

# Wentworth Valley

## Area Plan 2009



Roche Abbey



[www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk](http://www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk)



# Wentworth Valley Area Plan 2009



I am Councillor John Turner, Chair of Wentworth Valley Area Assembly and elected member for Hellaby.

The Wentworth Valley Area Plan covers the three wards of **Maltby**, **Hellaby** and **Wickersley**.

The Wentworth Valley area in the east of the Borough covers **3,244** hectares (12.5 square miles). The population of **36,344** is concentrated in two urban areas. West of the M18 motorway are the parishes of **Wickersley** and **Bramley** which form a single suburban area around the A631 Bawtry Road. Beyond the M18 is the small community of **Hellaby** and the town of **Maltby**.

Maltby is a former mining community characterised by older social rented and private housing to the east and modern private estates to the west. South of Maltby is the small village and parish of **Hooton Levitt** and a rural area including Roche Abbey.

Wentworth Valley has a very active and caring community with over 100 community groups.

Regards

Councillor John Turner

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The Wentworth Valley Area Plan provides an overview of the area, the key priorities for the current year and details of our achievements from the past year.

## What is an Area Assembly?

The Area Assemblies are an innovative way to bring people together who live and work in an area to make a difference. It is a partnership of individuals, agencies and organisations working together to tackle local issues and to listen to local people.

## Who are the members of an Area Assembly?

Anyone from the local area who wants to make a difference and can contribute time, money, advice or expertise to a partnership. Area Assemblies bring together local councillors, council services, businesses, colleges, health, police, churches, community groups and anybody else who can help to make their local area a better place to live and work.



The Area Assembly fund Wickersley Parish Council's 'Informal garden'

## What does an Area Assembly do?

Each Area Assembly is different and has grown in response to local needs and local issues, but they all have the same aims:

- To work with local people to improve their quality of life
- To take action to tackle local issues
- To influence plans and services for the area and make sure they are what people want
- To raise money for local projects
- To bring together all those who live and work in an area in a positive and active partnership
- To work with communities to celebrate their areas so that people feel they belong to the community and get on well together
- This year Rotherham Council has devolved £1.4 million over a two year period to be spent on local priorities identified by local people. Projects have been delivered by a range of partners including NHS Rotherham, South Yorkshire Police, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue and the voluntary and community sector



Communities share their skills



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## What we did during 2008/09

### Last year you told us to:

- Engage with young people by giving them a real voice and influence over the issues that affect them
- You also told us that we needed to ensure communities have the support they need to develop their influence over issues that affect their lives

### So in 2008 we:

#### **Responded to employment concerns**

We worked with the Employers Forum to support an existing social enterprise scheme. This provided a local enhanced service to the job centre, co-ordinating information about local jobs and encouraging and supporting local people to apply.

#### **Addressed issues of stereotyping**

A project was launched by the Young People's Area Assembly and Maltby Linx Youth Forum to challenge stereotypes, increase awareness and reduce fear and bullying. The aim of the project is to promote young people in a positive light. An event was arranged by the Area Assembly for young people to share their views through film and photography.

#### **Provided support for the Wickersley Community Plan**

The Area Assembly worked within the Wickersley Community Plan Steering Group to undertake a number of consultation exercises with Wickersley community and service providers. The Steering Group is now encouraging community members to get involved and with the help of the Area Assembly will be developing actions in a Community Plan.

#### **Involved local people and partners in identifying community problems and solutions with partners**

The very first PACT (Partners & Communities Together) meeting in the borough was held in March 2009 by Wentworth Valley Area Assembly.

## Identifying your priorities

In the Autumn of 2008 Wentworth Valley Area Assembly team consulted with residents in Maltby, Hellaby and Wickersley wards, to identify the community priorities for the area. We will use this information to work in partnership with locally based services so they can work more effectively together to make improvements to the area and deliver projects so Wentworth Valley is a better place to live.

The Area Assembly team used many different ways of consulting with people, including:

- Face to face interviews in the streets and on local estates
- Handing out questionnaires
- Attending community events
- Door knocking and street surgeries
- Holding consultation events in public venues e.g. libraries, youth clubs and religious buildings
- Area Assembly meetings
- Visiting Community Groups

This year the Area Assembly made good use of its website to reach some sections of the community, with a link to our questionnaire being posted on the web site.



Partners and communities work together to clean up their local areas



## What we will be doing in 2009/10

### **Community Priority: Reducing crime and anti social behaviour and the fear of crime**

- Increasing activities and facilities for young people
- Working with partners to develop multi-agency responses to crime and Anti Social Behaviour and increase awareness of the Safer Neighbourhood Team (SNT)
- Through the Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) develop multi-agency action plans in hot spot areas.
- Hold monthly Partners and Communities Together (PACT) meetings to allow communities to have their say on what affects them

### **Community Priority: Increasing activities and facilities for young people**

- Setting up a young people's working sub group to assist all young people's projects in the area
- Delivering a wide range of Area Assembly Devolved Budget projects
- Consulting with young people in hot spot areas to identify any gaps in provision
- Encouraging young people to become involved in the Young People's Area Assembly as well as active citizenship and local democracy
- Supporting the Play Pathfinder scheme to increase and improve play areas



Junior Wardens learn about looking after their environment

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## **Community Priority: Improving local environments – parks and open spaces, roads and streets**

- Delivering the devolved budget ‘Grot Spot of the month’ projects where communities can identify and vote on where two clean ups per months will take place
- Improving access to information so that people know how they can get their issues addressed
- Working with partners and communities to develop a co-ordinated response to the issues communities raise
- Support delivery of the Streetpride devolved budget to fund small scale projects to improve local environments
- Support the delivery of the Play Pathfinder scheme to increase and improve play areas
- Offer an opportunity for community members to request a multi-agency walkabout in their area, to identify and address local problems

## **Community Priority: Employment opportunities and skill development**

- Work with partner agencies to identify opportunities for people to access learning facilities within their own community
- Ensure opportunities for skill development are promoted within communities

## **Community Priority: Increase community activities and facilities**

- Deliver Area Assembly Devolved Budget projects for a range of activities and facilities
- Introduce a £10,000 community chest small grant fund to enable local community groups to apply for a grant of up to £500
- Ensure events and activities are promoted through the Area Assembly
- Work with partners and communities to develop a co-ordinated response to the issues communities raise

## How can you get involved with your Area Assembly

There are a number of ways that you can get involved in the Area Assembly process whether it be simply attending a meeting or filling in one of our consultation questionnaires.

Below is a list of ways in which you can get involved, if you are unsure as to the best method for you to be involved just contact your Local Area Assembly Team.

The Area Assembly teams engage with the public in a number of ways, these include:

- Regular themed Area Assembly meetings in each of the seven areas
- Regular consultation events
- Roadshows
- Sending out questionnaires
- By working with our partners on impact days and weeks

You can also join your local Area Assembly online and receive regular emails regarding the next Area Assembly meeting in your area.

If you have any queries about how you can become involved please contact us using the details given below, or come along to the next public meeting.

**Email address:**

[wentworth.valley@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:wentworth.valley@rotherham.gov.uk)

**Website:**

[www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk](http://www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk)



## Area Assembly Meeting Dates

There are six Area Assembly meetings each year in Wentworth Valley, each looking at specific topics that have been raised by our local communities. The dates of the remaining assemblies for this area are:

### Proposed Dates for 2009

<b>27th August, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Maltby Full Life Centre</b>
<b>15th September, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Elton Hotel, Flanderwell Lane</b>
<b>20th October, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Maltby Full Life Centre</b>
<b>17th November, 6.00pm</b>	<b>St Francis Church Hall, Bramley</b>
<b>22nd December, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Wickersley Community</b>

### Proposed Dates for 2009

<b>19th January, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Elton Hotel, Flanderwell Lane</b>
<b>23rd February, 6.00pm</b>	<b>Maltby Full Life Centre</b>
<b>23rd March, 6.00pm</b>	<b>St Francis Church Hall, Bramley</b>

Details of future meetings, up-to-date information and reports to enable you to keep in touch with what is going on in your community can be found on the website at [www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk](http://www.rotherhamareaassemblies.gov.uk) or contact the team using the contact details below.

## Wentworth Valley Area Assembly contact details

Postal Address:

Wentworth Valley Area Assembly, Maltby Customer Service Centre,  
Braithwell Road, Maltby, Rotherham, S66 8LE

Telephone: 01709 334717

# The Wentworth Valley Area Assembly Team



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This document can be made available in your language and in alternative formats such as Braille, large print, electronic and audio-tape versions.

Contact us at: 01709 823171

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