

**VCFS Contributions to the Leeds Strategic Plan  
April 2009**

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Culture CU-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Increase participation in cultural opportunities through engaging with all our communities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Enable more people to become involved in sport and culture by providing better quality and wider-ranging activities and facilities.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	LKI – SC19 Number of sports facility types with a specified quality-assured standard  NI 8 Adult participation in sport and active
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>In the last 6 months Touchstone have provided 11 different regular sessions for individuals with mental health issues to take part in a variety of sports and other physical exercise. Some of these sessions were targeted at specific groups including women and particular BME communities.</p> <p>BTCV are coordinating the Citywide Healthy Walking Project. Currently there are over 20 regular organised walks every week, the majority lead by volunteers from the local community. Walks range from under an hour to longer countryside rambles. Particular emphasis is being placed on establishing walks for residents from deprived areas and for disadvantaged and disabled individuals and groups.</p> <p>Barnardo's Willow Young Carers Service which operates city wide have recently employed a sessional staff member to develop and support an increase in the number of young carers taking up sport and activities within their communities.</p> <p>Hunslet Club runs football team for young people from the age of 5 upwards. The Club also runs boxing and gymnastics clubs. The Club additionally has a drama group. For adults there is boxfit and a fitness suite which is open 7 days per week. Over 300 adults are currently making use of these facilities.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm organise active outdoor horticultural tasks for Adults with disabilities to promote physical health and mental wellbeing. The programme currently engages 30 adults per day over 4 days per week.</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

St Luke's CARES in partnership with South Leeds High School, West Yorkshire Police, Stop Hate UK, and Leeds Federated Housing run weekly multi cultural football sessions at South Leeds High School.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

**(Optional)  
Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:**

**Other Relevant Information (i.e. are there any risks that could lead to actions not being undertaken or data being accurately collated/recorded? What is being done to alleviate or reduce these risks)**

**This form was completed by:** Leeds Voice

**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Learning LN-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	An enhanced workforce that will meet future challenges through fulfilling individual and economic potential and investing in learning facilities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Enhance the skill level of the workforce to fulfil individual and economic potential.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NI 163 Proportion of population aged 19 – 64 for males and 19 – 59 for females qualified to at least Level 2 or higher</li> <li>• NI 164 proportion of population aged 19 – 64 for males and 19 – 59 for females qualified to at least Level 3 or higher</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Home-Start Leeds support to families experiencing stress which may be due to family conflict, isolation, children’s behaviour, disability or ill health, bereavement, relationships, discrimination or prejudice, domestic violence, drug or alcohol abuse. Supporting this work are a team of approximately 200 volunteers. All volunteers receive appropriate training and many of these volunteers have achieved Level 2 and/or Level 3 qualifications. This training and development of volunteers is not recognised in current funding and is resourced through a range of small grants and fund raising activities. Over 90% of the volunteers are mothers of under five or school age children, the majority are from deprived areas and are not in work. A significant number of volunteers progress to employment or further learning.</p> <p>Leeds Accommodation Forum (LAF) provide a wide range of training courses to meet the needs of staff in the supported housing sector. The training available is based on a comprehensive training needs analysis of the sector. To date over 1000 staff have attended these courses which not only supports the career development of the trainee but also helps them to better support their often vulnerable clients. Training includes drug harm reduction, managing offending behaviour, health risk management, mental health issues (including anxiety and depression, dual diagnosis, personality disorders, dementia... ).</p> <p>St Luke’s CARES deliver community based Level 2 and 3 courses in IT (ECDL). To date 10 clients have become economically active within ST Luke’s. Funding is no longer available and delivery of the training is now being undertaken by volunteers.</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

WYCAS (West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service) has contributed, and continues to contribute, to enhancing the skill level of the VCFS workforce by running training courses and giving individual support on financial management - budgeting, computerised accounting, producing financial reports... - to the staff of VCFS organisations.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Learning LN-1b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	An enhanced workforce that will meet future challenges through fulfilling individual and economic potential and investing in learning facilities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year-olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 78 Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>At South Leeds High School St Luke's CARES work closely with individual pupils on a one to one basis to increase their attendance and raise their attainment. Funding for this very valuable necessary work is not secure.</p> <p>Womens Health Matters "Include" service provides support, information and advice to teenagers up to age 19 in Leeds who are pregnant, who are mothers or think they may be pregnant. Include offers one to one support, tailored to the young women's individual needs, to help them make well-informed decisions, and to help them with finding support in areas like healthcare, parenting skills, child care, and remaining in full-time education.</p>	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Learning LN-1d
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	An enhanced workforce that will meet future challenges through fulfilling individual and economic potential and investing in learning facilities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improve learning outcomes and skill levels for all 16 year-olds, with a focus on narrowing the achievement gap.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 78 Reduction in number of schools where fewer than 30% of pupils achieve 5 or more A* - C grades at GCSE and equivalent including GCSEs in English and Maths
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>At South Leeds High School St Luke's CARES work closely with individual pupils on a one to one basis to increase their attendance and raise their attainment. Funding for this very valuable necessary work is not secure.</p> <p>Womens Health Matters "Include" service provides support, information and advice to teenagers up to age 19 in Leeds who are pregnant, who are mothers or think they may be pregnant. Include offers one to one support, tailored to the young women's individual needs, to help them make well-informed decisions, and to help them with finding support in areas like healthcare, parenting skills, child care, and remaining in full-time education.</p>	
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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Learning LN-1e
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	An enhanced workforce that will meet future challenges through fulfilling individual and economic potential and investing in learning facilities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improve participation and early learning outcomes for all children, with a focus on families in deprived areas.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Early Years (EYFSP) – to narrow the achievement gap at age 5</li> <li>• Early Years (EYFSP) – to increase achievement for all children at age 5</li> <li>• Attendance – to reduce persistent absentee pupils in primary school</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Home-Start Leeds support to families experiencing stress which may be due to family conflict, isolation, children's behaviour, disability or ill health, bereavement, relationships, discrimination or prejudice, domestic violence, drug or alcohol abuse. Home-Start work with approximately 300 families, which include 700 children, each year. A key aspect of the support given to families is encouraging parents to become involved with their children's schooling and to recognise their key role as primary educators of their children.</p>	
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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Transport TR-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Increased accessibility and connectivity through investment in a high-quality transport system and through influencing others and changing behaviours
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Deliver and facilitate a range of transport proposals for an enhanced transport system, including cycling and walking
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NI 167 Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak</li> <li>• Cycle trips to the City centre in the morning peak period (0730 – 0930)</li> </ul>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm supplies free or low cost cycles to young people and is involved in the Meanwood Valley Green Way currently being built to link North Leeds to the City Centre. The Meanwood Valley Green Way passes through the Farm site where a range of facilities will be available to cyclists.</p> <p>Leeds Involvement Project (LIP) works with older people, BME groups, people with mental health issues and people with physical and sensory impairments and their carers to improve Community Care in Leeds. LIP is working with other VCFS organisations to try to ensure that the needs of its members are taken into account any plans and schemes for an enhanced transport system.</p>	
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<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Transport TR-1d
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Increased accessibility and connectivity through investment in a high-quality transport system and through influencing others and changing behaviours
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improve road safety for all our users, especially motor cyclists, pedal cyclists and pedestrians
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 47 People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm have trained and supported 20 young people during the period October 2008 to March 2009 to satisfactorily completed cycle road safety test delivered by Leeds City Council.</p> <p>The Wm Merritt Disabled Living Centre &amp; Mobility Service is the driver assessment centre for Yorkshire and North Lincolnshire. We assess ability to drive or continue driving for people who have an impairment that could impact their ability to drive safely - multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's Disease, dementia, stroke, brain injury, young people with cerebral palsy, young people with limb deficiency... Last year we completed 476 driving and vehicle related assessment and gave advice by post to 531 people. We also assess people who wish to use a powered wheelchair or scooter. We help identify the best powered vehicle to meet the individual's needs and assess fully to ensure that the person is safe and fully understands the risks associated with using a powered vehicle either on the pavement or on the road. We work in partnership with the Driver Vehicle Licensing Authority, Motability and the Department for Transport.</p>	
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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Environment ENV-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduce ecological footprint through responding to environmental and climate change and influencing others.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the amount of waste reused and recycled and reduce the amount of waste going to landfill
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 192 Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Active4Life, a Healthy Living Centre based in the Cardigan Centre, already runs a range of activities to improve the health of local people and has applied for funding from the Big Lottery for a 3 year project on Hawksworth Wood Estate. The project, on which Active4Life will be working in partnership with the YMCA and Children's Service, will encourage and support residents, particularly young people, to grow their own food in their own gardens and to learn to make healthy meals using these home grown ingredients.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm are running a "Recycled mountain bike" project. Bicycles are sourced from household waste sites and rebuilt and reused by young people on learning programmes at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm. Approx 40 bicycles were rebuilt and reused during the period October 2008 to March 2009.</p> <p>Groundwork ran a project to tackle recycling apathy with a 'Recycle the Year' festival at Christmas 2008. Door to door education schemes in the Beeston Hill area demonstrated there was a knowledge gap where recycling was concerned and therefore there was a need for further education work and awareness raising. In an area of deprivation recycling is rarely the priority of the population. With support from the Inner South Area Committee, Groundwork organised a festival that focused local people on the "Reduce Reuse, Recycle" message. Activities will continue through to Easter.</p> <p>500 residents have signed the recycling pledge and a wide range of targeted and creative approaches are having an impact on local people's behaviour.</p> <p>Groundworks Green Check is a school based Environmental Management System (EMS) which introduces and embeds Sustainable Development into the ethos of a school, by involving the whole school community. It seeks to reduce resource</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

consumption and reduce waste. Five schools have implemented an Environmental Management System.

Sort It, a waste education project, delivered by Groundwork in partnership with BTCV, uses a variety of interactive techniques to engage primary school pupils in learning the why's and how's of recycling and composting in Leeds. Sort It has visited 55 schools since September 2008, working with 4,351 primary school children.

Groundworks Green Doctor has delivered 64 energy efficiency workshops, which also incorporate advice on waste and recycling, to over 2,000 people.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Environment ENV-1b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduce ecological footprint through responding to environmental and climate change and influencing others
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce emissions from public sector buildings, operations and service delivery, and encourage others to do so.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 185 CO2 reduction from Local Authority operations
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Sustainable and Renewable Energy in Wharfedale (SURE) are working with the Leeds Library Service on a project to provide energy monitors to householders on a loan basis in the same way books or CDs can be borrowed. These monitors are clipped over the incoming electricity supply line and monitor instantaneous power usage, highlighting the surge when an electric kettle or similar high wattage appliance is turned on. This allows householders to understand and control their power usage.</p> <p>Groundwork Leeds Environmental Business Services works across Yorkshire to reduce businesses' environmental impact. It offers a range of services, from Environmental Reviews through to supporting businesses in the development of Environmental Management Systems that address the use and management of raw material, energy, water and transport, the production of waste and legislative compliance. It provides businesses with a benchmark against which they can compare past or future environmental performance.</p> <p>It is estimated that nationally schools account for 15% of public sector carbon emissions, and are responsible for almost 60% of Leeds City Council's energy bill. Groundwork's <b>Green Check</b> project is helping to reduce emissions from schools, as well as reducing consumption and waste, by helping schools improve their overall environmental performance. During 2008 Groundwork supported eight schools to improve their Eco Schools status and seven were the first in Yorkshire to be granted the EMAS standard, joining an elite of fewer than 80 schools in England. We have worked with fifteen schools in Green Check's pilot year instilling a greater sense of environmental custodianship in 2700 pupils and staff.</p>	

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Environment ENV-1c
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduce ecological footprint through responding to environmental and climate change and influencing others
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Undertake actions to improve our resilience to current and future climate change
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 188 Planning to adapt climate change
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>The Leeds Faiths Forum, which represents nine of the faiths in Leeds, is a means of expressing the faith voice in Leeds in a way that engages with the Leeds Strategic Plan. Diocesan Environment officer Ian White organised an Inter Faith Conference on the Environment, on Sunday 15 March 2009, at the Gandhi Hall, Leeds Metropolitan University. The aim of the conference was to understand environmental issues from the point of view of different Faiths and of Government, and to prepare for a practical inter faith environment project in Leeds, and to work on ideas for future projects together. Speakers included John Battle, MP for Leeds West.</p> <p>St Anne's Community Services is currently engaged in an innovative partnership with Leeds City Council Museums and Galleries and Healthy Leeds. At St Anne's Holdforth Court, a 36 bedded city centre resettlement hostel for single homeless men, a vegetable garden is being developed to encourage residents to grow and cook their own food. The residents will be taught the necessary skills to grow and cook their own food and will also improve their general health and wellbeing. The project will be filmed by LCC Museums and Galleries as part of their "Greener City" film project and will be shown in Millennium Square from January 2010.</p> <p>Meanwood Urban Farm's purpose built environment centre - EpiCentre - demonstrates good practice to visitors regarding sewerage and water recycling through the use of the reed bed drainage and treatment system and the composting toilets.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm have built a flood protection embankment in the new meadow adjacent to the Meanwood Beck. Water saving devices and rain water collection systems have been installed.</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

Groundwork Leeds run a range of programmes which include,

**Green Check:** a school based Environmental Management System. 7 Leeds schools have been awarded the prestigious EMAS status, the first in Yorkshire & Humber to receive this accreditation.

**Green Doctor:** reduces household CO2 emissions and tackles fuel poverty in vulnerable households. Saves 46 tonnes of CO2 emissions each year through the fitting of technical measures - an impressive 493 tonnes over their lifetime.

**Sort It:** a primary school waste education project promoting the whys and hows of recycling and composting, has worked with 55 schools, 4,351 pupils and 247 adults since September 2008 to deliver the “reduce, reuse, recycle” message. The composting and recycling sessions we delivered have contributed to the strategic outcome by educating children and their teachers, but will also have a “trickle down” effect that will spread through the families and communities.

**Future Footprints:** has worked with 18 part time volunteers and 104 short-term (including those involved in one-off activities) volunteers (aged 16-25) to engage them in activities to increase their understanding of climate change issues and their ability to influence local decision making.

**Neighbourhood Improvements:** (including bin yard improvements and the creation of local recycling points) which improve local facilities and help make it easier for residents to recycle. We have implemented 35 projects, including some that which improve local facilities and help make it easier for residents to recycle, and have planted over 1,500 trees.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Environment ENV-2a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Cleaner, greener and more attractive city through effective environmental management and changed behaviours
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Address neighbourhood problem sites: improve cleanliness and access to and quality of green spaces
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Armley Common Right Trust (ACRT) are working to improve the amenity value and encourage local residents to make greater use of this common land. All the maintenance and improvement work is undertaken by volunteers and ACRT are working with Learning Partnerships v-involved programme to increase the number of young volunteers.</p> <p>The issue of the lack of available allotment sites has been discussed at the VCFS Environment Forum and highlighted by the secretary of Crowtrees Allotments, Rawdon. There are over 1000 residents on waiting lists for allotments. Crowtrees Allotments has 33 on its waiting list and one half-plot to let. The shortage of allotments is further exacerbated by the current letting policies, in particular, the refusal to let allotments to local and community groups.</p> <p>BTCV volunteers provide the core labour for a number of “clean ups” each year in partnership with Area Management who fund them.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm have raised £109,000 to fund their “New access” project to open up the far corner of the Farm. The project will include the building of terraced gardens with raised beds, ramps and handrails that will provide learning opportunities for a team of adults with disabilities and school groups. Main pathway to this new area has been levelled and resurfaced and will also be the ‘gateway’ to 7.8 acres of scrub land recently acquired from Leeds City Council. Approximately 5 acres of this additional land will be developed as a woodland coppice. It is intended to plant tree species, which can be cut at a later stage in their life to provide wood suitable for various tasks on the Farm. The important point to bear in mind is the cut tree does not die but re-grows from the remaining stumps to produce another tree</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

and is therefore sustainable.

Meanwood Valley Urban Farm have recently developed 2 acres of land as an Educational Nature Reserve open to the public and used by Leeds school children. This area, the Meadow, combines native trees, wild flowers, pond and cycle track for young people to develop cycling skills. The site has been cleared of rubbish, and street lighting repaired.

A mega clean up of Lincoln Green in East Leeds, organised by re'new, won the 'Large Area Improvement Award' for the to'gether Partnership at the Leeds City Council Community and City Pride Awards held recently in the Civic Hall. Over 150 people turned out on a Saturday in October last year, rolled up their sleeves and took part in the major clean up operation which included clearing over three tonnes of rubbish from 12 streets, weeding litter picking, pruning and planting, sweeping and clearing paths. The to'gether Partnership Tasking Team scheme, led by re'new, involves partners from a wide range of agencies active in East Leeds including re'new, various Leeds City Council services, West Yorkshire Police and Fire Service. It responds to the needs of local residents who are best placed to say what really matters when making a difference to their neighbourhood.

A Clean up day took place on 21 March at Beckett Street Cemetery and Green Acres Elderly Persons Home in Burmantofts organised by the to'gether Partnership and lead by re'new. Over 60 community volunteers turned up to remove over 30 tonnes of rubbish, cleared gardens, cut back shrubbery, trimmed hedges, did weeding and painted sheds and fences and planted bulbs. Clean up days are organised by a range of partners under the to'gether Partnership, which operates across East Leeds, they include local residents, re'new, Bridge Street and St Agnes Churches, Leeds East Area Management Team, Leeds East North East homes, Groundwork Leeds and West Yorkshire Police.

Leeds Involvement Project (LIP) works with older people, BME groups, people with mental health issues and people with physical and sensory impairments and their carers to improve Community Care in Leeds. LIP is working locally to ensure that local improvement initiatives take account of its members needs. For example, ensuring pavements are suitable for wheelchair users and that "wheelie bins" are not allowed to be left on pavements where they pose a serious risk to the blind and partially sighted.

People in Action have developed a gardening group to teach skills to people with learning disabilities .They also use their skills to tidy up areas.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduce health inequalities through the promotion of healthy life choices and improved access to services.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce premature mortality in the most deprived areas
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 120 All-age cause mortality rate (target disaggregated to focus narrowing the gap between most deprived 10% and rest of Leeds)  NI 121 Mortality rate from circulatory diseases at ages under 75 (per 100,000 population)
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>BTCV are coordinating the Citywide Healthy Walking Project. Currently there are over 20 regular organised walks every week, the majority lead by volunteers from the local community. Walks range from under an hour to longer countryside rambles. Particular emphasis is being placed on establishing walks for residents from deprived areas and for disadvantaged and disabled individuals and groups.</p> <p>Home-Start Leeds run the “New Start” project supports families during pregnancy and the infant’s first year of life, concentrating particularly on families where there are concerns about the health and well being of the parents and/or child. This highly successful programme is funded through a number of trust funds.</p> <p>St Luke’s CARES are delivering a programme aimed at reducing teenage conception which is a key factor in infant mortality rates. The programme includes sessions within schools based around reducing teenage conception, supporting young people to design and deliver a summer campaign around reducing teenage conception, and setting up a Young Parents group looking at reducing second teenage conception and raising awareness of infant mortality. Groups are operating in Cockburn and South Leeds High School and the Young Parents group are working on designing a media campaign. St Luke’s are working in partnership with NHS Leeds and LCC Youth Services. Funding for this programme will cease at the end of September 2009.</p> <p>Womens Health Matters Health Trainer works with women in Gipton and Seacroft one-to-one basis to support them in making healthier choices and to achieve their</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

own health goals. They also help connect people to relevant services at a local level.

People in Action provide support and management to Gateway Clubs and other clubs for people with learning difficulties and disabilities .The clubs provide education and social activities for people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

**(Optional)**

**Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:**

**Other Relevant Information (i.e. are there any risks that could lead to actions not being undertaken or data being accurately collated/recorded? What is being done to alleviate or reduce these risks)**

**This form was completed by:** Leeds Voice

**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-1c
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduce health inequalities through the promotion of healthy life choices and improved access to services.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce rate of increase in obesity and raise physical activity for all.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 57 Children and Young People's participation in high quality PE and sport
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>BTCV are coordinating the Citywide Healthy Walking Project. Currently there are over 20 regular organised walks every week, the majority lead by volunteers from the local community. Walks range from under an hour to longer countryside rambles. Particular emphasis is being placed on establishing walks for residents from deprived areas and for disadvantaged and disabled individuals and groups.</p> <p>Barnardo's Willow Young Carers Service which operates city wide have recently employed a sessional staff member to develop and support an increase in the number of young carers taking up sport and activities within their communities.</p> <p>Hunslet Club runs football team for young people from the age of 5 upwards. The Club also runs boxing and gymnastics clubs. The Club additionally has a drama group. For adults there is boxfit and a fitness suite which is open 7 days per week. Over 300 adults are currently making use of these facilities.</p>	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	
<b>(Optional) Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:</b>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

**Other Relevant Information (i.e. are there any risks that could lead to actions not being undertaken or data being accurately collated/recorded? What is being done to alleviate or reduce these risks)**

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**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-2a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved quality of life through maximising the potential of vulnerable people by promoting independence, dignity and respect.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce teenage conception and improve sexual health
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 112 Under 18 conception rate
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Home-Start Leeds through their support to families under stress can demonstrate that the vast majority of those teenage parents supported do not go on to have a subsequent pregnancy. Home-Start support includes contraceptive and family planning advice.</p> <p>As part of their offsite learning provision The Hunslet Club, along with the majority of VCFS offsite learning providers, include sex education in their curriculum for 14 to 16 year olds. The Club worked with 380 pupils referred from almost forty high schools in the last academic year.</p> <p>St Luke's CARES are delivering a programme aimed at reducing teenage conception. The programme includes sessions within schools based around reducing teenage conception, supporting young people to design and deliver a summer campaign around reducing teenage conception, and setting up a Young Parents group looking at reducing second teenage conception. Groups are operating in Cockburn and South Leeds High School and the Young Parents group are working on designing a media campaign. St Luke's are working in partnership with NHS Leeds and LCC Youth Services. Funding for this programme will cease at the end of September 2009.</p> <p>Womens Health Matters "Include" service provides support, information and advice to teenagers up to age 19 in Leeds who are pregnant, who are mothers or think they may be pregnant. Include offers one to one support, tailored to the young women's individual needs, to help them make well-informed decisions, and to help them with such matters as Housing and Benefits as well as finding support in areas like healthcare, parenting skills, education and child care.</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

Womens Health Matters run the SHINe (Sexual Health Information Network) and Sunshine project in East and South Leeds. Volunteers raise awareness in their own communities and can provide condoms, pregnancy testing and sexual health information. Volunteers also work with parents, particularly BME women, supporting them to talk to their children about sexual health issues.

Body & Soul is Womens Health Matters' young women's project. The project currently works with girls and young women aged from 11 - 30. The project is involved in preventative and supportive group work around domestic violence, work in schools supporting young women, setting up and running weekly group sessions for girls and women in Gipton and Harehills, training and supervising volunteers to provide pregnancy tests and condoms within their own communities. Body and Soul runs a number of young womens groups with free crèche provided.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

**(Optional)  
Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:**

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**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-3a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Enhance safety and support for vulnerable people through preventative and protective action to minimise risks and maximise wellbeing
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improved psychological, mental health, and learning disability services for those who need them.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 58 Emotional and behavioural health of looked after children  VSC02 Proportion of people with depression and/or anxiety disorders who are offered psychological therapies
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Volition worked with the BME Community Development Service at Touchstone to engage the voluntary, community &amp; faith sector with the Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (IAPT) programme. The aims of the project were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To prepare the sector for a possible bidding opportunity to be involved in delivering IAPT services in Leeds</li> <li>• To raise awareness of IAPT amongst VCFS organisations so they in turn can advise people who use their services on how to access psychological therapies</li> <li>• To bring together mental health organisations and black and minority ethnic community groups.</li> </ul> <p>IAPT is a government programme, and NHS Leeds is one of 4 PCTs in the region to get funding to become an IAPT expansion site from 2008/2009. NHS Leeds has identified a number of key groups to whom they would like to improve access to talking therapies, but recognise that they will be more effective if they work with the voluntary sector. Therefore they are inviting bids for the Leeds IAPT tender for year 2009/2010. The NHS held a bidders event about the Leeds IAPT tender on 24 February. Volition circulated information about this event and the tender opportunity. The event was attended by 8 local VCFS organisations, as well as other interested organisations. Successful bidder/ bidders for the tender will be selected in June.</p> <p>Volition and the Community Development Service organised an information and networking meeting on 21 January for the VCFS, targeted at mental health organisations and those working with key groups identified by NHS Leeds (i.e. BME</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

communities, deaf people). This was attended by 35 workers representing 26 VCFS organisations. They heard presentations from Volition and NHS Leeds, followed by a group discussion to encourage networking, facilitated by the Community Development Service. Volition produced a short leaflet explaining IAPT, which was widely circulated around the VCF sector, and is available on the Volition website. This accompanied publicity about the meeting, and was available at the event.

Womens Health Matters run the Listening Ear counselling service for women who live in the West Leeds area. Therapy sessions take place in various venues across the area including Bramley, Armley and New Wortley. Access to the service can be gained through self-referral, GPs, community groups and social and healthcare agencies. This service runs in partnership with Barca-Leeds who run the Reaching Out counselling and psychotherapy service is a free and confidential service for the well-being of men aged 18+ and young people aged 11 - 18.

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**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health and Wellbeing HW-3b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Enhance safety and support for vulnerable people through preventative and protective action to minimise risks and maximise wellbeing.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the number of vulnerable people helped to live at home.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<p>NI 141 Percentage of vulnerable people achieving independent living</p> <p>NI 139 The extent to which older people receive support they need to live independently at home</p> <p>NI 136 People supported to live independently through social services (all adults)</p>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Touchstone's Supported Housing Service (a socially inclusive and recovery focused service that enables people with mental ill health to live as independently as possible) has received over 100 referrals in the last 6 months. However, because of resource limitations and other factors, only 27 service users have been approved for support. The service could support greater numbers if additional resources/funding were available.</p> <p>In the last 6 months Touchstone's BME Carers Assessment Workers supported over 150 BME carers to complete Carers Assessment Forms, in the process increasing their understanding of their caring role and their ability to access services and entitlements.</p> <p>Touchstone's Sikh Elders Neighbourhood Network has supported 128 older Sikh people in the past 6 months.</p> <p>St Anne's Community Services is currently engaged in an innovative partnership with Leeds City Council Museums and Galleries and Healthy Leeds. At St Anne's Holdforth Court, a 36 bedded city centre resettlement hostel for single homeless men, a vegetable garden is being developed to encourage residents to grow and cook their own food. The residents will be taught the necessary skills to grow and cook their own food and will also improve their general health and wellbeing. The project will be filmed by LCC Museums and Galleries as part of their "Greener City"</p>	

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film project and will be shown in Millennium Square from January 2010.

More than 30 people with learning disabilities across 3 St Anne's Community Services sites in Leeds now have access to the latest ICT. The impact on people's lives has been great. Touch screens mean that they can touch the screen and get an immediate reaction, simply strike a clear visible blue push pad rather than clicking a fiddly mouse, spin a large yellow roller ball to move the cursor or use a joy stick to control on screen manoeuvres. These relatively simple gadgets mean users with poor hand-eye co-ordination or poor eyesight are able to use the computer. People with Dementia are assisted in maintaining their cognitive skills for longer. It has also given the staff a new insight into the value of ICT. A new digital camera has also been linked with one computer to capture garden images to show to service users in dark winter months reminding them of their summer garden projects Other service users who are more able use the multi media capabilities of the ICT equipment have filmed their tenants meetings so they have a record which can be watched by those who could not attend and can be replayed and issues discussed. This helps with people who cannot read or take notes.

Many people that St Anne's Community Services support have behaviours that are described as challenging. The Positive Behaviour Support Group uses a Positive Behaviour Management approach to support adults with learning disabilities, mental health problems and from homeless services who may present challenging behaviours. Since its launch in 2007, the Positive Behaviour Support Group has provided a person centred approach to training staff supporting people with challenging behaviours. 88 clients have been referred to the group for assessment of need. The outcome of these referrals has led to 38 teams receiving different elements of the training model, ensuring the safety and ongoing independence of clients.

Gipsil manage units of temporary accommodation for vulnerable homeless young people, including teenage parents, and assist them to secure a permanent tenancy. We support them through this transition and deliver floating support when someone is at risk of losing their tenancy. 50 of our service users are care leavers and we work closely with the Pathway Planning team to ensure that young people leaving care are able to plan for this transition, consider their options and secure and sustain an appropriate home. We support over 175 young people across our three main services and successful outcome performance indicators are in excess of 98%. These activities are vital in ensuring a young person is able to reach their full potential and impact on many other LSP priorities including accessing training, seeking employment, reducing offending behaviour, reducing substance misuse...

SEEN (seen, empowered, enabled, noticed) works with groups of disabled women across Leeds providing support and promoting good physical and mental health by, supporting the women to get together in groups and become independent, developing creative projects and enabling and supporting women to engage in interesting activities, and offering information and advice on issues such as breast

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

awareness, cervical screening and the menopause.

The Wm Merritt Disabled Living Centre & Mobility Service is a unique impartial service in Leeds which undertakes assessments of daily living needs and identifies suitable equipment (assistive technology) to enable people of all ages including children to remain independent or increase their independence and enable them to remain safely in their own homes. 55% of clients purchase their own equipment with the remainder applying to statutory bodies or charities for funding to buy the equipment. Last year we carried out 498 Disabled Living Centre assessments and sent information about assistive technology by post to 498 people. We work in partnership with Leeds Community Equipment Service, Leeds Wheelchair Services, Medical Re-housing and virtually all health related services across the city.

Leeds Jewish Care Services social care team (2 members of staff) have a caseload totalling 139 service users. They visit and support older, frailer people and those with sight/hearing/physical disabilities in the community. In addition we provide day activities for older people and those with disabilities within our community centre and on average there are over 900 people attending monthly. People are also able to access a meal and/or refreshments whilst at the centre. Attending day activities helps to promote social inclusion and prevent social isolation. We rely heavily on our volunteers who provide assistance at lunch times, escorting people for hospital appointments, drive our minibus to transport people to activities etc. We have approximately 350 volunteers registered. In addition we have a very successful group of 30 volunteer befrienders who visit isolated older people in their own homes.

Supported by People in Action, social firms of people with learning difficulties and disabilities are delivering training to care staff working on the Adult Social Care Independent Living Project.

The Dementia Café run by Leeds Black Elders Association caters specifically for African and African Caribbean people living with dementia and their carers. This is a section of the community which is underreported and underrepresented in undertaking clinical diagnosis. The café aims to promote an awareness of the disease and issues it raises. The café has been running for 3 years and has gone from strength to strength, however, due to lack of funding, the café is in danger of closure.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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**This form was completed by:** Leeds Voice

**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-3c
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Enhance safety and support for vulnerable people through preventative and protective action to minimise risks and maximise wellbeing
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the proportion of people in receipt of community services enjoying choice and control over their daily lives.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 130 Social care clients receiving Self Directed Support per 100,000 population
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>In October 2008 St Anne's Community Services published a BME Consultation Strategy Document, which included a series of interviews with BME Service Users. The interviews were undertaken by Asna Ahmed of St Anne's and concentrated on their experience of accessing Dual Diagnosis support Networks. This work was undertaken in partnership with colleagues from Touchstone Community Support.</p> <p>Leeds Involvement Project (LIP) works with older people, BME groups, people with mental health issues and people with physical and sensory impairments and their carers to improve Community Care in Leeds. LIP is working to ensure that the recommendations of the Darzi report are implemented in particular that patients have more rights and control over their own health and care including involvement in service design, delivery and evaluation and access to personal health budgets.</p> <p>People in Action provides advice to parents carers and members on local services. People in Action provided personalised support services to individuals through our "Count Me In" project.</p>	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Health & Wellbeing HW-3d
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Enhance safety and support for vulnerable people through preventative and protective action to minimise risks and maximise wellbeing
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Improve safeguarding arrangements for vulnerable children and adults through better information, recognition and response to risk.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<p>Number of children looked after (expressed as a rate per 10,000) Excluding unaccompanied asylum seekers</p> <p>The percentage of staff employed by the independent sector registered care services in Leeds that have received some training on protection of vulnerable adults that is either funded or commissioned by Leeds Adult Social Care</p>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Gipsil's children's domestic violence service picks up referrals directly from the police. The staff member spends 50% of her time based at Killingbeck Police Station responding to DV incidents where children may be at risk. Prior to this service provision, no intervention or support was available for these children. The service aims to be preventive and the affected child - or affected parent when a child is very young - is then linked into other DV support services in the area. The service is funded via the Innovation Grant, was set up as a pilot and has been running since October 2008. Demand has far outweighed our capacity to deliver the service to all those who need it and the service has had to be restricted to hot spots in East Leeds. Between October and the end of December 2008 we responded to 95 incidents where families have accepted support these are now linked to other DV support services.</p> <p>From 1<sup>st</sup> January 2009 to 28<sup>th</sup> February 2009 Killingbeck Vulnerable Victims Unit had 777 reported cases of domestic violence. Of these 446 had children in situ but the situation was not deemed serious enough a referral to be made to Social Care. Of these 446 cases, 204 were in the hot spot area of the Inner East and 86 were appropriate for Early Intervention support. This figure far outweighs the ability of the project to support but shows the desperate need for the service.</p> <p>Funding for the project runs out in October 2009 and, given the demonstrated need for this service, Gipsil are currently seeking funding to continue the service.</p>	

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Killingbeck Police feel this service is vital have offered to match fund the existing service if Gipsil can secure the rest of the funding.

Womens Health Matters work alongside Gipsil to provide a group for women living in East Leeds who have experienced domestic violence in a relationship or who are supporting someone close to them who is experiencing violence. The group meets each week to learn more about staying safe, keeping well and feeling good about ourselves.

All Gipsil front line staff have received appropriate training on safeguarding both children and adults and Supporting People have validated us to 'A' standard in this area of the Quality Assessment Framework. Gipsil managers have attended the LCC's adult social care safeguarding training and CAF training. We regularly work with children on social services at risk register, abused teenagers and women fleeing domestic violence.

Home-Start Leeds support to families experiencing stress which may be due to family conflict, isolation, children's behaviour, disability or ill health, bereavement, relationships, discrimination or prejudice, domestic violence, drug or alcohol abuse... Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults is integral to the support given to these families who are amongst the most deprived and vulnerable families in Leeds. Each year Home-Start supports approximately 300 such families who include approximately 700 children and young people. Home-Start is waiting to hear whether it will continue to be funded by Leeds City Council. If LCC funding does not continue then there is a distinct possibility that Home-Start Leeds will be closed down with the loss of all provision not just that funded by LCC.

One of St Anne's Community Services volunteers held a session on Foetal Alcohol Syndrome 11<sup>th</sup> December which was well attended by peers and service users alike and was assessed by a Tutor from Northern College, with excellent feedback. Service users who are pregnant will benefit from this information and increased awareness.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved quality of life through mixed neighbourhoods offering good housing options and better access to services and activities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the number of “decent homes”.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 158 % non-decent council homes
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Leeds City Council commissioned re’new to undertake comprehensive research into back-to-back housing in the city, identifying the various constraints of the house type, and to develop a forward strategy to tackle these issues. The Strategy has now been produced and provides up-to-date baseline information on the numbers of back-to-back houses in Leeds, where they are located, views on the different types and styles of back-to-back property, and ideas to make them a more popular product in the housing market. The Report should provide robust evidence for further development of detailed housing strategy by the City Council and other housing partners; it should also stimulate and inform debate on the challenge of the back-to-backs, and the need for sustained and coordinated action and investment to tackle the range of issues identified.</p>	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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<b>This form was completed by:</b>	<b>Leeds Voice</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>17 April 2009</b>

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-1c
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved quality of life through mixed neighbourhoods offering good housing options and better access to services and activities.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce the number of homeless people.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	LKI HAS4 The number of homeless acceptances made in the year.
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Leeds Accommodation Forum (LAF) supports the Supported Housing sector by providing training, facilitating forums and networks, maintaining a database and producing a handbook of supported housing providers whose clients may be experiencing a range of issues related to social exclusion.</p> <p>Mediation Leeds are working with Leeds City Council's Homelessness Advice and Prevention Service to provide a mediation service to adult clients who present at the Service to reduce the number who are evicted and therefore become homeless and require to be placed in emergency accommodation.</p> <p>Canopy Housing is a self-help, community housing project based in inner city Leeds which renovates derelict houses to create decent homes for people who are homeless. Volunteer teams and staff work with the new tenant to paint, decorate and furnish their new home. Through our practical work we bring together lots of volunteers from the local community to learn skills, increase confidence, break down barriers and make big improvements to local neighbourhoods. Canopy has developed partnerships with local housing providers and the local authority and has negotiated lease arrangements on each of the properties.</p> <p>Canopy got a glowing mention from David Ireland, CEO of the Empty Homes Agency, on the BBC2 programme "Working Lunch" as part of a discussion about alternative ideas for tackling the housing shortage. Steve Hoey spoke about the Canopy model for bringing derelict houses back into use at the Chartered Institute for Housing/Empty Homes Agency Empty Homes Conference in Manchester on 17th February and on 12th March at a seminar event hosted by the Welsh Assembly and Shelter Cymru. Steve will travel to the second event on 2nd April in South Wales.</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-1d
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved quality of life through mixed neighbourhoods offering good housing options and better access to services and activities
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce the number of people who are not able to adequately heat their homes.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 187 Tackle fuel poverty - % of people receiving income based benefits living in homes with a low energy efficiency rating
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>The <b>Green Doctor</b> project, in partnership with CASAC and supported by NRF Funding via LCC, has enabled Groundwork to deliver a community service that is focussed on reducing the number of vulnerable people living in fuel poverty. The Green Doctors visit homes to assess the needs of individual households and to install basic energy saving measures like energy efficient light bulbs, draught excluders, hot water tank jackets and reflective radiator panels, completely free of charge. Residents also get support to access grant aid for additional heating improvements, such as cavity wall and loft insulation and central heating upgrades. Advice on energy use and other environmental issues such as recycling is also provided. In addition to our core aims of engaging vulnerable households and reducing fuel poverty, our energy saving measures have made a significant carbon saving.</p> <p>Between April 2007 and December 2008, the Green Doctor project:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Delivered <b>64</b> energy efficiency workshops to over 2,000 people</li> <li>• Green Doctors gave one to one energy efficiency advice and visited <b>673</b> low-income vulnerable households</li> <li>• Completed and submitted <b>204</b> 'Health through Wealth' referrals to Leeds City Council's Fuelsavers team to help residents access additional grant aid towards insulation and heating measures</li> <li>• Fitted <b>471</b> households with technical measures, which included: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>3,112</b> energy efficient light bulbs</li> <li>▪ <b>954</b> reflective radiator panels</li> <li>▪ <b>510</b> doors, windows and letter boxes draught proofed</li> <li>▪ <b>21</b> hot water tank jackets</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Helped save <b>46 tonnes</b> of CO2 emissions each year through the fitting of</li> </ul>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

technical measures - an impressive **493 tonnes** over their lifetime

- Helped every client save over **£100** on average each year through the fitting of the basic technical measures alone.

Taking into account the life-me of the measures and the total number of households fitted with these measures, the Warmer Living project has helped vulnerable householders in Leeds suffering from fuel poverty save over **£431,672**

Massive utility price increases during 2008 have put many more vulnerable people at risk. Thanks to a grant from Scottish Power Energy People Trust, Groundwork have been able to expand the projects' reach from October 2008 to families with children.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

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**Other Relevant Information (i.e. are there any risks that could lead to actions not being undertaken or data being accurately collated/recorded? What is being done to alleviate or reduce these risks)**

**This form was completed by:** Leeds Voice

**Date:** 17 April 2009

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-2a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduced crime and fear of crime through prevention, detection, offender management, victim support and changed behaviours.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Create safer environments by tackling crime
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 16 Serious acquisitive crime rate NI 20 Assault with injury crime rate NI 24 Satisfaction with the way the police and local council dealt with anti-social behaviour
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Mediation Leeds provide mediation services to ALMOs, Housing Associations and Anti Social Behaviour Units to address low level anti social behaviour manifested in neighbour disputes and try to prevent any escalation in anti social behaviour.</p> <p>St Anne's Community Services took part in an extremely successful woman only event on the 1<sup>st</sup> December, to mark the Leeds 16 Days of Action Campaign, to combat violence against women and Children. 38 female Service Users attended and took part in various activities such as Henna Hand Painting and Indian Head Massage, alongside being able to access information and support from Agencies such as Women's Aid, Women's Health Matters and the Together Women Project, amongst others. An emphasis on Harm Reduction was also provided by St Anne's, and colleagues from Spacious Places.</p>	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-2b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduced crime and fear of crime through prevention, detection, offender management, victim support and changed behaviours.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce offending by managing offending behaviour better
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	<p>NI 30 Re-offending rate of prolific and priority offenders</p> <p>A complete count of the number of first time entrants into the youth justice system receiving a substantive outcome between 1 April and 31 March in the reporting year specified.</p> <p>A complete count of offences committed by young people resulting in a substantive outcome during a bail or remand episode during the specified year</p>
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Since 1991 Touchstone's Community Support Team (CST) has supported individuals who have severe and enduring mental health needs and chaotic lives. In the last six months, over 50% of service users referred have a history of offending, and over 60% of misuse substances. Touchstone work with LPFT Prison In-reach Team to establish a relationship with prisoners prior to release. Feedback from service users includes 'If Touchstone was not there to help me I would be back in prison'. The CST has a current caseload of 61 individuals, with 30 new referrals from NHS Leeds, the Probation Service and other routes during the last 6 months.</p> <p>"Through the Gate" is a Home-Start Leeds project working with 4 local prisons – Leeds, Wealstun, New Hall and Askham Grange – supporting the families of prisoners. An additional ground-breaking part of the project is working with female prisoners prior to their release and continuing to support these women on their release and return to their homes in Leeds and their family and parenting responsibilities. This project is funded by the Parenting Fund, the West Yorkshire Probation Service, and other trust funding.</p>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

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<b>This form was completed by:</b>	<b>Leeds Voice</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>17 April 2009</b>

<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-2e
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Reduced crime and fear of crime through prevention, detection, offender management, victim support and changed behaviours.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce bullying and harassment
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 69 Children who have experienced bullying
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
Mediation Leeds are delivering training in Peer Mediation Training to pupils in Ralph Thoresby as part of the school's Anti Bullying Strategy.	
<b>Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.</b>	
<b>Optional - Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:</b>	

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-3a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Increased economic activity through targeted support to reduce worklessness and poverty.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Reduce worklessness across the city with a focus on deprived areas.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 152 Working age people on out of work benefits  NI 153 Working age people claiming out of work benefits in the worst performing neighbourhoods
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>The VCFS continues to work with the most deprived and hard to reach individuals and communities who the statutory and private sector organisations are unable to engage. Much of this work is dealing with the underlying issues – alcohol and/or drug dependency, mental health issues, homelessness, family breakdown, abuse... - which must be addressed before these individuals are able to progress to mainstream employability programmes. Examples of this work include,</p> <p>The Leeds Mental Health Employment Consortium is a city-wide, multi-agency group with representatives from the Voluntary, Statutory and Private Sectors mental health and mainstream services and service user representatives. The consortium is developing city-wide mental health employment strategies, developing the Mindful Employer model across Leeds, managing the Neighbourhood Renewal Funded Steps towards Employment Project (STEP), and supporting the implementation of the Leeds Strategic Plan projects involved with mental health and employment.</p> <p>The Working Minds Project started in April 2008 and is a joint service run by Leeds Mind, Community Links, Touchstone and St Anne's to deliver ambitious targets as part of the City Council's Access to Employment work and helping the City meet some of its social inclusion targets. The Project supports people who have been on mental health related benefit for two years or more by offering access to training, voluntary and paid employment opportunities.</p> <p>Dove is a city-wide service in Leeds managed by Leeds Mind specialising in employment and mental health. Through joint agency and partnership working, Dove offers IT training and qualifications, work preparation, and career advice and guidance. The Employment and Training Team at Dove provides individually tailored support to those experiencing mental health problems to help them move to move</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

into full-time or part-time paid employment, voluntary work, Higher of Further Education, Vocational Training. An important feature of the service is the support given to people whilst in employment. Dove has over 250 clients at any time and receives over 100 new referrals annually. 12 Dove clients have progressed into paid employment, 15 to voluntary work and 8 onto further education or training.

The Learning Partnerships “Learning Works” programme was NRF funded but no further funding is available from April 2009 and the programme will cease. The programme works across 18 primary schools in South and East Leeds with a team of Family Learning Workers targeting a very hard to reach section of the community within areas of high economic and social deprivation. They seek to build the capacity of some of the most socially disengaged members of these communities. Over 4000 parents have been engaged by the programme to address unemployment, non-attendance at school, anti-social behaviour, ESOL and issues faced by refugee and asylum seeker families. A limited amount of this work will be continued through Learning Partnerships work with Extended Schools clusters and through their “Job Zone” Partnership.

Learning Partnerships “Job Zone” Partnership focuses on some of the most deprived areas of Leeds: Burmantofts, Lincoln Green, Gipton, Harehills, Chapeltown, Seacroft, Holbeck, Beeston Hill and the Aire Valley employment catchment areas and has supported over 500 individuals into employment. Combating child poverty and therefore family poverty, is the key to raising attainment. One child in five in Leeds lives in a workless household. In some communities worklessness has become a way of life over successive generations and their children are among the most disadvantaged and socially excluded in the city. The “Job Zone” includes the “New Opportunities” programme which targets workless lone parents and supports them directly into employment or onto New Deal lone parents provision managed by BEST.

### **Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

#### **Job Zone**

Learning Partnerships, Jobcentre Plus, LCC Jobs & Skills, Joseph Priestley College, Thomas Danby, BEST Ltd, Aire Valley Employment, GIPSIL, Hamara, re’new, Unity Housing, St Luke’s Cares, Vera Media

#### **Leeds Mental Health Employment Consortium**

Leeds Mind, Touchstone, Community Links, St Anne’s Community Services, DISC, Volition (Leeds Mental Health Umbrella Group), Jobcentre Plus, Leeds City Council Jobs and Skills, Leeds Social Services, Leeds Mental Health Trust, Leeds NW PCT, Modernisation Team User & Carer Reference Group, West Yorkshire Employers’ Coalition.

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

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<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Thriving Places TP-3c
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Increased economic activity through targeted support to reduce worklessness and poverty.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Develop extended services, using sites across the city, to improve support to children, families and communities.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 88 Percentage of schools providing access to extended services.
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>The Hunslet Club delivers offsite learning leading to accredited vocational qualifications in vehicle maintenance, construction, hair and beauty, sport, ICT, key skills, catering, dance and music production to young people aged 14 to 16. The courses vary between a few weeks and 2 years in length. Hundreds of young people have successfully achieved accredited qualifications and then progressed into further learning or work. In the last academic year alone, the Club worked with 40 high schools who referred 380 pupils to the Club. The pupils gained an average of 4 qualification certificates each.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm will be running holiday play schemes during the Easter and Summer holidays with priority given to deprived local families. The schemes are supported by West Yorkshire Police and Leeds City Council. Community constables have been instrumental in raising the funding and selecting the children who will be attending the outdoor based play-schemes.</p> <p>Meanwood Valley Urban Farm's Environmental Education projects, delivered in Leeds schools or at Meanwood Valley Urban Farm, have been attended by approximately 3,000 school children and teachers.</p>	
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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Harmonious Communities HM-1a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	More inclusive, varied and vibrant communities through empowering people to contribute to decision making and delivering local services.
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the number of local people engaged in activities to meet community needs and improve the quality of life for local residents.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 110 Young people's participation in positive activities  NI 6 Participation in regular volunteering
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Working in partnership with Children Leeds and the University of Leeds, Learning Partnerships v-involved programme is working to create an exciting range of one-off, part-time and full-time volunteering opportunities for 16 to 25 year olds linked to the cares, interests and passions of young people. v-involved is on target and will have created over 2000 volunteering opportunities and engaged with over 1000 young people during the last 12 months. Volunteers are encouraged to build up their hours of volunteering, achieve qualifications such as first aid and health &amp; safety, and use their volunteering experience as a stepping stone to employment.</p> <p>During the last 6 months Touchstone have trained 18 new volunteers on their 6 week Community Volunteers Programme. These newly trained volunteers are now supporting their communities through placements within and external to Touchstone.</p> <p>BTCV are coordinating the Citywide Healthy Walking Project. Currently there are over 20 regular organised walks every week, the majority lead by volunteers from the local community. Walks range from under an hour to longer countryside rambles. Particular emphasis is being placed on establishing walks for residents from deprived areas and for disadvantaged and disabled individuals and groups.</p> <p>Home-Start Leeds received the Queens Award for voluntary service in June 2008. Home-Start Leeds support to families experiencing stress which may be due to family conflict, isolation, children's behaviour, disability or ill health, bereavement, relationships, discrimination or prejudice, domestic violence, drug or alcohol abuse. Supporting this work are a team of approximately 200 volunteers. All volunteers receive appropriate training and many of these volunteers have achieved Level 2</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

and/or Level 3 qualifications. This training and development of volunteers is not recognised in current funding and is resourced through a range of small grants and fund raising activities. Over 90% of the volunteers are mothers of under five or school age children, the majority are from deprived areas and are not in work. A significant number of volunteers progress to employment or further learning.

Canopy Housing is a self-help, community housing project based in inner city Leeds which renovates derelict houses to create decent homes for people who are homeless. Volunteer teams and staff work with the new tenant to paint, decorate and furnish their new home. Through our practical work we bring together lots of volunteers from the local community to learn skills, increase confidence, break down barriers and make big improvements to local neighbourhoods.

The Hunslet Club has been meeting the needs of thousands of young people in South Leeds for almost seventy years. The club provides a wide ranging evening and weekend programme of youth based activities including football, drama, boxing, Irish dance, cheerleading, gymnastics, street dance and other leisure activities for over 600 young people per week to help them reach their full potential. Volunteers are vital to help keep these activities going. The Club has approximately 25 volunteers at any time to support the paid staff. A number of volunteers are former members of the Club.

BTCV offer a wide range of volunteering opportunities. Many volunteers have significant barriers to employment and include a significant number with mental health issues and some with substance abuse issues. BTCV offer short and long courses, some informal support and take many volunteer placements from other organisations.

Leeds Children's Holiday Camp Association working with the LCC Early Years Unit will provide 300 free residential short breaks/respite for disadvantaged children aged 7 to 11 years from the most deprived areas of Leeds. These places will be available during the period March to September each year. The children enjoy time and space to be themselves at Silverdale Holiday Centre, near Morecambe. This property is wholly owned and maintained by Leeds Children's Holiday Camp Association. All expenditure incurred in providing these short breaks is met by the charity.

St Luke's CARES are working to increase number of positive activities for children and young people run at neighbourhood level by local volunteers, in particular positive activities for children and young people run by young people. Linked to this involvement of young people running activities is the aim to increase the number of young people involved in local decision making through local Youth Forums. Funding to support this work has been sought from YSDF (Youth Sector Development Fund) but has not been secured.

The Womens Health Matters CHILL volunteering scheme recruits and trains volunteers so that they can help to run and support our groups and projects. The scheme aims to increase accessibility to community health volunteering and training,

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

and to increase the sustainability and independence of the groups.

Groundwork's Future Footprints has worked with 18 part time volunteers and 104 short-term (including those involved in one-off activities) volunteers (aged 16-25) to engage them in activities to increase their understanding of climate change issues and their ability to influence local decision making.

Leeds Jewish Care Services provide day activities for older people and those with disabilities within our community centre and on average there are over 900 people attending monthly. People are also able to access a meal and/or refreshments whilst at the centre. Attending day activities helps to promote social inclusion and prevent social isolation. We rely heavily on our volunteers who provide assistance at lunch times, escorting people for hospital appointments, drive our minibus to transport people to activities etc. We have approximately 350 volunteers registered. In addition we have a very successful group of 30 volunteer befrienders who visit isolated older people in their own homes.

People's Place, Leeds (an established multicultural centre for people with learning difficulties and disabilities), based at Technorth involves 6 Asian people with learning disabilities (Pride of Leeds) as weekly volunteers to deliver training to improve services. We also support involvement of people with learning disabilities in the Chapeltown Carnival each year.

People in Action currently engage , train and support volunteers to work on projects with people with learning disabilities. People in Action encourage members to become volunteers and to help other members.

Young People Volunteering Project run by Leeds Older Peoples Forum aims to increase intergenerational volunteering where young people from colleges and universities participate in volunteering within older peoples organisation the member organisation. Member organisations involved in the project include the Association of Blind Asians, Leeds Black Elders Association, Leeds Chinese Women's Group, Leeds Gypsy and Traveller Exchange, Leeds Irish Health and Homes, Leeds Jewish Care Services, Roscoe Luncheon Club, Sikh Elders Services, South Leeds Health for All, Saheli Women's Group and Sohni Seyat Health Lifestyles Project.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Harmonious Communities HM-1b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	More inclusive, varied and vibrant communities through empowering people to contribute to decision making and delivering local services
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the number of local people that are empowered to have a greater voice and influence over local decision making and a greater role in public service delivery.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 4 Percentage of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Home-Start Leeds have a team of approximately 200 volunteers supporting families under stress. Through the training they receive and the services they support, the volunteers gain confidence and become increasingly aware of and able to contribute to local issues.</p> <p>An important part of the work that Leeds Accommodation Forum (LAF) does is to influence the sector's decision-making process by sharing good practice across agencies, and by providing representation for those organisations responsible for delivering care, shelter, safety and empowerment to some of the most vulnerable people in the city, through the running of forums and networks. The Supporting People Provider Forum is to provide representation for Supported Housing providers in Leeds to voice concerns, discuss common issues, share good practice, and most importantly, to have an impact on the way Supporting People is delivered in Leeds. The Housing Benefit Forum is open to all Leeds Supported Housing staff, regardless of their level. The aim of the Housing Benefit Forum is to facilitate communication between supported housing organisations and state agencies, encourage the sharing of information, training and best practice, and resolve conflict and encourage partnerships.</p> <p>Leeds Voice Community Regeneration Team in partnership with Refugee Action and with support from Voluntary Action-Leeds organised an event for seldom heard communities and groups. The event, "Echo your voice, shout it loud", was held on 30<sup>th</sup> March and was targeted at under represented groups struggling to influence decisions affecting their communities. The event was successful in attracting over 50</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

people from various different ethnicities, people with physical and sensory disabilities, older people, paid staff as well as volunteers. Two workshops were held, "Building Blocks" which looked at how to set up and sustain a community group and "Impact and Influence" which looked at identifying and overcoming barriers to involvement and influencing decision makers. A report of the event will be discussed with key partnerships to increase understanding of involvement issues and assess how they can make a difference.

Volition organised an event on 11<sup>th</sup> December in partnership with the involvement coordinators of the i3 project, which is the name of the project to modernise mental health day services in Leeds. The purpose of event was to give people who use mental health services in Leeds the opportunity to learn about and have a say on the issues of social inclusion, personalisation and day services. Their views would inform the work of the i3 project. Approximately 130 people attended. The majority (around 90) were people who use mental health services, with a small number of carers. Around 35 workers in mental health services attended. There was a good mix of participants, including some deaf people and good representation of black and minority ethnic communities. The services that people used and/or worked for were both statutory sector (Leeds City Council & Leeds Partnerships Foundation Trust) services and voluntary sector services. Comments and views recorded on the day were reported to the i3 Project Board, and are being taken forward by the i3 Forum of people who use services. This forum will continue to meet once the i3 project has ended in April 2009.

re'new has been awarded a contract to undertake resident consultation to support the delivery of phase 1 of the EASEL Neighbourhood Planning process. From January 2009 re'new will lead the delivery of a 12-month programme of consultation activities in Seacroft, Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe. The to'gether team will draw from its experience of engaging with local people on regeneration projects in East Leeds. re'new will use its unique and innovative approach to involving residents in local decision making via the Residents Network model.

St Luke's CARES are working to increase the number of local people delivering local services and to increase the percentage of workforce made up from the local community. Within our objective of community empowerment 60% of our staff and volunteer team are now made up of local people, with a high percentage taken directly from our client group.

The BME Network organised an event in November 2008 in partnership with the BME Strategy Group and NHS Leeds. The aim of the event, at which there were 70 attendees, was to explore how BME communities and organisations could become involved in and influence the health agenda. The BME Strategy Group have produced a report of the event.

An Azer Turk group was launched at Compton Road Library in January 2009. The group is run by 3 volunteers who expected 40 to 50 fellow Azer Turks to attend. In the event 200 attended. The organisers were overwhelmed by requests for help with,

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

in particular, ESOL classes and accommodation.

There appears to be a serious shortage of affordable office accommodation for small voluntary and community groups. As a result a number of groups are having to work from home which for many is inconvenient and causes problems with funding applications.

The 2009 VCFS Representatives Review is due to be completed by Leeds Voice by the end of April. The Review contains interviews with and responses to questionnaires from representatives from all forums and their statutory partners This year's review has a particular focus on Commissioning and includes interviews with Chairs of Strategic Commissioning Boards.

The Community Engagement Coordinator facilitates and coordinates engagement at local and city wide level leading to clear opportunities for local people and local groups to influence decisions.

Community engagement, put simply, is the process of involving people in decisions that affect them. This can mean involving communities in the planning, development and management of services and supporting and strengthening community voices and representation at the Neighbourhood Policy Group

Forums are now established within each of the three geographically based wedges of the City - West and North West, East and North East & South and Outer East. The forums facilitate a two way flow of communication between the representatives and local partnerships to proactively contribute to, and influence, decision making, area delivery plans and neighbourhood improvement plans. The Forums meet on a quarterly basis in each wedge. Each forum has a number of elected representatives who sit on partnership boards within the localities.

Third Sector Together is an ongoing project of Leeds Voice and the VCFS Strategy Group to address the changing environment for VCFS organisations in Leeds – an overall reduction in funding, the demands of the Leeds Strategic Plan, the move from discretionary grants to commissioning, fewer, larger contracts some on a sub-regional basis, and the uncertainties of the current economic recession. To address these changes and to maximise what opportunities there are the sector needs,

- to be better coordinated
- to be effectively led and represented
- to promote itself effectively
- to develop funding opportunities, influence commissioning specifications
- to be “tender ready”

One major aim of Third Sector Together is to encourage those larger, locally based VCFS organisations who are not currently engaged with the VCFS Strategy Group to become engaged with Third Sector Together. At the same time it is important that smaller organisations remain involved and feel that they can influence the agenda of Third Sector Together.

A steering group was established in early 2009 to develop an action plan for Third

**Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions**

Sector Together. The steering group will report back to Leeds Voice and to the VCFS Strategy Group in April.

Roots Social Enterprise are represented on Leeds Partnership Board. Roots is the only social firm of African Caribbean people with learning difficulties and disabilities in the country who offer paid training and consultancy.

People in Action's Umeed carers' group have been consulted on local housing and support for people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

Consultation events at People's Place have influenced the delivery of learning disability services and action on Hate Crime - through Skin Deep, the black advocacy and campaigning group of people with learning difficulties and disabilities.

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<b>Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions</b>	
<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Harmonious Communities HM-2a
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved community cohesion and integration through meaningful involvement and valuing equality and diversity
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Enable a robust and vibrant voluntary, community and faith sector to facilitate community activity and directly deliver services.
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 7 Environment for a thriving third sector
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>Leeds Connecting Communities which was the only organisation in Leeds offering infrastructure support to BME communities and organisations was forced to close when its Big Lottery funding ceased at the end of March 2009. Whilst some funding had been offered which would support 2 or 3 front-line Development Workers, Connecting Communities was unable to secure funding to cover its core costs. A BME Advisory Group, comprising other VCFS infrastructure organisations, is being discussed as a way to maintain some level of infrastructure support to BME communities and organisations.</p> <p>The Leeds BME Network was hosted by Connecting Communities. The BME Network is now being hosted by Leeds Voice.</p> <p>The BME Network held a Networking event in November 2008 which was attended by 80 people from 35 different BME organisations. There were 25 stalls at the event from different VCFS, statutory and private organisations.</p> <p>St Luke's CARES are supporting local people to set up new "grass roots" voluntary and community organisations led by local people. There are 6 groups already running and being supported by St Luke's. It is anticipated that 2 of these groups will become organisations in their own right within the next year, subject to funding being available to provide initial support for the new organisations. Funding issues have also put into question St Luke's ability to continue this community development work.</p> <p>The BME Network held an Information and Funding event in February 2009 which was attended by 45 BME organisations. The event covered commissioning, grants,</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

social enterprise and partnership working. Information and advice was provided by Leeds City Council, LEGI, Community Foundation and Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

Leeds Voice are in the process of updating and expanding the Ripple Effect report. The original Ripple Effect report which was published in 2008 was based on research carried out in by Leeds Metropolitan University into the economic contribution the VCFS made to the Leeds economy. The updated and expanded – to include the impact of the Leeds Strategic Plan and the increase in commissioning of services - Ripple Effect report is due be published in early summer 2009.

The Supporting Links to Commissioning project was officially launched in March and 30 people from a range of VCFS organisations attended the launch event. A training needs analysis has been completed and a report will be issued in April. A Good Practice in Commissioning workshop attended by 27 people from a range of VCFS organisations was held in March.

WYCAS (West Yorkshire Community Accounting Service) contributes to the enabling of a robust and vibrant voluntary, community and faith sector - and indirectly WYCAS also contributes to all the other LSP priorities - by supporting a wide range of frontline VCFS organisations through training in sound financial management and by ensuring they have professionally prepared annual accounts. There is considerable evidence to show that if an organisation manages its money well it helps it to flourish and to remain viable. Over the last year WYCAS has worked with 173 VCFS organisations in Leeds.

People's Place, Leeds (an established multicultural centre for people with learning difficulties and disabilities), based at Technorth is a base for several social firms, and a venue for many organisations including Adult Social Care, Youth Offending Service, and many voluntary organisation activities. It is a focus for consultation, training and advocacy and is supporting and stimulating the development of other social firms involving people with learning difficulties and disabilities. People's Place is the only venue of this sort in the country as far as we know and helps Leeds to meet its requirements to engage people with learning difficulties and disabilities in the planning and development of services.

Leeds Older Peoples Forum works to facilitate dialogue through all communities for older people Leeds. We currently have over 120 Members and facilitate the Voluntary Sector Reference Group and BME Focus Group which work specifically to ensure that all sectors regardless of race, religion or culture views are represented on issues affecting older people.

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<b>Name of Leeds VCFS organisation/forum:</b>	
<b>Leeds Strategic Plan Theme</b>	Harmonious Communities HM-2b
<b>Strategic Outcome</b>	Improved community cohesion and integration through meaningful involvement and valuing equality and diversity
<b>Improvement Priority</b>	Increase the sense of belonging and pride in local neighbourhoods that help to build cohesive communities
<b>Aligned Performance Indicator(s):</b>	NI 1 Percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area
<b>Responsible Officer (or other):</b>	
<b>Planned Actions to contribute towards the delivery of this Improvement Priority:</b>	
<p>The “Spring Together” community cohesion event was held on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> March at the Strawberry Lane Community Centre and the adjacent “Field of Dreams. The event was organised by a partnership of 23 VCFS, statutory and private sector organisations with funding from WNW Area Management and a number of local businesses. The event was attended by an estimated 2000 people including people from the local Russian, Somali, and Cameroonian communities and Sikh and Muslim communities. The event was so successful that the organisers are already planning another event in outer WNW Leeds for later in the year.</p> <p>Touchstone’s BME Community Development Service (CDS) was set up in 2006 to find new ways of addressing the mental health needs of BME communities in Leeds. Through the activities of this service people from different BME communities come together to discuss their common and differing concerns and needs. In the period October – December 2008 the service worked with 84 community based partners, 54 of which were new partners in that time period. Partners are also supported to become involved and make a contribution to this work. For example, in October and November the CDS trained 15 BME community volunteers from diverse communities to undertake research into Equalities on behalf of NHS Leeds.</p> <p>Home-Start Leeds have a team of approximately 200 volunteers supporting families under stress. Through the training they receive and the services they support, the volunteers gain confidence and become increasingly aware of and able to contribute to local issues.</p> <p>BTCV Branch Out project in inner NE runs programmes aimed specifically at integrating new arrivals to the city - asylum, refugees and migrants – into their new</p>	

## Leeds Strategic Plan - Partner Contributions

communities by bringing together and working with the new arrivals and local residents.

Around 120 Year 10 pupils in East Leeds recently entered a design competition to produce anti-racism banners for display on 30 lampposts on roads running through Halton Moor and Osmondthorpe, as part of the Show Racism the Red Card scheme run by re'new, the Leeds based regeneration partnership. The pupils from Meadowfield and Corpus Christi Primary School produced the banners to share anti-racism messages learned in November 2008, and six designs were chosen to be made into the 6½ft banners for display along Halton Moor Avenue and Neville Road. The winners were each presented with a £20 voucher at an awards ceremony on 13th February 2009 by Chief Superintendent Gerry Broadbent of West Yorkshire Police, and everyone who entered received an early Easter egg.

St Luke's CARES plan to work with Hamara over the Summer period to delivery cohesive youth work programmes. Funding has been secured for an Away Day to be held in late May for both organisations to formulate a joint delivery plan for the Summer programme.

Womens Health Matters work with Black and Minority Ethnic women in East Leeds includes providing support, information, advice and promoting health awareness. This is done by, providing appropriate language support in a religiously and culturally appropriate way, supporting women using appropriate volunteers, and running groups and drop-ins in East Leeds, including Harehills.

Womens Health Matters is undertaking a research project into maternity services with refugees and asylum seekers. The research - Mothers in Exile - will be published later this year.

People in Action work with people with learning disabilities to enable them to play a part within the community. People in Action have developed activities which bring people together and help members to overcome social isolation and loneliness.

The Here to Stay Project, operated by Leeds Black Elders Association, has received National Heritage Lottery Funding for 2008-2010 and is an oral history project which aims to capture and preserve the memoirs and experience of African and African Caribbean elders in Leeds. The Group of elders involved in the project go into local schools and speak to children about their life experiences and answer question around this. This is an ideal example of an intergenerational project and was recently chosen to be showcased to the Rt Hon Rosie Winterton MP for Pensions and an Ageing Society. The memoirs are captured on DVD for use in further education.

**Other Contributory Partners (including Leeds City Council services) involved in delivering these actions. Please include contact names.**

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**Optional - Progress against these Actions and outcomes achieved as a result:**

**Other Relevant Information (i.e. are there any risks that could lead to actions not being undertaken or data being accurately collated/recorded? What is being done to alleviate or reduce these risks)**

**This form was completed by:** Leeds Voice

**Date:** 17 April 2009