

ROTHER LOCAL ACTION PLANS SUPPORT PROGRAMME

Linking with statutory agencies



Linking with Statutory Agencies: a Resource Pack

Acknowledgments

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Officers and members of the Rother Local Strategic Partnership, Rother District Council, Rother Voluntary Action and Action in Rural Sussex have all contributed to the fact sheets and have consented to have contact details published.

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Your Local Action Plan can be a tool to help you influence the organisations and groups that service your community as well as a plan for your own community action.

This Resource Pack is designed to help you to connect with other agencies so that the issues in your Action Plan that need help and support can be directed to the right people.

The Resource Pack contains a series of information sheets giving explanations of statutory strategies and frameworks that you can influence through your Action Plan and details of people, groups and organisations who can offer you advice, training or funding to implement your action plans. There are also suggestions as to how your group can work with these groups to enable your plan to have the greatest impact! Importantly by using the 9 step Action Plan Process in conjunction with this Resource Pack you can bridge the gap between your community action planning and the planning of your local council. The Sustainable Community Strategy Information Sheets in the Resource Pack will give you some tips on how to do this.

Introduction

Linking with statutory agencies

Local Action Plans and Healthchecks are the starting blocks for your community to take action and achieve great things. A great many issues and needs prioritised in your plan can be addressed by the community through volunteering to do things together or by bidding for grants, such as the Big Lottery Fund, which can be used to help develop a project. Examples of community action include:

- Organising and running a youth club with trained volunteers
- Establishing a voluntary car scheme to improve transportation links for all residents
- A village or Ward Spring Clean
- Setting up a composting scheme to cut down waste and improve recycling
- Raising funds for a sports pavilion

Expertise and knowledge within the community will enable you to carry out some of these projects alone. Seeking training and advice will enable you to carry out still more. Using the Action Plan as a clear proof of need and user involvement can enable you to access many more funds and grants to help you carry out larger or more costly projects.

However, some of the needs and issues that may be identified through your Action Plan cannot be tackled by the community alone, for example:

- Tackling speeding problems
- Retaining local health services
- Introducing cycle or pedestrian paths to promote a healthier lifestyle
- The need for more affordable housing

A community can still address these issues but it will be necessary to work in partnership with other agencies such as the Planning and Housing Departments of your local district council, your local primary care trust, local Police or Fire and Rescue services or County Council Roads and Transport Services.



Making an impact with your Council

At the present time the majority of your community's services are provided by the three tiers of local authority listed below. This Information Sheet outlines the roles and responsibilities of these three authorities.

Some of the issues raised within your plan cannot be addressed by the community alone and details of the key departments that may be useful to you when carrying out and implementing your Action Plan are listed at the end of this Information Sheet.

There is particular focus on the Rother Local Strategic Partnership, Sustainable Community Strategy and the Rother Local Development Framework. These are key avenues for getting more strategic issues (e.g. affordable housing) taken into account in local authority planning.

As well as a starting point for community action, your Action Plan is a weighty influencing tool!

Parish/Town Council

Not all parishes and towns have a Parish or Town Council but where they exist Parish and Town Councils are considered to be the grass roots of local community democracy and the first tier of Local Government.

They are statutory bodies with the power to raise money through the Council Tax. Councillors are representatives of their communities, and should have a mandate to represent their resident's views.

Recent legislation and directives from Government ensure Parish and Town Councils are consulted by their Borough/District Council and other agencies to represent their communities' views including for the preparation of Sustainable Community Strategies and Local Development Frameworks.

Parish and Town Councils produce an annual budget designed to reflect how the community wishes the money to be spent, as expressed through a range of consultation processes. Parish and Town Councils can be instrumental in implementing validated Action Plans in such matters as affordable housing, leisure facilities, traffic and transport issues, or other topics within their powers. For detailed information about the powers and duties of parish and town councils visit: www.nalc.gov.uk/information/legal/powers/index.html

This gives a list of the 33 functions, relative powers and duties and statutory provisions that support these powers.



Rother District Council

The District Council has many departments that offer services that could be useful for the implementation of your action plan.

These services include building control, business rates, bus permits/shelters, car parks, community safety, council tax & housing benefit, flooding, housing, leisure, planning, parks & recreation grounds, recycling and street cleaning. These departments are listed in the Business Section of the local telephone directory under Rother District Council or can be found on the Council's website:

www.rother.gov.uk

Rother's Local Strategic Partnership and the Council's emerging Local Development Framework have each been given a separate section in this fact sheet because of their particular relevance for action plans.

East Sussex County Council

The County Council also has many services which will be of use to you. These include Education, Highways, Public Footpaths, Social Services, Street Lighting, Trading Standards, Transport, Libraries and Waste Disposal. You can find out more details, and who to contact, on the Council's website, www.eastsussex.gov.uk or in the A–Z of Services leaflet available in Council Offices and Libraries.

East Sussex in Figures (ESiF)

East Sussex County Council in partnership with other local authorities has developed a 'data observatory' – a free and very flexible information system about the county and all its local communities. The funding initially was provided by all the East Sussex Local Strategic Partnerships.

East Sussex in Figures (ESiF) provides open access for everyone to a wealth of key statistics and other information on a wide range of issues. Topics covered include population, economy and employment, education, health and social care, housing, community safety, deprivation and the environment.

ESiF provides a range of easy-to-use interactive tools for analysing and presenting data and information. It allows you to manipulate tables, create thematic maps and generate graphs. You can explore survey data and download related publications.

This data can be used to create profiles of communities featured in Local Action Plans.

**ESiF can be accessed via:
www.eastsussexinfigures.org.uk**

Rother Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) – what is it?

The Rother LSP is a single body that brings together different parts of the public sector as well as the business, community and voluntary sectors so that different initiatives and services support each other and work together. Public, private, community and voluntary sector organisations all have a part to play in improving the quality of life for local people and work together to influence strategic decision-making at a local level.

The Rother LSP vision is ‘that Rother will be a place where everyone can live together sustainably and residents are properly informed, consulted and involved as part of an effective local partnership that recognises and addresses the needs of everyone in the community.’ The LSP, following extensive consultation, has identified 8 priority areas to support their vision and have set up 8 action groups to take forward plans to achieve local sustainability.

The eight priorities are:

- Children & young people
- Crime & community safety
- Culture & leisure
- Employment & skills
- Health
- Housing
- Transport
- Waste & recycling

The LSP is responsible for producing the Rother Community Plan – *Making Things Better by Working Together 2004-2009*. This document is the over arching vision, derived from public consultation, that all Rother District Council policies and strategies should be compatible with. This is probably the most important Planning Document that Local Action Plans can influence.

The LSP is formed of representatives from the organisations listed below; this is so the LSP is a partnership working towards the same over arching vision for the District. RDC planning officers in consultation with the community are producing the Local Development Framework (LDF). This will plan for the future use of land in the district until 2016 and will be the ‘Spatial’ representation of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The key organisations on the LSP will work together, instead of independently, to achieve the over arching priorities.



Rother Local Strategic Partnership

better
by working **together**

www.rother.gov.uk/LSP

Standing Members of the Rother LSP Board

Action in rural Sussex
East Sussex County Council
Government Office for the South East
Rother District Council
Rother Voluntary Action
South East England Development Agency (SEEDA)
Member of the Youth Parliament

Advisory Members of the LSP

East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
Environment Agency
Rother Race Action Forum
Rother Seniors

Priority Action Groups and Lead Members

Children & Young People:
East Sussex County Council
Community Safety:
Safer Rother Partnership
Culture & Leisure:
Rother District Council
Employment & Skills:
Ten Sixty Six Enterprise
Health:
Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust
Housing:
Rother Homes
Transport:
Rother Voluntary Action
Waste and Recycling:
Rother Environmental Group

What can the LSP do for Action Plan Groups?

The LSP will consider Action Plans which have been prepared on the basis of extensive community consultation and which are holistic. Project proposals can then be looked at by the LSP who will make recommendations as to the level of support that can be provided by the constituent agencies. Rother District Council officers can provide advice on how to approach the LSP and its Action Sub Groups.

LSP Contact:

Scott Lavocah, LSP Coordinator on
01424 787863 or
email: lsp@rother.gov.uk



Rother Community Plan



How you can link into the Community Planning Strategy?

The Rother Community Plan is prepared following extensive consultation across the Rother District. Local Action Plans represent local community priorities. Priorities within Local Action Plans may or may not fit in with the Rother Community Planning strategy but where they do they will help formulate priorities within the Community Plan.

Although the focus of Action Plans will be based on what is important to local people it would also be valuable for communities to consider issues relating to the above 8 key priorities of the Community Plan to ensure their views are represented.

What is the Rother Community Plan?

The Rother Community Plan sets out a vision for Rother and a list of aims to be tackled by everyone involved. These are updated to reflect the changing needs of residents and organisations and, along with recent achievements, are reported at Local Strategic Partnership Board Meetings.

The Rother Community Plan will be superseded by the East Sussex Integrated Sustainable Community Strategy in 2008.

The key objectives in the Community Plan are the same as those of the LSP: Children & Young People, Community Safety, Culture & Leisure, Employment & Skills, Health, Housing, Transport and Waste & Recycling.

Rother Community Plan

Contact: Scott Lavocah on 01424 787863 or

Email: lspp@rother.gov.uk

Rother Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Action Plans

In November 2005, the LSP published its first set of action plans – the collective work of the eight Priority Action groups in response to what the community told the LSP in 2002 and 2004. Out of the 43 targets, 27 were achieved, 13 were not achieved and three could not be determined due to up to date data not being available. The Action Groups are now working on revising their action plans in light of the evidence arising from Local Action Plans.

Please visit

www.rother.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=427 for more information.

Rother's Local Development Framework

What is the Local Development Framework?

Currently, the land use planning policies for Rother are included in a document called the Rother District Local Plan. The Local Plan looks ahead to the year 2011.

Over the coming years, the Local Plan is to be replaced by a series of documents which will be collectively called the Local Development Framework (LDF). The main parts of the LDF which will set out the local planning policies for Rother will be:

- Core Strategy – this will set out the broad strategy for future development in Rother. The Core Strategy will look ahead over the next 20 years
- Site Allocations Document – this will identify specific sites for particular types of development, consistent with the Core Strategy
- Generic Development Control Policies Document – this will set out non site-specific planning policies

For more detail about the LDF and its timescale visit www.rother.gov.uk/LDF

How is the LDF relevant for Action Plans?

The content of Action Plans can inform the content of the Local Development Framework documents by, for example:

- Identifying priority issues
- Providing a robust audit of local facilities and services
- Identifying your community's current and future needs

A characteristic of the LDF system is that a wide range of information and views are gathered at the early stages of the documents preparation. The process of preparing Action Plans can therefore help inform the Local Development Framework at the earliest stage. The LDF could help address planning issues identified through Action Plans.

It is also worth bearing in mind that if a planning issue arises in a Local Action Plan which contradicts a Local Plan Policy or the LDF Strategy it is unlikely to be implemented.

LDF contact:

Strategy & Environment Team,
Planning Division, Rother District Council

Tel: 01424 787634

Email: planningstrategy@rother.gov.uk

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Children and young people

The work of the Children's Service Planning Group (CSPG) in Rother flows from the ambitions of the East Sussex Children's Trust and its Children and Young People's Plan. The Children and Young People's Plan sets out key priorities and actions in five target areas that all the organisations and agencies in the county (who have a role to play in supporting and improving the lives of children and young people) must work together to achieve.

The five areas are:

- Be healthy
- Stay safe
- Enjoy and achieve
- Make a positive contribution
- Economic wellbeing

You can find out more about these five priority areas by visiting the national Every Child Matters website

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk

You can learn more about the East Sussex Children's Trust and the Children and Young People's Plan by visiting the Children's Trust web pages on

www.eastsussex.gov.uk

The Children and Young People Action Plan Group (CSPG), set up to help deliver the Rother Community Plan, is made up of key partners from the statutory, voluntary & community sector working in the area. The CSPG has agreed the following targets:

- Reduce by 10% the number of days lost through fixed-term exclusions in primary schools.
- Reduce the numbers of 16–18 year olds Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).



These are key Quality of Life indicators which impact on the Every Child Matters priorities outlined above, enabling children and young people to realise their potential.

Linking with Local Action Plans

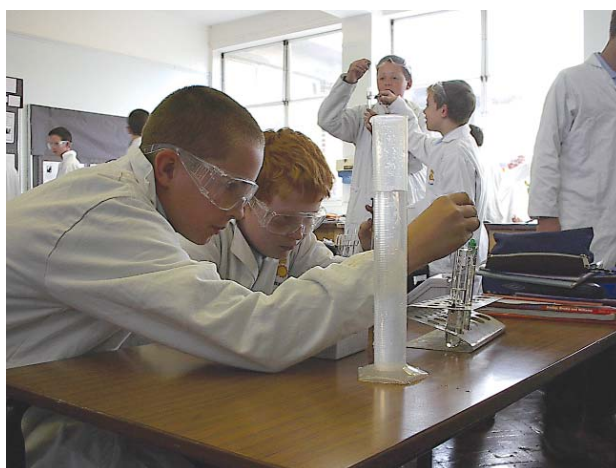
Representatives from the CSPG are willing to attend Local Action Plan groups and attend consultation and other events aimed at consulting or engaging with local people.

Youth Parliament for Hastings and Rother:
Luke Springthorpe

Contact: myp1066@btinternet.com

Children's Services Planning Group:
Carleton Astley

Email: carleton.astley@eastsussex.gov.uk



Community safety in Rother: Sussex Police Authority

Police Authorities have a statutory duty to ensure that local communities have a say in how they are policed and to oversee – on behalf of local people – the work of their police force. Every year the East Sussex Police Authority consults all sections of the community in Sussex to find out what people think are the most important things the police should tackle in order to inform the Policing Plan.

They do this jointly with the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships across Sussex which includes the Safer Rother Partnership. The Policing Plan covers the whole of Sussex (East, West and Brighton & Hove). It is an annual statement of intent and is a mix of locally and nationally set priorities. Consultation has various strands – an annual postal survey, face to face surveys and public meetings. Public meetings take place in each district once a year and are designed to give local people a chance to meet their local police officers and Police Authority Members, and have their say on policing in their area. Details of when and where these meetings occur are held at local police stations and on the police website.

www.sussexpoliceauthority.gov.uk

To avoid duplication the Authority's consultation arrangements have been brought in line with Local Authority areas to allow for joint consultation with partner agencies. The Local Chief Inspector is a member of the Rother Local Strategic Partnership and local Police are involved in the Safer Rother Partnership, which is currently chaired by the local Chief Inspector. In collaboration with community safety partners the police conduct periodic surveys to assess what the main areas of community concern are to enable the police locally to respond more effectively to the fear caused by crime.



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Community safety in Rother: Sussex Police

Consultation in Rother

Under the 'neighbourhood policing' agenda the police at a local level have been striving to consult with the community on a much more regular basis. This is a process that seeks to allow communities to shape the delivery of services for their individual needs.

In many neighbourhoods the police are achieving this through forums of 'Local Action Teams' (LAT). These groups are built up from members of the community, councillors (county, parish and ward), the police, housing providers, community projects and other partner agencies. Their purpose is to identify local priorities and work towards achieving solutions together. As part of this process the police will undertake surveys, surgeries and meetings both formally and informally, to hear what people want and to encourage debate about how to achieve solutions. The aim is to have forum/LAT arrangements in every neighbourhood. There is a bimonthly Crime and Anti Social Behaviour Forum run jointly with the Safer Rother Partnership and is specifically for parish councils to identify their issues. Inspector Heather Keating is responsible for co-ordinating this forum.

Neighbourhood Policing

Since 1995 every British Crime Survey shows a fall in overall crime yet the fear of crime remains high. The Government's paper *Building Communities, Beating Crime* sets out a vision of the police service which is accessible and responsive to the needs of the citizen.

It identifies Neighbourhood Policing as key to reform. A further paper: *Neighbourhood Policing – Your Police, Your Community, Our Commitment* went further by setting out plans to deliver neighbourhood policing teams to every area by 2008 supported by funding for up to 24,000 Community Support Officers. East Sussex is one of the first to pilot Neighbourhood Policing.

The aims of neighbourhood policing are to provide access to policing services through a named point of contact, enable neighbourhoods to influence police priorities, develop interventions jointly with partners and communities and find answers and sustainable solutions to local issues with feedback on outcomes. At neighbourhood level the police must be proactive in finding the best ways for communities to access police services. The Police must listen, act and feedback to communities and should encourage communities to participate in the policing of their neighbourhoods.

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Community safety in Rother: Sussex Police *continued*

Linking with Local Action Plans

Local Police Officers are Members of the Rother Local Strategic Partnership and are also involved in the Community Safety Action Plan Group of the Rother Community Plan. The police recognise the action plan process is an excellent means to achieve localised influence in police service delivery and are available to attend meetings and community group debates to discuss local policing services.

This can be arranged through local police contacts, Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs), police station or any officer. The Police are also on hand at local police stations, via the telephone, the internet and in person, to discuss local issues and problems within a community. The police find one of the most effective ways of consulting people is through personal day to day contact and have embedded PCSOs in communities for this very purpose.

Specialist Neighbourhood Officers and Sergeants are holding surgeries in local communities to find out what concerns people have. This information will help to inform Local Action Planning and police service delivery.

To find out if you have a surgery held in your community contact your Local PCSO Co-ordinator or go to the website which gives information about the Police Officers and PCSOs working in each parish/ward.

The Rother LSP ambition is to actively support the Safer Rother Partnership's effort to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime. The Safer Rother

Partnership delivers projects to achieve this. Our target is to reduce British Crime Survey Comparator Crime by 15% by April 2008. Partners include Sussex Police, Sussex Police Authority, Rother District Council, East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service, Hastings and Rother PCT and East Sussex County Council.

Contact for Community Safety – Safer Rother Partnership:

Chair: Chief Inspector Steve Brookman

Tel: 01424 456150

Email:

steve.brookman@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Coordinator: Carol Studley

Tel: 01424 456150

Email: carol.studley@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Contact for Neighbourhood Policing

Three specialist sergeants co-ordinate the work of PCSOs. They can help you to contact your local PCSO, assist with problems or attend local action plan meetings/events.

Battle – Sarah Porter

Email: sarah.porter@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Rye – John Berry

Email: john.berry@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Bexhill on Sea – Mark Boughton

Email:

mark.boughton@sussex.pnn.police.uk

Culture and leisure

Your Culture & Leisure Action Planning Group from the Rother Community Plan aims to provide year round opportunities for both local people and visitors to access and participate in a wide range of culture, sport and leisure activities.

They plan to achieve this through the following:

- To work towards supporting Regeneration and Tourism in Rother by various projects designed to support the growth of tourist/visitor numbers by 2010
- To improve community wellbeing through increasing participation in activities for children, young people and other target groups over the next 5 years
- To support the countryside and coast by developing a Green Space Strategy by 2008 which will help to protect and enhance the environment
- To support information and learning to help improve perceptions of Culture and Leisure provision by 2010 through the use of customer satisfaction surveys
- To maintain Access and Transport to enhance access to culture through increased resources and channels by 2008



Linking with Local Action Plans

If you wish to consider how tourism and leisure can be improved in your community through your local action plan contact the 'Your Culture & Leisure' Action Planning Group from the Rother Community Plan. They will be happy to offer advice, information and support to help you develop your ideas and if appropriate include your proposals in the Your Culture & Leisure targets of the Rother Community Plan.

Culture & Leisure Action Planning Group from the Rother Community Plan
Susan Adamson

Email: susan.adamson@rother.gov.uk



Employment and skills

The Employment and Skills Action Group's aim is to ensure that the people and businesses of Rother have the right level of skills, and space to grow to support a flourishing local economy.

They plan to do this by:

- Reducing the gap in average earnings against the regional average by 0.5% per annum
- Narrowing the gap in unemployment between the worst and best performing wards in the District
- Increasing the number of VAT registered businesses



Linking with Local Action Planning

If an Action Plan group are considering ways of increasing employment within the community help and advice is available from members of the Employment and Skills Action Planning Group. If you are holding an event or meeting relevant to employment and skills and economic sustainability members of the Employment and Skills group will be pleased to support you.

Employment & Skills Action Planning Group from the Rother Community Plan

Graham Marley

Chief Executive

Ten Sixty Six Enterprise

Summerfield Business Centre

Bohemia Road

Hastings TN34 1UT

Tel: 01424 205500

Email:

graham.marley@1066enterprise.co.uk



Linking with Statutory Agencies: a Resource Pack

Fire and rescue: East Sussex Fire Authority

East Sussex Fire Authority provides a wide range of operational intervention and rescue services in support of their proactive community safety and legislative fire safety initiatives across the County of East Sussex and the City of Brighton and Hove.

Each Fire and Rescue Service in England is required to produce an Integrated Risk Management Plan (IRMP) annually. The IRMP outlines identified community risks and how the Authority intends to work with a wide range of stakeholders to reduce those risks.

A wide range of methods is used for consultation, including surveys, focus groups and public meetings. Feedback on consultations can be found on the Authority's website visit – www.esfrs.org

The Authority aims to achieve a safer community by a mix of the following:

- Educate people to keep themselves and their families safer and preventing fires occurring, thereby reducing the need to call the Fire & Rescue Service for assistance
- Developing arrangements with others to ensure that people can safely evacuate from any building should a fire occur
- Work closely with other agencies to reduce the numbers of road accidents and road related deaths
- Operate an arson reduction and fire investigation team in partnership with Sussex Police and the Environmental Agency

- Ensure there are properly equipped and trained operational staff who, when called upon, can provide an efficient and effective emergency response to any emergency incident that they have to attend

The Authority wishes to improve community protection through the following objectives:

- Provide home fire safety advice and installing free 10-year smoke alarms
- Reduce accidental fires, deaths and injuries in dwellings
- Reduce arson within the community
- Reduce false alarm calls, malicious calls and automatic fire detector alerts
- Deliver services in ways that safeguard the environment
- Provide risk based and legislative fire safety, enforcement and advice
- Handle emergency calls effectively and efficiently and mobilise the appropriate response
- Save lives through the provision of emergency special services, ranging from cliff rescues to animal rescues to attending road traffic collisions

The Authority works in partnership through representation and involvement on the Rother Local Strategic Partnership and the Community Safety Action Group from the Rother Community Plan and the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership.

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Fire and rescue: East Sussex Fire Authority *continued*

Crime Reduction Partnership

The Authority aims to work with their partners to drive down risk in communities and to help deliver better public services. This is not only in relation to fire but also in other areas where resources and influence can help to improve the community served, including:

- Safety in the home
- Arson
- Youth offending
- Planning and construction
- Road safety
- Community education
- Improving safety skills of other key workers in the community
- Providing intervention services



Linking with Local Action Plans

There is a commitment to involve communities in neighbourhood renewal, reduction of crime and to be actively involved in the development of local action plans. In addition local area Fire Officers are willing to provide training and advice to local groups within communities to help to improve community safety.

Advice and support can be made available if Local Action Plan projects are dealing with issues of community safety. Fire Officers can offer advice on how to reduce injuries to children and keep children safe, undertake home visits to assess risks which can include helping to prevent falls in the elderly, improve safety through installation of fire alarms, advise on road safety issues to prevent accidents and support the Enforcement Officer and Arson reduction team to reduce the impact of fly-tipping and abandoned vehicles.

If you wish to invite representatives from the Fire & Rescue Service to Local Action Plan Group meetings or events contact:

Mani Gilbert-King

District Commander,
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service,
Service Headquarters,
20 Upperton Road, Eastbourne
BN21 1EU

Tel: 0845 130 8855

Email: Mani.Gilbert-King@esfrs.org

The Fire and Rescue Service are represented on the Safer Rother Partnership Action Plan Group by David Yates.

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Health

Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust is part of the NHS. If you live in the local government districts of Hastings, Rother or in Ninfield, or if you live outside this area but have a GP in Hastings, Bexhill or Rother then they are responsible for the health services you need.

These services are provided at GP and dental surgeries, at the opticians and community pharmacies, at health centres and clinics, in local hospitals or in your home.

PCTs are now at the centre of the NHS and get 80% of the NHS budget. As the Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust is a local organisation, they are in the best position to understand the needs of the community, so they can make sure that the organisations providing health and social care services are working effectively.

As well as directly providing services, such as health visiting, community nursing and therapies, the Primary Care Trust also buys other NHS services that you need.

These include:

- Hospital treatment from a range of different settings including the local Conquest Hospital run by the East Sussex Hospitals NHS Trust
- Mental health and learning disability services (provided by East Sussex County Health Care Trust)
- Services from voluntary organisations, for example Age Concern and Care for the Carers



The Primary Care Trust's aim is to make the health services that you receive more effective and improve the overall health of local residents. The PCT works with partners from statutory agencies and the voluntary sector as well as local residents themselves in order to tackle the causes of ill health and to improve the overall health and wellbeing of the people of Hastings and Rother.

The Primary Care Trust is represented on the Rother Local Strategic Partnership and officers from the PCT are represented on the Bexhill and Rother Health Improvement Partnership (HimP).

Contact: Richard Watson
Health Improvement Manager
Hastings and Rother Primary Care Trust
East Sussex Downs and Weald
Primary Care Trust
PO Box 124, St Leonard's on Sea,
East Sussex
Tel: 01424 457122
Email: richard.watson@hastingsrotherpct.nhs.uk

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Health *continued*

Linking with Local Action Plans

Bexhill and Rother HimP aims to co-ordinate the action of local organisations to improve health and reduce health inequalities. Their top priority is to reduce smoking especially in disadvantaged groups and pregnant women.

Representatives from HimP are keen to work with communities to improve the health of residents and are happy to meet with Local Action Plan groups and attend events aimed at consulting or engaging with local people.

Email: richard.watson@hastingsrotherpct.nhs.uk

How you can get involved

In order to provide quality healthcare we need you to tell the PCT what you think of local health services, good as well as bad. What you tell them is fed in to the planning process and can directly impacts on the way services are delivered.

You can do this in a number of ways:

- Fill in questionnaires about health and health services – to see results of the Local Patient Surveys Questionnaire – visit: www.healthcarecommission.org.uk
- Speak to the Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS) about your experience of using health services. PALS provides information about services and can advise you about how to resolve your concerns.
Tel: 01424 735629 or
email: pals@bar-pct.nhs.uk
- Feed in your response to consultations on specific issues that may directly affect you. Visit: www.hastingsandrotherpct.nhs.uk
- Become a member of the Patient and Public Involvement Forum which monitors the quality of local health services, acting as a voice for local people. Patient and Public Involvement Forums are undergoing Government restructuring. The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Bill is moving through Parliament and until Royal Assent is received Patient and Public Involvement Forums will continue to function. Later this year they will be abolished and replaced with Local Involvement Networks (LINKs). In the meantime, if you wish to get involved or need more details visit: www.cppih.org
- Join a Patient or User Group at your local GP practice, health centre or hospital or a specialist patient group/support group within the community. These groups are often approached to represent patients on health committees or working groups and have genuine influence over health service planning and development. Contact Rother Voluntary Action for details of local groups.
Tel: 01424 217259
Email: office@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk
- Volunteer at the hospital or in the community within the voluntary sector- there are openings for people wanting to help and the work can be very rewarding. Contact your local NHS organisations, Rother Voluntary Action or Caroline Scotter, Community Care Co-ordinator, Action in rural Sussex.
Tel: 01424 777982
Email: Caroline.Scotter@ruralsussex.org.uk
- Attend a Primary Care Trust Board Meeting. Meetings are advertised in local newspapers and on the Trust's website – www.hastingsandrotherpct.nhs.uk

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Housing

The Housing Strategy Action Group's aim is to influence the development of sustainable communities by raising awareness of the affordable housing options; providing better and environmentally sustainable accommodation and tackling housing related poverty.

They plan to do this by:

- Raising awareness of local housing needs and services available within the local community
- Reducing fuel poverty
- Meeting the needs of vulnerable households through new housing supply

Rother District Council – Housing Strategy

Rother District Council is currently revising its Housing Strategy, with a view to adoption of the finalised document in December 2007.

Key priorities for the Strategy are:

- Prevention of homelessness
- Private sector housing renewal
- Provision of affordable housing

Further information on the Council's Housing Strategy or the Housing services provided can be found on the Council website at: www.rother.gov.uk/housing
Or contact **Alison Dryden** at the address given overleaf.

Linking with Local Action Plans

Rother District Council Housing and Planning Officers will help and advise on housing issues within communities when these issues are highlighted through Local Action Plan consultation and within local action plan projects. They are willing to come to Local Action Plan meetings and events relevant to housing and land planning. Representatives from the Council's Housing Action Planning Group are also interested in supporting local action plan projects and are also willing to attend events and meetings.



Linking with Statutory Agencies: a Resource Pack

Housing *continued*

For Land Planning issues contact:

Strategy and Environment Team,
Planning Division,
Rother District Council,
Town Hall, Bexhill-on-Sea TN39 3JX
Tel: 01424 787634
Email: planningstrategy@rother.gov.uk

For Housing Action Planning Group of the Rother Community Plan contact:

Alison Dryden, Housing Policy Officer,
Housing Services,
14 Beeching Road,
Bexhill on Sea TN39 3LG
Tel: 01424 787591
Email: alison.dryden@rother.gov.uk

Clare Thomson, Chief Executive,
Rother Homes Ltd,
The Watch Oak,
Battle, East Sussex TN33 0YA
Tel: 0845 355 0999
Email:
clare.thomson@amicushorizon.org.uk



Linking with Statutory Agencies: a Resource Pack

Transport

The Rother Transport Group's aim is to support initiatives that reduce road congestion and pollution levels by improving travel choices for all people and reducing demand for travel by car.

They plan to do this by:

- All Rother Primary and Secondary Schools (including Special Schools) to have School Travel Plans in place by 2010
- Rationalising Transport issues arising from Local Action Plans (LAPs)
- To implement lower speed limit initiatives at targeted sites across the district



Linking with Local Action Planning

Members of the Rother Transport Group are happy to offer advice, information and support to Action Planning Groups about transport related issues. They are also willing to participate in Local Action Planning meetings and events.

Rother Transport Action Plan Group:

Gina Sanderson

Rother Voluntary Action
The Old Bank Chambers
1 Buckhurst Road
Bexhill-on-Sea TN40 1QF

Tel: 01424 217259

Email:

gina.sanderson@rothervoluntaryaction.org.uk

For advice on Highways and public transport issues:

Highways and Transport:

**Transport & Environment Department
East Sussex County Council**

County Hall,
Lewes BN7 1UE

Tel: 01273 481000

Waste and recycling



The Waste and Recycling Action Plan Group is helping to develop Rother's Sustainable Community Strategy because we see this strategy as an important part of the District and County wide effort to meet the demanding targets being set by government to reduce the amount of waste being sent to landfill.

There are big challenges ahead and we will have to greatly increase recycling and composting if this is to be achieved. The strategy is being continually reviewed and the Group will be hoping to learn from Local Action Plans to make sure we have the most appropriate and efficient way forward.

Background

Rother is responsible only for collecting household (not commercial) waste. East Sussex County Council is responsible for

disposing of it. Both authorities are being asked to consider schemes for commercial waste where this makes sense.

ESCC have a plan called the Waste Local Plan and they have engaged a contractor, Veolia (formerly Onyx) for the next 25 years. The plan includes the construction of a large incinerator at Newhaven which they see as essential if they are to meet the government targets for reducing waste (especially biodegradable waste) going to landfill.

ESCC are responsible for the recycling Centres such as Mountfield and Pebsham. The Group believe these centres have an important role to play. All the district councils within ESCC are currently consulting on a strategy for disposing of household waste called the Municipal Waste Management Strategy. This will be regularly reviewed and input from Local Action Plans will help. The Waste Local Plan will be reviewed in five years time we hope Veolia will consider any ideas we can show might work before then.

Helpful websites

www.recyclenow.com

All you need to know about recycling – easy to use and something for everyone.

www.wrap.org.uk

Waste Resources Action Programme.
A comprehensive but more technical site.

<http://uk.groups.yahoo.com/group/ryefreecycle>

A way of offering and receiving goods that will otherwise go to landfill.

Linking with Statutory Agencies: a Resource Pack

Waste and recycling *continued*

Composting

For help and advice on composting household and garden waste visit the Doctor Compost Scheme:

www.commoncause.org.uk/compdoc
www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment/rubbishandrecycling/whatyoucando/composting

Rother's current plan

To help us recycle more, in June 2007, Rother District Council introduced a new, kerbside recycling service to around 38,000 properties across the district, collecting separated plastic, cans, paper and garden waste. The Council hopes to be able to extend the recycling service to more properties in the future as well as increase the range of recyclable material that can be collected.

The Waste and Recycling Action Plan Group's aim is to meet our global obligation to reduce Rother's environmental impact by reducing consumption of non renewable resources (including fresh water), reducing waste, and improving local biodiversity.

They plan to do this by:

- Setting up additional facilities for the collection of cardboard and glass
- Setting up a mobile collection of bulky items of waste and electrical equipment from Rye
- Making contact and sharing ideas with environmental partners in the five other District and Borough Local Strategic Partnerships

Linking with Local Action Planning

Members of the Waste & Recycling Group are happy to offer advice, information and support to Action Planning Groups about waste and recycling related issues. They are also willing to participate in Local Action Planning meetings and events.

Waste & Recycling Action Plan Group Christopher Strangeways

Rother Environmental Group

Tel: 01797 280266

Email: info@rotherenvironmental.org.uk

Rother District Council's Recycling Officer:

Fergus Cameron

Tel: 01424 787511

Email: fergus.cameron@rother.gov.uk

East Sussex County Council Waste Management Team and composting

Tel: 01273 482153

www.eastsussex.gov.uk/environment

Environment Agency, Southern Region: Harvey Bradshaw

Kent & East Sussex Area Manager

Orchard House

Endeavour Park

London Road

Addington

West Malling

Kent

ME19 5SH