

YORKWOW

Working Better Together in 2009

SAFETYWOW

CULTUREWOW

SUSTAINABLEWOW

HEALTHYWOW

LEARNINGWOW

INCLUSIVEWOW

BUSINESSWOW



YORKWOW

THE WITHOUT WALLS VISION

Without Walls sets out and ensures the delivery of a long-term vision for York.

That vision is to:

- build confident, creative and inclusive communities
- be a leading environmentally friendly city
- be at the forefront of innovation and change with a prosperous and thriving economy
- be a world class centre for education and learning for all
- celebrate our historic past whilst creating a successful and thriving future

At the first anniversary of the launch of the Sustainable Community Strategy, we take a look back to see what has been achieved and forward to see what remains to be done.

A YEAR OF WITHOUT WALLS

It is a year since the launch of the Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Area Agreement in 2008. The event was a significant milestone in the history of the partnership and marked the end of a great deal of hard work and negotiation to agree a strategy for achieving our vision.

Now that the strategy is in place the focus is very much about delivery. We need to prove that we are moving towards our goals, improving the well-being of residents and embracing the needs of a changing population.

The Local Development Framework, our local physical plan, is vitally important as a means of delivering our vision. Its advancement will form a key part of the Without Walls agenda over the coming months to ensure that the advances we envisage are realised.

We now need to explore how we can work better together to achieve more for our city. We hope to encourage everyone to think about some major issues facing York that on the face of it might look like someone else's responsibility. We want to highlight that we all have a role to play.

We have certainly made good progress since we last met and the LAA Delivery Funded projects you can find in the back of this booklet are proof of our commitment to work smarter in tackling the tricky challenges that face us.

Sir Ron Cooke



THE ACHIEVEMENTS

Thanks to partnership working, Without Walls has achieved some fantastic things over the past year.

Partners were swift to respond to the **changing economic situation**, rolling out a range of initiatives to support businesses and individuals. This has led to our being seen as a leader in terms of the range of recession support offered, with other local authority areas following our lead and implementing similar schemes.

The pilot in **Kingsway West** has been another huge success. Kingsway West is one of the most deprived neighbourhoods in the city, has the highest rate of unemployment, the second worse rate of health and has low levels of household income and educational qualifications. Early successes from the project highlight that residents have gained access to benefits and grants in excess of £118k. The pilot also establishes a valuable template for tackling deprivation using a partnership approach and this will be rolled out across other disadvantaged areas in the coming year.

York is doing well in its efforts to meet the 2008/9 targets set by the LAA. Priority based improvement is very encouraging with over three quarters of the Local Area Agreement indicators improving and

nearly two-thirds hitting or exceeding their 2008/09 targets. A couple of particular successes are detailed below.

Services for disabled children have been rated extremely well for 2008/09. 65% of parents assessed the level of services offered to be achieving the 'core offer' standards set out in the 'Aiming High for Disabled Children' report published by the Department for Education and Skills and HM Treasury in May 2007. This result places York top of the 30 authorities piloting this survey in 2008/09.

Independent living. This indicator measures the number of people who are receiving a Supporting People service who have moved on from 'supported accommodation'. In 2008/09 the number of vulnerable people in York who achieved this form of independent living improved to nearly 70% (from 52% in 2007/08). This exceeds the 2008/09 LAA target and puts us on track to achieve the final 2010/11 LAA target of 72%.

You can read more about the individual projects going on amongst the delivery partnerships on pages 6 & 7.

WHAT NEXT?

There are a certain number of issues facing York that sit across the responsibilities of all the delivery partnerships in Without Walls. Tackling these issues is a crucial part of the coming year and we all have our parts to play, not only as partnership representatives but also in our other roles within the city.

The Place Survey is a national initiative that enables us to gather local views on what it is like to live and work in the York area. Overall York is performing well when compared to 55 similar authorities, however we cannot afford to be complacent and must act on the areas of dissatisfaction highlighted when results are broken down by geographic area or equality group.

LAA performance for 2008/9 was encouraging with three quarters of the LAA indicators improving and around 60% achieving their 2008/9 targets. Nevertheless we need to keep the pressure on and continue to strive for better performance.

The LDF Core Strategy is a hugely important document that will set the planning strategy for the city to 2030 and beyond. When we submit our Core Strategy to the Government for formal public examination in 2010 we would hope to have the endorsement of the whole partnership to the approach.

A Climate Change Framework for York is now nearing completion. This document is crucial as it will form the basis of the Climate Change Action Plan, setting out the actions the city is going to take to combat climate change. Though not out for public consideration yet, the presentation of the framework to other WOW groups is about to start. After this has been done and fed into the plan, it will then be taken to the wider community.



PARTNERSHIP PROJECTS

As part of their individual responsibilities, all of the Without Walls partnerships have been running some important projects over the last year. Below are just a few.

SUSTAINABLEWOW – GREENSTREETS

The York Environment partnership have applied for and won a Local Area Agreement Delivery Grant for a campaign called Greenstreets. Led by the Stockholm Environment Institute, the scheme is targeted towards reducing York's carbon footprint at street level. The Institute is currently working out the carbon footprint across the city, after which they will be able to decide which areas of York have the most potential to reduce their carbon footprint.

BUSINESSWOW – SUPPORTING YOUNG BUSINESSES

Whyte Knight, a new York initiative to provide funding to young businesses, has been launched by Aviva, the City of York Council and York Professionals. The scheme is designed to assist existing businesses under three years old or people that have been made redundant from companies in the York Area. It is also available to people who are out of employment and who are considering setting up a new business, or have recently set up a business within York.

LEARNINGWOW – LEARNING4LIFE

Every year, the Learning4Life Guide brings together the main organisations offering part-time adult education courses at venues across York and surrounding areas. June saw the delivery of over 180,000 guides to homes and libraries across the city, with courses starting this September.

CULTUREWOW – JUST 30

A campaign encouraging York residents to become more active has been given the go ahead, receiving LAA funding. The 'Just 30' campaign will demonstrate how beneficial 30 minutes a day of activity is to your health and happiness. It is due to be launched in January 2010 with a wide range of partnership organisations helping in its delivery.

SAFETYWOW – OPERATION ALTN8

Violent crime in York has fallen by a fifth in the past year following a police crackdown and the launch of Operation Altn8. Aimed at reducing incidents of alcohol-related violence within the city centre, the initiative saw police, council staff, fire fighters and youth workers and domestic violence specialists working together through high-visibility police patrols, public engagement and education. Launched by the Safer York Partnership, the scheme ran on Friday and Saturday nights from June to August.

HEALTHYWOW – TACKLING CHILDHOOD OBESITY

Part of the Healthy City board's vision is to reverse the rising tide of obesity in our local population by ensuring that everyone is able to achieve and maintain a healthy weight. This includes tackling obesity in school age children, and a number of schemes have been launched to address this. They include the York MEND programme, a fun course for families with children aged 7 to 13 years, and food labelling awareness training, which will see the food and safety team deliver interactive work shops helping children understand the hidden ingredients found in certain foods.

INCLUSIVEWOW – HOMELESSNESS

A significant number of service improvements within the last twelve months have led to a dramatic reduction in the number of homeless acceptances during 2008/09. Improvements have included the opening of the new Arc Light building and the introduction of a 'Housing Options' interview at the council's Customer Advice Centre. Only 167 individuals were registered as homeless in April 2009 compared to 209 in April 2008 and numbers have continued to fall throughout the year.

THE LAA DELIVERY FUND

Over the last year, Without Walls has granted funding for a wide range of city-enhancing projects. The LAA Delivery Fund has provided over £660,000 to help start up 17 projects, covering themes from waste reduction to healthy living. By March 2011 all of these projects will have produced results. This is the list of projects the funding has covered.

- Sustainable Education Programme for Schools
- York Cares Kids College – to promote motivation in learning
- Crossroads – youth mentoring scheme
- Volunteering City – co-ordinating volunteering in York
- YorHome – socially responsible lettings agency
- Children's Centre Jobcentre Plus Advisor – boosting jobless parents' employability skills
- Starting Blocks – employability programme for young people
- York Greenstreets Challenge – reducing York's carbon footprint
- Working Together Better Together – with the voluntary sector
- Hotspots – a campaign to tackle fuel poverty
- Futures – employability skills programme for vulnerable people
- Capable Guardian – youth provision and mentoring scheme
- Reducing re-offending rates of priority and prolific offenders
- Healthy Weight Active Lives Partnership – to tackle childhood obesity
- Fitness Engage – to help disengaged young people through sport
- Just 30 – physical activity campaign
- Castlegate Meeting Need – young people's advice service

WITHOUT WALLS

building a future for york

This leaflet is also available in large print or on cassette tape.

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This information can be provided in your own language.

我們也用您們的語言提供這個信息 (Cantonese)

এই তথ্য আপনার নিজের ভাষায় দেয়া যেতে পারে। (Bengali)

Ta informacja może być dostarczona w twoim własnym języku. (Polish)

Bu bilgiyi kendi dilinizde almanız mümkündür. (Turkish)

یہ معلومات آپ کی اپنی زبان (بولی) میں بھی مہیا کی جاسکتی ہیں۔ (Urdu)

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