Wolverhampton City Council

OPEN EXECUTIVE DECISION ITEM (AMBER)

CABINET

Date 25 JULY 2012

Portfolio(s) COUNCILLOR P BILSON / ECONOMIC REGENERATION AND PROSPERITY

Originating Service Group(s) EDUCATION AND ENTERPRISE

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Title FUTURE STRATEGY FOR THE HEATH TOWN ESTATE AND HEATH FIELD PARK NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN UPDATE

Recommendation

That Cabinet:

(i) Approve the principles for the future of Heath Town as set out in section 3.

(ii) Approve the preparation of the Heath Town Masterplan as set out in paragraph 3.6.

(iii) Note the current progress made on the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan and Baseline Report outlining community issues and aspirations.

(iv) Receive a further report to consider the conclusions and recommendations of the Masterplan as the basis for future investment and management of the Heath Town Estate and as evidence to inform the preparation of the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan.

(v) Grant delegated authority to the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity in consultation with the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise to consider an application for the establishment of Neighbourhood Forums and Areas for the purposes of progressing Neighbourhood Plans in Wolverhampton.
1. **PURPOSE**

1.1 The purpose of this report is to request Cabinet to approve the proposed way forward for Heath Town within the context of the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan as summarised in section 3. This work is being prepared alongside the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan process and the Report also notes progress being made with the Neighbourhood Plan.

1.2 The broad principles have been considered and endorsed by Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel on 19 June 2012.

2. **BACKGROUND**

2.1 Heath Town is situated to the east of the City Centre and consists of 1191 properties on either side of the Wednesfield Road. The estate was built in the 1960s to a high density configuration of high rise blocks of flats and five storey deck access maisonettes with a small number of houses at Inkerman Street and Long Ley and traditional low rise flats in Grove Street. Virtually all of the estate is let as social housing, managed by Wolverhampton Homes, with there being only 3 leaseholders.

2.2 The shopping precinct at Chervil Rise is currently suffering decline with many of the 17 units being used for non-retail use such as community use or third sector organisations. Three of the units are void.

2.3 Heath Town has been subject to significant investment in the past receiving Estate Action funding during the 1980’s and 1990’s which included works to remodel some aspects of the estate including the conversion of maisonettes into 3 storey town houses and a window replacement programme. Recent improvements include the installation of a new biomass boiler as part of the upgrade to the district heating system and external works to Brockfield House, Campion House and Longfield House. Despite this, the estate requires further substantial investment however funding decisions have not been assisted by the lack of clarity regarding its long term future. Because of this uncertainty, the properties have yet to benefit from the Decent Homes Programme being scheduled for 2014/15, the last year of the projected programme.

2.4 Recent housing management information from Wolverhampton Homes and the Homes in the City choice based lettings scheme has demonstrated that much of the estate, with the exception of certain blocks (Lincoln House and Tremont House), has a healthy demand with an average of 21 bids per property in 2010/11 against a city-wide comparison of 48.

2.5 The average length of tenancy is just over 7 years compared to a city-wide average tenancy of just over 11.5 years and the data from the Housing Register does not suggest that there is a strong desire from existing tenants to move out of the area on the whole. This is broadly supported by the results of the recent resident's survey undertaken as part of the Neighbourhood Planning process.

3. **PRINCIPLES FOR THE FUTURE OF HEATH TOWN**

3.1 There are a number of issues that drive the need to provide some “in principle” decisions regarding the future of Heath Town, most particularly:
• The future investment under the decent homes programme
• Potential opportunities to remodel parts of the estate and improve the overall housing and neighbourhood offers
• The work being undertaken on the Neighbourhood Planning process and any future proposals for the Heath Town estate to complement each other

3.2 The background information suggests that although there are issues associated with Heath Town including the need for further investment and issues regarding demand and future demand for the accommodation in parts of the estate (including the retail offer), there is a market for the existing housing in the area.

3.3 The high density of housing and the consequential high number of residents housed in Heath Town, coupled with the high demand for housing in the City, makes wholesale re-development unviable as it would place a demand for housing from displaced residents which it would not be able to be met both in the short term from existing housing provision, nor in the long term as any re-development would be unlikely to provide a similar amount of residential accommodation. As displaced residents would have a high priority above most others on the Housing Register this would have a knock on effect throughout the City and the ability of the Council to meet the total City housing demand.

3.4 The wholesale re-development of Heath Town would also have significant financial costs both in terms of capital to undertake the demolition and remediation of the site for new development (the high rise blocks in particular would be very expensive to demolish). There would also be the loss of revenue from rents, which would significantly impact on the Housing Revenue Account. The provision of alternative accommodation for displaced residents would also impact on the City housing offer.

3.5 In order to provide a clear direction for the future of Heath Town including the Neighbourhood Planning process and the delivery of the key investment programmes, the following principles are proposed:

   a) An “in principle” decision is made to retain the sustainable parts of the Heath Town estate, subject to the following;
   b) To confirm the intended delivery of the Decent Homes Programme to the estate as per the existing programme, subject to the availability of finance via the Decent Homes Backlog funding;
   c) To further consider the viability and proposals for the estate including the potential to re-model specific areas to enhance both the future housing offer and the potential for new housing both within the existing estate and any potential development land;
   d) The detailed proposals regarding both the retention of the majority of the existing stock and the potential to re-model and provide new housing and development opportunities are brought back to Cabinet for further consideration.
   e) Any proposals coming forward from the Masterplan must be deliverable within the context of anticipated limited levels of resources.

3.6 Subject to agreement of these principles it is recommended that a Masterplan is prepared to set out a long-term future for the estate and to inform the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan. The principles set out in paragraph 3.5 will provide the basis for this Masterplan.
4. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING

4.1 The Heath Town Estate is situated within the Heathfield Park Local Neighbourhood Partnership area and is subject to the Neighbourhood Planning pilot which is currently being undertaken in the area. This process involves the Local Neighbourhood Partnership (LNP) consulting stakeholders, local communities and businesses on the issues to be taken into account in the development of the Plan and in the development of Options. Cabinet requested a further Report on the Issues and draft Options that had emerged from this work. As Heath Town forms a major part of the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning area it is essential that any proposals for the estate are consistent with the development of that Plan and are supported by the local community.

4.2 Significant progress has been made by the Neighbourhood Partnership in developing the Plan. The Steering Group was established by the LNP in October 2011, followed by extensive engagement with Ward members, community groups, schools, businesses and service providers to establish the key issues for the Plan to address. A workshop facilitated by the Princes Foundation took place in November 2011, and a Household Survey completed in March 2012. This work has given the LNP a sound basis to move forward with the next stages of the Plan, and a ‘Baseline’ Report has been completed by the Steering Group which summarises the key issues emerging from this work to date. A working draft of this document will be placed in the Members room. In summary, the key issues identified in the Baseline Report are:

- There is a strong sense of community with a willingness among many to get involved to help improve the area
- However, there is a perception that Heath Town has a negative image within the City as a whole that needs to be challenged. The community are keen to see well maintained, clean areas which will address some of these issues and change perceptions of people living outside of the area.
- The Plan should provide for a wider choice of housing, including larger family housing
- Heath Town Estate provides an important supply of affordable housing but a decision needs to be made on its long term future
- There is a high level of unemployment and the Plan should encourage new development to provide job opportunities for local people
- The concentration of specialist health care at New Cross Hospital has created congestion on the local highway network, and limited on-site car parking is impacting on local residential areas. This is compounded by the fact that the Wednesfield Road is one of the main arterial routes into Wolverhampton and is well used to access the City Centre and motorway network
- The area has a number of important and well-used community assets but the Plan needs to address the future of the Heath Town Estate shopping precinct and the former Heath Town baths site. Many of the community facilities have suffered major decline over the years such as the Community Centre and Heath Town Adventure Playground and there is a need to deliver co-ordinated and quality facilities which meet the needs and aspirations of local residents

4.3 The Masterplan work for the Heath Town Estate outlined in paragraph 3.6 will be prepared in partnership with the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and provide the key evidence to inform the Neighbourhood Plan. It will propose a clear way forward for the Heath Town Estate to directly address the “Issues” identified in the Baseline Report.

4.4 The Neighbourhood Planning provisions of the Localism Act 2011 (Sections 116 to 121), and the associated detailed Regulations (The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) came into force on 6 April 2012 which have a direct bearing on the
status and preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. The Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group has advised that they wish to progress the development of the Plan in accordance with the 2012 Regulations. This will require the existing LNP/(Neighbourhood Planning) Steering Group to be formally constituted as a Neighbourhood Forum for the purposes of preparing the Neighbourhood Plan. The process for the establishment of a Neighbourhood Forum and the criteria by which an application should be determined is also set out in the 2012 Regulations. The Regulations place a duty on the Council to support communities in preparing Neighbourhood Plans. The Neighbourhood Area also needs to be designated to prepare the Plans.

4.5 In summary, the Regulations require that the Neighbourhood Forum must be established for the purposes of promoting or improving the social, economic and environmental well-being of the area, be open to all individuals living or working in the area (including elected members) and has a membership of at least 21 individuals. It is considered that the existing Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group is capable of meeting these criteria.

4.6 It is anticipated that an application will be made to the Council in June of this year. It is proposed that delegated authority is granted to the Strategic Director for Education and Enterprise in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economic Regeneration and Prosperity to consider the application in accordance with the 2012 Regulations. It is proposed that this approach is also used for determining applications for the establishment of Neighbourhood Forums and Area for the progression of other Neighbourhood Plans across the City.

4.7 The process for the preparation of a Neighbourhood Plan is broadly as set out in the report to Cabinet on 20 June 2011. This requires that the Neighbourhood Plan must be prepared in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS) and is subject to an independent examination. The Plan must also be subject to a community referendum to ensure that the wider community have the opportunity to decide whether the Plan comes into force. If more than 50% of people voting in that referendum support the Plan then the Council must adopt it.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 Any proposals coming forward from the Heath Town Masterplan will have significant financial implications. A full financial appraisal considering the impact on the Housing Revenue Account and the Housing Capital Programme will have to be undertaken as part of any development for the estate and form part of future reports to Cabinet. There is currently no budget identified for the remodelling of Heath Town in the Housing Capital Programme approved by Council on 1 March 2012.

5.2 Heath Town is included in the Decent Homes Programme in 2014/15. Backlog funding for the programme beyond 2012/13 is only indicative at this stage and is subject to confirmation from the Homes and Communities Agency.

5.3 The total cost for the Heathfield Plan is anticipated to be around £0.090M. This can be met from the Council’s Local Development Framework budget for 2012/13. Expenditure will be incurred by the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships in respect of the cost of producing the Plans. The Council will be the Accountable Body and any expenditure incurred will be required to comply with the Council’s contract procedure rules. This will form part of future reports to Cabinet. (ES/09072012/L)
6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 The Heath Town Masterplan referred to in paragraph 3.6 will provide evidence to inform the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan.

6.2 As set out in paragraph 4.4 above the Localism Act 2011 (Sections 116 to 121) and the Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012) came into force on 6 April 2012 which have a direct bearing on the status and preparation of Neighbourhood Plans. As set out in paragraph 4.7, above Neighbourhood Plans must be prepared in general conformity with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the Black Country Core Strategy (BCCS). Neighbourhood Plans will form part of the statutory development plan for the City and will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications and appeals. The Neighbourhood Plan will also need to comply with EU Directives and human rights obligations.

6.3 The LNP Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Planning Steering Group have proposed to form a “Neighbourhood Forum” for the purpose of developing the Neighbourhood Plan as a statutory document providing a detailed planning framework and supporting the Core Strategy. (JH/05072012/E)

7. **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 This report has no direct equal opportunities implications, however, Heath Town experiences a number of deprivation issues. The delivery of the decent homes programme works will ensure that residents do not experience inequality of housing opportunity.

7.2 The Neighbourhood Plans will establish a detailed, comprehensive and up-to-date land use planning strategy for the area. This will create additional certainty for investment decisions and support the delivery of social, educational and recreational facilities and businesses.

7.3 The Plan will be informed by an Equality Analysis which will assess potential effects of the policies on different people. The analysis has due regard to the three aims of the Equality Duty, and will be informed by the public consultation on the Neighbourhood Plan and the impact it could have. This will ensure that any impacts are fully considered and inform the final version.

8. **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 Investment in Heath Town will improve housing conditions and have a significant impact on the visual impact of the area.

8.2 A Sustainability Appraisal has been carried out on the Neighbourhood Plan area which will evaluate the environmental consequences of proposed policies to ensure sustainability issues are fully integrated and addressed at the earliest appropriate stage. This determines how the Plans will ensure that sufficient homes, shops, employment, social, education and recreational facilities are planned and provided in time to meet the needs of all communities and everyone within those communities.

9. **SCHEDULE OF BACKGROUND PAPERS**

9.1 Wolverhampton Neighbourhood Plans – 20 June 2011
Cabinet Agenda Item 5
Local People working towards a Neighbourhood Plan for Heath Town, Springfield and New Park Village
Introduction

If you care about where you live, planning is important.

Planning is simply about making sure the right things are built in the right places.

Through a Neighbourhood Plan local people can steer development to where it is needed and include practical things that make a real difference to people’s lives both now and for the future. These can include:

- New pedestrian walkways / cycle routes
- Affordable housing for young people
- New shopping areas, community buildings, recreational spaces and facilities.

In 2011, Heathfield Park was selected as a Neighbourhood Planning area and has begun the process of developing a Local Neighbourhood Plan for the Heathfield Park area of Wolverhampton.

Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan will include a Vision and planning policies to guide development, based on local people’s needs whilst conforming to the policies outlined in Wolverhampton City’s Core Strategy.

Here is your opportunity to join with other Heathfield Park residents to work together to create our Local Neighbourhood Plan.

Where is the Heathfield Park Neighbourhood Plan Area?

Heathfield Park is one of the City of Wolverhampton’s fourteen Local Neighbourhood Partnership areas. It extends from the eastern edge of the city centre to the edge of the Bentley Bridge Retail Park, bounded by the A460 Cannock Road to the north and the Wyrley and Essington canal to the south.

The name Heathfield Park was derived from the areas of Heath Town, Springfield, and New Park Village contained within these borders.
Neighbourhood Planning: The Story So Far...

- As a first step, in August 2011 the Local Neighbourhood Partnership organised a workshop with local people and stakeholders to start to identify issues and set up a Steering Group.
- In October, the Steering Group had its first meeting and started to plan its activities over the coming months.
- During October and November, a series of walkabouts took place with Steering group members and school groups from the local area taking photographs.
- In November, the Princes Foundation were called in to facilitate a Stakeholder Day with local people, businesses, community groups, schools, housing organisations etc.
- Between January and March 2012, a dozen volunteers from the Steering Group delivered a Household Survey to every household in the area. 1668 Surveys were completed.
- In March 2012, a number of local businesses, stakeholders and large employers took part in a telephone questionnaire.

Some Facts and Figures about Heathfield Park

- Population of 8,833 people
- 28% live alone
- 58% Economically inactive
- Over 23,000 vehicles per day use Wednesfield Road
- 35% Work as plant machinists or in Elementary jobs
- 53% Rented from Council/Housing Association
- Average life expectancy: Men 71 (76.5) Women 79 (81) Figures in brackets average in W-ton
- Diverse population
- £19,502 Average income
- 11.3% Unemployed
- Wolverhampton Homes manage 1,200 properties
- One of the top 10 most deprived area (in the top 5%)
- 90 Recorded crimes /ASB March 2012
- £93,875 Average house price
- 49% of households don’t own car
- 33% Owner occupiers
- 43% have no qualifications
- 158 Fly tips removed April – March 2012
- 17.6% Walk to work
Digging deeper

To gain a greater understanding of the area, further fact finding technical studies are being carried out into:-

- Transportation
- Jobs and Economy
- Shops and Centres
- Environment
- Heath Town Master Plan
- Local history

**Transportation**

Looking at constraints on traffic flow, roads and junctions, parking, and public transport to identify opportunities for improvement.

**Jobs and Economy**

Identification of potential areas for future development and assessment of current employment areas and scope for redevelopment.

**Shops and Centres**

Gaining a detailed understanding of opportunities to strengthen local shopping centres and other community assets in the area.

**Environment**

Assessment of quality and value of existing and potential open spaces in the area, and recommendations on future use and designation.

**Heath Town Master Plan**

Identifying development opportunities and a programme of enhancement to improve the character of the Estate.

**Local History**

Researching the historic character and local distinctiveness of Heathfield Park. Identifying buildings and places of historical significance and interest.
What Key Issues and Aspirations have been identified so far?

There is a strong sense of community with a willingness among many to get involved to help improve the area. It is considered by many to be a convenient place to live as there is good access to transport and shops.

Many older people have lived in the area all their life. Living close to family and friends is considered being one of the best things about living in the area.

In November 2011, the Princes Foundation facilitated a Stakeholder Day; a community scoping workshop, which involved local people, schools, businesses, community groups and housing organisations to map out a range of issues and themes for a prospective neighbourhood plan to address.

In addition, the Local Neighbourhood Partnership (LNP) commissioned M.E.L Research to undertake a consultation with local residents including stakeholders of Heathfield Park.

The consultation took place in two parts; a household survey circulated to every household in the Neighbourhood Plan area and a business survey which every business and stakeholder in the local area was invited to take part in via a telephone or online survey. The businesses in Heathfield Park range from small to large organisations and include retail shops, takeaways, schools, charities, community centres and a hospital.

The results show 1668 people responded to the household surveys and a total of 26 businesses took part in the telephone interviews or online survey.

Results from the M.E.L Research survey and the Stakeholder’s Day event highlighted key issues and thematic areas of concern which need to be considered for neighbourhood plan. These key issues have been outlined below together with aspirations of the local community. Percentages of respondents from the household survey have also been included.
• **Image of the Area**
  - The existing negative image of the area needs to be challenged. There is a need to generate a positive identity, image, and sense of pride in the area.
  - Drug dealing and crime hotspots, litter, fly tipping, derelict properties and underused facilities further add to this negative image and need to be addressed.
  - Open spaces in the area need improvements in maintenance, facilities, access and appearance.

• **Housing**
  - There is a shortage of affordable housing in the area. The availability has been further reduced by an increase in private landlord ownership. Short term leasing is resulting in deterioration in maintenance and appearance of these properties.
  - There is a high demand for houses particularly larger houses with 3 bedrooms or more – 57% respondents
  - Council houses, flats (low rise and high rise) and maisonettes are the types of properties in most need of improvements
  - There has been extensive consultation and uncertainty over a number of years about future plans for the Heath Town estate. There needs to be greater clarity.
  - There is a shortage of private garden space, especially in the Heath Town estate and a shortage of larger family houses. As a result young growing families have to look further afield for suitable housing.
  - Around three fifths of respondents (59%) agree that housing to buy or to rent in Heathfield Park is at a price they can afford.
• **Employment and Training**

  o There is a much higher rate of unemployment in Heathfield Park than in Wolverhampton as a whole. 43% of respondents are economically inactive.
  o Unemployment is highest amongst 16-24 year olds
  o There is a lack of suitable jobs and few training opportunities in the area.
  o The household survey shows those in employment mostly work outside the area, but within Wolverhampton or the immediate surrounding area.
  o Businesses are spread out within the area ranging in activity from a mixture of retail shops, engineering, to the delivery of health care at the city’s hospital. They provide full / part time employment from 1 to 7000 employees
  o The workforce for these is mostly drawn from outside the area, particularly for New Cross Hospital and Royal Mail.
  o 39% of businesses surveyed would consider offering apprenticeships in the future
  o 50% of the businesses surveyed are looking to invest or expand in the next 5 years

• **Education and Recreation**

  o There are three primary schools, St Stephens, Woden and Trinity and one secondary school, Heath Park Business and Enterprise College serving the educational needs of the area.
  o Students from these schools have identified specific areas and issues that require improvement. These include congestion around the school gate, road safety, litter and graffiti, access to, and maintenance of, recreational facilities and green spaces.
As well as Heath Town Park there are a number of open spaces and play areas around the area. The provision of cycle and walkways linking these areas would greatly improve access and the environment.

Heath Park School is currently undergoing redevelopment under the Building Schools for the Future programme, a private finance initiative. This will provide an opportunity to stimulate links between education, employment and training through community access to its facilities.

• Transport and Accessibility

- The Wednesfield Road (A4124) and Cannock Road (A460) form two major links to the wider region into and out of the City. These pass through the area and carry high volumes of traffic and act as barriers making pedestrian access from one area to another difficult and hazardous.

- There is a high level of congestion at peak times around the junctions with these major roads.

- The further concentration of specialist health care as well as emergency care at New Cross Hospital has created further congestion, made worse by the lack of adequate parking.
• **Health**
  - Health care provision and access has been identified by the Primary Care Trust (PCT) as a priority for Heathfield Park. The planned Health Care centre on the former Duke of York site has received Planning Permission. However, the original plans for the health centre seem to have been delayed awaiting final approval from the Strategic Health Authority in Summer 2012.
  - The merger of the PCT’s community services with the Royal Hospital HNS trust and withdrawal of funding for home based community health care services has increased the number of hospital visits. A solution needs to be found to address the limited space at New Cross and reduce its impact on local residents.

• **Community Assets**
  - The Heathfield Park Area was first settled in the 17th century and further developed with the arrival of the railway and the opening of the Grand Junction Railway Station in 1837.
  - There are a number of listed buildings in the area centred around Heath Town Park: – Holy Trinity Church, Lych Gate and Almshouses, Heath Town Park war memorial and Heath Town Baths and Library.
  - Heath Town Park itself is a well maintained park occupying a central location within the neighbourhood. It has a number of community uses, including an outdoor gym, children’s play area, ball court and football pitches. However, the success of this community asset brings with it problems of parking and congestion, particularly over weekends due to the lack of off-road parking.
The seven acre church yard surrounding Holy Trinity Church has recently undergone re-ordering to create a wild life meadow and community garden giving opportunity for people to experience nature first hand and on there doorstep. The bio-diversity of the area could be further improved with the creation of a wild-life corridor linking other green spaces in the area. There is a need to protect and enhance these key areas important to biodiversity and the wild life dependant on them.

With the provision of a new swimming and leisure pool at Bentley Bridge, Heath Town Baths and Library was closed in November 2006 and the building put up for sale and redevelopment along with the surrounding land previously occupied by Holy Trinity junior school. The building is deteriorating and this community asset may be lost if the current proposal led by the Tessa Sanderson Foundation for a Sports Academy fails.

Heath Town Community centre is in need of renovation and appropriate booking and maintenance arrangements to assure its future.

There are no quality community facilities and the few there are face an uncertain future, including the Adventure Playground.

Local people often use the churches in the area as key community meeting areas, although general access to these facilities can sometimes be limited at certain times.
• **Community Involvement**

- There is active community involvement through the Local Neighbourhood partnership, local community groups, local faith groups and charities working in the area.
- These provide a wide range of quality services and activities, alongside those provided by the local authority, for the local community, working with limited resources and facilities.

**Local Area Issues**

Due to the responses from the M.E.L. Research survey being broadly represented of the population of Heathfield Park, the neighbourhood plan area was sub divided into 6 individual areas as shown below. The Map shows the top three crime and anti-social behaviour issues by area including the percentage of respondents.

- **Area A – Heath Town Estate – Top 3 Issues**
  - Litter and rubbish - 40%
  - Drugs and drug dealing - 36%
  - Homes being burgled - 35%

- **Area B – Springfield – Top 3 Issues**
  - Litter and rubbish - 44%
  - Drugs and drug dealing - 39%
  - Homes being burgled - 35%

- **Area C – Culwell Trading Estate – Top 3 Issues**
  - Homes being burgled - 78%
  - Litter and rubbish - 68%
  - Drugs and drug dealing - 63%

- **Area D – New Park Village – Top 3 Issues**
  - Litter and rubbish - 61%
  - Drugs and drug dealing - 50%
  - Speeding - 49%

- **Area E – Heath Town Park – Top 3 Issues**
  - Badly parked cars - 42%
  - Speeding - 42%
  - Litter and rubbish - 39%

- **Area F**

This map is reproduced from Ordnance Survey material with the permission of Ordnance Survey on behalf of the Ministers of the Environment and Reconstruction Office in the departmental context as defined by Schedule 1 to the Ordnance Survey Act 1999.
Developing a Vision for Heathfield Park

An overall vision for Heathfield Park will be included in the Neighbourhood Plan that will set out how the area should develop. From the issues and aspirations identified so far six key themes have emerged which will provide a framework around which to build:-

- **Identity** - develop an improved image and identity for the area with a vision.
- **Housing** – opportunities to develop affordable, well maintained areas that are family friendly.
- **Employment** - opportunities for businesses to develop, providing good opportunities for employment and training.
- **Assets** – further develop good volunteering base, and develop quality community assets including community centres and meeting places.
- **Transport** – address transport, accessibility and parking issues.
- **Health** - develop good quality health provision for existing population and opportunities to develop healthy lifestyles through park and canal routes.
What happens next?

As a resident, worker or stakeholder in Heathfield Park we want to involve you in the process as we work towards preparing the Neighbourhood Plan.

Through the summer and autumn this year you will have opportunity to add your ideas and comments through a series of road shows, planning workshops and other events. Dates, times and places will be publicised in the local press, news sheets and posters.

You can also follow what’s happening on line by visiting our website or commenting on facebook, www.facebook.com/Heathfield-Park-Neighbourhood-Plan and on twitter @hthfldpklnp.

We hope that this booklet has left you knowing something you didn’t know before and wanting to know more and become involved.

If you would like to get involved in developing your Neighbourhood Plan.

Contact Sue Lindup or Simon Hamilton
LNP Service, North East Team on 01902 556622

e-mail us on lnpne@wolverhampton.gov.uk.

For more information and to keep up-to-date visit our website on http://www.wton-partnership.org.uk/heathfield-park/
Now its Your Turn. Take 10 minutes to complete your comments below about the key themes that have arisen from the consultation process so far. If you think there is something that needs to be added, then complete the section below with your comments.

Identity (developing an improved image and identity for the area)
Housing (affordable, well maintained areas and family friendly)
Employment (opportunities for businesses to develop and businesses providing good opportunities for employment and training)
Assets (good volunteering base, need to develop quality community assets including community centres and meeting places)
Transport (transport, accessibility and parking issues)
Health (provide good quality health provision for existing population and opportunities to develop healthy lifestyles through park and canal routes)

Return to: North East LNP Team
FREEPOST.....