

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL REPORT TO POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Agenda Item No.

meeting date: 12 NOVEMBER 2013
title: STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP – COMMUNITY STRATEGY
submitted by: CHIEF EXECUTIVE
principal author: COLIN HIRST – HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

1 PURPOSE

1.1 To consider the need to prepare a refresh of the Community Strategy and delivering Partnership Priorities.

1.2 Relevance to the Council's ambitions and priorities

- Council Ambitions – the corporate ambitions of the Council have been closely linked with those of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS).
- Community Objectives – the SCS and its associated action plans form the basis of the sense of place and common vision of the communities in the Ribble Valley.
- Corporate Priorities – to be a well managed authority.
- Other Considerations – none.

2 BACKGROUND

2.1 The Local Strategic Partnership for Ribble Valley was formed in 2002 and developed its first community plan that year. A new Sustainable Community Strategy was developed through 2007 and published in December 2007. The Partnership Board underwent a restructuring in 2008 to ensure that it was fit for purpose to deliver the objectives of the SCS. The Strategic Partnership Board was stood down in the summer of 2012 and its functions absorbed into Council activities. The Partnership Officer role has continued to deliver against the SCS with work now delivered by two officers on a job share basis. The current SCS runs to 2013 and consideration needs to be given to a mechanism to identify and provide a clear focus to partnership working going forward to reflect Council and Community priorities.

3 REVIEW OF COMMUNITY STRATEGY ACTIVITIES

3.1 Attached to this report at Appendix 1 is a summary review of the current position of activities in the adopted SCS. The summary identifies the key themes against which actions and priorities have been taken forward. The report also identifies areas where it is considered there is a need or opportunity to carry forward important areas of Partnership work in the Borough.

3.2 As members will recall, significant funding was generated through the County Wide Partnership enabling Performance Reward Grant monies to be drawn down and the availability of 2nd homes Council tax income both of which were directed towards activities to deliver the Community Strategy. A separate report on the agenda for this meeting provides a current position statement with regard to the Partnership budget.

- .3 Appendix 2 of this report provides a review of delivery against the agreed themes and objectives that were to be addressed. The tables set out in the appendix apply a traffic light system to show where strategic objectives and outcomes have been met (Green) or have made good progress, are ongoing or need some additional work to be successfully delivered (Amber). A small number of outcomes – 3 indicate as red, either as a result of other priorities of the lead organisation, funding choices or changed circumstances. Given that in all there are some 65 outcomes identified with only 3 showing as red this demonstrates a high level of success in delivering against the Community Strategy.
- 3.4 Within the review documents it is clear that areas of work remain that should continue to be the basis of partnership activities and be developed to support the aims and objectives of the Council and the local community. Work is currently being undertaken to put in place the Ribble Valley Forum as previously agreed by this committee to help develop priorities for the Council's activities and those of its partner organisations.
- 3.5 It is proposed that there is a need to prepare a more concise and focused Community Strategy that will identify key areas of work for the Council and will help inform activities of our partner organisations to support our communities. This work would also help identify priorities for key projects to be delivered.

4 RISK ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 The approval of this report may have the following implications
- Resources – Resources for the work are contained within existing budgets.
 - Technical, Environmental and Legal – No implications identified.
 - Political – Partnership working is a key component of delivering a wide range of community aspirations.
 - Reputation – Partnership working interfaces with a wide range of local groups, public bodies and other organisations. The success of the Council's partnering enhances the Council's reputation.
 - Equality & Diversity – The proposals would include measures to promote equality and diversity.

5 **RECOMMENDED THAT COMMITTEE**

- 5.1 Support the preparation of a revised, focused Community Strategy.

COLIN HIRST
HEAD OF REGENERATION AND HOUSING

MARSHAL SCOTT
CHIEF EXECUTIVE

For further information please ask for Colin Hirst, extension 4503.

APPENDIX 1

Summary Review Ribble Valley Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2013

Introduction

Ribble Valley had produced two previous Community Strategies which covered the period 2002-2007. Both of these documents were compiled after extensive community engagement and reflected the issues that the people of the borough felt were important to them at the time.

The Sustainable Community Strategy for 2008-2013 led on from that work, and provided a vision for the Borough and key objectives across a range of topic areas. Action plans clearly detailing a shared commitment from partners to address issues of concern to the community were prepared alongside the Strategy. These were refreshed through the Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership and discussed and ratified annually by the Borough Council's Policy and Finance Committee.

The life span of the Strategy is now coming to an end and with the disbandment of the Strategic Partnership, it is perhaps a suitable time to review the outcomes of the plans contained within the Strategy with the purpose of establishing on-going priorities for partnership working.

The stated **Purpose** of the Sustainable Community Strategy was to:

1. Support our Communities in articulating their hopes, needs and priorities
2. Co-ordinate the actions of all public, private, voluntary and community organisations operating locally
3. Focus and shape existing and future activity of those organisations to meet community needs and aspirations
4. Contribute to local and wider sustainable development
5. Give clear prioritised targets for Ribble Valley Strategic Partnership members to achieve
6. Create a working document directing service and budget planning of partner organisations
7. Help the Council prepare its core strategy
8. Emphasise those priorities and actions that rely on efficient partnership working for their achievement

The Vision

The Vision for Ribble Valley is based on the challenges and opportunities that have been expressed by partners in the community.

The Vision is stated as:

'An area with an exceptional environment and quality of life for all; sustained by vital and vibrant market towns and villages acting as thriving service centres meeting the needs of residents, businesses and visitors'

Major Issues for Ribble Valley

This document is a review of the actions imbedded in the Action Plan that arose out of the Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2013. The plan was reviewed annually and co-ordinated through the Strategic Partnership and the major issues resolved and on going are listed below in the form of a narrative and in more detail on the original matrix established for the Action Plans.

Housing

- Affordable Housing is a major issue for the District and the provision of more affordable housing is an important priority for the Borough Council.
- There is also a hidden homeless problem particularly amongst young people within the district.
- There will be a huge challenge posed by the increasing need to find ways of providing for the projected growth in those over 80 within the district.
- Housing conditions must also be improved within the most disadvantaged areas, with special focus on ensuring that all social housing meets the decent homes standard and attempts be made to overcome the high level of fuel poverty in Ribble Valley .

Next Steps:

Progress has been made in producing a strategy, which will effectively provide decent and appropriate accommodation for local older people.

A plan to deliver affordable homes and control on the development of housing in the district remains a priority.

The main remaining issue is a lack of suitable housing for residents to down scale to in the villages and the incentive to do so.

Facilities

- Rural Isolation impacts upon many of the issues highlighted within the Strategy and the provision of and access to facilities and services, for young and old alike, remains a priority.
- New initiatives that will result in increased outreach to the villages are needed.
- Cost effective office space continues to be an issue with sustainable costs proving a challenge. RVBC could play a supporting role through provision of space or shared working.
- There are many volunteers working in Ribble Valley, often in an informal way, and whilst there is no central "recruiting" of these, each group in the district seems to do particularly well in attracting the help they need.
- The Play Alliance still has the potential to be a vehicle that could collectively improve the sustainability and maintenance of existing play provision.

Next Steps:

There is an opportunity to formalise community aspirations and find a way of informing Parish Councils and other partners to bring the social capital of Ribble Valley communities.

Education and the Economy

- Whilst the education resources and results in the Ribble Valley Schools are excellent and a high proportion of students move on to further education, there is a lack of vocational training provision for 16-19 year olds. This is still to be addressed.

- Other elements of the strategy which included improving the transition from primary to secondary schools and the formation of a Children's Trust are now well established.
- Opportunities must still be available for businesses to develop in the area, through continued business support and the encouragement of entrepreneurship and enterprise in the district.
- The existence of a successful culture of social enterprise in Ribble Valley will also lead to further opportunities which may in turn support the sustainability of the communities.

Next Steps:

With 80% of Ribble Valley 16 year olds having to go outside the borough for their further education it is vital that smaller innovatory pilot schemes be developed for vocational learning and the development of employment opportunities in the district.

Health and Older People

- There is now a need to align the priorities between the Ribblesdale Locality of the East Lancs CCG, other neighbouring and overlapping CCG groups of GPs and the reformed Public Health Grouping under the County Authority. These priorities will hopefully be relevant to the specific needs of Ribble Valley residents.
- At present just under half of the Ribble Valley population is fifty years old or over. This is the third highest level in the County and one in three of those have a long term limiting illness which in turn will put a high demand on services. The higher life expectancy in our locality and the higher than average growth in population for the area predicts that in 2025 the population in Ribble Valley of an age above 50 will be significantly higher than neighbouring areas and above the national average. These issues will place a high potential demand on local services and could result in increased social exclusion. It is vital that the quality of life is maintained for our residents as they get older and the level of support for older people to remain in their own homes and community must be extended.
- The older population will play a key role in establishing a sustainable community in the Ribble Valley and we need to facilitate this by empowering older people to live their lives how they choose. Fully involving local older people in decision making, service provision and strategic planning will ensure that the contribution to local communities by older people is recognised valued and fully utilised.

Next Steps:

The Healthy Valley project has improved the accessibility older and disadvantaged people have to local services through the use of village halls and the mobile resource (STAN). This needs further significant partnership working to achieve demonstrable improvements in service delivery. The longer-term future around funding essential refurbishments to community centres and indeed the continued support of the mobile resource has still to be determined.

There is potential to achieve an increase in benefit take up by local older people through initiating a multi-agency project aimed at providing more information, support and advice to those residents not claiming their full benefit entitlement.

There remains a need to undertake a mapping exercise to find areas and gaps in provision to ensure that older people and their carers, along with residents who have long-term medical conditions, receive appropriate support as in other neighbouring districts

RIBBLE VALLEY SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY - 2008-2013

The following Strategic Objectives lie in the SCS

People - Welcoming Ribble Valley

RVBC can build on the Parish Council and social capital infrastructure by incorporating the parish councils into a new partnership and developing the opportunities for those residents involved in running village halls, local community and faith groups and those organising events in their village to join them and become more involved with the setting of priorities and planning for their neighbourhoods.

This will be achieved by funding more village amenities improvements schemes, setting up and facilitating a broad community partnership, putting the Parish Council and elected Borough Councillors at the centre of the activities, and providing resources and support for the voluntary and faith sector in Ribble Valley.

Resulting in:

- Introduction of new mechanisms to strengthen local democracy and allow people to have a greater say in local decision making
- Strengthening of support for the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sectors

People - Safety and Well Being in the Ribble Valley

RVBC is a significant partner in the Community Safety Partnership which has been a successful vehicle for joint working with many projects.

There is limited partnership funding available this year which enables the the partnership to continue and the Council lead on projects aimed at:

- Maintaining low levels of crime in the district
- Improving awareness and education around road safety issues
- Reducing the incidence and impact of alcohol abuse amongst young people

People - Health Improvement for Ribble Valley Residents

RVBC is a member of the Ribblesdale Locality steering group of the East Lancashire Central Commissioning Group (CCG) and leads the district Health and Wellbeing Partnership made up of members of the CCG, Public Health, Social Services, County and Borough councillors and Health Service providers.

The launch of the Ribble Valley Year of Health & Wellbeing will provide a focus on three outcomes:

- Work to establish a dementia friendly community
- Promote healthier individual lifestyles
- Develop affordable warmth and healthy homes

This in turn will help achieve the objectives of:

- Increasing participation in at least thirty minutes of moderate activity each week
- Improving the health and well being of older people
- Improving accessibility and service delivery to address rural isolation and rural mental health issues
- Reducing alcohol and substance misuse and tobacco use
- Particularly monitoring the health of children and younger persons.

People - Older People and an Ageing Population

The consultative partner in this area is the Ribble Valley Seniors Forum which has limited connections with RVBC. Some work is done through the council supporting luncheon clubs, working with health partners on long term conditions and empowering communities to find resources and promote local activities to overcome rural isolation.

The plan is to:

- Ensure that the older people of the Ribble Valley are materially and financially secure
- Enable older people to access mainstream services
- Help older people make a positive contribution to the community
- Support the older people and their carers and keep them safe

People - Children and Younger Persons in the Ribble Valley

RVBC is a lead partner and co-ordinator for the Ribble Valley Children's Trust and the local Working Together With Families project. These are well established and funded both with administration costs and project budgets from Lancs County Council. The partnerships are strong, mature and inclusive. The Trust continues to:

- Develop out of school support across local communities, which provide a safe environment for children, young people and their families
- Support Children's Centres
- Increase the opportunities for children and young people to volunteer and be engaged in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services provided for them
- Create a partnership of relevant organisations to address the issues contained within 'Every Child Matters' for the Ribble Valley.

People - Cultural Alliances in the Ribble Valley

This area is now almost exclusively led by RVBC with a limited amount of formal partnership working and as a consequence is limited by the resources and time available. The Sport and Physical Activity Alliance (SPAA) meets whenever possible to help:

- Establish a sports infrastructure and identify opportunities for projects that will raise physical activity
- Increase participation amongst young people, older people, women and girls, disabled people, low income groups and ethnic minorities

and the Arts Alliance (hardly meeting now) was set up to:

- Develop opportunities for the growth of arts opportunities in Ribble Valley

Place – Ribble Valley Housing

Again, the Housing Forum only meets annually and is led by RVBC. Informal partnership working is a strong feature that continues to monitor:

- The amount of affordable decent housing brought on stream
- Promote energy efficiency across the private sector
- Ensure that supported housing is available for vulnerable households

Place - Ribble Valley Environmental Issues

The environment theme group no longer meet but an informal partnership arrangement exists which remains a strong network that continues to achieve many of the detailed environmental outcomes, as below:

- Improve access to the country side through footpaths, bridleways and organised walking, horse riding and mountain biking
- Increase the opportunities for public transport through the communities and parishes
- Promote waste reduction and recycling
- Work with the private sector to evaluate schemes that result in positive changes in energy use and pollution minimisation
- Encourage the promotion and protection of Industrial Archaeology and Historical sites

Prosperity - Prosperous Ribble Valley

The economic group evolved into Breakfast Meetings and revitalised Town Teams and vibrant Chambers of Trade and Commerce in Ribble Valley. RVBC is the lead partner in this, as resources allow, and continue to support the particular outcomes below:

- Ensure that there is a supply of suitable employment sites
- Co-ordinate, innovate and diversify our tourism industry building on our strengths and developing new initiatives
- Foster and support social enterprises and community businesses
- Support the regeneration of Longridge, Whalley and Clitheroe
- Improve access to rural transport services and continuously work towards increasing the amount of public transport available.

PEOPLE

Welcoming Ribble Valley (People and Communities)

Key Results:

- The number of people who feel they can influence decisions made locally has increased from 30% to 38% (2012/13) during the life of this plan
- The number of people who agree that the local neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together has fallen from 79% to 71% in the same period

Increased participation in communities

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Strengthen local democracy and allow people to have a greater say in local decision making	The Rural Forum meets infrequently, but has at least been established. The voluntary sector, agencies and relevant community groups continue to engage on a regular basis to help inform local strategy, gather community opinion, initiate projects and communicate back to relevant strategic leads	RVBC/ Partnership Network <div style="background-color: #76b82a; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Green</div>
Ensure that the concerns of all communities are recognised	Specific community partnerships in Clitheroe, Longridge and Whalley and in the majority of the villages have been supported on an informal basis in developing the “Healthy Valley” project. There is an opportunity to formalise community aspirations and find a way of informing Parish Councils or working with another partnership which brings together the community social capital of Ribble Valley.	 <div style="background-color: #fff9c4; padding: 5px; text-align: center;">Amber/ Needs new initiative</div>

<p>Strengthen support for the Voluntary, Community and Faith Sectors and encourage their work and promote volunteering</p>	<p>The Voluntary Sector in Ribble Valley has contracted with the significant reduction in available funding for offices and administration purposes, but nevertheless still has a presence in Ribble Valley.</p> <p>The sector could be supported by Ribble Valley Borough Council offering office space at sustainable rentals within the ground floor of the Council Offices.</p> <p>There are many volunteers working in Ribble Valley, often in an informal way, and whilst there is no central “recruiting” of these, each group in the district seems to do particularly well in attracting the help they need.</p>	<p>CVS/RVBC/ LCC/ Partnership Network</p> <p>Amber/ Needs new initiatives</p>
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Develop community cohesion in Ribble Valley

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Develop community cohesion</p>	<p>There have been a significant number of events organised through the partnership across the district which have covered an extensive range of subjects and attracted a wide diversity of delegates. More are planned as a matter of course in the coming years.</p> <p>Currently cohesion is being achieved through continued dialogue and development of community groups in villages and towns.</p>	<p>RVBC/ Partnership Network</p> <p>Green</p>

Safety and well being in the Ribble Valley

Key Results:

- Serious Acquisitive Crime Rate has risen by 21% over the last 4 years (315 to 380)
- Domestic violence related offences continued to increase
- However local indicators from the Place Survey such as those of residents feeling safer during the night has increased from 73% to 81% and other indicators show a significant decrease in perceived levels of anti social behaviour in Ribble Valley effectively reducing the fear of crime.

Reduce the number of crimes

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Reduce and maintain low levels of crime	The strength and effectiveness of the Community Safety Partnership and its regular analysis of trends and robust performance management has resulted in the maintenance of extremely low level of crimes in Ribble Valley.	Police/ RVBC Green

Reduce the fear of Crime amongst all communities

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Increase confidence and satisfaction levels in agencies tackling crime and disorder	Continued support for the Community Safety Partnership	Police/ RVBC Green

Impact of alcohol and substance misuse

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Assess and co-ordinate resources to respond to alcohol and substance misuse in the community	<p>Successful series of initiatives through LDAAT and CANSAFE funding have created positive interventions.</p> <p>These are unlikely to continue without external funding.</p>	<p>LCC/Police/ PCT</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p>Amber/ Sustain- ability Issues</p> </div>

Reduce numbers of people killed or seriously injured in road traffic collisions

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Reduce numbers of people killed and seriously injured on Ribble Valley Roads	<p>A Road Safety Forum has been established to initiate and monitor activities against priorities established by the partnership of relevant agencies in the district. This has resulted in the continued education of road users in particular 16-19 year olds, increased enforcement at known accident sites and engineering solutions to stretches of the A59 and A682 where possible.</p>	<p>LCC/Police/ RVBC</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #c6e0b4; padding: 5px; width: fit-content;"> <p>Green</p> </div>

Health Improvement for all Ribble Valley Residents

Key Results:

- There are not many significant health improvement results from the Ribble Valley health profile to report over the period of the Plan.
- For example, the trend of increase in the number of alcohol related hospital admission rates has not been reduced. There were 1269 incidents in 2008 and this is now 1686 in 2012
- The number of adults and young people participating in sport and physical activity has in fact decreased from 24.3% currently to 22.6% over the last three years
- The proportion of adult smoking rates has reduced, however, from 15.9% to 14.7% by 2012

Reduce the incidence of Cardiovascular Disease through healthy diet and exercise

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Increase the number of adults and younger persons participating in at least 30 minutes of sport and physical activity on 3 or more days a week</p>	<p>Deliver projects through the Sport and Physical Activity Alliance which will need to be re-invigorated</p>	<p>SPAA</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Amber</div>
<p>Increase the number of people who eat at least five portions of fruit and vegetables every day.</p>	<p>The Change 4 Life programme will continue to be used to promote the consumption of 5 portions of fruit and vegetables per day</p>	<p>HEALTH</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #c8e6c9; padding: 2px; text-align: center;">Green</div>

Long Term Conditions

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Improve the health and well being of people with a long term condition</p>	<p>Long term health conditions most relevant to Ribble Valley have been identified and work is under way with local voluntary groups and members of the East Lancs CCG to assess gaps in service provision specifically CVD, diabetes, musculoskeletal disease, neurological (including dementia) and chronic respiratory disease with a view to reducing unnecessary hospital visits and improving the quality of service to these patients</p>	<p>HEALTH/ RVBC</p> <p align="center">Green</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>The Healthy Valley project has improved the accessibility older and disadvantaged people have to local services through the use of village halls and the mobile resource (STAN). The longer term future around funding essential refurbishments to community centres and indeed the continued support of the mobile resource has still to be determined.</p>	<p>RVBC/LCC/ HEALTH</p> <p align="center">Amber/ Sustain- ability Issues</p>

Improve accessibility and service delivery to address rural isolation and rural mental health issues for all communities

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Improve accessibility and service delivery to address rural isolation and rural mental health issues</p>	<p>The Healthy Valley project and the incorporation of its findings and outcomes into mainstream planning will continue to initiate new services and projects to counter rural isolation</p>	<p>RVBC/LCC/ HEALTH</p> <p align="center">Green</p>

“	Regular meetings of the Ribble Valley Mental Health Forum have not been established	CVS/HEALTH Red
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Reduce alcohol and substance misuse and help reduce Cardiovascular disease

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Reduce alcohol and substance misuse and reduce tobacco use	Alcohol related admission rates are still high and whilst resources are still available every effort will be made to implement effective interventions. The setting up of Inspire in Clitheroe has had an impact on evidencing trends and providing local interventions.	HEALTH Green
“	Continue to reduce adult smoking rates. There are still worrying trends of smoking amongst young people and pregnant women in Ribble Valley	HEALTH Amber

Older People and an Ageing Population in the Ribble Valley

Key Results:

- The healthy life expectancy at age 65 has been maintained in the district at just over 81, in 2012/13 but within the borough there are areas of disadvantage where life expectancy is significantly less.
- There has not been any significant evidence that the number of people over 65 who receive the information, assistance and support needed to exercise choice and control to live independently, has improved.

Health and Well Being

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Improve the health and well being of older people	There have been several projects initiated around safeguarding the physical, mental and emotional well being of local older people particularly through the support of luncheon clubs and projects such as “Villagers Matter” where activities and transport have been provided to promote healthy ageing and well being initiatives in village halls. The Year of Health and Wellbeing will provide further initiatives which will support older people.	HEALTH/ AGE (UK) <div style="background-color: #90ee90; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Green</div>
“	Some progress has been made in producing a strategy, which will effectively provide decent and appropriate accommodation for local older people. The main remaining issue is a lack of suitable housing for residents to down scale to in the villages and the incentive to do so.	RVBC/ Ribble Valley Homes <div style="background-color: #ffff00; border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Amber</div>

Local Older People need to be materially and financially secure

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Improve the overall wellbeing of older people</p>	<p>There is potential to achieve an increase in benefit take up by local older people through initiating a multi-agency project aimed at providing more information, support and advice to those residents not claiming their full benefit entitlement.</p>	<p>CAB/LCC Age(UK)</p> <p>Amber/Needs new initiative</p>

Older People able to access mainstream services

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Ensure that older people are able to access mainstream services</p>	<p>The Healthy Valley Project has laid some of the foundations to improve the accessibility for older people to local services through the use of STAN (the mobile resource centre), village halls and community centres.</p> <p>This needs further significant partnership working to achieve demonstrable improvements in service delivery.</p>	<p>Age UK/ HEALTH/ RVBC/LCC</p> <p>Amber/Needs new initiative</p>

Enable Older People to make a positive contribution

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Help older people make a positive contribution to the community	The Seniors' Forum is supported to engage the voice and contribution of local older people in community partnerships	Seniors' Forum Green

Safe and supported Older People

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Enable older people to maintain their independence and feel safe within their own home Support carers	There remains a need to undertake a mapping exercise to find areas and gaps in provision to ensure that older people and their carers, along with residents who have long term medical conditions, receive appropriate support as in other neighbouring districts Crossroads and Carers' Link provide an effective forum for carers and they are supported in the creation of a newly emerging strategy for carers in the Ribble Valley.	Amber Green

Children and Younger Persons in the Ribble Valley

Stay Safe

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Develop out of school support across all local communities, which provide a safe environment for children, young people and their families</p>	<p>The establishment of the Ribble Valley Children & Young People's (C&YP) Trust has allowed the introduction of new initiatives in Early Support for Families and the Working Together With Families project. This has resulted in identifying and funding family based activities, based in local communities, schools' counselling initiatives and has promoted parenting skills through the Parenting Forum.</p> <p>Improved multi-agency working has resulted particularly around supporting vulnerable families</p>	<p>C&YP TRUST</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #c6e0b4; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Green</div>

Enjoy and Achieve

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Facilitate the provision of Vocational Learning for 14-19 year olds</p>	<p>With relatively small pupil numbers and limited funding opportunities the prospect of a vocational learning centre for 14-19 year olds in Ribble Valley specifically to encourage take up of training to develop skill qualifications in construction, business, hair and beauty, IT skills and other vocational learning has been lost.</p> <p>With 80% of Ribble Valley 16 year olds having to go outside the borough for their further education it is vital that smaller innovatory pilot schemes be developed in the district.</p>	<p>LCC/ Ribble Valley Schools/ RVBC</p> <div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: #fff2cc; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 5px auto;">Amber/ New Initiative Required</div>

<p>Support the three Children's Centres in Ribble Valley</p>	<p>Children Centres are now well established in Clitheroe, Whalley and Longridge. There are some issues with outreach into the rural areas but the centres now have a more positive future as the Ribblesdale Children's Centre now has a wider role as an operation centre for Early Support for 0 - 11 year olds in Ribble Valley</p>	<p>LCC Green</p>
<p>Ensure the promotion of a positive view of children and young people within the Ribble Valley and celebrate their contribution and achievements</p>	<p>The Grand has been and continues to be a champion for young persons' activities and building links in schools. Limited funding available for specific projects will allow this objective to remain as one of the C&YP priorities.</p>	<p>LCC/The Grand/ RVBC Green</p>

Making a Positive Contribution

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
<p>Increase the opportunities for children and young people from all sections of the community to volunteer and be engaged in the planning, delivery and evaluation of services provided for them</p>	<p>The Ribble Valley Youth Forum now exists and includes existing school and youth councils alongside the youth outreach work currently undertaken in the villages. The Youth Forum is now the representative voice of the youth population of Ribble Valley</p>	<p>LCC/Ribble Valley Schools The Grand Green</p>

Cultural Alliances in the Ribble Valley

CULTURAL PLAY ALLIANCE

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Develop a play culture and identify projects to offer opportunities to enhance play provision	The Play Alliance meets infrequently but has built bids for new sites and equipment. The Alliance still has the potential to be a vehicle that could collectively improve the sustainability and maintenance of existing play provision.	RVBC/CVS Amber

CULTURAL SPORT and PHYSICAL ACTIVITY ALLIANCE

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Establish a sports infrastructure and identify opportunities for projects that will raise physical activity	The SPAA has successfully developed the sports infrastructure and identified projects and match funding that should increase physical activity	RVBC/ HEALTH/ LCC/SPAA Green
Increase participation in physical activity amongst young people, older people, women and girls, disabled people, low income groups and people from ethnic minorities	Projects have been identified, and will continue to be, for the majority of these target groups within the Sport and Physical Activity Strategy	RVBC/ SPAA Green

CULTURAL ARTS ALLIANCE

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Develop opportunities for the growth of arts opportunities and showcase events in the Ribble Valley	An Arts Strategy for Ribble Valley was completed	RVBC/ Arts Alliance Green
Develop opportunities for the growth of arts opportunities and showcase events in the Ribble Valley	Arts Alliance and web site established and several important events held. Needs continuing support to maintain output. External grant funding applications have been weak and this area should be supported.	RVBC/ Arts Alliance Amber

PLACES

Housing in Ribble Valley

Key Result: 69 affordable homes were delivered in 2011/2012

Increase the amount of affordable and appropriate housing brought on stream

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Increase the amount of affordable and appropriate housing brought on stream that is decent and of high quality in a well designed living environment)	In excess of 50 new affordable / appropriate homes provided per year	RVBC/ RSL Partners Green

Improve and maintain the condition of housing stock

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Improve and maintain the condition of private sector stock	Have not managed to bring back into use 12 empty properties per year, average has been 6	RVBC Amber
“	Partnership working achieved through newsletters and forums	RVBC Green
“	Achievement of 100% decent homes with all social housing landlords	RVBC

Promote energy efficiency

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Promote energy efficiency across the private sector	Initiatives aimed at reducing energy poverty in Ribble Valley have been introduced	RVBC Green

Ensure supported housing is available for vulnerable households from all sections of the community

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Ensure that supported housing is available for vulnerable households	It has not been able to reduce the length of time homeless clients spend in temporary accommodation	RVBC Amber
“	Ongoing support in place to sustain tenancies and help prevent homelessness in vulnerable groups	RVBC Green

Ribble Valley Environmental Issues

Key Results:

- The percentage of waste recycled increased from 26.3% to 36.6% by 2012

TACKLING FUEL POVERTY

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Tackle fuel poverty	<p>No real district wide initiatives made.</p> <p>Look at ways of completing the Single Assessment Process on a significant and statistically meaningful number of properties within Ribble Valley.</p>	<p>RVBC/LCC</p> <p>Amber/ Needs New Initiative</p>
“	<p>The “Green Doctor” pilot identified both need and potential successful outcomes in Ribble Valley but was not followed up with funding or resources.</p>	<p>RVBC/ Groundwork</p> <p>Red</p>

TRANSPORT SUB GROUP

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Identify alternative choices to travel	Some limited support of cycling as a sporting activity, a new bus initiative in the Forest Of Bowland and continued support of the local railway network has contributed to this objective. It has not been possible to establish a Transport Group.	RVBC/LCC Amber
“	County have continued to improve access to the country side. A Ribble Valley Walking Week has been established and the Walks programme continues to be led and supported.	RVBC/ HEALTH/LCC Green
“	New car parking, training skills loops, an 18km cycle trail and visitor and interpretive centre have been established in Gisburn Forest around the buildings at Stephen Park. Visitor numbers are now in excess of 50,000 per year.	Forestry Commission Green
Promote the use of public transport through the communities and parishes	Ribble Valley Community Transport has been supported extensively and several initiatives introduced such as “Villagers Matter”, where transport has been used to combat rural isolation amongst older residents.	RVBC Green

ENVIRONMENT WASTE

Strategic Objectives	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Promote waste reduction through recycling and reducing waste generation	Successful rollout of recycling	RVBC Green
“	Exemplary recycling campaign implemented in primary and secondary schools	LCC/RVBC Green

ENVIRONMENT CLIMATE CHANGE

Strategic Objectives	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Evaluate contribution of habitat management to achieve carbon offset	Clitheroe Transition Town movement established in Ribble Valley but not having major impact on habitat management	RVBC Amber
“	Community Food Growing Initiatives have been initiated in Gisburn, Sabden and Whalley but with no immediate sites available, their progress has stalled. Several food growing sites have been established in High Schools and Primary Schools throughout Ribble Valley	RVBC Green

<p>Evaluate contribution of habitat management and built development to flood alleviation</p>	<p>Work done in developing strategy and monitoring impact of planning and build and some precautionary flood protection work in Clitheroe.</p>	<p>RVBC/ Environment Agency</p> <p>Amber</p>
<p>Evaluate schemes that result in positive changes in energy use and pollution minimisation</p>	<p>A Ribble Valley Business Environment forum has been established linking to the opportunity for improved energy use and waste minimisation</p>	<p>Groundwork</p> <p>Amber</p>
<p>“</p>	<p>Plan to monitor and improve CO2 emission levels was put on hold as production at Castle Cement slowed down</p>	<p>RVBC</p> <p>Red</p>
	<p>A survey assessing viability of potential Hydro Power Generation sites in Ribble Valley was completed. Some sites identified for development and initial work design and planning work now being undertaken</p>	<p>Forest of Bowland AONB</p> <p>Amber</p>

ENVIRONMENT HERITAGE

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Maintain, protect and enhance all natural and built features that contribute to the quality of the environment	Ribble Trust is now working well around river catchment areas but no other civic pride groups or community task groups have been established on a local scale yet	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Amber</div> RVBC/LWT
Assess and protect the Biodiversity of the District	Analysis of management of sites of Biological Interest undertaken	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Amber</div>
Sustainably manage and protect Industrial and Historical sites	Heritage Group formed but meets infrequently to coordinate individual local groups and their activities.	<div style="border: 1px solid black; background-color: yellow; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">Amber</div>

PROSPERITY

Prosperous Ribble Valley

Key Results:

- The number of new businesses registered for VAT increased from 2720 to 2955 by 2012

Encourage economic activity to increase business and employment opportunities

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Diversify the economy	Business advice and support in Ribble Valley has been significantly reduced in the last two years but the growth and survival of businesses has nevertheless remained encouraging. A pilot micro enterprise project has been successfully initiated.	RVBC/LCC Amber
Ensure that there is a supply of suitable employment sites	Business workspace and employment sites have continued to be identified and supported where possible.	RVBC/ LCC Amber
Co-ordinate, innovate and diversify sustainable tourism	A small number of sustainable tourism projects have been developed in Ribble Valley.	RVBC Amber
Improve the competitiveness and productivity of local businesses	The Ribble Valley Food Trail and Food Festivals have laid the foundation for promoting local producers and food companies on a regional basis. These initiatives are continuing in the short term.	RVBC/ LBTB Green
Explore opportunities to further develop Ribble Valley's Business base	New business starts continue in Ribble Valley but levels of business support have significantly reduced.	Amber

Support the regeneration of Market Towns and sustainable service centres

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Support the regeneration of Longridge, Whalley and Clitheroe	Longridge Business Traders along with the Clitheroe and Whalley Chambers of Trade are currently vibrant and leading individual projects.	Green
Strengthen community services and facilities to engage in social and economic regeneration	The “Healthy Valley” and “Village Amenities Improvement” projects have been successful in enhancing capacity within the parishes and villages. There have also been some significant improvements in better broad band communication with high band width internet connectivity as a result.	RVBC Amber/ Needs New Initiative

Foster and support social and financial inclusion

Strategic Objective	Outcomes	Lead Organisation
Foster and support social enterprises and community businesses	Several social enterprises and community businesses have been established in Ribble Valley	Green
“	First Choice Credit Union established in Ribble Valley	Green