



# Green up!

## Five ways to work with your council on the environment and sustainability

By Agnes Gautier





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Finally, thanks to Catriona May for her constant help and support with the guide.

# Introduction

## Who is the guide for?

This guide is for community and voluntary groups who want to build and maintain a positive relationship with their local authority (which we will refer to as ‘council’) while working on the environment, climate change, and sustainability\* issues. Sustainability is much broader than environmental issues and has economic and social aspects.

The guide can also help you hold your council to account. The guide applies to community groups in England and Wales.

Throughout this guide, words with an asterisk (\*) are defined in the jargon buster boxes.

### Jargon buster

**Sustainability**, as defined by the government, is ‘enabling everyone in the world to satisfy their basic needs and enjoy a better quality of life without compromising the quality of life of future generations’. That means considering three aspects:

- living within environmental limits, protecting limited natural resources and limiting climate change (environmental sustainability)
- stimulating strong, healthy communities and a just society (social sustainability)
- building a strong, stable economy (economic sustainability).

## How is this guide structured?

In this guide we will focus on the frameworks councils are accustomed to using. These frameworks are:

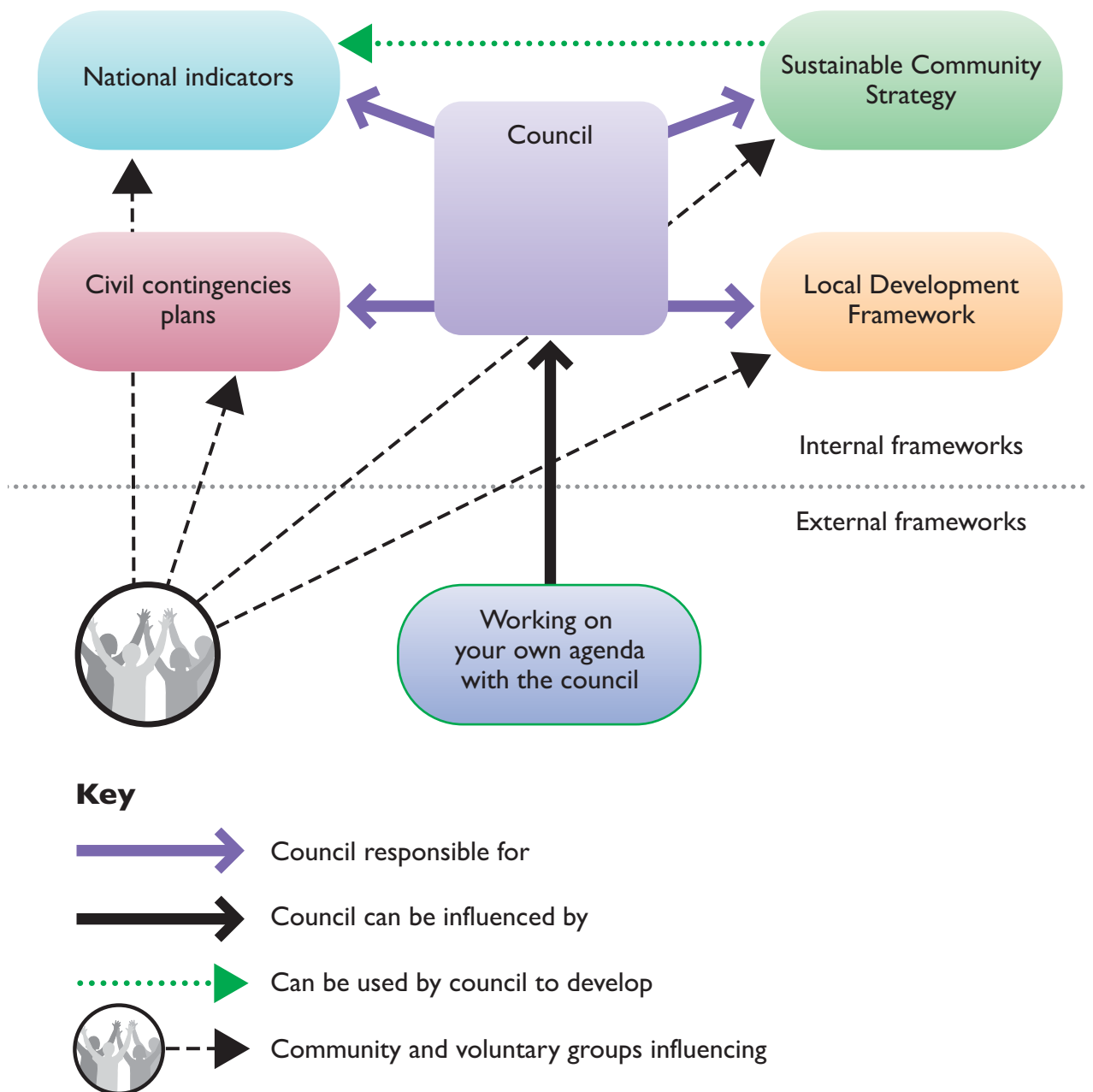
- national indicators
- Sustainable Community Strategies
- Local Development Frameworks
- civil contingencies plans
- working on your own agenda with the council.

You will find a step-by-step explanation of how councils use these frameworks, and the elements of these frameworks.

We focus on frameworks because it is important for members of your group to understand ‘council speak’. Understanding how a council works and what terms they use will enable you to get their attention. For example, if you mention how you can help them deliver their national indicators, your average council officer’s ears are likely to prick up!

The chart below shows how these frameworks relate to a council and to each other.

**Figure 1 How frameworks link together**



## Why should we work with our council?

Councils have increasing powers and duties in the field of the environment and sustainability and it can be very rewarding for local groups to develop positive relationships with them. For example, community and voluntary groups working with their councils could:

- persuade the council to recognise better their needs and those of their members
- encourage the council to protect their members' interests
- show how their work promotes sustainability
- involve their members in local democratic processes
- get new or increased funding from the council.

If you would like to know what a local council is and how it works, check out our Resources section under 'Council' at the end of this guide, page 33. Please note that this guide refers to the 400 local councils in England and Wales (and not to the 10,000 town, parish and community councils).

## What are the keys to a successful relationship with the council?

To be successful, your community or voluntary group must be persistent, positive and ready to work with others.

**Persistent:** You will need patience and networking skills to find the right person within the council who is interested, either formally or informally, in sustainability issues and can make things happen for you. Also, you have to bear in mind that the council's administrative procedures might take longer than you expect.

**Positive:** You must be ready to bring something to the table. Council officers must be able to see what your group can contribute to *their* targets.

**Ready to work with others:** often the council will be dealing with third-sector\* representatives already. You will often have to go through these people first to reach out to the council. You will also make more of an impact if you approach your council with a coalition of many similar organisations.

### Jargon buster

**Third sector:** this covers voluntary and community organisations, charities, social enterprises, co-operatives and mutuals.

## If time and money are issues

Working with your council is time-consuming and could involve cost. Smaller community and voluntary groups might be particularly affected. To overcome this obstacle you could:

- work in partnership with other community or voluntary organisations, who can share the work
- delegate some work to keen volunteers
- focus on a very specific piece of work that fits with what your organisation is already doing
- focus on a piece of work that is likely to bring funding from the council
- ask for help from your local voluntary or community-sector umbrella organisation, such as the Council for Voluntary Service.

Remember that working with the council *might* result in council funding for your group, if, for example, you are helping to meet one or more of the council's own objectives.

## How to use this guide

You can use this guide in two ways: by type of activity or by theme.

### *By type of activity*



**Influencing:** opportunities to influence your council on current sustainability issues, or to influence future plans.



**Fundraising:** possibilities that the council may fund your group if they recognise your work helps it achieve some of its own objectives.



**Co-operating:** opportunities to work with your council on sustainability issues.

Each framework is clearly labelled to show what type of activity it is. For example, civil contingencies plans, as co-operating activities, will carry this symbol:



## By theme

Choose an issue you are interested in, and check out the relevant framework.

If you are interested in:	See corresponding framework:	Page
<b>Air quality</b>	National indicators	7
<b>Biodiversity</b> (the variety of animals and plants)	National indicators	7
<b>Carbon</b> (reducing consumption)	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
	Local Development Framework	18
<b>Climate change</b>	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
<b>Coastal erosion</b>	Shoreline management plans	36
	National indicators	7
<b>CO<sub>2</sub> emissions</b>	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
	Local Development Framework	18
<b>Economic sustainability</b>	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
	Local Development Framework	18
<b>Energy</b>	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
<b>Environmental cleanliness</b>	National indicators	7
<b>Environmental cleanliness after disaster</b>	Civil contingencies plans	22
<b>Floods</b>	National indicator 189	9
	Shoreline management plans	36
<b>Fuel poverty</b> (households cannot afford to keep warm)	National indicators	7
<b>Health</b>	National indicators	7
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
<b>Housing</b> (sustainability of)	Local Development Framework	18
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
<b>Natural disasters</b> (preventing and managing)	Civil contingencies plans	22
	Shoreline management plans	36
<b>Planning</b> (sustainability of)	Local Development Framework	18

(continued overleaf)

<b>If you are interested in:</b>	<b>See corresponding framework:</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>Recycling</b>	National indicators	7
<b>Social sustainability</b>	All the frameworks apply	
<b>Transport</b> (sustainability of)	Local Development Framework	18
	Sustainable Community Strategy	14
<b>Waste reduction</b>	National indicators	7

**Important note:** the Sustainable Community Strategy and the 'Working on your own agenda with the council' frameworks are likely to cut across all these themes, depending on your local area.

All internet documents referred to in this guide were accessed and working on 4 November 2009.

# National indicators



## Who could use the national indicators?

Community or voluntary groups who:

- are interested in the environment or sustainability, and wish to work with their council on specific targets such as pollution, fuel poverty or health
- want to question their council on specific aspects of its work. For example, in relation to the national indicator for economic sustainability, what is the council doing to reduce youth unemployment?

## What are they?

Since April 2008 the performance of local authorities has been monitored through the government's 198 national indicators. The set of national indicators was developed to reflect the government's national priorities.

Performance against each of the 198 indicators is reported by the Local Strategic Partnership\*.

### Jargon buster

A **Local Strategic Partnership** (LSP) is a single body that:

- brings together at a local level the different parts of the public sector with the private, business, community and voluntary sectors, so that different initiatives and services work together
- provides a single local framework for co-ordinated action
- is responsible for developing and implementing Community Strategies and Local Area Agreements (LAAs) – see page 8 below.

In each area, targets against the set of national indicators are negotiated through Local Area Agreements\*. These are three-year agreements between central government and the council. Most LAAs will be up for review in 2011. At that time, there will be a chance to influence your council's new set of indicators.

Each LAA includes up to 35 targets from among the national indicators, mostly chosen by the council, and 16 statutory targets on education and early years.

Although the Audit Commission judges councils' performance against all 198 indicators, the indicators selected in the LAA receive particular attention and are the only ones reported to the regional government offices. The council's funding partly depends on its performance against these indicators.

The indicators are grouped under seven headings:

- 1 Stronger communities**
- 2 Safer communities**
- 3 Children and young people**
- 4 Adult health and well-being**
- 5 Tackling exclusion and promoting equality**
- 6 Local economy**
- 7 Environmental sustainability.**

### Jargon buster

**Local Area Agreements (LAAs)** are about what sort of place you want to live in. They set out the local priorities that will make your town, city or community a better place to be. They are negotiated between all the main public-sector organisations in your area, including your council and central government, and are set by your council's Local Strategic Partnership. The ideas behind LAAs are to:

- recognise that 'one size does not fit all' and local services should reflect what local people want
- allow councils and other public-sector organisations more flexibility in the ways they deliver services for local people
- make councils and other public services more accountable to local people
- reduce red tape and improve value for money
- enable local people to get more involved in decisions about local services.

## Why are national indicators important to our group?

To attract funding or simply to show their impact, community groups will need to demonstrate how their work contributes to as many of their council's targets as possible. You should consider how to prove that you contribute to achieving the national indicators (NIs), particularly the 35 NIs in your Local Area Agreement. You can hold your council to account in terms of its performance against NIs.

## Which environmental indicators are relevant?

Most environmental indicators can be found under the environmental sustainability heading. More than 90 per cent of councils have signed up to at least one of the climate change national indicators.

These indicators are:

- NI 185** CO<sub>2</sub> reduction from local authority operations
- NI 186** Per person reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area
- NI 187** Tackling fuel poverty – percentage of people receiving income-based benefits and living in homes with a low energy-efficiency rating
- NI 188** Planning to adapt to climate change
- NI 189** Flood and coastal erosion risk management
- NI 190** Achievement in meeting standards for the control system for animal health
- NI 191** Residual household waste per household
- NI 192** Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting
- NI 193** Percentage of municipal waste land filled
- NI 194** Air quality – percentage reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> and primary PM<sub>10</sub> emissions through a local authority's estate and operations
- NI 195** Improved street and environmental cleanliness (less graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)
- NI 196** Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping
- NI 197** Improved local biodiversity – proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented
- NI 198** Children travelling to school – mode of transport usually used

**Example:** A voluntary group organising 'clean-up days' of the local park by volunteers could ask for some funding to advertise the event under NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness.

For a brief explanation of the definitions, see the Annex: National indicators linked to the environment, page 31 below.

Each indicator is likely to have a lead officer responsible for it. If you are already doing, or are planning to do, some work relating to that indicator, it is a good idea to make the lead officer aware of it.

## TIP

**If you have a Parish or Community Plan, it might be a good idea to use it to approach your council. For more information, see 'Parish and Community Plans' in the Resources section at the end of this guide, page 35.**

## Which economic indicators are relevant?

Sustainable economic indicators are harder to select, as all indicators under the 'Local economy' NI set could be linked to sustainable development.

As a rule, sustainable economic indicators must:

- promote a healthy economy
- if they are linked to transport, strike the right balance between the need to serve economic development and the ability to sustain quality of life.

Relevant indicators might be, for example:

**NI 151** Overall employment rate

**NI 152** Working-age people on out-of-work benefits

**NI 167** Congestion – average journey time per mile during the morning peak.

**For example:** A local community group trying to set up a car-sharing scheme could cite NI 167 Congestion to persuade their council to work with them on the scheme.

For the complete list of national indicators, check out the Resources section under 'National indicators', page 35 below.

## Which social indicators are relevant?

Sustainable social indicators are spread across the different headings of the NI set. The list given here is not complete and more could be added.

As a rule, social sustainability indicators are linked to poverty, opportunities for education and training, health and the availability of medical services, crime levels, and the provision and quality of housing.

Relevant indicators might include:

- NI 15** Serious violent crime rate
- NI 116** Proportion of children in poverty
- NI 117** 16 to 18-year-olds who are not in education, training or employment (NEET)
- NI 119** Self-reported measure of people's overall health and well-being.

**Example:** A local community group working with ex-offenders on a communal garden project could claim they are contributing to reducing re-offending and the violent crime rate, under NI 15.

For the complete list of NIs, check out 'National indicators' in the Resources section at the end of this guide, page 35.

## How is performance against the indicators measured?

It is important to read the national indicators with their definitions to understand what is expected of councils in terms of specific, measurable achievements. Definitions also detail how often councils need to assess and report their progress, to whom they need to report, and the formula they need to use. Most national indicators require a yearly report.

If you want to show how your group contributes to sustainability, these definitions will help you understand what figures are important to your local council and what you should be working towards to increase your chances of council funding.

The detailed definitions can be found under:

[www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/735143.pdf](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/735143.pdf)

### TIP

The 'worked example section' of the definitions explains how each definition works in practice.

We explain briefly what the environmental sustainability indicators mean; see Annex: National indicators linked to the environment, page 31 below.

## Who should we speak to?

Local Area Agreements are set by the Local Strategic Partnership. LSPs quite often include a third-sector representative. To find out who this person is, check with your local umbrella organisation, usually the Council for Voluntary Service (CVS). You can then ask this person to tell you what has been going on so far and also ask them to represent your interests. If there is no third-sector representative, ask your local CVS or equivalent to help you campaign for a third-sector seat at the table for a member of your group. This person should commit themselves to representing the whole sector's interests, not just those of your own group.

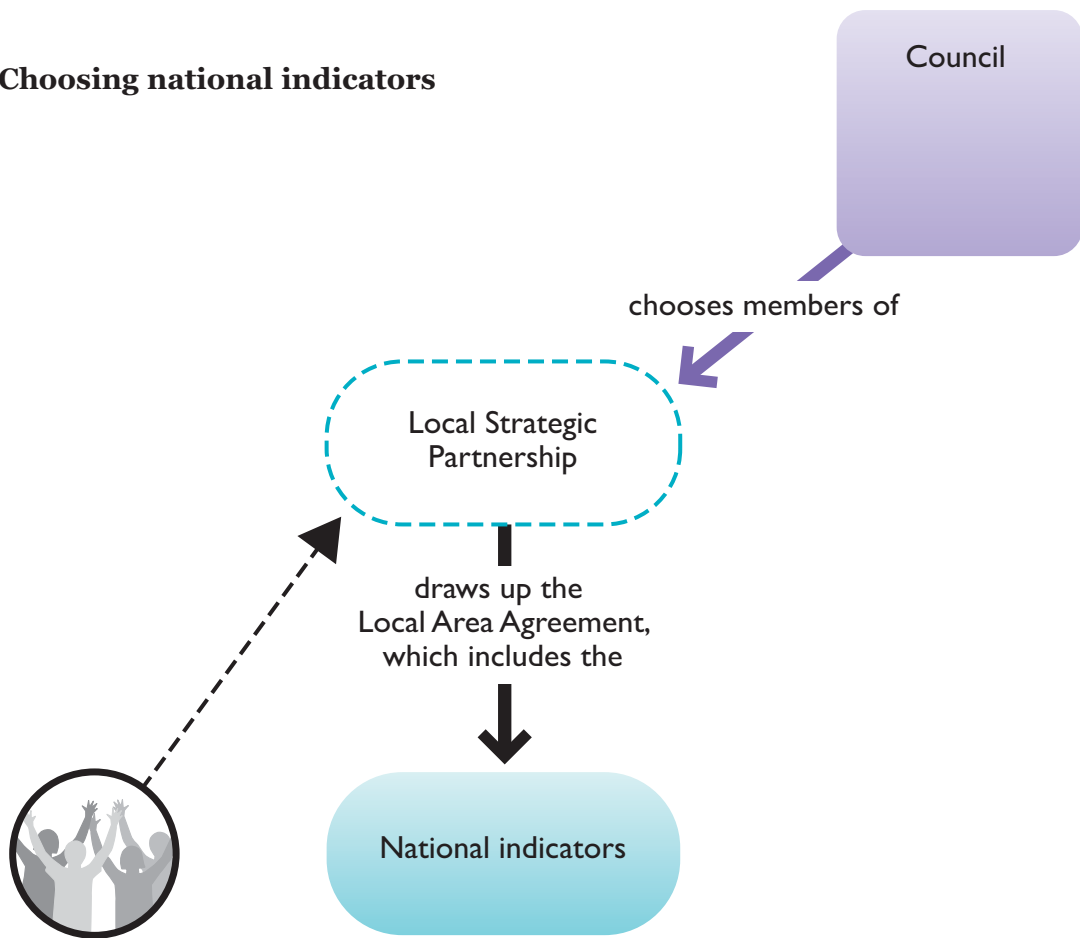
## Voice from the ground

Lorely Lloyd, Transition Cornwall Network and Transition Falmouth






Because Falmouth and the area are quite small, the same people appear at many meetings. This tends to perpetuate entrenched attitudes, but open-mindedness is increasing as trust builds up. I am still a token ‘greeny’, but the previously hostile are slowly seeing my role as part of local planning for the future.

**Figure 2** Choosing national indicators



Community groups and voluntary groups have influence through third-sector representatives

**Key**

-  Council responsible for
-  Local Strategic Partnership chooses
-  Community and voluntary groups influencing

## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

## Using national indicators to influence your council's sustainability agenda

### Step 1

#### What are your council's chosen national indicators?

Find out on the IDeA website:

[www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx](http://www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx)

### Step 2

#### Do they contain sustainable indicators?

(see pages 9–11 above for guidance)

YES

### Step 3

NO

#### What is your council meant to be doing?

Check out the definitions of the chosen indicators:

[www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/finalnationalindicators](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/finalnationalindicators)

#### Check your council's progress on the sustainable indicators.

(The Audit Commission judges councils' performance against all 198 indicators, see page 8 above)

However, because the sustainable indicators are not in your Local Area Agreement, it is best to also use other frameworks to work with your council.

### Step 4

#### How has your community group contributed to these NIs?

Use the definitions to produce figures your council will be interested in.

### Step 5

#### Armed with facts from steps 3 and 4, get in touch with your Local Strategic Partnership.

Ask your local Council for Voluntary Service to find out who is on the LSP, or check out your council's webpage. To find your council's details, go to:

[www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/DI1/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm)

# Sustainable Community Strategy



## Who could use the Sustainable Community Strategy?

Community or voluntary groups who want to:

- influence what the future will look like in their area
- know the current challenges facing their community at large and how the council will address them
- identify potential sources of new funding for the long term.

## What is it?

The *Local Government Act 2000* requires every council to develop and deliver a Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS). Most councils do this through their Local Strategic Partnership. The SCS is a long-term vision – often for 10 or 20 years – based on evidence and forecasts of economic, social and environmental trends. It covers all aspects of sustainability under different social, economic and environmental headings.

## Why is it important to us?

The SCS can tell you about the council's long-term vision on sustainability. So you can link up your own work with what the council intends to achieve. For example, if your group offers free energy advice and the council said reducing carbon emissions was one of its priorities, you should explain how your advice includes how to cut carbon emissions. If the council can see how you are contributing to achieving its own targets, it may offer you funding.

## For geeks (more jargon busting)

The SCS is the long-term vision of the Local Strategic Partnership, while the Local Area Agreement (see section 1: National indicators, page 7 above) sets out how the council will achieve it in the short term.

### TIP

**You could reflect the council's priorities in your strategic planning documents.**

## How can we get involved?

The Local Strategic Partnership is responsible for developing and overseeing the delivery of a Sustainable Community Strategy. On the LSP, there are often themed subgroups. Each LSP can decide how many subgroups it has and what they are called. For example, in Plymouth, the four subgroups are called: healthy; wealthy; safe and strong; and wise. Rugby's six subgroups are called: children and young people; climate change and the environment; economic development and enterprise; healthier communities and older people; safer communities; and stronger communities.

You need to find out which is the most relevant subgroup for the subject you are interested in. You will also need to identify who on the subgroup is representing the third or voluntary sector, and link up with them.

There is strong guidance from government on how Sustainable Community Strategies should involve the public. Some councils have used Parish and Community Plans as the basis for working with local neighbourhoods. For more information, see 'Parish and Community Plans' in the Resources section at the end of this guide, page 35.

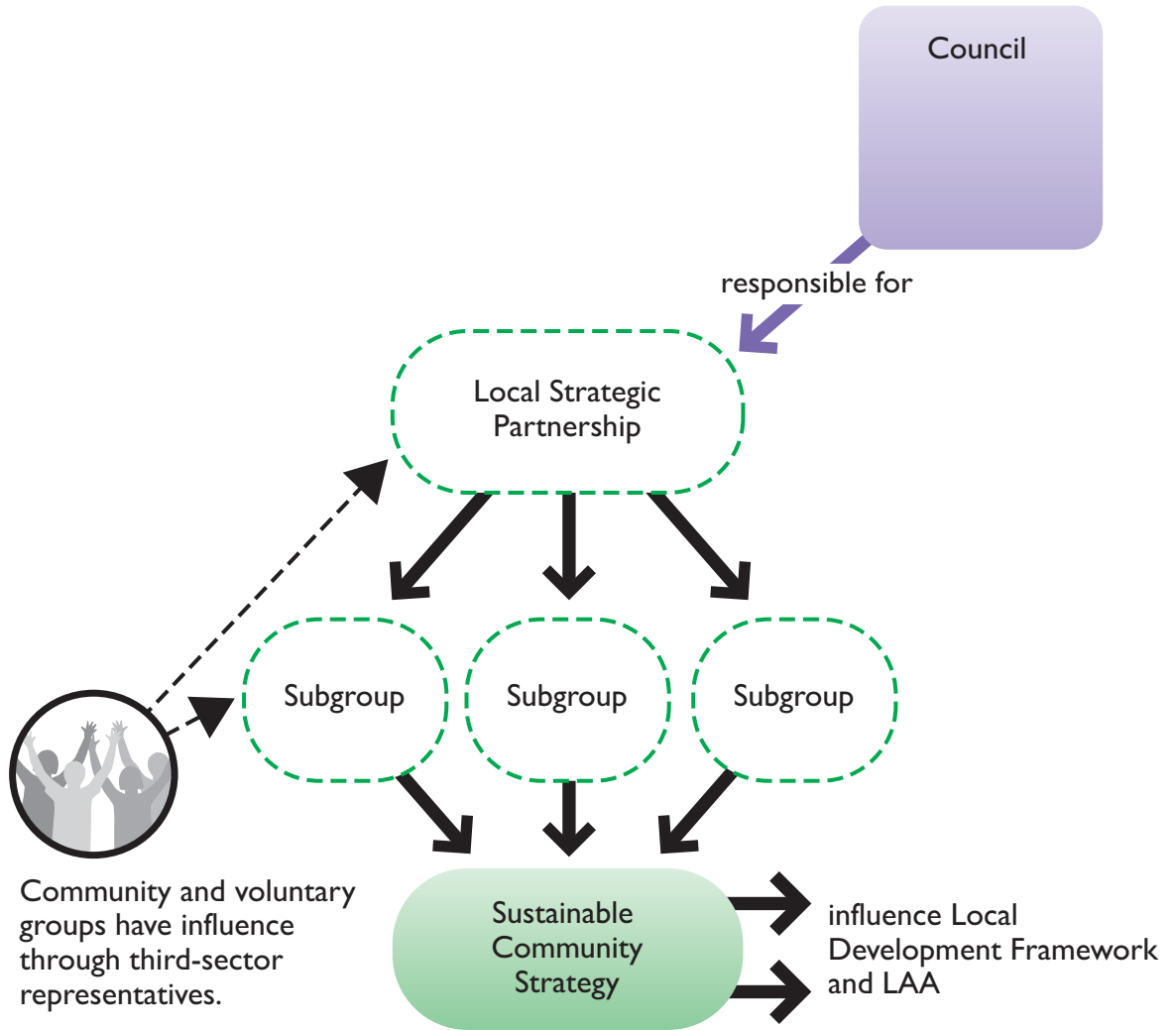
## Voice from the ground

**Hazel Barron, Forum 21, West Somerset**






Forum 21 received funding from the Council and took on the task of writing the Natural Environment section of the West Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy. The benefits of the Forum working with the Council are mutual. No specific officers target these areas, so the Council has used our expertise instead. In return we get financial support and recognition, which propels the group forward and keeps the momentum up.

**Figure 3** The Sustainable Community Strategy



**Key**

-  Council responsible for
-  Produces
-  Community and voluntary groups influencing

Example	Milton Keynes LSP
<p>The LSP brings together Milton Keynes Council; Homes and Communities Agency; representatives from the health, community and business sectors; and independent representatives. Milton Keynes Council will receive £1.5 million of government funding through its LSP to create more responsible energy solutions that help reduce carbon emissions from housing.</p>	
<p><b>Source:</b> <a href="http://www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/index.php">www.miltonkeynespartnership.info/index.php</a></p>	

## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

## Demonstrating your impact to your council, using the Sustainable Community Strategy

### Step 1

#### What does your Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) say?

Find your Sustainable Community Strategy, usually on your council's website. Sometimes the council will refer to it as the 'Community Strategy'.

For example, on a search engine (such as Google or Yahoo), type 'Cardiff Sustainable Community Strategy':  
**[www.cardiff.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=2867%2C3600&parent\\_directory\\_id=2865](http://www.cardiff.gov.uk/content.asp?nav=2867%2C3600&parent_directory_id=2865)**

What does the SCS say? Which aims are you helping to achieve? For example, if the council's SCS says it wants to 'Keep Cardiff tidy' and is very keen on recycling, you should let it know that you are a community or voluntary group involved in recycling and based in Cardiff.

### Step 2

#### Who is on your Local Strategic Partnership?

Who on your LSP is responsible for the subject you are interested in? Look on your council's website for a specific officer, or, if there is a specific subgroup, for the Chair of this subgroup. For example, if you are interested in climate change, type on your search engine: 'Local Strategic Partnership climate change + [name of your council]'.

See, for example, 'Local Strategic Partnership climate change Harlow':

**[www.harlow2020.org.uk](http://www.harlow2020.org.uk)**

If you cannot find the name you want this way, ring up your council and ask to speak to any officer involved in the LSP. They should be able to tell you the name of the person responsible. To find your council's number, go to:

**[www.direct.gov.uk/en/D11/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm](http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/D11/Directories/Localcouncils/index.htm)**

### Step 3

#### Contact your council.

Once you know who the person in charge is, ask them who represents the third sector on the board. You will need to lobby this person to represent your interests (armed with your facts from step 1). If no one from the third sector is there, you can ask to be nominated (usually to represent your sector's interest).

# Local Development Framework



## Who could use the Local Development Framework?

- Community groups interested in planning issues such as stopping the development of commercial premises or encouraging alternative land use for communal activities.
- Community or voluntary groups interested in transport issues such as encouraging cycling in new developments.
- Community groups wanting the right facilities for their area such as schools, libraries or play spaces.

## What is it?

The Local Development Framework (LDF) is the way councils present their proposals for the use of the land and for changes to the transport system. LDFs are intended to deliver sustainable development while reflecting the needs of local communities. They must take into account social and environmental factors such as health and housing need and should not focus only on the regulation and control of land.

## Why is the LDF important to us?

Councils must undertake a series of consultations before each section within the LDF is adopted and becomes council policy. The consultations give your group an opportunity to influence the policies on which planning decisions will be made.

Individual planning decisions are not discussed under the LDF; rather, it is a general overview of what will happen to an area. If you are interested in putting forward or opposing specific planning decisions, check out 'Planning' in the Resources section at the end of this guide, page 36.

Parish and Community Plans may influence what goes into an LDF. For more information, see 'Parish and Community Plans' in the Resources section, page 35.

## Voice from the ground

Peter Eversden, London Forum of Civic Societies and Bedford Park Society



Working with the Council on public realm improvements is something that involves everyone and can be very satisfying.

### STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

## Working with your council on the Local Development Framework

### Step 1

#### Find your Statement of Community Involvement.

Each local planning authority must produce a Statement of Community Involvement, which sets out how communities are involved in the LDF.

Few councils display their Statement of Community Involvement on their website. To find out whether yours does, type the name of your council + Statement of Community Involvement on your search engine (such as Google or Yahoo). See, for example, 'Canterbury Statement of Community Involvement': [www.canterbury.gov.uk/buildpage.php?id=2798](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/buildpage.php?id=2798)

If you cannot find the Statement on the internet, contact your council's planning department and ask to see the Statement of Community Involvement of your Local Development Framework.

To find your council planning team, go to:

[www.planningportal.gov.uk/wps/portal/genpub\\_LocalInformation?docRef=1103046453478&scope=202&langid=0](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/wps/portal/genpub_LocalInformation?docRef=1103046453478&scope=202&langid=0)

### Step 2

#### Find out what your council will seek involvement in, how and when, and with whom.

Make the link between who your council said it would consult and the activities of your local group. For example, the Statement of Community Involvement could specify that the council will consult with environmental bodies, and that will include your group. Note how the council said it will involve groups and how you can take part.

**TIP**

**It is useful to compare your Sustainable Community Strategy (see section 2 of this guide) with the LDF to check they don't conflict.**

A consultation will have many stages, and it might be useful to be involved in all of these. However, bear in mind that it will be very time-consuming for your group members to attend all the consultations.

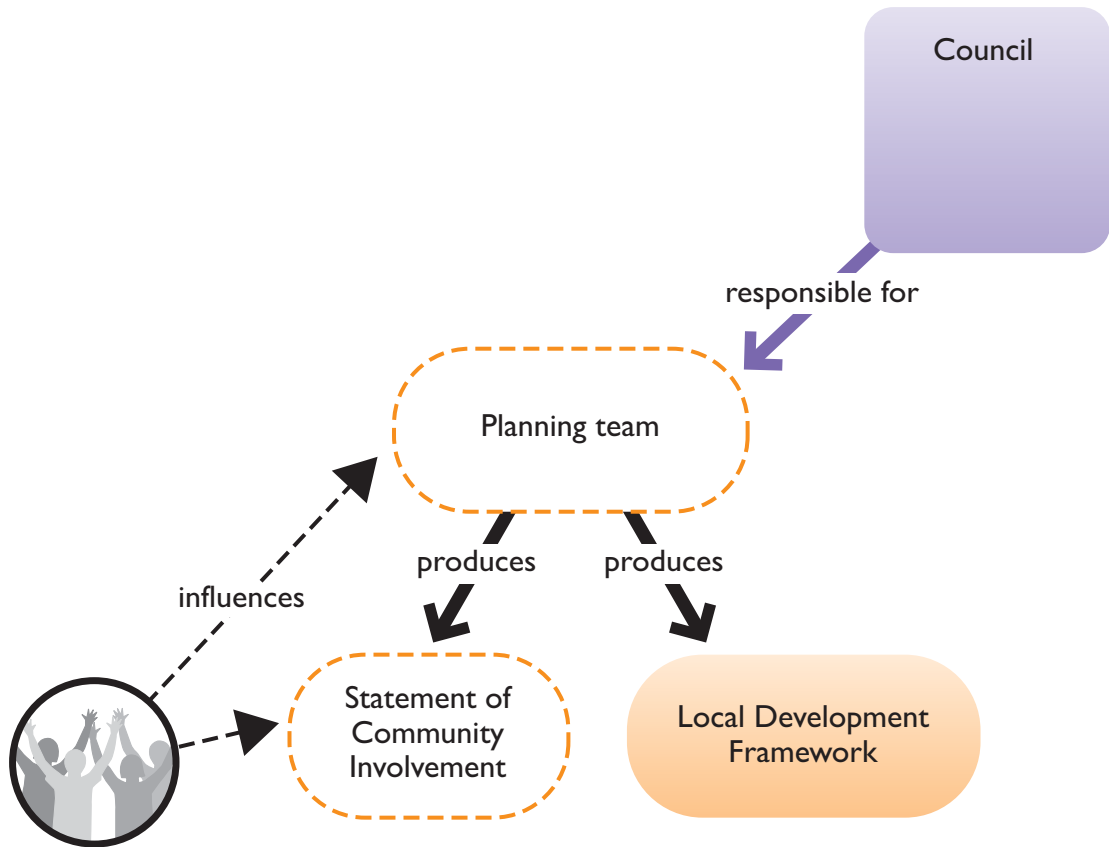
Example	Residents' involvement with Suffolk Council
<p>The residents' group at Treetops in Felixstowe objected to the building of new houses in Felixstowe, as set out in one of the Council's LDF documents. Their comments were discussed during two LDF meetings, alongside other issues. The Council will consider all comments before drawing up its final document.</p> <p><b>Source:</b> <i>Suffolk Coastal Consultation</i>  <a href="https://apps1.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/AF3/an/default.aspx/RenderForm/?F.Name=qwh3dUft5tj&amp;OrgTypeID=7">https://apps1.suffolkcoastal.gov.uk/AF3/an/default.aspx/RenderForm/?F.Name=qwh3dUft5tj&amp;OrgTypeID=7</a></p>	

## Watch this space ... the Single Conversation

The Single Conversation is a process of dialogue between the Homes and Communities Agency and a council or group of councils and partners from the public, private, housing association and voluntary sectors. The Conversation will join up decision making across the range of housing and regeneration activities and investment programmes in a local area. It will lead to Local Investment Plans and Local Investment Agreements, which will set out the financial and other support that organisations will provide to put decisions into practice.




Councils will be encouraged to bring community and voluntary groups into the Single Conversation, and this could be a way for them to influence the 'bigger picture'. Local investment plans are expected to be in place by the end of March 2010. For further information, go to:  
**[www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/public/documents/HCA\\_single\\_conversation240709.pdf](http://www.homesandcommunities.co.uk/public/documents/HCA_single_conversation240709.pdf)**

**Figure 4** The Local Development Framework



Community and voluntary groups find out how the planning team will involve groups like them through the Statement of Community Involvement.

**Key**

-  Council responsible for
-  Produces
-  Community and voluntary groups influencing

# Civil contingencies plans



## Who could use civil contingencies plans?

Community and voluntary groups who:

- think an environmental threat is being overlooked or not given enough importance
- are interested in offering practical support to the council in times of emergencies (for example, local British Red Cross groups)
- have strong networks able to mobilise volunteers (for example, faith groups).

## What are they?

Civil contingencies planning (formerly called emergency planning) is one of the most important council functions, which prepares and plans responses to major emergencies. The most common emergencies are caused by severe weather, natural disasters, industrial accidents, transport accidents and terrorism.

## Why are they important to us?

By working with you, the council will be able to reach out to the community more effectively. It will be able to rely on a big network of people that it can mobilise quickly, for example to stop a flash flood with sandbags or to look after residents evacuated from a contaminated area. The overall response to an emergency will be more efficient throughout your community. Also, your members will feel they have achieved something practical by helping their local community to overcome a threat.

Look at civil contingencies plans if your group is wondering what your council is doing to face threats to the environment or to the local community (for example, what are its evacuation plans for the local population if there is an accident at the new industrial plant nearby?).

## How can we get involved?

Community and voluntary groups can provide a wide range of skills and services in responding to an emergency. These include:

- practical support (such as first aid, transport, delivering bottled water/clothing)
- psychological support (such as helplines)
- equipment (such as radios, medical equipment)
- information services (such as public training).

You should consider how you could be useful before contacting your council.

If you do decide to help, your volunteers will be trained and supported by the professionals you are helping.

Community and voluntary groups could also set up their own emergency plans, and ask experts from the council for feedback.

### Example

#### Catholic churches' emergency response across communities

In one north London borough, Catholic churches have developed a network of emergency contacts based around the Deanery. There is a good working relationship with the police and the council, which was tested during the London bombings on 7 July 2005. Following this, the three Roman Catholic dioceses in London, in collaboration with Barking and Dagenham Primary Care Trust, have been working together to develop a means of mobilising emergency responders, coordinated by local deans, when needed.

**Source:** *Key Communities, Key Resources: Engaging the capacity and capabilities of faith communities in civil resilience* (CLG, 2008)

[www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/846112.pdf](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/846112.pdf) p. 29

### Example

#### ISR (Churches' Council for Industry and Social Responsibility)

ISR is an ecumenical church organisation sponsored by five denominations in the south-west of England. It co-ordinates a multi-faith response to the Major Emergency Plan on behalf of churches in the region. This ensures that faith communities play a supportive role in any major disaster or emergency in the area and can liaise with the statutory planning agencies. ISR holds a database of 180 trained local volunteers who can support emergency workers at very short notice.

Community and voluntary groups can also lobby their council to draw up a civil contingencies plan if they are worried about the environmental impact of a project. (see the example below of Friends of the Earth).

**Example**

**Friends of the Earth demands emergency planning exercise**

Friends of the Earth Wales called for an emergency planning exercise to take place in 2004 when the installation of two natural gas terminals was proposed at Milford Haven.

**Source:** *'Accident and terrorism hazards of Milford Haven LNG terminals too great minister told'*

[www.foe.co.uk/cymru/english/press\\_releases/accident\\_and\\_terrorism.html](http://www.foe.co.uk/cymru/english/press_releases/accident_and_terrorism.html)

**Case study**

**Voluntary sector involvement in civil protection in Derbyshire**

In Derbyshire, the voluntary sector is involved in local civil protection work. The local resilience forum has a voluntary sector subgroup.

The subgroup is chaired by a council officer. Its membership includes the British Red Cross, St John Ambulance, the WRVS, the Samaritans, the Salvation Army, RAYNET, the National Voluntary Civil Aid Service, a Derby radio amateur group, Mountain Rescue, the RSPCA and representatives of religious groups.

Individual voluntary sector bodies are brought into the detail of planning on the basis of their capabilities and functions.

*'The statutory services in Derbyshire have adopted a flexible but well-organised approach to our involvement. This careful engagement at the planning phase has proven its worth in the response phase, and we have successfully supported the statutory services when emergencies have stretched their resources.'*

*Moya Wood-Heath, British Red Cross*

**Source:** *Annex 14A: Examples of voluntary sector activities in support of statutory services*, p. 157

[www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/131957/ep\\_ann\\_14a.pdf](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/131957/ep_ann_14a.pdf)

## STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE

**Working with your council on civil contingencies plans****Step 1****Find the details of your council's civil contingencies team.**

To find their details, use a search engine (such as Google or Yahoo), and type the name of your council + emergency planning (many councils' teams are still called emergency planning teams).

See, for example: 'Lincoln emergency planning'

**[www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?sectiontype=listmixed&catid=2341](http://www.lincolnshire.gov.uk/section.asp?sectiontype=listmixed&catid=2341)**

If this does not work, try the name of your council + civil contingencies.

See, for example: 'Durham civil contingencies'

**[www.durhamdarlingtonccu.gov.uk](http://www.durhamdarlingtonccu.gov.uk)**

If you do not find it this way, look for your local resilience forum (LRF). This is a county structure helping to co-ordinate responses to emergencies at a local level.

To find your LRF on a search engine, type the name of your county + local resilience forum.

See, for example: 'Essex local resilience forum'

**[http://microsites.essexcc.gov.uk/microsites/essex\\_resilience](http://microsites.essexcc.gov.uk/microsites/essex_resilience)**

The LRF often has a voluntary subgroup with local voluntary sector groups. If your LRF has such a subgroup, ask to be put in touch with it.

**Step 2****Ask the right questions.**

Before you call or meet members of your council's civil contingencies team, you should think about why the council should involve you. Draw up a list of what you could offer, based on one or more of its priorities (see its civil contingencies website). Consider what you could provide in practical support (for example, first aid, transport, provisions for responders); psychological support (helplines, for example); equipment (such as radios or medical equipment); or information services (such as public training or communications).

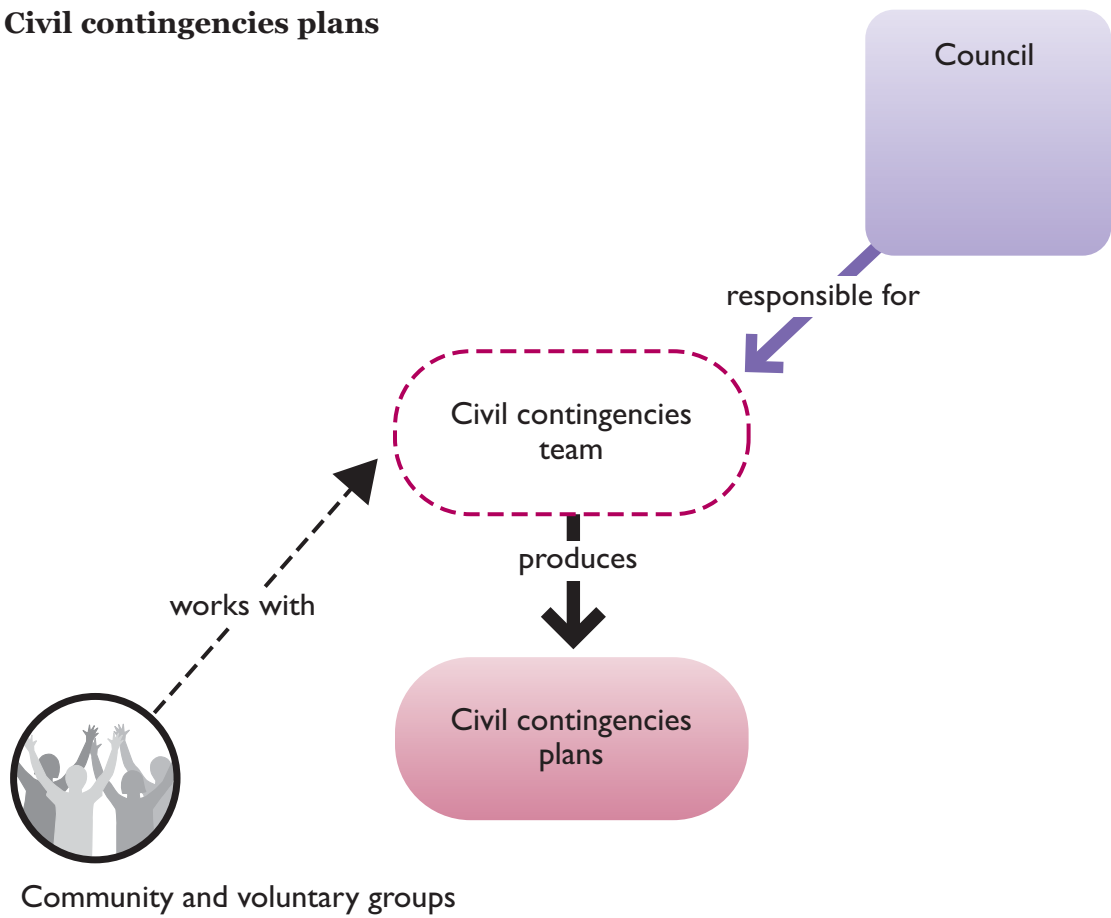
Once you are ready to get in touch, questions to ask could include the following:

- Are voluntary or community groups involved in drawing up or delivering the plans?
- Are voluntary or community groups involved in the local resilience forum?
- We would be willing to help; how can we best do so?




**Step 3****Get involved.**

Join the voluntary sector subgroup of your council's emergency planning department or local resilience forum. Think about what training your members will need. See the case study above on page 24.

Figure 5 Civil contingencies plans



**Key**

-  Council responsible for
-  Produces
-  Community and voluntary groups influencing

# Working on your own agenda with the council



Rather than just going along with what your council wants, it is possible to work with it on your own agenda. A good example of how to achieve this is the Transition Town initiative (see below). You can also ask your council to work with you on an informal basis.

## Transition Towns

‘Transition Towns’ are self-formed groups of local people who want to raise awareness about sustainable living. Communities are encouraged to reduce their energy usage as well as increasing their own self-reliance, for example, by growing their own food. Initiatives so far have included creating community vegetable and fruit gardens; setting up a business waste exchange, which matches one industry producing waste with another industry that uses the waste; and repairing old items rather than throwing them away. (For more information see [www.transitiontowns.org](http://www.transitiontowns.org))

Many councils around the country are taking up the Transition Towns movement, and have welcomed the vision and enthusiasm of those taking part (see the case studies on the next page).

## Voice from the ground

**Sue Fleming, from Transition Town Lewes**



For the Council, the project ticked a number of the national indicators around energy saving and involvement with community and voluntary groups. They appreciate the ideas and the vision that we bring as well as the organisational skills and voluntary manpower. A tip for others: they like their logo to appear on the publicity.

**Case study**

**Transition Towns Somerset, Leicestershire and Stroud**

Somerset and Leicestershire County Councils have both passed resolutions to call themselves transition councils. Somerset County Council is committed to allocating funds to support the transition initiative.

It requires: ‘... all directorates to engage with and provide support for transition initiatives in Somerset’.

Transition Stroud has developed an informal relationship with Stroud District Council, involving regular meetings to swap information on progress. The Local Strategic Partnership has set up a ‘Global Changes Think-Tank’, which considers ‘the twin impacts of climate change and peak oil\*’, and in which Transition Stroud is a key partner.

**Jargon buster**

**Peak oil:** the widely accepted theory that world oil output will soon reach a peak and thereafter start declining.

**Source:** *Peaking too soon?*

[www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=9554963](http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=9554963)

**Case study**

**Transition Town Brixton**

The London Borough of Lambeth has been supporting Transition Town Brixton, a community-led initiative that raises awareness locally of climate change and peak oil. Lambeth has:

- provided meeting rooms for workshops and film screenings
- helped with networking
- invited the Transition Town Brixton spokesperson to address cabinet and council meetings.

**Source:** *Peaking too soon?*

[www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=9554963](http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=9554963)

## Informal activities in partnership with your council

Many groups, especially smaller ones that do not have the time and resources to invest in a formal relationship with their council, can work with it informally. Many throughout the country are doing so successfully. Below are some case studies to give you an idea of what can be achieved.

Case studies	Informal activities in partnership with councils
<p><b>Funding for your website</b></p> <p>Sustainability Matters Staffordshire received approximately £1,000 for the launch and maintenance of its Save Energy website with support from the borough and county councils.</p> <p><b>Funding for publicity materials</b></p> <p>About 15 ‘eco houses’ were open to the public over a weekend in June 2009 in Lewes, East Sussex. Practical improvements could be discussed and demonstrated, such as ground source heat pumps, solar panels and cavity insulation. The Head of Environmental Services for Lewes District Council was very enthusiastic and supportive of the idea. The council provided the funds for the publicity, printing leaflets and postcards. Its press service helped with the press releases.</p> <p><b>Funding for events</b></p> <p>Here are some examples of events that community and voluntary groups have successfully funded through their councils:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● community events around food, allotments, and food growing</li> <li>● funding for feasibility studies for car clubs</li> <li>● public energy fairs where volunteers advise the public on how to save energy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Funding for campaigns</b></p> <p>Forum 21 in West Somerset has been funded for the last four years to carry out an energy and fuel poverty campaign, reaching out to rural communities in a drive to raise awareness of how energy-efficiency measures can make homes warmer, cheaper and healthier to live in; and to advise the public on what help is available from the Government.</p>	

The list is far from finished and it is up to you to be creative and to approach your council with innovative ideas.

More ideas for local action to create more sustainable communities can be found in the *Better Places, Better Planet* guide (Church, 2008):

[www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/publication?id=18693](http://www.cdf.org.uk/web/guest/publication?id=18693)

## Conclusion: the key to success

Community and voluntary groups can work with their council on sustainability in many ways, formal and informal. The key is finding the right person in the council to talk to, someone who will make things happen for you. This needn't be difficult. Councils are often seen as bureaucratic and slow, but they can also recognise a good idea when they see one. It is up to you to use your passion for sustainability to convince them that you are a great organisation, armed with the tools we have given you in this guide.

There are many other levels on which you can work on sustainability: from town and parish councils to regional forums and the national debate. These fall outside the scope of this guide, but you can choose to work even more locally, or to expand your campaign to the whole of the UK, and why not the world!

The sky's the limit.

# National indicators linked to the environment

### **NI 185 CO<sub>2</sub> reduction from local authority operations**

Percentage CO<sub>2</sub> reduction from the functions of a local authority. Functions of an authority cover all their own operations and outsourced services. Even if the services are being provided by an external body (such as a private company) they remain the function of the authority. Includes schools, but excludes social housing.

### **NI 186 Per capita reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the local authority area**

The indicator is a comparison between CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for one local authority in a year (for business, housing, transport and individual emissions in the local authority) compared with the 2005 baseline year.

### **NI 187 Tackling fuel poverty – percentage of people receiving income-based benefits living in homes with a low energy-efficiency rating**

The indicator measures the proportion of households on income-related benefits who have received an energy assessment of their housing.

### **NI 188 Planning to adapt to climate change**

Local authorities must report the level of preparedness they have reached against five levels of performance, graded from 0 to 4. The higher the number, the better the performance. The criteria for achieving each of the levels are detailed in the NI 187 definition.

### **NI 189 Flood and coastal erosion risk management**

Percentage of agreed actions to implement long-term flood and coastal erosion risk management plans that are being undertaken satisfactorily.

### **NI 190 Achievement in meeting standards for the control system for animal health**

The aim of this indicator is to prevent and contain the spread of diseases such as avian flu or foot and mouth disease. The local authority is evaluated on its risk management strategy.

### **NI 191 Residual household waste per household**

Calculation of household waste that cannot be sent for reuse, recycling or composting. Ideally, the figures should decrease year on year, as more and more waste is successfully recycled.

## **NI 192 Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting**

The indicator measures the percentage of household waste which the council has sent for reuse, recycling, composting or anaerobic digestion\*. Success is measured by the percentage of household waste recycled, compared to non-recycled, each year.

### **Jargon buster:**

**Anaerobic digestion:** organic matter broken down by bacteria in the absence of air. What is left can be used in gas engines, or made into fertiliser.

## **NI 193 Percentage of municipal waste land filled**

The percentage of municipal waste sent to landfill. Ideally this should decrease year on year.

## **NI 194 Air quality – percentage reduction in NO<sub>x</sub> and primary PM<sub>10</sub> emissions through a local authority's estate and operations**

The indicator is a year-on-year measure of two of the more common pollutants. Emissions are only measured for local authority estate and operations.

## **NI 195 Improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)**

Reducing unacceptable levels of litter, detritus, fly posting and graffiti is a key part of government strategy. It is measured by the percentage of relevant land and highways that is assessed as having unacceptable levels of litter and other undesirable items.

## **NI 196 Improved street and environmental cleanliness – fly tipping**

The government aims to reduce incidents of illegally dumped waste or 'fly tipping'. The indicator measures a local authority's performance based on calculating its year-on-year change in total incidents of fly tipping dealt with, compared with its year-on-year change in enforcement actions taken against fly tipping.

## **NI 197 Improved local biodiversity – proportion of local sites where positive conservation management has been or is being implemented**

The indicator aims to measure the performance of local authorities in relation to biodiversity by assessing the number of local sites where positive conservation management is taking place. Good performance is indicated by an increase in the percentage of sites under positive conservation management year on year.

## **NI 198 Children travelling to school – mode of transport usually used**

This indicator aims to encourage local authorities to reduce the proportion of children travelling by car and to increase the proportion who are walking, cycling or using public transport.

# Resources

**These resources are listed by themes, in alphabetical order.**

All internet documents were accessed in November 2009.

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## Council

To find out how your local council works:  
IDeA, Navca, Urban Forum (2008)

*How your Council Works:*

**[www.navca.org.uk/publications/council](http://www.navca.org.uk/publications/council)**

This guide describes what a council does, and helps community and voluntary groups have a greater say in local decision making. It provides essential information to help citizens and groups make the most of opportunities to influence decision making and hold their council to account.

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## Council for Voluntary Service (CVS)

Your Council for Voluntary Service can help you find out who your local voluntary sector representative on the Local Strategic Partnership is. To find contact details of your CVS, go to:

**<http://webdb.navca.org.uk/home.aspx>**

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## Countryside

A Rural Community Council (RCC) is not a council in local authority terms, but is the collective name for a group of local charities that help local rural communities develop their own vision for the future. RCCs help rural communities to develop parish plans and work with service providers such as the council. There is an RCC in every English county and they go by a variety of names. To find your local RCC, go to: **[www.acre.org.uk](http://www.acre.org.uk)**

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) campaigns for a sustainable future for the English countryside. It highlights threats and promotes positive solutions. It works at national, regional and local levels with campaigning organisations, government bodies, businesses and individuals. It seeks partnerships with those who share its values and goals.

CPRE National Office  
128 Southwark Street  
London SE1 0SW  
Tel: 020 7981 2800  
General enquiries: [info@cpre.org.uk](mailto:info@cpre.org.uk)  
**[www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk)**

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### Disabilities

If your community or voluntary group represents the interests of disabled people, you could get help from RADAR (although RADAR does not have any specific sustainability campaigns). RADAR is a national network of disability organisations and disabled people. It represents its members by fast-tracking their opinions and concerns to policymakers and legislators and launching its own campaigns to promote equality for all disabled people.

RADAR  
12 City Forum  
250 City Road  
London EC1V 8AF  
Tel: 020 7250 3222  
Fax: 0870 141 0337  
Minicom: 020 7250 4119  
Email: radar@radar.org.uk  
[www.radar.org.uk](http://www.radar.org.uk)

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### Emergency planning

Information on what emergency planning (now called civil contingency planning) consists of:

[www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/ukresilience/preparedness/emergencyplanning.aspx](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/ukresilience/preparedness/emergencyplanning.aspx)

Practical examples of how community and voluntary groups can help during an emergency:

[www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/131957/ep\\_ann\\_14a.pdf](http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/media/131957/ep_ann_14a.pdf)

How community and voluntary groups can do their own emergency planning:

[www.energybulletin.net/node/42427](http://www.energybulletin.net/node/42427)

Guidance for faith groups: Communities and Local Government (2008)

*Key Communities, Key Resources: Engaging the capacity and capabilities of faith communities in civil resilience*

[www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/846112.pdf](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/communities/pdf/846112.pdf)

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### Friends of the Earth

The Friends of the Earth website has an extensive resources section where you can find sample letters and information on various campaigns, all classified by themes such as biodiversity, climate change or waste:

[www.foe.co.uk/resource/index.shtml](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/index.shtml)

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### Local Area Agreements (LAA)

What they are and how they work:

[www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/handy\\_guide\\_to\\_laas.pdf](http://www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/handy_guide_to_laas.pdf)

Find out which national indicators your council has picked in its LAA:

[www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx](http://www.localpriorities.communities.gov.uk/default.aspx)

Find out your region or city's indicators:

[www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/8519309](http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/aio/8519309)

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### Local Development Framework (LDF)

For more information about what the LDF contains, see this excellent online guide:

[www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/ldf/ldfguide.html](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/uploads/ldf/ldfguide.html)

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### Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs)

What they are and how they work:

[www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=8680349](http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pageId=8680349)

For more information on how to get involved in LSPs, read: Fisher, J. and Sarkar, K. (2006) *The LSP Guide 2007: A handy guide to getting involved for voluntary and community groups*, Urban Forum and CDF

[www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/lsp\\_guide\\_2006\\_04.pdf](http://www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/lsp_guide_2006_04.pdf)

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## Members (working with your)

The Federation for Community Development Learning has produced some training materials that you can use with your members. The materials cover the main areas of sustainable development policy and how groups can contribute to a more sustainable world:  
[www.fcdl.org.uk/projects/Every\\_Action\\_Counts/EAC\\_SD\\_taster\\_packs.htm](http://www.fcdl.org.uk/projects/Every_Action_Counts/EAC_SD_taster_packs.htm)

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## Minority ethnic groups

If your community or voluntary group represents the interests of minority ethnic groups, you could get help and advice on how to work with your council through the Black Environment Network. The Black Environment Network uses the word 'black' symbolically because it considers that the black communities are the most visible of all ethnic groups. However, it works with white, black and other ethnic communities.

[www.ben-network.org.uk](http://www.ben-network.org.uk)

Tel: 01286 870715

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## National indicators

To check out the full list of national indicators, go to:

[www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/505713.pdf](http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/localgovernment/pdf/505713.pdf)

For definitions of the national indicators, go to:

[www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/finalnationalindicators](http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/finalnationalindicators)

If you want to find out which national indicators your council has chosen, you can see how to do this under 'Local Area Agreement' on page 34 opposite.

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## Parish and Community Plans

Parish and Community Plans lay out a shared vision for the community over the next 10 years or more and contain a detailed action plan for achieving this vision. The plans belong to the community, and are to be delivered by that community or in partnership with other agencies. Parish and Community Plans can be produced by any size of community and neighbourhood, including those in urban areas. A plan can take between 12 and 18 months to complete on average. Your Rural Community or your local authority Parish Plan Officer (if you have one) will help you produce a plan.

For more details on what a Parish and Community Plan is, and what support is available, check out the excellent ACRE Parish and Community Planning toolkit:

[www.acre.org.uk/communityengagement\\_parishplans\\_toolkit.html](http://www.acre.org.uk/communityengagement_parishplans_toolkit.html)

Parish and Community Plans link into many of the frameworks listed in this guide, and, in particular, to the Sustainable Community Strategy and the Local Development Framework. They also link into Local Strategic Partnerships. If you want to know in more detail how to identify these links, check out the ACRE Parish and Community Planning toolkit:  
[www.acre.org.uk/DOCUMENTS/communityengagement/Parish%20Plans/toolkit\\_section1B.pdf](http://www.acre.org.uk/DOCUMENTS/communityengagement/Parish%20Plans/toolkit_section1B.pdf)

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## Planning

The Urban Forum's *Handy Guide to Planning* explains how to be actively involved in the planning process. It is written for community and voluntary organisations and members of the public who have limited experience of planning but would like to get involved: [www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/handy\\_guide\\_to\\_planning\\_2006\\_06.pdf](http://www.urbanforum.org.uk/files/ufpublic/handy_guide_to_planning_2006_06.pdf)

Planning Aid provides free, independent and professional town planning advice and support to communities and individuals who cannot afford to pay planning consultant fees. To contact your local Planning Aid group, go to: [www.planningaid.rtpi.org.uk/bfora/systems/xmlviewer/default.asp?arg=DS\\_PLAID\\_SITEART\\_101/\\_list.xsl/3](http://www.planningaid.rtpi.org.uk/bfora/systems/xmlviewer/default.asp?arg=DS_PLAID_SITEART_101/_list.xsl/3)

The Environmental Law Foundation (ELF) is a charity that helps people use the law to protect and improve their local environment and quality of life. Through its network of specialist lawyers and consultants, it provides free guidance and support and a voice for communities and individuals.

Environmental Law Foundation  
Suite 309  
16 Baldwins Gardens  
London EC1N 7RJ  
Tel: 020 7404 1030  
Email: [info@elflaw.org](mailto:info@elflaw.org)  
<http://elflaw.org>

Friends of the Earth has a helpline for people who want help to set up an environmental challenge or want to know their rights. The helpline is open on Wednesdays from 6.30–8.30pm, Tel: 0808 801 0405. Check out this Friends of the Earth document on how to get involved in the planning process and draft a letter of objection: [http://community.foe.co.uk/resource/how\\_tos/cyw\\_55\\_planning\\_applications.pdf](http://community.foe.co.uk/resource/how_tos/cyw_55_planning_applications.pdf)

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## Rural issues

See Countryside.

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## Shoreline management plans (SMPs)

Weather, wind and tide are continually changing the shape of the coastline. Shoreline management plans build on knowledge of the coastal environment and take account of a wide range of public interest to protect the coast while avoiding piecemeal attempts to protect one area at the expense of another.

If you live by the coast, your community or voluntary group might have particular views about preserving a particular shoreline, and why it should be protected. Consultation is an open process that continues throughout the plan production and beyond, into the review stage. To find out who in your council is responsible for the SMP, have a look on your council website under coastal management, coastal defence, or flood and coastal defence, or phone the council and ask to speak to the coastal management team and to be involved in the consultation.

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## Sustainable Community Strategy

Check out this document for ways to influence an SCS:

Friends of the Earth (2008) *Sustainable Community Strategies & Local Strategic Partnerships*  
[www.foe.co.uk/resource/guides/2\\_1\\_community\\_strategies.pdf](http://www.foe.co.uk/resource/guides/2_1_community_strategies.pdf)

# Community Development Foundation (CDF)

CDF is a leading source of intelligence, guidance and delivery on community development in England and across the UK. Our mission is to lead community development analysis and strategy to empower people to influence decisions that affect their lives.

CDF's key aim is to spread ways of building engaged, cohesive and strong communities and a more effective community sector:

- by advising government and other bodies on community development
- by analysing policy to identify good community development practices
- by conducting research and evaluation
- by supporting community development work through networks, links with practitioners and work with partner organisations
- by managing funding schemes for local projects
- through events, publications and consultancy.

We work with government departments, regional and local public agencies and the community and voluntary sectors. We also operate at a European and international level. We are a non-departmental public body sponsored by Communities and Local Government (CLG) and a charity registered in England and Wales and recognised in Scotland.

Community Development Foundation

Unit 5, Angel Gate

320–326 City Road

London EC1V 2PT

Tel: 020 7833 1772

Fax: 020 7837 6584

Email: [admin@cdf.org.uk](mailto:admin@cdf.org.uk)

Website: [www.cdf.org.uk](http://www.cdf.org.uk)

