

# Community involvement

The West Leeds District Partnership has an important role to play on behalf of the Leeds Initiative to make sure that:

- we involve more of the local community more effectively, as an essential part of all partners' plans and activities; and
- there is better co-ordination between partners on community involvement in the district.

An important task for the partnership during 2005 to 2006 is to build a district-wide approach to community involvement and to make sure that any actions needed to continue that approach are included in future versions of this plan. This approach will help us to make sure that we meet standards of best practice and deliver real

outcomes for communities by strengthening the practice, co-ordination and effect of community involvement in west Leeds. A lot of good work is already being done in the district, and the partnership's approach will build on this.

The district partnership will develop a community involvement plan for 2006 to 2007 onwards to encourage more people to take part. We have already started work to involve local black and ethnic-minority communities in consultation in west Leeds and to support important religious and cultural events across the district. Work is also taking place to involve more young people and challenge prejudice between generations.



## Measuring progress

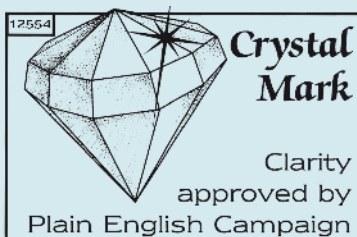
The district partnership will review the plan every three months and once a year. The reviews will identify any problems and new issues which need to be tackled as part of the action plan. The partnership will review the plan to check progress against each of the actions in the themes and to consider any evidence of the effect of the

actions against the needs of the district and any changes that are needed. The partnership has identified eight 'champions' to make sure that the priorities under each theme are carried out.

## Photographs

### Page

- 1 Construction of Armley Health Centre, which is being funded through the Local Improvement Finance Trust (LIFT) programme
- 2 Armley District Centre
- 3 Pudsey Leisure Centre
- 4 West Leeds Family Learning Centre, which offers a range of learning and training opportunities to unemployed residents in Armley, Bramley, Pudsey, Stanningley and Wortley (left)
- 4 Gardening in Calverley
- 5 Pudsey Market



**West Leeds**  
*making things happen*

### **West Leeds District Partnership**

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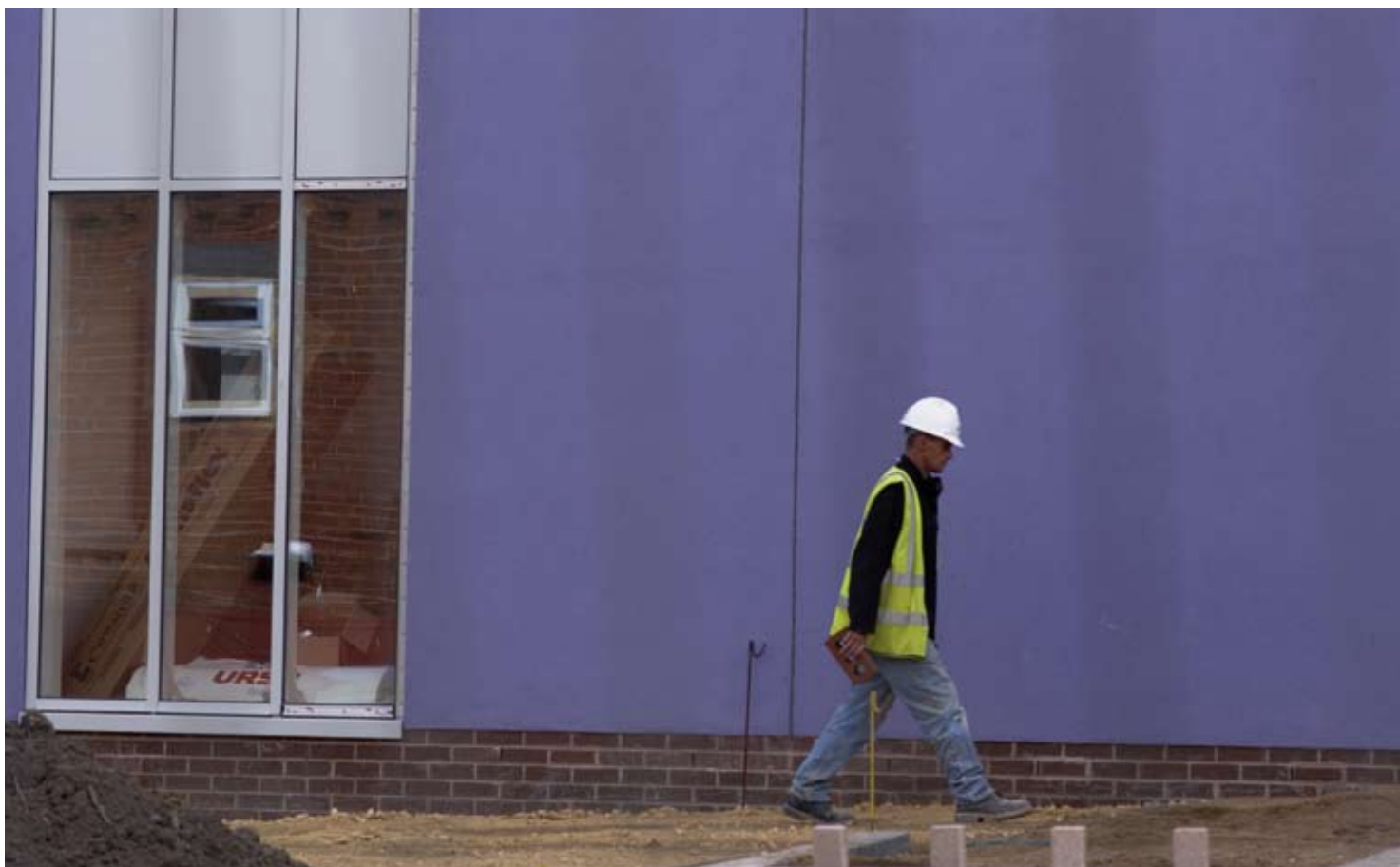
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### **the Leeds Initiative**

*Local partnerships making things happen*



# West Leeds District Partnership Action Plan 2005 to 2008

## Context

The west Leeds district lies between the city centres of Leeds and Bradford, stretching up to the boundary between the two cities. The Kirkstall Valley forms the eastern boundary of the district. The district includes the five wards of Armley, Bramley and Stanningley, in inner west Leeds, and Calverley and Farsley, Farnley and Wortley, and Pudsey in outer west Leeds. The population of the district is about 114,000 (2001 Census).

The West Leeds District Partnership was set up in 2004, and is made up of local businesses, the voluntary sector and public agencies. It has developed an ambitious and wide-ranging plan to help achieve the vision of making west Leeds a successful area for investment with opportunities for everyone.

## Priorities

The partnership has developed a small number of early priorities and actions for the district based on our assessment of the opportunities and challenges faced by the area after consulting the local community.

The priorities are to:

- regenerate priority neighbourhoods (Clydes and New Wortley, Wythers, Fairfield, Broadleas, Stonecliffe and Bawns, and Waterloo area) and the district centres of Armley, Bramley, Pudsey and Farsley;
- develop the Aire Valley and Leeds Liverpool Canal as a green link from the city centre through the district – called the West Leeds Country Park;
- improve educational achievement and opportunities in the district, including 'Building Schools for the Future', the 'Extended Schools model' and developing further education;
- improve access to primary health care, including developments funded by the NHS Local Improvement Finance Trust and older people's health needs;

- reduce crime and the fear of crime, and improve community safety through programmes such as Operation Apollo;
- make the most of the benefits of the district in its key position between Leeds and Bradford city centres, including developing closer links with Bradford; and
- attract more funding for regeneration and renewal to increase the previously low levels of investment.

## Actions

The West Leeds District Partnership will carry out the following actions to help achieve one of the main aims of the city's long-term plan for the future – Vision for Leeds 2004 to 2020 – to narrow the gap between the most disadvantaged people and communities and the rest of the city.





### Culture

We will:

- increase the use of underused facilities in our area such as the Pudsey civic conference venue and Armley Mills museum;
- develop a programme of community-based cultural events;
- develop an image and awareness programme promoting the attractions of west Leeds; and
- develop a programme to increase the number of local people taking part in sport.

### Enterprise and economy

We will:

- invest more money in market towns and village centres, including Armley, Bramley, Pudsey and Farsley;
- create more job opportunities from building programmes such as the 'Youthbuild' programme and Construction Leeds;
- promote the development of new and small businesses through better use of business support services; and
- improve neighbourhood outreach services to link local people to job opportunities.

### Environment

We will:

- set up the West Leeds Country Park, including Kirkstall Valley, Bramley Fall Woods, Rodley nature reserve, Calverley Woods, Round Woods, Upper Moor and Post Hill Country Park;
- increase the quality and use of green space in west Leeds;
- set up two new community action teams for west Leeds to improve the local environment, increasing numbers of recycling points and extending Groundwork's programmes; and
- celebrate the west district by entering gardens, buildings and other features for environmental awards.

### Harmonious communities

We will:

- carry out a programme with our partners to tackle 'crime and grime' hotspot areas (Operation Apollo) with six major programmes a year throughout the district;
- develop five neighbourhood-management pilot programmes in Fairfield, Wyther, New Wortley, Broadleas and the Bawns;
- carry out specific schemes to encourage young people to get involved and to develop programmes for health, play and family support; and
- hold a youth arts festival every year to highlight positive aspects of young people's work.

## Health and wellbeing

We will:

- put into practice the 'Choosing Health' programme, identifying priorities for action and developing the healthy schools programme;
- develop health programmes in our local communities, in Leeds Prison and in the private sector by promoting ways for families on low incomes to eat better food and reduce the amount of alcohol they drink;
- carry out the West Care Plus programme, offering a group of services for older people with complex needs; and
- invest in primary-care health services (for example, the Armley LIFT health centre) and tailor packages of care to specific needs.

## Learning

We will:

- put into practice a pilot programme for extended schools – where schools provide learning for the whole community – at selected primary and secondary schools in west Leeds;
- put into practice the Building Schools for the Future programme in all secondary schools in west Leeds, starting with Pudsey Grangefield;
- improve employment prospects for 14- to 16-year-olds through a new range of vocational programmes; and
- carry out an audit of good practice and facilities to support learning in west Leeds.

## Transport

We will:

- introduce new express bus services between Leeds and Bradford, through centres in west Leeds;
- invest more in street lighting and road maintenance;
- build a new bus station at Pudsey; and
- carry out a study to look at the future transport needs of the district.

## Thriving places

We will:

- start work on the first phase of the West Leeds Gateway Regeneration Area project which includes New Wortley, Armley, Heights, Gilpins, Aviaries, Whingate Junction, Upper Wortley, and Highfield Gardens;
- develop proposals for the second phase of the project targeted at other deprived neighbourhoods;
- develop a strategy for affordable housing in west Leeds; and
- develop a joint approach to involving the community in west Leeds and ways to work effectively with the black and ethnic-minority communities in Thornbury, Tyresall and Armley.

