

DARLINGTON LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP  
DELIVERING 'ONE DARLINGTON : PERFECTLY PLACED'

**GREENER DARLINGTON THEME GROUP  
DELIVERY PLAN 2008 – 2011**

## GREENER DARLINGTON

### Introduction

**Chair:** Kate Culverhouse, Acting Regional Director, Groundwork North East

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### Overview

Our Greener Darlington priorities seek to reduce Darlington's impact on global climate change whilst consolidating the attractiveness and diversity of the local environment. As with the other themes, the findings of the Community Strategy Enquiry Group that looked into environmental and transport issues in Darlington, as well as public consultation on the strategy, are closely mirrored in these proposals. Research into Darlington's carbon footprint has also been a significant input, whilst ongoing work on sustainable transport, the street environment, waste management and disposal and biodiversity have also played a part in shaping our corporate proposals. Priorities focus on both delivering service improvements and enhanced environmental outcomes, and examining and reducing the environmental impact of the Council's operational activities.

**GREENER DARLINGTON**

**Performance Against Targets**

The following tables show performance against targets set for the short to long term. The table allows quarterly reporting although some indicators are only recorded annually. Many of the indicators are also new and therefore in some cases data is not available for 2007/08. This table shows:

- Progress achieved to long-term (SCS - 2021) targets using P+ rating
- Progress achieved against short/medium-term (LAA-2011) targets using P+ rating
- Direct linkage between performance and delivery plan interventions described in detail later
- An indication of achievability

| <b>GREENER DARLINGTON</b>   |                    |   |  |                |                |  |
|---|--------------------|---|--|----------------|----------------|--|
| <b>SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY INDICATORS</b>                                      |                    |   |  |                |                |  |
| <b>Performance Indicators</b><br>[Those from National indicator set shown with a *]   | <b>2021 Target</b> | <b>Baseline (2006/07)</b><br>Unless indicated otherwise | <b>LAA Improvement Targets</b><br>[All in this table are designated] |                |                | <b>Partners signed up to targets:</b><br>Members of Children's Trust LSP Theme Group:<br>[Lead Partner shown with a *] |
|   |                    |   | <b>2008/09</b>   | <b>2009/10</b> | <b>2010/11</b> |  |
| <b>NI 186*</b> Per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area (2)               |                    | <b>8.1 tonnes (2005)</b>                                | 3.4%   | 7.2%           | 11.6%          | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |
| <b>NI 188*</b> Adapting to climate change   |                    | <b>Level 0</b>  | Level 1  | Level 2        | Level 3        | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |
| <b>NI 192*</b> Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting |                    | <b>24%</b>  | 26%  | 40%            | 42%            | Darlington BC (Community Services)*  |

Greener Darlington Delivery Plan 2008-2011

| <b>GREENER DARLINGTON</b>              |  |   |  |                |                |  |
|--|--|---|--|----------------|----------------|--|
| <b>LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT INDICATORS</b> |  |   |  |                |                |  |
| <b>Priority</b>                        | <b>Performance Indicators</b><br>[Those from National indicator set shown with a *]                | <b>Baseline (2006/07)</b><br>Unless indicated otherwise | <b>LAA Improvement Targets</b><br>[All in this table are designated] |                |                | <b>Partners signed up to targets:</b><br>Members of Greener Darlington LSP Theme Group:<br><br>[Lead Partner shown with a *] |
|  |  |   | <b>2008/09</b>   | <b>2009/10</b> | <b>2010/11</b> |  |
| Greener Darlington                     | <b>NI 005*</b> Overall/ general satisfaction with local area                                       | 76.2%<br>(BVPI General Survey - 2006)                   | 77%  | 79%            | 81%            | Darlington BC (Chief Executive's Department)* via Place Survey   |
|  | <b>NI 175*</b> Access to services and facilities by public transport, walking and cycling          | 94%   | 94%  | 94%            | 94%            | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*(LTP indicators)  |
|  | <b>NI 198*</b> Children travelling to school – mode of travel usually used (Percentage by car) (1) | 24.2% (2007/08)   | 23.2%  | 22.2%          | 21.2%          | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |
|  | <b>NI 188*</b> Adapting to climate change  | <b>Level 0</b>  | Level 1  | Level 2        | Level 3        | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |
|  | <b>NI 155*</b> Number of affordable homes delivered (gross)  | <b>37</b>   | 20   | 55             | 55             | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |
|  | <b>NI 192*</b> Percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling and composting              | <b>24%</b>  | 26%  | 40%            | 42%            | Darlington BC (Community Services)*  |
|  | <b>NI 186*</b> Per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the LA area (2)                            | <b>8.1 tonnes (2005)</b>                                | 3.4%   | 7.2%           | 11.6%          | Darlington BC (Assistant Chief Executive – Regeneration)*  |

(1) Baseline is subject to verification of 2007/08 data. Targets therefore to be re-visited at first annual refresh following DfT confirmation of outturn.

(2) 4.4% of the total will be achieved from national measures with a Local Authority influence; the remaining 7.2% will be met through national measures alone.

## GREENER DARLINGTON

### Priorities and work strands

#### Long-Term Priorities (2008 – 2021)

The following long-term, core greener outcomes must be delivered to enable the One Darlington: Perfectly Placed vision to be achieved. The performance indicators selected to measure progress towards delivering these outcomes are identified in brackets, and included in the table above.

- Reducing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in the borough through the effective spatial planning, the design of new buildings, improved insulation of existing buildings and improved transport networks (NI 186).
- Ensuring that we are prepared to manage risks to individuals, communities and businesses from a changing climate, and to make the most of new opportunities (NI 188).
- Reducing waste generation, and increasing the re-use and recycling of waste (NI 192).

In the short to medium-term, interventions planned to move towards these long-term aims are set out in five Work Strands described below and reflected in the Action Plan.

#### Short/ Medium Term Priorities (2008 – 2011)

The Greener Theme Group is responsible for monitoring progress against selected National Indicators chosen as part of the Local Area Agreement. These include NI 005; 155; 175; 186; 188; 192; 198, and are listed in the table above. In addition, other relevant NIs (listed above) will be monitored in line with the five work strands identified below which form the focus of the One Darlington: Perfectly Placed green agenda.

## GREENER DARLINGTON

### Priorities and work strands

#### Short to Medium Term Work Strands

##### **Work Strand 1: A low carbon borough tackling climate change**

Deliver a fully resourced Climate Change Action Plan, with full stakeholder involvement and engagement.

Reduce Darlington's energy consumption, promote renewable energy, increase resource efficiency through reuse and recycling of waste, and encourage adaptations to alleviate the impact of climate change.

##### **Work Strand 2: A sustainable transport network**

Ensure that transport networks support sustainable economic growth and regeneration by tackling congestion, improving accessibility for all and promoting alternative modes of transport to reduce vehicle use and emissions.

##### **Work Strand 3: Greener, cleaner Darlington**

Improve the green infrastructure, enhance biodiversity and promote enjoyment of the environment. Land, air, water and noise pollution will be managed and reduced.

##### **Work Strand 4: Well-designed Darlington**

Ensure that the location and design of development contributes to sustainability and enhances the quality of the built environment. Ensure that housing development meets local needs and aspirations and promote regeneration of run-down areas.

##### **Work Strand 5: Engagement and partnerships for change**

Pursue programmes to raise awareness and promote sustainable business practices and lifestyle choices, including promotion of long-term behavioural changes, to achieve community support and buy-in to sustainable environmental benefits.

## **GREENER DARLINGTON**

### **The Action Plan**

The Action Plan reflects the recently established nature of the Greener Darlington Theme Group. In this first year therefore, it is about establishing the Theme Group (i.e. getting the right partners on board), having governance arrangements in place and early actions agreed. Although five Work Strands have been identified, they are not mutually exclusive. As such the actions are likely to have cross-cutting impacts on more than one Work Strand.

The Group has considered work of partners which is contributing to achieving the key outcomes in One Darlington Perfectly Placed. Early actions are focussed on areas where added value can be brought by the Group and gaps filled in the current work. In particular it is felt that taking forward the awareness raising agenda will be vital to initiating further projects in the future. To achieve this, additional resources will be required. One action looks to investigate potential sources, but a basic budget will be required if the awareness raising is to be successful.

This Delivery Plan will be reviewed and updated on a regular basis. The Action Plan will be added to over time as issues present themselves.

**WORK STRAND****1. A low carbon borough tackling climate change**

Deliver a fully resourced Climate Change Action Plan, with full stakeholder involvement and engagement.

Reduce Darlington's energy consumption, promote renewable energy, increase resource efficiency through reuse and recycling of waste, and encourage adaptations to alleviate the impact of climate change.

| Ref | Issues / Actions  | Milestone                    | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency                             | WS                       | Source Strategy/ Action Plan                 | Resources                                    |
|-----|---|------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|--|
|     |   |                              |   | NI                       |  |  |
| 1   | <b>Achieve Partner 'buy-in' to green agenda</b><br><b>Encourage:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Environmental Policy Development</li> <li>• Energy audits and management</li> <li>• Green procurement</li> <li>• Third Sector Declaration</li> </ul>  | Agree programme by June 2009 | Paula Jamieson<br><br>All Partners<br><br>Evolution | 1,5<br>185<br>186<br>188 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan      | Within existing                              |
| 2   | <b>Promote action through existing networks such as Chamber of Commerce, Darlington and District Business Club, the Darlington partnership and key events and activities:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage sustainable transport</li> <li>• Encourage recycling</li> <li>• Improve energy efficiency</li> <li>• Establish SME small grants for energy audits</li> </ul> | Agree programme by June 2009 | DBC<br><br>Local Motion<br><br>NECC                 | 1,5<br>185<br>186<br>188 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (B1) | Within existing<br><br>(£5k pa) being sought |

**WORK STRAND****1. A low carbon borough tackling climate change (continued)**

| Ref | Issues / Actions   | Milestone   | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency   | WS NI  | Source Strategy/ Action Plan                            | Resources              |
|-----|--|---|---|--|---|------------------------|
| 3   | <p><b>Investigate funding resource availability &amp; accessibility aimed at implementing Climate Change Action Plan and associated 'Greener' projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discuss issues and opportunities for accessing relevant funding (including grants, sponsorship etc) with external funding team</li> <li>▪ Research funding availability</li> <li>▪ Identify and promote funding sources as appropriate to stimulate projects or fund known projects</li> <br/> <li>▪ Include details on Website (see action below)</li> </ul> | <p>Jan 2009</p> <p>Feb 2009</p> <p>Report to each Greener meeting</p> | <p>Steve Petch</p> <p>DBC External Funding Team</p> <p>Partners</p> | <p>1-5</p> <p>185</p> <p>186</p> <p>188</p>  | <p>Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm 6)</p> | <p>Within existing</p> |
| 4   | <p><b>Increase resource efficiency through reuse and recycling of waste:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Encourage greater volunteer involvement in recycling: increase knowledge/awareness of Street Champions (Training Sessions) and same for Community partnerships.</li> <li>▪ Encourage Waste Plan development by partners</li> <li>▪ Monitor waste contract performance</li> <li>▪ Develop waste education to promote recycling and encourage waste minimisation</li> </ul>  | <p>Agree programme by June 2009</p>                                   | <p>Brian Graham</p> <p>Partners</p> <p>Bruce Whitley</p>            | <p>1, 5</p> <p>185</p> <p>186</p> <p>192</p> | <p>Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (W1)</p>     | <p>Within existing</p> |

**WORK STRAND****1. A low carbon borough tackling climate change (continued)**

| <b>Ref</b> | <b>Issues / Actions</b>   | <b>Milestone</b>             | <b>Lead Officer(s)/ Agency</b>         | <b>WS NI</b>      | <b>Source Strategy/ Action Plan</b>   | <b>Resources</b> |
|------------|---|------------------------------|--|-------------------|---|------------------|
| 5          | <b>Develop energy efficient practices within housing stock:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Increase number of Darlington residents accessing energy efficiency information</li> <li>▪ Share energy efficiency good practice and information with Street Champions</li> <li>▪ Promote energy efficiency good practice/information through community notice boards</li> </ul> | Agree programme by June 2009 | Alan Glew<br>Fuel Poverty Action Group | 1,5<br>186<br>187 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (DE1 – DE7)<br><br>Housing Strategy | Within existing  |

**WORK STRAND****2. A sustainable transport network**

Ensure that transport networks support sustainable economic growth and regeneration by tackling congestion, improving accessibility for all and promoting alternative modes of transport to reduce vehicle use and emissions.

| Ref | Issues / Actions  | Milestone   | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency      | WS<br>NI  | Source Strategy/<br>Action Plan   | Resources              |
|-----|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|------------------------|
| 6   | <p><b>Contribute to and influence development of Third Local Transport Plan to incorporate and reflect Greener Darlington objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review draft guidance to be published in Dec 2008</li> <li>Review final guidance to be published in summer 2009</li> <li>Develop consultation Plan and implement</li> <li>Input to Provisional Plan</li> <li>Final Plan</li> </ul> | <p>Jan 2009</p> <p>Summer 2009</p> <p>From Aut 09</p> <p>Summer '10</p> <p>March 2011</p> | <p>Sue Dobson</p> <p>JSU</p> | <p>1,2,5</p> <p>175</p> <p>177</p> <p>178</p> <p>186</p> <p>198</p> | <p>Local Transport Plan</p> <p>Tees Valley Transport Strategy</p> <p>Emerging LDF Core Strategy</p> | <p>Within existing</p> |
| 7   | <p><b>Work with 'Local Motion' to encourage and promote sustainable transport:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Respond to Station Travel Plan consultation</li> <li>Tackle short trips</li> <li>Tackle travel into urban area</li> </ul>   | <p>Jan 2009</p>   | <p>Owen Wilson</p>           | <p>1,2,5</p> <p>175</p> <p>177</p> <p>178</p> <p>186</p> <p>198</p> | <p>Local Transport Plan</p> <p>Tees Valley Transport Strategy</p> <p>Emerging LDF Core Strategy</p> | <p>Within existing</p> |

**WORK STRAND****3. Greener, cleaner Darlington**

Improve the green infrastructure, enhance biodiversity and promote enjoyment of the environment. Land, air, water and noise pollution will be managed and reduced.

| Ref | Issues / Actions  | Milestone                    | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency  | WS<br>NI  | Source Strategy/ Action Plan  | Resources       |
|-----|---|------------------------------|--|---|---|-----------------|
| 8   | <p><b>Improve the green infrastructure of the Borough in line with the Green Infrastructure Strategy:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase accessibility to quality bio-diverse green space</li> <li>• Raise awareness of, and monitor, use of public green space</li> <li>• Contribute to development and implementation of Allotment Strategy</li> </ul> | Agree programme by June 2009 | <p>Rob George</p> <p>Groundwork</p> <p>Environment Agency</p>                | <p>1,3, 4,5</p> <p>005</p> <p>186</p> <p>197</p> <p>199</p> | <p>Climate Change Action Plan</p> <p>Biodiversity Action Plan</p> <p>Green Infrastructure Strategy</p> <p>Emerging Allotment Strategy</p> | Within existing |
| 9   | <p><b>Increase overall general satisfaction with local area</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improve ownership and pride of local environment through Street Champions</li> <li>▪ Contribute to implementation of Open Space Strategy</li> </ul>  | Agree programme by June 2009 | <p>David Plews</p> <p>Brian Graham</p> <p>Street Scene</p> <p>Groundwork</p> | <p>3,4,5</p> <p>005</p> <p>199</p>                          | <p>Open Space Strategy</p> <p>Green Infrastructure Strategy</p> <p>Community Survey</p>   | Within existing |

**WORK STRAND****4. Well-designed Darlington**

Ensure that the location and design of development contributes to sustainability and enhances the quality of the built environment.  
Ensure that housing development meets local needs and aspirations and promote regeneration of run-down areas

| Ref | Issues / Actions  | Milestone  | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency                                    | WS<br>NI  | Source Strategy/<br>Action Plan   | Resources                        |
|-----|---|--|--|---|---|----------------------------------|
| 10  | <p><b>Contribute to and influence development of emerging Local Development Framework (LDF) to incorporate and reflect Greener Darlington objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Critically review and respond to LDF Core Strategy – Preferred Options Consultation Draft</li> <li>▪ Critically review and respond to the Consultation Draft Design SPD focussing on achieving appropriate environmental standards and sustainable developments</li> <li>▪ Critically review and respond to LDF Core Strategy Submission Document</li> </ul> | <p>Dec 2008</p> <p>Jan 2009</p> <p>Summer 2009</p> | <p>DBC</p> <p>All Partners</p> <p>Urban Design Officer</p> | <p>1-5</p> <p>005</p> <p>155</p> <p>175</p> <p>186</p> <p>188</p> <p>197</p> <p>199</p> | <p>Regional Spatial Strategy</p> <p>Emerging LDF Core Strategy</p> <p>Emerging Design SPD</p> <p>Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (P2, P3, P4)</p> | <p>Within existing</p>           |
| 11  | <p><b>Benchmark against and learn from best practice:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arrange visits to 'best practice' examples of eco efficient developments</li> </ul>  | <p>Agree programme by June 2009</p>                | <p>Partners</p>  | <p>4,5</p>  | <p>Emerging Design SPD</p>  | <p>(£2k pa)<br/>Being sought</p> |

**WORK STRAND****5. Engagement and partnership for change**

Pursue programmes to raise awareness and promote sustainable business practices and lifestyle choices, including promotion of long-term behavioural changes, to achieve community support and buy-in to sustainable environmental benefits.

| Ref | Issues / Actions   | Milestone  | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency                              | WS<br>NI   | Source Strategy/<br>Action Plan                               | Resources                 |
|-----|--|--|--|--|---|---------------------------|
| 12  | <b>Develop an awareness-raising programme for all sectors of the community</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Meeting of relevant partners to assess way forward</li> <li>▪ Identify key actions and resource requirements</li> <li>▪ Investigate funding streams to support extending awareness-raising</li> <li>▪ Implement actions</li> </ul>                           | Nov 2008<br>Dec 2008<br>Report to each Greener Group | Paula Jamieson<br>Phillippa Scrafton<br>All Partners | 1-5<br>185<br>186<br>187<br>188<br>191<br>192<br>195 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm2, Comm5, Comm7) | (£10k pa)<br>Being sought |
| 13  | <b>Review sustainable learning in the school curriculum and investigate methods of increasing climate change coverage in schools:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Identify current links with schools including access to curriculum</li> <li>▪ Identify with schools potential for including climate change in curriculum</li> <li>▪ Develop learning tools</li> </ul> |  | Paula Jamieson<br>Nigel Potter<br>DBC<br>Partners    | 1-5<br>185<br>186<br>187<br>188<br>191<br>192<br>195 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm1)               | (£5k) being sought        |

**WORK STRAND****5. Engagement and partnership for change (continued)**

| Ref | Issues / Actions   | Milestone   | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency  | WS<br>NI                   | Source Strategy/ Action Plan                           | Resources                                       |
|-----|--|---|--|----------------------------|--|---|
| 14  | <b>Establish grant scheme to support delivery of awareness raising projects:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Secure resources to support scheme</li> <li>▪ Establish grant scheme arrangements including criteria for applications and allocation protocols</li> <li>▪ Advertise and promote</li> <li>▪ Administer grant</li> </ul>   | Feb 2009<br><br>Mar 2009<br>Apr 2009  | Paula Jamieson   | 5                          | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm 6)       | (£10k pa) being sought                          |
| 15  | <b>Organise 'Greener Darlington' Assembly for early summer 2009:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Launch Awards Scheme (see below at 16)</li> <li>• Launch Website (see below at 17)</li> </ul>  | June 2009<br>June 2009  | TBC  | 1-5                        |  | (£5,000) being sought                           |
| 16  | <b>Develop and launch awards scheme</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Discuss ideas with relevant partners</li> <li>▪ Draft paper outlining concept and provisional ideas for 'Green' awards.</li> <li>▪ Theme Group to consider and approve as appropriate.</li> <li>▪ Launch at Assembly</li> <li>▪ Advertise and promote</li> <li>▪ Shortlist</li> <li>▪ Awards presented</li> </ul> | Dec 2008<br>Jan 2009<br><br>Mar 2009<br><br>June 2009<br>June 2009<br>Sept 2009<br>Nov 2009 | Paula Jamieson<br><br>Greener Group<br><br>Town Centre Manager | 5<br><br>185<br>186<br>188 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm5, Comm7) | (£5k pa) being sought<br><br>Sponsorship sought |

**WORK STRAND****5. Engagement and partnership for change (continued)**

| Ref | Issues / Actions  | Milestone   | Lead Officer(s)/ Agency                            | WS<br>NI  | Source Strategy/<br>Action Plan                        | Resources       |
|-----|---|---|--|---|--|-----------------|
| 17  | <b>Develop and launch Greener Theme Group Website:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Theme Group to agree action</li> <li>▪ Theme Group to submit ideas for content and format.</li> <li>▪ Discuss development ideas with DBC Web team</li> <li>▪ Develop web site and link to work of other Theme Groups</li> <li>▪ Launch website at Assembly</li> </ul> | Complete<br>March 2009<br><br>Dec 2008<br><br>March 2009<br><br>June 2009 | Paula Jamieson<br><br>DBC Web team<br><br>Partners | 1-5<br><br>185<br>186<br>187<br>188<br>189<br>191<br>192<br>193 | Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (Comm5, Comm7) | Within existing |