

District of Tomorrow

**A Community Strategy for
Braintree District**



Everyone can make a better tomorrow

DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

WOULDN'T IT BE GOOD IF.....

.....**everyone** had ready access to **transport**

.....**no one** dropped **litter**

.....**everyone** felt **safe** and **well**

.....**no one** drove too fast

.....**everyone** recycled

.....**no one** ever got stuck in **traffic**

.....and...

.....**young people** had **something to do**

Pie in the sky? Maybe, but these are some of the things which people living in Braintree District say are most important to them – where they would like to see improvements made in their daily lives.

And people living in the District can help to bring about the things they want to see. By working together, real progress can be made.

EVERYONE CAN MAKE A BETTER TOMORROW

DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

WOULDN'T IT BE GOOD IF.....

.....All public, private, voluntary and community **organisations worked together** sharing the same **priorities** to provide employment, services and support to the residents of Braintree District.

We already work together and now there is a new partnership called PACT (Partners and Communities Together). PACT will work to achieve some of the improvements people living in Braintree District want to see.



DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

EVERYONE CAN MAKE A BETTER TOMORROW

Our vision is one where:

- **everyone** can contribute to achieving **their priorities** for the District
- **everyone** lives in **active communities**
- **everyone** has **access** to community information, means of transport and essential services
- **everyone** is **welcome**
- **everyone** lives in a **clean, green** and **safe** District



DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

PACT : PARTNERS And Communities Together

PACT brings together the main public, private, voluntary and community organisations working in Braintree District. It includes leading representatives from local government, the police, health providers, voluntary organisations and businesses. It also includes representatives of young people, older people, people with disabilities and faith groups.

PACT will look for opportunities to :

- pool resources
- attract funding to the District
- find fresh approaches to long-standing issues
- provide regular feedback to residents

DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

PACT : Partners And COMMUNITIES Together

Feedback from all parts of the District tells us that people like living in Braintree District and that there is also a strong community spirit in most parts of the District.

Each community has its own issues and priorities. The involvement of local communities will be essential to making progress on PACT's overall priorities. PACT will work alongside local communities to encourage local solutions wherever possible.

PACT will work in individual communities to encourage local projects which bridge generations and promote equality of opportunity. It will seek approaches which conserve today's natural resources for the benefit of future generations.

DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

WHAT ARE OUR SHARED PRIORITIES?

Our shared priorities for the District are set out below. They are grouped under seven themes. The first three themes are the most important for the District's residents and for PACT.

PACT's shared priorities for the District are based on extensive public consultation involving more than 5,000 residents from all parts of the District.

• GETTING AROUND

- To promote flexible, accessible and integrated public and community transport, both as an alternative to the car to reduce the impact of rising traffic levels, and to meet the needs of non car users
- To address the issues around car parking both in residential areas and town centres
- To reduce traffic congestion

• THINGS TO DO

- To make information about leisure and cultural activities in the District more readily available
- To create more opportunities for young people to get together informally
- To improve leisure opportunities and facilities in the District for young people and other groups in the community

DISTRICT *of Tomorrow*

- **FEELING SAFE AND WELL**

- To maintain a low level for crime and improve residents' perceptions of levels of crime in the District
- To promote healthy communities
- To encourage individual and community ownership for responsibility for their own safety and the safety of others (e.g. speeding, litter, lighting)

- **BEING PART OF THE COMMUNITY**

- To ensure that new residents are made welcome to the District
- To develop opportunities for young people to be part of their community
- To improve access to and promote effective use of community facilities (e.g. schools, community halls, pubs)

- **TAKING PRIDE IN WHERE WE LIVE**

- To ensure that we preserve our local heritage, and maintain local identity, culture and character
- To reduce levels of litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and abandoned cars in the District

DISTRICT of *Tomorrow*

• ACCESS TO SERVICES AND OPPORTUNITIES

- To help more people into further and higher education and training
- To improve publicity and marketing of services and opportunities available to all
- To seek improved access to facilities and opportunities for rural communities
- To Devise and Develop schemes and policies to help those residents having problems accessing the housing market.
- To seek ways to make more affordable housing available

• CARING FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- To increase levels of, and opportunities for, recycling across the District
- To address localised flooding issues through a co-ordinated programme of improvements
- To safeguard the open countryside against inappropriate development
- To value all wildlife and protect and enhance both the natural and built environment.

For further information on the Community Strategy contact:

Kitty Barrett on 01376 557746

Martyn Woodward on 01376 551414 Ext 2001

Updated 15th March 2004