

## Comprehensive Area Assessment Self Evaluation EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### 1. Hambleton LSP Self Evaluation – the content

- The Self Evaluation is a document, developed by the LSP which outlines it's response to the Comprehensive Area Assessment Framework.
- It firstly sets the scene for the Hambleton context and characteristics of the area – being one of the largest districts in England and having dispersed settlements in the five market towns (of Bedale, Easingwold, Northallerton, Stokesley and Thirsk) and 130 villages.
- It then defines the structure of the LSP with the Board, the Executive Group, the five Theme Groups of People, Places, Prosperous, Safe and Healthy and the five Area Groups.
- Hambleton LSP links with the North Yorkshire Strategic Partnership and the North Yorkshire Sustainable Community Strategy.
- The Self Evaluation is framed around three questions:
  - *Understanding local needs and translation into local priorities*
  - *The delivery of improvements and outcomes in the area*
  - *Gap analysis and planning for the future*

### 2. Addressing the three questions

#### Understanding local needs and translation into local priorities

- Each question has sub-sets within it and our Self Evaluation answers all of these.
- **Community Engagement** – the Board, the Executive Group and our Theme and Area Groups have representation for all partners including voluntary and community sector representatives. We also have specialist 'partnership sub groups' representing, for example, Children and Young People, Older People, Learning Disabilities and Physical and Sensory Impairment. Our Community Plans and Action Plans and our Parish Plans represent community views. We have worked hard in ensuring representation across our partnership and some of you may have been involved in the Action Learning sets previously carried out.
- **Improvement Priority** – *However, we have recognised that this is an area that we can improve on even further in terms of ensuring we have a strategic framework for community engagement for all partners to operate within and share and maximise the engagement opportunities.*
- **Community Engagement influencing decision making and service improvement** – robust consultation informed our Hambleton Community Plan, our five Area Community Plans and our Parish Plans through use of the Area Forums, questionnaires, exhibitions, newspaper articles, village tour workshops, surgeries in schools, libraries and in supermarkets etc.
- **Improvement Priority** – *We recognise that we could do better here as a partnership to feedback to our communities letting them know how their input has improved services. We also know we need to improve our web presence as an LSP and raise our profile so that people understand what we are all about and our successes that together, we have achieved.*
- **Our local intelligence** – as partners we do share intelligence. Some examples include our Public Health report, our North Yorkshire Children and Young People's Plan and Older People Strategy, our Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, consultation work in relation to the Local Development Framework and the Community Plan and also the County Council's Citizens Panel that we've all worked with. We have been developing a Hambleton Neighbourhood Profile which will strengthen the sharing of intelligence.

- **Improvement Priority** – *We recognise that we could do more to share our data systematically and join up our customer databases to help us make better decisions for our communities and our people.*
- **Community leadership** – District and County Councillors have a key role as community leaders. Councillors are involved in our Board, the Area Groups, the Area Forums, Parish Plan Steering Groups which provide the LSP with the two-way link between our partners and our communities. Also the Scrutiny functions of the County Council and the District Council provide a ‘challenge’ to our processes and have reviewed our engagement processes and some key strategies, including the Clinical Services Strategy.
- **Our Priority Setting and our North Yorkshire Local Area Agreement (NYLAA)** – the Hambleton LSP provides a great input into the NYLAA and we have used this information to agree our priorities for 2008/2012. We are helping to focus on our most disadvantaged groups including homelessness, alcohol misuse, migrant workers and those with obesity issues.
- **Diversity within our community** – we have good information about our communities e.g. our young, our older people, our minority ethnic communities, migrant workers. Our LSP structure is very inclusive.
- **Improvement Priority** – *However, we know we could do more by linking our diversity databases and having a shared Single Equality Scheme.*

### The delivery of improvements and outcomes in the area

- **Our Successes** – we have a vast range of successes that have delivered on the ground. We have a significant number that are currently in progress. We report on our successes through our Theme Groups – many of you will be members. In our Self Evaluation we have described our successes across 8 pages – we are very proud of them. Some key ones, relating to the priority areas that the IDeA Peer Group will assess include all the work our Development Officer has done, “Wheels to Work”, “Fit as a Fiddle” campaign, “engAGE”, Pilot for Older People’s Project, the new website “gimi”, Play Plan, “Life” Project, setting up of youth clubs, refurbishing community venues, delivering new affordable housing, single homeless accommodation scheme and many many more.
- **Our Performance Management Framework** – we have a framework in place for monitoring and managing our performance through our quarterly progress reports from the Theme Groups to the Executive Groups and then through the summaries to the Board. Our Community Link Officer supports the monitoring of the Area Plans. There is a framework in place for the LAA and the LSP produces an annual report.
- **Improvement Priority** – *However, we know this is also an area for improvement. We need to make sure that performance is reported regularly, and that we focus on outcomes and that our action planning is robust and resourced.*
- **Recognising our citizens needs** – we provide tailored services and tailored access, taking into account disadvantages and vulnerability. We have good success stories in relation to affordable housing, improving activities for younger and older people, providing extra care homes and providing support and prevention for e.g. domestic violence. We encourage cohesion and have more stories of success e.g. young people playing with Nintendo Wii’s with our older people, “team read”, our reminiscing projects, funding for a women’s refuge and our Broadacres Home Improvement Agency.
- **Our Operational Plans** – we encourage our partners to reflect the Hambleton Community Plan and LAA within their own plans – most of our partners do this. There is also a link with the PCT via the Hambleton and Richmondshire Practice Based Commissioning Group, but this is early days.
- **Improvement Priority** – *We are also conscious that a part of our improvement is to recognise the long term sustainability of our projects at the very start.*

### Gap analysis and planning for the future

- All the issues identified above are identified as our priorities for improvement. These run alongside our existing Theme Group and Area Group priorities as identified in their action plans.