



2016-2021

# CHICHESTER IN PARTNERSHIP COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Working together to help and inspire the people and communities  
within Chichester District to reach their potential



## Foreword

Welcome to Chichester in Partnership's new Community Strategy. This document shows how organisations touching the lives of everyone in our district are working together to make Chichester a great place to live and call home. We want to create a place where residents take responsibility for their own lives, their community and their environment.

I'm proud to be part of a district which harnesses the collective energy of so many people from across the public, private, voluntary and community sectors. They all come together as Chichester in Partnership.

This Community Strategy shows just some of the things that Chichester in Partnership has achieved since the previous plan was published in 2009, as well as our vision and priorities for the district going forward.



I am grateful to the people and organisations that contributed to shaping this plan on behalf of the Chichester in Partnership

Finally, I think it's important to point out that this plan not only sets out the key achievements and priorities of Chichester in Partnership, it also tells you how we will be moving forward I hope you will find it an inspirational read.

Cllr Eileen Lintill

Chairman, Chichester in Partnership

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## Introduction

Chichester in Partnership (CIP) is the strategic partnership for the district we bring together the voluntary, community, private and statutory organisations that work for the residents in the district. Chichester in Partnership has 6 distinct roles to play:



1. **Identifying, problem solving and leading on strategic issues** – The partnership can make a difference on key issues for the district which affect a range of partners and or residents. The Core Group needs to reach agreement on what and how to take forward those issues as projects, or how it can influence or champion as projects.
2. **Coordination, support and championing of local partnerships and projects** – Using a dedicated Partnerships officer the partnership liaises with partners and projects linking them up and ensuring good practice. Core group to monitor the progress of task and finish groups.
3. **Information Dissemination** – Ensuring information about the state of the district, about local services and projects gets out to partner organisations. This is done through our AGM, partnership events, website and newsletter.
4. **Network for local organisations** – To provide events where different organisations can find out about each other, communicate and find opportunities to work together.
5. **Coordination of local community engagement** – To ensure that local events/ consultations with the communities of Chichester are coordinated.
6. **Bringing together various different statutory partners, voluntary and community sector, private sector and elected members in partnership working** – Ensuring that elected members from tiers of local government are aware of partnership projects that are going on locally. Communication takes place through newsletters, community forums, website, partnership events.

This document sets out the vision and priorities of the partnership for the next 5 years. The Community Strategy for Chichester District has been developed to provide the framework for members of Chichester in Partnership, organisations, groups of people and individuals to work together to improve the quality of life in Chichester by 2021.

It sets out Chichester in Partnership's shared vision for the districts and its residents and how it will work together to achieve the vision. The Community Strategy is the overarching strategy for improving Chichester. It is the result of detailed analysis of the district's current position, and the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead the Strategy is simply a strategic overview, as there are a range of more specific and detailed plans and strategies that sit beneath it and identify what needs to be done (for example, in terms of health or community safety) to ensure that the overall vision for Chichester can be realised.

So, in summary, why have we developed a new Community Strategy?

- **We can't make the changes on our own** – there is a close relationship between our services and those provided by other organisations so we (public sector, voluntary sector and communities) have to work, plan and commission services together wherever possible.

- **We need communities to help us to identify who needs help and support** – and the problems that these people face, so that we can get to them before they need lots of services.
- **We need to support (build the capacity of) individuals, communities and voluntary organisations** to provide help to people who live in their local area or are part of their community of interest. This will mean we can get support to people earlier and stop their situations getting worse.
- **We need to make sure that our services reach the areas and people that need them most** - whilst doing all that we can to support everyone in Chichester to 'help themselves'.
- **We want to deliver the 'best possible services within the budgets available'** - This includes making sure that funding and other types of support (e.g. volunteer time) are available within communities.

Our vision is as follows

**Working together to help and inspire the people and communities  
within Chichester District to reach their potential**

## Setting the scene

Chichester District has a unique blend of city, coast and countryside with many different communities that are full of character. Chichester has a rich history and varied amount of natural assets that all add to the character that is quintessentially Chichester. People visit the area for its historical buildings, our beautiful countryside which is part of the South Downs National Park, our beaches on the coast and for the major events such as the Goodwood Festival. It is because of this variety and the high quality of life that people can have here that people decide that they want to stay.

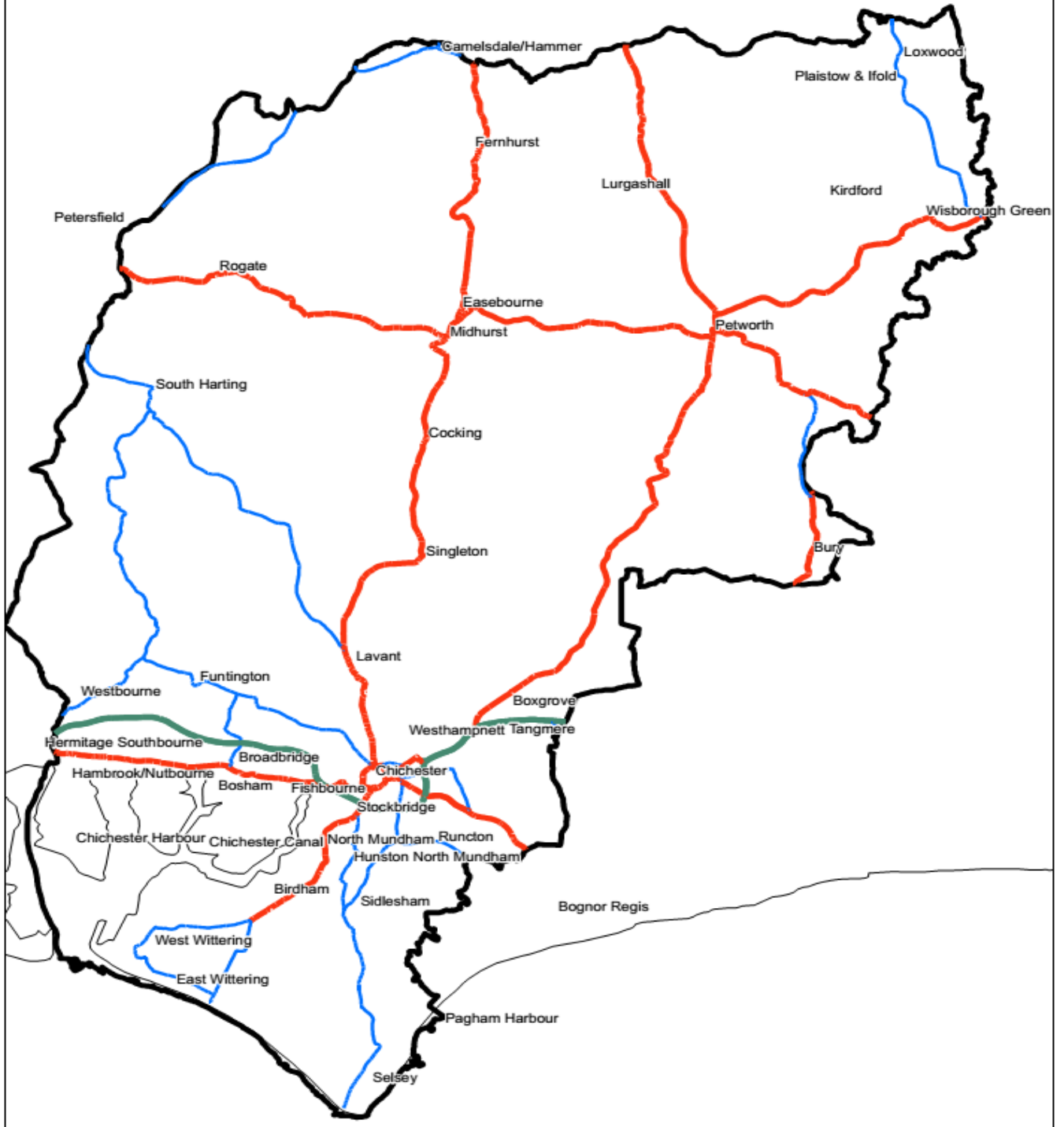
Even with the natural and rich character of our district, our communities and our services still face challenges, the rural nature of our district that attracts people here can be isolating when there is no transport, we have an increasingly ageing population who in turn create a demand on public services at a time when public services are continually looking for cost savings and even though we have high levels of employment we still have areas of deprivation hidden within our communities. However our communities are very active we have a city council, 3 town councils and 61 parish council/ meetings who are all active in their local areas and trying to ensure that the needs of their communities are met.



### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- The population of Chichester District has grown from 106,450 in 2001 to 113,794 in 2011 which is an increase of 7,344. This makes Chichester District the fourth largest local authority in West Sussex (out of 7 local authorities) for size and growth.
- Children aged 0-15 years have fallen by -1.41% which is in line with county, regional and national averages. In West Sussex, only Crawley, Worthing and Mid Sussex have seen increases.
- Almost 1 in 4 people are over 65 (24.5%) This puts the district in the top 5% in the Country
- Chichester has the highest student population in West Sussex with 6266. The student population has grown by 27.5% .
- The population of Chichester is estimated to be 116,654 in 2015 and is predicted to increase to 133,743 by 2021 which is an increase of 17,089 or 14.6%.

# Chichester District





## The Themes

To realise the vision for Chichester district requires all agencies and stakeholders from all sectors of the community to come together. No one agency or service can alone achieve the vision. Chichester in Partnership has chosen to structure this strategy and the partnership around the shared national and local government priorities and cover the major challenges that face Chichester today. These priorities provide a framework for how Chichester in Partnership will respond to the major challenges and deliver the overall vision for Chichester District.

The vision and themes set out in this document describe what Chichester will be like in 2021, and the strategic priorities set out the framework for how Chichester in Partnership will achieve the goals that it has set.

This chapter of the Community Strategy is divided into five sections, one for each theme:

- The Economy
- Health & Wellbeing
- Housing & Neighbourhoods
- Environment
- Transport & Access

Each section follows a similar structure and sets out the following information:

**Aim** - Taking the wider vision for Chichester as a starting point, this section articulates what the vision for Chichester District means in terms of the particular theme and describes the aspirations for the future in respect of the relevant theme.

**What Chichester looks like now in 2016** - This section describes in summary the key facts and figures relating to the theme, sets out the challenges facing Chichester and provides the context to the strategic priorities.

**Achievements** – This is just a highlight of some of the successes the partnership has had over the last six years. Details of other projects we have delivered can be found in our annual reports

**Priorities** - Through continuously assessing its performance and identifying where it is doing well and making progress where it is not, Chichester Partnership is able to identify a clear and evidenced set of strategic priorities for action – around which thematic partnership structures ensure that Chichester continues to focus on its vision for 2021. The strategic priorities identify the main challenges facing the district.

**How Chichester Partnership will achieve its vision** - The Community Strategy is the key over-arching strategy for the district, and sets the overall strategic direction to promote and improve the well-being of Chichester. The Community Strategy takes into account other local and (sub) regional plans; therefore, it is not intended to repeat the detail in these supporting plans. This section therefore describes generally the approach the partnership will take to achieve the vision and strategic priorities.



# The Economy

## Aim

To improve and support the local economy to grow, while encouraging businesses to become part of the local community.

### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- Highest percentage of self-employed in West Sussex (14.5%) and is in the top 10% in the country.
- Chichester average salary by place of work is £22,865, which is below the county average of £26,067 and the national average of £27,891. Chichester is also third lowest in West Sussex.
- 85.7% of businesses in Chichester District are micro units of 0-9 people. This is in line with the regional average and is joint 3rd highest in West Sussex.
- As at November 2015 there were 520 JSA claimants in Chichester District, this is 4<sup>th</sup> highest in West Sussex and is 0.8% of the population; this is below the regional and national average.

## Achievements



**Choosework** is our employment project that we set up in 2013. The ethos behind the project is to support Chichester residents back into work through good quality work experience, mentorship and guidance. Over three years Choosework has helped 519 unemployed people in the district with mentoring and career guidance, 160 people have been helped into work experience and approximately 63 people have been helped into work or training and 41 local businesses have been involved in the project.

### Priorities

- Maintain low levels of unemployment in the district
- Prepare people of all ages and abilities for the work place and support the development of life skills
- Develop a local workforce that meets the needs of local employers
- Support local businesses to grow and become engaged with local communities

## How Chichester in Partnership will achieve its vision

- Through the task and finish group we will ensure that related services are signposted
- Chichester in Partnership has a three year strategy called Getting People into Work 2015-18 this will be delivered by a task and finish group over the next few years. This strategy can be found on our website at [www.chichesterinpartnership.org.uk](http://www.chichesterinpartnership.org.uk)

# Health & Wellbeing

## Aim

**To help all our residents to be happy, healthy and active and to be able to access support services when they are in need.**

### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- Over 4 out of 5 people have very good or good health in the district. This is generally in line with county, regional and national averages.
- Highest percentage in West Sussex for unpaid care (1-19 hours a week) this is in the top 10% in the Country.
- As at 2015 Chichester is estimated to have 2,329 people aged over 65 suffering with dementia, which is second highest in West Sussex. This is also predicted to rise to 3,685 by 2030, which is also the second highest behind Arun District.
- As at 2015 Chichester is estimated to have 10,440 people aged 18-64 with a common mental health disorder. By 2030 this is predicted to rise to 10,626.

### Achievements

**Dementia Arts Festival** - The Chichester Cultural Learning Partnership is formed of seven organisations and was established in 2014 to offer a range of local arts events. The group identified the need to tailor existing activities and offer new events for those living with dementia, to give



them the chance to enjoy the arts with friends and family. In 2015 in conjunction with Chichester in Partnership the Dementia Arts Festival was delivered. Feedback from participants was very positive: *'We loved it. I was surprised my Mum stayed for the whole thing. I thought she would get tired but she enjoyed the surroundings and the stimulation. The multi-sensory aspect was*

*great.'*

### Priorities

- Promoting and developing a dementia friendly district
- Encourage and support people who live and work in the district and to adopt healthy and active lifestyles
- Coordinate and promote services that help those living with low level mental health conditions
- Protect and support the most vulnerable in society including the elderly, young, carers, families in crisis and the socially isolated.

### How Chichester in Partnership will achieve its vision

- Chichester in Partnership is working with the Chichester Dementia Alliance in the delivery of identified actions while working with the Cultural Learning Partnership to develop the Arts Festival for future years.
- The partnership will continue to support and promote the work of the Chichester Wellbeing hub and ensure it is linked to all our other projects.
- We will develop a local strategy to help people with low level mental health need and ensure that local services are signposting to each other

# Housing & Neighbourhoods

## Aim

To support our local communities to ensure they are active and safe places to live now and in the future.

### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- 14.0% of all dwellings in the Chichester District are 2nd addresses – This puts Chichester 8th in the Country (authorities outside City of London) – Highest number and percentage in West Sussex
- As at Census 2011 there were 1300 people without central heating, this equates to 2.61% of the total population, which is third highest in West Sussex.
- Since the Community warden scheme was introduced in January 2005, they have dealt with almost 40,000 incidents

## Achievements

Selseyworks was a community hub idea born out partnership working, the aim of the hub was to get people into work by offering them the advice that they needed, a facility that offers the training that they need and the opportunity to grow their own businesses while also supporting the current



local businesses. While in 53 High street (1 year), they helped 431 clients. It gave business support (35) housing advice (41) and benefits advice (67). Selseyworks is now funded and run by

Selsey Town Council with support from CIP.

### Priorities

- Increase the number of volunteers and trustees in the community / voluntary sector
- Maintain the low levels of crime in the district in the light of reducing resources
- Support and empower communities and people to help themselves and develop resilience.
- Support communities to meet their own housing needs

## How Chichester in Partnership will achieve its vision

- The Tackling Financial Exclusion Strategy will be delivered in partnership over the next three years.
- The Chichester Community Safety Partnership will work jointly with Arun Community safety Partnership on issues that affect both districts such as Street communities, organised crime.
- The Chichester Community Safety Partnership will continue to work to keep crime figures low in the district.
- Chichester in Partnership has developed a neighbourhood assessment tool as way to engage areas in conversation and to monitor progress made; this will be used in other areas of Chichester identified as Think Family areas.

## Priorities we can influence.

The following two themes are areas where the partnership is not in a position to deliver outcomes but is in a position to influence what happens in these areas. Therefore our priorities reflect the influencing role we as a partnership can play.

# Transport & Access

## Aim

**To ensure that residents can access work, leisure and support services in the district.**

### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- 86.4% of all parishes in the district have a village hall, community centre or church hall / room in their parish (Communities Facilities Audit 2011).
- Each parish in the district has access to a Church (Communities Facilities Audit 2011). Despite post office closures, over 20 of the district's village shops and villages have post offices or offer postal services (Chichester District Council 2012).
- There are 265 more households (3.53%) without access to a car or a van since 2001. This is the 4th highest increase in West Sussex and is in line with regional and national averages.
- There are 21 community transport providers in Chichester District, this is the joint highest in West Sussex which has vast coverage of the district.
- More than 90% of properties in West Sussex will have access to fibre-based broadband infrastructure

## Priorities

- Encourage partner organisation to work together to deliver rural projects and ensure that our communities are not isolated
- Support and promote initiatives that encourage alternative forms of transport and encourage the use of online services.

### How Chichester in Partnership will achieve its vision

- To continue to support and promote local car clubs and community transport and alternative forms of transport initiatives especially those that are inclusive to the whole community.
- Partners to work together in how they can make their services more accessible, by working together and delivering online or outreach services.
- To work with WSCC and local transport providers to improve transport links throughout the district, and influence any future plans.

# The Environment

## Aim

### To manage and protect our built and natural environment

#### What Chichester looks like now in 2016

- The South Downs National Park (SDNP) covers at least part of 14 Wards in Chichester District out of a total of 29. This represents 48.3%. The SDNP covers at least part of 47 parishes in Chichester District out of a total of 67. This represents 70.1%.
- There are nearly 290 Sites of Nature Conservation Importance in West Sussex, of these 123 are in Chichester District (West Sussex County Council).
- Kingley Vale is one of the most ancient yew forests in Western Europe
- The district is a high carbon emissions area, in part due to the rural nature of the district increasing travel need and distances, but also due to an old and inefficient housing stock and the presence of some energy intensive businesses in the horticultural sector. Our CO2 emissions have reduced by 17% between 2005 and 2013 (Department for energy and climate change), but the District remains in the top 25% for per capita emissions.

#### Priorities

- Promote and increase sustainable, environmentally friendly initiatives in the district
- Influence local policies in order to conserve and enhance the qualities and distinctiveness of our area

#### How Chichester in Partnership will achieve its vision

- To continue to support local environment initiatives such as Transition Chichester and Manhood Peninsula Partnership
- To support local communities to protect their local environment.
- To encourage more recycling and the use of green technology in the district.

## How will we deliver the strategy?

The Core group of the partnership will decide which priorities will be actioned every year and task and finish groups will be set up to deliver upon these. These task and finish groups will include relevant partner organisations that can take the work forward. These task and finish groups will develop strategies and action plans that will be approved and monitored by the Chichester in Partnership Core group. Other partnerships such as the Chichester Community Safety Partnership and the Chichester Cultural Learning Arts Partnership will also deliver on certain priorities and expected to report to the Chichester in Partnership core group on progress made. Current task and finish groups include:

- Getting People into work
- Tackling financial exclusion
- Supporting people with low level mental health needs

The partnership publishes an Annual report on its work every year and this will include an action plan for the future year. This strategy alongside the annual report will be reviewed by the Chichester In Partnership core group every year.

Previous Annual reports can be found on our website at [www.chichesterinpartnership.org.uk](http://www.chichesterinpartnership.org.uk)



## Play your part.

Seeing our vision turn from words on the page to actions on the ground is all about working together and contributing to the Community Strategy. So how can we make this Community Strategy as inclusive and representative as possible? That's easy, join us and give us your ideas, support and enthusiasm so we can make Chichester a great place, to live, work and enjoy.

Join Us. If you are an organisation or voluntary group working towards improving your local community join Chichester in Partnership and work with us, we have the core group that makes strategic decisions and a wider partnership for task and finish groups and network meetings. To join contact our Partnerships officer, Amy Loaring at [aloaring@chichester.gov.uk](mailto:aloaring@chichester.gov.uk)

Chichester In Partnership Core group includes the following organisations:



**Sussex Police**  
Serving Sussex  
[www.sussex.police.uk](http://www.sussex.police.uk)

