

SADDLEWORTH AND LEES AREA COMMITTEE

REPORT OF ASSISTANT CHIEF EXECUTIVE CORPORATE POLICY DIVISION

5TH FEBRUARY 2004

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To seek Committee's approval for the final Saddleworth and Lees Area Plan.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Members have received previous reports detailing the Area Planning process and have had the opportunity to comment on the Plan during the drafting stages.

- 2.2 All the comments which have been made have been incorporated into the Plan where appropriate.

3. CONSULTATION

- 3.1 There has been extensive consultation during the process, including a number of presentations to Area Committees; area based consultation events; articles in the Oldhamer; a voluntary and community sector conference; linkages with the Urbed travelling roadshow; and Area Committee Sounding Boards.

- 3.2 Members are requested to note that the Saddleworth and Lees Area Plan, although presented as a final draft for approval now, will continue to be worked on and will evolve over time as achievements are made and new priorities emerge.

- 3.3 A discussion paper will be presented at a future meeting to determine how such ongoing development can best be achieved.

4. TREASURER'S COMMENTS

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report.

6. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 There will be environmental implications arising from the specific actions detailed within the Environment and Transportation section of the Plan.

7. COMMUNITY COHESION

- 7.1 The Area Plans form a significant part of Oldham's Renewal Strategy, in which the pursuit of community cohesion is at the forefront.
- 7.2 Community Safety is a major feature of the Area Plans and a number of actions identified within the Plans will contribute to reducing Anti-Social Behaviour, crime and the fear of crime.

8. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Members of the Committee are requested to approve the Saddleworth and Lees Area Plan.

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SADDLEWORTH AND LEES AREA PLAN

JANUARY 2004

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FOREWORD

This Area Plan is one of six Area Plans, one for each of the Borough's Area Committees. Together they cover the whole of the Borough. They deal with a wide range of issues of importance to local people – including health, community safety, employment, housing, learning, community cohesion and the environment.

Area Planning has many purposes. It provides local people with opportunities to identify the needs of their area and to suggest what needs to happen to take their area forward over the next 5 years. Very importantly, the six plans are part of the Borough-wide approach to regeneration and renewal to which the Local Strategic Partnership and the Council as a leading member of that Partnership are absolutely committed. We recognise that we must help people who are experiencing the impacts of deprivation, wherever they live in the Borough. These plans are helping us to identify the places, large and small, where action is needed. The Local Strategic Partnership's "thematic strategies" covering issues such as the environment and community safety also help us to identify Borough-wide priorities. The two approaches - area based and issue based - go hand in hand.

Of course, these processes are never completed. This is just the start of Area Planning. Changes will be monitored, new needs identified, and the plans revised. By participating in the Area Planning process local people can play a vital part in shaping the future of their area and the Borough as a whole.

Councillor David Jones

Gail Richards
Chair, Oldham Local Strategic Partnership

AREA COMMITTEE CHAIR

Welcome to the Saddleworth and Lees Area Plan, which is an important part of Oldham's Renewal Strategy and shows what we need to achieve to make Oldham Borough a better place in which to live, work, study and for others to visit.

The Area Plan takes into consideration the strengths and weaknesses of the neighbourhood and what effective action is needed in each area in order to improve it.

Saddleworth and Lees cover 60% of the Borough and our community is made up of many individually distinctive areas, comprising Lees(Holts and Alt), Denshaw, Delph, Dobcross, Diggle, Uppermill, Greenfield, Grasscroft, Friezland, Lydgate, Grotton, Springhead, Austerlands and Scouthead.

The Council aims to provide 'best value' to all our residents, by working in partnership with local people and local organisations. In preparing this plan, we have worked closely with local community groups, local businesses, voluntary groups, Greater Manchester Police and the Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee, as well as talking to people out on the streets.

People have identified many things they like and are proud of, both within the Borough and in their areas. We want to make sure we build on these, as we set out to tackle the things that people are less happy with. I must stress that this is living document and, with your support, we can begin to see real improvements in the area in which we live.

Councillor Brian Lord JP, Chair of Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Purpose of Area Plans

The purpose of this Area Plan is to help Area Committees and service providers such as the Council, Primary Care Trust, Police and voluntary organisations to work better with local people and with each other to improve the quality of life of residents and people working in and visiting the Borough.

The Plans are helping us to develop a joint understanding about what is happening within neighbourhoods and to identify the particular needs or problems that need to be tackled. The Plans will be used to help service providers to target their resources better and to monitor whether this is making a difference at a local level.

Area Committees have responsibility for working with service providers to highlight issues that are of local concern. Local people are therefore being encouraged to talk to their Ward Councillors, Area Manager or attend Area Committee meetings to help make Area Planning work positively for local communities. (See the end of this Plan for a fuller list of suggestions for getting involved).

Area Plans will be reviewed and updated regularly, so comments and suggestions are always welcome.

COMMUNITY COHESION

These plans contain a lot of factual information about all of the six Area Committee areas, including their strengths and an explanation of some of the problems faced by local communities. It is important that these plans are used to promote greater understanding between communities and to help to dispel some of the myths, fears and resentments that arise from ignorance of each other.

The Area Covered By This Plan

The Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee is made up of the wards of Saddleworth East, Saddleworth West and Lees.

Saddleworth and Lees covers the largest area of the six Area Committees. Much of the area comprises of **open countryside** which is allocated as green belt and an area of high landscape quality. Although the area is home to some of the Borough's greatest tourist

attractions, it lacks **recreational open space** and can be inaccessible to the general public, as a result of much of the land being in private ownership.

Pressures are placed on the **environment** from increasing levels of tourism, particularly traffic and parking. However, Uppermill has a stable **economy**, with a number of shops, such as cafés and gift shops catering for visitors. The tourist industry, therefore, plays a significant role in ensuring the sustainability of the shops in this area.

There are a number of **businesses** within the area that provide a wide range of **employment** opportunities for local people. However, there are few large employers in the area and existing companies are finding it difficult to recruit local people. In addition, the area is difficult to access which detracts businesses from investing in the area.

Saddleworth and Lees is home to many old mills which are no longer suitable for modern industrial use or conversion and there is a limited number of modern premises suitable for industrial and office businesses.

Overall, the area has lower than average rates of economic deprivation when compared to the Borough as a whole. However, Lees had the 8th highest claimant count unemployment rate in the Borough (July 2003) and the claimant count unemployment rate was higher in Lees than the Borough average. In addition, Lees had the 6th highest long-term unemployment rate in all 20 wards in the Borough and the youth unemployment rate in Lees was more than three times higher than in the Saddleworth wards.

Indicator	Baseline Position
% of population aged 16-74 years who are employed (GM Research/NOMIS, July 2003)	Area Average 64.7 Borough average 59
Long Term Unemployment Rate	Area Average 9.7% Borough Average 10.1%
Youth Unemployment Rate (16-19 year olds)	Area Average 6.5% Borough Average 8.2%

The Government target around **unemployment** is that, over the three years to Spring 2006, the employment rates of disadvantaged areas and groups should be increased. These groups include lone parents, ethnic minorities, people aged 50 and over, those with the lowest qualifications and those with disabilities.

In order to address accident hotspots in the area, a number of measures are being carried out in Greenfield, Lees, Grotton, Delph, Alt and Springhead as part of the **Local Safety Scheme Programme** which aims to achieve maximum casualty reduction.

The Government's Road Safety Strategy contains national casualty reduction targets to be achieved by 2010, in all cases compared to the average for 1994-98. These targets are:

- A 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic accidents
- A 50% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured; and
- A 10% reduction in the slight casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres.

Local people expressed concern about **public transport** and felt that it was one of the major issues which hindered their ability to access jobs, shopping and recreational facilities and generally leaving them feeling isolated.

Health experience in Saddleworth is better than the national average and better than Lees, which has a higher rate of early death than the Borough average. This is mirrored in life expectancy, with Saddleworth residents having equal, or higher life expectancy, than the average for England and Wales and residents of Lees having lower life expectancy at birth, than the national average.

The Government target is to reduce the gap within the fifth of areas having the lowest life expectancy at birth and the population as a whole by 10%, by 2010. (Oldham is one of the areas in this category).

The most common reasons for deaths in this area relate to circulatory disease and to malignancies. Lifestyle choices are likely to be a significant factor.

Rates of teenage conceptions, low birth weights and deaths in the first year of life are also all low in Saddleworth and in particular, in Saddleworth East. Rates of teenage conceptions and low birth weights in Lees are higher than the Borough average.

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) (1997-2001)	Saddleworth East	3.5
	Saddleworth West	9.7
	Lees	7.2
	Total	6.7
Conception rate per 1,000 females (age 13-17)	Saddleworth East	21.0
	Saddleworth West	18.9
	Lees	44.6
	Total	28.0

The Government target is, by achieving agreed local conception reduction targets, to reduce the national under-18 conception rate by 15% by 2004 and 50% by 2010, while reducing the level of inequality in rates between the worst fifth of wards and the average by at least a quarter.

Crime rates are lower in the area when compared to the rest of the Borough, which can be assumed to be as a result of lower levels of crime in the wards of Saddleworth East and West rather than Lees, where it is recognised that there is greater criminal activity on the Alt and Holts estates.

The Government target is to reduce crime and the fear of crime by improving overall performance, including the gap between the highest Crime Reduction Partnership areas and the best comparable areas and reduce:

- Vehicle crime by 30% from 1998-99 to 2004
- Domestic burglary by 25% from 1998-99 to 2005
- Robbery in the ten Street Crime Initiative areas by 14% from 1999-2000 to 2005 and maintain that level.

Local people expressed concern about the lack of visible policing and the increasing levels of anti-social behaviour caused by youths. Consultation undertaken in Alt and Holts showed that there are more specific problems which affect these areas including domestic burglary, drug dealing and anti-social behaviour by tenants.

There is a commitment to ensure that the low levels of crime presently being seen within Saddleworth and Lees are sustained.

Under 16s make up a lower proportion of the population (13.5%), compared to the Borough average (23%). Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West have populations with the lowest proportions of under 16s of all 20 wards in the Borough, with Lees having the eighth highest proportion of under 16s. Youths causing annoyance was a major concern for local residents and this can be attributed to the fact that there are not enough recreational facilities for young people. The recently formed Children and Young People's Partnership will develop a strategy to tackle these issues.

Saddleworth School is the only secondary school in the Saddleworth and Lees area. The Government target for the achievement of **5 or more GCSE's (grades A*-C)** is 38%. Saddleworth School achieves a score significantly higher (65%) than both the Borough (42.9%) and National (51.5%) scores.

Percentage of pupils that achieved 5 or more GCSEs (grade A*-C) by school.

School	Year			
	1999	2000	2001	2002
Saddleworth School	59	62	58	65
Borough Average	39.9	42.4	41.5	42.9
England Average	47.9	49.2	50.0	51.5

The Government is committed to improving the condition of **homes** and to make them decent. It has set targets for all homes to be decent by 2010. Through First Choice Homes Oldham and the Housing Market Renewal Strategy, the Council is committed to meeting these targets. There are 1,470 homes in the social housing sector (First Choice Homes Oldham) not meeting the Decent Homes Standard in Saddleworth and Lees compared to 12,279 in the Borough.

Generally, there is good quality housing with the Saddleworth and Lees area, however, there is a need to improve social housing on the Alt and Holts estates. Demand for properties in the Saddleworth and Lees area is high and in many cases, properties are often out of the reach of young people entering the market as a result of increasing house prices.

Key Improvements that will be taking place:

Development of a Children's centre in Lees to support children aged 0-5 year olds and their families.

More local people involved in influencing decisions that affect their lives through, for example, Area Committees.

A number of schemes are being implemented as part of the Local Safety Scheme Programme.

A new police station is being built in the High Street at Uppermill.

CCTV cameras to be installed in Uppermill.

A proposal has been submitted to the National Lottery to refurbish and build changing rooms at the Castleshaw Centre.

A number of improvements are to be made to enhance play and recreational facilities in the Saddleworth and Lees area.

It is intended to upgrade Springhead Clinic within the first phase of schemes funded by the Local Improvement Finance Trust.

INTRODUCTION

WHY WE NEED AREA PLANS

This is the first time that Area Plans have been produced. There are six Plans, one for each of the six areas covered by the Area Committees. This Plan for Saddleworth and Lees covers the wards of Saddleworth East, Saddleworth West and Lees.

The purpose of the Plans is to provide a framework for each of the six areas to help us work with local people to decide **how services need to be delivered** and how best to achieve **the regeneration and renewal of the whole of the Borough**. These local plans will help us to identify needs wherever they occur in the Borough, to target our resources where we need to make the greatest impact and to identify what additional resources we need to secure from external sources.

These Area Plans, which look forward to the next 3-5 years, complement other documents such as Oldham's Community Strategy, Local Learning Plan, Health Improvement Programme Plan, Crime and Disorder Strategy and Oldham Agenda 21 Plan, which together guide the Borough's approach to regeneration and renewal.

Area Committees are at the heart of the Area Plans and the Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee has been closely involved in producing this Plan. The Plans include actions that will be delivered by a wide range of organisations and the Area Committee is working with partners such as the Police, Primary Care Trust, Council Departments, Connexions and voluntary sector organisations. The Area Committees will be responsible for monitoring the progress of the actions detailed in this Plan and for helping to identify how their areas can improve.

As this is the first Area Plan produced for Saddleworth and Lees, there are many references to the need to do more research and investigation into the best way of tackling some of the issues facing the area. The views of local people and their local knowledge of the area are invaluable and you may comment on the content of this Plan at any time by contacting the Area Manager for Saddleworth and Lees:

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This Area Plan has been produced by the Corporate Policy Division, Chief Executive's Department, Oldham Council on behalf of the Local Strategic Partnership.

BUILDING COMMUNITY COHESION

The disturbances in the Borough in 2001 and events in the months before and after, made it famous for all the wrong reasons. The Oldham Independent Review and other government reports into the events highlighted problems with community relations in the Borough and other northern towns. They identified a range of issues:

- the physical and social segregation of different communities, with people living in different areas, going to separate schools and places of worship, working for different employers and scarcely coming into contact with each other, let alone forming friendships;
- the growth of myths, fears and resentments which has resulted from people's ignorance of each other, fuelled by the activities and propaganda of extremist groups;
- the problems of deprivation and inequality – such as crime, unemployment, low incomes, poor health, a run down environment – which affect some sections of the community disproportionately and encourage resentments because others have opportunities which they do not.

Building community cohesion is concerned with tackling these problems and creating a Borough in which different communities live and work confidently with each other, recognise and respect each other's differences, but share a sense of belonging and common purpose.

A vision for young people in the Borough

“By working together, the young people of Oldham can create a bright future of mixed races, cultures, origins and religions. They can put their differences aside and create a better Oldham for the following generations to come. The people of Oldham can unite and

become one regardless of their differences. Oldham can become one of the UK's best areas."

Mohammed Zohid

Competition winner at Oldham Youth Together 2003

This is not just about issues of race. It is about creating communities in which all people are valued and respected – regardless of how old they are, whether they are disabled, women or men, or their income, faith, sexuality or race – and everyone feels safe and secure and enjoys a decent quality of life.

The Area Plans and the way in which they are being produced, are a central part of this. Each Plan identifies the problems and opportunities of a different part of the Borough and what needs to be done to meet the needs identified. As a set, the Area Plans reflect the diverse strengths and opportunities of the communities of the Borough, as well as the range of different needs.

Finding out about these strengths, opportunities and needs has included gathering lots of background information and, more importantly, asking many different people what they think. Voluntary, community and faith groups, in which many local people are active, have played a key role in this. Deciding priorities – both within Saddleworth and Lees and across the Borough as a whole – has involved people meeting and working together, building up an understanding of each others' different needs and building a collective vision of the future.

Building community cohesion also needs to be integral to how the Plan is delivered – for example, by trying to achieve the biggest improvements where the problems are greatest, tackling crime and anti-social behaviour and doing things in ways which bring people together rather than create divisions between them.

HOW AREA PLANS FIT INTO OTHER STRATEGIES

OLDHAM'S COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Our Community Strategy, published in December 2002, focuses on tackling inequality across the Borough as a whole. At the heart of the Community Strategy is the objective of promoting greater cohesion within our diverse community. It is a document produced by the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). It guides the work of all the organisations that are working across the whole Borough to achieve the social, economic and environmental well being of local people. These are the same organisations that are working together to deliver the Area Plans. In fact, the Area Plans could be considered to be "Area Community Strategies".

Oldham's Community Strategy includes a 20 year vision that is underpinned by a set of values and chapters that cover themes such as learning and community safety. Together, the six Area Plans will help service providers and decision-makers to work towards this single vision for the whole of the Borough. The Local Strategic Partnership is developing the vision even further by working with some internationally recognised consultants and a more ambitious vision for the Borough will be agreed by March 2004. The aim is to develop radical, transformational proposals which will inform the future development of the Community Strategy and set the objectives for the regeneration of the Borough over the next 20 years.

OUR VISION

"We will realise our vision of Oldham, a Borough of well educated people who enjoy good quality employment in a healthy environment; a Borough which is a safe home for its people and welcoming to visitors; a thriving attractive Borough in the Pennine Hills; a Borough whose people are secure in their identity, share common values and enjoy equality of treatment; a Borough of racial, cultural and religious diversity, whose people live together in peace, respect and friendship."

These are the values on which we will build a better future:

- *we believe that everyone has rights and responsibilities*
- *we believe in an inclusive and openly democratic Oldham*
- *we believe in a good safe living environment for everyone – present and future*
- *we believe in the worth of every person in Oldham*

- *we believe in a multi-faith, multi-cultural and multi-racial society*
- *we oppose all forms of unfair discrimination*

THE THEMES IN THE OLDHAM COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Strategy details actions that are required to progress a range of issues by grouping them together as themes:-

- Community Cohesion
- Community Safety
- Economy
- Environment and Transportation
- Health and Social Care
- Housing
- Learning
- Voluntary Sector
- Young People

The same themes are also used in this Plan, but we have added Arts, Culture and Leisure and also expanded the theme of Young People to include children. This reflects developments that have been taking place within the Local Strategic Partnership.

THEMATIC STRATEGIES

Each of the themes is driven by a sub partnership of the Local Strategic Partnership and each theme has its own detailed workplan or strategy, or is working towards a strategy. The Children and Young People's Partnership, for instance, has only just been formed and is still developing its workplan. As the sub partnerships are at different stages, the themes within this Area Plan contain different levels of detail. (A diagram showing the membership of the Local Strategic Partnership and details of the sub partnerships can be found in Appendix I.)

The information that we gather by developing, monitoring and reviewing the Area Plans with the involvement of local people will be fed into the future reviews of Oldham's Community Strategy. The process of Area Planning therefore plays a significant role in the Community Planning process.

THEMATIC BASED APPROACH TO REGENERATION AND RENEWAL

The Borough's approach to regeneration is driven by the Community Strategy and by the various thematic strategies such as for Crime and Disorder, Lifelong Learning and Community Cohesion. The Area Plans will now form part of that approach too.

There is a thematic thread running through all of these Strategies and Plans and the Local Strategic Partnership is committed to taking a thematic approach to regeneration. This means that we aim **to use our mainstream and external resources towards helping people who are in need wherever they live in the Borough.**

This is currently made more difficult because, as a general rule, external funding which helps us to provide and try out more innovative schemes, is allocated to specific geographic areas where there are concentrations of need, such as poor health, high levels of crime, unemployment and poor housing. This focus upon areas suffering deprivation and decline is essential, but we also want to ensure that we tackle pockets of need elsewhere. People who are unemployed may need support irrespective of where they live, anti-social behaviour is unacceptable wherever it occurs and we all need access to quality open space and community facilities.

Our thematic approach will ensure that we achieve the **Government's vision for neighbourhood renewal** that aims to:-

- Narrow the gap between the most deprived areas and the rest of England, so that within 10-20 years no-one is seriously disadvantaged by where they live; and
- Help England's poorest communities benefit from:
 - economic prosperity and reduction in joblessness
 - a safe and clean local environment that is free from crime
 - high quality schools
 - decent housing that is well managed
 - better access to health services generating longer, healthier lives.

The Government has set a number of floor targets that will measure progress on the above issues and these are detailed for the Area in the appropriate thematic chapters of this Plan.

NEW WAYS OF ALLOCATING RESOURCES: NEW WAYS OF WORKING

Our thematic approach presents us with a major challenge. It is relatively easy to identify large areas of need and deprivation. We now need to discover and share information about smaller pockets of need and deprivation and we need to be clear about how the wide range of public resources is spent within each of the areas. This information will enable the Local Strategic Partnership to identify new ways of working by pooling resources and efforts in such a way that the delivery of services is improved. Facts and figures about the Borough will be available on a new Local Strategic Partnership website that will be regularly updated.

We also recognise the importance of making the most of underused resources in the Borough, such as vacant land and buildings and, importantly, the talents and skills of local people.

Area Committee work programmes now also include, for the first time, the power to influence how certain Council services are provided in their area. The first services that are being influenced are street cleaning, youth services and community safety. This programme will be extended until Area Committees have influenced a total of 10 service areas provided by the Council. The Area Plans help to provide the Area Committees with some of the factual information they need to help them make their decisions. These service changes are included within this Plan.

Area Plans therefore herald new ways of working for public service providers and we expect the quality and focus of the actions contained in the Plans to improve year on year as we refine this thematic approach and gain more input from local people.

ROLE OF AREA COMMITTEES AND LOCAL PEOPLE IN AREA PLANNING

The Area Committee has been closely involved in preparing this Plan for Saddleworth and Lees. A number of local people, local organisations and Borough-wide organisations have contributed their ideas about the important issues that need to be addressed and about what needs to happen. However, the process does not stop with the production of the Plan.

This Plan will be used by Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee to monitor what is going on in their area. There will be a regular programme of reporting on the different themes in this Plan at the Area Committee meetings. This will enable the Area Committee to ask questions, make suggestions and to influence the providers of public services.

The Police and the Council are represented at all Area Committee meetings. It is likely that other public service providers will attend periodically to report on progress. This will be advertised in advance.

This programme of monitoring will provide you with an opportunity to visit the Area Committee and find out how your area is progressing. You can ask questions and express your views. These discussions are recorded and the Area Manager will use this information when this Plan is reviewed. In this way, we can ensure a continuing process of local involvement.

Not everyone can or wants to attend Area Committee meetings. If you want to make a contribution or ask a question there are lots of other ways of getting involved. The chapter later in this Plan entitled "Community Development" makes lots of suggestions for other ways of influencing this Plan.

Saddleworth Parish Council

The Parish Council has 20 elected Members of the Council, who are elected into office every four years. They represent the whole of Saddleworth covering the wards of Delph, Denshaw, Diggle, Dobcross, Greenfield, Grasscroft, Uppermill, Springhead Higher and Springhead Lower.

The Parish Council has established a number of committees to conduct Council business and their main functions, other than a focal point for the area, are the administration of the Civic Hall and Parish Cemetery.

The Parish Council, by virtue of the fact that they are members of the Area Committee, will play a key role in the development of this Area Plan.

AREA PROFILE FOR SADDLEWORTH AND LEES

History of Saddleworth and Lees

Saddleworth

The area now known as Saddleworth lies on the western slopes of the Pennines and today comprises thirteen villages in which the majority of Saddleworth people live.

There is evidence that life has been developing in this area since the Stone Age; however the first written evidence was in the Domesday Book. Here it was recorded that the first owner of the manor of Quick was Roger de Poictou. This manor passed through many owners until it was divided up and sold to its tenants in 1791. Saddleworth was known as Quick until 1853 when that name was officially discarded. During the medieval period this area was part of the parish of Whalley with an abbey at Friarmere and a church, St Chad's, built in 1215. Until 1881, Saddleworth also included parts of Mossley, which then became a separate district. In 1894 Saddleworth Rural District Council was formed, becoming an Urban District Council in 1900, linked to the West Riding of Yorkshire County Council. From 1900-1974, Saddleworth was administered by its own Urban District Council and with the formation of Oldham Metropolitan Borough in 1974; Saddleworth has been administered by Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council and for a period from 1974-1985, partly by Greater Manchester County Council.

The eight villages of Saddleworth did not exist 300 years ago; before the Industrial Revolution, Saddleworth consisted of a number of hamlets and farmsteads situated in the valleys and on the sides of the hills. These were connected to each other by cart tracks and bridle paths, with few main roads coming in from other parts of the country. At this time the domestic woollen trade was mainly in the hands of yeomen clothiers. These were farmers and their families who made woollen cloth to supplement their earnings from the land and who used pack horses to carry their cloth to market in Huddersfield.

One of the main factors which led to the growth of the villages, was the improvement in communications with the building of roads, canals and to a lesser extent the railway. This improvement elevated the local woollen industry to a position of national significance – by 1792 there were 2000 looms and 76 mills in the area. The River Tame and its tributaries supplied the clear running water needed in the cleaning processes and also the power to drive the first simple machines. Saddleworth cloth was well respected; the manufacturers were making comfortable profits and were happy to continue with old-fashioned methods of production. However, more mechanisation did come to the industry and by the early 1800's there were 3500 power looms and 200 handlooms in operation.

As well as producing woollen cloth, Saddleworth, because of its closeness to Oldham, also shared in the cotton industry. In 1839 there were 39 cotton mills to 57 woollen mills in the area. However, apart from in Springhead the cotton industry in Saddleworth had receded by the end of the 19th century. Although there was some diversification of industry, into engineering for example, industrial development in general slowed down in this area during the later part of the 1800's. Some reasons for this include lack of capital investment and lack of access to a ready supply of coal. Even the coming of the railway did not lead to a wave of heavy industrialisation – what the railway did do was to open up Saddleworth and begin the process of making it the residential district it primarily is today, with most people travelling into nearby towns and cities to work.

With the expansion of the population in the 19th century, (10,665 in 1801, 17,779 in 1851, 18,238 in 1891) the Saddleworth villages became not just centres of commerce and places in which to live, they also became the social centres of the district and the homes of institutions including the Freemasons, political parties, the Mechanic's Institute and the Co-operative Society. Several villages still bear reminders of the latter which was active until well after World War 2.

Lees

The name Lees is Anglican in origin and probably derives from the name of John de Leghes who was retainer to Sir John de Assheton, Lord of the manor of Assheton (which included the area known as Lees) in the early 18th century. Until nearly the end of the 19th century, Lees was in the parish of Ashton, not Oldham. In 1876, slightly later than the other townships of Oldham, Lees elected a local board with the power to levy rates. These local boards became Urban District Councils (UDC) in 1894 and shared provision of resources with Lancashire County Council, which had been formed in 1888. Lees, along with the other UDC's, became part of Oldham Metropolitan Borough in the county of Greater Manchester in 1974.

The word Lees means “a pasture of unploughed land” and this describes the area until the Industrial Revolution, before which the inhabitants lived primarily by farming the land. In the 1770's with mechanisation and the expanding market for cloth, new weaver's cottages and loom shops sprang up in outlying areas of Oldham including Lees. Initially a lot of these were yeomen clothiers who produced cloth to supplement their earning from farming. However there were some specialist weavers employed by manufacturers for a wage. The first cotton mills in Lees opened in the 1780's.

The cotton industry continued to expand in Oldham helped by improved communications – roads, canals and the railways – the development of the coal industry in Oldham and the introduction of steam power. Lees shared in this expansion and by 1811 there were nine cotton mills in Lees. With the end of the Napoleonic Wars in 1815 there was a dramatic expansion in the cotton industry and Oldham played a large part in this. By the end of the 19th century, cotton dominated the local economy of Oldham, though it had also

developed a broader manufacturing base, in particular in the field of textile engineering. By 1911 there were approximately 14 cotton mills in Lees and out of a working population of 1,800, about 1,200 were employed in the industry. However, Lees did not participate in the huge growth in Oldham's population in the latter half of the 19th century. Whilst some areas grew by as much as 75%, the population of Lees only rose from 2,919 in 1871 to 3,511 in 1891.

Cotton continued to dominate the local economy into the 20th century, although the post-war cotton boom was faltering by 1952 and collapsed in the next decade. Most of the cotton mills in Lees ceased production between 1930 and 1950.

The Holts estate was built during the late 1960's, providing just over 1,000 dwellings. Like the Fitton Hill estate, many of the tenants of Holts were third and fourth generation families of Irish and Catholic descent moving from the clearance areas in St. Mary's and Coldhurst. Amongst the facilities provided was a modern purpose built primary school.

During the 1980's and 1990's, Holts estate along with some other large council estates consisting of cheaply built post war housing was refurbished. This included replacement roofs, windows, heating systems etc and improvements to gardens, play areas and other public open spaces. Although much was done to improve the physical fabric of the estate, many of the problems of large council estates remain, especially those associated with social deprivation.

Alts estate, which is smaller than Holts, was built after it and was an extension of the pre war Abbeyhills estate. Alts' facilities included a primary school and a library (which has since closed).

DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA

The boundary of the Area Committee and each of the wards is illustrated at Appendix 2.

Saddleworth and Lees covers the largest area of the six Area Committees. The area covers a number of settlements including Lees (Holts and Alt), Austerlands, Lydgate, Scouthead, Springhead, Grasscroft, Greenfield, Uppermill, Diggle, Dobcross, Delph and Denshaw.

Much of the area comprises of open countryside which is allocated as green belt and an area of high landscape quality.

A network of key roads run through the area including the A669, A62, A672, A635, A640 and the A6052. These routes link the main settlements within the area and often follow low lying routes along valley bottoms. The A640 and A672 provide road access to junctions 21 and 22 of the M62 motorway.

A heavy rail station is located at Greenfield.

District Centres are located at Uppermill and Lees.

The area has limited employment land, with a range of small employment sites at Lees, Greenfield, Dobcross, Delph and Diggle. These employment zones often focus on existing mill complexes.

Ward boundary changes

The Boundary Committee for England has recently undertaken a review of ward boundaries in the Borough. The final recommendations for ward boundary changes have now been agreed with the order paper going before Parliament on 22 January 2004 and the new ward boundaries being effective from the June 2004 elections. Some of the ward boundary changes have knock on effects on Area Committee boundaries. It is important to take into account the implications of the ward boundary changes when considering Area Plans. Assuming that Area Committee boundaries are to follow the new ward boundaries, the following summarises the changes affecting Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee boundary:

There are a number of major ward boundary changes within Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee with some changes affecting the Area Committee boundary. Within the Area Committee boundary, part of the existing Saddleworth West ward will move into Lees, the ward being renamed Saddleworth West and Lees. The boundary between the remainder of the current Saddleworth West and Saddleworth East will shift and the wards will become Saddleworth North and Saddleworth South. A small part of St Mary's, containing no properties, will move into the new Saddleworth West and Lees ward and therefore from East Oldham to Saddleworth and Lees.

The main change affecting the Area Committee boundary is that Alt and Holts will move out of the existing Lees ward and into Alexandra and therefore from Saddleworth and Lees to West Oldham.

THE PEOPLE OF SADDLEWORTH AND LEES

General information about the people of Saddleworth and Lees can be found at Appendix 3, Table 1. There are concentrated pockets of deprivation within the estates of Holts and Alt in the ward of Lees, but generally the population within the wards of Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West suffer from lower levels of deprivation when compared to the rest of the Borough.

Saddleworth and Lees has a relatively high proportion of white residents, compared to the Borough as a whole and, whilst having the lowest proportion of its population aged under 16, has a higher than average number of over 60 year olds.

KEY DRIVERS FOR THE AREA

There are a number of issues and developments that are driving change within Saddleworth and Lees.

A **very strong housing market** in Saddleworth, with valuations for properties for sale out of the reach of many of the local people who are trying to enter the market. There is a need to identify land for social/affordable housing in the area and to maximise the opportunity for the mixed use of those mills no longer suitable for manufacturing, encompassing leisure and housing.

Strong attraction for visitors to the area with the recent canal restoration work adding to this. The management of this influx of visitors to the area is crucial, together with exploiting the benefits and addressing the concerns of the local community. Adequate provision needs to be made in the area for car parking, toilet facilities and street cleaning in order to accommodate visitors.

Maximising the opportunities that the **very good access to high quality open countryside** of the Pennines has to offer. It must, however, be recognised that the area lacks recreational open space and can be inaccessible to the general public as a result of much of the land being in private ownership.

To ensure the **public transport / provision accessibility** to Saddleworth is improved for the benefit of the community.

Recognising the **importance and potential of regeneration opportunities** that the rail link to Manchester and West Yorkshire provides. However, it is recognised that the station at Diggle needs to be brought back into use, car parking facilities need to be provided at Greenfield station and a Sunday service is required to provide an enhanced transport link for residents of the surrounding area and to maximise the potential for visitors.

Regeneration of the pockets of deprivation that are in need of intervention where people's quality of life is reduced.

Maximising the **opportunity to develop Primary Employment Zones** offering good opportunities to Hi-tech and knowledge-based jobs and ensuring targeted marketing to attract inward investment to the area.

To maximise the **opportunity for the development of recreational and sporting facilities** for the benefit of the wider community. In particular, the provision of facilities for young people is a priority.

As the area develops, consideration must be given to **support the infrastructure** such as adequate housing, sewers, schools, maintenance of roads and the sustainability of local

shops; whilst ensuring that the fabric of the area is not at risk of deterioration from over-development of sites.

To recognise the importance of **building a cohesive community** and ensuring that we build on existing models of good practice, such as the School Linking Project. To develop other such initiatives which unite the community and build strong relationships.

To consider the opportunities offered by the proposals for **Housing Market Renewal** and to reduce the number of new build housing, promoting the refurbishment of existing housing to make it a more attractive place to live.

KEY ISSUES

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities
<i>Quality Countryside</i>	The Saddleworth and Lees area offers excellent access to high quality countryside, as encapsulated by National Park designation and South Pennine area		
<i>Housing</i>	Many quality areas of housing in Saddleworth and Lees combine to make this area an attractive and desirable area in which to locate	There is a lack of affordable housing for people entering the property market. There also remains a lack of quality housing choice in areas of Lees, especially when compared to Saddleworth	
<i>Conservation / Heritage</i>	A very high quality (built) environment as also installed and influenced significantly by numerous Conservation Area and Listed Building designations in Saddleworth and Lees		The restoration and reopening of the Huddersfield Canal presents a number of opportunities associated with waterside regeneration, recreation and tourism and will further enhance the local economy through the passing of visitors to the area. Options for maintenance of the Canal must be considered to ensure that it provides a lasting opportunity for the area
<i>Shopping</i>	The vibrant centre of Uppermill offers good access to a wide range of local shopping facilities		A key challenge is to sustain viable villages including employment and village shops
<i>Schools</i>	The local schools are known to provide good quality education and, as such are an attraction to people living or moving to the area		

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities
<i>Facilities for Young People</i>		The area has inadequate facilities for young people such as recreation and sporting facilities	
<i>Community Facilities</i>		The area suffers from a dearth in community facilities, including community centres, shops and public facilities such as toilets and car parking. In addition, facilities are often a considerable distance from where people reside	
<i>Transport</i>		Lees centre can be associated with traffic problems and many parking conflicts / difficulties in its residential areas. A number of high speed, more 'rural' roads in this area introduces the threat of increased accidents. The poor and declining public transport also leads to residents becoming isolated and could eventually threaten the tourism industry	
<i>Isolation</i>		Poor public transport accessibility to Saddleworth and the isolated nature of the Alt/Holts estates ("out on a limb"). Isolation and access is therefore a problem in both the rural and urban context. There is a need to ensure that public transport is operated in a way as to 'link' the individual villages and their activities together	

	Strengths	Weaknesses	Opportunities
<i>Saturation of Uses</i>		There exists an over provision of food and drink / take away uses in Lees, giving rise to a number of amenity and neighbour conflict issues	
<i>Employment</i>		Lack of local employment opportunities in Saddleworth needs to be addressed and the issue of attracting Hi-tech and knowledge-based jobs remains a priority	Maximising the opportunity to develop Primary Employment Zones offering good opportunities to Hi-tech and knowledge-based jobs
<i>Wealth of Area</i>		The wealth of the Saddleworth area and the perceived affluence restricts the opportunity to attract external funding	

CURRENT AREA REGENERATION INITIATIVES

A range of existing regeneration programmes will provide benefits for Saddleworth and Lees over the next few years, including:

- **European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)** - Lees is eligible for ERDF support.
- **Housing Market Renewal Fund (HMRF)** – The Holts and Alt Estates are eligible for Housing Market Renewal Fund support.
- **On Track** – This initiative is part of the Children’s Fund and is available at Alt, Holts and Roundthorn.

BOROUGH-WIDE INITIATIVES

- **Library and Lifelong Learning Centre** - £20 million is available to develop a library and Lifelong Learning Centre to serve the whole Borough.
- **Secondary Schools Private Finance Initiative (PFI)** - £60 million is available for investment in secondary schools across the Borough.
- **Children’s Fund** – This initiative is targeted at 5 – 13 year olds and operates Borough-wide.
- **Welfare to Work Plus** – This project is funded under SRB4 and is available Borough-wide. The project runs through to 2003 / 2004.
- **Excellence in Cities** - £4 million is available for investment in secondary schools across the Borough.
- **14 – 19 Pathfinder** - £500k is available for the period to 2006.
- **Sheltered Housing Private Finance Initiative (PFI)** - £8 million is available Borough-wide for the period to 2009.
- **Playing for Success** - £100,000 to 2006 Borough-wide for Key Stages 2 and 3.
- **Children’s Centres** - £4 million is available over two years to support initiatives for 0-5 year olds and their families. Funding is targeted at the eleven disadvantaged wards in the Borough and will primarily be available to support Children’s Centres in St. James’, Lees, Waterhead, Chadderton South and Failsworth West. Further work will build upon the work currently underway within the New Deal for Communities

(NDC) area and Sure Start local programmes.

- **New Opportunities Fund (NOF) 3** - £3.2 million over two years to support the Castleshaw Centre, Radclyffe and Hathershaw Schools
- **Healthy Living Centres** – This initiative covers the whole Borough and runs through to 2008.
- **Neighbourhood Renewal Fund (NRF)** – Half of the overall NRF budget is allocated for Borough-wide projects.
- **Provision of Primary Care Health Facilities** – A Borough-wide budget of £56 million is available for investment in healthcare facilities between 2004 and 2009.
- **First Choice Homes Housing and Environmental Improvement Programme** - £72 million is available for investment on Local Authority Housing Estates Borough-wide, managed through First Choice Homes Oldham. Estates and areas for improvement to be implemented over the next four years have been identified.
- **New Opportunities Fund (NOF)** – £1.147 million of National Lottery funding is available through the “Fair Share”, “Transforming Your Space” programme. Priority is given to locally based, community led environmental projects including several in Saddleworth and Lees.
- **New Opportunities Fund (NOF)** - £818,000 of National Lottery Funding is available through the ‘Annuities Fund’ as an endowment over 10 years for capacity building initiatives in the St. James’ ward and the area of Alt in Lees.

A map showing the areas covered by external funding and other initiatives can be found at Appendix 4.

THEMATIC CHAPTERS

The following thematic chapters contain comments from members of the public. Some of the opinions will differ, at times will be contradictory and will often depend upon an individual’s personal perception, past experience or the neighbourhood within which they live. The LSP does not necessarily endorse these comments, but has published them to indicate the expressed views of local people.

COMMUNITY COHESION IN SADDLEWORTH AND LEES

Building community cohesion is a central theme within Oldham's Community Strategy. The vision for the Borough includes that it should be a place where:

“people are secure in their identity, share common values and enjoy equality of treatment; a borough of racial, cultural and religious diversity whose people live together in peace and respect.”

To achieve this we will:

- actively remove barriers that separate communities and support the development of an integrated society, in which people from different social and cultural backgrounds choose to live, work, study and enjoy life together.
- ensure that an integrated borough, which cannot be imposed or engineered, is seen as the best choice for the Borough by all its people.
- oppose those who, for political, religious or other reasons seek to undermine an integrated society; who undermine the safety or well-being of others; who seek to divide neighbourhoods, scapegoat other communities or who discriminate unfairly against other people.
- enable people to participate in community life and support them in improving the quality of life in their neighbourhoods - for example by reducing crime and improving the local environment;
- tackle the inequalities that exist and create a society which is fairer for all; we will support those who work for equality of opportunity, freedom of choice and shared responsibility for improving the quality of our common life;
- be positive about all the neighbourhoods of the Borough, promoting the rich diversity its communities as an asset.

CHALLENGES TO COMMUNITY COHESION

Challenges to community cohesion in Saddleworth & Lees are:

- **Ethnic segregation** – Only 3% of people in Saddleworth and Lees are from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups as compared with 14% in the Borough as a whole. However, this proportion has increased from around 1% in 1991 and is likely to continue to rise in the future. A consequence of this residential segregation is that there are few children from Black and Minority Ethnic groups in local schools, which

limits opportunities for pupils to get to know children from different ethnic and cultural backgrounds unless special arrangements are made, such as through the Borough's primary school linking project;

- **Deprivation** – Parts of Lees ward in particular experience high levels of deprivation. On the Government's Indices of Deprivation, the ward ranks among the most deprived 10% in England. Although Saddleworth East and West wards do not rank as highly deprived, it is important to remember that they do still have significant numbers of people who have low incomes or are deprived in other ways. A key issue relating to this is accessibility, since people without cars and with poor access to public transport can have difficulty accessing services and facilities – post offices, health care, shops, job centres and so on - which tend to be located closer to people's homes in urban areas;
- **Problems of crime and disorder** – Crime and fear of crime have a major impact upon people's quality of life. Although rates of crime in Saddleworth & Lees as a whole are below the Borough average, there are some hotspots for specific problems such as burglary and drug dealing.
- **Tensions between younger and older people** – Every part of the Borough experiences tensions between younger and older people. While there are a number of neighbourhoods where there have been problems of criminal and anti-social behaviour associated with young people, in others the presence of groups of young people is perceived as threatening or a nuisance by older people, even though they may not actually be doing anything wrong. This links to the wider issues of the lack of facilities for young people.
- **House prices** – While the popularity of the Saddleworth villages as a place to live is a positive feature of the area, the consequence of this is high house prices which mean that some young people who have grown up in the area cannot afford to buy or rent there as they become independent. This creates resentments within the community and forces some young people to move away from the area.
- **Local identity** – Saddleworth has a strong local identity which some people feel is not given sufficient profile within the Borough. This links to resentments over the allocation of resources, with some residents feeling that the area does not receive a fair allocation of resources in comparison with other parts of the Borough.

What Local People Say:

The Community Cohesion Partnership are producing a set of measures of community cohesion for each part of the Borough. This will draw heavily upon results from the Council's Citizens Panel, but the results of this will not be available until December 2004. However, some information is available from a recent MORI survey of all households in

Oldham and Rochdale, to which a total of 16,393 residents of the Borough of Oldham responded of which 3,103 lived in Saddleworth & Lees. This found that, among those who responded:

- Residents of Saddleworth and Lees were, on average, much more satisfied than all people in the Borough with their neighbourhood as a place to live. 46% thought their area was one of the best and a further 29% thought it was above average compared to other parts of Oldham and Rochdale. In the Borough as a whole the comparable figures were 19% and 26%. Similarly, 40% of residents of Saddleworth and Lees described themselves as very satisfied with their neighbourhood as a place to live (as compared with 21% of all people in the Borough);
- People in Saddleworth and Lees also generally felt safer than residents of the Borough as a whole, with 70% saying they were very or fairly satisfied with their neighbourhood, as compared with 56% of all people in the Borough.
- While residents of the area generally felt positive about its future, a significant minority (29%) felt that the area was likely to get worse over the next five years.
- Only around one-third (32%) of people in Saddleworth and Lees agreed that their neighbourhood is a place where people from different backgrounds and communities can live together. Almost as many (29%) disagreed with this. These figures are very similar to those for the Borough as a whole.

What Will Take The Area Forward:

Building community cohesion needs to be integral to every aspect of how the Area Plan is delivered rather than being something which is done in addition. For example:

- Schools can provide opportunities for pupils to mix and form friendships with children from other ethnic and cultural backgrounds (such as through the primary schools linking project).
- Enabling people to have their say in the decisions that affect their area, for example, through forums such as the Parish Council and Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee and more detailed consultation on plans which directly affect their neighbourhood;
- Supporting and strengthening community groups to enable people to be active in their communities and support each other, for example, by providing training, grants or other resources.

- Improving facilities for young people and making these available at a range of times including evenings and weekends. Young people need to be actively involved in developing proposals;
- Continuing to look at options for providing affordable housing as part of wider housing developments and providing a mix of different types of housing (e.g. for sale or to rent and properties of different sizes) which will help to create more communities which are more ethnically and socially mixed;
- Responding effectively to neighbourhood problems which create divisions or resentments in the community, for example, anti-social behaviour and racial harassment and problems with the maintenance of the physical environment which gives areas a poor reputation and makes them feel less safe;
- Development of a programme of arts and cultural activities – festivals, exhibitions, music, arts, social events and so on - which celebrate all the communities across the Borough and provide opportunities for people to find out about different cultural traditions, meet people who are different to them, have fun and build local pride.

LEARNING

Learning is a Priority for Action theme in Oldham's Community Strategy. The Strategy states:

“The Oldham Local Learning Partnership will ensure that everyone, no matter what their age, has access to the highest possible standard of education and training. We aim to provide coherent, comprehensive and relevant learning opportunities to promote lifelong learning, enhance the quality of life and also contribute to the social, economic and cultural growth of Oldham to ensure community cohesion.”

To help achieve this vision the overall aim of the Community Strategy with regard to learning is to increase the skills base to ensure the sustainability of a higher skills and wage economy.

What Local People Say:

On the whole, local people considered the standard of both primary and secondary education to be high and felt that schools offered a wide variety of activities for children and young people, including after-school clubs.

Most people in Saddleworth wished for their children to attend Saddleworth School as they considered it to provide excellent secondary education. It was apparent, from people's views, that there were concerns that families who live in some parts of Springhead and Lees were having difficulty in obtaining secondary school places for their children.

What is Good About the Area:

While it is important to provide learning opportunities that are conveniently accessible within the area, it is also important to note the Borough-wide opportunities available to the residents of Saddleworth and Lees. These include:

- Oldham Sixth Form College
- The Oldham College
- The Oldham Business Management School

- Oldham Library

The Castleshaw Centre, based in the Castleshaw Valley of Delph, offers a wide range of services to all schools across the Borough. In term time, courses are linked to the curriculum including Geography, Science, History and Maths. In addition to the Centre's residential facilities, a field is also available for camping and outdoor and adventure activities linked to the P.E. curriculum. A proposal has been submitted to the National Lottery, New Opportunities Fund, to build changing rooms and refurbish the Centre.

The Centre provides a unique opportunity for children from deprived urban areas to experience the benefits the countryside has to offer.

Link Learning Centres: There are twenty-two state of the art Learning Centres located throughout the Borough, which provide free access to the Internet and IT equipment, as well as supported learning activities to members of the public. Basic IT training and access to ICT and the internet can also be obtained at a number of libraries in the area including Delph, Uppermill, Greenfield and Lees.

Statistics:

Government target – between 2002 and 2006 the proportion of those aged 16 who get qualifications equivalent to 5 GCSE's at grades A* to C to rise by 2 percentage points each year on average and in all schools at least 20% of pupils achieve this standard by 2004 rising to 25% by 2006.

Government target – Increase the percentage of pupils obtaining 5 or more GCSE's at A*-C, with at least 38% to achieve this standard in every local authority by 2004.

Borough target - The Borough-wide baselines and targets are as follows.

Indicator	Borough-wide Baseline	Target Position
Percentage of LEA maintained school pupils achieving Level 4 or above in English at Key Stage 2.	71.6%	Target of 84% for pupils passing English by 2004
Percentage of LEA maintained school pupils achieving Level 4 or above in Maths at Key Stage 2.	72.3%	Target of 84% for pupils passing Maths by 2004
Percentage of 15 year old LEA maintained school pupils achieving five or more GCSEs at grades A*	42.9%	Target to continue to achieve 50% by

to C or equivalent.		2004
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GCSE Attainment

GCSE results across the Borough have improved consistently during the last 4 years over and above the national rate. Results recorded of pupils gaining 5 or more GCSEs (grades A*-C) at schools within the Borough improved by 1% from 41.5% in 2001 to 42.9% in 2002 - the national average is 51.5%. The aim is to bring the Borough's performance to 50% by 2004.

Performance in Saddleworth and Lees

5A*-C GCSE Achievement by School

Saddleworth School is the only secondary school in the Saddleworth and Lees area. The information presented in the table below shows that 65% of pupils from Saddleworth School gain 5 or more GCSEs (grade A*-C). This is well above both the Borough and National averages. As with other schools in the Borough, Saddleworth School has shown continued improvement in this measurement.

Table i: Percentage of pupils that achieved 5 or more GCSEs (grade A*-C) by school.

	Year			
School	1999	2000	2001	2002
Saddleworth School	59	62	58	65
Borough Average	39.9	42.4	41.5	42.9
England Average	47.9	49.2	50.0	51.5

5A*-C GCSE Achievement by Pupils' residence –2002

The following calculations are based on where the pupils reside rather than the results of an individual school. This enables us to examine the GCSE attainments by ward and Area Committee. This measurement excludes pupils who do not reside in Oldham but attend Oldham schools, or reside in Oldham and attend private schools. Also, it includes pupils resident in Oldham but who are educated in schools outside of Oldham Borough. The effect of this reduces the overall achievement level but is an important measure as it provides an indication of the future skill base of Oldham residents.

Table ii: Pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs (grade A*-C) by Ward & Area Committee

Ward	Number of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs	Number of Pupils resident in each ward	% of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs	Ward Ranking
Lees	33	90	36.7	13 th
Saddleworth East	97	120	80.8	1 st
Saddleworth West	72	125	57.6	3 rd
Area Committee	Number of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs	Area Committee Population	% of pupils achieving 5 A*-C GCSEs	Area Committee Ranking
Saddleworth & Lees	202	335	60.3	1 st

Borough Total (excluding pupils not resident in Borough)	1107	2843	38.9
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Nb: An ascending rank has been used, that is the ward ranked 1st performs best on this measure, i.e. has the greatest proportion of pupils achieving 5 or more GCSEs (grade A*-C).

Saddleworth and Lees is ranked as the area with the greatest proportion of pupils gaining 5 or more GCSEs (grades A*-C), with an overall score of 60.3%. Saddleworth East is the best performing ward, with 80.8%, which is significantly greater than the Borough average of 38.9% and is well above the 50% target figure. However, Lees is ranked 13th out of the 20 wards, with only 36.7% passing more than 5 GCSEs (A*-C) which is below both the Borough average and the 50% target figure.

Progression Routes – Destination of pupils post 16 (2002)

In order to raise the economic well being of the Borough, it is imperative that the future workforce is highly skilled. There are primarily four routes that a young person can progress to post-GCSE education:

- Further education (A-Levels, NVQs);
- Work based training (Modern & Advanced apprenticeships),
- Employment without training;

- Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET).

Progression into either further education or work-based training will increase the skills base of the individual. An individual not in education, employment or training is more likely to be socially excluded and subsequently suffer from greater levels of poverty. Nationally, around 10% of 16-18 year olds are described as being not in education, employment or training. Oldham Borough is in line with the rest of the country on this measure.

Saddleworth and Lees has the second lowest proportion of young people who are not in education, employment or training, with a score of 5.4%. This is nearly half the Borough and National figure. All three wards in the area have lower than the Borough average of young people not engaged in education, employment or training activities. In Lees, it would appear that the lower staying on rate is matched by the increased proportion of young people engaged in work based training, whereas in Saddleworth East it is the reverse.

Table iii: Progression Routes of young people (Year 11) by Ward & Area Committee

Ward	Staying on rate %	In Work-based Training %	TOTAL NEET %	NEET Ward Ranking
Lees	66.7	19.4	8.6	13 th
Saddleworth East	89.0	6.2	4.8	4 th
Saddleworth West	78.2	15.0	3.8	3 rd
Area Committee	Staying on rate %	In Work-based Training %	TOTAL NEET %	NEET Area Committee Ranking
Saddleworth & Lees	79.5	12.7	5.4	2 nd

Borough Average	69.0	16.9	9.4
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Nb: An ascending rank has been used, that is the ward ranked 1st performs best on this measure, i.e. has the least number of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training.

Progression into Higher Education –2002

Central Government has set a National Target that 50% of all 18-30 year olds will have been engaged in Higher Education learning activity by 2010. The proportion of 18 year olds

that enter Higher Education (HE) can be used, in part, to measure how successful the Borough might be in reaching this target.

54.3% of 18 year olds from the Saddleworth and Lees area go onto full time Higher Education. This is well above the Borough average (30.7%) and is above the 50% National target figure, despite the low number of HE entrants from Lees (ranked 15th). Saddleworth East performs exceptionally well with 90.7% of 18 year olds entering Higher Education. However, 12.1% of these do not complete their course. The reasons for this are unknown at this moment but may be due to a number of issues such as financial management by students, suitability of course, or lifestyle. The Local Learning Partnership is hoping to undertake a study to determine the underlying causes and will introduce policies to reduce the drop out rate.

Table iv: Number of 18 year olds entering Higher Education by Ward & Area Committee

Ward	No. of 18 year olds per ward	No. of 18 year olds entering HE	% entering HE per ward	Rank of 18 yr olds entering HE (per ward/20)	% Drop out rate	Rank of HE entrants that drop out (per Ward)	% 18 yr olds entering HE and staying on	Rank of HE entrants that stay on (per ward/20)
Lees	118	31	26.3	15 th	12.9	12 th	22.9	15 th
Saddleworth East	118	107	90.7	1 st	12.1	13 th	79.7	1 st
Saddleworth West	132	62	47.0	3 rd	4.8	20 th	44.7	2 nd
Area Committee	Area Committee Population of 18 year olds	No. of 18 year olds entering HE	% entering HE per Area Committee	Area Committee Rank (out of 6)	% Drop out rate	Rank of HE entrants that drop out	% 18 yr olds entering HE and staying on	Area Committee Rank of HE entrants that stay on (out of 6)
Saddleworth & Lees	368	200	54.3	1 st	10.0	6 th	48.9	1 st
Borough Total	3019	928	30.7		12.6		28.6	

Nb: An ascending rank has been used, that is the ward ranked 1st performs best on this measure i.e. has the greatest number of 18 year olds entering Higher Education.

Adult Basic Skills

Everyone needs better basic skills, more now than they did in the past, which is why the Government has made improving basic skills a high priority. The Government has set a target that 750,000 adults should improve their basic skills by 2004. The Basic Skills Agency define basic skills as *“the ability to read, write and speak English and to use mathematics at a level necessary to function and progress at work and in society in general”*. Table v below shows the percentage of residents (aged 16-60) estimated to have basic skills needs (Basic Skills Agency, 1997).

Table v: Percentage Of Residents With Literacy And Numeracy Needs

Ward	% of 16-60 year olds with poor numeracy	Poor Numeracy Ward Ranking	% of 16-60 year olds with poor literacy	Poor Literacy Ward Ranking
Lees	32.8	7th	30.2	7th
Saddleworth East	15.6	19th	17.4	19th
Saddleworth West	18.2	20th	19.5	20th
Saddleworth & Lees Area	21.4	6th	21.7	6th

Borough Average	28.9		27.7
National	24.0		24.0

Nb: An descending rank has been used, that is the ward ranked 1st performs worst on this measure i.e. has the greatest number of adults with poor numeracy or literacy.

Saddleworth and Lees has the lowest level of residents who have a basic numeracy and literacy skills need (21.4% and 21.7% respectively). Saddleworth West (ranked 20th) and Saddleworth East (ranked 19th) are the wards with the least need, as both score much lower than the Borough and National average. However, Lees has a greater proportion of residents with basic skills needs with scores above the Borough average.

What is Happening Now:

Education Development Projects

- **Link Learning Centres:** There are twenty-two state of the art Learning Centres located throughout the Borough, which provide free access to the Internet and IT equipment, as well as supported learning activities to members of the public. Whilst there are no Link Centres in Saddleworth and Lees at this time, there is an aspiration to expand this service which will look at the facilities available within this area. At the moment the provision of IT training and access to ICT and the internet can be obtained at a number of libraries in the area including Delph, Uppermill, Greenfield and Lees.

New developments through the increased flexibility project means that Saddleworth School has attained specialist school status for language which means that pupils from other schools will have the opportunity to attend language classes at the school.

- An investment of around £60 million will be made in secondary schools across the Borough through the **Private Finance Initiative**.
- Over 100 **Learning Mentors** introduced since September 2002, are working across the Borough.
- Development of e-learning infrastructure and materials.
- **Connecting Connexions** – development of ICT infrastructure to enable Connexions Personal Advisors to visit pupils where they live.
- £325,000 for Community and Voluntary groups to assist in the delivery of Adult Learning opportunities.
- There is a proposal to develop a **Children's Centre** in the Lees ward. £4 million is available Borough-wide over two years to support initiatives for 0-5 year olds and their families.
- Learning is a lifelong activity in the Borough and the Lifelong Learning Service offers a wide cross-section of courses. Some of the courses offered are purely for personal interest, whilst others have accreditation which can lead to further qualifications. Local people can take advantage of these courses which take place at various venues across the Borough, including Saddleworth School.
- A number of projects run through the Welfare to Work SRB scheme have an impact in Saddleworth and Lees, including a **Targeted Mentoring Project** which aims to re-engage disaffected and underachieving pupils back into learning. The **Transitions into Special Needs Training** project aims to reduce the flow of early leavers and non-achievers in special needs training by introducing Individual Development Plans along with a Code of Practice for Special Needs Training. The **Prince's Trust Volunteer Programme** is a 12-week programme of activities and follow-up support to help motivate, provide training and qualifications for young unemployed people.
- **Capital Behaviour Improvement Programme** - funds of £4.5 million are being used to support projects throughout the Borough.
- A **Life Long Learning Centre** is being developed in the Cultural Quarter (Phase II) of the Town Centre at a cost of around £21 million by 2006, which will benefit residents of Saddleworth and Lees.

What Will Take The Area Forward:

The first partner listed in the end column to be the lead partner

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
Aim: To develop and introduce the Junior University in Oldham.				
To develop and introduce the Junior University in Oldham. Students will benefit from a programme of enhanced academic, careers and personal support from 14-18. At entry to Higher Education, there will be a detailed case conference handover with receiving institutions.	<p>Improve the achievement rate of pupils at GCSE level. Enhanced academic, careers and personal support from 14-18</p> <p>Reduce the number of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET)</p> <p>Increase the number of students entering FE & HE</p> <p>Reduce the drop out rate at FE & HE</p>	£300,000 per annum	2003/4 – 2006/7	<p>Oldham Sixth Form College,</p> <p>Schools</p> <p>Connexions</p> <p>The Oldham College</p> <p>Excellence in Cities</p> <p>Private Sector</p> <p>Employers</p>
Aim: To further develop and enhance the Oldham Apprenticeship Programme.				
Expand the range of high quality apprenticeships in partnership with blue chip companies	<p>Increase the number of 16-22 year olds undertaking Apprenticeship schemes</p> <p>Increase the number of paid apprenticeships available to Oldham residents</p> <p>Reduce the number of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET)</p>	£150,000 per annum	2003/4 – 2006/7	<p>The Oldham College</p> <p>OTC</p> <p>Connexions</p> <p>Private Sector</p> <p>Employers</p>
Aim: To expand Oldham Business Management School to become University College Oldham				
In Partnership with the NW Development Agency, University of Huddersfield and key learning providers, the	Increase the range of HE courses available to the residents of the Borough.	£4,000,000 (of which £2,000,000 has been secured.)	2003/4 – 2006/7	Oldham Business Management School

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
creation of University College Oldham will enable a greater range of HE available to the local population.	<p>Increase the number of Students entering Higher Education</p> <p>Reduce the number of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET)</p>			<p>The Oldham College</p> <p>Oldham Sixth Form College</p> <p>OTC</p> <p>Connexions</p> <p>NWDA</p> <p>University of Huddersfield</p> <p>Private Sector Employers</p>

Aim: To provide support to residents to increase their skills levels to ensure greater employability through the 'Grow our own Professionals' scheme.

This scheme will work with public and private sector employers to provide a pool of staff who have suitable skills for the sector	<p>Increase the range of HE courses available to the residents of the Borough</p> <p>Increase the number of Students entering Higher Education</p> <p>Reduce the number of 16-18 year olds not in education, employment and training (NEET)</p>	£65,000	2003/4 – 2006/7	<p>Local Learning Partnership</p> <p>OEBGS</p> <p>Adult Guidance Network</p> <p>Oldham Council</p> <p>The Oldham College</p> <p>VOICE</p>
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Aim: To develop and deliver a comprehensive workplace learning programme focusing on literacy, numeracy and ICT skills

To engage with local employers to develop and deliver a comprehensive workplace learning programme focussing on	Reduce the number of adults with low levels of literacy, numeracy and ICT skills.	£100,000	2003/4 – 2006/7	<p>Lifelong Learning Service</p> <p>The Oldham College</p>
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Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
literacy, numeracy and ICT skills.	Increase the skill levels and employability of the workforce.			Adult Guidance Network Business Link North Manchester
Aim: To undertake annual consultation to inform the Strategic and Curriculum planning process				
To undertake annual consultation within the Saddleworth and Lees area to inform the Strategic and Curriculum planning process.	Strategic and Curriculum plans responsive to identified need.	LSC funds.	2003/4	Local Learning Partnership Lifelong learning service OEBGS Oldham Sixth Form College The Oldham College VOICE
Aim: To deliver a range of learning opportunities to adults to meet identified need.				
To deliver a range of learning opportunities to adults to meet identified need. To implement the Lifelong Learning Service's Widening Participation Strategy by delivering specific projects.	Specific targets met for Learner recruitment; retention; achievement and progression. Individual and community empowerment. New learners engaged leading to personal development and community capacity building.	From LSC and other external funds.	2003/4	Lifelong Learning Service Youth Service Libraries, Information & Archives Galleries, Museums & Arts Sports Development Brook Social

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
				Services Primary Care Trust Surestart; Early Years Voluntary Sector Others as appropriate
Aim: To implement the Basic Skills strategy.				
To implement the Basic Skills strategy.	Specific targets met for the recruitment, retention and achievement of Basic Skills learners. Individual and community capacity building.	LSC Funds and other external funds.	2003/4	Local Learning Partnership Lifelong Learning Service The Oldham College Voluntary Sector
Aim: To develop and implement a Family Learning Strategy				
To develop and implement a Family Learning Strategy.	Family Learning Strategy in place. Specific targets met for recruitment, retention and achievement of learners. Individual and community capacity building.	LSC Funds and other external funds.	2003/4	Lifelong Learning Service Schools Surestart Early Years Libraries, Information and Archives Voluntary Sector Others as appropriate.

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Children and Young People are a Priority for Action theme in Oldham's Community Strategy. The Strategy states:

"A Borough where young people can access a broad range of social, educational and leisure opportunities which support and encourage them to make positive choices about their lives and achieve their potential as individuals and citizens."

Children and Young People have been recognised as a major priority in the Borough and a new Partnership has been established to help better co-ordinate and develop services for children, young people and their families.

What Local People Say:

There is a perception that young people are responsible for the majority of anti-social behaviour that takes place in and around Saddleworth and Lees. When young people were asked what their views were, they tended to say that they were generally blamed for anything negative happening and that people had a poor opinion of them, irrespective of whether they had done anything wrong or not.

Residents of Alt and Holts have also expressed concern with regard to increasing levels of anti-social behaviour caused by youths.

Under-age drinking is a real concern, especially for residents of Uppermill, where groups of young people tend to congregate and cause annoyance at weekends and holidays.

Some residents have expressed feelings of intimidation and fear of young people, saying that they do not have any respect for the older generation or people's property.

It is widely recognised that there are not enough activities and facilities for young people and that more work should be done to provide extra resources to stop them congregating on the streets. The young people, who were consulted as part of the area planning process, requested additional opening hours of the Satellite Centre to include Friday and possibly Saturday nights, more youth clubs in other areas, pods, kick-pitches and teen shelters. In addition, young people expressed the need to be consulted by service providers to ensure that facilities that are proposed are in keeping with their requirements.

What is Good About the Area:

There are three Council run youth clubs in the area, at the Satellite Centre in Greenfield, Holts Youth Centre and one which has recently opened in Delph.

In addition, the ARC Community Centre in Alt also offers a range of activities for young people including a youth club and dance troupe. In addition, they are currently in the process of securing additional funding for a playgroup.

There are a number of parks at for example, Delph, Diggle, Greenfield, Uppermill and Dobcross for young children.

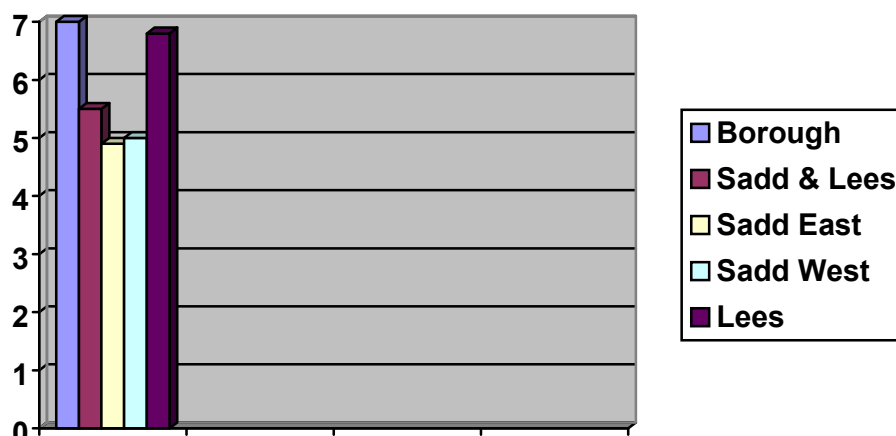
Statistics:

0-4 Year Olds

Children aged 0-4 make up 5.5% of the overall Area population compared to 7% of the Borough population. Of all twenty wards in the Borough, Saddleworth East has the second lowest proportion and Saddleworth West has the third lowest proportion of people in this age group. Lees ward has the ninth highest proportion of 0-4 year olds.

Table i below shows the percentage of 0-4 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees, as compared to the percentage of 0-4 year olds living in the Borough.

Table i: Percentage of 0-4 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees, compared to the percentage of 0-4 year olds living in the Borough

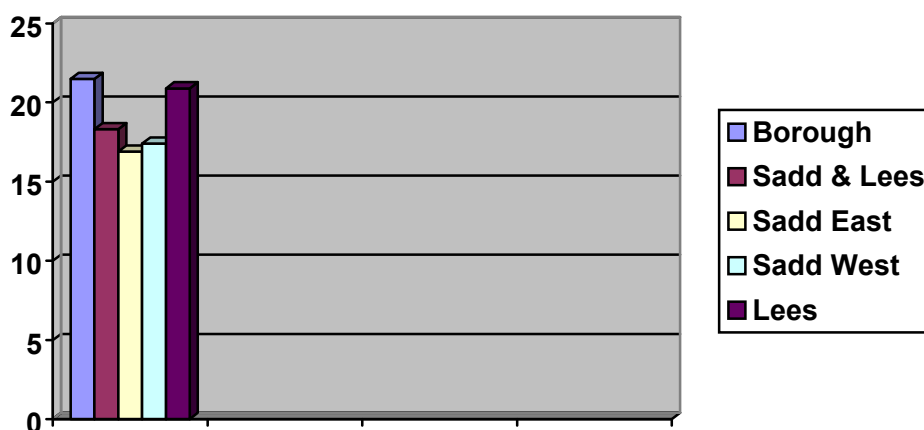


0-14 Year Olds

Children aged 0-14 years make up 18.3% of the population of this Area, compared to 21.5% of the Borough population. Of all twenty wards in the Borough, the proportion of the population made up of children aged 0-14 is lowest in Saddleworth East and third lowest in Saddleworth West. The population of Lees has the eighth highest proportion of people in this age group.

Table ii shows the percentage of 0-14 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees as compared to the percentage of 0-14 year olds living in the Borough.

Table ii: Percentage of 0-14 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees, compared to the percentage of 0-14 year olds living in the Borough

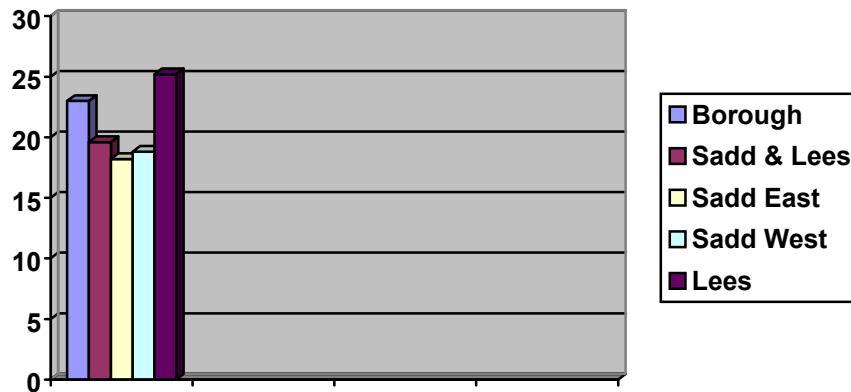


Under 16s

About 13.5% of all under-16s live in Saddleworth and Lees. Under 16s make up a lower proportion of the population, compared to the Borough average (23%). Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West have populations with the lowest proportions of under 16s of all 20 wards in the Borough, with Lees having the eighth highest proportion of under 16s.

Table iii shows the percentage of under 16s in Saddleworth and Lees, as compared to the percentage of under 16s living in the Borough.

Table iii: Percentage of under 16 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees, compared to the percentage of under 16 year olds living in the Borough



16-24 Year Olds

People aged 16-24 years make up 8.5% of the population of this Area, compared to 10.7% of the Borough population. Of all six Areas, this Area has the lowest proportion of people aged 16-24 years. Of all 20 wards in the Borough, the proportion of the population aged 16-24 years is lowest in Saddleworth East and second lowest in Saddleworth West. The population of Lees has the tenth highest proportion of people in this age group.

Table iv shows the percentage of 16-24 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees as compared to the percentage of 16-24 year olds living in the Borough.

Table iv: Percentage of 16-24 year olds in Saddleworth and Lees compared to the percentage of 16-24 year olds living in the Borough



Additional statistics, relating to children and young people in Saddleworth and Lees, can be found at Appendix 3, Table 2.

What is Happening Now:

Youth Service delivery has been included within the extended powers of delegation to Area Committees. At present, resources are distributed inequitably across the Area Committee areas and proposals are being considered by the Council which will mean that each area will have dedicated youth workers who will enable existing facilities to be open longer and more often.

Neighbourhood Renewal Funding has been secured to implement a range of initiatives which will impact on Saddleworth and Lees including:

- The establishment of a team of detached youth workers and team leaders who are able to respond at short notice to expressed need for youth work intervention from communities or other agencies.
- The People and Communities Young People initiative which offers recreational provision for young people aged 9-13 on school sites in each of the Area Committee areas of the Borough on four nights per week.
- The appointment of a project worker to co-ordinate the work of the Oldham Youth Alliance which will impact on children and young people across the Borough.
- Oldham Council for Voluntary Youth Services having secured funding to employ a development worker to increase the capacity of the voluntary youth sector and also to purchase and manage a mini-bus.

Oldham Social Services and the Prince's Trust are currently running an **After Care Mentoring Project**. The project, which operates Borough-wide, aims to provide support and guidance to young people leaving care by sharing knowledge and practical expertise.

The Council's Arts, Culture and Leisure Division will be providing a range of activities targeted at young people. One example of this is an event using theatre and drama to explore young people's experiences, concerns and aspirations of living in the Borough.

Oldham Theatre Workshop and the Ethnic Minority Support Service are engaging schools involved in the **Linking Together Project** to use drama as a mechanism for exploring important issues. In addition, the Theatre Workshop have developed a project using drama to diffuse violence between young people in and out of school.

The Area Committee are exploring the possibility of securing funding to purchase a '**Mobile Buzz**' for the area.

There are a variety of training and work experience opportunities provided by Groundwork that enable young people to participate in social and environmental projects.

A number of drug related support projects are provided via the Drug and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT), the Probation Service and Oldham Business Education Guidance Service.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

To be determined by the new Children and Young People's Partnership as part of the development of their Strategy.

HOUSING

Housing is one of the Priority for Action themes in Oldham's Community Strategy. The Strategy states:

“Oldham's housing market will be confident and thriving, offering real choice and providing good standard accommodation which meets the needs and aspirations of all who wish to live here; obsolete housing will be eradicated with local people influencing the design and taking more responsibility for the management of neighbourhoods in which they have a stake, living in harmony in communities which respect diversity in a Borough in which they are proud to reside.”

The aim of the Strategy is to create, over the next 20 years, a confident, thriving housing market which provides diversity of choice to meet the needs and aspirations of all those who live in the Borough. The need for a Borough-wide Housing Strategy is highlighted under this theme in the Community Strategy.

There are major opportunities to tackle the problems that exist within Saddleworth and Lees and to meet the aims set out in the Housing Strategy. This will be done through working in partnership, with a variety of stakeholders and, in particular, with local people. By working in partnership we will be able to attract investment and ensure that monies are spent effectively and sustainably.

What Local People Say:

Saddleworth and Lees is an area of contrasts. There are many quality areas of housing in the area and it is seen as an attractive and desirable place in which to live. It has the highest property prices in the Borough, and some of the highest in the region and demand is high. However, there are contrasts, particularly in the Holts and Alt area, where demand for housing is not as high and where there are pockets of deprivation. Generally, comments on housing are good.

Some people felt that Council housing in Saddleworth should remain for people who have been brought up in the area and not for people from other parts of the Borough. They also felt that it was becoming hard to obtain a Council house as the majority were now in private ownership. The impact of Right to Buys was being felt severely and leading to reductions in council accommodation year on year. People felt that consideration should be given to “recycling” capital receipts from Council accommodation sales back into the area to provide more affordable homes.

A number of residents in Saddleworth were concerned about the increasing number of housing developments and felt that the area was becoming too built up. Concerns were also raised as to the detrimental effect the developments were having on the natural environment. Other concerns were raised with regard to services that support housing developments, such as sewers and that these were not being taken account of when building new homes leading to problems with, for example, flooding.

Mixed views were also expressed in terms of house prices. The majority of those who already owned a property in the area were pleased that house prices had increased enormously in recent years. Those who were trying to purchase a property in the area for the first time, or move from their existing home to buy another property, felt that house prices were unaffordable and it was impossible to purchase a realistically priced property.

Local people remarked on the “isolation” of the area, which is exacerbated by poor public transport.

In contrast with the views of local people living in Saddleworth and Lees, the majority of people, especially on the Alt estate, considered the Council housing to be extremely poor. There were examples of properties that were desperately in need of repair and yet it was felt that the Council had failed to do anything about it. Some people felt that if given a better option they would not hesitate to move.

A number of residents both on the Alt and Holts estates expressed concern that there were high levels of anti-social behaviour and problems with nuisance neighbours. Some of these issues are being addressed through a range of community safety initiatives including Anti-Social Behaviour Orders.

There were reports that flats were being burnt out and a perception that some members of the community had racist views that prevented building relationships with other sections of the community.

Information from the recently completed General Tenants’ Survey carried out by First Choice Homes Oldham (FCHO) shows the following:

- A majority of residents expressed satisfaction with the overall level of housing service;
- A majority of residents are satisfied with their current home;
- A majority of residents expressed satisfaction with the area in which they live. However, there were still some concerns about a number of area issues, for example, litter and rubbish, lack of police presence, vandalism and so on. This was a particular concern in Holts and Alt.
- In terms of the types of improvements needed to properties, the highest priority was

for new windows, followed by kitchens and bathrooms.

What is Good About the Area:

- There is good quality housing within Saddleworth and Lees, however, there is a need to improve social housing on the Holts and Alt estates especially;
- The area is clean and attractive and there is good access to the open countryside although it is recognised that there is a lack of public open space in some areas;
- There is a high demand for properties in the area, although high house prices mean that properties are often out of the reach of young people entering the market.
- The Housing Market Renewal Fund offers opportunities for some enhancements on the estates of Holts and Alt.

Statistics:

Government targets around Decent Homes – The Government is committed to improving the conditions of homes and to make them decent. It has set targets for all homes to be decent by 2010. The Council is committed to meeting these targets in all its housing. Through First Choice Homes and Housing Market Renewal there are opportunities to help meet these targets

Performance in Saddleworth and Lees

There are 1,470 homes in the social housing sector (First Choice Homes Oldham) not meeting the Decent Homes Standard in Saddleworth and Lees compared to 12,279 in the Borough. (As measured in April 2003)

Area Target –

First Choice Homes Oldham					
Number of Non - Decent by Year					
Area Comm.	Apr-03	Apr-04	Apr-05	Apr-06	Apr-07
Sadd & Lees	1470	1102	734	366	0
Oldham	12279	9208	6137	3066	0

Information on the current situation within the Housing Association sector is being collated, but it is likely that most of their properties will meet the Decent Homes Standard, whilst a Stock Condition Survey is being carried out on those homes in the private sector. The outcome of this survey will determine the condition of properties and the amount of work required.

Appendix 3, Table 3, shows the housing statistics for Saddleworth and Lees.

Housing Renewal Priorities

A series of pieces of work are being undertaken to identify the overall priorities for investment through the Housing Market Renewal Fund (HMRF).

A masterplan is also being prepared for the whole of the Borough in addition to ongoing work in developing Area Strategies and Position Statements. In advance of this work, a series of early actions have been identified which will be brought forward with immediate effect.

The selection criteria used to identify early action neighbourhoods are as follows:

- Market failure or weakness;
- Programme issues
- Extent to which the communities are already working together for change;
- Extent to which radical action might be feasible;
- Suitability of the housing, such as disrepair, unfitness, size/type and overcrowding;
- Risks associated with delayed action; and
- Risk of early assessment and intervention not succeeding.

Based upon this assessment, Holts and Alt are not a priority for Housing Market Renewal activity, although some monies from HMRF are being used in Alt to help deal with issues around anti-social behaviour and to help stabilise the area. More work will be ongoing over the coming months to assess the level of intervention that HMRF will make in the area, in full consultation with local residents.

Opportunities for the Area

- There are opportunities to improve the council properties to meet the Decent Homes Standard;

- The Private Finance Initiative will bring much needed improvements to the Sheltered Accommodation in the area;
- The Holts Village Estate Management Board Agreement is being reviewed, bringing opportunities to review the relationships with the Council and FCHO and strengthen its operation;
- Through the developing Alt Strategy there are opportunities to address the range of issues apparent on the Alt estate and bring much needed improvements;
- There are opportunities to provide much needed affordable housing in the area using planning guidance.

Important Issues for the Area

- The area is poorly served by public and private transport infrastructure, leaving residents often feeling isolated;
- There are issues relating to community cohesion;
- Crime and anti-social behaviour need to be addressed;
- Work is needed on improving the reputation of some parts of the area;
- There is a need to address the lack of affordable housing in the area.

What is Happening Now:

As can be seen, there are a range of issues throughout the area which need tackling. Some of the issues are more of a priority than others and need to be dealt with quickly, whilst others are not so and can be done in the longer term. Based on the comments made by local people and other partners/stakeholders, a number of things are happening or are planned for the short, medium and long-term. Listed below are some of the key priorities for the Saddleworth and Lees area;

- **First Choice Homes Oldham** – Council housing in the Borough is now managed through FCHO. £72m will be coming into the Borough, which enable the Decent Homes Standard to be met. The proposal is to meet the standard in the Council's property by 2007. A proportion of this money, some **£12m**, will be spent in the Saddleworth and Lees' area. Information on the areas and properties to be covered can be found in Appendix 5.

- First Choice Homes Oldham have introduced Local Repairs Teams, which are having a positive impact on the speed and quality of repairs
- The Council is undertaking a **Borough-wide Stock Condition Survey**, which will determine the condition of properties in the area and the levels of improvement required, plus the numbers of properties considered to be obsolete. The results of this survey will determine future investment priorities for the area.
- First Choice Homes Oldham are looking at the long-term strategy for the Alt Estate, including improved management initiatives and clearance/improvement of properties. Already, a number of initiatives around Anti-social behaviour have been implemented.
- **Affordable homes initiatives** are already in place to provide affordable homes in Saddleworth. For example, 9 properties have been provided on Alexandra Mill, inclusive of Shaw Hall Bank Road. In addition a further 12 properties are being constructed at Hopkinson Close, which will be a mix of shared-ownership and some for rent.
- **Holts Village Estate Management Board** has been in existence for a number of years and plays a key role in the provision and management of services to the area. Due to the creation of FCHO there is a need to review and renegotiate the current Holts Village Management Agreement. Consultants have been commissioned to work with the Board Members to examine and discuss the challenges that have been thrown up by the creation of FCHO. This will result in the formulation of a new agreement that will maintain the integrity of the EMB whilst at the same time making sure that the EMB receives a quality housing service from FCHO and the Council in general. The review is likely to be completed by May 2004.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

Early Priorities

- Completion of Stock Condition Survey.
- Stabilisation of problems on the Alt Estate and clearance of problem/difficult to let blocks.
- In terms of investment in local authority housing, proposals are already in place for the whole of the Saddleworth and Lees area that will see homes brought up to the Government's Decent Homes Standard within the next four years. Around £12m is due to be spent, with works already underway in certain parts of the area. See Appendix 5 for more information.

- Completion of the Holts Village Management Agreement review.

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Health and Social Care is a Priority for Action theme of Oldham's Community Strategy. The Strategy states:

“By listening, learning and working together we will create high quality Health and Social Services which will improve the health and general well-being of all the citizens of Oldham.”

Improving people's health and well-being cannot be done by one agency alone. By Health Services and the Local Authority working in partnership, there is an opportunity to bring professionals and local people together to achieve a common sense of purpose. It involves a strategic approach by all agencies, which recognises the inter-relation between improving health and other issues including housing, regeneration, education and transport.

The overall aim is to directly improve the health and general well-being of local people and to recognise and address wider determinants of health including social, economic and environmental factors. Health and Social care agencies will work together to provide services that ensure equality of opportunity and equity of provision for all members of the community. The Community Strategy is part of the foundations on which to build a long and successful partnership between Health and Social Care agencies and the people of the Borough.

The term 'social care' covers a wide range of services, which are provided by local authorities and the independent sector. Social care comes in many forms. Adults and their carers can be supported in the community through care in their own homes, in day centres, meal services, or by helping people back to education or employment and by way of residential or nursing homes. Children and their families can be supported through child protection, family support within the community, fostering and adoption and residential care services.

Oldham Council, through its Social Services Department, aims to ensure that services are developed in order to meet the health and social care needs of local people. It does this within a framework of duties, responsibilities and national standards laid down by central government and by working in partnership with other Council Departments, Health Services and the independent sector.

Oldham Primary Care Trust is responsible for improving (and addressing inequalities in) the health of their community, developing primary and community health services and commissioning secondary care services. The PCT covers 45 general practices with 106

GPs, and directly employs nearly 650 people, with more than 300 providing community-based healthcare, involving a broad range of nursing and allied health professional services.

These services include: 24-hour district nursing; health visiting; child protection; Adult Learning Disabilities Children's Learning Disabilities; school nursing, transfer of care; continence; community paediatrics; speech and language therapy; occupational therapy; podiatry; audiology; and community dental services.

What Local People Say:

When 200 of the Borough's residents were asked what the priorities for improving the health of local people were, the top three answers were:

- Protecting children from harm
- Care of the elderly
- Reducing teenage pregnancies

(source: Oldham 200 Survey, Oldham Social Services, 1999)

The standard of healthcare provision in the area was considered to be extremely good. Local people felt that they had good choice and access to doctors, dentists and pharmacies.

Residents of Saddleworth generally attended Uppermill, Greenfield and Delph surgeries and felt that there was a good range of services provided, whilst residents of Lees attended the clinic in the centre of Lees. A large percentage of the residents of Alt and Holts attended Glodwick clinic and a small number of residents felt that access to healthcare provision in this area could be improved. Some of the Holts residents attended the Leesbrook surgery.

Some concerns have been expressed with regard to the increased number of housing developments in the area which are not matched by an increase in Health and Social Care provision. In addition, the increasing number of older/retired residents will also increase demands upon existing services.

What is Good About the Area:

A wide range of health services are available to local people in Saddleworth and Lees and are located within the area or in neighbouring areas as follows:

- 4 dental practices – 2 in Lees, 1 in Uppermill and 1 in Greenfield. Some of these

practices are private.

- Health visitors based in Uppermill and Lees
- 6 G.P. practices – Lees, Uppermill, Delph (satellite surgery), Greenfield and 2 located outside the area (1 on Lees Road in Clarksfield but having a high number of patients living in Lees and 1 in Mossley having a high number of patients living in Greenfield)
- 6 Pharmacies – 2 in Lees, Uppermill, Delph, Greenfield and 1 located outside the area on Lees Road. There is no provision in Alt.
- Other services available at Uppermill Health Centre, include, Podiatry and Speech and Language Therapy
- There are 7 residential homes, 1 day care centre and 1 children's service unit in the area
- Healthy Living Collections at Delph, Greenfield, Uppermill and Lees libraries

Statistics:

Government target – By achieving agreed local conception reduction targets, to reduce the national under – 18 conception rate by 15% by 2004 and 50% by 2010, while reducing the level of inequality in rates between the worst fifth of wards and the average by at least a quarter.

Government target – Starting with Local Authorities, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap between the fifth of areas with the lowest life expectancy at birth and the population as a whole. (Oldham Borough is one of the fifth of the areas with the lowest life expectancy).

The National Health Inequality Targets

- Starting with children under one year, by 2010 to reduce by at least 10% the gap in mortality between manual groups and the population as a whole.

Related Targets

- Reduce smoking rates among manual groups from 32% in 1998 to 26% by 2010.
- To make substantial progress towards the eradication of child poverty by reducing the number of children living in poverty by a quarter by 2004.

Borough target – these are the same as the national targets.

Health experience in Saddleworth is better than the national average and better than Lees, which has a higher rate of early death than the Borough average. This is mirrored in life expectancy, with Saddleworth residents having equal, or higher life expectancy, than the average for England and Wales and residents of Lees having lower life expectancy at birth, than the national average.

Rates of teenage conceptions, low birth weights and deaths in the first year of life are also all low in Saddleworth and in particular, in Saddleworth East. Rates of teenage conceptions and low birth weights in Lees are higher than the Borough average.

Infant mortality shows an IMR at 6.7 per 1,000 live births, lower than the Borough figure of 7.5 per 1,000 live births (although it must be noted above the national figure.)

Of the 6,771 children in this area, 1,824 are in poverty (i.e. 26.9% the fewest proportion of all the Area Committee areas, but still representing more than 1 in 4 of all children in this Area.) This Area has a low child poverty index score (27.77), compared to the Borough as a whole.

Strong links are known to exist between education and health, with those educated to higher levels experiencing less morbidity and less premature death. That is the better a person's education, the better likelihood of having good health and live longer.

For young men in Saddleworth and Lees, life expectancy at birth is 73.8 years (better than the Borough as a whole at 72.2) and lower than the national figure of 75.5. Women fair better with a life expectancy 78.7 years, which is higher than the Borough as a whole (77.9), but less than the UK, which is 80.3. Therefore the young people born into this area live, on average, shorter lives than the UK as a whole.

The SMR for 1997/99 shows that in the Borough, for this time period, there were 3,139 deaths in people aged 75 and under. Had the health experience been the same as for that for England and Wales, we would have expected to see 2,434 deaths in this three year period. This equates to an excess number of deaths of 705.

In Saddleworth and Lees there were 441 deaths in the same time period. Had the health experience been the same as for England and Wales, the expected number of deaths would have been 390. That is, in Saddleworth and Lees, there were an additional 51 deaths. Therefore of the 705 excess deaths across the Borough as whole, 51 or 7.23%, happened in this area.

The most common reasons for deaths in this area relate to the circulatory diseases and to malignancies. Lifestyle choices are likely to be a significant factor.

These conditions are chronic and unless well-managed many sufferers will have chronic complications, impairing their ability to work or live independently.

The number of disability claims accounts for 12.3% of all Borough claims, which equates to an average of 6.6% of the relevant population, above the Borough average of 8.5%. Rates of long term limiting illness are 18.1% below the Borough average of 20.2%.

This area has the lowest levels of deprivation and unemployment in the Borough. Child poverty rates, although lower than some Area Committee areas, represent a possible inequality within the Saddleworth and Lees area.

Further health statistics can be found at Appendix 3, Table 4.

What is Happening Now:

Health Care in Saddleworth and Lees Provided by Oldham Primary Care Trust

The PCT is responsible for community-based healthcare provided by GPs, dentists, pharmacists and opticians.

The PCT directly employs community-based nurses, including district nurses, health visitors, school nurses and learning disability nurses. It also employs therapists, including physiotherapists and audiologists. Those services provided directly by our staff include:

24-hour district nursing, health visiting, child protection, Adult Learning Disabilities, Children's Learning Disabilities, school nursing, transfer of care, continence, community paediatrics, speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, podiatry, audiology and community dental services.

The PCT also employs the support teams and managers needed to facilitate the provision of these services. The PCT is responsible for commissioning the health care provided for the Borough's residents by hospitals and mental health care teams. This means that the PCT pays for the cost of these services.

The PCT is also responsible for health promotion, encouraging people to follow healthier lifestyles and to become more involved in their healthcare.

The three main aims of Oldham PCT are to:

- Improve the health of the people of the Borough and address inequalities in terms of accessing health services;
- Commission health services for the people of the Borough; and
- Provide and develop primary and community health services for the people of the Borough.

There are some specific Health and Social Care issues which have been identified as being additional local priorities in the Borough.

These include:

Diabetes – ensuring that the national service framework for the development of services for people with diabetes is implemented in the Borough.

Children's services – the programme for the development of health and social services for improving the well-being of children is broad and covers a wide range of services, spanning many organisations.

Physical disability services – ensuring that those with limitations on their physical capacity are able to improve their quality of life and their independence.

Alcohol – it is well known that alcohol misuse contributes significantly to much ill health in the Borough and elsewhere. This is a priority area for the development of appropriate services.

Sexual health services – a national strategy for sexual health has been published and will be implemented in the Borough.

Respiratory illness – respiratory illness is a significant cause of ill health in the Borough and effective and appropriate service provision is required.

Dental services – enhancing the accessibility of dental care and delivering an increase in the use of preventative measures.

(Full details of the above are available in the Health and Social Care Strategy, available from the PCT).

The PCT relies heavily on partnership working, with other parts of the NHS, Oldham Council, other statutory agencies and the voluntary sector.

The PCT is a member of the Oldham Local Strategic Partnership, which brings together the public service agencies of Oldham, enabling strategic visions of separate organisations to complement each other.

Joint Working with Oldham Council

Organisational boundaries can often be a barrier to delivering effective patient care. Patients often have a requirement for both healthcare and social care. In particular, joint packages of care are often essential in order to ensure that patients can remain in their own homes for as long as they wish, avoiding unnecessary admissions to hospital.

Patients regularly tell us that their preferred wish is to remain in their own homes, in familiar surroundings, with care teams coming to them. It is for this reason that Oldham PCT's joint work with Social Services and the voluntary sector is so important.

Our objective is for health and social care services to become more closely connected so that the needs of clients and their families are better served. Our partnership is taking shape in many different ways, helping to reduce bureaucracy and improve patient care. Joint working often involves joint funding of services.

The **Joint Equipment Store** is but one example of how Social Services and the PCT are working increasingly together. This store enables the loan of aids to patients, maximising the time for which they are able to stay in their own homes.

Intermediate Care has enabled the development of closer working relationships with a commitment to integrate this service over the next three years and we have plans for joint appointments for assistant practitioners who will fill a dual health and social care role.

Through the use of powers such as Section 31 of the Health Act (1999), we have been able to create "pooled budgets", one example being in disability services. This is a concrete demonstration of how different organisations are coming together to deliver services. We intend to build on this kind of flexibility as we redesign our services for the benefit of local people.

In **Continuing Care**, there are now joint care criteria across Greater Manchester and these, too, are helping to raise quality standards for all service users. There will also be **Joint Panels** to help deliver more effective discharges in line with the Discharge Bill, which is expected to become legislation shortly.

The PCT will also continue with the transfer of care teams and work closely with hospital social work teams. All this will help deliver a single assessment process for older people that will remove many of the current delays in making sure that older people get the help and support they need as quickly as possible and with the minimum disruption.

Joint work in disability services will be further developed as will our partnership with a number of **Sure Start** schemes across the Borough. There are plans, too, to strengthen our joint **Occupational Therapy** service in partnership with Social Services.

Access

The PCT has responsibility for a range of service quality improvements, including access to both primary care (or community-based) services, and secondary care (or hospital-based) services. The PCT's performance in 2002-2003 was as follows:

Number of outpatients waiting longer than the standard

The PCT had to ensure that the number of outpatients waiting more than 26 weeks throughout the year, or more than 21 weeks at the end of March 2003 for an outpatient admission, was zero, which was achieved for 2003. Several patient-centred initiatives, including **Tier 2**, will aim to build on this success. **Tier 2** aims to offer specialist healthcare for a range of chronic conditions, avoiding unnecessary admissions to hospital and allowing hospital teams to concentrate on the most complex cases. The scheme involves community-based healthcare professionals across the Borough, including GPs, nurses and other therapists, working in partnership with consultants and health teams from the Royal Oldham Hospital and other hospitals.

Number of inpatients waiting longer than the standard

The PCT had to ensure that the number of patients who were waiting more than 15 months throughout the year, or more than 12 months at the end of March 2003, for an inpatient admission, was zero. This was also achieved for 2003. The Referral Information Centre, which provides a one-stop shop for patient information on referrals and other initiatives involving the PCT, working with the Royal Oldham Hospital and other hospitals, will build on this success.

Total time in Accident and Emergency

The PCT had to ensure that at least 90% of patients waited less than four hours from arrival in Accident and Emergency to admission, transfer or discharge – the level reached for 2003 was 93%. Although four hours is the target, work with the Royal Oldham Hospital means that most patients will be seen far quicker than this. The PCT is part of the Emergency Services Collaborative, which is a national programme aimed at reducing waiting times and preventing delays for patients in Accident and Emergency departments and will continue working with health teams from the Royal Oldham Hospital to improve standards.

Access to a GP

The PCT had a target of enabling 87.5% of patients to be able to be offered an appointment to see a GP within two working days and reached a figure of 82.5%.

Access to a primary care professional

The PCT had a target of enabling 87.5% of patients to see a primary care professional (including district nurses, health visitors or therapists) within one working day and reached a figure of 86.5%.

Action relating to GP and primary care access targets

Although the PCT narrowly missed both these access targets, the work done by GPs and their staff represents substantial progress in the Borough, against a backdrop of historic under-funding nationally. Several initiatives are likely to improve primary care access.

These include attracting more salaried GPs to the Borough and funding for health care assistants. Health care assistants support GPs and practice nurses by carrying out simple medical procedures such as taking blood pressure. In turn, this frees up GPs and nurses, allowing them to cut waiting times for appointments with patients, among other benefits.

The PCT is also investing in practice nurses and arranging triage training, allowing patients to receive the most appropriate level of medical care.

The PCT is also extending the work of the **Primary Care Collaborative**, which allows GP practices to share best practice, particularly in improving access rates. There are currently eleven practices in the **Collaborative** across the Borough and the PCT has a planned programme of development to involve more practices in the scheme.

Tackling health inequalities

Across the Borough, health inequalities, illustrated by differences in indicators such as life expectancy and infant mortality, are greater than the national average.

The Health Inequalities Strategy sets out how the Borough plans to tackle health inequalities over the next three years and is closely linked to the Department of Health's "Tackling Health Inequalities: A Programme for Action". It aims to set in place action that will help the Borough achieve both national and local health inequality targets. The Strategy aims to tackle the health inequalities between the Borough and England and Wales, as well as the inequalities experienced within it. This strategy is organised against four key themes. These are:

- **Supporting families, mothers and children** (incorporating healthy pregnancy, early childhood and opportunities for children and young people)
- **Engaging communities and individuals preventing illness and providing effective treatment and care** (incorporating improving NHS primary care services, developing public health opportunities in primary care and tackling the major killers: CHD and cancer and reducing intra PCT inequalities)
- **Addressing the determinants of Health** - Action will take place at a number of levels. The Health and Social Care Partnership will champion the cause of health inequalities at a strategic level whilst the Health Inequalities Modernisation Team will be the key driver in delivering the strategy and developing good practice across the Borough. Other strategic groups will be asked to address the parts of the action plan

which are linked to their work. Agencies will have the responsibility to work in partnership to reshape services to narrow the health gap. The Area Committee infrastructure and locality projects should support community involvement planning to maximise health gain.

The strategy is the first step in developing a co-ordinated approach to reducing health inequalities in the Borough. It involves all key local agencies, both statutory and voluntary, as well as individuals and communities. The strategy is challenging but an important way forward in improving the health experience where it is most needed.

Accordingly, the PCT has a programme of work which is aiming to narrow the gap for the Borough's population. Via a combination of Department of Health funding, together with funds from other local regeneration and mainstream sources, the PCT has developed programmes such as:

- **Cottoning On** - for young people, Black and Minority Ethnic women, a range of regeneration and mainstream finance.

The **Patient Advice and Liaison Service (PALS)** aims to trouble-shoot patients' concerns and problems, to give advice to make access to services as easy as possible and to help people get involved in shaping the PCT's services.

Nationally, PALS was developed in line with the NHS Plan, following an extensive national consultation process with patients, healthcare professionals, voluntary organisations and other groups. PALS came about because of a growing concern from all sectors about the increasing number of complaints made nationally about all aspects of healthcare. In particular, it was felt that many formal complaints could and should have been resolved before reaching that stage, but that this had failed to happen, often through poor communication. PALS will build on systems already operating, but will also troubleshoot a range of problems and issues. By feeding back issues raised by both patients and healthcare professionals, PALS will also help to improve the quality of services offered by the PCT.

PALS will:

- act as a contact point for patients, their relatives, friends and carers;
- help resolve concerns quickly and efficiently, improving the outcome of the care process;
- if necessary, guide patients and carers to the NHS complaints procedure;
- if necessary, negotiate immediate solutions with the PCT

PALS will not

- take away or undermine the vital role that staff and professionals already have in solving problems on the spot;
- replace existing services such as complaints – PALS will complement and support existing systems;
- be insensitive to existing pressures, but dedicated to finding solutions for patients and staff.

You can contact Oldham PCT's PALS service on 0800 389 8679.

Involvement

The PCT recognises that actively involving members of the public in its planning process brings real advantages to all parties.

The PCT is running a patient and public involvement programme, which aims to include as many residents of the Borough as possible in planning service improvements, further widening public involvement in PCT activities. Information on how to get more involved in improving health services is one of the most common requests from patients, carers and residents.

Among the recognised benefits of incorporating the public's views into service improvement are:

- Local people know why existing services are not being used and what else they need locally
- Services that health professionals think are good may be difficult to obtain or inappropriate for certain communities
- Patients may see additional advantages and disadvantages
- Involving patients in planning enables the PCT to target its resources better
- Greater public involvement helps make the PCT more accountable to local people
- Patients, carers and members of the public will develop the skills and knowledge they need to be able to take more responsibility for their individual health care

Methods of becoming involved

1. Respond to surveys or questionnaires which are sent to you. We would not ask if we did not want the answer
2. Put suggestions in suggestion boxes – not everywhere has them, but they are there to be used. And if there are none available in a health services building, then why not suggest that one gets installed?
3. Attend public consultation events. We will publicise these widely, so watch for adverts in papers, or posters on information boards
4. Join a Patient Participation group at your GP practice – ask for one to be set up if necessary
5. Sit on one of the service planning groups, either as an individual or as a member of another voluntary group
6. Write to us if you think there is a service your community needs which we do not already provide
7. Take part in decisions about your own personal care (e.g. care plan, treatment for illness or condition). If you do not understand something, ask the health visitor, GP, or other health professional to explain it
8. Become a member of the Patient and Public Involvement Forum. This is independent and will involve people in all aspects of PCT activities
9. Bring your views to the Patient Advice and Liaison Service – see previous section
10. Attend the PCT board meetings – on the last Thursday of most months

More details on any of the above points are available from the PCT's patient and public involvement manager on 0161 622 6500.

Social Care provided by Oldham Social Services

The numbers of people receiving support from Social Services increases and decreases throughout the year. Therefore, the figures below give an approximate number of people in the Borough receiving support from Social Services.

Across the Borough, 8400 adults were receiving support in the community from Social Services. These include:

- 3200 people with mental health problems
- 3100 older people

- 1400 people with physical and sensory disabilities
- 700 people with learning disabilities

Across the Borough, approximately 1800 children and their families were receiving support from Social Services. This includes child protection, family support within the community, fostering and adoption and residential care services.

Across the Borough there are approximately:

- 1800 people registered blind or partially sighted
- 2300 people were registered deaf or hard of hearing
- 200 people registered deaf/hard of hearing and blind/partially sighted
- 10500 people registered physically disabled

Information about Informal Carers

The 2001 Census gathered information on the provision of unpaid care. In the Borough, 23,556 people were providing unpaid care to family members, friends, neighbours or others because of long-term physical or mental ill health or disability or problems relating to old age. This is 11% of the total population of the Borough.

Provision of unpaid care in Saddleworth and Lees

	% of people who provide unpaid care			
	All unpaid care	1-19 hours a week	20-49 hours a week	50+ hours a week
Lees	10.5	6.4	1.4	2.7
Saddleworth East	12.6	9.8	1.0	1.8
Saddleworth West	12.4	9.5	1.0	1.9
Saddleworth and Lees	11.9	8.7	1.1	2.1
	10.8	7.1	1.3	2.4
Oldham				

In Saddleworth and Lees, 11.9% of population reported providing unpaid care, which is slightly higher than the average for the Borough. However, a greater proportion of these are providing between 1 and 19 hours a week of care compared to the Borough average.

Social Care Provision in Saddleworth and Lees

Social care is provided in a range of providers including the local authority, the private sector and voluntary agencies. It is delivered in a variety of settings including specialist establishments, community establishments and services users homes. Specialist establishments in Saddleworth and Lees include:

- 8 Residential and day care establishments
- 1 Day services establishment
- 1 Children and Young Peoples Services establishment

LIFT (Local Improvement Finance Trust)

The national NHS LIFT scheme provides the NHS with a vehicle for improving and developing primary and community care facilities. Local LIFT schemes are a joint venture between the Department of Health, the local healthcare community and the private sector. They are designed to encourage a significant increase in investment in primary care and community based facilities.

Integrated Care Centres are single sites where prevention, screening treatment and associated services combine to provide a holistic health and care service. Each one is uniquely designed – based upon the Centre of Healthcare Design Best Practice Guidelines – to address specific needs of its local community. The schemes selected to be developed first are chosen because they utilise existing partner resources, help address the case for change and support the LIFT vision. They are selected to represent medium and large projects which will enable the selected private partner to be involved in the collaborative and inventive design of improved services from the Borough's estate stock.

The following projects are included in the first phase of schemes:

- Springhead Clinic - It is proposed to rebuild and extend the existing clinic at a cost of £0.7 million.

The Neighbourhood Renewal Fund is supporting the cost of employing a **Teenage Pregnancy Co-ordinator** to implement the Teenage Pregnancy Strategy.

Neighbourhood Renewal funding supports a **Day Care Support for Drug Misusing Offenders** project, which is run by Oldham Education and Business Guidance Service. The project enhances existing support available to tackle drug addiction and promotes a more positive use of time, reducing the risk of offending.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

Area targets need to be established for each of the six Area Committee areas to measure health inequalities at a local level. These targets will be set by the Health and Inequalities Modernisation Team.

The PCT will be implementing a number of new initiatives to help reduce heart disease including the development of Lifestyle Intervention Team and a tobacco policy control.

Development of a network/bank of Lifestyle Advisors, targeting key communities and people without easy access to healthy lifestyles, on low incomes, or those with more than one CHD risk factors.

Sexual health services will be developed to increase uptake by boys and young men.

The recruitment and retention of GP's is a national issue. Oldham PCT will work closely with all GP practices across Oldham to ensure that services to patients are maintained. There is a lot of behind the scenes work being undertaken to promote Oldham as an attractive place to work for all primary care professionals. Further information that is specific to GP recruitment and workforce planning can be obtained from Dr. R Orr Medical Lead at Oldham PCT.

COMMUNITY SAFETY

Community Safety is one of the Priority Action Themes of the Borough's Community Strategy. The Strategy states that:

"Oldham will be a safer place in which to live and work due to a reduction in levels of crime and disorder. Residents of the Borough will not live in fear of crime."

The Action Plan for crime over the next 3 – 5 years is currently being developed and will be incorporated into the Community Strategy Implementation Plan.

The Oldham Division of Greater Manchester Police has recently undergone a restructure programme that has seen the beat boundaries re-aligned with the Local Authority ward boundaries. This is a positive step forward that will enhance partnership work. On the negative side, the reconfiguration of the beats means that historical data is not available at Area Committee level. More data compiled on this basis will be available at the end of the performance year 2003/04. It will not be possible to set meaningful targets at Area Committee level until this time.

The key strategy which focuses on reducing domestic burglary is the Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy. In particular, the work of the Property Crime Task Force is central to this activity. However, many other programmes of work complement that of Crime and Disorder to reduce burglary. These include the Drugs and Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) Strategy and the Housing Market Renewal Strategy. In order for the Borough to meet Government targets, these complementary strategies need to reflect the scale of the Borough's burglary problem.

In January 2003, the new Community Safety Unit was formed and is now an integral part of the Borough's response to crime and disorder. A Community Safety Officer has now been appointed for each of the six areas. Activity is focussed on burglary reduction and in-depth crime reduction surveys are offered to all victims of domestic burglary.

Alley-gating is also being introduced in high crime locations to reduce the incidence of domestic burglary. Added benefits include a reduction of anti-social behaviour and increased community cohesion.

Five officers are dedicated to tackling anti-social behaviour and enforcing Anti-Social Behaviour Orders, restricting activities of the most serious offenders.

There are currently 16 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs) working across the six Area Committee areas and a further 24 Officers are being recruited to work across the Borough. Their role is to act as eyes and ears for the police to provide a high profile patrol with limited enforcement powers. The visible presence of the PCSOs will not only assist in reducing crime, but will also help to alleviate the fear of crime.

Members of the public are invited to attend Public Voice on Policing meetings where they can openly discuss their views on the policing of their own areas with Senior Officers.

The last financial year saw the introduction of many new initiatives involving the police and the Community Safety Unit with excellent crime reduction activity taking place across the Borough. One example of this, is the introduction of a high profile video van, which is deployed across the Borough and has proved to be an effective deterrent for all forms of street crime.

What Local People Say:

Many concerns with regard to Community Safety were expressed with the two major ones being the lack of visible policing and anti-social behaviour caused by youths.

It was frequently suggested that more Police Officers should be deployed to patrol the streets and that this would instil some confidence in the Police and reduce crime and the fear of crime. It was recognised that the Police do the best that they can with the limited resources available. It was suggested that CCTV would be beneficial in 'hotspot' areas to help reduce crime.

Many people were concerned about the increasing problems caused by youths in all parts of the area. However, there was particular emphasis on the scale of the problems in Uppermill, Lees, Holts and Alt.

The extent of the problems are varied, but two of the main concerns were gangs of youths congregating on the streets and under-age drinking. This was reflected by people of all ages including school children, who were consulted as part of the process of developing this Plan. There were further concerns about the increasing number of young people speeding in residential areas, one example of this being around the Carr Lane area of Greenfield.

The combination of the negative perceptions of young people and the lack of recreational facilities is leading to tensions within communities and is having a detrimental effect in building community cohesion.

Consultation undertaken in Alts and Holt showed that there are more specific problems which affect these two estates. Numerous reports state that drug dealing, anti-social behaviour by tenants, fire-bombing of properties and cars is on the increase.

What is Good About the Area:

Crime rates are lower in the area when compared to the rest of the Borough. It can be assumed that this is as a result of lower levels of crime in the wards of Saddleworth East and West rather than Lees, where it is recognised that there is greater criminal activity on the Alt and Holts estates. Work will continue to ensure that the low levels of crime presently being seen on the Township are sustained.

Saddleworth and Lees has its own Police Inspector responsible for policing in the area. The Township has two dedicated Police Community Support Officers and it is the intention to expand their roles across the area. In addition, it is envisaged that the Township will be allocated additional resources as a result of the recruitment of a further 24 Police Community Support Officers.

In dealing with some of the complex issues facing the Alt estate, representatives of Greater Manchester Police and the Community Safety Unit regularly attend a Multi-Agency Partnership meeting to deal with issues of Policing and Community Safety. This forum is providing an opportunity to work in partnership with other service providers on the estate and to take a co-ordinated approach to tackling the issues.

Statistics:

Government target – reduce crime and the fear of crime; improve performance overall, including the gap between the highest Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership areas and the best comparable areas and reduce:

- vehicle crime by 30% from 1998 – 99 to 2004
- domestic burglary by 25% from 1998 – 99 to 2005
- robbery in the ten Street Crime Initiative areas by 14% from 1999 – 2000 to 2005 and maintain that level.

Burglary Dwelling				
	2002-2003	1st Quarter 2003-2004 April-June	2nd Quarter 2003-2004 July-Sept	Total 1st & 2nd Quarter 2003-2004 (April-Sept.)
Q1 – OLDHAM WEST	N/A	345	188	533
Q2 – OLDHAM EAST	N/A	274	164	438
Q3 – FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD	N/A	123	136	259
Q4 – SHAW & ROYTON	N/A	114	148	262
Q5 - CHADDERTON	N/A	102	102	204
Q6 – SADDLEWORTH & LEES	N/A	151	99	350
OMBC TOTAL	4371	1109	837	2046

Violent Crime (Serious Wounding + Less Serious Wounding)				
	2002-2003	1st Quarter 2003-2004 April-June	2nd Quarter 2003-2004 July-Sept	Total 1st & 2nd Quarter 2003-2004 (April-Sept.)
Q1 – OLDHAM WEST	N/A	264	239	503
Q2 – OLDHAM EAST	N/A	381	331	712
Q3 – FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD	N/A	148	123	271
Q4 – SHAW & ROYTON	N/A	124	96	220
Q5 - CHADDERTON	N/A	113	113	226
Q6 – SADDLEWORTH & LEES	N/A	80	78	158
OMBC TOTAL	N/A	1110	980	2090

Vehicle Crime (Theft from a motor vehicle + Theft of a motor vehicle)				
	2002-2003	1st Quarter 2003-2004 April-June	2nd Quarter 2003-2004 July-Sept	Total 1st & 2nd Quarter 2003-2004 (April-Sept.)
Q1 – OLDHAM WEST	N/A	306	235	541
Q2 – OLDHAM EAST	N/A	296	261	557
Q3 – FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD	N/A	170	183	353
Q4 – SHAW & ROYTON	N/A	162	188	350
Q5 - CHADDERTON	N/A	130	121	251
Q6 – SADDLEWORTH & LEES	N/A	152	119	271
OMBC TOTAL	5242	1216	1107	2323

Robbery				
	2002-2003	1st Quarter 2003-2004 April-June	2nd Quarter 2003-2004 July-Sept	Total 1st & 2nd Quarter 2003-2004 (April-Sept.)
Q1 – OLDHAM WEST	N/A	48	30	78
Q2 – OLDHAM EAST	N/A	79	40	119
Q3 – FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD	N/A	24	25	19
Q4 – SHAW & ROYTON	N/A	15	13	28
Q5 - CHADDERTON	N/A	9	16	25
Q6 – SADDLEWORTH & LEES	N/A	6	6	12
OMBC TOTAL	632	181	130	281

Youth Causing Annoyance (YCA)				
	2002-2003	1st Quarter 2003-2004 April-June	2nd Quarter 2003-2004 July-Sept	Total 1st & 2nd Quarter 2003-2004 (April-Sept.)
Q1 – OLDHAM WEST	N/A	420	540	960
Q2 – OLDHAM EAST	N/A	607	599	1206
Q3 – FAILSWORTH & HOLLINWOOD	N/A	436	438	874
Q4 – SHAW & ROYTON	N/A	371	384	755
Q5 - CHADDERTON	N/A	458	406	864
Q6 – SADDLEWORTH & LEES	N/A	299	317	616
OMBC TOTAL	N/A	2591	2684	5275

What is Happening Now:

The multi agency Community Safety Panel has been established and meets on a 4 weekly basis to discuss and take forward action plans for tackling emerging and ongoing problems in partnership with the community. The panel is chaired by the area police Inspector and serviced by the Crime Reduction Officer from the Community Safety Unit.

The Police Station in Uppermill is being relocated from Buckley Street to the High Street. The location of the new Station will help to reduce anti-social behaviour in and around Uppermill centre. A completion date is not yet known.

Designated Status has been applied for in the Lees District for 'alleygating' schemes and as a possible solution to the Youths Causing problems in Lees Park.

The reassurance and support of residents on the Alt and Holts estates, through target hardening and witness protection measures has established a good working relationship between the Community Safety Panel and residents. This has resulted in information being passed on by resident's concerning anti social behaviour and criminal activity. Active policing responses to this information has led to several arrests and significantly contributed to a recent nil return for domestic burglary on the estates. This is a signal achievement which represents significant progress in these areas.

Securing external funding to support pro-active policing operations, tackling issues such as burglary and vehicle crime, will be key to ensuring that crime rates continue to reduce in the area.

Operation Beacon is a targeted initiative aimed at known burglars within the area and the Police are currently in the process of identifying the top ten prolific offenders. This initiative will have a significant impact upon helping to reduce the level of domestic burglary rates within the area.

A weekly review is undertaken to identify hotspots of domestic burglary both in Saddleworth and Lees. The pattern of burglary activity changes so frequently it is impossible to identify relevant hotspots at the time of writing this Plan.

The Police will be looking to target harden the crime affected areas through initiatives like alley-gating and Smart Water which is a unique property marking system. In addition, extra visible patrols will be undertaken, particularly in Holts, Alt and Lees.

There is a need for the Police to build robust relationships and networks with local people and agencies to encourage local people to make direct contact with local police officers.

The Police Township Officers are proactive in their approach to establishing networks in the area such as Homewatch and Pubwatch schemes. One example of this, is their assistance to Lees and District Pubwatch to bid for funding to purchase a digital hand held radio system which is currently utilised in other areas.

CCTV has already been installed in Lees village funded jointly by the Home Office and local businesses. The system has proved to be instrumental in tackling crime in the area.

A CCTV system is soon to be installed in the Uppermill area, and should be operational by the end of February 2004.

It is recognised that there is a need to establish greater links with the Youth Service to develop initiatives to tackle the increasing levels of anti-social behaviour caused by youths, especially within Uppermill, Lees, Holts and Alt.

The Police are working closely with the Community Safety Team and with the Community Beat Officers to collect evidence against target youths to address anti-social behaviour and build on the Anti-Social Behaviour Orders already in place across the Borough. Other methods are being used such as Parenting Orders, Behavioural Contracts and Injunctions where appropriate.

A dedicated Tactical Youth Section has been formed by Greater Manchester Police, consisting of police officers specially selected to work with young people. The Tactical Youth Section will be deployed to areas where young people are causing annoyance. This targeted action will be in consultation with the area Police Inspector.

Four Anti-Social Behaviour Orders have already been imposed on youths on the Alt and Holts estates, with three further orders being sought. Five Acceptable Behaviour Contracts (ABC's) have been signed by young people, which are intended to curb anti-social behaviour before it requires full ASB Orders to be taken out.

Whilst there are no Anti-Social Behaviour Orders involving the private sector at this time, all cases of anti-social behaviour, whether in private or public sector housing, are investigated by the Anti-Social Behaviour Team and dealt with according to their severity and the evidence prevailing.

The Police have established Operation Ravi, to deal with the increasing problem of off road motorcycles in the area. A specialist off road team is currently being developed across the Police Division (funded through the GMP traffic network section) and Oldham Council and will be deployed as necessary to deal with the issues.

The Children's Fund Partnership, through the On Track Programme, is currently funding a number of crime prevention initiatives in the area. These include supporting children at risk of exclusion at Alt and St. Hugh's Primary School, a School Police Liaison project promoting positive links between families and the police and financial assistance towards Holts Family Support Unit who provide a range of targeted activities and services.

As a result of consultation with local retailers regarding the selling of alcohol to under-age youths, the local police are undertaking a series of measures to address the problem.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

As the diversity of each Area Committee differs so greatly, Community Safety Panels have been established to address problems at a local level. Although each area has its own unique problems and issues, individual areas will differ but will be concerned with the same core issues.

The Panels consist of a cross section of representatives from various agencies depending upon local problems, but have a core membership made up of each Police Township Inspector, designated Community Safety Officer and representatives of social landlords and tenants groups.

These issues will be reflected in the development of Community Safety Plans, which will be produced for each of the six Area Committees. Area targets will be produced as part of the development of the area based Community Safety Plans.

Joint operations with Council Housing Officers undertaking, for example, evening patrols to see at first hand tenants causing anti-social behaviour.

Diversions activities and increased youth provision to reduce the risk of young people offending.

Continuing to promote and encourage confidence in local communities by attending local tenants and residents, Homewatch and Pubwatch meetings.

Targeting offenders by utilising the knowledge and expertise of other partner organisations and positively promoting the role and work of the Police through, for example, a media Strategy.

ENVIRONMENT AND TRANSPORTATION

Environment and Transportation is a Priority for Action theme in Oldham's Community Strategy. The Community Strategy vision states:

“An Oldham of clean streets and decent housing, where there are many green parks and where it is safe to play, work or sit. An Oldham of “green corridors”, open spaces and woodland, where wildlife abounds. Where leisure facilities are close to hand and affordable. An Oldham where people of different abilities and different cultures support each other and live in harmony. Where our industrial past is celebrated but we live for the future. An Oldham where all people's opinions are acted upon and health and support services are accessible and affordable. Where traffic is reduced and public transport is less expensive, safer and more reliable providing access for everyone to the opportunities and facilities available. It is where useful employment is available and unpaid work is valued and where waste, of resources and people, is reduced.”

The Environment and Transportation elements of this vision focus on:

- Conserving and enhancing the land, air and water of Oldham Borough and the wider world, together with prudent use of our global natural resources, essential for maintaining an environment that will in turn support human kind for generations to come
- The towns and villages that make up Oldham Borough need to be well designed, well built and well maintained to deliver clean, green and attractive buildings, streetscapes and open spaces
 - The Borough's transportation system needs further development to deliver genuine transport choices for local people to access employment and services, whilst minimising pollution and use of fossil fuels.

What Local People Say:

The Environment, along with Community Safety, were the two main issues which people were most concerned about.

In Saddleworth, nearly all the residents were appreciative of the scenic countryside surrounding them and considered the area to be generally quiet, clean and well maintained.

In the main, residents of Uppermill considered tourists to the area to be of great benefit and welcomed the high number of visitors. Some concerns were raised about parking and traffic congestion but a number of people were not sure how the Council could address these issues. The lack of parking in the majority of residential areas in Saddleworth and Lees was also a major concern for a number of residents.

Some general concerns were raised with regard to environmental improvements such as problems of localised flooding in autumn and winter as a result of roads not being swept clear of fallen leaves. Pockets of litter were reported and one area of concern was the level of litter around the Canal in Uppermill, although it was thought some work might have been done to clean up the area.

People felt that there were good opportunities to access the countryside and a number of scenic walks. Parks and open spaces were considered to be generally good, but too few in number and it was felt that Lees Park had been neglected. There were also some concerns about the lack of and poor maintenance of equipment in some of the children's play areas and the lack of facilities for young people.

Public transport was considered to be the major issue for the area, hindering people's opportunity to access jobs, shopping and recreational facilities and generally leaving people feeling isolated in the more remote villages. The buses are considered to be both infrequent and unreliable, with some services only operating hourly or two hourly and with no evening service.

There were mixed views about shopping in Saddleworth and Lees, with a number of people being unhappy to travel outside the area to a supermarket such as Tesco's and said that they would like one to be built in Saddleworth. In contrast, the building of a new supermarket did receive opposition by other local residents.

Residents of Diggle were angered that the majority of shops have now closed down and the bus service is so poor they feel exceptionally isolated and find it difficult to access any facilities including supermarkets, doctors and pharmacies.

Some residents in Uppermill felt that the village shops met their needs, whilst others felt that the 'traditional' shops had shut down and too many were now catering for tourists.

A number of people living in Lees generally felt that the shops were good but that there were too many take-aways.

Residents of Alt felt that the shops on Abbeyhills Road had now become an eye-sore and that the shop fronts were in need of renovating. There were mixed views from both residents of Alt and Holts as to whether the shops in their areas met their needs, but on the whole, it was suggested that they did. Shopkeepers in this area requested CCTV to assist with the reduction of crime.

The collection of waste was thought to be good and people felt that the waste collection service met their needs.

Some people expressed their concerns about the environmental problems associated with Highmoor Quarry, particularly in the summer months.

People living in Holts and Alt considered their environment to be extremely poor. Problems of litter, poor street lighting, speeding cars, a lack of play facilities for children and young people were only a small number of the problems reported. In addition, concerns were raised with regard to the erection of a mobile phone mast at the Welcome pub on Abbeyhills Road.

Some residents felt that the area of Alt and Holts was dirty and untidy, although a number felt that this was the fault of some local residents who had no pride in the area that they live.

What is Good About the Area:

Saddleworth and Lees, as an area, offers a very high quality environment, not least encapsulated by numerous conservation areas and listed buildings in terms of the built environment and the National Park in terms of the natural environment.

Good quality, high value housing creates a positive image and pleasant street environment in many parts of Saddleworth and Lees.

A robust housing market and thriving economy lend themselves to being complemented by a high quality environment.

The Saddleworth and Lees area offers an attractive countryside that is permeated by many tourist attractions, including villages, Dovestones and Castleshaw.

Huddersfield Canal and Standedge Tunnel have been recently restored and are now navigable.

Statistics:

Performance in Saddleworth and Lees

LITTER

Street cleanliness index is measured regularly. It is a measurement made between 1 and 100 with 65 being good and 75 excellent. The measurement for the Borough is:

June '02 – 70; Feb '03 – 76.

The area has 17 local people who are Litterwatchers. They help the Council by alerting them to problems and arranging community activities.

The Environmental Action Unit is a team of three Officers who investigate litter and fly tipping with a view to taking enforcement action wherever possible against offenders who drop litter and fly tip within the Borough. The Unit deals with over 3,000 requests per year and, in addition, undertakes patrols to identify offenders and issue fixed penalty notices for littering or allowing their dogs to foul in public areas.

Across the Borough, the following enforcement activity took place during 2002/3:

Type of Enforcement Activity	Level of Activity
Flytipping prosecutions and formal cautions	8
Littering prosecutions and cautions	5
Litter fixed penalty notices issued	23
Dog fouling fixed penalty notices issued	14
Legal notices on waste land	288
Other formal warning letters/informal notices	283
Total service requests for enforcement action response	3,010 (98% action within 3 working days)
Warning letters to shops/sites re: street litter control notices	30

There are 8 Ecoschools in the area. The Ecoschools programme increases the school's general environmental performance and awareness. A major element of this is focused upon waste and litter.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Development pressure will continue to threaten the local environment.

Pressures are placed on the environment from increasing levels of tourism, particularly traffic and parking. This is exemplified by a shortage of car parking and visitor facilities, such as public toilets.

High Moor quarry has many associated environmental and traffic problems, although a new private road has alleviated some of these.

There is a shortage and continuing loss of employment land with a pressure for change to residential use, one recent example of which is the Alexandra Craft Centre.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

There are problems with young people in Lees Park.

The Saddleworth area lacks recreational open space and can be inaccessible to the general public as a result of much of the land being in private ownership.

ROAD SAFETY

Government target – The Government's Road Safety Strategy contains national casualty reduction targets to be achieved by 2010, in all cases compared to the average for 1994-98. The targets are:

- a 40% reduction in the number of people killed or seriously injured (KSI) in road traffic accidents;
- a 50% reduction in the number of children killed or seriously injured; and
- a 10% reduction in the slight casualty rate, expressed as the number of people slightly injured per 100 million vehicle kilometres.

The targets were amended in 2002 to require unspecified greater reductions in deprived areas.

Borough target – The post-2000 targets adopted by the ten authorities for Greater Manchester in its Road Safety Strategy are as follows and the base years are 1994-98 as for the national targets. The figures in brackets are the national targets, as described above. It can be seen that in the first case, the GM target is more onerous than the

national target. Further advice is still awaited from the Department for Transport (DfT) on the methodology for measuring the slight casualty rate at a local level before this target can be determined.

Casualty Category (or accidents involving)	Casualties		Accidents	
	Reduction by 2005 (for LTP)	Reduction by 2010	Reduction by 2005 (for LTP)	Reduction by 2010
Killed or seriously injured (KSI)	37%	50% (40%)	37%	50%
Children killed or seriously injured	36%	50% (50%)	36%	50%
Slight casualty rate	*	* (10%)	*	*
Pedal cyclists	17%	25%	-	-
Pedestrians	17%	25%	-	-

* denotes 'to be determined'

Area Target

It is emphasised that the national and GM targets were set on the basis that they would be applied to Highway Authority areas, in other words to the whole of Oldham Borough. There are significant difficulties in using casualty reduction targets at a smaller area level arising from the random nature of the events concerned, the fact that there are many external influences not under the control of the Council and the very small numbers involved in many cases.

Borough Performance

The baseline road traffic accident casualty statistics for the Borough as a whole are given in the following table. Note that the last line refers to accidents, not casualties.

	Base average 1994-98	Latest full year- 2002	Target 2010	% reduction needed on 2002 to achieve target	
				Borough	GM
KSI	109	61	54	11.5	39.6
Child KSI	29	18	14	22.2	30.0
Pedal cyclists	80	40	60	On target	On target
Pedestrians	272	206	204	1.0	12.4
All casualties (KSI's + slights)	1371	1020	-	-	-
All accidents (KSI's + slights)	992	750	-	-	-

Saddleworth and Lees Performance

	Base – Average (1994-98)		Latest Full Year 2002		Target 2010
KSI	19.0	(17.7%)	17	(27.9%)	9
Child KSI	2.2	(7.7%)	2	(11.1%)	-
Pedal cyclists	7.8	(9.9%)	5	(12.5%)	6
Pedestrians	22.8	(8.4%)	14	(6.8%)	17
All casualties (KSI's & slights)	178.0	(13.0%)	126	(12.4%)	-
All accidents (KSIs + slights)	119.2	(12.1%)	87	(11.6%)	-

Note: Percentages in brackets indicate proportion of whole Borough total.

In all cases, progress towards the 2010 target has been better in the Borough than in Greater Manchester as a whole, as indicated by the comparisons in the last two columns. Oldham Borough is ranked second or third of the ten authorities on this basis.

An **Air Quality Action Plan** has been developed to address poor air quality issues within the Borough including traffic related pollution.

Local traffic congestion issues exist and have a detrimental impact on the environment, particularly in central Lees, Uppermill and Greenfield.

Poor public transport provision is a key social exclusion issue. There is a need to have more contractual partnerships with the bus operators to ensure that deprived and rural areas are better served.

LOCAL CENTRES

Good local centres can be found at Uppermill, Greenfield and Lees and are complemented by good environments. There is also a good range of pubs, cafés, restaurants and take-aways in Uppermill and Lees, catering for residents, tourists and the night-time economy.

The majority of villages are well served by a range of shops. However, Diggle and Denshaw have only one shop available to them.

There is some concern about the sustainability of some of the local shops as people travel outside the area to shop at the larger supermarkets. The decline of local shops can already be seen in some of the villages such as Delph, Greenfield and Diggle.

Uppermill has its own Civic Hall which provides an excellent community resource for events such as wedding receptions, jumble sales and concerts.

What is Happening Now:

LITTER

The Council has a **Community Litter Plan** which aims to: improve response times for the removal of litter, fly tipping, graffiti and fly posting; improve the response time for the removal of abandoned vehicles in partnership with the Police; introduce new or replacement litter bins; issue fly tipping prosecutions and cautions; issue littering fixed penalty notices, litter control notices, prosecutions and cautions; issue fixed penalty notices

for dog fouling; and to develop the Eco School programme.

The provision of the Street Cleaning service includes litter removal and the removal of fly-tipped and dumped waste from highways, adopted passageways and other land for which the Council is responsible under the Environmental Protection Act.

The Service also removes graffiti and fly posting from public and private buildings and property, needles and sharps and dumped special wastes such as asbestos and tyres, as well as dog waste and chewing gum.

The Service also removes litter and fly tipped material from privately owned land or land that is unoccupied and seeks to recover the cost. A third of the Council's current workload relates to removing fly tipped material from the backs of residential property, highway verges and open land.

Area Committees are being consulted about how they would like to prioritise street cleaning in their area. The Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee is assisting in the development of a litter plan and identifying priorities specific to the area.

The Council has appointed an additional 24 Street Cleaners across the Borough.

There will be more mechanisation for footpath sweeping patrols to remove silt and dirt.

Welfare to Work Plus funds projects to engage more people, including young people, to engage in environment related work by providing wage subsidies, training and qualifications.

Shift working is to be introduced to provide more early morning, evening and weekend cleansing with greater use of mechanical equipment outside normal working hours.

The existing newspaper and magazine recycling scheme is to be extended to cover a wider range of materials including green waste. Householders will be provided with new containers for the collection scheme as part of the programme.

THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

The **Diggle/Tunnel End Regeneration Study** has been produced and approved. The study is aimed at delivering benefits from the canal and in particular the Oldham end of the Standedge Tunnel.

A feasibility study and sketch plans have been produced for the **Diggle Environment Centre** which is the proposed centrepiece of the Tunnel End visitor area.

Good quality new developments are taking place to create local employment and diversify

the economy which should result in high quality developments in terms of design

£3.5 million is being spent each year up to March 2006, on improving retaining walls. This will mean that there will be temporary traffic signals but will lead to improved footways, lighting and image.

The Woodland Strategy has been approved and implementation is being pursued through Pennine Edge Forest initiative discussions with neighbouring authorities and North West Development Agency.

A number of development proposals including Knoll Spinning in Greenfield, Delph Goods Yard and Victoria Works in Dobcross will be subject to planning application approval.

A joint Heritage Strategy has been produced for the Standing Conference of South Pennine Authorities (SCOSPA) which will consider the countryside management of the areas heritage assets.

PARKS AND OPEN SPACES

A variety of improvements are to be made as part of the New Opportunities Fund "Transforming Your Space" during a three year programme, beginning Autumn 2003, under the themes of play, recreation and open space. Proposals under the programme include the upgrade of parks at Delph, Greenfield and Uppermill, the development of sporting facilities at Denshaw and Alt and a skate-board park at Uppermill.

There is a proposal to secure funding for Pennine Edge Forest by the end of 2003 for tree planting and landscaping.

Snipe Clough is to benefit from a major derelict land grant to encourage countryside recreation in the urban area. A three year programme beginning in Autumn 2003 will take place to make the area easier to use and access and more welcoming and safe. Proposals include improving bridleways, paths and woodland.

A number of improvements are being made to Churchill Playing Fields regarding paths, running track and provision of a 'trim trail'.

Children's parks can be found within most villages of Saddleworth and Lees including Delph, Dobcross, Diggle, Uppermill, Greenfield and Lees. New play equipment has been allocated to King George V Playing Fields and St. Chad's park in Uppermill.

In addition, Lees Park, which was refurbished in 1994, has recently had improvements made to the cycle area and pitches. The Park also has a Friends of the Park group.

Lees Cemetery has recently undergone a programme to make safe unstable headstones

and memorials.

TRANSPORT

In order to address the accident hotspots in the area, the following works are to be carried out as part of the **Local Safety Scheme Programme**. The Local Safety Scheme aims to achieve maximum casualty reduction from the resources available in pursuance of the adopted local targets. The projects in Saddleworth and Lees are:

- A635 Manchester Road/B6175 Huddersfield Road/Well-I-hole Road, Greenfield – traffic signs and road markings, visibility improvements
- St. John Street/Victoria Street, Lees – one way street
- A669 Oldham Road, Grotton – safety camera cabinet
- B6194 Abbeyhills Road, Alt (DWD) – modifications to Pelican crossing, new pedestrian crossing facilities, changes to road markings
- A62 Oldham Road and Huddersfield Road, Delph – traffic signs and road markings, highlighting of bends, speed limit review
- A669 Oldham Road, Springhead (Ivy Green Drive – Station Street) – Modifications to road markings including right turn lanes, pedestrian refuges, sheltered parking, improved signing, surface treatments.

The Borough is unique in the Greater Manchester Travel Plan area as being the only Borough to benefit from **Quality Bus Corridor** designation extending in all four directions out of the Town Centre.

The **Lees – Oldham – Manchester QBC** is currently being implemented with a number of site specific bus priority measures.

Other bus corridor inputs are proposed in the Saddleworth area, on the loop extending from the above. The recent Rural Bus Challenge bid for community transport provision in the Uppermill area was successful and the Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive are working on implementing community transport initiatives linking Uppermill and Greenfield station.

The Town Centre Strategy will maximise access for all sustainable modes – providing cycle, motorcycle and disabled parking facilities, complementing initiatives such as the proposed Metrolink extension and the new Central Bus Station, to provide safer, more direct,

pedestrian and cycle access to the Town Centre.

Cycling

One of the key policies of the Oldham Cycling Strategy, adopted in July 2002, is the creation of safer cycle routes which would provide an alternative to the main road network. A study subsequently undertaken to determine how these safer cycle routes could be provided in the Borough highlighted the need to develop an Oldham Cycle Network supplemented by Local Cycle Networks which are described below.

Oldham Cycle Network

The Oldham Cycle Network would constitute a coherent network of strategic cycle routes that link together to provide cyclists with a safer environment to cycle within and across, the Borough boundary. The network would also incorporate sections of the National Cycle Network and would provide links to employment sites, recreation facilities, secondary schools and colleges, shopping facilities, public transport facilities, and so on.

The Oldham Cycle Network would be composed of sections of off-road cycle track or traffic calmed streets/quiet roads. The Oldham Cycle Network would not include the use of cycle lanes on busy main roads as these would be considered only suitable for experienced cyclists.

Local Cycle Networks

Local Cycle Networks would supplement the Oldham Cycle Network by creating safer cycle routes within local residential areas through area-wide traffic calming initiatives. These local networks would provide:

- a safer cycle environment for local cycle journeys, such as to the local shop
- a safer environment for children to cycle and play close to their home
- feeder cycle routes to the Oldham Cycle Network

In general it is not practical to provide extensive networks of off-road cycle track in residential areas due to the lack of space. However there would be a need to create short sections of off-road cycle track within residential areas in order to provide local connecting cycle routes, such as across open spaces.

General

The networks are currently in draft form and it is proposed to undertake an extensive consultation exercise in 2004 to allow the networks to be fine tuned with respect to route alignments and to ensure that many local issues are taken into consideration in the network design.

The identification of the Oldham Cycle Network and Local Cycle Networks will enable many sections of cycle route to be incorporated within new developments and regeneration projects.

Part of the Borough that lies within the National Park has been involved in the development of the South Pennines Integrated Transport Strategy (SPITS). A key aim of this is to safeguard the National Park environment, reducing transport impacts and ensuring access for all.

There will be a greater focus upon the maintenance of roads. This is due to a Council decision to change the balance between road maintenance and road improvements and also due to additional funding secured to maintain major roads.

Better use is to be made of the railway at Greenfield and Greater Manchester Passenger Transport Executive have commissioned consultants to examine short term improvements. There is a need to lobby for a Sunday service to help both local people and the tourism industry. A new station is proposed at Diggle but £2m of funding required is not yet available.

Weekend car parking charges have been introduced at Dove Stones Reservoir as part of a wider car park management strategy for Saddleworth tourist attractions.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

The Area Committee needs to work with local people to decide on the lengths of road to be prioritised for road maintenance.

Problems with traffic such as high volume, congestion and parking, particularly in the centres of Uppermill, Greenfield and Lees need to be dealt with. A package of measures need to be implemented to deal with the increasing number of visitors, such as improving the train services and station facilities and improving the walking and cycling routes between Greenfield station and Uppermill. In addition, securing park and ride at Marsden Visitor Centre would also alleviate some of the traffic pressures in the area.

There is a need to manage tourist pressures, particularly in Uppermill. The management of visitor/tourist sites at both Dove Stones and Castleshaw need to be considered.

The need to capitalise on regeneration opportunities presented by the canal will be key for the area. In addition, funding needs to be secured to develop the visitor centre at Diggle

and more work needs to be undertaken on the promotion of the Oldham end of the Tunnel.

Consideration needs to be given to transport in the area and promoting the development of Diggle Station will be a priority. There is a need to seek more trains to stop at Greenfield Station and to develop related public transport, such as park and ride and better train/bus co-ordination.

The area needs to encourage the retention and development of local employment and local retailing for the benefit of local people and the local economy.

Consultation on the proposals under the Rural Bus Challenge will need to take place and the Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee could play a key role in the process.

Funding is to be sought to implement a Home Zone on the Alt estate.

Supporting the infrastructure of the area as it develops, to ensure adequate provision of housing, sewers, schools and maintenance of roads is made whilst ensuring the sustainability of local shops and the fabric of the area is not at risk of deterioration from over development of sites.

ECONOMY AND EMPLOYMENT

Economy is a Priority for Action theme within Oldham's Community Strategy. The Strategy states:

"To create a Borough of well-educated people who have available good quality opportunities for employment and self-employment. To create a vibrant, diverse and sustainable local economy which offers fullest and equal opportunity for all and a healthy and secure local, social and economic environment."

In addition to this vision, the Community Strategy contains a number of Strategic Objectives and Priorities with regard to the economy. These have been informed by the recommendations of the Oldham Independent Review and the detailed response published in June 2002. These have been refined further following a series of consultative events with the local business and residential communities. Targets under this theme remain to be established.

What Local People Say:

A range of views were expressed with regard to the economy in the area.

People in Saddleworth felt that there was good access to job opportunities although the majority of these were in and around the Town Centre. Some people expressed concern that problems with public transport hindered local people from accessing employment where they would be expected to work unsocial hours, such as evenings and Sundays.

Some people felt that the decline of the textile industry, especially in Delph, had had a detrimental effect on the local shops as the workforce in this area had reduced in recent years due to the closure of a number of mills.

It has been said that there is a need to attract high-tech and knowledge-based job opportunities to the area to attract inward investment and provide good quality jobs for local people.

People in Alt and Holts felt that there were poor employment prospects in the area and that the majority of people in employment were low paid. Unemployment was considered to be high in this area and there was a perception that the situation would become worse over time.

What is Good About the Area:

Uppermill has a stable economy, with a number of shops, such as cafés and gift shops, catering for visitors to the area. The tourist industry, therefore, plays a significant role in ensuring the sustainability of the shops in this area.

There are a number of businesses within Saddleworth and Lees who provide a wide range of employment opportunities for local people.

There is a thriving night-time economy especially in Uppermill and Lees with the extensive range of public houses, wine bars, restaurants and take-aways.

This area contains a large percentage of residents with a high income level, including many of the professional staff and Managing Directors of the Borough's businesses.

The pleasant setting of this area provides an excellent backdrop for existing businesses to operate and to attract future economic growth.

Statistics:

Government target – Over the three years to Spring 2006, increase the employment rates of the disadvantaged areas and groups, taking account of the economic cycle- lone parents, ethnic minorities, people aged 50 and over, those with the lowest qualifications, and the 30 local authority districts with the poorest initial labour market position, and significantly reduce the difference between their employment rates and the overall rate.

Borough targets - The following range of employment performance targets have been proposed for the Borough.

Indicator	Baseline Position	Target Position
% of population aged 16-74 years who are employed (GM Research/NOMIS, July 2003)	Area Average 64.7 Borough average 59	Increase the number of people in employment
Long Term Unemployment Rate	Area Average 9.7% Borough Average 10.1%	Reduce the number of long term unemployed
Youth Unemployment Rate (16-19 year olds)	Area Average 6.5% Borough Average 8.2%	Reduce the number of young people unemployed

Appendix 3, Table 5 shows the economic performance in Saddleworth and Lees.

In general, the area has lower than average rates of economic deprivation when compared to the Borough as a whole.

This area is difficult to access which detracts businesses from investing in the area. In addition, the Saddleworth and Lees area is located a long distance from the nearest motorway connections.

Few large employers are present in this area and existing companies are finding it increasingly difficult to recruit local people.

Saddleworth and Lees is home to many old mills which are no longer suitable for modern industrial use or conversion and there is a limited number of modern premises suitable for industrial and office businesses.

There exists low rental and capital values of industrial and office premises due to lack of demand.

What is Happening Now:

The **Lone Parents Into Work** project, funded by Welfare to Work Plus and run by Opportunities for Women, provides a holistic service of guidance, information, training and support to assist lone parents into paid and voluntary work, further education and training.

The tourism potential of this area is high and offers a key growth sector on which to maximise. Key opportunities exist to increase tourism/visitors from the re-opening of the Huddersfield Canal and a number of tourism initiatives aimed at encouraging visitors to the area are planned.

A number of refurbishment/developments are taking place including Royal George Mills and the former Owl Mill site for employment use.

There is also a need to consider ways of former woollen mills being used for new uses including residential, leisure and the service industry such as the mixed conversion of Buckley New Mill in Uppermill.

Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West are eligible for funding under Priority 1 of the European Regional Development Fund and Lees ward is eligible for both Priority 1 and 2 funding. The area therefore benefits from a range of projects including:

- Business support to help young people into business by signposting to business skills training, business plan appraisal, access to information, finance advice on premises, information on environmental good practice and aftercare
- A range of support packages for Small to Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs)

including advice on equal opportunities, health and safety and security.

- Assisting in the regeneration of Oldham and its surrounding areas by stimulating the creation of high value added businesses, which will provide growth potential and good employment opportunities for local people
- A number of business support projects for women entrepreneurs
- Providing funding to support projects which are run by the voluntary and community sector including '**Advice On Line**' which links nine small community organisations involved in employment assistance and guidance via an intranet
- Providing support to residents living within the Priority wards, in the form of advice surgeries on all aspects of finding work from debt and benefits advice to job seeking support
- Co-ordinating the development of the Oldham Credit Union as an organisation helping to address issues of socio-economic exclusion
- A range of capacity building and Intermediate Labour Market initiatives
- Projects which support young people such as the '**New Roots Music**' which focuses particularly on those most disadvantaged, who are considering the many options offered through a career in music

What Will Take the Area Forward:

There is a need to establish a policy for the re-use of Old Mill properties for which there is little demand for industrial use.

Maximising the opportunity to develop Primary Employment Zones offering good opportunities to hi-tech and knowledge-based jobs and ensuring targeted marketing to attract inward investment to the area.

Linking current and future employment needs that are within easy access with training opportunities and appropriate support mechanisms to enable local people to take advantage of the opportunities.

To enhance the public transport system to ensure that local people are able to access job opportunities.

VOLUNTARY SECTOR

Voluntary, Community and Faith Groups

A large proportion of people across Saddleworth and Lees are involved in voluntary, community and faith groups. Many of them play an essential role in the work and activities detailed in the other chapters of this Plan. This ranges from the delivery of services for local people to providing mutual support for their members.

The collective views of the voluntary and community sector are expressed through Voluntary Action Oldham (VAO), the representative body for the sector. Oldham Development Agency for Community Action (ODACA) is the development body which seeks to enhance the capacity of the sector and strengthen individual member groups. VAO and ODACA work with the Interfaith Forum to provide the central representative and development functions for all voluntary, community and faith groups across the Borough. Together they help produce strategic contributions across all issues that the people of the Borough face. They do this through the Community Network.

The vision of VAO is

“a prosperous Borough that has tackled social exclusion and whose communities have the capacity to influence decisions about the quality of life. A Borough where the collective view of the voluntary and community organisations is included in the strategic decision making processes that affect the lives of everyone who visits, lives or works in Oldham”.

Their priorities for the Borough are:

- Community cohesion and equal opportunities for all
- Capacity building to increase the self-determination of communities and influence decisions that effect their lives
- Combating social and economic exclusion
- To work to ensure all consultation with voluntary, community and faith groups is thorough, realistic, effective, inclusive and respected
- To develop a Volunteers Strategy for the borough
- To develop community transport services to meet the needs of the Borough

- To work towards the principles of social inclusion and equal opportunities for all and to promote racial equality throughout the Borough's voluntary and community sector
- To aim to ensure that voluntary, community and multiracial/multicultural groups are active and equal partners in the Borough's framework of influence
- To develop a strong voice for the sector through an accountable and inclusive partnership which represents umbrella and individual
- To be proactive in identifying issues affecting the voluntary, community and faith groups

The Community Network of VAO, ODACA and the Interfaith Forum has developed a series of Panels and Networks that that will help influence the themes in this Plan. They are:

The **Housing and Neighbourhoods Panel**, who have worked to re-establish the Borough's Housing Forum so a wide range of groups from the voluntary, community and faith sector can participate in developing housing strategy for all households of the Borough. They have also secured resources for a team of people to help local groups draw together ideas for the renewal of their area. This Panel will also be carrying forward ideas for what the Area Based Community Empowerment Structure should look like (see community empowerment section that relates to this).

The **Economy and Regeneration Panel** has been keeping an involvement in the work of the LSP in developing a vision and the practical means for renewing the economy and physical infrastructure of the Borough. They have also been generating ideas as to how the voluntary, community and faith sector can be best involved in these Borough-wide and longer-term issues of regeneration and building the local economy.

The work of the **Health and Social Care Panel** is to ensure that the strengths and needs of the Borough are taken seriously within the renewal plans. They have been involved in the planning for the building of some of the new Health facilities of the Borough (through the LIFT process). They are also seeking to ensure that there is effective public and patient involvement in improving the health and social care of people in the Borough. They are currently involved in addressing the three-year Strategy for Health in the Borough.

The **Environment Forum** is carrying forward a range of very practical ideas for the improvement of the sustainability agenda for the Borough as well as improving the physical appearance of the Borough. They are also working through how to put Agenda 21 into action across the Borough.

The **Community Cohesion Panel** has engaged each of the strategic bodies in the voluntary, community and faith sector to address the cohesion issues of the Borough

with their collective strength and skill. They have a programme that includes Borough-wide mediation processes, training of local people in facilitation and mediation skills, resource production, building partnerships on this theme across the Borough and helping to coordinate activities to carry forward the agenda.

The **Training and Learning Panel** has been established to identify training needs, providers and courses within the sector. There is an ODACA/ CETO Training Co-ordinator who co-ordinates and acts upon that information.

The **Children and Young People Panel** has recently been formed. It will be the Borough wide body to represent all the voluntary, community and faith sector organisations in relation to strategy and resource allocation at cross sector level. The panel will also work closely with the Children and Youth Alliance that is developing ways to help co-ordinate and support children and youth provision within Saddleworth and Lees.

VAO and ODACA have plans to create a **Community Safety Panel** but this will be once the Area Community Empowerment Strategy is more established. (See Community Empowerment section about this work)

There is also a plan to set up an **Art, Leisure and Sports Panel** in due course.

Alongside the work of the Panels, four other aspects of the Community Network have been developed over the last year: the **Black and Minority Ethnic Network**, the **Women's Network**, and the **Youth Empowerment Process**. Each of these has increased the representation of 'need to reach' groups within the participation structures of the Borough. There is still a great deal that needs to be done to strengthen this representation and ensure that it is sustainable. Other 'need to reach' groups also need to be engaged such as the elderly, the disabled, those with learning difficulties, gays and lesbians, and asylum seekers, amongst others.

For more information contact ODACA, VAO, c/o 37 Greaves Street, Oldham OL1 1TJ.
E-mail: ceto@odaca.net Tel: 0161 633 3584 or the Interfaith Workers Forum at Rear of 317 Waterloo Street, Oldham. OL4 1ER

ARTS, LEISURE AND CULTURE

Arts provision in the Borough is designed, marketed and delivered to meet the needs of specific audiences, usually on a Borough-wide basis. Arts activities and cultural events take place in the most appropriate venue for the target audience and this is determined by size, availability, physical and cultural access. In general terms, arts provision takes two forms: events (either interactive workshops or performances) designed to engage the target audience and taking place at an appropriate, accessible location; and arts activities happening in the community either in response to requests from community groups who wish to undertake their own arts projects, or as part of an outreach programme.

Similarly, sport and recreation is provided on a Borough-wide basis by a range of agencies. In addition to a wide range of sports clubs recreation provision is made available through a range of pools, sports halls and synthetic pitches by Oldham Community Leisure Ltd, who operate and manage these facilities on behalf of the Council. Community sport and recreation provision is made available free of charge on school sites and a range of public open spaces in all areas of the Borough by the Education & Cultural Services Sports Development team.

Sport, recreation and the arts can and do, bring people together to share positive cultural and learning experiences and contribute significantly to cross cultural understanding. Many activities are designed with this aim. However, there are few outdoor or indoor venues in the Borough which are seen as safe and accessible to a wide range of people and can accommodate significant infrastructure and a large number of participants. Thus, much of the activity takes place in the cultural quarter and town centre as well as parks, schools and sports centres.

Arts & Culture

The Borough is noted for having one of the liveliest and entertainment calendars in the North West, incorporating comedy, dance, children's and adult's theatre productions and music events spanning a range of traditions from brass to bhangra, as well as major annual events such as Festival Oldham, the Kite Festival, Rickshaw Grandprix, Out-of-the-City music festival, Walton Festival and the Oldham Mela and Diwali celebrations. 2003 will see the first Urban Music Seminar in the Borough. This three day national event, which showcases the very best in urban music and attracts thousands from across the country, has relocated to Oldham initially for three years.

Gallery Oldham presents a varied and accessible programme of exhibitions incorporating the Borough's extensive collections of art, social and natural history, national touring

exhibitions and specially commissioned work. The exhibitions are complemented by a programme of events, performances and artist led workshops for all ages.

Saddleworth Museum in Uppermill is housed in a former mill building located next to the Huddersfield Narrow Canal which has been recently restored to through navigation. The Museum is operated by a charitable trust and not only reflects the history of the Saddleworth villages but also mounts exhibitions and events in a purpose built extension.

Oldham Theatre Workshop has a national reputation for providing high quality drama and performance opportunities for young people of all ages and abilities. Recently relocated to the Cultural Quarter, Theatre Workshop operates from a range of venues across the Borough including theatres, schools, youth and community centres.

The Oldham Music Service also has a national reputation for nurturing the musical talent of young people in the Borough's schools. It provides a wide range of musical groups and choirs and organises a wide range of performances throughout the year. Many people in the area find outlets for their theatrical and musical talents through the range of brass bands, choirs and amateur operatic and theatrical societies which proliferate in the Borough.

Oldham Coliseum Theatre is recognised regionally and nationally and regularly wins critical and popular acclaim for its productions and for a range of associated events and activities. The Coliseum has been a recipient of the Regional Theatre of the Year Award and its productions, particularly its annual pantomime, draw audiences from across the region. The Theatre is also seeking, in collaboration with Peshkar Productions, to develop opportunities for a range of people, particularly those from Asian heritage backgrounds, to experience theatre and to participate in and involve themselves in productions.

In addition to the above the Saddleworth area of the Borough stages the Whit Friday Band Contest which attracts brass bands from across the country to contests in all the local villages and the annual Rush Cart Festival organised by Saddleworth Morris Men in August. Both events attract thousands of visitors.

Heritage

The history of Oldham Borough during the nineteenth century is one of dramatic change, from obscure Pennine village to cotton spinning capital of the world. The Borough's fascinating industrial history includes hatting, coal mining, textile machinery manufacture and cotton spinning. Its recent history has seen the development of new industries to replace cotton and the integration of new cultural traditions and religions.

Gallery Oldham has extensive collections relating to the social and industrial history of the Borough and makes them accessible through exhibitions, touring shows, school and community loans and the gallery's collections website. Discrete projects such as Oldham

Voices will contribute to a contemporary archive of life in the Borough. This partnership project between Gallery Oldham and Oldham Race Equality Partnership (OREP) will be recording on audio tape and video the personal experiences of the Borough's residents, young and old, living in the multi-cultural Borough since the 1950's and will provide valuable material for the development of Phase III of the Cultural Quarter. In preparation for the development of Phase III, Gallery Oldham and Oldham Local Studies and Archives will also be researching historical themes and consulting residents of the Borough on what they would like to experience in a new combined museum and local studies service.

There is also an emerging Civic Society which aims to: promote civic pride and high standards of planning and architecture; raise awareness of and secure the protection and development of, features of historic or public interest; undertake research and educate on matters relating to the built environment and urban planning across the Borough.

Libraries, Information & Archives

The library service in Oldham is provided across the Borough through a network of 14 libraries and one mobile library which serves areas which have no static branch library provision. The service provides a wide range of books, CDs, videos and DVDs for adults and children alike, together with free access to IT and the Internet and office systems. It also delivers basic skills and ICT training in partnership with the Lifelong Learning Service.

The library service also provides a wide ranging information service for the community, together with a talking book service for people with a visual impairment, a Home Library Service which makes provision for people who are housebound or unable to use a static library and homework and health collections in every library.

In addition, the local history and archives service collects and preserves a wide range of manuscripts, documents, photographs, books, council material and genealogical information which reflects the history and development of all parts of the Borough.

The library service is also responsible for the provision of tourist information to visitors and residents alike from Tourist Information Centres in central Oldham and Saddleworth Museum in Uppermill.

A new Library and Lifelong Learning Centre is currently in the process of development. This will be constructed at the rear of Gallery Oldham and will provide an increased level of books and ICT for all residents of the Borough.

A list of facilities offered by the Library Service can be found at Appendix 6.

Lifelong Learning Service

The Lifelong Learning Service works in partnership with the Sports Development Service, Libraries, Information & Archives Service, the Gallery, Museum & Arts Service, other Council Services, the Colleges and the voluntary and statutory sectors to deliver cultural and lifelong learning activities for the benefit of individuals and local communities.

Through it's **Widening Participation Strategy** the following strands of development have been identified:

- Health
- Sports & Leisure
- Arts
- Family Learning

Partnership projects have been developed around these themes to engage learners and to empower local communities.

Sport and Recreation

Oldham Community Leisure Ltd.

Oldham Community Leisure is an Independent Industrial and Provident Society which manages and operates a range of facilities on behalf of the Council in locations across the Borough.

These include five indoor sports hall, seven swimming pools, one running track and five floodlit synthetic pitches. These facilities make provision for a wide range of sporting activities for the public, clubs, community groups and schools. In addition to this some of these facilities also provide fitness suites.

Part of the core brief of Oldham Community Leisure is to produce, with the assistance of consultants, a comprehensive Community Leisure and Facilities Strategy for the Borough.

Sports Development

Oldham Sports Development

The Education and Cultural Services Department includes a sports development team which aims to stimulate, increase and maintain lifelong participation in sport and recreation across all areas of the Borough.

The Sports Development team provide a range of activities which include:

Community Sport Development - Three geographically based officers who provide the community development of sport and recreation. They also have the responsibility for sport specific development, creation of sporting pathways, diversity through sport and youth activity programmes across the Borough.

Open for Action – Provision of all year round activity for 9 – 13 year olds across the whole of the Borough, using schools as venues. It also aims to further develop holiday sports programmes, provide community cohesion events, develop child friendly sports clubs, develop sports volunteers, provide coach education programmes and support the Council within its improvement plan.

Unity Sport – Provides an out of school community cohesion programme for 9 – 11 year olds which currently involves three sports and brings together children from throughout the Borough's primary schools to participate in sport together. The programme is funded through Neighbourhood Renewal and links some 40 schools across the Borough.

School Swimming – Delivers a swimming programme to 85 primary, 4 special and 8 secondary schools from across the Borough. It is also involved in the delivery of curriculum, the organisation and running of primary, secondary and special swimming heats/championships/leagues.

Youth Sport and School Sport – Activities that are delivered include the free Borough-wide coaching programmes for Team Oldham's Greater Manchester Youth Games Teams, training courses for teachers, support to schools, support for the development of sports colleges, school coaching programmes, mini sports festivals, school to club links and the roll out of the national PE, School Sport and Club Links Strategy.

NOF PE & School Sport – Attracted £3.36 million external funding for the development of school facilities at the Castleshaw Centre, Radclyffe School, Hathershaw School, Counthill School and the development of Primary school playgrounds.

What Local People Say:

Not surprisingly, people of Saddleworth and Lees felt that there is much to offer both residents and visitors in terms of recreational activities.

In general, most people who live in Saddleworth felt very fortunate to live in the area and were grateful for the wide variety of activities, including walking, cycling and swimming that were available to them.

The Canal received most comments from residents, either because it was considered to be an asset to the area, or the fact that people thought it was nice to walk along.

A number of people made reference to the Whit Friday Band Contest and said that it was something which they looked forward to each year.

The majority of people living in Saddleworth felt that local parks were good and that there was a good choice of activities for young children. However, the lack of facilities in Lees, Holts and Alt was a major concern for these residents and maintenance of the parks was considered to be poor.

A high proportion of residents throughout Saddleworth and Lees felt that there was not enough facilities for young people and that more facilities, such as multi-use sports pitches, should be provided.

What is Good About the Area:

Saddleworth is one of the Borough's main tourist attractions, with its attractive villages and countryside and historical past.

The recent restoration of Huddersfield Narrow Canal and the re-opening of the waterway links through Standedge Tunnel has been a real asset to the tourist industry.

The Saddleworth Museum at Uppermill, housed in a canal-side former mill building, contains a reconstructed 18th century weavers' cottage with working textile machinery and other exhibits. Saddleworth Tourist Information Centre, which is located in the Museum, provides advice on accommodation, tourist attractions and forthcoming events in the area.

There are a number of recreation and leisure facilities, including Uppermill swimming pool, George V playing fields, a number of children's parks, libraries and scenic walks. In addition, the Pennine Hills attract a number of hill walkers to the area throughout the year and Dove Stones Reservoir provides an excellent opportunity for outdoor pursuits including windsurfing, cycling and walking.

What is Happening Now:

Arts & Culture

The **Creative Opportunities** project, which is partly funded by European Regional Development Fund and targeted at young people and women living in priority wards, will benefit residents living in Lees. A wide range of innovative projects have been developed to engage the target audience in the arts and give them hands-on experience of practical arts activities, as well as increasing their opportunities for employment in the cultural sector. Projects include a **Percussion Academy** and **DJ School**, a mentoring programme at Gallery Oldham, carnival development activities and a young people arts club.

Oldham Arts & Events and Arts Council England North West are encouraging and promoting theatre in Saddleworth through the Rural Touring Network. Oldham Arts & Events is also supporting annual Folk Festival.

A number of events take place each year including, the Whit Friday Band Contest, Beer Walk, the Rush Cart Festival and Saddleworth Show attracting thousands of visitors to the area. These events are organised and run by a range of groups and organisations within the Saddleworth community.

The area has a thriving tradition of musical involvement ranging from brass bands, involving people of all ages, through amateur operatic societies and choirs to drama with stimulating and entertaining productions taking place at Delph Theatre.

In addition to this there is a well developed art scene with a wide range of participants and frequent exhibitions either in private galleries or in the annexe to Saddleworth museum.

Heritage

Saddleworth Museum & Art Gallery, housed in a former mill building in Uppermill, presents a varied programme of temporary art and craft exhibitions and relates the history and development of the area through displays of social and industrial history. The Museum is managed by its own curator who is responsible to the board which operates the museum within a charitable trust.

Gallery Oldham has extensive collections relating to the social and industrial history of the borough and makes them accessible through exhibitions, touring shows, school and community loans and the gallery's collections website.

Documents, photographs and publications reflecting the history of the Saddleworth & Lees areas are collected by the Local Studies and Archives Service, a part of the Library,

Information and Archive Service. Collections of material reflecting the history and development of Lees and Saddleworth are available at Lees and Uppermill libraries respectively and occasional displays of material are mounted at all libraries.

In addition to this, Saddleworth Historical Society and Saddleworth Archaeological Trust meet regularly to encourage interest in and preservation of the history and heritage of the area.

Libraries

There are four libraries in the Saddleworth and Lees area: Lees Library with 103,000 visitors per year; Uppermill with 90,000; Greenfield with 20,000 and Delph with 13,000 visitors. The mobile library also visits many rural sites in the area which do not have access to a static library. Lees Library houses one of the Council's One Stop Shops where residents can access a wide range of information on and assistance in the use of, the wide range of services provided by the Council.

All the libraries provide a wide range of books, information and other materials for adults and young people, free access to ICT and the Internet, homework facilities, health collections and employment information.

The Library Service also manages the Uppermill Tourist Information Centre which is housed within Saddleworth Museum.

Sport and Recreation

Oldham Community Leisure Ltd. operate three facilities in the area on behalf of the Council. Saddleworth pool is a 25 metre pool located in Uppermill and one of the best used facilities in the Borough.

In addition to this Oldham Community Leisured Ltd operate the synthetic pitch at Breeze Hill School, which serves people from the area and the Bishops Park pitch and putt course, a nine hole course run by a private operator on behalf of the Trust.

Sports Development

There are also a range of sports development activities which take place in the area, managed by the Education and Cultural Services Department. These include:

- School Swimming programme operates across 99% of Primary schools and the majority of special and secondary schools.
- 9-13 year Open for Action Service (Saddleworth, Breeze Hill Schools)
- 8-17 year holiday programme (Uppermill, Lees Park)
- Greater Manchester Youth Games activities throughout the area.
- Community Sport leaders Award Course (Springhead, Uppermill Community Centres)
- Hockey/Tennis/Cricket/Lacrosse/Netball/Girls Football in school coaching.
- Primary school sports festivals.
- Local development group activities.
- Large population of sports clubs.
- The development of the National PE, School Sport and Club Links Strategy – Development of School Sport Co-ordinator Partnerships – 2 Partnerships will exist enabling us to have 2 sports colleges and coverage of all schools in the Borough.
- The Unity Sports programme operates involving schools within this area – currently involves 40 plus schools, an excellent example of good practice for community cohesion.

In addition to this, there is the Saddleworth Olympics which is a locally organised sporting competition involving young people representing the Saddleworth villages.

What Will Take the Area Forward:

The first partner listed in the end column to be the lead partner

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
Aim: Community Cohesion				
To promote community cohesion to create a town where there is a common vision and a sense of belonging for all communities, where the diversity of backgrounds is appreciated and positively valued, where people from different backgrounds have similar life opportunities and where strong and positive relationships are developed between people from different backgrounds.				
1. To provide and encourage participation in cultural, creative and sporting activities for local people, groups and communities.	<p>The continuation of the Unity Sports Programme which brings schools together from different communities using sport as a tool to promote community cohesion. (also in the Council improvement plan)</p> <p>Provide coaching programmes across the community that lead to an Oldham team participating in the Greater Manchester Youth Games</p>	<p>Current NRF funding for this programme runs out on the end of March 2004. Further funding from NRF is required. Urgent Council priority as stated in the improvement plan.</p> <p>Funded through Sports Development budget. Increased costs of the mini games needs to be considered £1000</p>		<p>Education and Cultural Services Sports Development</p> <p>Primary and Secondary Schools</p> <p>Greater Manchester Police</p> <p>Sports Clubs</p> <p>Sport Specific Development Groups</p> <p>Greater Manchester Sports Partnership</p>
To provide high quality cultural creative and sport education programmes throughout the Borough.	Provide a schools sports coaching programme and improve school/club links	Funded through Sports Development budget.		Education and Cultural Services Sports Development

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
				nt Primary and Secondary schools School Sport Coordinators
To widen participation in cultural, creative and sport activities by making them accessible.	Develop a range of sporting opportunities for young people on school sites with each Area Committee boundary	Current NRF funding for this programme (OPEN FOR ACTION) runs out at the end of March 2004. Further funding from NRF is required. Urgent Council priority as stated in the improvement plan.		Sports Development Schools
To organise inter school sports and cultural events	Develop infrastructure to support Greater Manchester mini games	Additional funding of £1000 needs to be found.		Sports Development Primary Schools Sports Clubs
To engender community spirit and social cohesion through leisure, reducing anti-social behaviour and improving quality of life.	Bring communities together through holiday sports programmes and the Greater Manchester Youth Games.	This programme is tied into the Open for Action programme. Funding from NRF runs out in March 2004. Further funding needs to be found to maintain this exceptionally successful programme. Also		Sports Development Oldham Community Leisure Ltd Youth

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
	Promote parks and open spaces as places for events, social interaction and the development of community spirit.	specifically highlighted in the Council's Improvement Plan		Service Parks and Countryside Countryside Ranger Service Friends of Parks Groups
Devise audience development programme of events via Rural Touring Network	Audiences attending varied programmes crossing several art forms	Local venues in rural areas		Oldham Arts & Events/ACE -NW Community groups
<p>Aim: Well cared for, healthy community</p>				
<p>To contribute to a well cared for, healthy community by using cultural activities to aid community safety and to promote physical and mental health by increasing levels of fitness, self esteem and confidence.</p>				
To create opportunities for more young children to be involved in the benefits of an active lifestyle through school programmes.	<p>Deliver the school swimming programme</p> <p>Develop healthy sporting activities for young people aged 9-13 on school sites within each Area Committee boundary. The OPEN FOR ACTION programme</p> <p>Provide a range of</p>	<p>Buy back service from schools</p> <p>Current NRF funding for this programme (OPEN FOR ACTION) runs out at the end of March 2004. Further funding from NRF is required. Urgent Council priority as stated in the improvement plan.</p>		<p>Education and Culture</p> <p>Sports Development Schools</p> <p>School Sport Coordinator</p> <p>Sports Colleges</p> <p>Sports Clubs</p>

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
	school based sports programmes with appropriate exit routes and school club links	Funded through Sports Development budget		
To raise awareness and promote the health benefits of involvement in cultural, creative and sporting activity.	Develop healthy living programme in SRB 6 area	SRB 6 funded post to December 2004		Education and Culture Sports Development Lifelong Learning SRB 6
To contribute to the work of the Police and crime prevention agencies through the provision of community based culture, leisure and recreational activities.	Co-ordination and management of school sports sessions and holiday sports programmes that target, in particular, crime hot-spots.	This programme is tied into the Open for Action programme. Funding from NRF runs out in March 2004. Further funding needs to be found to maintain this exceptionally successful programme. Also specifically highlighted in the Council's Improvement Plan.		Sports Development Greater Manchester Police
Contribute to drive to reduce teenage pregnancy by developing 'Health Matters' collections and promoting sexual health advice services	Reduced level of teenage pregnancy	Bookfund	March 2004	Library & Information Service Brook Advisory Service

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
<p>Aim: An improving environment</p> <p>To contribute to an improving environment for future generations through promoting sustainability, creating and developing public open space in town and country and maintaining, protecting and enhancing the quality of that space for the community.</p>				
To protect the provision of playing fields and enhance the provision of sport facilities wherever possible.	Develop the NOF and Sports Lottery funded projects for sports facilities at Hathershaw Technology College.	External NOF funded		Schools Sport Development
	Progress the development of NOF funded indoor athletics provision at The Radclyffe School.	External NOF funded		
	Progress the development of a synthetic pitch at Counthill School using NOF funding	External NOF funded		
Library and Lifelong Learning Centre will be a landmark building contributing to pride in Oldham	New Centre built, open and operating	PFI funding secured	April 2006	Education & Cultural Services
Phase III of the Cultural Quarter will encompass Local Studies, Archives and the Museum, located in the present Central Library	Funding secured	Heritage Lottery Funding	January 2006	Education & Cultural Service
<p>Aim: Well educated, high skilled people</p> <p>To contribute to the development of well educated, highly skilled people by widening participation in lifelong learning so that more people develop knowledge and skills throughout their lives, and improve their employability in a constantly changing labour market</p>				

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
To provide cultural, creative and sporting opportunities for lifelong learning which increase participation and improve educational achievement.	<p>Development of curriculum portfolio to ensure access to a range of cultural, creative and sporting opportunities.</p> <p>To co-ordinate a programme of sports coach education courses.</p>	Internal budgets		<p>Education and Culture</p> <p>Lifelong Learning</p> <p>The Oldham College</p> <p>Oldham Business</p> <p>Management School</p> <p>Sports Development</p>
To ensure that schools, colleges, the Lifelong Learning Service and other providers give access to a broad cultural, creative and sporting curriculum.	<p>Roll out of the PE and School Sport Club Links Strategy</p> <p>Ensure that progression routes are in place.</p>	90% grant funded - 10% match funding required – approximately £70,000		<p>Sports Development Schools</p> <p>Specialist Sports College</p> <p>School Sports Co-ordinators</p> <p>Lifelong Learning</p> <p>The Oldham College</p> <p>Oldham Sixth Form College</p>
To work with professional sports clubs and other voluntary agencies to develop high quality sporting activities.	Raise the number, standard and quality of sports coaches, leaders, officials and administrators through a programme of courses.	Internal budgets		<p>Sports Development</p> <p>Lifelong Learning</p>

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
	Provide volunteer opportunities in sports development programmes.			
Under Fives Month. Promotion activities promoting libraries and the pleasure of books to preschool children and their parents and carers	Numbers participating. Numbers of new members	Bookfund, Printing budget	June 2004	Library & Information Service Early Years
Review playgroup collection in the light of customer feedback and National Curriculum targets	Customer feedback	Bookfund	March 2004	Library & Information service Early Years
Partnership with Sure Start to develop services for pre-school children and their parents and carers	Number of new library users, attendance at events	Funded by Surestart	Ongoing. Libraries outreach worker to begin work January 2004	Library & Information Service Early Years, Sure Start
Homework Clubs being developed for Failsworth, Coldhurst and Fitton Hill Libraries	Numbers attending, increase in attainment at KS2	Funding application to NDC, Out of School Hours Fund (NOF) and Standards Fund	Clubs begin 2004	Library & Information Service Excellence in Cities, New Deal for Communities, Partner schools
Homework Collections reviewed and improved	Feedback at consultation events. Increased visitor numbers	Bookfund	March 2004	Library & Information Service Partner Schools

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
Develop practical lifelong learning taster sessions	Numbers attending, take up of courses	Lifelong Learning budgets	Pilot sessions November 2003	Lifelong Learning
Lifelong Learning to employ a community development worker to work initially with libraries	Increased take-up of courses, increased library use	Lifelong learning budgets	January 2004	Lifelong Learning Library & Information Service
Work with Lifelong Learning to develop basic skills courses	Take-up of courses, increased library use	Lifelong learning budgets	Support for learner driver theory test, November 2003, Job seeking and presentation skills, November 2003. ECDL November 2003	Lifelong Learning Library & Information Service
Extend ICT courses for the public to all libraries, using the classroom in a box, where on site facilities are inadequate.	Take-up of courses, increased use of libraries	Staffing budget	January 2004	Lifelong Learning
To deliver Lifelong Learning projects centring around health and fitness and arts and crafts to engage learners from across the community	Specific targets met for recruitment, retention and achievement of learners, individual and community capacity building.	LSC Funds	2003/4	Lifelong Learning Service; Sports Development; Arts and Events

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
To widen participation in cultural, creative and sport activities by making them accessible.	Specific targets met for recruitment, retention and achievement of learners. Individual and community capacity building	LSC funds and other external funds as appropriate	2003/4	Lifelong Learning Service: Libraries, Information and Archives: Arts and Events, Sports Development

Aim: Oldham: a creative Borough.

To promote the reputation of Oldham as a creative Borough with a stimulating and vibrant cultural life

Festival of Words. Annual celebration of the written and spoken Word. Black and Asian History Month celebrated annually	Numbers of participants, Evaluation forms, Press coverage.	Bookfund Printing budget	Planning begins November 2003, Events throughout May 2004	Library & Information Service Sixth Form College
New Reading groups to be established at Failsworth, Lees, Crompton and the Civic Centre	Numbers attending	Staffing budget, bookfund	March 2004	
Royton Library will be a centre for information about the Royton Hall archaeological dig.	Count of queries	Staff time	Awareness raising exhibition May 2003 Preliminary dig 2004	Library & Information Service Royton Historical Society
Continued development of Festival Oldham	Attendance figures Event takes place	Contacts Marketing	Ongoing	Arts & Events Town

Task	Measure of Success	Resources Needed	Timescale	Partners
	without incident Positive feedback	Staff time		Centre Partnership Comm. Groups
Establishment of Urban Music Seminar as annual event	Numbers attending Positive Coverage	Venues Staff time	Ongoing	Arts & Events Festival organiser
Development of Museum as performing arts workspace	Usage Public events in and around Cultural Quarter	Staff time	Ongoing	MGA Service Museum & Gallery Service

- Development of the facilities at Saddleworth pool to make greater local recreation provision.
- The Community Leisure and Facilities Strategy being produced by Oldham Community Leisure Ltd., under the terms of their contract with the Council, will guide the future provision of sports facilities and activities for the Borough.
- The development of a major leisure pool somewhere within the Borough. This would be best placed adjacent to a motorway exit. Nothing of this nature exists in the area.
- Funding being identified to develop a new service alongside the 9-13 Open for Action scheme. The service would target 13-19 year olds and offer free, local, accessible sport and recreation to the community. The service would need to work alongside the youth service to offer a recreational and sporting outlet. Other partners would include the police, Connexions, tenants and residents associations, local clubs and schools.
- Mainstream funding needs to be sought to sustain the Unity Sport Programme.
- A new Library for Delph. The current provision is restricted with regard to space and is therefore inadequate for the needs of its users. A new library would free the existing building for additional use by Delph Theatre.
- Improvements to play spaces for young people.
- Improvements to pitch drainage.

- The development of static branch libraries elsewhere in the Borough to allow an improved mobile library service to rural areas.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED IN COMMUNITY PLANNING

Area Plans are going to be used by a range of agencies to decide what type and level of services you will get in your area. It is important that local people contribute to these decisions. The Area Committees will be the main focus of that decision making and there are various ways that you can get involved in influencing what is put into your Area Plan:-

Attending Area Committee meetings – the meetings are advertised in the local papers, in the Oldhamer and on the Oldham Council website. The Council is also examining other ways that it can use to advertise the meetings more widely;

Speaking to your local Councillor – you can contact them directly or attend their ward surgeries that they hold regularly. Again, these are advertised in the local press and on the Oldham Council website;

Using the response forms in the Oldhamer – you can put forward your points of view about your local area or about the Borough as a whole using the response forms in the Oldhamer. There are often requests for views from local people about specific issues or you may use the response forms to raise any issue that is of importance of you;

Getting involved in a local group that is represented on the Area Committee – many local groups attend Area Committees to hear what is being discussed and put questions to the Committees members. If you do not want to, or cannot attend, Area Committees, you could keep in touch via a local group. Contact ODACA below to find out which groups are active in your area.

Becoming an Area Committee co-optee – local people can become a member of their Area Committee and help to discuss and make decisions about their local area. If you are interested in this, you should contact your Area Manager (contact details in the Introduction chapter of the Plan). You can nominate yourself, or again, could be nominated by a local group that you belong to.

Linking into the Community Network Panels – if you are already a member of a community group you will have the opportunity to link with other groups in the voluntary,

community and faith sector from across the Borough. These Panels link to the theme-based partnerships within the Local Strategic Partnership and reflect the chapters in this Plan. See the Voluntary Sector chapter for more detail.

There is a commitment from the Local Strategic Partnership to support community empowerment and strengthening the connections to more localised neighbourhood areas. From the start of the area-based community planning process in June 2003, the voluntary, community and faith sectors have been helping connect and support local groups in their work in relation to the Area Committees. This is through Oldham Development Agency for Community Action (ODACA) and Voluntary Action Oldham (VAO) (see Voluntary Sector chapter) and the Oldham Interfaith Forum. They are doing this by helping local people to develop their own skills, talents and ideas so that they have the access to and the confidence to contribute to consultation exercises and community development activities. Community empowerment work is very closely linked to the community cohesion work referred to in other parts of this Plan.

The work will entail training programmes to enhance skills in order to increase participation and strengthen representation, building links between communities and developing mechanisms to make communication more effective. Alongside this, an Area Community Empowerment Structure is under development for each Area Committee. All of this work is in the early stages and it is acknowledged that it will take some time to develop fully.

The Principles for the Area Community Empowerment Structure are:

- To ensure renewal relates on a human scale so local people can engage with what it means;
- To address inequalities across all neighbourhoods. To ensure that initiatives seek to break down separation between age groups, communities, people of different backgrounds and move towards a more integrated society;
- To maintain and develop more open and transparent procedures for equitable distribution of resources to address needs;
- To be capable of covering each part of the Borough and in no way exclude particular areas;
- To ensure that any group seeking to develop a renewal idea for their own community or neighbourhood will have access to the relevant decision making process;
- To work to an asset based model of building on the strengths of our communities;
- To learn from area based regeneration programmes about what works and what needs to be done differently;

- To ensure that renewal processes are determined by local needs rather than external pressures such as funding cycles and criteria;
- To be committed to devising a renewal process and structures where the community has a central part and where time, capacity, information and all communications issues are carefully considered and built in;
- To identify and build upon the existing support for the voluntary, community and faith groups so that they can be an equal player within the renewal processes;
- To work to enhance the local participatory and representative forms of democracy so as to strengthen civic society across all parts of the Borough.
- To seek to ensure that the community planning process is sustainable so as to strengthen social inclusion, community cohesion and civic pride.

For further information about this community empowerment work, please contact VAO, ODACA c/o 37 Greaves Street, Oldham. OL1 1TJ. ceto@odaca.net 0161 633 3584 or Interfaith Forum Workers at Rear of 317 Waterloo Street, Oldham. OL4 1ER

WHAT WOULD MOVE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FORWARD IN THE AREA?

Ideas are sought for how communities can get more involved in determining what happens in their areas and also about how they can get more involved in making a positive difference.

REVIEW AND MONITORING

PROCESS FOR REVIEW AND EVALUATION

This Saddleworth and Lees Area Plan will be reviewed every two years for approval by the Saddleworth and Lees Area Committee in September/ October. The first review will therefore take place in 2005.

The review will be preceded by an analysis of the views of local people that have been collected during the previous two years. (See Community Development above for ideas about how you can make your views known at any time.) Specific consultations that are held within the area or impact upon the area will also be analysed. If more community views are required about a specific issue, special consultation events will be held and will be publicised in advance. The aim, however, is to encourage an ongoing dialogue with local people with the Area Committees and the Area Managers at the hub of that process.

EVALUATION

Evaluation needs to be an integral part of all our management processes. The Government requires, and local people want, service providers to satisfy them that we are achieving the best outcomes for the resources that are spent within the Borough. This needs to be done by testing our strategies, services and special initiatives against key criteria to judge whether they are delivering the changes that are required to take the Borough forward. The Community Strategy Implementation Plan and Local Strategic Performance Management Framework will be essential elements of the evaluation process. The process for the allocation of resources by the Local Strategic Partnership (currently only Neighbourhood Renewal Funds) includes evaluation criteria against the Government targets contained within this Plan.

At an Area Committee level, the Committee will need to be satisfied that their decisions about how to spend resources are having the desired effect. Regular reporting against specific indicators and targets will therefore be essential.

PROCESS FOR REPORTING PROGRESS

The Local Strategic Partnership is developing a Performance Management Framework that will require the sub partnerships to report annually on progress. Where possible, this report will include review of work at an area level for reporting to the Area Committees. It is likely that some of the indicators and targets within this Plan may not be updated so frequently because they are not all measured annually.

The sub partnerships will take responsibility for the relevant chapters within this Plan and will provide an annual report for Area Committees. It is suggested that the reports appear as a rolling programme on the Area Committee agenda to enable a specific focus at each meeting. The details of how this will be carried out will be included within the Performance Management Framework for the Local Strategic Partnership.

Membership of Oldham's Local Strategic Partnership



Map Showing the Boundaries of the Six Area Committees

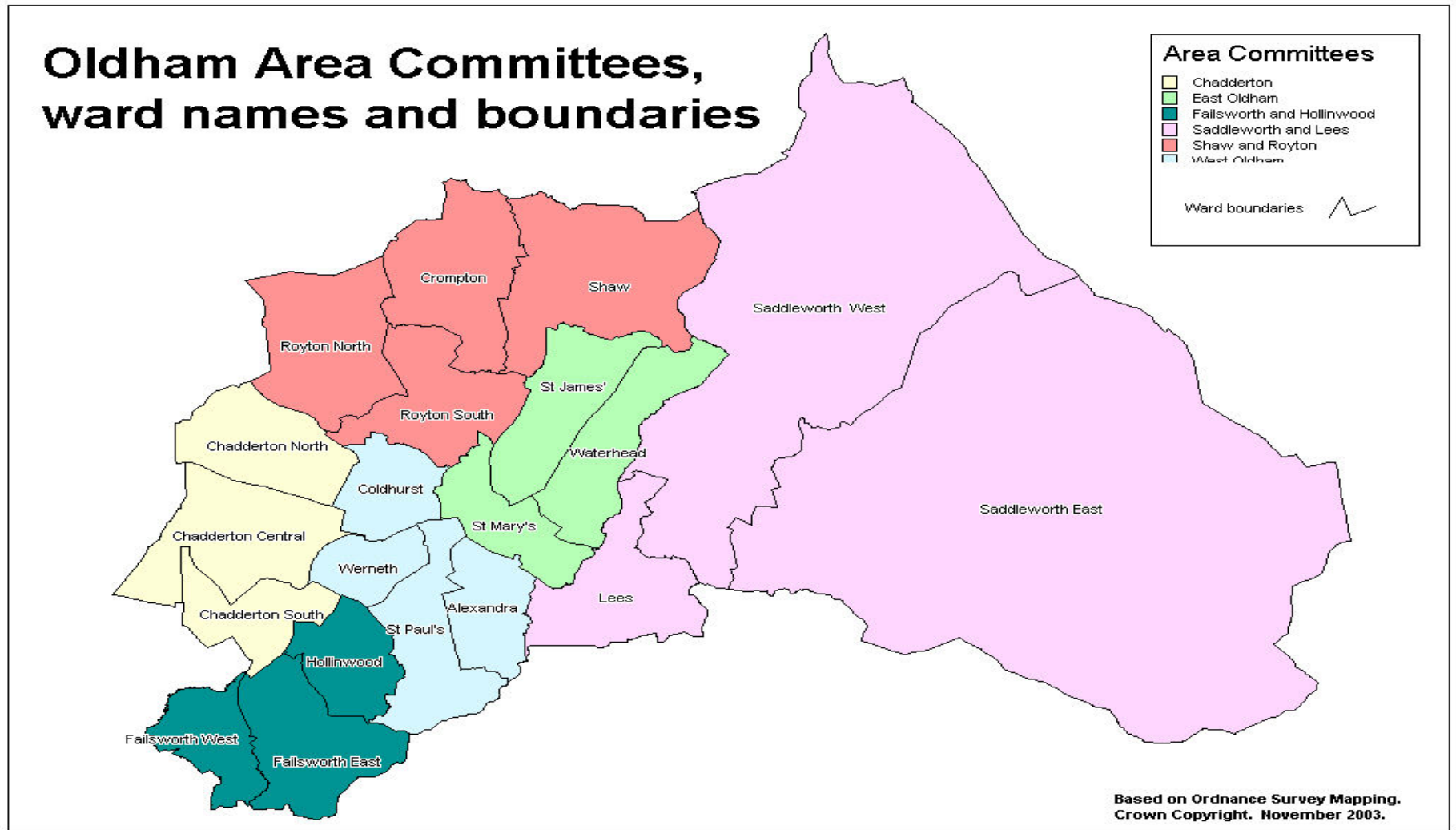


Table 1: The People of Saddleworth and Lees

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Population (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 13,042 Saddleworth West 11,309 Lees 10,132 Total number 34,483	The Saddleworth and Lees population make up 15.9% of the overall population for the Borough, which stood at 217,273. This area has the third highest population of all the six Area Committees.
Percentage of the population aged under 16 years (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 18.2 Saddleworth West 18.8 Lees 22.4 Area average 19.6% Total number 6,763	Approximately, 13.5% of all under 16s in the Borough live in Saddleworth and Lees. Under 16 year olds in this area make up a lower proportion of the population compared to the Borough average (23%). Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West have populations with the lowest proportions of under 16s of all 20 wards in the Borough, with Lees having the 8 th highest proportion of under 16s.
Percentage of the population aged over 60 (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 21.4 Saddleworth West 21.2 Lees 19.9 Area average 20.9 Total number 7,210	People aged 60 years and over make up just over a fifth (20.9%) of the population of this area, which is higher than the Borough average of 19.3%. Saddleworth East ward has the 5 th highest proportion of people aged 60 years and over in the Borough, with Saddleworth West ranked 7 th highest and Lees ranked 11 th highest.
Percentage of the total population in each ethnic group (2001 Census, ONS)	White 97.4% Mixed 0.9% Black 0.3% Indian 0.3% Pakistani 0.8% Bangladeshi 0.1% Other 0.2%	This area has a relatively high proportion of white residents compared to the Borough average of around 86.1% of the total population.
Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2000 (Rank out of 8,414 wards nationally. Rank 1 is the most deprived ward) (IMD 2000)	Saddleworth East 7,041 Saddleworth West 5,077 Lees 816	According to the IMD, Lees is more deprived than either Saddleworth East or Saddleworth West. Based on the IMD, Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West are ranked the two least deprived wards in the Borough. Saddleworth East is among the 20% of least deprived wards in England. Lees is ranked the 7 th most deprived ward in the Borough and is among the 10% most deprived wards in England.
Claimant Count Unemployment Rate (all people) July 2003 Percentage of all 'economically active' residents claiming benefits because they are unemployed (G.M. Research & NOMIS)	Saddleworth East 1.0 Saddleworth West 1.5 Lees 4.6 Average 2.1% Total Number 362	The claimant count unemployment rate in Lees is more than three times higher than the rates of Saddleworth West and Saddleworth East. However, claimant count unemployment in this Area is lower than the Borough average of 3.7%. Saddleworth East has the lowest claimant count unemployment rate of all wards in the Borough, with Saddleworth West having the 4 th Lowest rate. However, Lees has the 8 th highest claimant count unemployment rate of all wards in the Borough.

Table 2: Children and Young People in Saddleworth and Lees

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Population (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 13,042 Saddleworth West 11,309 Lees 10,132 Total number 34,483	The Saddleworth and Lees population make up 15.9% of the overall population for the Borough, which stood at 217,273. This area has the third highest population of all the six Area Committees.
Number of 0-4 year olds (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 637 Saddleworth West 568 Lees 688 Total 1,893	Children aged 0-4 makes up 5.5% of the overall Area population compared to 7% of the Borough population. Of all twenty wards in the Borough, Saddleworth East had the second lowest proportion and Saddleworth West had the third lowest proportion of people in this age group. Lees was the ward with the ninth highest proportion of 0-4 year olds.
Number of 0-14 year olds (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 2,206 Saddleworth West 1,973 Lees 2,116 Total 6,295	Children aged 0-14 years make up 18.3% of the population of this Area compared to 21.5% of the Borough population. Of all 20 wards in the Borough, the proportion of the population made up of children aged 0-14 years was lowest in Saddleworth East and third lowest in Saddleworth West. The population of Lees had the 8 th highest proportion of people in this age group.
Number of under 16s (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 2,376 Saddleworth West 2,128 Lees 2,267 Total 6,771	The total number of under 16s represents 19.6% of the Saddleworth and Lees population.
Number of 16-24 year olds (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East 996 Saddleworth West 903 Lees 1,027 Total 2,926	People aged 16-24 years make up 8.5% of the population of this Area compared to 10.7% of the Borough population. Of all six Areas, this Area has the lowest proportion of people aged 16-24 years. Of all 20 wards in the Borough, the proportion of the population aged 16-24 years was lowest in Saddleworth East and second lowest in Saddleworth West. The population of Lees has the 10 th highest proportion of people in this age group.

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average								
<p>National Rank of Child Poverty Index (Rank out of 8,414 wards nationally. Rank 1 is the most deprived ward). (IMD 2000)</p>	<table> <tr> <td>Saddleworth East</td> <td>6,999</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saddleworth West</td> <td>5,432</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lees</td> <td>716</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of children in poverty</td> <td>1,824</td> </tr> </table>	Saddleworth East	6,999	Saddleworth West	5,432	Lees	716	Number of children in poverty	1,824	<p>Lees has a higher proportion of children (aged under 16 years) living in poverty, as measured by the proportion of families receiving means-tested benefits in 2000, compared to the Borough average (48.3%). The proportion of children living in poverty was much lower in Saddleworth East and Saddleworth West than in Lees or the Borough.</p> <p>Based on the National Index of Child Poverty, Lees is among the 10% of most deprived wards in England. However, Saddleworth East is among the 20% and Saddleworth West among the 40% of least deprived wards in England. Within the Borough, Saddleworth East was ranked the least deprived ward and Saddleworth West the second least deprived ward. Lees was ranked the seventh most deprived ward in the Borough.</p>
Saddleworth East	6,999									
Saddleworth West	5,432									
Lees	716									
Number of children in poverty	1,824									

Table 3: Housing in Saddleworth and Lees

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Number of Households by Area (February 2003) (Oldham Council Tax Database)	Saddleworth East 5,415 Saddleworth West 4,691 Lees 4,524 Total 14,630	This area contains 16.6% of the Borough's Households.
Total Number of Properties by Ward (February 2003) (Oldham Council Tax Database)	Saddleworth East 5,649 Saddleworth West 4,881 Lees 4,799 Total 15,329	This area contains 16.5% of the overall number of properties in the Borough.
No. of Households in Unsuitable Housing	732	This represents 9.5% of the total number of households in unsuitable housing – the second lowest in the Borough.
% of Households Unable to Afford Local Market Housing	5,666	This represents 12.4% households that are unable to afford local market housing – the lowest in the Borough.
No. of Existing Households in Need	473	This represents 7.9% of the Borough's households that are in need – the second lowest figure in the Borough.
No. of Local Authority Properties by Area	2,422	This represents 13.1% of the Borough's households that are in Local Authority ownership – the second lowest figure in the Borough.
No. of Local Authority Voids	To be included at a later date	Figures need to be included at the last minute here.
Decent Homes Standards (Repairs, Costs, Estimates)	Homes affected 1,321 Est. unit repair cost £9.2k Total Area Cost £12.1m	The total estimated cost of repair in this area represents 10.2% of the Borough's overall cost. The average repair cost per unit across the Borough stands at £10.9 K.
% Vacants by Ward (February 2003) Oldham Council Tax Database)	Saddleworth East 4.1 Saddleworth West 3.9 Lees 5.7 Average 4.6	These figures compare to the average vacancy rate in the Borough (5.1% of all properties)
Median House Prices – All Dwellings by Ward	Saddleworth East £96.0k Saddleworth West £75.0k Lees £47.9k	This compares to the average median house price for the Borough, which stands at £46.6 K.

	Average	£73.0k	
Terraced Dwellings – by Ward	Saddleworth East	£77.0k	This compares to the average terraced house price in the Borough, which stands at £35.9 K.
	Saddleworth West	£53.7k	
	Lees	£43.6k	
	Average	£58.1k	
National Rank of Housing Deprivation (Ranked out of 8,414 wards nationally. Rank 1 is the most deprived ward) (IMD 2000)	Saddleworth East	7,556	Lees ward had high levels of housing deprivation compared to the Saddleworth wards.
	Saddleworth West	4,507	
	Lees	1,265	

Table 4: Health Statistics for Saddleworth and Lees

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Standardised Mortality Ratio under 65 (1997-1999)	Saddleworth East	95
	Saddleworth West	91
	Lees	169
	Total	114
Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) (1997-2001)	Saddleworth East	3.5
	Saddleworth West	9.7
	Lees	7.2
	Total	6.7
Conception rate per 1,000 females (age 13-17)	Saddleworth East	21.0
	Saddleworth West	18.9
	Lees	44.6
	Total	28.0

Indicator	Statistic	Male	Female
Life Expectancy Rate	Saddleworth East	76.4	80.7
	Saddleworth West	75.5	77.8
	Lees	69.6	77.5

Other Indicators

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
Low Birth Weights % (under 2500g)	Saddleworth East	3.6
	Saddleworth West	4.7
	Lees	10.9
	Average	6.9
Percentage of the population with limiting long-term illness (2001 Census, ONS)	Saddleworth East	15.7
	Saddleworth West	17.2
	Lees	22.5
	Area average	18.2
Total Number of Claimants of Disability Benefits (Incapacity Benefit, Attendance Allowance, Severe Disablement Allowance) 2000 (Department for Work and Pensions)	Saddleworth East	580
	Saddleworth West	670
	Lees	1,040
	Total	2,290

Table 5: Economic performance in Saddleworth and Lees

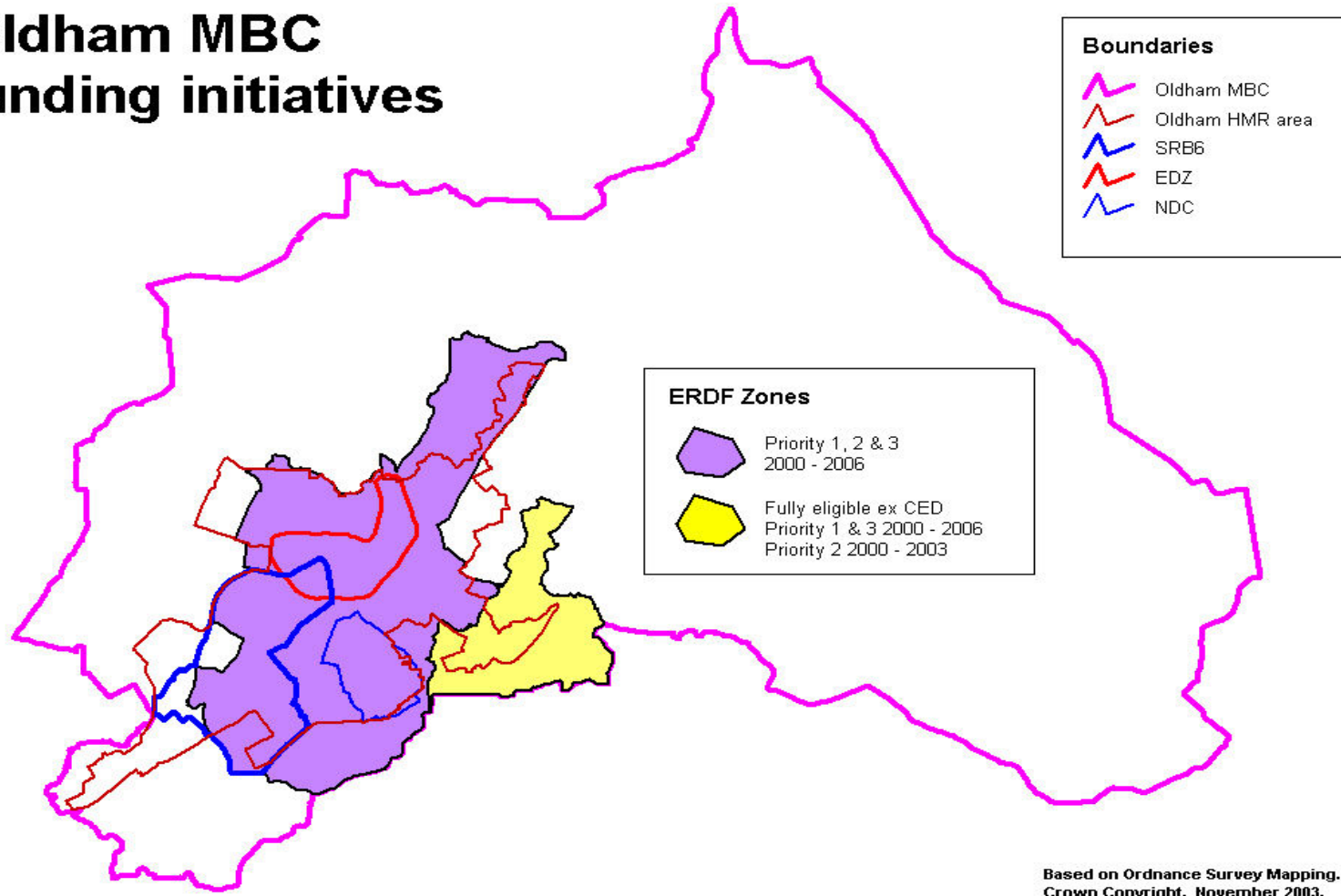
<p>Claimant Count Unemployment Rate (all people)</p> <p>July 2003</p> <p>Percentage of all 'economically active' residents claiming benefits because they are unemployed</p> <p>(Greater Manchester Research/NOMIS, Area average derived using 2001 Census, ONS results)</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Saddleworth East</td> <td>1.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saddleworth West</td> <td>1.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lees</td> <td>4.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area</td> <td>2.1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of people</td> <td>362</td> </tr> </table>	Saddleworth East	1.0	Saddleworth West	1.5	Lees	4.6	Area	2.1	Number of people	362	<p>The claimant count unemployment rate was lower in this Area than in the Borough (3.7%).</p> <p>Of all 20 wards in the Borough, the lowest and third lowest claimant count unemployment rates were in the Saddleworth wards. However, Lees had the 8th highest claimant count unemployment rate in the Borough. The claimant count unemployment rate was higher in Lees than the Borough average.</p>
Saddleworth East	1.0											
Saddleworth West	1.5											
Lees	4.6											
Area	2.1											
Number of people	362											
<p>Long Term Unemployment Rate (July 2003)</p> <p>Percentage of all unemployed people who were claiming benefits and have been unemployed for more than one year</p> <p>(Greater Manchester Research/NOMIS, Area average derived using 2001 Census, ONS results)</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Saddleworth East</td> <td>6.0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saddleworth West</td> <td>7.9</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lees</td> <td>11.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area</td> <td>9.7</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of people</td> <td>35</td> </tr> </table>	Saddleworth East	6.0	Saddleworth West	7.9	Lees	11.7	Area	9.7	Number of people	35	<p>The long-term unemployment rate of this Area was slightly lower than the Borough average (10.1%).</p> <p>The proportion of unemployed people who were long-term unemployed was higher in Lees compared to the Borough average. Lees had the 6th highest long-term unemployment rate in all 20 wards in the Borough.</p> <p>The proportion of unemployed people who were long-term was lower in the Saddleworth wards compared to the Borough average. Saddleworth East had the lowest and Saddleworth West the 4th lowest long-term unemployment rates among all 20 wards in the Borough.</p>
Saddleworth East	6.0											
Saddleworth West	7.9											
Lees	11.7											
Area	9.7											
Number of people	35											
<p>Youth Unemployment Rates (July 2003)</p> <p>Percentage of all people in the youth (aged 16-19 years) labour force who were unemployed</p> <p>(Greater Manchester Research/NOMIS)</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Saddleworth East</td> <td>3.4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Saddleworth West</td> <td>3.6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lees</td> <td>11.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Area</td> <td>6.5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Number of young people</td> <td>50</td> </tr> </table>	Saddleworth East	3.4	Saddleworth West	3.6	Lees	11.5	Area	6.5	Number of young people	50	<p>The youth unemployment rate in Lees was more than three times higher than in the Saddleworth wards.</p> <p>The youth unemployment rate in Lees was higher than the youth unemployment rate in the Borough (8.2%). Lees had the 7th highest youth unemployment rate among all 20 wards in the Borough.</p> <p>Youth unemployment rates in the Saddleworth wards were less than half the youth unemployment rate in the Borough (8.2%). The Saddleworth wards had the 5th and 6th lowest youth unemployment rates of all 20 wards in the Borough.</p>
Saddleworth East	3.4											
Saddleworth West	3.6											
Lees	11.5											
Area	6.5											
Number of young people	50											

Other Economic Indicators

Indicator	Statistic	Analysis against Borough / National Average
<p>Households Receiving Benefits</p> <p>(February 2003)</p> <p>Percentage of all households that were in receipt of council tax benefit and/or housing benefit</p> <p>(Oldham Council Tax and Benefit Database)</p>	<p>Saddleworth East 9.2</p> <p>Saddleworth West 11.3</p> <p>Lees 32.1</p> <p>Area 16.9</p> <p>Total number of households 2,434</p>	<p>The proportion of households in receipt of these benefits in this Area was lower than the Borough average (26.3% households) and the other five Areas. The Saddleworth wards had the lowest proportion of households in receipt of these benefits among all 20 wards in the Borough.</p> <p>However, nearly a third (32.1%) of households were in receipt of these benefits in Lees, which was a higher proportion than the Borough average. Lees had the 7th highest proportion of households in receipt of these benefits among all 20 wards in the Borough.</p>
<p>Pensioners in receipt of income support (pensioners premium)</p> <p>(August 2000)</p> <p>% of all females aged 60 years and over and all males aged 65 years and over who were in receipt of income support (pensioners premium)</p> <p>(Department for Work and Pensions)</p>	<p>Saddleworth East 6.6</p> <p>Saddleworth West 12.6</p> <p>Lees 20.8</p> <p>Area 12.6</p> <p>Total number of pensioners 795</p>	<p>Just over one in five people (20.8%) of pensionable age in Lees were in receipt of income support (pensioners premium), which was over three times the proportion in Saddleworth East. A slightly higher proportion of pensionable age population in Lees was in receipt of income support (pensioners premium) than in the Borough (19.4%). Lees was the ward with the 8th highest proportion of people of pensionable age in receipt of these benefits.</p> <p>Saddleworth East had the lowest proportion of people of pensionable age in receipt of income support (pensioners premium) among all 20 wards in the Borough. Saddleworth West had the 4th lowest proportion of pensionable age people in receipt of these benefits.</p>

Map Showing Areas Covered by External Funding and Other Initiatives

Oldham MBC funding initiatives



Based on Ordnance Survey Mapping.
Crown Copyright. November 2003.

Housing Stock Investment Plan for Saddleworth and Lees

PLANNING TOTALS	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	Total	No. of properties
	£'m.	£'m.	£'m.	£'m.	£'m.	
Saddleworth/Lees						
Further Hey / Beckett 706 & 708	£0.51					31
Carr Barn pre / post war 523 & 535	£1.14	£0.24				94
Dowry Road 703	£0.44					23
Holt's Village H/P/G, exc. PFI 023	£0.15					756
Grove Road 520	£0.47					27
Warlow Dr pre / post war 527 & 534	£0.35					22
Carrcote 502	£0.21					55
Chew Vale 526	£0.16					25
Alt (Securing 26 Nr cottage flats)		£0.36				104
Delph (All remaining properties)		£0.39				30
Denshaw (By area)		£0.23				18
Dobcross (By area)		£0.23				18
Roundthorn (By area)		£0.76	£0.76	£0.87		199
Lees (All remaining non PFI)			£1.08			88
Diggle (By area)			£0.23			18
Springhead (By area)				£0.44		109
Uppermill (By area)				£0.60		46
Call entry replacement						
Heating replacement	£0.37		£0.40			
Environmental works	£0.12	£0.40	£0.40	£0.40		
PVCu Mini Program		£0.10	£0.10	£0.10		
TOTAL	£3.92	£2.71	£2.97	£2.41	£12.01	1663
PVCu Mini Program	£0.10					
OVERALL TOTAL	£4.02	£2.71	£2.97	£2.41	£12.11	

Facilities Provided by Libraries in the Borough

Index of Multiple Deprivation

Appendix 7

Wardname	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of index of multiple deprivation rank (out of 8414 wards)	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of income domain (out of 8414 wards)	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of employment domain (out of 8414 wards)	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of health domain (out of 8414 wards)	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of education domain (out of 8414 wards)	Indices of Deprivation 2000, rank of housing domain (out of 8414 wards)
Coldhurst	75	40	357	403	184	35
Werneth	80	70	290	292	253	51
Alexandra	83	143	377	232	21	218
St. Marys	103	106	576	441	15	74
Hollinwood	307	194	631	344	346	1235
St. James	338	335	664	592	215	581
Lees	816	722	1067	641	1218	1265
St. Pauls	890	1121	1339	853	447	758
Chadderton South	1134	1772	1840	1106	166	1796
Waterhead	1359	1609	1833	1072	628	1781
Failsworth West	1642	1443	1753	999	2558	1707
Failsworth East	2405	2583	2296	1648	3293	2553
Chadderton Central	2468	2875	2726	1544	1195	4528
Chadderton North	2725	2566	2572	1512	3818	3538
Shaw	3076	2514	2797	1590	6694	2599
Royton South	3398	3653	3289	1880	2519	5433
Royton North	3683	3465	2951	1792	6107	4960
Crompton	3852	3013	3270	1827	7112	4933
Saddleworth West	5077	4712	4775	3708	5789	4507
Saddleworth East	7041	6520	5450	5100	8234	7556