11.1 Targets not timebound

A number of the targets are not timebound. Reference to the beach, in target 1, suggests that everyone should live 300m from the beach. The target about burnt out cars does not match the same target under the Crime Section – is the target 90% or 97%? Some of the solutions could be more specific, for example, how will the image and perception of the town be improved?
(GOSE)

4.11.2 Water saving

Water saving is equally as important as waste and energy saving, especially with the uncertainties of climate change and following the higher profile of water following the Johannesburg summit and I think it needs to be highlighted as an issue where everyone can play a part. I have marked these up in red in the section on A town that's good to live in. (detailed suggestions made on marked up draft)
(Environment Agency)

4.11.3 Unique landscape

Issues: While we agree with all the key issues we believe that the towns infrastructure has been neglected over many years causing many neighbourhoods to feel aesthetically deprived. We feel that the uniqueness of Hastings landscape is one of its attractions but this is not recognised or promoted. The litter problem is underemphasized.

Solutions: Ensure that steps, twittens and small green spaces are brought back to their former glory to be enjoyed by both the local community and visitors.

Employ a litter manager who will actually 'walk the streets' and use visionary qualities to tackle our most untidy and neglected streets, steps, greenspaces and passages.

Revert to the old idea that towns need 'gardens'.

Actively support the greenway project.

Targets: Ensure that all new planning applications have provision for litter storage. Aim to increase cycle ways and pathways by aiming to complete and extend the greenway project.

(Castle Ward Forum)

4.11.4 Public art

Use the potential of Public Art to reflect the varied cultures of the town. Mention the adoption of a percent for Art Policy (see Hastings and St Leonard's Public Art Strategy)

(ESCC – Arts Officer)

4.11.5 **Achievable**

"A town that's good to live in" - This section highlights the importance and value of the natural environment. Threats such as pollution and waste are addressed and some solutions offered. It is encouraging to see the emphasis on sustainable transport systems and the responsible use of energy and resources. The targets and solutions set out in this section are achievable and should run through the rest of the masterplan.

(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

4.11.6 **Car culture**

Policy issue: trade off between traffic increase and health
(Healthier Hastings Action Group/Partnership Board)

Omission: the culture of car dependency affects many. The Old Town needs to become more pedestrian friendly. Simple changes could improve the quality of many lives. They are already long overdue. HOTRA can provide some widely supported suggestions.

(Hastings Old Town Residents Association)

4.12 A HEALTHIER TOWN

4.12.1 Up to date statistics

A number of the targets are not timebound and lack baseline figures. Is there scope to include more up-to-date statistics, for example, on life expectancy? (National Statistics website has recently published data on life expectancy at birth data by local authority for 1999-2001)
(GOSE)

4.12.2 Arts and Health study

No reference to the Arts and Health study commissioned by Hastings Borough Council and its action points.
(ESCC Arts Officer)

4.12.3 Environment

A healthy environment can contribute to improving the mental and physical health of a community. Clean air and clean water will contribute to a healthy population and the opportunity for contact with nature can improve mental health and recovery from illness.
(Sussex Wildlife Trust)

4.13.1 Timebound targets

Targets need to be timebound. In terms of reducing the unemployment in the 5 poorest wards to the national average – how many jobs would need to be created to achieve this based on current unemployment rates? By how much would earnings have to increase?

‘Other issues’ highlights the shortage of suitable employment land and there are a number of proposals involving development sites. Is there enough land to carry these out? Perhaps the link to ‘Other Solutions’ could be clearer by mentioning an action point to identify land and bring sites on stream.

Some examples to support the following statements: ‘Developing Community Capacity to empower communities to deal constructively with economic and employment opportunities’ and ‘Developing complementary policies and projects that improve opportunities for all local people to share the prosperity of the town’, would help illustrate what this would involve and the work that might be done.
(GOSE)

4.14.1 Clearer link to Renewal Strategy

Good summaries of facts and statistics but not clear on the link to the draft Local Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy and priorities. The reference to the Neighbourhood Management pilot area on page 43, should read Neighbourhood Management **pathfinder** area. With regard to this activity, it would be appropriate to see some commitment in the Community Strategy to using the lessons learnt from the Pathfinder and applying them to the other areas.
(GOSE)

4.14.2 Residents could write own ward descriptions

The Birmingham ward profiles you kindly forwarded are very comprehensive, and written individually to reflect the different areas. As said before I am not that au fait with such detail in respect of the wards (Old Town aside). I would suggest that we should ask the Neighbourhood Forums (where they exist) to write their own ward descriptions, we could supply the Birmingham ward profiles as a 'template' but make it flexible so that they can introduce new title areas (as in 'under 5s activity - Sure Start') where they see fit. Ward Councillors could also have a useful input here. Where the Forums don't yet exist we could consider residents'/community associations and again, ward councillors.
It would bring the Plan closer to the communities -
(HBC)

4.14.3 Parks and green spaces

Parks and green spaces should be mentioned in all the ward profiles.
(Cllr Daniels)

4.14.4 Braybrooke Ward

Page 37 Braybrooke Ward - can't say every ward has been 'targeted' by the EAZ - suggest we say 'has got extra resources'. The Alexandra Park project should be mentioned. There should be a target relating to street lighting
(Cllr Daniels)

4.14.5 Broomgrove Wards

First Paragraph – Priority area for action – under EAS and 1066 Housing Association Building Communities Programme
(1066 Housing Association)

4.14.6 **Castle Ward**

We have a huge drug problem. There are many derelict buildings and neglected green spaces. Potential accommodation above shops is not being promoted. Lack of civic pride evident throughout ward.

(Castle Ward Forum)

4.14.7 **Hollington Ward**

First Paragraph – Priority area for action – under EAS and 1066 Housing Association Building Communities Programme

(1066 Housing Association)