



Nottinghamshire Partnership ***"All Together Better"***

Comprehensive Engagement Strategy

January 2009 (*final version*)





Welcome to the Nottinghamshire Partnership Comprehensive Engagement Strategy

Foreword

The Nottinghamshire Partnership is committed to helping the people of Nottinghamshire to become more active citizens and have a greater say in how local services are developed and delivered. Only by genuinely engaging with local people can we improve and develop services, which truly meet local needs and aspirations.

In particular the effective engagement of local people is critical to the regeneration of our most disadvantaged communities. It is only by taking notice of the experiences and ideas of the people who make up these communities that we can find the range of solutions necessary to build communities for the future.

The Comprehensive Engagement Strategy is a framework document that will help organisations of the Nottinghamshire Partnership to undertake effective engagement through commitment, delivery and awareness. Our Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) will play a critical role in delivering this strategy. If we succeed we will have LSPs within Nottinghamshire that:

- **Understand why we need to engage**
- **Have determined who we need to engage with**
- **Are clear in terms of what issues we want to engage on**
- **Are clear in terms of how that engagement will take place and**
- **Have an agreed LSP engagement plan in place by March 2009**

The document will develop over time as new legislation is agreed and as we become more mature in our approach to engaging with our communities. The document will be subject to an annual review and progress against the actions will be monitored through the Stronger Communities Network.





About Nottinghamshire

Nottinghamshire is a large county, covering 806 square miles. The north-west is generally urbanised and there are suburban areas surrounding the City of Nottingham; the south and east are more rural, with scattered and prosperous market towns. Sherwood Forest, the county's most important natural asset and potent historic symbol, is a significant recreational and tourist attraction.

The county's population of 770,000 makes Nottinghamshire the 11th largest local authority in the UK. The population is increasing in number and ageing. In recent years there has been a substantial increase in the number of Eastern European migrant workers entering the county.

Nottinghamshire's position at the centre of England and its significant transport links, including the M1, A1, Midland Main Line and East Coast Main Line, make the county attractive as a location for economic growth. It has thrived in recent years, with declining unemployment, and significant inward investment mitigating the effects of coalmine closures and other structural economic changes.

Levels of deprivation have also declined. Between the years of 2004 and 2007, each district in the county has improved in terms of its relative deprivation level, in most cases by over 20 places compared to the other districts in England. In spite of these changes, some parts of the former coalfield areas of the county and parts of some town centres still fall within the most deprived 10% of areas in England.

Governance in the county is complex, with seven district/borough councils, eight town councils, 153 parish councils and 37 parish meetings. In addition, the City of Nottingham has been a unitary council since 1998. A wide range of partners including police, fire and rescue, primary care trusts, connexions, learning and skills council, jobcentre plus, the probation service, and the arts council among many others work closely together, in particular through local strategic partnerships (LSPs). Each district has its own LSP whilst there is also an LSP for the county, known as the Nottinghamshire Partnership.





Since 2006 partners have entered into a Local Area Agreement with Government which sets agreed improvement targets for a number of key priorities. A new Local Area Agreement has just commenced for the period 2008 – 2011.

Purpose of the Strategy

The purpose of this strategy is to provide a framework within which partners will engage with each other and the many communities they work with.

Partnership engagement is the golden thread that will bind the partners together and create meaningful links with communities.

This strategy will meet the needs of four different audiences, namely:

Government: in its drive to create closer and more productive relationship between the service providers and citizens as consumers of those services.

Nottinghamshire Partnership: that wants a partnership that's built increasingly upon collaboration, collective action and a meaningful relationship with Nottinghamshire's citizens, a relationship that is focused on a common goal of improving Nottinghamshire as a place to live and work. This engagement framework will assist in this approach.

Local Strategic Partnerships: that have a duty to improve the well being of their local communities. The Local Strategic Partnerships will act as a key mechanism to effectively engage with local communities in a 'joined up way' to improve well being and service delivery.

Citizens: that want to be able to influence what is happening around them and so recognise that they have appropriate opportunities to voice their ideas and experiences. This strategy promotes the principle that residents are part of the solution rather than passive consumers of public services.





A new emphasis on Local Decision Making

The New Landscape

The Government's Community Empowerment Action Plan 2007	Declares, "Participatory and representative democracy are complementary".
Communities in Control: Real People, Real Power 2008	Aims "to shift power, influence and responsibility away from existing centres of power into the hands of communities and individual citizens".
The new National Performance Indicator (PI) set 2008	Includes PI's on civic participation and how far people "feel they can influence local decisions".
Comprehensive Area Assessment	Will "assess the quality of involvement of local people" especially the vulnerable.
Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007	Introduces new "duty to inform, consult and involve people".
Place Shaping Guidance	Says, "services will only be improved and communities strengthened if local people are effectively engaged and empowered".
LAA's Operational Guidance	Says, "The development of Local Area Agreements should be based on strong local involvement" and "need for a comprehensive approach to community engagement".
The Sustainable Communities Act 2007	Defines participation in civic and political activity as part of "improving social, economic and environmental well being of the area".
Equalities Legislation	States, "That active engagement with our communities on equality issues is fundamental in order to meet our legal duties in relation to race, gender and disability". All public authorities have a duty to promote equality of opportunity, good relations, and positive attitudes, eliminate harassment and unlawful discrimination.
Strategy for Participation of Children and Young People in Nottinghamshire	States, "all children and young people will have the opportunity to participate in decisions which affect their lives. They will have access to services which they need and the opportunity to shape how these services are planned and delivered".
Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Bill	Gives "local people new rights to shape local services and responsibility to local authorities to promote economic development".





What is Community Engagement?

Community* Engagement can be described as a process of facilitating democratic involvement (Community Empowerment) by people in the issues, which affect their lives, based on full citizenship, autonomy and shared power, skills, knowledge and experience.

Community Empowerment is the giving of confidence, skills, and power to communities to shape and influence what public bodies do for or with them.

* *Community denotes residents, the Community & Voluntary and Business Sectors*

Community Empowerment is clearly high on the current policy agenda. The Department for Communities and Local Government is leading the drive to 'enable more people to play an active role in the decisions that affect their communities' and this is at the heart of the Nottinghamshire Partnership Comprehensive Engagement Strategy.

Benefits of effective engagement

There is growing evidence, from both the UK and abroad, that involving citizens in local decision-making and services has a number of benefits. These include:

- strengthening the democratic legitimacy of the partnership and the civic life of the community
- more efficient and effective services that better reflect the needs of users and have higher levels of customer satisfaction
- safer communities and a more attractive built environment that meets people's needs and
- strengthening community cohesion.





Aims of the Strategy

By adopting this strategy the Nottinghamshire Partnership is seeking to develop, support and sustain a county that has:

Strong Communities - that can form and sustain their own organisations to deal with common concerns

Active Communities - where people are supported to improve the quality of life in their own neighbourhoods and communities and

Inclusive Communities - where all sectors of the community can choose how they would like to be involved with decision making and have similar life opportunities

Resilient Communities - communities that are able to 'recover readily' from emergencies.

It will also ensure that across the partnership there is a consistent and more coordinated approach to community engagement. The Strategy will underpin interventions and actions that will assist the partnership in achieving its target agreed through the LAA, which is '**to increase the percentage of people who can influence decision making in their local area**'.

With increased engagement we should be able to shape our services better so that they meet the needs of our communities, which, in turn, will bring about increased levels of customer satisfaction.





Objectives of the Strategy

The objectives below are the key elements, which will enable us to make the aims of this strategy a reality. We will seek to:

- To increase the number of people who feel they can influence decision making and the number who feel their local area is one where people from different backgrounds get on well together
- have a strategy which shows clearly how the community will be informed, consulted and involved in policies and decisions which affect their communities and neighbourhoods
- provide opportunities for communities to shape and influence the development and delivery of quality services and policies that reflect local needs and priorities
- develop, strengthen and sustain opportunities for local people and groups to influence what happens in their communities and to play a direct part, as volunteers or paid staff
- develop further the role of Elected Members as community champions representing and acting on the problems local people bring to them, also in scrutinising services provided by the partnership
- support the use of the Engagement Standards as the basis of future activities to ensure they are properly conducted and provide variety, flexibility and choice
- enable sharing of community engagement skills and knowledge of putting the community at the heart of services and
- develop the capacity of the partnership to work with local communities and organisations in designing, commissioning, delivering and performance managing public services.





Principles and Standards for Community Engagement

Fairness, equality, and inclusion must underpin all aspects of Community Engagement. These standards set out key principles, behaviours and practical measures that underpin effective engagement. They will be of real benefit to community planning partnerships in involving communities to achieve real and sustained results.

- ◆ **INVOLVEMENT:** we will identify and involve the people and organisations who have an interest in the focus of the engagement
- ◆ **SUPPORT:** we will identify and overcome any barriers to involvement
- ◆ **PLANNING:** we will gather evidence of needs and available resources and use this evidence to agree the purpose, scope and timescale of the engagement and the actions to be taken
- ◆ **METHODS:** we will agree and use clear procedures that enable the participants to work with one another effectively and efficiently
- ◆ **WORKING TOGETHER:** we will agree and use clear procedures that enable the participants to work with one another effectively and efficiently
- ◆ **SHARING INFORMATION:** we will ensure that necessary information is communicated between the participants
- ◆ **WORKING WITH OTHERS:** we will work effectively with others with an interest in the engagement
- ◆ **IMPROVEMENT:** we will develop actively the skills, knowledge and confidence of all the participants
- ◆ **FEEDBACK:** we will feed back the results of the engagement to the wider community and agencies affected
- ◆ **MONITORING AND EVALUATION:** we will monitor and evaluate whether the engagement achieves its purposes and meets the national standards for community engagement

You can download a **full** copy of these standards by clicking on the following website www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk



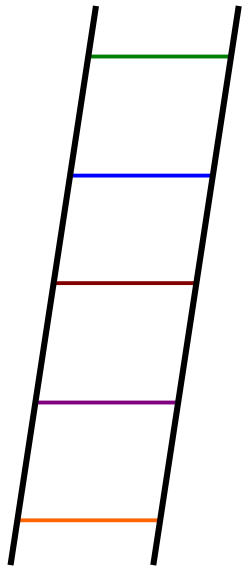


These aims are shared with the Nottinghamshire Partnership Compact Plus strategy, which sets out the principles for a positive working relationship between the voluntary and community sector and the statutory sector.

Ladder of Engagement

All rungs of the ladder are of equal importance. This strategy recognises that people will be engaged in the most appropriate to their own aspirations and life styles.

It is natural for people to move around the ladder as their needs and life-style change.



5. Empowering – *Supporting local initiatives*

4. Devolving – *Acting together*

3. Involving – *Deciding together*

2. Consulting – *The community is given a voice on a range of options*

1. Informing – *Providing information*





Level	What are the Issues?	What's in it for the user?	Methods available	Useful information
<p>1: Informing - Providing Information</p> <p>Information-giving underpins all other levels of participation, and may be appropriate on its own in some circumstances.</p> <p>However, you may create problems if all you offer is information and people are expecting involvement.</p>	<p>The information-giving stance is essentially a 'take it or leave it' approach.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People may not accept they can't have a say. Is there really no alternative to the ideas you are putting forward? • Your information will be judged on who you are and your style as well as what you say. • Even though you may not want much feedback, put yourself in the place of the people you are communicating with: the meaning of any communication lies in the response that you get - not what you say. 	<p>Information-only may be appropriate when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You have no room for manoeuvre and must follow one course of action - for example, where there is a clear legal requirement. • An organisation is reporting a course of action that is essentially internal and doesn't affect others. • At the start of a consultation or other process, with the promise of more opportunity to participate later. • Information-only is inappropriate when the following apply (alternative stances in brackets): • You are seeking to empower community interests. Information is necessary for empowerment, but seldom enough on its own (3, 4 or 5). • There are alternatives and others have a legitimate interest in developing them (3 or 4). 	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Print: leaflets, newsletters, etc. • Presentations at meetings. • Briefing the media through press releases and press conferences. • Advertising through posters, radio, and press. • Film or video. • Avoid any methods that imply that people can have a say. 	<p>In planning how to inform people, and carrying this out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider what frame of mind your audience is in - for example, what do they expect or know already? • Try a simple presentation on colleagues or a less informed audience before you prepare materials. • Use language and ideas that your audience will find familiar. • Be clear about why you are just informing rather than consulting. • Are you clear which interests you are informing, and how much they know already? • Are they likely to be satisfied with only information? • Can you present your proposals in a way people will understand and relate to? • Have you identified appropriate communication methods for the time available and audience? • Are you prepared to change your stance if people want more than information?





Level	What are the Issues?	What's in it for the user?	Methods available	Useful information
<p>2: Consulting</p> <p>Consultation is appropriate when you can offer people some choices on what you are going to do - but not the opportunity to develop their own ideas or participate in putting plans into action.</p>	<p>Consultation means giving people a restricted choice and role in solutions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You may consult on the problems, offer some options, allow comment, take account and then proceed - perhaps after negotiation. You are not asking for help in taking action. All the basics of information-giving apply, plus the need to handle feedback. 	<p>The consultation stance is likely to be most appropriate when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You want to improve a service. You have a clear vision and plans to implement a project or programme, and there appear to be a limited range of options. These options can be set out in terms, which community interests can understand and relate to their own concerns or needs. The initiator of the proposals can handle feedback and is prepared to use this to choose between or modify options. <p>It is inappropriate when the following apply -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You aren't going to take any notice of what people say. You are seeking to empower community interests (3, 4 or 5). You are not clear what you wish to do and are seeking ideas (3 or 4). You don't have the resources or skills to carry out the options presented, or other means of implementing (choose stance 4 or 5). 	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Surveys and market research. Consultative meetings. Consultative committees. Simulations where the options and constraints are clear. <p>These methods may be used in conjunction with information-giving and presentational techniques, for example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Advertisements. Media briefing. Leaflets and posters. Exhibitions. Videos. 	<p>Consider what response you want and how you will handle it as well as what you are presenting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make clear how realistic the different options are, and what the pros and cons are Avoid using methods like Planning for Real which encourage people to put forward their own ideas Be open that ultimately takes decisions, how and when this will be done. If you set up a consultative committee, give it clear terms of reference. <p>Before taking up a consultation stance consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you clear which interests you are consulting, and have you the means to contact them? Are they likely to be satisfied with consultation? Can you present your vision and options for achieving it in a way people will understand and relate to? Appropriate communication methods for the time available and likely participants? Can you and your colleagues handle the feedback? Report back to those consulted





Level	What are the Issues?	What's in it for the user?	Methods available	Useful information
<p>3: Involving - Deciding together</p> <p>Deciding together can mean giving people the power to choose without fully sharing the responsibility for carrying decisions through.</p>	<p>Deciding together means accepting other people's ideas, and then choosing from the options you have developed together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The basics of consultation apply, plus the need to generate options together, choose between them, and agree ways forward. The techniques are more complex. People need more confidence to get involved. The time scale for the process is likely to be much longer. 	<p>Deciding-together may be appropriate when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is important that other people `own' the solution. You need fresh ideas. There is enough time. <p>Deciding together is inappropriate when the following apply -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> You have little room for manoeuvre (1 or 2). You can't implement decisions yourself (4 or 5). 	<p>Consider the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information-giving methods to start the process. Stakeholder analysis to identify who should be involved. SWOT analysis to understand where you are. Brainstorming, Nominal Group Technique, Surveys to develop some options. Cost/Benefit Analysis to make choices. Strategic Choice, Planning for Real, and other simulations as powerful overall techniques. SAST and Action Planning to decide what next. 	<p>Useful information</p> <p>Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Plan the process before you start. Give yourself enough time. Define clearly the roles and responsibilities of the different interests - who has a say, who will take action. Be open and honest about what you want to achieve, and any limits on options. If you set up any organisational structures, agree clear terms of reference and powers. <p>Checklist</p> <p>Before taking up a deciding-together stance consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you prepared to accept other people's ideas? What are the boundaries? Are you clear who it is appropriate to involve? Are you clear about what you want to achieve, and the boundaries to any ideas you will accept to get there? Do you have the skills to use joint decision-making methods? Do you have the authority to follow through with solutions, which are decided?





Level	What are the Issues?	What's in it for the user?	Methods available	Useful information
<p>4: Devolving -Acting together</p> <p>Acting together may involve short-term collaboration or forming more permanent partnerships with other interests.</p>	<p>Acting together in partnership involves both deciding together and then acting together.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> This means having a common language, a shared vision of what you want, and the means to carry it out. Partners need to trust each other as well as agree on what they want to do. Effective partnerships take a long time to develop - shot gun marriages are unlikely to work. Each partner needs to feel they have an appropriate stake in the partnership and a fair say in what happens. 	<p>Acting -together may be appropriate when:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One party cannot achieve what they want on their own. The various interests involved all get some extra benefit from acting together. There is commitment to the time and effort needed to develop a partnership. <p>Acting together is not likely to be appropriate when the following apply (alternative stances in brackets):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> One party holds all the power and resources and uses this to impose its own solutions (1 or 2). The commitment to partnership is only skin deep (1 or 2). People want to have a say in making decisions, but not a long-term stake in carrying out solutions (3). 	<p>Consider the following methods</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information giving methods to start the process. Methods for deciding together to create a shared vision. Team building exercises. Design exercises. Business planning exercises. Interim structures like working parties and steering groups as a focus for decision-making and accountability. Longer-term structures through which you can work together. 	<p>Guidelines</p> <p>As for Deciding together, plus...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Spend time getting to know and trust each other. Plan for the long-term sustainability of any organisational structure that is needed to implement and maintain schemes. Avoid staffing partnership organisations with people who are accountable to only one of the partners. Develop a common language, shared vision and corporate accountability. <p>Checklist</p> <p>Before taking up a 'acting together' stance consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Are you clear about what you want to achieve, and how flexible you are in pursuing that vision? Have you identified potential partners? Do you have any evidence that they share a similar vision, and are interested in a partnership with you to achieve it? Do they trust you? <p>Do you have the time and commitment necessary to form a partnership?</p>





Level	What are the Issues?	What's in it for the user?	Methods available	Useful information
<p>5: Empowering - Supporting local initiative</p> <p>Supporting independent community-based initiative means helping others develop and carry out their own plans.</p> <p>Resource-holders who promote this option may of course put limits on what they will support.</p>	<p>This is the most 'empowering' option - provided people want to do things for themselves. They may, quite properly, choose a lower level of participation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrying through the stance may involve people in setting up new forms of organisations to handle funds and carry out projects or programmes. The process has to be owned by, and move at the pace of, those who are going to run the initiative - although funders and others may set deadlines. 	<p>This stance may be appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Where there is a commitment to empower individuals or groups within the community. Where people are interested in starting and running an initiative. <p>It is not likely to be appropriate when the following apply</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community initiatives are seen as 'a good thing' in the abstract and pushed on people from the top down. (1,2,3). Where there is no commitment to provide training and support. Where there aren't the resources to maintain initiatives in the longer-term. Where time is very short. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> An offer of grants, advice and support - perhaps conditional on some commitment being made by the other interests involved. Workshops for helping community groups create a shared vision and plan their action. Team building exercises. Commitment planning. Business planning exercises. Workshops on design, fund-raising and publicity. Visits to similar projects. Interim structures like working parties and steering groups as a focus for decision-making and accountability. Longer-term structures controlled by community interests. Development trusts. 	<p>Guidelines</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you are controlling resources make sure you have agreement from your colleagues and can deliver what you promise before you start. If you are acting as a facilitator or trainer make sure the resource-holders are involved in the process. If possible run internal workshops with them. Be realistic about the time the process will take. <p>Checklist Before taking up a 'we will support community initiatives' stance consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Do you understand the different interests in the community and their needs? Have you contacted existing community and voluntary sector organisations? Will your colleagues support the stance?





Community Engagement Action plan

The Community Engagement Action Plan is split into 3 key themes.

1. **Making a Commitment**
2. **Improving Delivery**
3. **Raising Awareness**

The Action Plan details the activity that will take place in Nottinghamshire to increase the percentage of people who can influence decision making in their local area.

Organisation	Action	Resources	When	Outcome	Output	Result	Progress
1. Making a Commitment							
Influencing Decisions Working Party	Produce a Draft Comprehensive Engagement Strategy	Officer time	July 2008	Standardised engagement within the partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services • Improved Health and Well Being 	
Influencing Decisions Working Party	Consult on the Draft Strategy with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger Communities Network • LSP Practitioners Group • Notts Consultation Practitioners forum • Safer Nottinghamshire Board • LSP Executive Boards 	Officer time	July 2008 – December 2008	Standardised engagement within the partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services • Improved Health and Well Being 	





Organisation	Action	Resources	When	Outcome	Output	Result	Progress
Influencing Decisions Working Party	Sign off the Comprehensive Engagement Strategy with <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safer Nottinghamshire Board • Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Board • Nottinghamshire Partnership Strategic Board 	Officer time	January 2009	Standardised engagement within the partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services • Improved Health and Well Being 	
2. Improving Delivery							
Influencing Decisions Working Party	Produce generic 'How to Influence Decisions in your local area' and 'how you can make a difference' leaflets as part of Local Democracy Week	Officer time	October 2008	Standardised information	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services • Improved Well Being 	
NI7 Working Party	Produce a Compact Plus for the Nottinghamshire Partnership	Officer time	October 2008	Agreed standards and improved relationships with the third sector	Increase % of organisations who feel that they are supported Increase % of seldom heard groups who feel they can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved services • Improved Well Being 	





Organisation	Action	Resources	When	Outcome	Output	Result	Progress
Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs)	Each Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) to produce an annual engagement plan	Officer time	March 2009	Standardised information	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRPs)	Each CDRP to develop a community engagement action plan, which forms a section with the LSP annual engagement plan	Officer time	March 2009	Additional funding from the Home Office to support engagement on community safety issues	Supports the Casey Report and the possibility of further funding from the Home Office	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	
Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRPs)	Each CDRP engagement plan to integrate neighbourhood policing, DAAT engagement, criminal justice engagement and community engagement activity for that area.	Officer time	March 2009	Standardised information	Local people can identify the community safety issues that matter most to them and can influence the delivery of community safety, substance misuse and criminal justice services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	
Local Strategic Partnerships	Each Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) to agree a corporate approach on how engagement activity will take place to support the annual engagement plan	Officer time	March 2009	Corporate approach agreed to support the annual engagement plan	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	





Organisation	Action	Resources	When	Outcome	Output	Result	Progress
Nottinghamshire Partnership	Each organisation to utilise Community Empowerment Networks /Community and Voluntary organisation as a vehicle to engage in line with the Compact Agreement	Officer time	March 2009	Standardised engagement within the partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making Increase % of seldom heard groups who feel they can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	
Nottinghamshire Partnership	Each organisation to establish systems/processes to support the Nottinghamshire Comprehensive Engagement Strategy	Officer time	March 2009	Standardised engagement within the partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved services Improved Well Being 	
Nottinghamshire Partnership	To rationalise and improve co-ordination of engagement activity across Nottinghamshire	Officer time	March 2010	Improved co-ordination of engagement activity within Nottinghamshire	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Greater efficiency Budget savings 	
3. Raising Awareness							
Influencing Decisions Working Group	To raise awareness of the Comprehensive Engagement Strategy to organisations of the Nottinghamshire Partnership	Officer time	April 2009	Raised awareness of the Comprehensive Engagement Strategy with organisations within the Nottinghamshire Partnership	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved engagement 	





Organisation	Action	Resources	When	Outcome	Output	Result	Progress
Stronger Communities Network	To organise annual training and development to community engagement practitioners on the 'standards' of the Comprehensive Engagement Strategy	Officer time	April 2009	Common understanding of engagement	Increase in % of people who can influence decision making	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved engagement 	
Stronger Communities Network	To share good practice on engagement activities through the Nottinghamshire Stronger Communities Network	Officer time	On going	Better engagement	Greater numbers of community engaged with	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in % of people who can influence decision making 	
Stronger Communities Network	To produce updates to the Nottinghamshire Partnership Management Board on progress against the Comprehensive Engagement Strategy and to produce an annual report	Officer time	March 2010	Partners more informed	Better engagement strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved action planning 	
Nottinghamshire Partnership	To produce a community engagement page on the Nottinghamshire Partnership Website. The page to incorporate good practice on community engagement and a discussion forum.	Officer time	March 2009	Good practice shared on community engagement throughout the Nottinghamshire Partnership	Community Engagement page on the Nottinghamshire Partnership Website	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improved engagement 	





How will we measure success?

The Stronger Communities Network will be responsible for measuring progress against this Strategy.

An annual report will be presented to the Nottinghamshire Partnership Strategic Board outlining how we have progressed against the action plan.

The following performance indicators will act as measures and will help us track our progress.

- **National indicator 4: The % of people who feel that they can influence decisions affecting their local area and**
- **National indicator 7: Thriving 3rd Sector.**

Indicator	Baseline	Target			Total
	2008/9	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	
NI 4	Not yet set	+ 1%	+ 1%	+ 1%	
NI 7	Not yet set	+ 1%	+ 1%	+ 1%	

The above indicators will be measured annually through the Place survey – the Action Plan outlines interventions and actions that will be put in place to help us achieve these targets.





The Nottinghamshire Partnership

- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Ashfield District Council & LSP
- Bassetlaw District Council & LSP
- Broxtowe Borough Council & LSP
- Gedling Borough Council & LSP
- Mansfield District Council & LSP
- Newark and Sherwood District Council & LSP
- Rushcliffe Borough Council & LSP
- Job Centre Plus
- Nottinghamshire Police
- RCAN
- NAVO
- DAAT
- Manton Community Alliance
- LAA Secretariat
- Probation Service
- Government Office for East Midlands
- Nottinghamshire County Teaching and Bassetlaw PCTs
- Broxtowe Citizens Advice Bureau
- Connexions
- Sport Nottinghamshire
- Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Volunteering Nottinghamshire
- Networking Action for Voluntary Organisations





If you want to know more

If you want to know more about this document or other information, please contact:

The Nottinghamshire Partnership

LAA Partnership Officer – Paula Jezewski

Tel: 01159 773304

E mail: paula.jezewski@nottscc.gov.uk

Links to other Strategies:

Strategy for the Participation of Children and Young People in Nottinghamshire –

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nottscyppartnership/cypparticipation.htm

Useful Website Addresses:

www.audit-commission.gov.uk

www.lgiu.gov.uk

www.idea.gov.uk

www.lga.gov.uk

www.consultationinstitute.org

www.communities.gov.uk

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk

www.communitiesscotland.gov.uk

www.involve.org.uk

www.iap2.org

www.connexions-direct.com

www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/whatdoyouthink/consultationguides.htm

