

# BARNSLEY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

A five year framework and action plan on  
community development for Barnsley

# **Barnsley Community Development Framework**

## **A 5 year framework and action plan on community development for the Borough of Barnsley.**

### **Introduction:**

This is the framework and action plan produced by the multi-sector **Community Development Advisory Group (CDAG)**, as a part of a new 5 year integrated community development strategy 2002-07. The framework and action plan will be reviewed annually by the Barnsley Forum Executive to correspond with the Barnsley Community Plan review.

The framework will be one of the foundation stones on which the community plan can be built. It concerns tackling social exclusion, increasing community involvement and building stronger communities.

The framework consists of the following sections:

- Introduction
- Aims & Outcomes
- Principles
- Action Plan - Objectives
- How to give your feedback

### **Context:**

To support resource allocation in the coalfield through SRB 5/6 and other funding initiatives it was held to be important to develop a Coalfield Community Development Strategy. This strategy is currently being developed and discussions about the relevance of a strategy at a Coalfield, Borough and Neighbourhood Level are being held. Community Development is a stated priority of the South Yorkshire Coalfield Partnership and is a crucial cross-cutting theme under the Barnsley Forum Executive structures, as well as a key action in the Community Plan. CDAG has a responsibility to advice on Community Development with the Barnsley Forum Executive and Strategic Goal Group structures and aims to develop a Barnsley Community Development Framework that agencies, organisations and groups can commit to in order to ensure a co-ordinated, inclusive, and effective approach to Community Development across the Borough of Barnsley.

### **What is CDAG?**

The Community Development Advisory Group (CDAG) is responsible for advising on Community Development through the Barnsley Forum Executive Structures, and is accountable to the Barnsley Forum Executive. Membership of CDAG is listed at the back of this draft framework.

### **Consultation:**

The CDAG has produced this Community Development Strategy, following on from the previous consultation on the Strategy's principles, aims and objectives. Consultation has also taken place with the Barnsley Forum Executive who endorsed the Strategy in November 2002.

## **Analysis of Need:**

Barnsley Borough has a wealth of community and voluntary activity reflecting the diversity of communities that exist. Examples of voluntary and community activities ranges from local mother and toddler groups and football clubs to the management of local learning centres supporting people to develop their interests and skills and to enter or progress through the employment market.

Barnsley also has many serious and long-term needs and problems that need addressing. Despite determined efforts by agencies, groups and communities large parts of the Borough remain in a state of poverty. 41% of Barnsley wards (9) fall within the most deprived 10% of wards in England. These cover two areas. The main belt of 7 wards runs from Worsbrough to Brierley, on the south and east sides of Barnsley town, including Athersley. The other area comprises the two wards of the Dearne, of which Dearne Thurnscoe is the most deprived ward in the Borough. A further 36% or wards (8) fall into the category of 10-20% most deprived wards, these are average wards for Barnsley but are still very deprived in a national context.

There are also pockets of deprivation across the borough where small and at times isolated neighbourhoods face serious problems. Deprivation can also be experienced by particular groups or 'communities of interest' whose common bond may be, for example, their gender, age or ethnic origin, rather than where they live.

Deprivation is not just about income but also the wider aspects of people's lives such as their environment, their health and security and the level of social support in their neighbourhood. Many people in Barnsley experience 'social exclusion' where whole groups of people are somehow excluded from the wider community. Overall social exclusion and discrimination can be experienced by a wide range of people on the basis of, for example, age, gender, disability, sexuality or ethnic background. The Social Exclusion Unit describe Social Exclusion as " a short hand term for what can happen when people or areas suffer from a combination of linked problems such as unemployment, poor skills, low incomes,poor housing, high crime, bad health and family breakdown". There are fundamental connections between social inclusion and community development because;

- people who are socially excluded are prevented from participating fully in society
- community development seeks to work with people who are most marginalized

It is these two principles that bring together the traditions and principles of social inclusion work and community development. Social Inclusion is different from the term "poverty" because it encompasses the idea of inequality, and because it draws attention to people's experiences of being prevented from being full members of society. Social exclusion is more than a material condition.

To be involved in the mainstream and increase the opportunity to effectively play a part, groups and communities need to be able to participate and work jointly with major agencies such as Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) and the Barnsley Primary Care Trust (PCT) and others. In order to tackle these issues communities themselves need to be enabled so that they become part of the solution to the problems they face.

There are many examples of communities organising themselves to take action to tackle deprivation and exclusion and get involved in local decision making, notable examples are the geographically based Community Partnerships that cover most of the Borough's area. Many voluntary organisations and agencies work with great skill to support new initiatives, groups and projects.

However, a number of weaknesses have been identified:

- The level of community organisation and involvement across the district is patchy and in some neighbourhoods and communities of interest it is very low. Some communities and areas have very few groups and those groups have a low level of resources.
- In many areas and communities there is a need for more effective links between groups and the creation of partnerships led by people from the community. These can act as engines of change and enterprise.
- There is a need for training and support for groups and organisations at grass roots level to create a strong 'community sector'.
- Large agencies and organisations need to change their practices and policies to be able to work more effectively with communities. This will require improved skills and new approaches.

### **Aims and Outcomes:**

The **aims** of the strategy are to create a Barnsley borough where:

- we ensure that across Barnsley there are processes developed and established for empowering geographical communities, communities of interest and individuals to reduce their disadvantage.
- we ensure that community activity is open to all, properly resourced, diverse and fully accessible
- we recognise that individuals gain skills and confidence to participate in and run their own groups, initiatives and networks
- we improve community governance by developing the capacity and self-confidence of individuals and groups
- we assist community organisations to move from Consultation to Empowerment.
- we tackle social exclusion by recognising resourcing and involving marginalised and informal groups in mainstream policies and activities. To recognise and to address the remaining inequalities of power and representation which act as barriers to communities of interest.
- we continue to develop a strong and independent voluntary and community sector in Barnsley and the capacity, organisation, powers and influence of community organisations and networks to fully exploit the European, national and regional funding opportunities now emerging.

- we recognise the key role of community development in mobilising community esteem, developing employment, cultural, leisure, sporting and community arts initiatives and celebrate success and diversity.
- communities are effectively involved in local decision making and able to take a lead role in community enterprise and partnerships
- we encourage local employers and their representatives to actively participate in community development initiatives
- agencies and large organisations actively pursue best practice in community involvement and partnerships
- the value of equality and accountability underlie all community development support and activity.

The **outcomes** of achieving these aims will include:

- more money brought into the district from external resources
- more effective community enterprise
- more volunteering and people active at neighbourhood level to tackle problems
- more effective community groups able to contribute to new initiatives
- improved skills and structures at community level to work effectively in partnerships
- reduced social exclusion

### **Principles:**

Achieving the aims will need to be firmly based on principles that describe the values that underlie the community development approach.

#### **Key principles on which community development workers should base their practice:**

- Involvement in community groups should be entirely a matter of choice, individuals should be able to get involved to whatever degree they want
- Local people should be supported in achieving their own goals provided these are not discriminatory
- The pace of development should be determined by the participants and not by the needs of external agencies
- Community Development practitioners should never usurp the role of local leadership. A worker also needs to be free to work with the agenda of the local people rather than one imposed by an external agency.
- Community Development practitioners should seek to consult with, and involve, local employers as an integral part of local communities
- Community development needs to address issues across the whole borough as well as in neighbourhoods, networks, communities of interest and pockets of deprivation
- Increased participation must not be a substitute for increased access to real resources
- Community Development initiatives should start from evidence of needs.
- Community Development requires capacity building within communities as well as organisational development.
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## Strategy and Action Plan

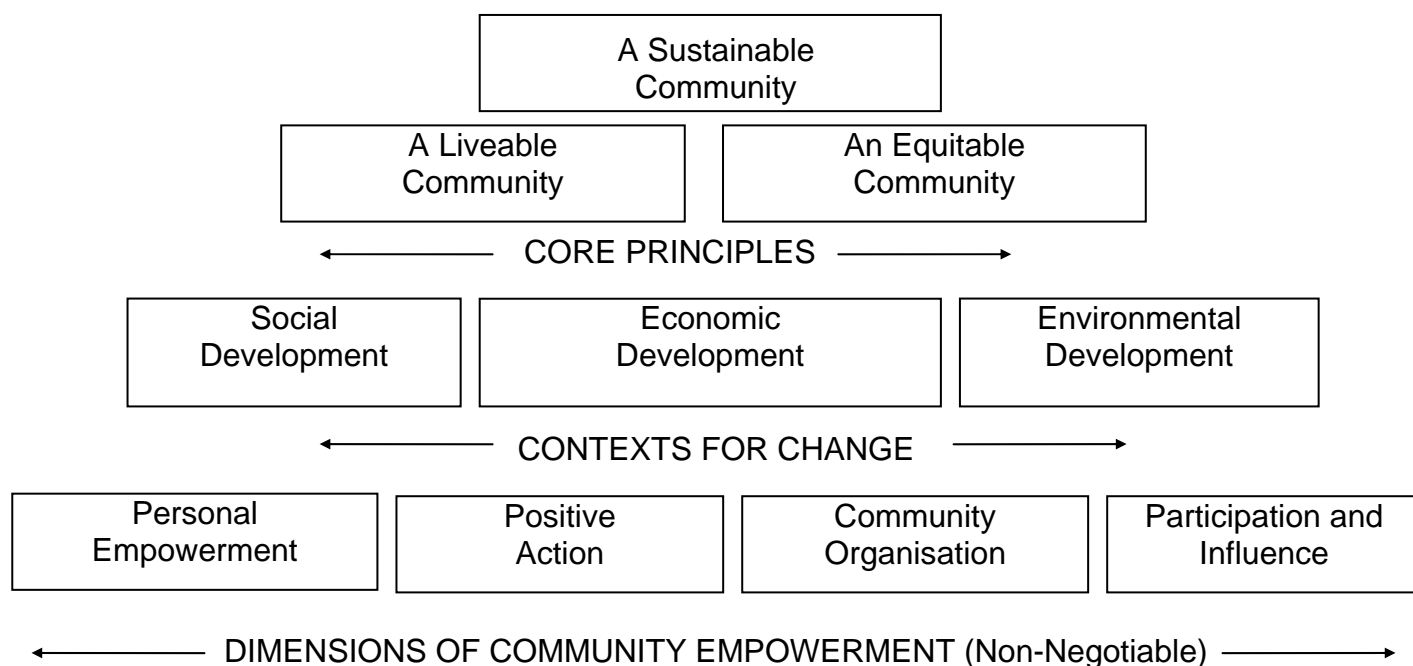
### ABCD Community Development Model

It is important that as part of any action plan there are robust processes for monitoring and evaluation in place to ensure accountability to the communities and other key partners.

It is recommended in Barnsley, by the CDAG, that The '**Achieving Better Community Development**' (ABCD) framework for evaluating community development devised by the Scottish Community Development Centre is the model that is used to evaluate community development. This model is recognised as a 'best practice' model. It meets the need for rigour and a systematic approach while at the same time emphasising the participation of all stakeholders, especially communities themselves, in the evaluation process. It has been designed to be flexible and adaptable and can be used at policy, programme and project level. Using the framework helps to clarify what community development can do and provides information on which judgements can be made about the progress.

About the ABCD model: ABCD provides a framework for planning an learning from community development interventions. It encourages those involved in community development - whether as funders, policy makers, managers, practitioners, volunteers or community members, to be clear about what they are trying to achieve, how they should go about it, and how they can change things in light of experience. The ABCD model will be used as a framework to monitor the Community Development Strategy. Further information on ABCD is attached to the Strategy as an annex.

#### ACHIEVING BETTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT



## **The Barnsley Community Development Strategy has been split into 4 'Building Blocks':**

**Building Skills** - where people and groups gain knowledge and skills and reach their full potential through their involvement in community activity and groups

Building skills also includes skills concerned with community enterprise and community economic development. Community development work is one important way of supporting communities and individuals in building skills and capacity. This work is taking place in a wide range of communities in Barnsley, but there may be some areas or communities of interest that do not have access to the support they need or want.

**Building Organisations** - so that people can be fully involved in their local activities and groups, and so that local organisations are strong and effective in improving their neighbourhoods and the borough

Barnsley has a wealth of community and voluntary groups that reflect the Boroughs diversity and help provide a sense of identity and pride. However, many of these groups work in isolation, often without adequate resources or links with other groups. The Creating Self-Reliance Conference 2000 and other consultation have shown that many groups are interested in developing their organisations and are in need of advice, contacts, information and access to basic practical resources and equipment. The development of service delivery by voluntary and community organisations is a natural consequence of the community development approach.

**Building Involvement** - improving the quality of life by supporting communities to have a strong voice in local decisions and contribute to partnerships and joint planning

We aim to create a Barnsley Borough where communities are effectively involved in local decision making. There is a lot of good practice and experience to build on across the borough.

**Building Equality** - building an inclusive borough

The principle of equality needs to underlie and inform all community development initiatives. This involves challenging racist, sexist and all other forms of discriminatory practice, including discrimination against people with a disability.

Under each block a description is given of 'What we are going to do'. These statements are the framework's Objectives. The sections headed 'How are we going to do it' describe the specific targets and actions that are planned to achieve the objectives.

The Community Development Advisory Group will work to support the co-ordination of partner agencies under the Barnsley Forum Executive structures to secure delivery on all of the objectives and targets over the life of this plan. Responsibility for coordinating this work will be devolved to lead agencies for each of the objectives. The primary reason for identifying lead agencies is to ensure that information is collected to report on progress against the

objectives, and will be based on partnership working. A mini - executive group will be established for each of the four building blocks to also monitor progress.

Within each block, additional themes are identified such as childcare and voluntary sector services. These themes reflect key initiatives currently being developed. This strategy is designed to be further developed and expanded over time with scope to integrate additional themes as required.

## **Objectives - What do we need to do to achieve our aims?**

The objectives in the Barnsley Community Development Strategy have been chosen because they are measurable. This means that we can check progress towards achieving our aims and outcomes. They are listed as part of the action plan. However, some objectives have no targets identified, due to lack of existing baseline information. Where this is the case, a mapping exercise will be conducted to identify targets at a later date.

## **Building Skills**

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective A** - Through partnerships between organisations, increase the skills and abilities of individuals, community groups and organisations, so that they can effectively participate within their own communities and networks.

### **Baseline:**

Community consultation has shown that there is a need to develop a better understanding of communities, groups and individual skills and development needs. There is a need to develop a more co-ordinated approach to the identification of these needs and how to meet them.

In order to ensure that everyone can play an active role in their community or take up training opportunities, childcare also needs to be widely available. There are many agencies involved in the development and provision of learning opportunities across the Borough. However, the existing level of funding, and level of both accredited and non-accredited learning provision needs to be accessed more effectively.

**How are we going to do it:**

### **Target 1: Identifying and responding to Learning Needs**

- ⇒ Carry out a baseline assessment of skills needed by groups, organisations and individuals (Year One).
- ⇒ Map provision against needs
- ⇒ Develop a programme of learning opportunities designed to meet identified need

**Lead:** Barnsley Learning Partnership

## **Target 2: Increased Learning Opportunities**

- ⇒ Develop a Local Learning Plan for Neighbourhood Renewal - The Barnsley Learning Curve
- ⇒ Establish a Local Learning Net working group, as a sub group of the Lifelong Learning Partnership
- ⇒ Promote volunteering as a positive experience where individuals receive training and develop new skills within existing strategies for Lifelong Learning

**Lead:** Barnsley Learning Partnership

## **Target 3: Improving Support for Volunteers**

- ⇒ Organisation of an annual event to both promote volunteering and to value publicly the contribution volunteers make in Barnsley
- ⇒ Promote and develop equality and diversity in the involvement of volunteers in the work of all groups, organisations and agencies in Barnsley
- ⇒ To secure the future of the newly established Supported Volunteering Service helping people with disabilities into volunteering
- ⇒ To maintain and develop current information on volunteering opportunities in Barnsley and abroad
- ⇒ Build on the work of the Cudworth and West Green Volunteer Development Project across communities and community partnerships
- ⇒ Build into the implementation of the Community Development Strategy a recognition of the contribution that individual volunteers make in addition to any contribution made by groups, organisations and agencies

**Lead:** Barnsley Volunteers Bureau

## **Target 4: Developing Community Work Skills**

- ⇒ The Management Support Project and others to make available, training accessible to all those involved in community development work, addressing the needs of both experienced and inexperienced community development workers

**Lead:** Management Support Project (VAB)

## **Community Development Work**

Community Development Work means the practices and approaches carried out by individuals in a planned and conscious manner based on the principles of community development. To be fully effective community development workers require training, appropriate experience, a commitment to on-going training and participation in a community development support network.

Community Development Work is one important way of supporting communities and individuals in building skills and capacity. Community

development work is taking place across Barnsley in a wide range of communities, but there may be some areas or communities that do not have access to the support that they need or want.

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective B** - Ensure training and networks are available to workers and managers involved in community development, including those who have little or no experience of community development work.

**Baseline:** There are many agencies and individuals involved in community work across the Borough, but there are not necessarily opportunities for them to meet and share ideas and good practice. There are some examples of very effective community work practice which could be shared with workers and groups in other areas. The level of experience and access to training for existing Community Workers varies greatly and needs to be addressed.

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 5: Map Community Development work across the District**

⇒ Audit the existing pattern of community development work provision informed by Coalfield Strategy, also Standing Conference for Community Development (SCCD) study.

**Lead:** Community Development Advisory Group

**Target 6: Facilitating best practice in Community Development**

- ⇒ Set up ways of disseminating information on best practice in community development work across the Barnsley Borough
- ⇒ CDAG, with support from SCCD, to initiate a Barnsley wide Community Development Network, as a support network for community development workers from all sectors

**Lead:** Community Empowerment Team

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective C** - Enable community development work in a systematic manner across communities of interest and neighbourhoods, particularly focusing on communities which are excluded and disadvantaged

**Baseline:** Paid community workers are located in a wide range of public and voluntary sector settings. Lack of resources limits access to community development support in some communities

**How are we going to do it:**

## **Target 7: Target community work provision to meet the support needs of voluntary and community groups**

- ⇒ Develop a criteria for areas that should be prioritised for Community Development work.
- ⇒ Using the audit findings, CDAG will advise on recommendations for where resources for community development work are focused.
- a) Undertake an audit of the support needs of developing groups based in neighbourhoods and communities of interest
- b) Undertake a mapping exercise of existing infrastructure support available across the Council, within the Voluntary sector and through other agencies
- c) Voluntary Sector Forum/CSR and other interested parties to analyse the information available and develop a strategic model for meeting the development needs of grassroots community groups

**Lead:** Community Development Advisory Group

**Contributors:** Community Initiatives Team, Community Planning & Regeneration, Association of Community Partnerships, VAB, CSR

## **Children, Childcare and Community Development**

The development and provision of childcare and early years services is an integral part of community development. Childcare not only enables parents to access work and training but also has an essential part to play in the regeneration of communities.

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective D:** To enable parents to work, train and participate in community activity by providing good quality childcare

**Lead: Barnsley Choices**

**Baseline:** The lack of good quality, affordable childcare within the borough provides a substantial barrier to regeneration and community capacity building.

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 8: To provide an additional 3552 new childcare places by 2004**

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective E:** Contribute to the regeneration of areas of multiple disadvantage through the establishment of community led SureStart programmes for the under 4s and their families

**Baseline:** Five SureStart programmes have been allocated to Barnsley MBC

- Kendray, Bank End and Worsborough, for which BMBC Social Services are both lead and accountable body (2<sup>nd</sup> Wave)
- Athersley, New Lodge and Smithies, for which Roundhaouse Community Partnership is the lead body and BMBC education Services are proposed as the Accountable Body (3rd Wave)
- Thurnscoe, for which Dearne Community Partnership is the lead body and BMBC Education Services are proposed as the Accountable Body (5<sup>th</sup> Wave)
- Hoyland & Jump, for which Forge Community Partnership is the lead body and BMBC education Services are proposed as the Accountable Body (5<sup>th</sup> Wave)
- Bolton & Goldthorpe for which NCH are proposed as both lead and accountable body (6<sup>th</sup> Wave)

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 9:** A. To continue to support the development of Barnsley's five SureStart programmes  
 B. To work with the Children & Young People's Board to explore the development of borough wide SureStart support.

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective F:** Use childcare as a development tool to increase community enterprise projects by setting up community businesses and sustaining high quality, affordable childcare for the whole community.

**Baseline:** A range of childcare is provided by the voluntary and community sectors. In addition new childcare businesses, in particular childminding provides an accessible route into employment, particularly for women wishing to return to work.

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 10:**  
 A. To provide 75 new childminding businesses by 2004  
 B. To provide four new community led childcare provisions through the Neighbourhood Nurseries Initiative by 2004.

**Building Organisations**

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective G** - Develop and strengthen the support networks which provide voluntary and community organisations with the support necessary to set up, develop and have a lasting impact

**Baseline:** Surveys and consultation have shown that:

- many groups are interested in developing their organisations or their activities, but need access to advice, information and practical help
- groups find the range of funding opportunities confusing and do not know where to access information and help. Small groups are particularly interested in access to practical help in making applications
- whilst there are agencies around offering support, not all the groups are aware of what is available and existing agencies could not respond to the potential demand
- support should be appropriate, accessible and local
- groups need access to a wide range of relevant information sources and support in interpreting the information on behalf of the community

The support should include; project and organisational development, technical assistance, advice and information on strategic planning, service delivery and financial and organisational management, funding information, advice and where appropriate, practical assistance in making applications.

The support may be provided by large agencies like the Council, but much of the support will come from the Infrastructure Support Organisations which are located in the Voluntary Sector, like Voluntary Action Barnsley, Creating Self Reliance, and or South Yorkshire Funding Advice.

There are many groups and organisations developing and delivering community regeneration initiatives across the Borough. Groups and organisations would benefit from the opportunity to share experiences and learning.

#### **How are we going to do it:**

#### **Target 11: Develop networking opportunities and communication systems**

- a) Core funding to be made available to develop communication and support services to the voluntary and community sector, including support to new groups, building on existing Infrastructure Support Organisations work.
- b) Establish IT systems to enable networking and skills sharing across the voluntary and community sector
- c) Establish the Barnsley Community and Voluntary Sector newsletter
- d) Develop the Barnsley Volunteer Co-ordinators' Forum as a network to promote and share good practice in involving volunteers

**Lead:** Creating Self Reliance

#### **What are we going to do:**

#### **Objective H - Strengthen existing voluntary sector 'Infrastructure Support Organisations'**

**Baseline:** Voluntary Sector Infrastructure Support Organisations are key in addressing the voluntary and community sector support needs identified in Objective B. The Infrastructure Support Organisations are the bodies that

provide support, training and advice to other voluntary and community groups. They need to be inclusive and to be seen to be representative of and serving all of the communities of the Borough to be effective. The range and resourcing of these organisations needs to be adequate to address the identified support needs of the voluntary and community sector

**How are we going to do it:**

### **Target 12 Develop the infrastructure support network**

**Lead:** Voluntary Action Barnsley

- a) Examine the existing role, coverage and resourcing of Infrastructure Support Organisations in the Voluntary Sector
- b) Create action plans to address the gaps

### **Voluntary Sector Services**

The development of service delivery by voluntary and community organisations is a natural consequence of the empowering processes detailed in this strategy. Such services can be both innovative and cost effective, adopting ways of working which are themselves empowering. As such, they can be both effective in reaching the socially excluded and in working alongside them to overcome the barriers facing them. Barnsley has a good tradition of voluntary and community led services and has a strong base on which to build.

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective 1** - Promote and sustain the development of voluntary and community led services which address social exclusion

**Baseline:** Voluntary and community led organisations provide a wide range of valuable services. Existing services need to develop and new services will need to emerge in order to respond to changing needs

**How are we going to do it:**

### **Target 13: Voluntary Sector service development**

- a) Statutory agencies, VAB, Barnsley Community & Voluntary Network (BCVN) and Community Empowerment Team (CET) to work to ensure that there are continuing opportunities to develop and fund new and existing voluntary sector based services across the Borough.

**Baseline:** The Community Empowerment Team has recently offered funds to all community partnerships and the Older Peoples Forum for development activity.

**Lead:** Creating Self Reliance

**Contributors:** VAB, CET, BMBC, Social Inclusion Group

**Objective J** - Establish and sustain a network of high quality, accessible advice services across the Borough provided by all those organisations that have a role.

**Baseline:** Access to advice is critical to the well being of many individuals and communities. Barnsley has a number of well established advice centres, both specialist and generalist. Many of these are already subject to quality assurance measures. Advice services can maximise income for individuals and families thereby tackling social exclusion and generating spend in the local community which contributes to community development. Advice services also inform social policy by identifying issues which are aggravating hardship and exclusion, whilst also nurturing self-empowerment of some of the most excluded and hard to reach.

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 14: Increase access to good quality advice services**

a) Map the availability of advice provision across the Borough

**Baseline:** The Barnsley CLSP has carried out a local audit to map legal advice services across the Borough. Further work is intended in the future to update the current information

b) Develop an action plan to fill any gaps identified by the mapping process

**Baseline:** From the needs analysis carried out, The Barnsley CLSP has identified priorities and priority geographical areas within the Borough. The CLSP has developed a Strategy and Action Plan to target the priorities identified from the needs analysis. In terms of legal advice services, Barnsley was shown by the needs analysis to be severely lacking in providers, despite a high degree of need for legal services across the Borough. Copies of the Barnsley CLSP needs Analysis, Strategy and Action Plan are available on request or from the Barnsley CLSP website

c) Ensure that appropriate quality standards are in place for the provision of advice across the borough and that appropriate training to maintain quality provision is available locally.

**Baseline:** Included in the CLSP Strategy and Action Plan is the recognition and commitment to promoting and increasing the number of Quality Marked organisations in Barnsley. The CLSP plan to provide, encouragement and training for organisations to promote and achieve Quality Marked status. Providing and increasing a network of recognised quality services across the borough as a consequence.

**Lead:** Barnsley Community Legal Service Partnership (CLSP)

**Contributors:** BMBC Welfare Rights, Citizens Advice Bureau, VAB

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective K** - Promote community economic activity across the Borough, leading to the establishment of a range of socially useful and economically sustainable enterprises and to establish links with local employers to

compliment this activity (recognising that Community Development has an effect on increasing wealth and tackling social exclusion)

**Baseline:** There are good examples of community economic activity across the borough, with considerable potential to develop this sector further. See Business Support in the Social Economy - a report for the Objective 1, Priority 3b Driver Partnership, SYSEN March 2001

**How are we going to do it:**

**Target 15 : Supporting and encouraging community enterprise**

a) Ensure that groups have access to long term advisory support to develop sustainable community enterprise activity

CERT will:

- Broker, develop and resource the communities capacity to develop, manage and implement community enterprises
- Promote, support and resource community based ownership of an expansion in the social economy
- Bring greater cohesion and co-ordination to job creation in the social and wider economies
- Work to bring about an integration of the social economy in support of commercial and mainstream business sectors, further increasing sub-regional wealth, employee skills-base levels and job creation prospects.

**Targets:**

28 Community enterprise start ups  
20 Voluntary groups assisted  
20 Community groups assisted  
200 ILM jobs created

b) Develop networking and mutual support opportunities for community businesses

**Lead:** CERT

**Contributors:** BMBC

## Building Involvement

### What are we going to do:

**Objective L** - All Barnsley Forum Executive partners will develop their organisations to achieve joined up approaches to effective community participation and involvement

### How are we going to do it:

#### Target 16: Co-ordinating and Promoting Community Involvement

- ⇒ Re-communicate remit of the Community Development Advisory Group including its role of co-ordinating between agencies on community consultation and participation
- ⇒ All agencies to identify a senior officer or at board level a member to drive forward their agency's engagement with community organisations
- ⇒ Barnsley Council identifies for each service a Senior Officer to lead on its involvement of community organisations
- ⇒ Strengthen existing and develop new ways to communicate the results of community consultations to participants
- ⇒ Build community involvement into all policies of all key agencies in the Borough
- ⇒ The key agencies involved in community development support in the Borough adopt the ladder of participation on order to plan and prepare consultation and involvement

**Lead:** CDAG

**Contributors:** Community Planning and Regeneration, Community Empowerment Team, Community Initiatives Team

### How are we going to do it:

#### Target 17: Resourcing Voluntary Sector and Community Involvement

- ⇒ Establish within the Council, Health Services and other agencies budgets to support voluntary sector and community involvement

**Lead:** Community Planning and Regeneration

**Contributors:** Area Forums, Community Empowerment Team, BDGNHS Trust/PCT

#### Target 18: Promoting and Evaluating Involvement of Excluded Community groups

- ⇒ The Council, PCT and other agencies to develop a more systematic approach to involving and to evaluating the level and range of involvement of specific communities such as homeless people, disabled people, young people, older people, ethnic minorities, gay and lesbian groups and women

- ⇒ Promote this inclusive approach, monitor, evaluate and develop further
- ⇒ Barnsley Volunteer Bureau to promote volunteering among communities which are excluded, particularly black and minority ethnic groups, and people with disabilities

**Lead:** Community Empowerment Team

**Contributors:** Community Initiatives Team, Community Planning and Regeneration, PCT & BFE Partners

### **Target 19: Developing the Community Partnerships**

- ⇒ Develop Community Partnership to cover 100% of the borough's population
- ⇒ Community Partnerships to use the ABCD model as a tool to assess their development over regular intervals
- ⇒ Ensure that the Association of Community partnerships is supported to develop as the supporting umbrella body for the Community Partnerships

**Lead:** Association of Community Partnerships

**Contributors:** Individual Community Partnerships, Community Initiatives Development Team

#### **What are we going to do:**

**Objective M** - Strengthen the capacity of community and voluntary organisations to participate in planning, delivering and evaluating services across the Borough, including young people.

**Baseline:** Resources, support, information and training are needed for representatives of community and voluntary groups and especially excluded groups to build skills, confidence and involvement. Voluntary organisations may need to cover the absence of workers involved in partnerships or consultations. In some cases funds may need to be available to cover the costs of individuals and groups involved in consultations and partnerships.

#### **How are we going to do it:**

### **Target 20: Capacity Building within the Voluntary and Community Groups**

- ⇒ Organise increased provision of capacity building for representatives of community groups involved in consultations, networks and partnerships.

**Lead:** Community Empowerment Team

**Contributors:** Community Initiatives Team

### **Target 21 Resourcing Community and Voluntary Sector Involvement**

- ⇒ Integrate into Community Regeneration funding policy a stronger element of support for community involvement as a legitimate budget area
- ⇒ Establish new budgets to facilitate community involvement managed by

appropriate representatives of the voluntary and community sector  
⇒ Establish joint evaluation procedures to assess investment in community involvement.

**Lead:** Community Empowerment Team

**Contributors:** Community Planning and Regeneration, Community Initiatives Team, Partnership in Action

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective N** - Develop organisational cultures where meaningful and effective partnerships with communities are the norm, including with young people.

**How are we going to do it:**

#### **Target 21: A Framework for Partnership Working**

⇒ Develop a framework and guidelines for partnership working including clarity of purpose, honesty about respective power of partners, scope of representation, limits of powers of partners.  
⇒ Actively address the imbalance of power within partnerships  
⇒ Increase staff training on community involvement and partnership working  
⇒ Ensure community involvement skills are included in job descriptions and person specifications for appropriate posts

**Lead:** Community Empowerment Team

**Contributors:** BMBC Community Planning and Regeneration, VAB, BMBC Area Forums, Community Initiatives Team, CSR.

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective O** - Work at borough level to achieve a positive geographical balance for community development

**Baseline:** A number of geographical areas across the district are the focus of initiatives like SRB and SureStart which bring considerable financial and other resources. Other communities outside these areas may also need support in building and developing their neighbourhoods.

**How are we going to do it:**

#### **Target 22: Developing a New Way of Working**

⇒ Community partnerships that cover areas not receiving geographically targeted SRB and Objective One funding to be supported to transform their community by accessing traditional and non-mainstream resources  
⇒ Review progress and enable sharing of successes/failures between partnerships

**Lead:** CDAG

**Contributors:** Individual Community Partnerships, Community Initiatives Development, Creating Self Reliance, Community Planning and Regeneration, SYFAB

## **Building Equality**

**What are we going to do:**

**Objective P** - Develop for Barnsley Borough a common definition and a better understanding of equality in community development. This should embrace issues relating to cultural and religious difference, visible and invisible minorities, disability, lesbian, gay and bisexual people, gender, ageing, parental and caring responsibilities, children and young people.

**Baseline:** There has been much good work across Barnsley to address some equality issues, for example the development of client boards for people with a disability, for children and for the elderly, the establishment of the Multi-Agency Partnership to tackle racial harassment. However, issues relating to certain people have not been addressed in Barnsley yet and there are still gaps in terms of addressing wide scale equality issues. For example, in the recent SRB5 Interim Evaluation, project beneficiaries with a disability made it clear that they still face harassment on the street and do not have access to mainstream public, leisure and cultural facilities.

**How are we going to do it:**

### **Target 23: Focusing on equality issues in community led organisations**

- ⇒ Council and other leading agencies to work together with community led organisations to review policies and practices in relation to equality and inclusion
- ⇒ Respond to the findings of the review by identifying and implementing appropriate action
- ⇒ Carry out an audit of existing policies and practices within the voluntary and community sector

**Lead:** CDAG

**Contributors:** BMBC Community Planning and Regeneration, BMBC Policy Development Offices, Voluntary Sector Forum, BMBC Legal Services

## What are we going to do:

**Objective Q** - Ensure that a network of support, advice and information is in place for all people who are experiencing discrimination.

**Baseline:** The Barnsley Community Safety Partnership is the lead on this objective as a starting point. This is due to the nature of the BCSP's work to tackle crime and disorder and due to the fact that excluded and vulnerable people are often, harassed, abused and harmed i.e discriminated against. The development of this objective and work to implement it will also be revised and take into account the emerging guidance on Community Cohesion.

## How are we going to do it:

### Target 24: Identify and Respond to Need

At the moment the focus for this work is in the Community Safety Plan 2002 - 2005 and specifically connected to actions in the themes:

- ⇒ Hate and Hidden Crime; abuse against women, racial harassment, harassment experienced to the gay and lesbian community
- ⇒ Drugs and drug related crime; community development work in deprived communities, work with vulnerable young people
- ⇒ Partnership Development; support for the Community and Voluntary Sector Forum (Community Safety)

All of the above are underpinned by the community development approach so we can work to prevent rather than just respond to incidents.

The following bullet points relate to support, advice and information:

#### Domestic Violence

- Our Story Barnsley Survivors speak out
- Common information system to be set up with SRB5 funds
- Directory of support services for women and children in Barnsley

#### Racial Harassment

- AGM and report
- Procedure manual October 02
- Increased reporting centres
- Initiatives with Barnsley Football Club

#### Barnsley Partnership Against Transphobia Homophobia

- Helpline leaflet
- First AGM and report October 02
- Community Development Worker funded from the Home Office
- Work with young people who have chaotic lifestyles

#### Community and Voluntary Sector Forum

- Volunteers co-located with team
- Achieving the neighbourhood focus
- Network event timetabled for Nov 02
- Central to the planning of Community Summits

**Lead:** Barnsley Community Safety Partnership

**Contributors:** Client Boards, Voluntary Sector Forum, CERT Team, MAPs, BFE, Community Planning and Regeneration

## **How Can I Comment on the Strategy?**

You can respond in writing by post, fax or via e-mail:

**Please title the correspondence: BARNSELY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

CDAG has nominated a few of its members to collate responses for the group. They are:

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Sam Tarff, Chair CDAG, Priory Campus, Pontefract Road, Lundwood, Barnsley, S71 5PN.  
Fax: 01226 770467. E-mail: sam@priory-campus.co.uk

## **Community Development Advisory Group Membership**

- Association of Community Partnerships
- Barnsley Development Agency (CERT)
- Barnsley Primary Care Trust - Health & Social Care Group
- Barnsley MBC (Community Initiatives Team, Community Planning & Regeneration, Area Forums)
- Community Safety Partnership Staff Team
- Environmental Housing and Accessibility Strategic Goal Group
- Lifelong Learning Strategic Goal Group
- Northern College
- Safer and Healthier Communities Strategic Goal Group
- Barnsley Community and Voluntary Network