



July 2002

Altogether a better Suffolk

This community strategy was developed between December 2001 and July 2002 through the various groups of the Suffolk Strategic Partnership (SSP) with continuous consultation with partners.

The strategy has in the main been approved by the partner organisations, although some are yet to have their Board/Committee meetings. This final version of the strategy will be the benchmark for what we have achieved as we review and monitor the work of the SSP for the 2003 conference. Comments are welcomed at any stage in the process as they will be continually rolled forward and used to shape next year's strategy.

Please send any comments to:

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Altogether a better Suffolk

Nine out of ten Suffolk residents are happy with their local area as a place to live; this is among the most positive findings ever recorded by MORI.*

One third of residents speak highly of Suffolk without being asked and in total 79% are positive about Suffolk.†

Suffolk is a nice place to live – a beautiful, picturesque rural county where people want to live, work and play. There are many good points to life in Suffolk. Compared to the rest of the country we have a very high quality of life, with people being very satisfied with their life here. Across the county we have a life expectancy as long as the England average and greater in most districts. Crime rates are a third lower than the England & Wales average, and unemployment is lower than the national average. Alongside the statistics, much good work is being done locally with many projects and partnerships delivering good services, improving Suffolk and developing community action. However none of us should rest on our laurels and we are looking at what we, and you, can do to improve this.

And...because of our rurality, issues of access to education, health services, and employment spring to mind. These all have an impact on our wealth and well-being. For example, many people need to have their own transport to be able to work, but link this with low wages, and often expensive childcare the option not to work may be the only one. Developing local public transport links and increasing employment opportunities were top priorities identified by research in 1999*. But connected to this was the need to protect shops and other facilities in villages, and develop facilities and opportunities for local young people.* As a member of a minority ethnic community in Suffolk, isolation may be a real concern. With the loss of community spirit over the years, for many reasons, so fear of crime has increased. The MORI survey showed that Suffolk residents were keen to make the local area a safer place to live*. Our environment plays a large part in our lives too; Suffolk provides a pleasant countryside landscape, that is rich in wildlife and in order to keep Suffolk like this pollution, building flooding and rubbish/waste must be carefully controlled. In the towns, most of the statistics show up concentrations of multiple issues.

This document sets out some of the key priorities for Suffolk, and how they are being tackled, as well as giving you an opportunity to be involved in shaping the future. The priorities have been selected from the many partner organisations main plans (copies of SSP Priorities are available – Jill Sharp, 01473 406715), because if we included all that is happening this would be a very thick document! Instead we signpost you to other documents, and especially the community strategy from your district local strategic partnership (the majority of these are yet to be produced as at May 2002), as this Suffolk document seeks to consider only strategic *countywide* issues. Other information is available from the State of Suffolk Profile 2002 www.suffolkobservatory.info and your local strategic partnership (see page 23).

* Source *Suffolk Speaks* MORI, base 3,030 Suffolk residents aged 16+, July-October 1999

† Source *Suffolk Speaks* MORI, base 1,406 Suffolk residents aged 16+, January-March 2002

“How can your quality of life be improved?”

Consultation with the public has been happening for many years by many different organisations. In 2001 *Suffolk Speaks* (MORI survey) asked Suffolk residents how would you ‘improve the quality of life?’ with the following results:

by reducing crime rates & the number of offenders who go on to commit more crimes (41%)	by helping older people to live as independently as possible (31%)	by protection of children who might be at risk of physical or mental abuse (29%)
by improving the health of everyone particularly those on low incomes (25%)	by reducing road congestion and increasing the use of public transport (23%)	by increasing the percentage of household waste recycled (21%)
by increasing the amount of housing which is built on previously developed land (20%)	by reducing the number of under-25s who use hard drugs (17%)	

Although we have to bear in mind that where you live and how old you are will have a different impact on the improvements you see as priorities.

In 2002 ‘*Suffolk Speaks*’ asked Suffolk residents ‘what 2 or 3 changes do you think would most improve your quality of life?’ with the results:

1. Better local transport
2. More visible policing
3. Improve street cleaning
4. Reduction in the amount of traffic
5. More leisure / entertainment facilities

The **Suffolk Strategic Partnership (SSP)** has begun with these key issues along with existing partners priorities, and this document explains what will be done over the coming years. It will be updated each year to better reflect the priorities that you, the people of Suffolk, have expressed.

The county and district councils have a power placed on them from central government to promote and improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of their communities, and also a duty to produce community strategies to help achieve this. We do not start from a blank sheet, as much work has been going on over the years. However, this community strategy is an indication that we will be doing things differently by working more closely together to make more effect on the ground. It also means that we have clearly stated what we think you want, and what we, as a partnership, are trying to do about it. We need to know if this is what you want – contact details are at the back if you would like to have your say.

Mapping progress over time

The State of Suffolk Profile 2002 (available from Jill Sharp 01473 406715/ 406711) provides a snap shot of Suffolk at the time it is produced, but as we are now on the second edition it is possible to start looking at trends, for example

- Unemployment has gone down in line with the rest of the country, but there are still some areas in Suffolk that have comparatively high unemployment
- The number of those eligible for free school meals has reduced year on year 1997-2001. This is a good indicator of those on low incomes
- Suffolk was one of the few police force areas (in England and Wales) to experience an increase in the number of offences April 2000-March 2001.
- The number of pupils attaining 5+ GCSE A*-C has continued a steady upward trend, 1997-2001.
- The teenage conception rate among girls aged under 18 has continued to increase (1992 – 1999)

Suffolk Speaks

The '*Suffolk Speaks*' (MORI surveys) are jointly funded by several organisations and have been carried out since 1999. This information is referred to many times in this strategy but these are only the top level results. There is much more detail available on different subjects and broken down to different levels and/or groups from www.suffolkcc.gov.uk/consultation/ or by contacting Claudia Costa, 01473 584304, claudia.costa@comms.suffolkcc.gov.uk

National and regional developments

The development of Local Strategic Partnerships and community strategies in Suffolk should also help to focus on making sure that the county and its communities are able to influence and shape the developing national and regional agenda. We have to be sure that our voice is being heard and that we are working together to ensure Suffolk's interests are accounted for. We need for example to:

- Access a greater share of government funds
- Ensure our economy develops faster than other counties in our region
- Continue to stress and develop Suffolk's Information Communication Technology (ICT) potential.

What kind of a place do we want Suffolk to be in 10 years time?

If we have a clear vision of the communities we want we will be better placed to deliver what is needed.

From the 2002 'Suffolk Speaks', people say that they want to live in a Suffolk in 2012 where there are :

Better road-rail links (21%)

More facilities for younger people (11%),

Better hospitals/NHS (13%)

Better policing (10%)

Priorities for the future include:

Reducing crime (70%)

Good quality health care (55%)

Encouraging people to recycle (40%)

Providing good quality schools (38%)

Protecting the environment (34%)

Providing affordable housing (30%)

Facilities for young people (30%)

Maintaining a healthy economy (28%)

Encouraging investment in jobs (21%)

Social/health care services – older people (18%)

Facilities for older people (18%)

Reducing poverty (18%)

You will see these priorities included throughout the strategy to guide the work. These are further supported by information collected from village appraisals (Community Action Plans). The key priorities across the county can be summarised into: facilities for young people and children, transport and traffic, village services and facilities, local housing needs, health issues, environmental improvements, crime and safety, and employment and training.

Contact Suffolk ACRE, 01473 242500.

Suffolk in 2012 – our vision

“to develop and maintain sustainable, healthy and thriving communities throughout Suffolk”

Questions for the future:

Will it (still) be green?

Will it (still) be safe?

Will it (still) be clean?

Can I (still) afford it?

We will need to do some more work on baselines for these so that we can monitor them over time.

[The Suffolk Speaks MORI polls are all 16+. In order to get the views and visions from young people Connexions Suffolk will be leading some partnership work on consultation and involvement.]

What can you do to help yourself and your community?

There is much that all residents of Suffolk can do to complement the work of these organisations and ensure their quality of life improves. For example:

- Join a LETS (Local Exchange Trading System) scheme or think about establishing one in your local area
- Make sure you are registered to vote and use it
- Take regular exercise
- Grow your own fruit and vegetables either in your garden or on an allotment
- Get involved in voluntary & community work – there are thousands of opportunities for you to be involved in voluntary and community work in Suffolk. Social, Health, Environmental, Young People, Old People, Governorship, Trusteeship, Magistracy - any skill or experience you have can be of value to the Community. There is a niche within the sector for all your aspirations and aptitude whether they be hands on, helpline or directing work. A September 2000 survey showed volunteers in Suffolk work equivalent to 7,000 full time workers at a value of at least £60 million per annum. One of the primary reasons for getting involved in voluntary work is helping your community but there are many other benefits for those who volunteer such as: social activity, 'giving your bit back', skills development, friendship, work experience, securing references, philanthropy, etc etc. If you want to get involved but don't know where to start – contact your local Volunteer Bureau/Centre (see Yellow Pages) or ring Suffolk Volunteering Federation on 01473 273273.

<p>Partnership target 1 Increase the level of volunteering participation by 5% by 2005.</p>	<p>Baseline SVF to baseline in its first year of operation 2002-3</p>	<p>Contact: Jonathan Moore, 01473 273273 Jonathan.moore@savo.co.u k Delivery: Suffolk Volunteering Federation (SVF)</p>
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- Make a composter or buy one at a subsidised rate by phoning 0345 660699
- Stop smoking
- Watch what you eat - buy food which is locally grown as it helps to support the Suffolk economy
- Develop good parenting skills

- Employers/employees – wherever you work there are many opportunities for getting businesses involved in local communities. Many local businesses already offer sponsorship and some, like BT already have mentoring programmes into schools and the local community. You could volunteer and/or encourage you employer to offer staff time, skills, expertise, possibly a location for community group meetings. If you would like advice as to how to get started then please contact Suffolk CONNECT – a charity which links businesses and communities on 01284 766488
- Use your car less – car share, use public transport, cycle, walk
- Support friends
- Cover up in the sun
- Recycle as many things as you can – e.g. metal, paper, cardboard, glass, clothes, electrical appliances, garden waste, car batteries, printer toner cartridges, engine oil, and buy recycled products.
- Cancel junk-mail by contacting the Mailing Preference Service (MPS) at Freepost 22, London W1E 7EZ or by phoning them on 0207 766 4410
- Create a pond in your garden – but make sure that it does not endanger young children
- Use water wisely – e.g. take showers rather than baths, only fill the kettle for just what you need, install a water butt for garden use, choose low-water lavatories or fit water-saving devices to cisterns, repair dripping taps and overflowing tanks or cisterns, and wash your car using a bucket of water rather than a hosepipe
- Save yourself money by - turning down your heating (1^oC can reduces energy consumption by 10%) & buying energy-efficient appliances and/or take advantage of the variety of Home Insulation Schemes that District/Borough Councils offer
- Standing for parish, town, district, county councils – as an elected member you would be able to make representative decisions for your local area. If you would like to know more about the job of a councillor you can contact Suffolk Association of Local Councils (SALC) on 01473 833713.

What are we going to do?

Considering all the issues across the county and how they affect us is very complex. No-one pretends to understand it all, but we need to make the links clearer if we are to have an impact on them. Over the next few pages we have grouped them by 'life stages'.

In your early years:

The start that you have in life, even as early as in the womb, can have a significant impact on your health and well being later on in life. Helping to inspire and reach our aspirations are what we should all be seeking to do right from the start. However if, for example, you go to school hungry you will be less able to concentrate and participate. This, of course, isn't the situation across the whole county but it is in certain areas, and it is these inequalities that we need to address. Suffolk residents support this objective with a high percentage supporting work to reduce health inequalities. Free school meals are used as a measure of child poverty, and Lowestoft had the highest figure with 16.2% of children receiving them. For more information, see Annual Report of the Director of Public Health, 2001, www.suffolkhealth.nhs.uk/reports

Partnership target 2 Provide nursery education for all 3 year olds by Sept 2004.	Baseline: Summer Term 2001 31% Expected participation level 2002-3 62%	Contact: Viki Muller 01473 581498 viki.muller@educ.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk County Council & advice from Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership
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In your youth:

Need to improve facilities for young people

'Suffolk Speaks' MORI Survey 1999, showed many people were critical of a lack of facilities for young people. This emerged as the most important priority for improving the quality of life of local residents, with 35% giving this as a top priority. Facilities for young people are of particular concern to: young people themselves (47%), those with children in the household (43%) and rural dwellers (39%). The 2002 'Suffolk Speaks' listed 'good facilities for young' the most likely to improve over the next 10 years, but for this to be realised action needs to happen, much of which will happen locally through the Local Strategic Partnerships who are best placed to know what is required. However as a priority for many organisations it will also be considered by the Suffolk Strategic Partnership as to what needs to be done at a county level, including consideration of dual use leisure facilities.

<p>Partnership target 3 Develop an action plan to improve by 10% good facilities for young people by 2012</p>	<p>Baseline: 17% Suffolk Speaks 2002 ("my part of Suffolk is an area with good facilities for young people")</p>	<p>Contact: To be determined. Interim contact: Jill Sharp 01473 406715 jill.sharp@sda.suffolk.org.uk Delivery: SSP & LSPs</p>
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Need to combat drug and alcohol misuse

In Suffolk, as nationally, the numbers of new drug users presenting themselves for treatment has increased (by 35% from 1997/98 to 1998/99). There is also a worrying upward trend in under age drinking. Statistics available from the Suffolk Community Arrest Referral Service show that, in 1999, 69% of detainees had a drug and/or alcohol misuse problem. As with many of these issues they are linked. Although reducing the number of under-25s who use hard drugs came 8th in the 2001 *Suffolk Speaks*, reducing crime rates came top and consistently comes high up any survey in the county. Tackling drugs would have a real impact on the level of crime in the county.

<p>Partnership target 4 Tackling Drugs in Suffolk by 2005 by : increasing the number of young people at Tier 2 and or/Tier 3 by 75% i.e. to 145 who, assessed as having problematic substance misuse, access appropriate interventions or care packages. <i>(Tier 1-4 relate to range of services from general to very specialised required by very few young people)</i></p>	<p>Baseline (2000/1) 83 young people currently access these programmes</p>	<p>Contact: Carey Godfrey 01473 584592 carey.godfrey@csu.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk Public Service Agreement Consortium</p>
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Improving pupil attainment

Suffolk Speaks 2002 suggests that you believe we already have good schools and that you expect that to continue, as the 4th most important priority for the future. Despite generally good GCSE and Key Stage 2 results there is still room for improvement in helping children from disadvantaged backgrounds to greater educational achievement. There is extensive research to show links between poverty and educational achievement. In Suffolk, as nationally, wards with higher deprivation (primarily Ipswich and Lowestoft) show lower levels of educational achievement in terms of results at Key Stage 2, percentage of 17 year olds staying on in full time education and access to university.

<p>Partnership target 5 Raise achievement at Key Stage 4 (GCSE) by improving the proportion of pupils gaining five or more GCSEs at grades A*-C to 60% by 2005</p>	<p>Baseline: 54.3% 2001</p>	<p>Contact: Roger Loose 01449, 584758 roger.loose@educ.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk County Council</p>
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Parenthood:

Need to increase access to affordable childcare across the county

Being a largely rural county makes access to all services more difficult. A combination of this with many low wage jobs in the county makes the need for affordable childcare even more important. Average male gross weekly wages in 2000 was 88.7% of the GB figure at £401.90 and for women, 87.8% or £286.40. (New Earnings Survey 2000). Maintaining a healthy economy and encouraging investment in jobs, were the 8th and 9th priorities (respectively) in the 2002 *Suffolk Speaks*, and will need to be supported by actions to increase access to affordable childcare.

<p>Partnership target 6 by March 2004 :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ To create over 6800 new childcare places, 11500 total childcare places (net of openings and closures) ▪ A childcare place in the most disadvantaged areas for every lone parent entering employment. ▪ To close the childcare gap between disadvantaged areas and others by 580 new childcare places (400 net of closures) (for this purpose 'disadvantaged areas' are those 13 Suffolk wards in the 20% most disadvantaged wards in England) 	<p>Baseline (2001):</p> <p>7800 total childcare places at March 2001 <i>Surveys currently being carried out</i></p> <p>1000 childcare places in disadvantaged areas</p>	<p>Contact: Mark Parker 01473 581498 Mark.parker@educ.suffolk.gov.uk Delivery: SCC & advice from Early Years Development and Childcare Partnership New deal for lone parents via Jobcentre Plus</p>
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Leisure:

How you spend your leisure time has a major effect on your health, wealth and overall quality of life. So by improving the options, availability, accessibility and desirability of leisure opportunities will have positive impacts on the rest of your life. Entertainments such as cinemas and nightclubs, are focused in the towns, with resulting issues of access for those who live in rural communities (as stated elsewhere in the strategy). Good leisure, nightlife and good for tourists came 4th, 6th and 10th in the 2002 *Suffolk Speaks* as areas that are likely to improve in the next 10 years.

<p>Partnership target 7 Suffolk to get at least the same lottery money as the rest of England, on average, by the date of the lottery review – 2009 <i>(National Lottery Funding includes Arts, Charities, Heritage, Millennium and New Opportunities Fund – Health, Education & Environment)</i></p> <p>Increase the numbers of people who take part in cultural activities Increase in how satisfied residents are with cultural and recreational activities</p>	<p>Baseline: £83.62 per head of population across Suffolk (2000)</p> <p>Being developed Being developed (through <i>Suffolk Speaks</i>)</p>	<p>Contact: Alex Hayward 01473 584568 alex.hayward@libher.suffolk.gov.uk Delivery : Cultural Strategy for Suffolk Cultural Officer Group for Suffolk</p>
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<p>Partnership target 8 Increase the value of tourism spend</p>	<p>Baseline: Suffolk Development Agency Tourism Performance Indicators (being developed)</p>	<p>Contact: Giles Goyder 01473 584349 giles.goyder@ecdev.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk Tourism Partnership (SDA)</p>
<p>Partnership target 9 Area of Local Nature Reserve (LNR) per 1,000 population (ha). English Nature set the target of 1ha of LNR should be available for every 1,000 of the population.[Suffolk has 19 LNRs in total].</p>	<p>Baseline: 2355 pop/ha</p>	<p>Contact: Peter Holborn 01473 583180 peter.holborn@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: County and district councils</p>
<p>Partnership target 10 To improve access to public rights of Way Network</p> <p>- % of public Rights of Way that are easy to follow: 2002/03: 65% 2005/06: 70%</p>	<p>Baseline: (2001)</p> <p>48%</p>	<p>Contact: Brian Newton 01473 583187 Brian.newton@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: County and district councils.</p>

Shopping:

As a largely rural county, where you shop has a large impact on your local community. Many local village shops have closed in recent years due to lack of support, and competition from major chains. Yet, for those who are unable to access major superstores, the local village shop is a lifeline, and many have diversified in order to survive and now offer, for example, post office, library and internet services. Second in the top five priorities for improving quality of life for Suffolk residents from *Suffolk Speaks* 1999 was 'protecting shops and other facilities in villages'. Other facilities may include garages, post offices, doctors and schools which are also important services for rural areas.

<p>Partnership target 11 To arrest decline of essential local services in rural areas.</p>	<p>Baseline 2000: 2km walk to a rural post office for 6.5% households in England 78% rural settlements haven't a general store 72% don't have a village store (Suffolk figures not yet available).</p>	<p>Contact: Charles Taylor 01473 584348 charles.taylor@ecdev.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery : Suffolk Village Shop Partnership / Countryside Agency</p>
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To increase accessibility to urban shops and so boosting the local economy, and to reduce congestion and pollution in urban centres, Park and Ride services have been developed in recent years around Ipswich. The take up of these services for shopping and work has led to further sites being considered.

<p>Partnership target 12 Martlesham Park & Ride – open summer 2003</p>	<p>Baseline: No service currently available</p>	<p>Contact: Simon Curl 01473 583031 simon.curl@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery : Suffolk County Council</p>
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Working life:

People spend a huge proportion of their lives in paid or voluntary work. There are many areas set out below where this time can be enhanced with more money, choice and challenge. Good training/education for adults and good further and higher education came 5th and 7th in the list of improvements more likely to be happening in 10 years time (*Suffolk Speaks* 2002). This is also backed up by maintaining a healthy economy and encouraging investment in jobs that were the 8th and 9th priorities for the future from the same survey.

<p>Partnership target 13 To have a New Technology Institute (NTI) in Suffolk, to fill skills shortage in NVQ levels 3&4 in ICT (Information, Communication, Technology) and related fields and support knowledge transfer from the Further and Higher Education sectors into small and medium enterprises. Subject to final contract the NTI bid has been successful, and should be established in Oct 2002. . Within 18-24 months to have a new building either on the existing Suffolk College campus or on the Ipswich Waterfront.</p>	<p>Baseline: No NTI in Suffolk 2001</p>	<p>Contact: Peter Funnell 01473 255885 pfunnell@lstucs.demon.co.uk Delivery: Lead partner - Suffolk College</p>
<p>Partnership target 14 Generate a 50% increase in inward investment and business growth enquiries</p>	<p>Baseline Cluster Research to be completed by April 2003 to give baselines</p>	<p>Contact: John Williams 01473 406710 jane.self@sda.suffolk.org.uk Delivery: Suffolk Development Agency</p>

Need to improve average earnings

Suffolk is a low wage economy in comparison to regional and national averages, with a relatively high dependency on agriculture/related industries and other industries with low average earnings.

Partnership target 15 Suffolk average earnings to be raised to regional average by 2010. (Suffolk Development Agency's Strategy)	Baseline (1999): Suffolk £8.29 per hour; East of England £9.81 per hour	Contact: John Williams 01473 406710 jane.self@sda.suffolk.org.uk Delivery: Suffolk Development Agency
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Need to address unemployment in particular areas of the County

Unemployment has continued to fall and is now at its lowest level since 1991, with unemployment (claimant count) at 2.3% (Sept 2001) in Suffolk. However there are significant pockets of high unemployment, disaffection and social exclusion. For example, at 11.4% (Sept 2001), unemployment in Harbour ward in Lowestoft. Rural poverty and deprivation is also recognised as a major issue.

Partnership target 16 Increase welfare to work job entry levels and job retention rates for claimants in the target wards within Ipswich and Lowestoft <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 7517 job entries• 6154 sustained jobs	Baseline: 2224 job entries (est. 1/4/01- 31/3/02) 75% job retention rate	Contact: John Williams, 01473 584345 John.williams@econdev.suffolk.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, Waveney District Council, NHS in Suffolk, Suffolk Police, Jobcentre Plus
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In your later years:

Need to support older and vulnerable people

An Ageing Population: The number of people over pensionable age in the UK is projected to increase from 10.7 million in 1998 to 11.9 million in 2011. In 1998 a man of 60 could expect to live for another 19 years and a woman of the same age for 22.6 years. In 1996, in England and Wales, 5,523 people were aged 100 and over. In 2036 it is estimated that there will be 39,000 people in this age group, and, by 2066, 95,000. Source; Age Concern.

As a desirable retirement destination, Suffolk has 15,200 (or 22.4%) over 85 years old (ONS 2000 estimate). We need to be supporting them to continue to be active within their communities where they wish it and to provide more support where appropriate. Facilities for older people was the 11th most important issue for the future in the 2002 *Suffolk Speaks*.

<p>Partnership target 17 by 2005</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing the number of older people waiting in hospital to go home, or to be transferred to a residential or nursing home <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 25 delayed transfers - 85 delayed transfers <p>to help older people live as independently as possible by</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing the number of older people helped to live at home to 85 per 1,000 people • 600 older people per year assisted through Hospital Prevention Admission Schemes 	<p>Baseline (2001):</p> <p>53 people (acute beds) 130 (community beds)</p> <p>44 per 1,000 people</p> <p>108 people a year</p>	<p>Contact: Deborah Robinson, 01394 383789 Deborah.robinson@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk Delivery: county and district councils and NHS in Suffolk</p>
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For everyone:

Need to address perceived lack of police presence/visibility and consequent decline in public reassurance. The fear of crime in Suffolk is disproportionate to the amount of crime recorded within the county. In 1999, Suffolk had a crime rate of 59 offences per 1000 population in comparison to the average for England of 99.8. The Citizens' Panel baseline survey showed that 83% feared being the victim of crime, but only 26% had been a victim over the last 12 months. A Citizens' Panel survey in January 2001 revealed that residents want to see more Police patrols – on foot (71%) and in cars (46%). 61% of respondents to Panel Research in June 2001 were not at all/not very confident at Suffolk Police's ability to maintain a visible presence on the streets.

This need for reassurance has been identified in Suffolk Constabulary's own research (interactive voting at 16 local policing forums) and has such has been made the top priority of the Police. The government has responded by increasing funding in patrols. Their aim is to have a named officer for 'every recognisable community'. On top of this, the Authority plans to recruit an extra 100 police officers over the next 3 years.

<p>Partnership target 18 Suffolk First: to make Suffolk the safest county in England and Wales within 5 years (2006)</p>	<p>Baseline: 2000/1- 5th safest county</p>	<p>Contact: Paul Scott-Lee 01473 613500 gill.richer@suffolk.police.uk Delivery: Suffolk Police</p>
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<p>Partnership target 19 To improve public perceptions of safety and reassurance so that: 46% of people feeling 'very safe' in Suffolk by 2005, based on the results from the Suffolk Speaks MORI survey</p>	<p>Baseline 34% (2002)</p>	<p>Steve Jackson 01473 613511 steve.jackson@suffolk.police.uk Delivery: county and district councils and Suffolk Police</p>
<p>Partnership target 20 Reduce the rate of re-offending by young people by 7% against predicted rates by 2005.</p>	<p>Baseline: 40%, 288 re-offenders (Oct- Dec 2000)</p>	<p>Head of Service, Youth Offending Service, 01473 583389 info@yots.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk PSA Consortium</p>

Education and training for all

Suffolk falls behind the regional and national levels of attainment at NVQ 3 & 4 (2001). Many of the Suffolk graduates do not return to the county, but stay in their university town or find work elsewhere. Without a university in Suffolk, this swap of graduates is not reciprocated and it is mainly the presence of large employers, such as BT, which draw graduates to Suffolk. Alongside this the basic skills of the county is currently being quantified by research commissioned by the Suffolk LSC. A lack of basic skills will have a direct effect to the job you can get, which has a knock on effect to your health, access to services, and housing. Good training/education for adults was felt to be 5th most likely to apply in 10 years time (*Suffolk Speaks* 2002).

<p>Partnership target 21 Supporting Adult Learners Week (Spring 2003) through more events & the involvement of more organisations</p>	<p>Baseline: Number of organisations/events that took place 2001.</p>	<p>Contact: Ruth Juby 01473 281991 ruth.juby@btinternet.com Delivery: Suffolk Learning Partnership</p>
<p>Partnership target 22 To have a University for Suffolk</p>	<p>Baseline: No University in Suffolk</p>	<p>Contact: Peter Funnell 01473 255885 pfunnell@lstucs.demon.co.uk Delivery: Project for a University for Suffolk Company</p>

<p>Partnership target 23 by 2004:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Raise the literacy and numeracy of 10,000 adults ▪ Increase the number of adults with an NVQ level 3 or equivalent by 25,839 	<p>Baseline: <i>Research currently underway</i> 121,000 (2000)</p>	<p>Contact: Graham Fretwell 01473 883020 graham.fretwell@lsc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk Learning & Skills Council Jobcentre Plus (with Basic Skills county group for adult learning)</p>
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Need to combat health inequalities

Although there is a need to improve the health of everyone, the main variations in health closely reflect the patterns of poverty and income inequality across the county. In his 1999 Annual Report, Suffolk's Director of Public Health noted that there was more than a threefold variation in overall death rates at ward level, with wards in some of the most deprived parts of the county (Town and Bridge wards in Ipswich and Kirkley and Harbour wards in Lowestoft) having rates 65% to 85% higher than the county average.

These inequalities are also reflected in other aspects of health. Teenage pregnancy, for example, whilst being less common in Suffolk than in the country as a whole, is much more common in the more socio-economically deprived parts of our county. Pregnancy rates in central Ipswich and Lowestoft are over twice those found in the rest of the county.

<p>Partnership target 24 Reducing the teenage conception rate to 26.2 per 1000 girls aged 15-17 by 2005.</p>	<p>Baseline (1998): 37.4 conceptions per 1000 girls aged 15-17 years</p>	<p>Interim Contact : Terry Ward 01473 329544 terry.ward@ipswich-pcg.nhs.uk Delivery: county and district councils and NHS in Suffolk</p>
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In order to make significant reductions in ill health it is necessary to address the underlying socio-economic causes which we consider elsewhere in the strategy and in the Local Strategic Partnerships. But as the recent BBC day (February 2002) on the NHS showed there are also priorities around the quality, quantity and delivery of the health services. Good quality health services was the 2nd most important priority for the future (*Suffolk Speaks 2002*).

<p>Partnership target 25 Reduce waiting times, and the numbers of people waiting for appointments and treatment at hospital</p> <p>Reduce waiting times in Accident and Emergency departments</p> <p>Maintain improvements in ambulance response times / % of 999 callers satisfied with the police response to 999 calls</p>	<p>Baseline: <i>To be agreed as PCTs are established April 2002</i></p>	<p>Interim Contact: Terry Ward 01473 329544 terry.ward@ipswich-pcg.nhs.uk</p> <p>Delivery: NHS in Suffolk & Police.</p>
<p>Partnership target 26 Support more people to stop smoking –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2002-03 to achieve 900 successful 4 week quitters, part of the national target to reduce adult smoking from 28% to 24% or less by 2010 with a fall to 26% by 2005. • to reduce the number of pregnant women smoking during pregnancy to 18% by 2005 and 15% by 2010. • to reduce smoking among children from 13% to 9% or less by 2010 with a fall to 11% by 2005. 	<p>Baseline:</p> <p>National average of 27% (no Suffolk figures).</p> <p>Suffolk prevalence is 23% which is national average. No Suffolk figures.</p>	<p>Contact: Hilary Andrews 01473 704314 hilary.andrews@ipsh-tr.anglox.nhs.uk Delivery: NHS in Suffolk</p>

Need to reduce road casualties

In 20001 there were 3248 road casualties and 53 deaths on Suffolk's roads. In 2000 in Suffolk the number of accidents per 1000 licensed vehicles was 5.9 compared to the Great Britain average of 8.2. Excessive speed is a major contributing factor in about one-third of all road accidents. 58% of residents surveyed in the 'Travel Diaries' (1999-2000) research considered speeding in residential areas to be a problem or severe problem.

<p>Partnership target 27 Reduce the number of people killed or seriously injured in road accidents to 380 by 2003 and 354 by the end of 2004.</p>	<p>Baseline (2000) 525 killed and seriously injured</p>	<p>Contact: David Chenery 01473 583193 david.chenery@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk County Council, Ipswich Borough Council, St Edmundsbury Borough Council, Waveney District Council and Suffolk Police</p>
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Need to improve public transport accessibility (especially in rural areas) and encourage people to use sustainable transport methods – public transport, cycling, walking etc

<p>Partnership target 28 Delivering an integrated transport policy for Suffolk</p>	<p>Baseline:</p>	<p>Contact: Peter Grimm 01473 583278 peter.grimm@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: county and district councils</p>
<p>Partnership target 29 Improving cross country rail services from Ipswich</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hourly service and new rolling stock to Cambridge, 2003. • Improved service Ipswich – Lowestoft 	<p>Baseline (2001): currently 2 hourly</p>	<p>Contact: Laurence Collins 01473 433001 laurence.collins@ipswich.gov.uk Delivery: East/West Rail consortium/Anglia Railways</p>
<p>Partnership target 30 Developing public transport service levels for rural areas above minimum service levels (MSLs)</p>	<p>Baseline: 92% June 2001</p>	<p>Contact: Ian Gray 01473 583339 ian.gray@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: county and district councils</p>

The 'Suffolk Speaks' MORI survey (Jan-Mar 2002) asked 'which have you travelled by in the last week or so to get around the area (journeys over one mile). 92% had gone by car, 64% walked, 21% by bus, 19% by bicycle, 13% by taxi, 8% by train, and 2% by motorbike.

Residents are unhappy about public transport in Suffolk. In the 1999 'Suffolk Speaks' MORI Baseline survey, respondents were asked what they felt the bad things about their area to be. The most common response was poor public transport (16%). This was mentioned most often by rural residents (26%). 30% of respondents felt that 'developing public transport links' was an important priority for improving quality of life. This increased to 40% of rural dwellers.

Many people in rural areas have difficulty in getting to facilities such as shops, doctors and leisure facilities, due to their declining numbers in rural locations. This is exacerbated by infrequent, poorly timed or unreliable rural bus services. During the last decade, the number of rural parishes in Suffolk not having a daily bus service has increased from 76%-80%. In these parts of Suffolk almost 1/5th of households do not own a car.

<p>Partnership target 31 Increasing the use of Public Transport in Suffolk to: 19m single passenger journeys on all local bus services 1.1m single passenger journeys on subsidised local bus services 20,000 single passenger journeys in two pilot areas</p>	<p>Baseline single passenger journeys: 17.8m p.a. (2000/01 figs.) 1.04m pa (2001/02 est.) zero – pilots not yet set up</p>	<p>Contact: Ian Gray 01473 583339 ian.gray@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: county and district councils</p>
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Need to reduce waste and increase percentage of household waste recycled

In Suffolk over the last four years, the quantity of household rubbish has increased by over 50,000 tonnes. Currently each household produces around one tonne per year, which is equivalent to 100 black bin bags. Most household waste goes into landfill sites and is buried. These sites are becoming increasingly difficult to find and the cost of disposal is increasing. Residents are also keen to see more waste recycled – *Suffolk Speaks* 2002 had 'encouraging people to recycle' as the 3rd most important priority for the future. Results from many village appraisals (Community Action Plans) show that many people are willing to separate their waste for recycling.

<p>Partnership target 32 To enable 35% of household waste to be recycled or composted by 2004/5.</p>	<p>Baseline: 16.5% (2000/1):</p>	<p>Contact: Nigel Badcock 01284 757300 nigel.badcock@stedsbc.gov.uk Delivery: county and district councils</p>
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Need to protect and enhance the Suffolk's environment

People are positive about living in Suffolk (MORI poll 1999) and a major part of that is the built and natural environment that we live in. No form of life, however big or small, lives in isolation from other living things. Each contributes to the balance of nature and the survival of life on this planet. We need to ensure that we protect and enhance our environment so that it is there to enjoy now and in the future. Many different mechanisms are in place to protect and enhance Suffolk's environment and promote sustainable development including the County Structure Plan and district local plans, Suffolk's Biodiversity Action Plan and Local Agenda 21 Strategies and Plans. These plans aim to protect and manage the best sites, replace some of the habitat already lost, and enrich the wildlife in the wider countryside; protect and improve the natural resources – air, soil and water. Protecting the environment was the 5th most important priority for the future (*Suffolk Speaks* 2002).

<p>Partnership target 33 Alternative energy centre at Lowestoft</p>	<p>Baseline: None at present</p>	<p>Contact: Fei-ni Toole 01223 713900 feinitoole@eeda.org.uk Delivery: EEDA (lead partner)</p>															
<p>Partnership target 34 50% of new housing development should be built on previously developed land and through the conversion of buildings (source: RPG 6, policy 5), national target is for 60% by 2008</p>	<p>Baseline: 46% (2000/1)</p>	<p>Contact: Jennifer Burns 01473 583154, jennifer.burns@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: County and district councils</p>															
<p>Partnership target 35 Biodiversity - Extra Habitat Created</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Lowland Heathland</td> <td>1320 ha by 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acid Grassland</td> <td>250 ha by 2005</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Reedbeds</td> <td>800 ha by 2003</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Broad-leaved Woodland</td> <td>317 ha by 2010</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ponds</td> <td>200 ponds per annum</td> </tr> </table> <p><i>(These are examples of specific habitat creation for the county, not the full list)</i></p>	Lowland Heathland	1320 ha by 2003	Acid Grassland	250 ha by 2005	Reedbeds	800 ha by 2003	Broad-leaved Woodland	317 ha by 2010	Ponds	200 ponds per annum	<p>Baseline (1996)</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>3184 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>822 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>550 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>12675 ha</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22635 ponds</td> </tr> </table>	3184 ha	822 ha	550 ha	12675 ha	22635 ponds	<p>Contact: Peter Holborn 01473 583180 peter.holborn@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Biodiversity Action Plan partners including national and local organisations and councils</p>
Lowland Heathland	1320 ha by 2003																
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<p>Partnership target 36 Continuously improve length of freshwater river courses classified by biological quality</p>	<p>Baseline 1996 Water Quality: Good 210.4 km 25% Fair 412.8km 49% Poor 125.4 km 15% Bad 96.2 km 11%</p>	<p>Contact: Jenni Hodgson 01473 706724 Jenni.hodgson@environment-agency.gov.uk Delivery: Environment Agency</p>
<p>Partnership target 37 To improve air quality, thus reducing the number of dwellings located in air quality management areas in Suffolk.</p>	<p>Baseline: 2001 53 dwellings in 8 air quality management areas</p>	<p>Contact Penny Moys: 01473 583255 Penny.moys@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: County and district councils</p>
<p>Partnership target 38 60% of all objectives and actions within the sample cross section (5 habitats and 4 species) of the Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plan to be met by 2003</p>	<p>Baseline – 0% as at: Lowland heath, Reedbeds, Ponds 1998 Acid grassland 2000 Broadleaved woodland (to be published 2002)</p> <p>Pipistrelle bat, Stag beetle, Great crested newt 1998 Barn owl 2000</p>	<p>Contact: Peter Holborn 01473 583180 peter.holborn@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk Delivery: Biodiversity Action Plan partners including national and local organisations and councils</p>

Need for affordable housing

Providing affordable housing was given 6th priority for the future in the 2002 *Suffolk Speaks*. This can include starter homes for rent or shared ownership so that local people can remain in their communities. The problem is likely to increase as house prices in Suffolk continue to rise at a faster rate than earnings. Every 3 years, each district or borough council assess affordable housing in their area. The local council would use their housing needs survey to inform the type of housing needed.

We have not specifically included a target for affordable housing as no county target is set. In 2000, 5 (out of 7) districts conducted a joint housing needs survey, so that it is possible to make some comparisons across the county. These surveys indicate that there is a growing need for more accommodation to rent at affordable levels. We would certainly not rule out any co-ordination across the county, but the local LSPs (see page 25) will no doubt be considering the need for affordable housing in their area.

Getting our own house in order

Need to work together for your benefit

<p>Partnership target 39 Suffolk Compact on relations between the Statutory and Voluntary & Community Sectors – developing codes of practice</p>	<p>Baseline: Compact signed 2001</p>	<p>Contact: Ruth Fitzgerald 01473 273273 savodocks@yahoo.co.cuk Delivery: Suffolk Compact signatories</p>
<p>Partnership target 40 Parish Charters – helping town & parish councils to attain Quality Status</p>	<p>Baseline:</p>	<p>Contact: Mary Mitson-Woods 01473 833713 salc.suffolk@lineone.net Delivery: Suffolk Association of Local Councils (lead)</p>
<p>Partnership target 41 Striving to improve equal access to county public services and equal opportunities in employment within public authorities through frameworks such as the Equality Standard and Race Equality Schemes</p>	<p>Baseline: Varies for different organisations as dictated by central government.</p>	<p>Contact: Andy Yacoub 01473 584689 andy.yacoub@educ.suffolkc.c.gov.uk Delivery: Suffolk Joint Diversity Working Group</p>

Young people don't usually have a voice in planning and decision making. To many it seems irrelevant, remote, and boring. Yet they will be the young adults and new voters in the next few years.

<p>Partnership target 42 At a county level – map current young people's involvement & expand, work with adults to improve the way they work with young people.</p>	<p>Baseline Not available</p>	<p>Contact: Bernadine King, 01473 584620 bernadine.king@connexions.suffolk.org.uk Delivery: Connexions Suffolk</p>
<p>Partnership target 43 Reduce numbers of Partnerships, and increase efficiency through LSPs.</p>	<p>Baseline: 180 identified Suffolk partnerships</p>	<p>Contact: Jill Sharp 01473 406715/406711 jill.sharp@sda.suffolk.org.uk Delivery: SSP</p>

For the future:

Our action plan - Projects that the Suffolk Strategic Partnership (SSP) will deliver:

	Milestones	Contact
▪ Citizens Panel/ consultation co-ordination (existing ad-hoc group – Suffolk Speaks)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ May 2002 Pilot in Ipswich for 18 months to improve consultation with minority ethnic communities▪ Summer 2002 refresh Citizens panel▪ Baseline survey June – Sept 2002 to compare with Baseline survey in 1999.	Rachel Stopard (01473) 584039 rachel.stopard@comms.suffolkcc.gov.uk
▪ Suffolk Community Development Consortium (existing group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Produce a Community Development and Learning Strategy 2002 - 2007▪ Establish a central point of contact for community development▪ Hold a Community Development event in December 2002▪ Devise a training programme for managers, funders and elected members	Wil Gibson (01473) 242500 wil.gibson@care4free.net
▪ Suffolk Accessible Government Partnership (existing group)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bid submitted Jan '02 for £4.5m▪ Pathfinder project – Babergh DC, Ipswich BC & Suffolk CC, 3 year project for £1.5m, digital TV & on-street kiosks▪ Single portal for Suffolk – one access through internet site to all public services.	John Raine (01473) 825724 john.raine@babergh.gov.uk
▪ Joint staff collaboration including training (new area)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Develop a comprehensive workforce strategy to cover <i>(To be agreed)</i>▪ Generic needs of front-line staff across all partners in the LSPs e.g. key skills incl. IT, Health & Safety, Diversity, Customer Care▪ Generic management development, training and qualifications▪ Needs of similar professional groupings across the partner agencies	Paula Stott 01473 584407 paula.stott@pers.suffolkcc.gov.uk
▪ Public Access Programme (possible new project)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The development of a multi agency service centre in Lowestoft• Extension of the Social Care access function across the county• First phase of Kiosk location via the Pathfinder partnership• Review of the DISC scheme and extension beyond Mid Suffolk• Closer 'out of hours' links between Health and Social Care▪ First Phase of a corporate contact centre	Chris Burton 01473 583778 chris.burton@policy.suffolkcc.gov.uk

	Milestones	Contact
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Public Service Agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agree with Government a PSA for Suffolk identifying 13 targets to improve the quality of life in Suffolk. ▪ Develop action plans to deliver these targets by 2005. ▪ Allocating a substantial share of any additional funds won to support LSPs. 	<p>Mike More 01473 583320 mike.more@resman.suffolkcc.gov.uk</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Improved data sharing and State of Suffolk profile/ Observatory (existing group/project) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Suffolk Observatory live on line June 2002 www.suffolkobservatory.info ▪ Other milestones around methods of data collection / sharing to be agreed (group recently reformed) 	<p>Tom Griffin 01394 444348 tom.griffin@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Carers Partnership Group 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promote working in partnership with Carers; Carers to be involved with the planning, implementation & development of services, raising the profile of carers ▪ Implement the Carers Charter and the Carers Charter for Employers ▪ Joint working with partners to support Carers ▪ Monitor effectiveness of Carers Assessment ▪ Promote equity of access for Carers/families ▪ Develop training opportunities and information for professionals and Carers/families ▪ Raise awareness of unmet needs & develop appropriate services. 	<p>Jacqui Martin 01473 408042 jacqui.martin@suffolk-carers.co.uk</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Learning & Health 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Promotion of Suffolk Healthy Schools Project ▪ Promotion of health related programmes for adults including those with learning difficulties ▪ Support for the development of information and guidance services to young people on health-related matters 	<p>John Carnall 01473 584613 john.carnall@educ.suffolkcc.gov.uk</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Accidents 		<p>David Osbourne 01284 757050 david.osborne@stedsbcc.gov.uk</p>

- Physical & Sensory Disabilities
 - **Milestones**
 - Contribute to the implementation of the Joint Investment Plan 'Welfare to Work'
 - Encourage the development of an independent support scheme for people wishing to access Direct Payments
 - Establish priorities for service delivery for people who are visually and/or hearing impaired
 - Cross agency consistency in Disability Awareness, Visual & Deaf Awareness, and the Disability Discrimination Act training.
 - Improvements in housing and adaptations to housing for disabled people
 - Support this groups Task/ working Groups and the Locality Networks, by acting on issues through the reporting system

Contact
 Linda Hoggarth
 01473 740161
linda.hoggarth@rethink-disability.org.uk

Partners in SSP

Church of England	Go East	Connexions Suffolk	Countryside Agency
Crime & Disorder Reduction Partnerships	St Edmundsbury Borough Council	Ipswich & Suffolk Commission for Racial Equality	Country Land & Business Association
Drug Action Team	Probation Service	Suffolk Development Agency	Environment Agency
English Nature	Suffolk ACRE	West Suffolk College	Suffolk College
Suffolk Association of Voluntary Organisations	Suffolk Association of Local Councils	Federation of Small Businesses	Suffolk Learning & Skills Council
Suffolk Constabulary	Job Centre Plus	Suffolk Wildlife Trust	Business Link for Suffolk
Suffolk County Council	Babergh District Council	Otley College	Mid Suffolk District Council
Suffolk Learning Partnership	Suffolk Coastal District Council	Suffolk Chamber of Commerce	Forest Heath District Council
Waveney District Council	Ipswich Borough Council	Lowestoft College	Ipswich Primary Care Trust
Suffolk Council for Voluntary Youth Services	Suffolk West Primary Care Trust	Central Primary Care Trust	Waveney Primary Care Trust
Suffolk Carers	Coastal Care Trust	Suffolk Inter-Faith Resource	

Jill Sharp, Suffolk Strategic Partnership

Tel No. **01473 406715/406711** Email jill.sharp@sda.suffolk.org.uk Address **Felaw Maltings, Felaw Street, Ipswich, IP2 8SJ**

There is also a partnership working more locally than the Suffolk Strategic Partnership – in some cases very locally i.e. estate, neighbourhood, village. If you would like to find out more about this in your area then please contact:

District / Area	Development	Contact
Babergh East	Babergh District Council agreed to split there district into east and west to reflect community views.	Tim Mutum (01473) 825718 tim.mutum@babergh.gov.uk
Ipswich	LSP in operation, Community strategy finalised July 2002	Laurence Collins (01473) 433001 laurence.collins@ipswich.gov.uk
Mid Suffolk	LSP being developed within district boundary	Ian Clark (01449) 727376 ian.clark@midsuffolk.gov.uk
Suffolk Coastal	Approved by the district council with a view to have a community strategy by April 2003	Scott Bentley (01394) 444322 scott.bentley@suffolkcoastal.gov.uk
Waveney	An inclusive visioning event began the process in November '01, a draft community strategy is being consulted on (April 2002)	Louise Jordan-Hall (01502) 523260 louise.jordan-hall@waveney.gov.uk
West Suffolk	LSP developed from a previous partnership covering Forest Heath and St Edmundsbury. West Babergh have also joined in (contact details above). The LSP will deliver community strategies for all the councils	Jim Dillon (01638) 719326 jim.dillon@forest-heath.gov.uk David Butler (01284) 757030 david.butler@stedsbc.gov.uk

Suffolk County Council are actively participating in the countywide and local partnerships. The county council contact is Jonathan Owen, 01473 584021 jonathan.owen@policy.suffolkcc.gov.uk

(SCS final version)