

# HAVERING COMMUNITY STRATEGY UPDATE 2005

[www.hspnetwork.org.uk](http://www.hspnetwork.org.uk)



## About our strategy

Havering's Community Strategy creates a framework for improving the quality of life for all people in Havering. The strategy has been developed by the Havering Strategic Partnership (HSP) in consultation with the community. The HSP will work together with the whole community and partnerships to achieve our shared ten year vision and priorities captured within this strategy. The HSP will strive to increase the diversity of people actively involved in and contributing to the development of sustainable communities.

## Our vision

Our vision for Havering is to create a safe, welcoming, healthier and more prosperous place where people choose to live, work and visit.

In drawing up the strategy the HSP recognises, values and embraces the diversity of cultures within Havering, and the communities that make up the borough. The HSP is committed to ensuring that services and activities benefit all communities, particularly those who are disadvantaged and hard to reach.

### Our Mission

The HSP mission is to:

- Create a thriving successful and healthy community for all
- Make Havering an inclusive place in which to live, work and visit
- Create a dynamic, prosperous economy driven by a well educated and trained workforce
- Create a good quality of life in Havering for now and the future, through actions that contribute locally, nationally and internationally to sustainable development.

### Our Values

We will strive to:

- Engage local communities and reflect local needs and aspirations in policies and plans
- Coordinate actions of HSP members to meet the needs of the community in an efficient and effective way
- Achieve sustainable development and local improvements
- Promote the development of a cohesive safe community.
- Encourage the development of coordinated and joint service plans.

## Key Priorities:

This strategy is a living document which will be continually reviewed and updated. It builds on the strong foundations laid by the first strategy published in 2002 and the six themes which remain relevant:

### Better Health and Welfare. We will

- Tackle health inequalities
- Tackle the demands of an ageing population and improve the quality of life for older people by tailoring care so they can live healthily and safely at home whenever possible
- Develop services to address rising levels of obesity
- Address increasing demands for mental health and alcohol services
- Improve partnership working to develop coordinated services for children and young people at risk.

### Increased Community Participation. We will

- Promote an inclusive community and develop the infrastructure for black and minority ethnic and other minority involvement
- Increase community involvement and boost civic pride
- Develop a strong and independent community and voluntary sector
- Develop solutions to barriers to voluntary sector development, including capacity and premises limitations.

### A more Prosperous Community. We will

- Support enterprise and businesses
- Maximise the benefits for the borough through opportunities in Thames Gateway including London Riverside
- Support people to develop the right skills to access jobs
- Create the right conditions to encourage inward investment
- Encourage improvements and new investment to strengthen town centres
- Increase the availability and quality of housing.

### Protect and Improve the Environment. We will

- Improve the local environment providing cleaner, safer streets and well-managed open spaces and ensure the protection of local heritage
- Reduce the volume of waste created and increase the proportion of waste that is recycled
- Work to create more sustainable transport systems focusing on travel choices, road safety, and reducing the environmental impacts of travelling
- Preserve and enhance biodiversity and the green environment
- Contribute to tackling climate change and promote sustainable energy.

### A Safer Community. We will

- Reduce the incidence of accidental and non accidental fires
- Address and tackle violent crime, hate crime, anti-social behaviour and domestic violence
- Promote better understanding between races and religions
- Manage the night time economy
- Reduce domestic burglaries and vehicle crime
- Address people's fear of crime.

### Improved Lifelong Learning. We will

- Give children the best possible start in life and ensure their on-going health and safety – every child matters in Havering
- Help all children and young people to enjoy their education and achieve their full potential
- Encourage all children and young people to develop the skills, expertise and values to contribute positively to society
- Provide targeted support to meet the needs of priority groups
- Encourage greater participation in lifelong learning.

### How will you know we have delivered?

The delivery plans that underpin this document translate the vision and priorities of this strategy into actions. They will be regularly monitored and progress reported to the community. See our website [www.hspnetwork.org.uk](http://www.hspnetwork.org.uk)

Our continuing commitment to meet local needs is demonstrated by maintaining an up to date and relevant Community Strategy jointly produced by the Havering Strategic Partnership in consultation with the community and key stakeholders.

## Havering The Place

We have to understand the needs of the borough and residents if we are to deliver our vision. The HSP has commissioned much analysis of the borough's socio-demographic makeup.

Key issues include:

- An elderly population – the highest proportion of people over sixty-five in London
- Lowest proportion of black and minority ethnic population in London but growing significantly
- Migration & change – on the whole a stable community in terms of population but developments on London Riverside will have a significant long term impact on the borough's demographic makeup
- A relatively healthy community with a good life expectancy rates
- Housing affordability problems among the most severe in London
- Pay levels in Havering are among the lowest in London and many residents travel elsewhere to work
- A growing Knowledge Economy
- Some of the best schools and colleges in London
- Relatively high proportion qualified to the equivalent of A level but lower proportion qualified to a higher level
- One of the lowest crime rates in London but a high incidence of violent crime
- High levels of fear of crime despite low real rates
- Excellent east-west connectivity, good public transport
- Good amenities, but scope for further improved service provision
- Havering is generally perceived as an affluent borough relative to East London but has significant pockets of deprivation particularly in Rainham, Harold Hill, Oldchurch, Brooklands and South Hornchurch
- A high quality environment including, various Sites of Special Scientific Interest, and sites of nature conservation and their special protection status.

## Havering Strategic Partnership

The HSP brings together local stakeholders, community and voluntary groups, local businesses and partnerships. The chair of the HSP is the Leader of Havering Council, Michael White. The vice chairs are Dennis Jacobs – Ford Motor Co., Kim Guest – Havco, and Len Smith – Havering PCT.

More information on Havering's Community Strategy can be found at [www.hspnetwork.org.uk](http://www.hspnetwork.org.uk)

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