

Community Plan – Consultation feedback

Tracked changes in this document reflect amendments made following comments received 26 October – 01 November 2006

No	Comment	Commentary	Recommendation
1	The structure of the plan which places Older People's concerns in the Healthier Harrow section underplays the wide variety of topics of interest and importance to Older People including social, economic and health issues.	The Plan has been constructed using the LAA activity blocks as the chapter headings and this has placed Older people within the Healthier harrow section. This does indeed restrict the range of Older People's interests that are recognised in the plan and this should be addressed by including relevant paragraphs in other sections.	Amend the plan to include this comment.
2	The Plan does not make particular reference to the needs of disabled people and in particular all aspects of accessibility.	This is an omission and the plan should accommodate access issues in all sections	Amend the plan to take account of this concern
3	Concerns over the complexity of the submission process to seek World Heritage status for Harrow on the Hill, the achievability of the proposal and doubts about the capacity of the area to handle large additional numbers of visitors	English Heritage have commented that the process leading to a submission to UNESCO is lengthy, complex and expensive which may make this unrealistic in the timescale for medium term ambitions. It might be more appropriate to highlight in the plan the scope for increasing tourism generally.	Replace this specific ambition with a more general encouragement of tourism
4.	Are there resources available to achieve the objectives set out in the Plan?	The ambitions in the plan, for the most part, indicators of the direction in which services should be evolving rather than extra things to be done on top of existing service priorities.	Do not include

5	As life expectancy continues to increase, there will be a concomitant increase in the need for residential care. A sizeable proportion of those seeking residential care may well look for language and culturally specific provision. Should the plan reflect this?	This aspiration can be included in the Healthier Harrow section	Include
6	The method and timescales for evaluating and renewing the plan should be stated within the plan	Agreed	Include
7	The Partnership needs to consider how it can become more representative of the population.	Not directly an issue for the community plan but one that can be considered by the partnership separately	Do not include
8	Plan should be called the "Sustainable Community Plan"	Agreed	Amend
9	The definition of a Sustainable Community should be "one that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs" source Brundtland Report 1987	The Brundtland definition of a sustainable community has become a standard. It implies rights for future generations to inherit a planet on which life has not been prejudiced by harmful modifications of the ecosystems and that scientific and technological progress in all fields does not harm life on Earth.	Could be included
10	The vision is not inspiring	The vision in the Plan was derived from the Summit held in July and reflects the opinions of the majority of the people attending. However, we have tried to address this point in the latest version.	Amended Board to decide
11	The Olympics need to feature in the medium term ambitions	Agreed. The Plan should reflect the London and West London proposals for raising involvement in sport and increasing volunteering. Local plans are not yet sufficiently developed to be included	Include
12	There should be something about energy, sport and green transport	There are references to renewable energy and public transport in the Sustainable Communities section. There is reference to improving access to sport in the Healthier Harrow section	References already in the plan
13	The responsibilities placed on residents are not sufficiently aspirational and should be normalised behaviour long before 2020	There needs to be a balance in the vision between aspirational issues and things to which people can easily relate now. The residents' responsibilities	Do not amend

		section fits into the second category and is likely to be updated at each renewal of the Plan.	
14	Include a list of acronyms	The document is an almost acronym-free zone and those which have crept in are explained	Do not amend
15	The Plan lacks detail	The rolling three year action plan part of the plan is where the detail should be included	Do not amend
16	No reference to allotments	Agreed. A concise high-level directional plan cannot include references to everything.	Do not amend
17	Walking and cycling need to be included	These issues are included within the ambitions in the Sustainable Communities section	Do not amend
18	No mention of housing density, local energy schemes, or green belt	These are issues for the Local Development Framework	Do not amend
19	No mention of education for sustainability	Agreed. This is a legitimate role for the Partnership and should be included	Include
20	No mention of bio-diversity	Included in an ambition within the Sustainable Communities section	Do not amend
21	The Emergency Planning statement needs clarifying	The statement suggests that there are likely to be increased incidents and severity of extreme weather and that plans for responding to them need to be developed	Do not amend
22	Remove the word “aim” from the document and replace with “we will”	This refers to the medium term ambitions and seeks a stronger commitment to achievement. However, given the qualitative nature of many of the ambitions, and because they represent just a point on the path to achieving the vision, the fluidity of “aim” is appropriate.	Do not amend
23	Include ‘who will be monitoring’ and ‘where additional information is available’ statements for each section	Agreed for the designed version of the plan	Include
24	Increase the prominence of cultural and historic sites	See 3 above	See 3 above
25	Outputs from the Bapti study to be included	The Bapti study involved a micro simulation project modelling town centre traffic movements in response to different road configurations. The outputs are included in the Town Centre strategy and are not appropriate for this level of document	Do not amend
26	No mention of road and pedestrian safety	There is a largely successful programme reducing road casualties already in existence	Do not amend

27	Include the consequences of alcohol and drugs	These are well known and are not different in Harrow to elsewhere	Do not amend
28	There should be an explanation of why there is a need to share data	The plan suggests that data needs to be shared to “inform the planning of activities and services”	Do not amend
29	In relation to the 1500 volunteers, include the word “retained” after “recruited”	The LAA target is for there to 1500 more volunteers in 2009 than there were in June 2006. These need not be the same 1500 throughout the period although the more turnover there is, the greater the absolute number that will need to be recruited to meet the target	Do not amend
30	A large number of people in Harrow belong to a religion. The Community Plan should promote the work of Inter Faith to bring religious communities closer together	Agreed	Include
31	The Plan should address what should happen to older housing stock e.g. redevelopment	This is an issue for the Local Development Framework	Do not amend
32	Support the take up of walking e.g. Heritage trails, London Loop and Capital Ring	This is addressed in part through the planned work to tackle obesity, partly by the tourism agenda and partly through alternatives to car usage.	Do not amend
33	There should be more about health education and the wider determinants of health	The LAA refresh must include a mandatory target to narrow the in-Borough gap in all-age, all-cause mortality. This should be included in the Plan and will entail both health education and action to address wider determinants of health	Amend
34	Incentivise the use of gyms	A detailed point that will be looked at in the context of the wider determinants of health and the work to tackle obesity	Do not amend now
35	Too much nanny state in relation to Healthier harrow	None of the programmes to address smoking related disease, obesity or the wider determinants of health are compulsory for individuals but inform and assist people to live healthily	Do not amend
36	Parents role in relation to young people is not mentioned and more prominence needs to be given to family centred development	There are services supporting parenting and family centred development which are important and assist in achieving the Every Child Matters outcomes. There is not space, however, to include all services.	Do not amend

37	The Plan should refer to the educational attainment of all children, not just Looked After Children	Harrow's educational attainment record is excellent with the exception of the attainment of Looked After Children where, in common with many authorities, performance is far below that of children living with their own families. As such, the Plan has highlighted efforts to address this issue although it would be appropriate to include a reference to educational achievement	Include
38	Children's voices and the views of young people should be listened to, not just heard	Agreed	Amend
39	Need to mention FE as well as schools	Agreed	Amend
40	Reword the ambition on sexual health	Agreed	Amend
41	The vision should include the concepts of social cohesion and social inclusiveness	These concepts could be included in the vision	Board to decide
42	Alongside diversity, communities should be encouraged to integrate	The intention of the vision of celebrating what we have in common is to use shared values and aspirations as a building block of a more integrated community	Do not amend
43	Welcome protection of green spaces		
44	'Considering alternatives to using your car' is too weak	Encouraging people to make an informed choice rather than unthinkingly drive represents progress	Do not amend
45	Medium term refers to four to six years but also, on page 5, to refreshing the plan every four of five years. Which is the right timescale?	The review period is not defined to the year and month as it will depend, for example, on the timing of Government initiatives, such as the LAA, which would have a significant impact on the form and content of the next iteration of the Plan. However, it is unlikely that the Plan could run for more than 5 years and still be current	Do not amend
46	For the vision to be achieved, the Partnership will need to lobby Government successfully for more resources and the Plan should say so.	See 4 above. That is not to say, however, that additional resources would be unwelcome or that Partners will not be making that case whenever appropriate	Do not amend

47	Harrow Town Centre does not provide good quality shopping facilities	The town centre is the ninth largest in London and provides a good range of shops. The town centre strategy does envisage a renewal of the infrastructure and a remodelling the centre to achieve improvements	The comment is subjective and it is for the Board to decide
48	In addition to 'preventing anti-social behaviour in parks' other areas also need a reduction in anti-social behaviour	Agreed. This ambition relates to particular initiatives to address behaviour in parks but other work, such as Safer Neighbourhood Teams, are addressing anti-social behaviour more generally	Do not amend
49	Concern that Harrow has a relaxed position on property conversion forming two or more units from a previously single house as this undermines 'belonging' to an area	This is a matter for the Local Development Plan and planning policy.	Do not amend
50	Emergency Plans should be developed to deal with all issues, not just climate change, and should be shared with the public	Emergency plans are developed for a range of situations but concentrate most of communications and co-ordination between agencies and providing shelter to residents who might be temporarily evacuated. The detail that might be useful to residents will vary with the exact nature of the emergency and so plans are not normally publicised.	Do not amend
51	PATs may not be the right vehicle to help residents feel that they are empowered to improve their neighbourhoods	PATs will be evaluated after they have run for a year or so. Other mechanisms may be introduced if necessary.	Do not amend
52	There should be a specific reference to drugs as well as alcohol	The Plan is reflecting a new planned initiative concerning alcohol. Work tackling drugs is now firmly embedded through enforcement, education and treatment	Do not amend
53	To ensure that young people are respected by the wider population, encouraging mutual respect would helpful	Agreed	Include
54	The Borough's parks lack attractiveness at present	The target of 50% of parks to Green Flag standard within 4 to 6 years has been re-examined and appears to be over optimistic. It is suggested that it should be reworded to "up to 50%....	Amend

55	Recycling banks look unattractive	Recycling banks look unsightly when they attract more contributions than they can handle. The household collection of recyclables should reduce the excess of materials at street banks	Do not amend
56	Young People should be encouraged to organise and specify the services that they want	This fits with the concept of consumer input into service design and delivery and has a place within the range of young people's services that the partnership provides	Amend
57	There should be a stroke unit at Northwick Park Hospital	Referred to PCT to respond	
58	The output of scrutiny reviews, especially Fear of Crime and Social Inclusion, should be used to help inform the plan	This has already happened to a large extent but needs to be referenced.	Amend
59	There should be low level lighting in parks to encourage use as a pedestrian route after dusk and discourage anti-social behaviour	This will be assessed as part of the work to reduce anti-social behaviour in parks	Refer
60	Support to businesses especially in relation to better premises should include the retail sector	Work on the role to be played by our secondary shopping centres is underway which may assist retail business outside the main town centre.	Refer
61	The vision needs to be more distinctly about Harrow	There is a danger in any very long term vision that the imprecision inherent in looking 14 years in to the future produces statements that could be read to fit a variety of places.	Board to decide
62	Ambitions could be written in a positive way "encouraging something to happen " rather than a negative way "preventing something from happening"	This is possible and is being explored in the case of some ambitions. However, it can also loose the directness which links the ambition to public concerns	Board to decide
63	The Plan should include some statistical predictions for 2020	There is no forecasting mechanism that can cope with the range of variables that might be significant during the life of the Plan.	Do not amend
64	Vision should take account of foreseeable changes such as provision of basic services with customer purchased extras, universal broadband access, demographic changes. etc	It is not clear that these or any other changes in service content or delivery methods are completely foreseeable. It is not clear that demographic changes such as the growth in migration from new EC member states is yet an enduring trend.	Board to decide

65	Need to establish a Community Court in Harrow to make justice visible and more immediate	Department for Constitutional Affairs has been asked to comment. Should nonetheless be included	Amend
66	Include references to extended schools and Children's Centres in the Young Harrow section	Agreed	Amend
67	There are no references to Carers	Agreed.	Amend
68	Ambition to "Prevent Anti-Social behaviour in parks" should be changed to "Reduce..."	If prevent means no incidents at all, then the suggestion is welcomed. If, however, prevent means take action that prevents at least some instances, then change not needed	Amend for clarity
69	Include new mandatory LAA targets in the Plan	Targets about mortality, crime, the fear of crime, the public perception of drug dealing and drug use as a local problem, people's ability to influence decisions affecting their area and perceptions about anti-social behaviour all to be included	Amend
70	Health infrastructure spending has been skewed to areas of affluence exacerbating health inequalities. The plan needs to state that this will no longer occur	Referred to the PCT for comment.	
71	Support for a choice of housing in distinctive neighbourhoods but not studios at £160,000	This is a matter for the Local Development Framework and the market	Do not amend
72	Good street lighting, improved pavements, reducing congestion through engineering works and reducing the number of times utilities dig up the road.	These are issues that the Council is addressing as quickly as resources allow and support the aim in the Safer Harrow section of focusing on the built environment	Do not amend
73	Ensure that all tube and bus stations are manned and well lit	Refer to Transport for London for comment	
74	There is no room in Harrow for more house building	This is a matter for the Local Development Framework	Do not amend
75	There should be separate section in the plan to reflect the needs of older people, particularly as this is a growing section of the population.	See 1 above. As a result of this earlier comment, older people's interests I sustainable communities and crime have been included in those sections.	Do not amend
76	The positive impact of older people on the local economy should be recognised in that they help create prosperity and opportunity not least through volunteering and childcare.	Agreed	Amend

77	The voluntary sector representatives on the HSP Board and Executive were elected to represent the sector not their individual organisations	Agreed	Amend
78	Reach the decent homes standard for all social housing	Agreed	Amend
79	There needs to be another leisure centre like the Wealdstone Centre in west of the Borough	There are currently no plans for such a centre	Do not amend
80	The capacity of the voluntary and community sector needs to be increased, their funding placed on a proper basis and community premises vested in a community trust	The voluntary and community sector are integral partners in devising and delivering the community plan. Funding for voluntary sector activities needs to be better co-ordinated between the statutory partners and others and this is already included in the plan. Proposals for a community trust are under discussion	Amend
81	Ensure that the Partnership uses existing information to project future community needs and plan accordingly	The Community Plan is a structured attempt to do exactly this and, through the programme of refreshing the action plan annually and the ambitions every four years or so, the Plan can anticipate emerging demands	Do not amend
82	The Plan's response to climate change is inadequate as it does not include decentralised energy generation, biomass, combined heat and power, recycled rainwater, rainwater harvesting, high performing double glazing, solar water heating, photovoltaic electricity production electric pool cars, pool bikes, car sharing and travel plans	The Plan includes a number of proposals that are aimed at reducing greenhouse emissions and protecting the environment. The additional proposals suggested are options that would need to be evaluated and this can be done if the Board so decides	Board to decide
83	There is insufficient protection for the Green Belt which is under threat and very little attention paid to bio-diversity	The plan already includes a commitment to protect green spaces and to improve bio-diversity. However, it should reference Green Belt specifically.	Amend
84	Would like to see more of a reference to accessibility re disability which is important.	There are already a number of changes which have strengthened this part of the plan.	Do not amend