

Welcome to our Annual Report



My name is Councillor Paul Lakin, Chair of Wentworth South Area Assembly.

This Annual Report will give you a flavour of what the Area Assembly has been doing over the last year and what it intends to do in the coming

year to address the priorities raised by you through consultation.

The introduction of the Wentworth South Area Assembly Devolved Budget in 2008/09 meant we were able to support a number of projects, including:

- environmental improvements and clean-ups involving community members and young people
- a residential youth work event challenging stereotyping, learning new skills and supporting young

people to share with others

- the purchase of additional litter bins
- the development of a skate park and BMX track.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the partners who have worked and who continue to work with us to make Wentworth South a safer, cleaner, and healthier place to live.

I look forward to seeing you in the future.

Cllr Paul Lakin

Working with local communities to tackle issues that matter most to them

Thrybergh Community Plan

The Area Assembly is supporting the Thrybergh Community Planning Steering Group made up of local community members to develop their community plan.

Questionnaires were delivered to every household in Thrybergh asking for people's views on such issues as:

- activities for young people
- community safety and policing
- waste collection, disposal and recycling
- transport
- health care
- local activities
- sport and leisure
- the environment

A summary of the results of the questionnaire has been developed and will be delivered to every household in Thrybergh over the summer.

The steering group will be writing up the plan and will work with partner agencies to address the issues, concerns and priorities raised by the community of Thrybergh.

Pride Promise

The Area Assembly team worked with the Neighbourhood Pride Team to launch the Pride Promise in the Chesterhill area of Wentworth South.

Following consultation with local residents the Neighbourhood Pride Team (a local tenants' and residents' group) decided to have a Pride Promise to ensure that

everyone living and working in the area is aware of other people's wishes for their community and that they share the same vision. The Pride Promise has five key principles:

- respecting other people and their property
- keeping noise down to an acceptable level
- keeping our gardens clean and tidy
- reporting crime
- keeping the neighbourhood clean and litter free.

Make It Safe DVD

Through local consultation and the Area Assembly meetings people told the Area Assembly last year about their concerns regarding dangerous and irresponsible parking outside local schools.

The Area Assembly has, through its Neighbourhood Action Group and links to local schools, worked to develop a project aimed at getting children to influence the habits of their parents to outline the dangers of irresponsible parking and highlight healthy alternative ways of getting to school.

The project involved the production of a DVD which young people themselves use to promote road safety. Local pupils were involved in acting, filming, animation, writing the music, playing and singing.

The project, which is being piloted across the Wentworth South Area, is a joint initiative between Wentworth South Area Assembly and Wentworth South Safer Neighbourhood Team, working with Road

Safety and Sustainable School Travel and Rawmarsh City Learning Centre.

As a result of the project and DVD 20 local young people have gained a level two qualification in Interactive Media (equivalent to a GCSE at grade B).

In 2009/10, by working in partnership with the police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue, NHS Rotherham, community and voluntary groups and many others, the Area Assembly will continue to address your priorities:

- reduce the level and fear of crime and increase community safety
- increase facilities and activities for young people
- improve standards of roads and pavements and cleaner streets
- increase opportunities for accessing new skills and employment
- increase community facilities and activities.

Some projects to tackle the priorities have been funded from the Area Assembly Devolved Budget – for example:

- recruitment of a Police Community Support Officer to work in the Wentworth South Safer Neighbourhood Team to increase public confidence and reassurance
- delivering sessions to young people aged 13 to 19 to improve confidence and self-esteem and participation in health activities
- identifying a 'Grot Spot of the Month' and making appropriate improvements to clean it up and create a more welcoming environment
- a programme of work for local young unemployed people to create a better environment
- a dedicated health trainer to support people in making changes to their lifestyle such as healthier eating and regular exercise.

Other examples of the work of the Area Assembly include:

- identifying hotspots across Wentworth South Area Assembly and working in partnership to address issues raised
- supporting monthly Partners and Communities Together meetings so that residents can engage with partners and be involved in setting priorities
- developing a Wentworth South Young People's Area Assembly
- increasing residents' and the voluntary and community sector's engagement in influencing decisions.

