

REPORT TO: POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE – 19 March 2001
REPORT ON: COMMUNITY PLAN FOR DUNDEE
REPORT BY: DIRECTOR OF CORPORATE PLANNING
REPORT NO: 156-2001

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

To present the draft Dundee Community Plan to Members and advise on the proposed process for public consultation.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 To approve the draft Community Plan for Dundee and the proposed public consultation measures outlined in Section 6.3.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 The cost of producing and distributing copies of the draft Community Plan for Dundee for public consultation are contained within the existing Corporate Planning Revenue Budgets.

4. LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The Community Plan for Dundee promotes sustainability in all the actions it proposes and in particular addresses sustainability as a key theme of the Plan.

5. EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

The contents of this report are consistent with the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

6. BACKGROUND

- 6.1 In 1998 a Scottish Office/COSLA Working Group recommended that Community Planning should be adopted across Scotland and that local authorities should lead partnerships responsible for the development of Community Plans. This was reinforced in December 2000 with the publication of the Scottish Executive's Green Paper on the power of Community Planning which endorsed the value of Community Planning and the leadership of local authorities.
- 6.2 In January 2000 the Dundee Community Planning Steering Group was formed with representatives from the Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Scottish Homes, Tayside Health Board and Tayside Police. This Group has developed the attached draft Community Plan for Dundee.

6.3 It is now proposed that the draft be circulated to all interested individuals and organisations in the city inviting them to comment on the format and contents of the Plan. In addition a public notice will be placed in a local newspaper to advise citizens that copies of the Plan are available from the Council. The draft Plan will also be attached to the Council's website and comments will be encouraged by e-mail. It is proposed that the period of consultation last until 13 April 2001 and that the final version of the Plan be presented to Policy and Resources Committee in April 2001.

7. **CONSULTATION**

The Directors of all Departments have been consulted on the contents of this report.

8. **BACKGROUND PAPERS**

1. Scottish Executive Green Paper A Power of Community Initiative, Community Planning, Political Restrictions on Council Employees

Director of Corporate Planning Date

Dundee in Partnership

The Community Plan for Dundee

2001-2006

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INTRODUCTION

This is Dundee's first Community Plan. So what makes it different from all the other plans for the City? It is unique because for the first time it describes how Dundee City Council, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Tayside Health Board, Tayside Police and Scottish Homes have all agreed to work together to make Dundee a better place.

It is called 'Dundee in Partnership' because we can only achieve this by working together and it is important because none of us on our own can solve the problems or exploit the opportunities that exist in Dundee. Community Planning is a long term process, where everyone in Dundee can have the chance to influence our future. Community Planning is about setting out a vision of the kind of place that we all want Dundee to be for everyone who lives, works or visits here. It is about agreeing what are the biggest priorities facing communities in the City and more importantly the action that everyone has to take to do something about it. It also offers the chance to do this at the most local, neighbourhood level.

Our vision and this Plan are ambitions. They set a real challenge for all of us. These will not be achieved overnight. It will take years of dedicated effort and teamwork.

To some Community Planning will seem like a big new idea but it is really about working in partnership. In Dundee we have a great record of partnership working over many years and we are going to build on this. We need to be clear about our priorities because resources are becoming ever more scarce and we need to concentrate our time and budgets on the biggest challenges facing us.

In this plan we have done that by looking at a range of themes which are based on the big issues affecting us in Dundee. The themes are broad including health and care, community safety and social inclusion. They are important because to deal with them all of the public agencies and our partners in the private, voluntary and community sectors have a part to play. Improving the health of people in Dundee isn't just about what Tayside Health Board does; solving crime in Dundee and making people feel safe is about much more than Tayside Police. We all have a contribution to make if we are to solve the problems we face. So this plan concentrates on delivering the best services for people in Dundee by working together wherever possible.

We must be realistic when we produce a Plan like this. Many of the issues we address require action at a national level and this Plan focuses on what the Community Planning partners in

Dundee can do to change things. At the same time we will be inviting the Scottish Executive to examine the issues we flag up and work with us to create a better Dundee.

OUR VISION FOR DUNDEE

Working together we will make Dundee –

- a thriving regional centre where people are proud to live and work;
- a city where people are healthy and have a positive quality of life and environment;
 - a city where communities are safe and feel safe;
 - a centre of excellence for education and innovation;
 - a desirable location for investment;
 - a city with a vibrant cultural and visitor economy;
- a city where every citizen feels included and can contribute to community life;
 - a city that succeeds and where everyone shares in its success;
- a city which cares for its citizens and is open and welcoming to others.

OUR STRATEGIC THEMES

The Community Planning Agenda is an enormous one. To help make sense of it we have identified six strategic themes which will help us to focus on the really important priorities for people in Dundee.

Economy and Enterprise

Dundee needs a thriving economy where prosperity, job and opportunities and employability are developed across the city.

Lifelong Learning

Dundee needs learning opportunities which prepare people for life, employment and learning for its own sake.

Social Inclusion

Dundee needs to ensure that regardless of social or economic background everyone has the chance to play a full part in the life in the city.

Sustainability

Dundee needs to develop in ways which safeguard the future of the environment in the city.

Health and Care

Dundee needs to promote and protect the physical and mental health of communities and to provide effective care for those who need it.

Community Safety

Dundee needs to deliver the right services to reduce crime so that people **are** safe and **feel** safe.

For each of these themes we have explained the main issues that face us in Dundee, and highlight our priorities for action. Then in the Draft Theme Progress Plans (Appendix 1) we describe how we will measure the progress we will make towards our priorities. In these plans we have taken a very flexible approach. Some of the things we list are concrete targets and

others are steps that we will take on the way towards our objectives. This reflects the different ways that groups taking forward each theme are working together and the fact that some of these themes are still being developed. What is clear in all sections however, is the direction we want to take, and the ambitious challenges we are setting ourselves. Preparing detailed action plans for each theme is the next stage in the community planning process.

In our themes we have tried to be careful not to describe everything that all partners do to address each theme. Instead we have concentrated on the biggest priorities and the areas where working together will make the biggest difference.

But these are just the tip of the iceberg. Many multi-agency partnerships and working groups already exist which tackle a whole range of issues such as childcare and drug misuse. These groups are responsible for a comprehensive set of strategies, policies and action plans which define what we are trying to achieve jointly. Appendix A lists many of these partnerships and working groups and shows the broad membership of each.

FROM THEMES TO ACTION PLANS

Over the next year we will develop Action Plans for each theme which will give a clear direction to our work along with the detailed targets to which we are committed. It will be the action we take which is the real measure of Community Planning in Dundee.

WE WANT TO MAKE IT WORK

We all agree that the way we work together and make Community Planning happen is as important as the Community Plan we produce. Working in partnership is the only way we will make a real difference in Dundee.

To demonstrate our commitment to Community Planning the members of Dundee in Partnership have agreed to:

- Work together to provide quality services for the community, where appropriate, that are integrated between the partners and other agencies
- Combine resources to maximise the benefits provided by services to the individuals and communities of Dundee
- Work together to consult with communities regarding their needs and expectations and the planning of services
- Share information wherever possible to improve our understanding and the work we do
- Promote the values of social inclusion, active citizenship, lifelong learning and sustainability within community planning
- Work together to enable communities to play a major role in creating solutions to problems they face
- Implement the programme of actions contained within "Dundee in Partnership", our first Community Plan
- Monitor the progress of the actions contained with the community plan and report this to the community
- Involve the community in evaluation of the success of the programme of action contained within the plan

MAKING IT YOUR COMMUNITY PLAN

The Community Plan is meant to be the Plan that delivers results for the Dundee Community. But Dundee is not just one big community. It is made up of lots of communities based on where you live, who you are or what interests you. This plan needs to recognise all the communities of Dundee.

We want you to influence what it says. It's up to you to tell us what really needs to happen in Dundee and it's up to us to listen.

We've already done lots of listening. In putting this Community Plan together we've used what we've learned from surveys and public meetings and neighbourhood forums as the basis for our priorities. We've held dedicated seminars and focus groups to get a detailed picture of what people in Dundee want. So we think this plan is going in the right direction, but we know we have more to do.

Over the next few months we'll be inviting representatives of the community to join Dundee In Partnership. We'll be checking out your views on the action we propose in each of our themes. And we'll be asking you to tell us what you think of this plan.

But in time we also want to prepare local community plans for the neighbourhood where you live. That way community planning will be able to make a difference on your own doorstep.

DEVELOPING OUR PARTNERSHIP

Producing this Community Plan is an important step, but it is only the beginning. All the partners in Dundee now have the job of working towards making our vision a reality. We will have to work closer together than ever before and make sure that we combine our resources and effort to make the biggest difference possible.

We also have to make our Community Planning group one which reflects the interests of all sectors in Dundee, because everyone has a part to play in making community planning work. Here is the action we will take to make sure that it does.

Aims	Milestones	Target Date
Broaden the membership of Dundee In Partnership	Formally establish the Dundee In Partnership Forum	September 2001
	Invite representatives of the Community, Voluntary and Private Sectors to join the Forum	September 2001
	Establish similar involvement in groups developing our six Strategic Themes	October 2001
Improve Partnership Working	Develop arrangements to raise awareness of community planning among staff of all partners	March 2002
	Develop joint information collection and analysis to inform all agencies plans and services	July 2002
	Streamline and co-ordinate planning structures and joint working groups	October 2002
	Identify opportunities to combine budgets for specific tasks/functions	November 2002 onwards
Maximise Community Involvement in Community Planning	Combine consultation and involvement mechanisms across partners where possible	May 2002 onwards
	Hold annual Community Planning Conference	May 2002
	Develop pilot local neighbourhood plans	July 2002 onwards
Ensure ongoing relevance of the Dundee Community Plan	Publish revised Community Plan and Action Plans	May 2002
	Produce annual Community Plan progress reports	May 2003 onwards

DUNDEE TODAY

Dundee has a long and proud history of innovation, industry and creativity. More importantly, it has an exciting future.

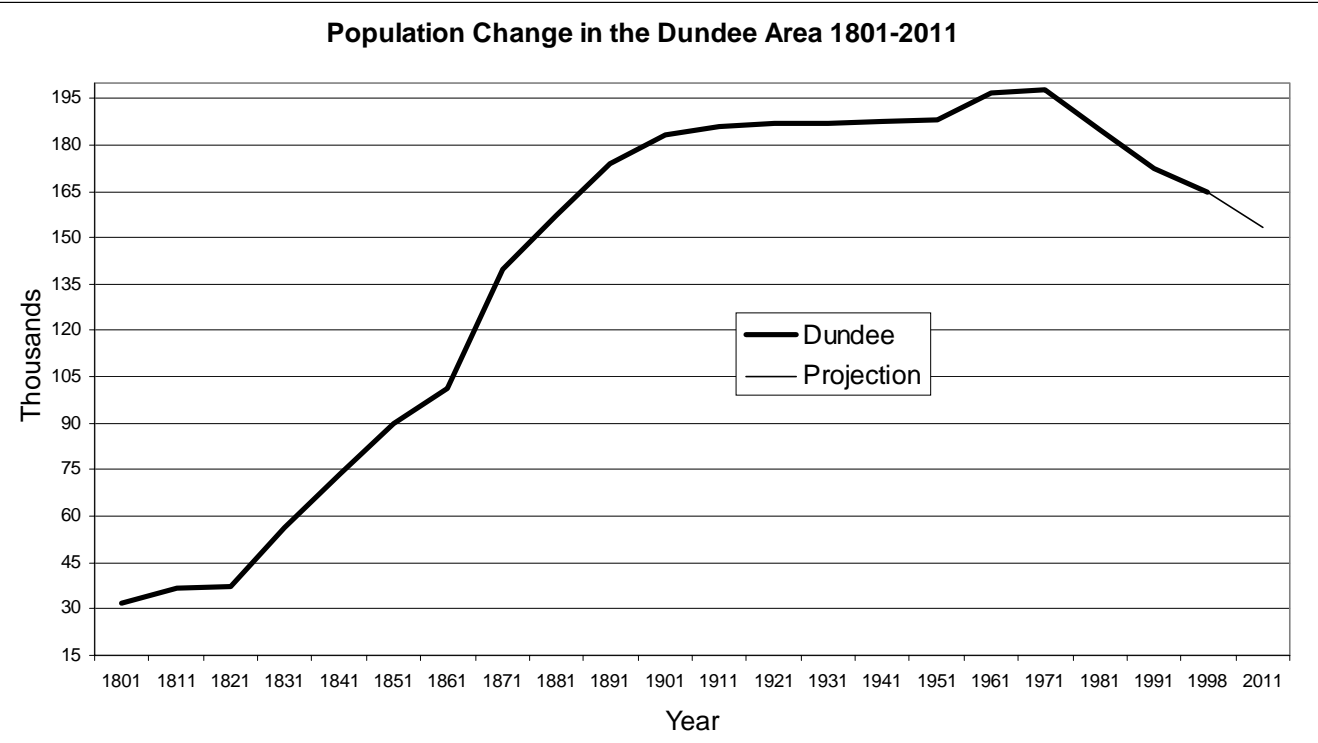
As one of Scotland's five cities, Dundee plays a major role in meeting the needs of people who live in the city and far beyond. It is a city of dramatic contrasts and has been the focus of considerable change over the last decade.

Many factors will influence our ability to achieve our new vision for Dundee. It is essential that we understand what is happening in the city so that we can take the most appropriate action.

Population

Dundee's falling population is the biggest issue facing us in the city. From a peak in the 1970's, the number of people living in the Dundee area has fallen dramatically. Diagram 1 shows how Dundee's population started to go down at the start of the 1970's. It continued to fall in the next two decades and it is predicted that it will fall further over the next ten years. Each year between 500 and 2000 people leave the city.

Diagram 1: Population change in the Dundee Area 1801 – 2001



The age of our population has implications for the challenges that face us if we are to reverse our population loss. Diagram 2 shows changes in the age of population of the Dundee area between 1991 and 1998 and as projected to 2013. This shows that the number of people in younger age groups is projected to fall with those in the 45-64 age group rising significantly. Little change is predicted for those aged 65 and over.

Diagram 2: Changes in Age Structure

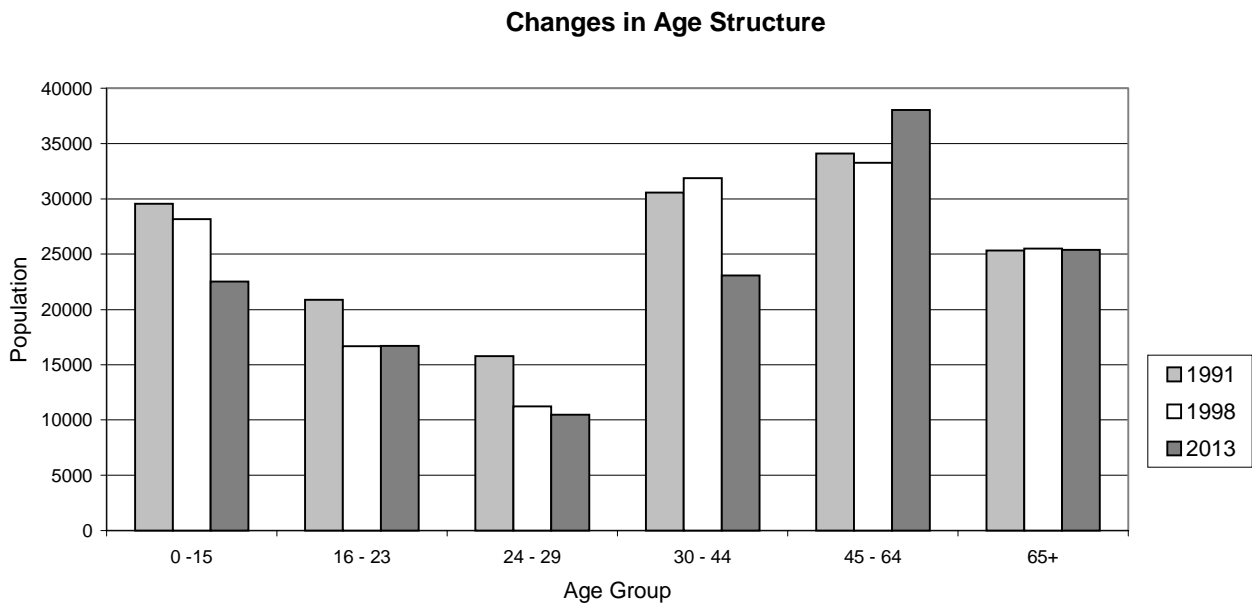
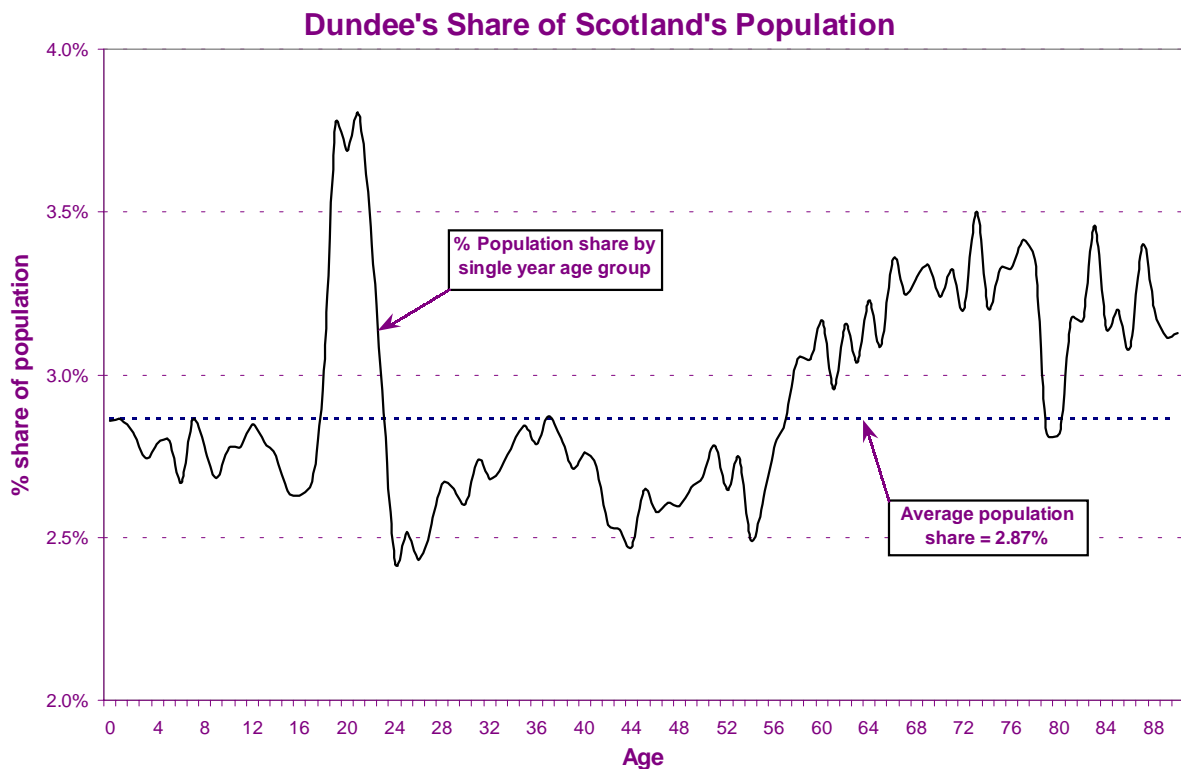


Diagram 3 shows how the Dundee area compared to Scotland as a whole in 1998. The graph shows the proportion of the Scottish population who are residents of Dundee by age. The 'average' line is the proportion of the total population who live in Dundee. This shows that we have a lower proportion of our population in the 0-17 and 24-55 age groups. We have a higher proportion in the 18-23 age group and over 55.

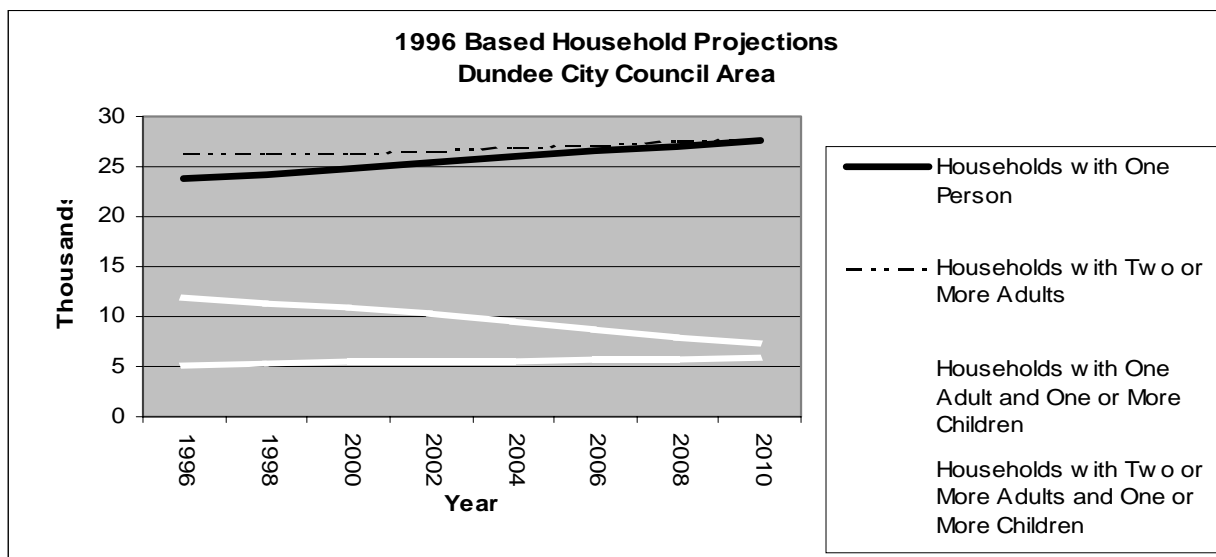
Diagram 3: Dundee's Share of Scotland's Population



The sharp rise in the 18-23 age group reflects the large number of higher and further education students who come to study in Dundee. However the almost equally sharp fall suggests that relatively few students remain in Dundee after their courses finish. The increasing number of people aged 65 and over reflects the fact that on average people are living longer and that by this stage of their lives they are less likely to leave the city.

Although the total population is falling, the number of households has been rising as shown in Diagram 4. The numbers of one person households and lone parent households has grown while the number of couples with families has gone down. This pattern is repeated across Scotland.

Diagram 4: Dundee City Council Area Household Projections



Economy

Dundee's economic regeneration continues.

After many years of decline, the current picture is one of growing employment. Between 1995 and 2000 over 3000 jobs were added giving a total of 78,070 in the city. For the first time in over 25 years the number of unemployed in the city has fallen to below 5,000 persons to 6.8%. However this is still above the Scottish average (5.5%) and the number of long-term unemployed continues to be much greater than across Scotland as a whole.

Recent and current investment levels in the city are at a record level. It is estimated that more than £½ billion of investment is underway or in the pipeline.

Education and Skills

Dundee is a major centre of education. Our higher and further education establishments attract over 20,000 full-time students and offer a range of part-time and access courses.

Our early years provision continues to grow with a part-time pre-school education place available to every three and four year old in the city.

In our schools the results of pupils gaining 5 or more standard grades at level 1-4 is below the Scottish average. More pupils leave school at 16 than on average across Scotland and 11.9% of school leavers in Dundee have no qualifications compared with the Scottish average of 6.5%. Similarly, fewer pupils leave school to enter full-time higher education, but more enter

full-time further education. The number of pupils leaving school and entering employment is again below the Scottish average. The challenge exists to equip school leavers with the skills necessary to secure jobs available in Dundee.

Inequalities

Many people living in Dundee experience real inequalities. These can be based on a range of factors such as their gender, race, employment, health or where they live. And while there is much evidence of prosperity in Dundee, there are also many indications of poverty.

The proportion of Dundee's population whose lives are affected by poverty and who can be described as socially excluded is second only to Glasgow in Scotland. Dundee has high rates of unemployment and high levels of benefit dependency. Almost half of all properties in Dundee are assessed as in the lowest Council Tax band. A third of Dundee's population are located in areas of deprivation.

The combined aspects of deprivation in Ardler, Kirkton, Mid-Craigie/Linlathen, and Hilltown/Maxwelltown led the Scottish office to recognise them as Social Inclusion Partnership areas. In addition areas across the city including Whitfield, Douglas and Charleston were designated as Regeneration Programme Areas.

Health

The health of people in Dundee is generally poorer than Scotland as a whole, with higher levels of cancer, heart disease and respiratory illness. The rate of teenage conception remains an obvious concern. Within Dundee there are significant differences in the health of different communities. Many people living in Social Inclusion Partnership areas experience inequalities with higher levels of smoking, mental illness and substance misuse among many others.

Environment

Dundee contains a balance of a thriving urban city centre and attractive public open spaces. Its location on the River Tay provides an impressive waterfront and the Law Hill a prominent backdrop. The built environment continues to develop through the creation of award winning buildings such as Dundee Contemporary Arts and the University of Abertay Library and housing developments including the emerging Ardler New Housing Partnership. The city's parks remain a significant environmental asset.

The location of Dundee and the road and rail links make it a remarkably accessible city. Dundee Airport's growing success and reputation are encouraging a greater number of people to fly to and from the city.

ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISE

OBJECTIVE

To create a thriving economy where prosperity, job opportunities and employability are developed across the city.

INTRODUCTION

Dundee is currently demonstrating many key aspects of economic regeneration and is confidently re-establishing itself as a regional economic centre. Unemployment is at its lowest for more than 25 years and significant investment is taking place across a variety of sectors. The image of Dundee is finally showing signs of catching up with the reality of a city which is becoming successful again economically.

At the same time, like most urban centres, Dundee still has people who, despite the determined efforts of a variety of organisations, remain unable to play an active role in the city's regenerating economy. There is no simple reason for this and there is no simple solution. Any city's economy depends on a number of factors and our economic regeneration strategy recognises this by taking a long-term approach to tackling all of them.

Dundee has taken a partnership approach to economic development for twenty years now. We have learned much over this time and our ways of working together have developed. The current Dundee Partnership enjoys the active participation of a broad range of public, private, academic, voluntary and community groups and individuals.

The Dundee Partnership will continue to lead our work on Economy and Enterprise in the city. It is an inclusive organisation which has worked hard to develop the influence of its voluntary and community partners at all levels of the Partnership. It has also expanded the importance of consultation and involvement as vital aspects of the Partnership's work.

The strategic objectives for the Economy and Enterprise theme are set out in the existing Dundee Partnership strategy entitled A Vision for Dundee. They are divided into two types - those objectives which directly impact upon economic development (Key Aims) and those which have indirect, though equally important, impact (Enabling Activities).

Key Aims

A major location for employment & investment
A thriving regional shopping & service centre
A city of knowledge, innovation & enterprise
A vibrant cultural, leisure & visitor economy

Enabling Activities

Improve the environment, transportation & communications
Maximise external financial resources
Improve the city's image and reputation

A MAJOR LOCATION FOR EMPLOYMENT AND INVESTMENT

Issues

Population - Dundee's declining population must be stabilised by creating more jobs and making the city a more attractive place to live, particularly for young people.

Inward Investment – We need to maximise the amount of investment in Dundee whether it comes from Europe, the Government or private companies. Inward investment efforts must be focused towards the areas where Dundee can be more competitive rather than trying to attract large projects which require substantial financial support.

Building Local Business - Local enterprise is important in order to achieve lasting economic success. Greater encouragement must be given to business start-ups, investment by indigenous firms, local entrepreneurs and to skilled people such as Dundee's graduates.

Priorities for Action:

- Provide support for inward investment and local business
- Create conditions which encourage people to start businesses
- Maintain growth in all sectors
- Assist employment and training initiatives
- Provide land and property to interested companies

A THRIVING REGIONAL SHOPPING AND SERVICE CENTRE

Issues

Prime Shopping – we must continue to attract more national chain stores to the city. Department stores are successful in themselves and also encourage other retail activity.

Secondary retailing – A good city centre has much more than big well known stores. Dundee has less of the smaller and often unique shops which broaden a shopping experience compared to other centres of a similar size. Opportunities to eat out in the city centre are improving and increase the overall appeal of Dundee, particularly for visitors from outwith the city.

Business Services - There is a severe shortage of business, professional and financial service providers in Dundee, particularly in the city centre.

Shopping Catchment – Around 425,000 people live within 20 miles of Dundee. Many own cars and have high levels of disposable income. Dundee City Centre must provide a comprehensive range of attractions, including a broad range of shops if it is to achieve its full potential as a regional centre.

Priorities for Action:

- Provide high quality prime shopping
- Provide a good range of secondary retailing
- Encourage providers of business, professional and financial services
- Fully exploit Dundee's shopping catchment
- Ensure continued provision of neighbourhood shopping and services

A CITY OF KNOWLEDGE, INNOVATION AND ENTERPRISE

Issues

Global trends – A successful local economy must have a high degree of knowledge, innovation and skills.

Higher Education – For its population Dundee has the highest number of university students of the four Scottish cities. We have a comprehensive range of faculties and disciplines within two universities and two colleges and an international reputation in several areas of research. As a result Dundee provides outstanding opportunities for educational and vocational training.

Economic Impact – Higher education is very important to the local economy. It attracts investment, creates well paid jobs and uses many local services.

Local Integration - Dundee is beginning to harness the potential of the academic sector through a number of local companies. Taking advantage of the commercial value of research activity remains a key focus of attention.

Learning in the Workplace - There is an increased recognition of the importance of Lifelong Learning and its implications for people already in employment. If the full potential of individuals is to be realised, a process of developing learning organisations is necessary.

Schools - It should be recognised that the seeds of knowledge and innovation are planted in the school years. Dundee should continue to encourage this by promoting interaction between schools and the world of innovation and business.

Priorities for Action:

- Assist in providing appropriate property for commercial spin off activities
- Develop mechanisms to encourage graduates to remain in Dundee
- Promote improved connections with local companies
- Encourage access to education and training for all sections of the community

A VIBRANT CULTURAL, LEISURE AND VISITOR ECONOMY

Issues

The Dundee Product – Dundee has made good progress in this area by developing new facilities such as Dundee Contemporary Arts and the Sensation science centre. It will be necessary to build on current strengths and to identify gaps and opportunities. We can enhance the city's cultural appeal, business tourism and outdoor pursuits, develop the families market and address the needs of young people with a focus on contemporary popular culture.

Cultural Industries - The development of the cultural economy through the arts, leisure and tourism industries plays an important role in building Dundee's reputation as a vibrant city which supports innovation.

Image - The image of Dundee has a vital influence on the visitor market and there is potential to improve Dundee's reputation as a visitor destination.

Priorities for Action:

- Develop a broad range of facilities and attractions particularly within the cultural quarter
- Bring forward development plans for key visitor attractions
- Develop a Local Cultural Strategy to maintain and enhance the City's growing reputation.
- Maximise Dundee's regional base including development of cycling, golf & outdoor pursuits
- Generate conditions for the promotion of cultural and creative industries

- Improve the image of Dundee as a centre for arts, leisure and tourism

IMPROVE THE ENVIRONMENT, TRANSPORTATION & COMMUNICATIONS

Issues

City Centre Environment - Improving the city centre by pedestrianising and improving the main shopping routes has contributed greatly to changing the image of Dundee. Current efforts are concentrating on support to secondary and specialist shopping areas.

City-wide Environment - A long-term programme of city-wide environmental improvement is underway. This includes major investment in Social Inclusion Partnership areas and improving the physical quality of the major visitor routes into the city. Certain visitor destinations are not achieving their full potential and would benefit from improvements such as environmental enhancement.

Transportation – It remains difficult for people to go between the city centre and the waterfront area. People continue to feel that it is difficult to drive into the city centre. The quality of public transport provision is generally satisfactory but requires continued improvement. The range of services offered by the airport and the port are improving and adding to the economic performance of Dundee.

Communications - Dundee requires a first-class communications infrastructure in order to remain competitive in the rapidly changing world of new technology and e-commerce.

Priorities for Action:

- Maintain a high quality city centre environment to support shopping and tourism
- Upgrade key city-wide locations in support of tourism and the image of Dundee
- Improve transportation linkages and the quality of public transport provision
- Improve services offered by the airport and port
- Improve Dundee's competitive position in communications infrastructure and technology

MAXIMISE EXTERNAL FINANCIAL RESOURCES

Issues

Regional Economic Centre – As one of Scotland's cities Dundee's economic influence spreads way beyond its official boundaries. Because of these it will be difficult for the city to afford to act as an effective regional centre without additional external resources. Securing these resources will continue to be a priority.

Lobbying – Dundee must continue to press its case for discretionary financial support through regional and European policy measures

Priorities for Action:

- Improve Dundee's status as a regional economic centre
- Continue to press Dundee's case for discretionary regional, European and other financial support

IMPROVE THE CITY'S IMAGE AND REPUTATION

Issues

Changing Perceptions - Dundee has achieved a number of significant economic improvements but people's opinions do not change as quickly as the city itself. There is therefore an ongoing task to promote the city as it now is and to update Dundee's image.

Specific Initiatives – We will develop and promote initiatives like BioDundee and events like the Dundee Flower Show to project the new image of Dundee.

Civic Pride – it is important to the economy of Dundee (e.g. population stability) to encourage residents to feel pride in their city

Priorities for Action:

- Maintain the momentum of the City of Discovery Campaign
- Raise the external awareness of the City in a positive way
- Alter the perception of those who may have an outdated view of Dundee
- Spread the message about the broadening range of visitor attractions available
- Make young people living in Dundee aware of the opportunities in the City
- Give the residents of Dundee a reason to feel a greater pride in their City
- Encourage individuals, groups and organisations to act as ambassadors for Dundee

LIFELONG LEARNING

Objective

To promote learning opportunities which prepare people for life, employment and learning for its own sake.

INTRODUCTION

This theme focuses on the importance of Lifelong Learning to the quality of life, health, vibrancy and the long-term sustainability of the City of Dundee.

Dundee's population includes a higher than average proportion in the 18-23 and over-55 age groups, the former partly reflecting the large number of students attending Dundee's universities and colleges. Few incoming students, however, remain after completing their courses and of Dundee's own school pupils, 36.3% leave school at 16 and 11.9% leave without qualifications, compared with the Scottish averages of 30% and 6.5% respectively.

Lifelong Learning underpins all of the themes around which Dundee's Community Plan has been developed. This priority theme will look at community learning, schooling, transition from school to adult life, higher and further education.

There already exists in Dundee, a Community Learning Partnership Group with strong representation from higher, further education, the local authority, voluntary sector and other key interests. This group has been the main sounding board for the development of this section of the plan. Its membership have individually undertaken extensive consultations into access barriers, learning needs and opportunities. This group will take on a wider remit to address Lifelong Learning as a whole. It will make formal links to other groups such as the Adult Guidance Network, Fife and Tayside Access Forum, Dundee Childcare Partnership, and the "Learning Around" Initiative.

Key Issues

COMMUNITY LEARNING AND CAPACITY BUILDING

Community learning is an essential part of lifelong learning. It should result in increased individual self-confidence, skills, and knowledge, and in expanded community capacity, reflected in improved social infrastructure, greater wealth creation, environmental improvement and a more vibrant local democracy. A Community Learning Strategy for Dundee was approved by Dundee City Council in April 2000.

Priorities for action

- promote community access to lifelong learning throughout the city, through the development of Community Learning Centres
- to produce and implement the following Community Learning Plans over the next three years; Geographic Community Learning Plans focussed on priority regeneration areas of Ardler; Kirkton; Mid-Craigie/Linlathen; and the Hilltown. A Community of Interest Plan focused on volunteers learning through voluntary

activity. A Community of Need Plan for young adults with special needs leaving school

YOUNG PERSONS' ATTAINMENT

Learning at the start of life

The early years of life are an important time for learning. Establishing effective services to support early learning is, therefore, the foundation on which to build lifelong learning.

Dundee has a long-standing tradition of early years' services. Services have been developed to promote the emotional and social well-being of children and their families to meet care and learning needs together, and to actively support the role and involvement of parents.

Two developments have added momentum to the development of services. These are, firstly, the expansion of pre-school education to provide a part-time pre-school education for all three and four year old children. Secondly, the publication of the Dundee Early Years and Childcare Plan 2000-2003 which sets out wide-ranging targets for early years, childcare and family support services.

The challenge facing Dundee is to address the pattern of under-achievement in an increasingly competitive work environment. Dundee's successful bid for additional resources from the Excellence Fund for Schools will allow the City Council to address a range of issues affecting schools in the City.

Priorities for action:

- Increase access to integrated early years' facilities
- Enhance support for parents and improve opportunities for parental involvement
- Improve pupil attendance
- Reduce the number of children excluded from school
- Improve attainment through study support, training and support to teachers, and information for parents on how to help their children achieve more
- Improve educational outcomes for children who are looked after by the local authority
- Improve access to high quality youth information
- Support young people to be active citizens

THE TRANSITION FROM SCHOOL TO ADULT LIFE

A recent government reported called "Implementing Inclusiveness - Realising Potential" reviewed the range of needs of young people who require additional support to make a successful transition from school life to post-school training and employment. Conditions are difficult for all young people, but they are even more challenging for those with special needs.

In Dundee, recognition of the difficulties experienced by some young people led, during 2000, to the formation of the Xplore project, designed specifically to support young people between the ages of 11 and 18. The Scottish Executive awarded the Xplore Project Social Inclusion Partnership status and currently provides core funding of £400,000 per year.

Every young person leaving school should have the opportunity to progress into training, further or higher education, or a job. For a significant number of young people in Dundee, this has not been the case and, despite the dramatic decrease in youth unemployment (23% over the last 2 years), there are still a significant group estimated at one thousand 16-19 year olds who have dropped out of the system or who are registered unemployed.

Dundee has for a number of years had the highest rate of severe hardship payments for 16-17 year olds of all local authorities in Scotland.

Priorities for action:

- Further development of partnership working through the Childcare and Xplore Partnerships
- More effective early intervention for those who are experiencing difficulty during their last years at school or early post-school life
- Improved support, uptake and quality of training opportunities for those leaving school

WORK BASED LEARNING

With support through the Government's "Pledge to Learning", Dundee will continue to build on current opportunities for staff to engage in work-based learning. These tend to be better developed in large employers in both the public and private sectors and developments need to focus on small to medium enterprises in the private and voluntary sectors.

Priority for Action

- The community planning partnership will seek to strengthen networking for the support of work-based learning between the Chamber of Commerce, Further and Higher Education providers, Scottish University for Industry and existing developments of community learning centres.

HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION

The higher and further education sectors are enormously significant to the City. Dundee is Scotland's student city, with over 20,000 full-time enrolled students. Students constitute a larger percentage of the population than any other city in Scotland. The significant numbers coming into Dundee to study contrast sharply with the under-representation of young people from the City itself.

In 2000 only 23% of schools leavers in Dundee entered higher education compared to the Scottish average of 31%, although 26% entered further education compared to 19% nationally.

The University of Dundee, the University of Abertay and Dundee College have all taken successful steps to respond to this. They have undertaken a range of initiatives including the provision of Access Courses, enhanced financial support and targeting students from Social Inclusion Partnership areas. Fee waiver schemes operated by the College and Universities play an important part in ensuring that financial barriers are addressed. This has recently been extended to include students enrolling on part-time accredited courses.

Over the last three years, the Dundee College/Neighbourhood Resources & Development Department partnership has delivered 34 different "Learning on Your Doorstep" programmes from 24 of the city's Neighbourhood Centres, Community venues and Libraries to 935 students.

Priorities for action:

- Partners will collaborate closely to offer an integrated range of post-school education and training opportunities

- Improving access and the quality and relevance of courses
- Continued development of fee waivers and strategies for reaching under-represented groups

LEARNING IN LATER LIFE

A distinctive feature of Dundee's population profile is the percentage of the population of the City which is over retirement age. This is far higher than other Scottish cities. The Lifelong Learning Strategy for the City has to address both their potential contribution and the learning needs of those over 60.

There already exists an impressive network of local organisations which exist to work with and enhance the quality of life of older people. Thirty-two percent of students enrolled in the Continuing Education Department of the University of Dundee are over 56 (1120 enrolments).

Priorities for action:

- Produce an Older Persons' Lifelong Learning Strategy
- Respond to the needs and interests of older people
- Develop a communication strategy to promote access to opportunities
- Support the learning needs of those who assume care responsibilities

SOCIAL INCLUSION

OBJECTIVE

To ensure that regardless of social or economic background everyone has the chance to play a full part in the life of Dundee.

INTRODUCTION

Dundee is a city of contrasts. It has an excellent physical environment, and good services. In a recent UK-wide survey, it was rated as one of the best places to live in Britain. At the same time, Dundee has significant levels of poverty. In 1997 deprivation in the city was recognised and four areas of the city were designated as Priority Partnership Areas and Regeneration Programme Areas. These were later renamed as Social Inclusion Partnership Areas. A recent Scottish Executive study confirmed that Dundee was second only to Glasgow in terms of the percentage of its population who lived in poverty, or who were affected by multiple deprivation.

In promoting Social Inclusion we aim to ensure that no one in Dundee is denied the opportunities which exist in the city because of a combination of problems such as unemployment, poor skills, low incomes, poor housing, bad health or family breakdown.

Dundee City Council led the development of an Anti-Poverty Strategy for the city which was agreed in 1999. Since then a partnership group including the Council, Scottish Homes, Scottish Enterprise Tayside, Tayside Health Board, the Benefits Agency, Employment Services, Tayside Careers and Dundee Anti-Poverty Forum has concentrated on implementing the strategy. This group will merge with the Community Plan Social Inclusion Group to provide an integrated approach to tackling poverty and social exclusion

The Anti Poverty strategy contains a framework for **meeting material needs of people in Dundee, improving their economic position and promoting participation in community life**. Using this framework we can focus on the action we can take for those who are most at risk or experience the greatest deprivation.

Poverty/Social Exclusion Profile

In relation to **material** needs.

- Compared with the rest of Scotland, a higher proportion of the population of Dundee are unemployed, chronically sick, single parents, older and have low incomes.
- Dundee has many deprived areas, and according to the index used by the Scottish Executive, nearly one third of the population live in them.

In relation to **economic** problems.

- Dundee has the highest rate of unemployment of all Scotland's cities.
- Dundee's rate of dependency on social security benefits is second only to Glasgow's.
- The value of property in Dundee is particularly low.

In its **social relationships**, Dundee has major problems of exclusion.

- Dundee has the highest out-migration rate of all Scottish cities. Young adults are leaving the city to find work.

- Dundee has one of the highest rate of teenage pregnancy in Scotland, and 50% more single parents than the Scottish average. Nearly a quarter of Dundee's children live in lone parent households.
- Dundee has important social problems; low educational attainment, high rates of absence from school, high crime figures.

Key Issues

The Social Justice Policy in Scotland invites us to consider how we need to respond to five groups of people – children, young people, families, older people, and communities. We need to create a Dundee where everyone matters.

EVERY CHILD MATTERS IN DUNDEE

Dundee has more children living in poverty than any other authority in Scotland, bar Glasgow. The proportion of children in workless households in Dundee is 26%, compared with a national average of 19%.

Priorities for Action

- further developing and supporting out-of-school-hours child learning.
- exploring potential for developing Safe Home Zones and Safe Travel Routes.
- further developing affordable and accessible childcare initiatives for babies and toddlers.
- further developing early intervention literacy and numeracy initiatives.
- supporting quality early years, childcare and family support services.
- improving access, flexibility and responsiveness to mainstream early years and childcare services for families suffering from poverty and social exclusion.
- implementing the next phase of the New Community School Initiative.
- ensuring that the Local Transport Strategy addresses the needs of children and families suffering from poverty and social exclusion.

EVERY YOUNG PERSON MATTERS IN DUNDEE

Many young people in Dundee find the change from school to adult life difficult. For a number of years the city has had the highest level of severe hardship payments in Scotland.

While the average level of performance at standard and higher grade is improving, it still lags behind the Scottish average.

Twice as many school leavers in Dundee leave school with no qualifications compared with the Scottish average of 6.5%.

Teenage conception rates in Dundee have been the highest in Scotland for a number of years, and remain a source of concern.

Priorities for Action

- identifying indicators/measures based on young people's experience of poverty and social exclusion.
- developing a youth inclusion strategy based on the inter-agency identification of young people's needs.
- further developing a multi-agency approach to reduce teenage pregnancies and promote the mental health and well-being of young people.
- increasing inter-agency support for school leavers moving from school to work, further education, training and community life.
- reviewing school clothing grant levels and distances for free travel to school.
- investing in alternative services/fulltime education for young people who are excluded from school due to their challenging behaviour.
- targeting service provision towards the most vulnerable and excluded young people in Dundee including ethnic minorities, the homeless, teenage prostitutes, and lesbian, gay and bi-sexual young people.
- developing and extending out-of-school hours learning opportunities.

EVERY FAMILY MATTERS IN DUNDEE

In Dundee we support the Government's objectives of building a more inclusive society, making work pay and providing support for those who cannot work. Each partner is committed to breaking down the barriers of discrimination and disadvantage which impact on those at the margins of society.

The percentage of households in Dundee who are in receipt of housing benefit is second only to Glasgow.

While unemployment in the city has come down steadily over the last four years, the picture for long-term unemployed is less positive and the rate of decline in unemployment in Dundee has been slower than in Tayside or Scotland as a whole.

Priorities for Action

- developing a inter-agency Alcohol Action Plan.
- producing a strategy for promoting financial inclusion.
- extending citizen access to credit union services.
- promoting free school meals/school clothing grant entitlements.
- encouraging family-friendly employment practices, such as flexible working hours, paid paternal leave and high quality childcare.
- further developing and promoting family literacy initiatives.

EVERY OLDER PERSON MATTERS IN DUNDEE

The percentage of older people in Dundee is far higher than in most local authority areas, and significantly greater than the average share of Scotland's population. Dundee offers the potential of a high quality of life for those over retirement age. Older people already make a vital contribution to the life of the community. They are, arguably, the most active sector of our society, supporting voluntary activities, providing family support/childcare and maintaining the quality of community life in many other ways.

Priorities for Action

- reviewing public services according to the needs of older people.
- ensuring that every older person has a level of care according to their needs.
- developing a campaign to improve current levels of uptake in benefits for older people.
- encouraging public utilities such as water authorities, telephone companies and fuel providers to consider the needs of the older person and the financial constraints placed on them through poverty and low income.
- reviewing community, voluntary and public transport services according to the needs of older people.
- developing and promoting volunteering opportunities for older people.

EVERY COMMUNITY MATTERS IN DUNDEE

The concentration of poverty and disadvantage in Dundee create social and economic circumstances which have an adverse effect on the quality of life of many its citizens.

Many of these issues are currently being addressed in the Social Inclusion Partnership areas and through the Living Dundee Strategy. There are signs however, that other neighbourhoods are becoming increasingly at risk as the difficulties associated with poverty and social exclusion show signs of beginning to spread into other community areas of Dundee.

We will tackle this by developing local neighbourhood plans across the city. These will highlight the issues facing individual communities and the response that will be generated at the most local level. Communities themselves will be closely involved in the process of producing these plans. Local neighbourhood plans will be developed gradually to take account of the demands that will be placed on communities and service providers. It is our intention to produce five pilot neighbourhood plans over the next five years.

These local plans will add impetus to the efforts already being made in Dundee to address inequalities, promote community identity and stability and increase residents satisfaction with their neighbourhoods.

Priorities for Action

- developing measures which will bring stability to neighbourhoods in Dundee.
- preventing exclusion by developing early intervention strategies targeting neighbourhoods at risk, starting with those identified in the Living Dundee strategy.
- pursuing improvements in housing conditions and service along with tenants and their representatives.
- addressing gaps in services by supporting the development of the social economy to provide services in areas which cannot be viably provided for by the public or private sectors.
- maximising community/voluntary sector access to external funding and grant aid.
- increasing the level of community/voluntary sector involvement in Council's Decentralisation Scheme and its partnership structures.
- further developing strategies for involving and consulting socially excluded individuals and minority groups.
- promoting higher levels of community participation.

SUSTAINABILITY

OBJECTIVE

To develop Dundee in ways which safeguard the future of the environment in the city.

INTRODUCTION

Sustainable development promotes the welfare of current and future generations by bringing together environmental, social and economic considerations. While this theme will address actions that relate explicitly to environmental sustainability, the principles of sustainable development are being applied across the other themes. The Community Plan is also closely related to the preparation of a Local Agenda 21 strategy for Dundee. Both processes engage local communities in preparing sustainable economic, social and environmental policies, but Local Agenda 21 has a longer term perspective.

Two existing strategies helped to develop this theme – Dundee City Council's **Planning for Sustainability – draft Local Agenda 21 Plan**, and Dundee Sustainability Forum's **A Vision for Sustainable Development in Dundee**. Our proposals were also shaped through a participatory event called Sustaining Dundee's Future. This was a day of workshops and discussions attended by over 80 representatives of community groups and other organisations

To take forward the action proposed in this section, a new group will be formed which links work going on in the Community Planning Sustainability Group, the Dundee Sustainability Forum and other Local Agenda 21 initiatives. This will link public sector partners, council departments, universities and colleges, local environmental groups and the business community, and will agree on a shared set of indicators to measure progress. This group will demonstrate a collective determination to secure a more sustainable future for the city.

KEY ISSUES

Economy, Business And The Workplace

Economic activity is increasingly driven by global forces and rapid technological change and this can have serious consequences for local communities and the environment. While the economy is dealt with as a specific theme within the Community Plan, it is considered here in terms of environmental and social sustainability.

The social economy, primarily made up of not-for-profit organisations, can provide valuable support to the community, as well as jobs and work experience. Too often it is restricted by the short-term nature of project funding and a lack of business skills. Local exchange and trading schemes (LETS) can help to retain income in the community. Indicators of progress can include the health and durability of community/voluntary organisations as well as the numbers they employ, and the levels of income retained in the local area.

Among businesses, there is a need to find a practical way of promoting awareness of environmental issues and to benefit from each other's experience. This can result in a number of practical joint initiatives to reduce environmental impacts and achieve business benefits. The partners in Community Planning have a responsibility to set an example.

For individuals, the environmental impact of employment should be emphasised (e.g. travel to work and environmental education), as well as benefits to the individual through personal development, and the benefits to the community of the activity.

Priorities for Action

- Encourage good environmental practice in the business community
- Develop and provide support for the Social Economy
- Promote Sustainable Employment

Built Environment

Dundee has a diverse and changing mixture of built environments reflecting the City's historical growth and development. It contains many quality buildings and open spaces. However, there are pressures on these open spaces, and the City also contains areas which are in need of improvement. Although some of these are subject to current initiatives, much more must be done.

In a similar fashion to other Scottish cities Dundee is experiencing major changes to its housing stock. Redevelopment has also had a major impact on the city. Debate is taking place about what is needed to make Dundee a more vibrant place to live in and about how these changes should be financed.

Local people should be able to participate in the process of developing their community, and the city as a whole. The process of making decisions about buildings in Dundee should be open and accountable, with feedback being given when decisions are taken.

Rehabilitation of existing buildings can have environmental and social benefits, where it improves energy efficiency and standards of sound insulation, and minimises disruption to communities. The provision of local amenities within housing areas improves the quality of life for residents and reduces the need for travel.

Priorities for Action

- Increase community involvement in planning and design of the built environment
- Encourage more sustainable rehabilitation of the housing stock
- Promote the provision of local facilities and amenities within communities

Natural Environment

The City enjoys a range of environmental features that support a wide variety of habitats for differing species, and enhance the quality of life for residents and visitors. A number of initiatives and strategies already address this, relating to the Tay Estuary, public open space, footpaths, urban woodland, play and parks, and bio-diversity. However, more can be done to highlight the importance of Dundee's natural assets, and develop understanding of the pressures created on them by modern urban life.

Activity which benefits the natural environment can be undertaken by individuals or small groups, led by major voluntary sector and public organisations, or funded by business sponsors. If this activity is to have maximum impact then it is necessary to bring together all those involved to share experience and co-ordinate efforts, and ensure that sufficient financial resources and training are provided.

Through education and public information we can increase the public's respect for the natural environment and their involvement in it. A specific priority for Dundee should be to re-connect the city and its people with the river, acknowledging the Tay's scenic impact and its importance as a diverse natural habitat. This can have major environmental, social, and economic benefits for the city.

Priorities for Action

- Co-ordinate Action and Information Relating to the Natural Environment
- Raise People's Awareness of the Natural Environment
- Protect and Promote the Tay Estuary through a sustainable management strategy

Transport

Dundee as a regional centre has to meet the requirements of transporting people and goods between the City and other local authority areas. Road and rail are the dominant modes, but there are also good port facilities and emerging air links. Public transport provision is critical to give many people access to jobs and services in the city and beyond, and to reduce road congestion and pollution. This is recognised in the draft Local Transport Strategy.

A more sustainable transport policy requires a shift away from car use towards cycling, walking, and the use of public transport. Popularising public transport will go a long way to contributing to the reduction of carbon dioxide, but it will need to be safe, affordable, accessible, integrated, and effectively promoted. New mechanisms will be required for transport providers and planners to create improvements and the necessary co-ordination, within Dundee and with neighbouring areas. They should ensure the full participation of users, so that the diversity of needs of the travelling public are recognised. The expansion and maintenance of networks of safe footpaths and cycleways are also required to improve access to local facilities, workplaces and employment and for leisure.

Priorities for Action

- Ensure that Transport is planned in a co-ordinated, sustainable manner, involving users and recognising their needs
- Ensure that Public transport is, safe, affordable, accessible and integrated

Waste/Energy

Generating and disposing of waste has costs for householders and businesses. It impacts on the environment and uses scarce resources. It therefore has social and economic, as well as environmental, impacts. This is recognised in the promotion of the National Waste Strategy for Scotland, with an Area Strategy for Tayside currently in preparation.

Like other cities, Dundee presently generates a high volume of waste, despite tighter constraints on landfill and increasing legislation to control waste. The new Dundee waste-to-energy plant, which will operate for 25 years, will reduce pressures on landfill but also impact on the recycling of waste materials.

The priorities for waste management are: firstly, to reduce the volume of waste produced; secondly, to re-use or repair waste materials; and thirdly, to recycle what cannot be reused. By looking at waste materials as resources, there is scope to develop new businesses involved in reuse, repair and recycling, and to link with the national Remade initiative designed to stimulate the market for recycled materials.

Strategically there is a need for major players both public and private to take a lead and to co-ordinate their approaches and actions. Communities and companies can also take action at a local level. Businesses and individuals need accurate and easily understood information on the best ways to minimise levels of waste, and how to dispose of it, backed up by easy access to the necessary facilities.

Energy use is a crucial aspect of resource management for domestic and business users, and in combating global warming. Consumers need to know how to achieve better energy conservation, and where possible use renewable energy sources.

Priorities for Action

- Reduce the City's Use of Resources and Production of Waste
- Actively promote Energy & Waste awareness and facilities

HEALTH AND CARE

Objective

To promote and protect the physical and mental health of communities and provide effective care to those who need it.

Introduction

This theme is about improving the quality of life for all people who live in Dundee regardless of what age they are or where they live. Having access to a range of high quality health and care services is vital to help people to cope with illnesses and disease. These services continue to be developed through joint community care and children's services planning and by working together to make local health plans more responsive to local needs.

However, health, in particular good health is about much more than just the absence of illness or disease, it is about taking actions to prevent ill health and positively promote well being. This means finding ways to work with people in their own communities to find solutions to some of the issues which they have identified as affecting both their health and the health of their communities.

There are some areas of Dundee where the health of residents living in these areas is a particular concern. These are the four Social Inclusion Partnership areas where the links between poor health and living in an area of deprivation, and/or on a low income are very strong. A Community Development and Health Project was established in April 1998 to work within these areas to establish and support initiatives to improve the health of residents in these areas.

The results of a Health Audit in the Social Inclusion Partnership areas identified a number of health, lifestyle and life circumstance issues that affected people living in these areas. These tended not to be particular illnesses or diseases but rather some more general issues such as, high levels of stress, lack of accessible affordable healthy food and lack of appropriate affordable exercise opportunities. In addition people felt that things like poverty, anti-social behaviour and crime affected individual and community health. The results of the Health Audit were confirmed at a recent listening event attended by a cross section of people from areas of Dundee.

There is a lot that can be done to address these issues, both by individuals taking more responsibility and action by those who shape public policy. This will extend the conditions required for improved health and well-being. The challenge in tackling health inequalities is to find ways to join up the efforts across the range of agencies.

Some work has already been done in Dundee to start tackling some of the health inequalities. Healthy Dundee, which is the local Health for All Alliance, has been central to the development of a more inclusive approach to local health planning and in particular to addressing the actions that need to be taken by both health care providers and their partners. Healthy Dundee has a membership, which is drawn from statutory bodies, voluntary agencies, Tayside Health Council, and others who aim to foster joint working, promote health and tackle inequalities.

As a result, Healthy Dundee will act as the vehicle for driving the Health and Care agenda for Community Planning in Dundee. It will give a focus to discussions on health inequalities and the link to poverty and deprivation.

Key Issues

Tackling Health Inequalities

We will work with partners to bring the issue of health inequalities more firmly into the mainstream by promoting the alignment of Local Health Plans, Healthy Dundee plans, Dundee Joint Community Care Plan, Children's Services Plan and the Housing Plan.

We will develop a strategy for tackling health inequalities and make sure that the challenges of improving health in deprived areas is given a special focus. We will find ways to work together with people within their own communities in order that they can set local priorities and also involve them in finding solutions to improve health and well being.

Priorities for Action

- Develop a strategy for tackling health inequalities
- Focus on the areas of poorest health

Promoting Health Awareness & Healthier Lifestyles

Individuals and organisations can take action to influence their health. This is one of the ways we will achieve long term improvements in the health of people in Dundee. Health Promotion has a vital part to play in improving health and tackling health inequalities, particularly in the context of social inclusion. We will continue to develop our partnership working to ensure health promotion is a shared inter-agency priority. By working in partnership to develop health promoting activities with employers, schools and in a range of community settings, we can create environments that support the health of individuals and communities.

Priorities for Action

- Demonstrate partnership working in all aspects of health promotion & health inequalities planning
- Implement health promotion programmes within key settings
- Further development of Healthy Dundee
- Publish a long term inter-agency plan to address health promotion and health inequalities issues

Modernising Healthcare Services

To address some of the issues which people in Dundee have told us affect their own health and the health of their communities we need to continue to work together to modernise how we plan and deliver services. At the heart of modernisation is the use of new treatments and technologies, making it easier to access services and continuing to shift the emphasis toward family doctor and other primary care services (nurses, therapists, pharmacists, dentists and opticians). Dundee Local Healthcare Co-operative provides a vehicle for taking forward the modernisation agenda.

Community planning gives us the opportunity to work together on the modernisation agenda, for instance looking at innovative solutions to where services might be delivered, using shared opportunities to involve individuals, their carers and/or their families about their care. Modernisation also means sharing information to help streamline processes, developing joint assessments and provide integrated services.

Priorities for Action

- Demonstrate increased stakeholder involvement in planning & delivery of services
- A programme of audit and review of services in place

Developing Community Based Care Services

Providing services and care for people in the community is a shared priority for Dundee City Council and Tayside Health Board, Scottish Homes and other partners. We have been working to achieve effective joint Community Care Planning in Dundee over the past few years by developing our relationships with partners in the statutory, private and voluntary sectors. Wherever possible, people will be cared for at home and services will be co-ordinated to deliver this. We are working hard to provide services which are based on local planning for local needs.

Through community planning we will work together to promote understanding between agencies and to identify barriers to future progress. It also gives us the opportunity to think more broadly about community based services and to develop the range of service providers by making new links with those who deliver mainstream community services.

The joint Community Care Planning process has been reviewed and revised in Dundee to try to ensure the local community is actively involved in the development, monitoring and delivery of community care services.

Priorities for Action

- Develop a new emphasis on inter-agency working to meet community needs, which includes a broader range of service providers.
- Develop more joint funding
- Demonstrate more involvement of service users and carers

COMMUNITY SAFETY

OBJECTIVES

To create a city where crime is reducing and where people are safe and feel safe.

INTRODUCTION

This theme focuses on the importance of Community Safety in encouraging all sections of the community to feel secure within and outwith their homes, at work and at leisure. Communities who feel secure are more likely to take up opportunities to learn, provide voluntary service, participate in activities and avoid the misuse of drugs and alcohol.

The agencies who support community services will also be able to prioritise resources on key services, rather than diverting scarce resources to unproductive expenditure on vandalism, offending, misuse of services and crime.

In our vision we value "the support of the majority of citizens who share our vision of their communities, within a City which will be a thriving regional centre where people will be proud to live, work and play". (Dundee Community Safety Partnership - Community Safety Strategy 2000-2003).

The Dundee Community Safety Partnership exists to enhance collaboration, joint planning and co-ordination in community safety strategies and action plans. It provides a forum where Community Safety policies and priorities can be influenced. This Partnership has close links to Dundee Safety Forum and other key groups who contribute to community safety services. Its membership is currently being expanded to include key outside agencies, voluntary organisations and local community safety groups.

KEY ISSUES

- Building and sustaining community reassurance and participation.
- Tackling substance abuse.
- Improving road safety.
- Reducing crime and the fear of crime.

BUILDING AND SUSTAINING COMMUNITY REASSURANCE AND PARTICIPATION

The Annual Consumer Survey carried out on behalf of the Council has indicated a rise in confidence and reduction in the fear of crime in areas covered by the CCTV network. It is recognised, however, that the level of actual crime within an area is only one element in the overall perception of a community's fear of crime.

It is seen as important to communicate positively to communities that crime levels are dropping (5.8% in the year 2000) and that there is a commitment to undertake proactive measures which directly influence the fear of crime.

These measures are:

- support for and involvement of local communities in community safety priorities and problems ;
- support for the victims of crime ;
- target-hardening to design out or reduce vulnerability to crime ;
- community-orientated policing ;
- the involvement of key agencies in collaborative development of community safety strategies and action plans ;
- proactive community safety project development, e.g. message in a bottle, neighbourhood watch etc ;
- sustaining specialist forum support to tackle domestic abuse, and racial harassment and improve public protection ;
- to reduce deaths and injuries caused by fire.
- a multi-agency approach to tackling youth offending.

Priorities for Action

- To enhance the support for local community safety groups.
- To target areas of high community concern through focused community policing.
- To utilise CCTV systems to aid community reassurance.
- To improve support for the roles of specialist forums.
- To undertake target-hardening where the incidence of crime is higher than average.

TACKLING SUBSTANCE MISUSE

Substance misuse is a major concern throughout Scotland and has a direct co-relation with the incidence of certain crimes. The local strategy, co-ordinated via the Dundee Drug and Alcohol Action Team's Corporate Plan 2000-2003, underpins the national strategy by adopting the key principles of inclusion, partnerships, understanding and accountability and these are reflected in the operational priorities of the plan.

Within these priorities, the Team will work collaboratively and encourage partnership working and accountability to individuals, communities and funding bodies ; develop effectiveness in consultation, information and involvement in drug education ; and enter into direct partnership with the widest possible range of interested groups in tackling substance misuse and developing initiatives.

Priorities for Action

- To reduce the acceptability and availability of drugs.
- To address the health risks related to the misuse of drugs.
- To reduce the damage caused to communities by drug-related crime and increase their protection from such crime.

IMPROVING ROAD SAFETY

A wide range of provision exists to aid information, education and the prevention of road accidents. This will continue but will be strengthened by :

Priorities for Action

- undertaking proactive education and policing to ensure traffic safety at school entrance/exit points.
- implementing traffic-calming measures at accident blackspots and within housing estates.
- promoting safe cycle/walking routes to school.
- providing a high-profile and ongoing focus on speeding within built-up areas.

REDUCING CRIME AND THE FEAR OF CRIME

This section is closely inter-related with the section on Building and Sustaining Community Reassurance and Participation, in that the reduction of crime has a direct effect on one of the main contributors to the fear of crime.

As indicated earlier, levels of reported crime in the City have continued to drop, with the exception of certain categories of offences.

The increased use of technology – for example, CCTV and DNA - has helped enforcement agencies to improve detection rates and this, together with intelligence-gathering and community-focused policing, is helping to reduce opportunities for crime.

Priorities for Action

- To investigate options to improve/extend CCTV coverage and effectiveness.
- To react speedily to community hotspots by focused community policing.
- To target key crime areas by high-profile intervention campaigns/initiatives.
- To improve building facilities and design in order to reduce opportunities for crime.
- To maintain support for information exchange networks to reduce anti-social behaviour, including Pub Watch and Retailer Anti-Fraud networks.

Dundee in Partnership

Draft Theme Progress Plans

The Community Plan for Dundee

2001-2006

Introduction

In the Community Plan we listed our priorities for action and in this section, we describe how we intend to measure our progress towards achieving our priorities.

We have taken a very flexible approach to this. Some of the things we list are concrete targets and others are steps that we will take on the way towards our objectives.

This section is very much a draft. Over the next year or so we will be preparing detailed action plans for each of our themes. This draft sets out the direction we want to take and will give you an idea of the kind of action which is possible. We hope that you can help us prepare the detailed action plans. That way the community plan can tackle your priorities.

ECONOMY AND ENTERPRISE

The Dundee Partnership has established a monitoring and evaluation framework to set an economic baseline against which future progress can be measured. This framework consists of a concise number of quantitative measures which are representative of different aspects of Dundee's economy but which together provide a meaningful overview of the economic health of the city.

To promote Economy and Enterprise we will:

- a) Stop the population decline
- b) Create new employment opportunities
- c) Reduce the number of long term unemployed
- d) Increase Inward Investment
- e) Expand number of occupied shopping outlets
- f) Increase income generated by academic research
- g) Attract greater numbers of visitors to the city

LIFELONG LEARNING

The Dundee Community Living Partnership group has set the following objectives.

To promote Lifelong Learning we will:

- a) Agree a strategy for creating and resourcing community learning centres throughout Dundee (April 2001)
- b) Submit a successful bid to NOF for Lottery funding to implement the Community Access to Lifelong Learning strategy (August 2001)
- c) Produce a geographic Community Learning Plan (June 2001)
- d) Form a sub-group to take forward a Community Learning Plan for Volunteers (September 2001)
- e) Form a sub-group to take forward a Community Learning Plan for Young Adults with Special Needs (April 2001). We will produce this plan by November 2001.
- f) Increase number of places on offer in integrated Early Year's facilities
- g) Increase levels of parental involvement in learning year on year

- h) Reduce the rate of exclusions from schools
- i) Improve pupils' exam performance
- j) Increase the number of young people accessing youth information by 10% per year for three years
- k) Establish the percentage of young people accessing youth work provision by October 2001. We will target an increase in percentage of 5% per year for three years
- l) Provide effective support to 150 young people per year through the Xplore partnership
- m) Increase the percentage of Dundee's school leavers accessing Further Education/Higher Education provision with the emphasis on access to University level education
- n) Produce an Older Person's (Lifelong Learning) strategy by April 2002
- o) Assess the current level of uptake of opportunities by older people and assess the extent to which provision meets demand
- p) Develop strategies for supporting the learning needs of those who assume care responsibilities

SOCIAL INCLUSION

An integrated monitoring and evaluation framework comprising indicators drawn from the Scottish Executive's 29 Milestone, the Social Inclusion Partnership Programme, the Dundee City Council Plan and the Dundee City Council Anti-Poverty Strategy, will be used to measure progress.

To promote Social Inclusion we will:

- a) Ensure that every child has reached the level of reading, writing and counting appropriate to their level of ability on leaving primary school.
- b) Reduce the number of children living in workless households from 26% to the national average over the life of the plan
- c) Reduce the number of 19 year olds not in full-time work, education or training to the national average over the life of the plan.
- d) Develop a youth inclusion strategy by December 2001.
- e) Engage every family in some form of learning to improve their skills and knowledge.
- f) Assess the extent to which every older person is part of a support/caring network by June 2002.
- g) Ensure that every Dundee citizen receives their appropriate entitlement to welfare benefits.
- h) Increase the number of people contributing to and benefiting from community life through voluntary work and community involvement.
- i) Produce and pilot five local neighbourhood plans by March 2006

SUSTAINABILITY

Key areas in the emerging Local Agenda 21 strategy will focus on the following action.

To promote sustainability we will:

- a) Implement environmental management systems in all Community Plan partner organisations and actively share information and experience
- b) Create a website on Dundee.com for sharing environmental information and guidance, contacts and experience, for community groups, businesses, and the general public, providing a basis for wide consultation
- c) Develop the effectiveness of existing Local Exchange Trading Scheme
- d) Introduce an effective consultation framework for the draft Dundee and Angus Structure Plan
- e) Produce a database of community organisations to consult on the built environment
- f) Establish a "Sustainable Construction Forum" including public/private/academic sectors to agree on design and good practice guidelines, and "Green Label" energy efficiency standards for housing and property development.
- g) Convene an annual event for individuals and organisations acting on the natural environment
- h) Pursue Blue Flag status for Broughty Ferry Beach.
- i) Establish a local transport forum to highlight the specific transport needs of different groups of citizens, including the disabled and elderly, and maximise public involvement in the implementation of Local Transport Strategy
- j) Increase public transport usage by at least 10% year-on-year
- k) Integrate bus and rail services and interchanges, with joint ticketing
- l) Double the length of designated cycle routes and level of cycling (1996 figures)
- m) Demonstrate business Green Commuter Scheme in operation
- n) Develop a Area Waste Strategy
- o) Implement the City's Home Energy Conservation Strategy for energy advice
- p) Create an effective public and business information initiative (including the website) to promote understanding of the costs of wasting resources, and ways of reducing this
- q) Establish waste exchange & recovery centres in at least 3 locations in Dundee

HEALTH AND CARE

Healthy Dundee and its partners will oversee progress in the following areas.

To promote Health and Care we will:

- a) Implement a Health Inequalities Strategy
- b) Reduce levels of conception in Under 16's by 50% to the national average
- c) Implement the Drug and Alcohol Action Team Corporate Action Plan recommendations
- d) Implement priority action proposals in Healthy Dundee Strategic Action Plan 1999-2004
- e) Co-ordinate the Health Improvement Fund in Dundee
- f) Increase the number of packages of care for treatment being delivered in primary care settings
- g) Implement Joint Care Group strategies

COMMUNITY SAFETY

The Dundee Community Safety Strategy 2000-2003 outlines the performance indicators which will identify whether we are succeeding or not. These give a clear picture of what we hope to achieve.

To promote Community Safety we will:

- a) Lower recorded levels of crime
- b) Lower levels of cost of criminal damage to Council property
- c) Lower levels of repeat offending amongst drug-misusing offenders
- d) Lower levels of youth offending and diversion referrals
- e) Reduce repeat intruder entries to target-hardened properties
- f) Improve levels of reporting incidents of a racial nature.
- g) Provide greater support to participants in support agency networks, e.g. Women's Aid, Child Protection Register, Victim Support.
- h) Reduce road accidents involving children under 12 years of age.
- i) reduce level of serious injuries/deaths caused by fire.