



**Chester-le-Street**  
District Council

## **Chester-le-Street District Council's Anti-Poverty Strategy**



**July 2007**

## ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY

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## **2. AIMS OF THE CORPORATE ANTI-POVERTY STRATEGY**

### **Vision**

‘To ensure that the whole of the District benefits from wealth creation and to work with our partners, stakeholders and other organisations to provide a staircase out of poverty’

### **Objectives**

1. To address health inequalities within the District, specifically those associated with smoking, obesity, binge drinking and drug dependency
2. To ensure we maximise income from benefits and entitlement to discounts and exemptions for people within the District
3. To work with partners to promote opportunities for training and education and help, lead and support people through the transition period into work reducing their dependency on benefits
4. To work with partners to help start and sustain businesses and promote economic growth within the District
5. To ensure that less affluent or disadvantaged people are not excluded from initiatives to address crime and disorder
6. To work with partners to promote culture and leisure activities and ensure that those people on low income are not excluded from participating
7. To work with partners to ensure people have access to housing that is of a decent standard and affordable

### **Supporting the Corporate Vision and Corporate priorities**

The overarching vision of the Council is

‘Working together to fulfil the needs of our communities’

In supporting this, the Corporate Anti-Poverty strategy will directly contribute towards corporate priorities: -

#### **Priority 1 Customer Excellence**

Maximising entitlement to welfare benefits for existing customers, encouraging new customers onto benefit and maximising entitlement to local taxation discounts and reliefs will improve the quality of life for residents living within the Chester-le-Street District.

#### **Priority 2 Working in Partnership to deliver the Community Strategy**

This is described in more detail below in Supporting the Sustainable Community Strategy.

#### **Priority 4 Regenerating the District.**

Specific actions have been identified within the Regeneration strategy, which will be linked into the Anti-Poverty action plan.

#### **Priority 5 Neighbourhood Management**

The roll out of Neighbourhood Management will reduce crime within Chester-le-Street District making it a safer place to live.

#### **Priority 6 New Ways of Working in Leisure**

Encouraging the residents of Chester-le-Street to lead a healthier lifestyle and have access to leisure as well as advice on health and fitness.

#### **Supporting the Sustainable Community Strategy**

The vision of the Sustainable Community Strategy is:-

“By 2016 the District of Chester-le-Street will be a place where people choose to live, to learn, to work and to visit. There will be inclusive, safe and healthy communities in our towns and villages built on a strong, sustainable economic base with excellent communication networks. The District Council will be a place where everyone is working together for a sustainable future.”

In supporting this vision the Corporate Anti-Poverty Strategy will directly contribute towards five Sustainable Community Strategy priority areas:-

- Promote sustainable communities through better quality and access to housing in neighbourhoods across the District Council
- Make the District a safe place to live, work and visit; to further reduce crime and disorder and to increase public reassurance
- Maximise and promote lifelong learning opportunities as a contribution to the economic, social and environmental well being of our communities
- Improve the health and well being of communities across the District; tackle health inequalities; and improve access to and quality of health and social care services
- Champion the development and promotion of culture, leisure, sport and the arts in contributing to the well being of residents and local communities

#### **Local Area Agreement**

One of the key aspirations of the Local Area Agreement is:-

Chester-le-Street Corporate Anti-Poverty Strategy  
Version 1 (Draft) May 2007

## “Narrowing the deprivation gap”

In supporting this aspiration the Corporate Anti-Poverty Strategy will directly contribute towards several of the outcomes set out in the Local Area Agreement: -

- Protecting children and young people from homelessness and failing tenancies
- Protecting young people from crime and anti-social behaviour
- Improving attainment levels and reducing the gaps between different groups
- Increasing levels of participation in learning opportunities
- Reducing the effects of poverty
- Supporting employers to tackle worklessness
- Increasing entrepreneurial activity
- Improving skills to meet current and future business needs
- Increasing the supply of business space to meet current and future business needs
- Meeting the economic needs of the most disadvantaged areas
- Improving health in disadvantaged areas
- Improving access for vulnerable people to services, leisure and social activities
- Reducing crime, the harm caused by illegal drugs and to reassure the public, reducing the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour
- Improving quality of life in disadvantaged areas
- Ensuring housing is of a decent standard and is affordable and accessible

### **Regeneration Strategy**

The Council's Regeneration Strategy includes a specific action point to develop an Anti-Poverty Strategy and therefore supports the development of this Corporate Anti-Poverty Strategy.

### **Working in Partnership**

Chester-le-street District Council recognises that this Corporate Anti-Poverty Strategy is for the whole District and to achieve the objectives and deliver the action plan we are committed to working with our partners and stakeholders.

### 3. OVERVIEW

#### Poverty

Poverty is a complex problem with many causes and is experienced by different people in different ways.

Just fewer than one in four people in the United Kingdom, or nearly 13 million people, live in poverty, according to the most recent statistics. This includes nearly one in three children or almost 4 million people.

Poverty is measured below 60 per cent of contemporary median net disposable income. This is the 'poverty line'; it is not the same as a comprehensive definition of poverty, which includes many other dimensions. <sup>1</sup>

In December 2006, the New Policy Institute produced its ninth annual report of indicators of poverty and social exclusion providing a comprehensive analysis of trends over time and differences between groups. The main findings are summarised below:

- Poverty among children: the Government has improved child poverty but has fallen short of its target of taking one million children out of poverty. Half the children in poverty are in families already doing paid work; this means that the proposition that work is the route out of poverty does not apply for many people. The underlying problem is low pay: a low paid couple can only avoid poverty if both are working.
- Poverty among adults: there has been a significant fall in poverty among pensioners but poverty amongst work age adults has not been reduced.
- Inequalities in income and pay: three quarters of the extra income created over the last decade has gone to richer households. While gender pay inequality has fallen, especially at the bottom, higher earnings have grown proportionately faster than the average.
- Health inequalities: health inequalities by social class seem to be more resistant to change than other forms of inequality.
- Minimum educational standards: one quarter of 19 year olds fails to reach a minimum educational standard. Progress has been made in the numbers reaching headline standards at 11 and 16.
- Exclusion by institutions: exclusion has fallen substantially in a number of areas, from bank accounts to central heating, where the Government has taken action.

<sup>1</sup> The current measurement of income poverty:-

A household is defined as being in income poverty ('poverty' for short) if its income is less than 60% of the contemporary Great Britain median household income. In 2004/05, the latest year for which data is available, this was worth £100 per week for a single adult with no dependent children; £183 per



week for a couple with no dependent children; £186 for a lone parent with two dependent children and £286 per week for a couple with two dependent children.

These sums are measured after deducting income tax, council tax and housing costs (including rents, mortgage interest, buildings insurance and water charges). The money left over is therefore what the household has available to spend on everything else it needs from food and heating to travel and entertainment

## District Profile

Chester-le-Street District is a small district in the north of County Durham. With an area of 28 square miles, it is the smallest District in the county.

At 53,695, Chester-le-Street's population has risen by 3.4% since 1991 whereas the North East has seen a 2.8% fall. 16% of the population is over 65 and 24% is below the age of 19. 99% of the population is white; the largest minority ethnic group is Chinese, at 0.3% of the total population.

The rate of economically active people is about 76.3%. In recent years, local unemployment figures have fallen from 9.7% (above the national average) to 3.9%.

However, the Index of Multiple Deprivation rankings of 2004 show that the District has pockets of deprivation, mainly in the outlying villages.

The characteristics of a number of settlements show that they have social and economic issues. The table below gives a breakdown of settlements within Chester-le-Street against some key indicators.

### Settlement Characteristics

Settlement	Population	Percentage of all Unemployed	Percentage of all Economic Active Rate**	Households Without a Car	Percentage of People Without Qualifications
Bournmoor	2,010	3.7	75.2	24.3	24
Chester-le-Street Town Centre	23,946	3.1	77.4	26.4	22
Chester Moor	240	11.6	66.5	26.9	32.6
Edmondsley	472	4.2	69.7	39.3	38.9
Fencehouses	1,492	1.7	80.8	19.9	21.4
Grange Villa	874	5.1	67.5	35.1	37.6
Great Lumley	3,549	2.9	76.2	18.9	23.3
Ouston	2,977	1.9	77.9	16.1	21.5
Pelton	3,293	5.0	73.5	31.4	26.6
Pelton Fell	1,561	4.3	63.8	40.1	36.9
Plawsworth	234	9.5	60.8	7.1	28.9
Sacrison	5,077	4.5	75	32.6	30.6
Urpeth	2,295	2.4	86.4	5.7	13.7
West Pelton	744	6.0	68.9	31.3	34.2
<b>Chester-le-Street District</b>	<b>53,695</b>	<b>3.9</b>	<b>76.3</b>	<b>26.6</b>	<b>31.6</b>
<b>County Durham</b>	<b>493,500</b>	<b>3.74*</b>	<b>70.15</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>36</b>

\* Note unemployment figures in table KS09a of Census 2001 Key Statistics for Local Authorities derive different unemployment rates than from the 2001 Census summary sheets for Chester-le-Street District obtained from the Durham County Council website. The figure from table KS09a is 3.13% for Chester-le-Street District compared to 3.9 in the District summary sheets.

\*\* This is the proportion of the population of economic active age rather than the whole population.

## Important Facts

The following facts relate directly to the Chester-le-Street District: -

- The overall health of residents in Chester-le-Street District is better than some areas of the North East region but worse than the national average.
- Mortality rates from circulatory disease and cancer are higher than national rates but lower than regionally
- The 2001 Census shows that 21.5% of the population of Chester-le-Street has a limiting life long illness, compared with 22.7% in the North East
- 11.6% of people's health is described as 'not good' in Chester-le-Street, compared with 12% in the region as a whole
- During 2001 - 2003 there were just fewer than 37 conceptions for 15 to 17 year olds per 1,000 population in Chester-le-Street. This is lower than the North East and National average figures
- The levels of smoking is higher than the national average and the percentage of adults who binge drink is significantly higher than for the average in England
- Poverty, unemployment, housing conditions, educational underachievement, lifestyles and access to services are all key factors contributing to health conditions
- Because of the range of underlying causes of poor health, solutions must be found in a range of agencies working together to promote better physical, emotional and psychological health
- The largest sector of employment in Chester-le-Street is distribution, hotels and restaurants at just under 32%. This is followed by public administration, education and health at 28%
- Small and medium sized enterprises characterise the District economy; in 2004 there were 555 enterprises in the District employing up to 4 people. Many businesses fail to make it past their fifth birthday, with just over half failing after four years
- There are low rates of business start up. The VAT registration rate, a guide to business start ups, was 19.6 in 2004, below the England rate of 39.3 per 10,000 adult population
- The District's excellent location, facilities and communication links present opportunities for the expansion of business and service sectors, the development of employment initiatives and the creation of new jobs
- There were over 600 claimants of Jobseekers' Allowance in December 2005, and the Incapacity Benefit rate in the District is 10%, in line with regional figures; this represents some 3,700 people



- In the District there are currently 5100 people claiming Council Tax Benefit, 2840 claiming Housing Benefit with Chester-le-Street Council as their landlord and 555 claiming Rent Allowance with Housing Association, Charity or private sector landlords
- 13.8% of people of working age have no formal qualifications and a quarter of adults in Chester-le-Street have poor literacy and numeracy
- The area is characterised by residents commuting outside the District for work and 70% of those economically active do so
- Overall crime rates in the district are low and generally falling but the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour is a major concern for residents
- Although schools are generally of a good standard and GCSE attainment is above County, Regional and National averages, 13.8% of people of working age have no formal qualifications and a quarter of adults in Chester-le-Street have poor literacy and numeracy. There are 150 young people (aged 14 - 19) in the District not in education, training or employment

Area profile data will be used to target actions aimed at reducing poverty and addressing specific need.

#### 4. WHAT WE DO NOW

We already do an enormous amount of work towards reducing poverty in Chester-le-Street including we: -

- signpost people to other organisations and agencies for advice help and support in numerous areas.
- offer a Careline support service for residents in the District
- offer furniture packages, decorating vouchers and low cost contents insurance allowing tenants the best possible start into their property
- work in partnerships with the voluntary sector and our customers to agree payment plans
- offer tenancy support to avoid evictions and homelessness as well as helping people to find accommodation
- carry out Housing Needs Surveys to inform us that housing meets people's needs in type, affordability and location
- have dedicated Officers that address anti social behaviour issues and support tenants suffering from domestic violence
- provide access to an interpretation service/language line and offer home visits as well as customer care packs including magnifying glasses
- help to build and develop key and life skills with people including financial management, allowing individuals to become independent and able to manage their lives successfully
- have provision for affordable leisure and the 'One Card' scheme awards discounts for people in receipt of benefits, senior citizens and students
- facilitate community leisure programmes including footsteps to fitness within the 'walks' programme and the FISCH project (Family Initiative Supporting Children's Health) linked to local schools
- have a unique new pricing structure aimed at encouraging people aged 18 to 24 to use leisure facilities.
- offer free swimming for children under 18 in school holidays leading towards healthier lifestyles
- have a GP referral programme specifically to rehabilitate people after major injuries, illness or health related issues enabling them to carry on with regular day to day activities.
- have designed and built high quality and modern play areas and ball courts giving the opportunity for play in a safe environment at no cost

- offer a high quality childcare service with provision for emergency and long term placements from social services, work place redemption vouchers, utilising child tax credit scheme, a limited number of free government sessions for 3 and 4 year olds as well as discounts offered for older children attending all week.
- promote and facilitate events for people with disabilities such as “It’s a Knock Out” event
- provide advice to residents on smoking cessation, food hygiene and food safety
- have a comprehensive affordable warmth strategy
- allow a 3 month rent free period to new businesses in industrial premises
- offer online and telephone payments and online access to benefit and council tax accounts reducing the time and cost of people visiting the civic centre
- have revenues and benefits take up strategies which are designed to maximise the income of residents in Chester-le-Street
- provide funding for the local Citizens Advice Bureau in Chester-le-Street and work in partnership with them on many initiatives

## **5. ACTION PLAN**

A detailed, SMART action plan with assigned officer responsibilities has been developed by the Anti-Poverty Working Group and is attached in Appendix 1.

## 6. MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

The Corporate Anti-Poverty strategy and action plan will be monitored on a monthly basis by the Anti-Poverty working group. As it is a corporate initiative a progress report will be presented to Programme Management Board on a quarterly basis outlining performance towards the action plan.

Progress will be included in the quarterly corporate performance management report, which is considered, by the Executive and Overview and Scrutiny panels. It is also proposed that Partnership and Efficiencies Overview and Scrutiny panel review the overall progress on the Anti-Poverty strategy and action plan on a six monthly basis.

### How will we measure our success?

#### Quality of Life Indicator 7

The percentage of residents who think that vandalism, graffiti and other deliberate change to property or vehicles; people using or dealing drugs and people being rowdy or drunk in a public place is a very big or fairly big problem

#### Quality of Life Indicator 11

The percentage of working age population that is in employment.

#### Quality of Life Indicator 13

The total number of VAT registered business in the area at the end of the year; the percentage change in the number of VAT registered businesses

#### Quality of Life Indicator 19

The proportion of young people aged 16 to 24 in full time education or employment

#### Quality of Life Indicator 20

The proportion of working age population qualified to a NVQ level 2 or equivalent and NVQ level 4 or equivalent

#### Quality of Life Indicator 31

Age standardised mortality rates a) cancers; b) circulatory diseases; c) respiratory diseases

#### Quality of Life Indicator 35

Teenage pregnancy, conceptions under 18 per 1,000 females aged 15 to 17

#### Quality of Life Indicator 37

Affordable dwellings as a percentage of all new housing completions

#### Quality of Life Indicator 39

The percentage of residents who think that people sleeping rough in the streets or in other public places is a big or fairly big problem in their local area

#### Quality of Life Indicator 40

The percentage of housing that is unfit. Decent homes standard BVPI (proportion of council houses that meet the decent homes standard)

Local Indicator

Reduce overall mortality rate from heart disease and cancer and reduce the gap between the least deprived and most deprived 20% of super output areas

Local Indicator

Reduce the gap for life expectancy between the least deprived and most deprived 20% of super output areas

Local Indicator

The percentage increase in the number of people, who participated in culture, leisure, sports and art activities in Chester-le-Street

Local Indicator

Reduction in the number of young people aged 14 to 19 not in education employment or training in the District

Local Indicator

Reduction in the skills for life need within the adult population of the District, from 25% to 15% between 2006 and 2016

## **7. Equalities and Diversity**

Chester-le-Street District Council is committed to promoting equality and valuing diversity in both service delivery and employment. Care has been taken in drafting this strategy and the underpinning procedures and action plans ensure that the Council does not unjustifiably discriminate against any minority group and a Diversity Impact Assessment has been carried out.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the needs of individual customers are met in relation to the implementation of this strategy. The strategy will be made available in different languages, or translated with the assistance of an interpreter and it will be available as read-speak. All customers will be encouraged to seek assistance from an independent third party.

The strategy will be monitored to ensure that customers are afforded equality of service.



Appendix 1 Anti-Poverty Action Plan 2007- 2009

No	Objective	Link to Anti-Poverty Objective	Action	By who	When	Outcome
1	To ensure the continuation of a pricing strategy that allows access to leisure and sporting opportunities at an affordable price	6	This will be carried out by comparing prices with other local authorities using local networks and contacts, consultation through leisure services surveys with specific questions on pricing, and affordability, and looking to start to use the Association for Public Service Excellence network for national statistics on pricing	CL	31.03.08	People on low incomes are able to access Leisure Services, encouraging healthier lifestyles to address health inequalities
2	Informing the community of activities and services available within leisure services, showing discounts available to users and non users	5, 6	There will be approximately 12,000 leaflets printed, 4,000 will be distributed to schools, 7000 distributed by Revenues and Benefits team, and the remainder will be distributed to other general locations. The leaflet will give a discount on leisure cards of £0.50 when presented at the leisure centre.	CL	30.09.07	Disadvantaged or less affluent people take up leisure activities as well as advice on health and fitness, health and well being is improved, helping to address health inequalities and protects young people from crime and anti social behaviour.
3	To provide free swimming to children and young people (under 18) in the school holidays in partnership with the Children's fund.	6	The resources are currently in place from the 2006/2007 pilot scheme for administration of the project. Funding has been granted from the children's fund for a further year to resource extra staffing during the busy periods	CL	31.03.08	Children and young people participate in swimming to improve health and well being
4	Introduce a new pilot intervention program to tackle child hood obesity.	1	The objectives for the program have been set by a pre-existing pack and staff will be trained prior to the pilot scheme on how to use and deliver the pack. Funding is in place from the PCT to support the scheme and the leisure centre will host 1 session per week for 9 weeks; other sessions will take place within the Durham area at one of the dry based activity sites. The program is free of charge will be attended by at least one parent and the child. The program will involve 2 sessions per week, with each session consisting of 1 hour of nutritional information then followed by 1 hour of exercise	CL	30.09.07	Parents and children understand the importance of exercise and nutrition helping to address childhood obesity

5	To maximize direct debits and e-payments and ensure customers have correct entitlement to discounts, and reliefs	2	Develop and implement a Revenues take up strategy to maximise direct debits, E-Services and ensure customers have correct entitlement to discounts, reliefs and exemptions	JH	31.03.08	Maximising people on low incomes' eligibility for discount increases their disposable income, reducing the effects of poverty and improving their quality of life
6	To maximise entitlement to benefit	2	Develop and implement a Benefits take up strategy to tackle disadvantaged customers through active support and proactive intervention	JH	31.03.08	Increasing benefit payments to disadvantaged and less affluent people reduces the effects of poverty and improves their quality of life.
7	Introduce a new Discretionary Rate Relief Policy	4	Review the Council's current discretionary rate relief policy identifying options and recommend changes where appropriate	JH	30.09.07	The economic benefits of discretionary rate relief help contribute towards the aims of the anti-Poverty strategy and vision of the council
8	Review corporate debt management policy	2,4	Review the corporate debt management policy and jointly work with other departments to manage debt effectively for customers	JH	31.12.07	Customers owing multiple debts to the council will only pay one affordable debt allowing more money for them to live on
9	To promote and support the ability of small and medium sized enterprise to engage with the council for potential procurement opportunities	4	Adopt and implement the small and medium size enterprise concordat	MW	30.09.07	Increase opportunities available for small and medium sized enterprises in Chester-le-Street to access opportunities to provide goods and services to the Council, contributing to the economic growth in the District
10	To raise awareness in the local community of health issues and health related services that are available	1	To develop and deliver activities, events and services aimed at promoting good health and reducing health inequalities	EG	31.03.08	An increase in understanding of health issues leading to a reduction in health inequalities in the community
11	To ensure that the local community has access to help and support for health related issues	1	To develop a health support project in which members of the community can access a support worker for health related problems	EG	31.12.07	Improvement in health amongst individuals accessing the project

12	To provide tenancy support to Drug and alcohol misusers	1	To set up the new Shared priorities project so that drug and alcohol users can access support to find accommodation or to overcome problems, which are affecting their tenancy. This can include financial management, getting back into education and employment and addressing their drug use	EG	01.09.07	Reduction in homelessness, eviction and reports of anti social behaviour in substance misuse client group
13	Provide opportunities for young people living in the District which will improve their quality of life	1	To develop the youth development programme to provide free of charge activities, specialist health services, and educational and health promotion sessions/events	EG	31.12.07	Increased engagement with young people and a reduction in antisocial behaviour in local community. Raised awareness of health issues and an improvement in the health and quality of life of young people accessing the project.
14	Promote the services of debt advice agencies.	2	Amend format of quarterly rent statements sent to all tenants to include details of services provided by the Citizens Advice Bureau.	KG	31.10.07	Increasing the knowledge of tenants needing independent advice and help in managing their finances
15	Increase financial inclusion by ensuring tenants who qualify for welfare/housing benefit are claiming.	3	Cestria Community Housing' to either employ an in-house adviser to give benefit advice to tenants or the existing staff to be trained to give advice to tenants.	KG	07.01.08	Increasing benefit payments to disadvantaged and less affluent people reduces the effects of poverty and improves their quality of life.
16	Set up links for partnership working between 'Cestria Community Housing' and the Council to drive housing benefit take-up and financial inclusion.	2	Protocol and SLA to be set up including named contact officers for queries/assistance between the organisations following Stock Transfer. Both organisations to commit to joint working initiative for housing benefit take up.	KG/ AS	07.01.08	Increasing benefit payments to disadvantaged and less affluent people reduces the effects of poverty and improves their quality of life.
17	To maximise the take up of grants under the COSY scheme by appropriate groups.	2	Further publicise the COSY scheme. 23 000 Environmental Health calendars will be distributed in the District in Summer 2007 featuring a COSY advert. Registrar to hand out COSY applications when births are registered.	LH	30.09.07	Reduce levels of fuel poverty in the District.
18	Increase the targeting of Discretionary repairs Assistance (DRA)	2	Seek Council approval of and implement a review of the Private Sector Housing Renewal Policy to increase the weighting given to those in financial need.	LH	30.09.07	Reduce the numbers of vulnerable people living in non-decent homes in the District.

19	Reduce exposure to second hand tobacco smoke	1	Implement and monitor compliance with Smoke free legislation introduced as the Health Act 2006	LH	01.07.07 ongoing	Improvements to the health of workers, residents and visitors to the District
20	Protect children and vulnerable adults from the harmful effects of gambling	1	Implement and monitor the premises licensing regime introduced under the Gambling Act 2005	LH	30.09.07	Reduced levels of gambling addiction.
21	Develop a business forum	4	Consult on, develop and launch a local business forum	LH	30.09.07	Improved communication with local traders facilitating growth and business sustainability.
22	To ensure that people with limiting life-long illnesses and disabilities are not excluded from the services provided by the Council and its partners.	1,2,3,5,6,7	To work with other agencies – including the voluntary sector – to target the needs of people with disabilities and long term illnesses. To involve other organisations in developing take up campaigns and other promotions.	Corporate Anti-Poverty Working Group	31.03.08	People who are disadvantaged due to disabilities and limiting life long illnesses are able to access services to improve their quality of life.
23	Regeneration of Pelton Fell	3,4,5	New build of private and social housing, the clearance of unpopular homes Environmental improvements, the provision of a Community Resource Centre in the village Tackle community safety and economic regeneration	MW	March 2009	Completion of the regeneration of Pelton Fell, making the village a more attractive and sustainable community
24	Regeneration of Sacriston	3,4	An Area Development Framework for the village developed	MW & Sacriston Steering Group	July 2007	A clear vision for the future of regeneration in Sacriston in order to make the village a more attractive and sustainable community
25	Regeneration of Grange Villa in line with the Area Development Framework for the village	3,4	Implement the Area Development Framework	CLSDC & Grange Villa Project Management Group	March 2009	Regeneration work completed, making the village a more attractive and sustainable community

26	Maximise regeneration of the District and contribution to the Decent Homes Standard with partnering RSLs	7	To work with existing and future RSLs to identify protocols, Service Level Agreements, and partnership agreements as appropriate	CLSDC & Cestria Housing.	August 2007	The contribution of RSLs in the District towards a housing strategy for the District that will promote choice, decency and quality in the District's housing stock
27	More affordable homes within the District	7	To promote further affordable homes nominations agreements in new private sector developments within the District	CLSDC & Private Developers.	Ongoing	More affordable homes that will enable people from a wider range of backgrounds to access new housing in the District
28	Improve the Community facilities within the District	6	To review the community facilities available within the District, particularly focuses on the regeneration corridors, Draw up a detailed action plan to address any identified gaps	CLSDC & Chester-le-Street Council for Voluntary Service	31.12.07	Improved community facilities that will better meet the needs of local communities in the District
29	Address the economic and enterprise aspects of regeneration	3,4	Develop with partners, an action plan to address the economic and enterprise aspects of regeneration within the regeneration corridors	Economic Regeneration Policy Group	October 2007	An action plan developed that will enable the District to be a more attractive place for businesses, especially new business start-ups
30	Reduce Crime and Disorder within the District.	5,	To work with partners in delivery of the crime and disorder reduction strategy Establish a specific community safety initiative in regeneration corridors according to locally identified issues	Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnership	March 2008	Reduction in crime and disorder figures, and the fear of crime
31	Develop Homeless Strategy	7	Develop a homeless strategy	CLSDC	July 2007	A reduction in homelessness and the causes of homelessness
32	To develop a better understanding of all of the issues facing local communities, with proposals	All	Neighbourhood Profiling developed	CLSDC	July 2007	A clearer understanding of issues facing neighbourhoods in the District in order to inform policy development that will address these needs
33	Involve Community and Voluntary Sector in regeneration	3, 5, 6	To work with the community and voluntary sector to understand their current and potential contribution to regeneration objectives and the creation of sustainable communities, with an audit and action plan	CLSDC & Chester-le-Street Council for Voluntary Service	December 2007	More involvement from Voluntary Sector

35	Feasibility Study of work skills	3	To work with partners to research the future skills needs of employers within and with an impact on the District, compared to the availability of skills within the District	CLSDC	December 2007.	Understanding of the future skills needs of employers in the District, and an action plan to meet those needs through public sector policy intervention
36	Use Mile house to its full potential	3	To work with partners to maximise the impact of MILE House.	CLSDC & Chester-le-Street & City of Durham Enterprise Agency	Ongoing	Increased learning and enterprise in the District, through the use of MILE House.
37	Explore how the delivery of the Regeneration Strategy can encourage and facilitate wider participation in learning opportunities.	3	To work with the District Learning Partnership in examining how the delivery of the Regeneration Strategy can encourage and facilitate wider participation in learning opportunities.	CLSDC & District Learning Partnership	Ongoing	Wider learning opportunities developed and facilitated
38	To support the expansion of Drum and Stella Gill industrial estates, in line with market interest	3, 4		CLSDC & Private	Ongoing	Increased employment opportunities
39	To identify the need for future provision of employment sites, as part of the LDF process	3		CLSDC	Timetable developed April 2007	Future increased employment opportunities

#### Key to responsible people

CL	Chris Lonsdale	Acting Leisure Centre Manager
JH	Jayne Henderson	Revenues & Benefits Manager
MW	Martin Walker	Head of Regeneration
EG	Emma Golightly	Community Development and Health Worker
KS	Kirk Groundwater	Income Management Team Leader
AS	Alison Styring	Benefits Team Leader
LH	Liam Howley	Acting Environmental Health Team Leader

