

Introduction to Workshop Sessions

Sustainability Wheel

'Working towards Sustainable Communities'.

The Sustainability Wheel featured below was developed by the Government to illustrate different elements that contribute to improving quality of life for everyone, both now and for generations to come. Developing and implementing our North Somerset Community Strategy is one of the ways that we can work towards sustainable communities.

The wheel shows how all the elements fit together. For a community to be truly sustainable all the elements must be considered equally. At the NSP stakeholder event each workshop considered two elements of the wheel as they relate to the themes of the Community Strategy. Workshop participants worked together to identify what working towards sustainable communities could mean when developing and implementing the Community Strategy for North Somerset.



Introduction to Workshop Sessions

Each participant selected two workshop sessions in the morning. Ten workshops were run reflecting the nine themes of the Community Strategy plus one workshop introducing the 'Compact' for North Somerset.

During session one each thematic workshop worked on a sustainability component to explore in relation to their theme, as follows:

- Communities and People – **'Well Run'**
- Community Safety – **'Active, Inclusive and Safe'**
- Culture, Leisure & Recreation – **'Active, Inclusive and Safe'**
- Economy and Employment – **'Thriving'**
- Environment – **'Environmentally Sensitive'**
- Health and Wellbeing – **'Well Served'**
- Housing – **'Well Designed and Built'**
- Learning and Skills – **'Well Served'**
- Transport – **'Well Connected'**

During session two all thematic workshops were asked to develop work undertaken in the first session by looking at how the 'Fair for Everyone' sustainability component could be applied to the work documented so far. Workshops also considered how local people and communities might be engaged in shaping these areas of work further.

A sustainable community that worked towards being **Fair for Everyone** would include the following aspects:

- a) recognise individuals' rights and responsibilities
- b) respect the rights and aspirations of others (both neighbouring communities, and across the wider world) also to be sustainable
- c) have due regard for the needs of future generations in current decisions and actions.

Workshop 3 – Culture, Leisure & Recreation

Session 1

The Culture, Leisure and Recreation Workshop considered how the sustainability component 'Active, Inclusive and Safe' applied to this theme.

An **Active, Inclusive and Safe** community would include the following aspects:

- a) a sense of community identity and belonging.
- b) tolerance, respect and engagement with people from different cultures, background and beliefs.
- c) friendly, co-operative and helpful behaviour in neighbourhoods.
- d) opportunities for cultural, leisure, community, sport and other activities, including for children and young people.
- e) low levels of crime, drugs and anti-social behaviour with visible, effective and community-friendly policing.
- f) social inclusion and good life chances for all.

All aspects would contribute to developing sustainable communities that are fair, tolerant and cohesive with a strong local culture and other shared community activities.

Culture, Leisure and Recreation workshop notes

Reflecting on achievements over the last 12 months

- ✓ Funding of Police through SRB.
- ✓ Marlens – Activity to improve Clevedon Marine Lake.
- ✓ Scouts/Children's Groups.
- ✓ Weston Arts Festival a success.
- ✓ Opening The Campus.
- ✓ Range of activities and the arts have taken place.
- ✓ Multi cultural activities in parks supported.
- ✓ North Somerset Arts week very successful in rural areas.
- ✓ Festival of sport (children 7 – 16).
- ✓ Churchill music society and Churchill School (working together).
- ✓ National Trust, Tyntesfield – Public Art in Partnership.
- ✓ Changed culture of area.
- ✓ Friends of groups.
- ✓ Reduction of crime generally but not in all areas – increase in reporting domestic crime.
- ✓ Overall increase in safety.

Identifying issues to address to ensure that we are all working towards an active, inclusive and safe community

- Greater Involvement of areas outside of Weston-super-Mare.
- Community Safety – Civil environment.
- Overcome barriers to services for Children and Young People.
- Improve Accessibility.
- Lack of strategic focus, clarity and direction.
- Some people don't feel safe in the evening or during football matches.
- Looking for support for a swimming pool in Nailsea as many feel isolated from facilities.
- No strategy to support swimming as a sport.
- Blakehay centre has some security issues.

Identifying key issues to be addressed through a partnership approach

- Overcoming barriers to services for children and young people (NSC are issuing Key Cards for 11 years +).
- Access issues exist for people – should be working more with communities.
- Lack of focus at the top/strategic level to co-ordinate this aspect of the North Somerset Partnership.
- More joint working – NSC, community groups to promote tourism.
- Emphasis on securing funding addressing the needs of children.
- Government Key Performance Indicators should assist?
- Encourage greater involvement of areas outside Weston-super-Mare.
- Improve communication.
- Improve Community Safety.

Considering potential solutions to key issues identified

Greater Involvement of areas outside of Weston-super-Mare and Improved Communication

- use of community managed trusts.
 - higher focus on parish plans.
 - improve communications across the area.
 - greater use of libraries.
- more inclusive press coverage between Weston-super-Mare and Regions.

Community Safety – Civil environment (being able to move around freely) – links to access to services issues

- improved co-ordination between organisations and Local Actions Teams and Neighbourhood Watch schemes.
- work towards improving environmental safety – planning, police, parishes and PCT etc working together.

Overcome barriers to services for Children and Young People

- to link up with 'Key Cards' issued to 11 yrs +.

Improve Accessibility

- working more with communities to ensure service delivery occurs.

Lack of strategic focus, clarity and direction

- better understanding of other organisations work.
- better understanding of tourism.
- introduction of a cultural strategy.

Workshop Outcomes

The Culture, Leisure and Recreation workshop suggested issues and potential solutions to help develop 'well run communities' in North Somerset. This work was presented as part of the sustainability wheel built by all participants at the Stakeholders event.



CULTURE, LEISURE, AND RECREATION

Key Issues

1. Community Safety.
2. Barriers to services for young people.
3. Accessibility for all.
4. Greater involvement of areas outside of Weston-super-Mare.
5. Lack of strategic direction.
6. Communication.

Key Solutions

1. Local Action Teams; Civil environment.
2. 'Key card'.
3. Working more with communities & their organisations.
4. Higher focus on Parish plans.
5. Cultural Strategy.
6. More use of libraries. More inclusive press coverage.

Culture, Leisure & Recreation Session 2 - Considering the Sustainability Component: Fair for Everyone

Views on what applying the principle of Fair for everyone means in relation to the key issues and solutions identified in session 1

- Encouraging greater involvement and improving communication.
- Means not giving the same services to all but targeting services to meet NEED. Greater involvement outside Weston.
- Parish plans – no funding – not all parishes have them. To be a solution these would need to be universal.
- An integrated service response to parishes enabling parish councils to deliver and supporting them.
- Communication – No A-Z of North Somerset Facilities.
- Mobile provision of facilities that promote health and wellbeing etc.
- Use universal services i.e. health visiting and schools to promote mobile services going into rural areas.

Solutions identified by participants

- Better cross-boundary working.
- Know local area.
- More interaction between urban and rural communities.
- Promoting informal recreation – e.g. walking.
- Maintaining and further developing a safe, attractive environment.
- Fostering local pride.
- Better linkages north and south of area.
- Improve transport.
- Improve quality.
- Water – increased promotion of coast and rivers.
- Schools – promotion of health benefits.

Issues and solutions identified by the group when applying the sustainability principle of 'Fair for Everyone' to the Culture, Leisure and Recreation theme. The work below was included in the sustainability wheel produced at the event.

FAIR FOR EVERYONE

1. Greater involvement of areas outside of Weston-super-Mare
2. Local pride
3. Promote river & coastal areas
4. Promote informal recreation eg walking
5. Link together different areas
6. Communication – A-Z of North Somerset Facilities, mobile facilities into rural areas
7. Parish Plans
8. Safe, attractive environment
9. Better cross-boundary working

