

Comprehensive Area Assessment


Leicestershire Area Assessment – findings

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This presentation will cover

- Findings as reported in the assessment, published on  on the web (www.direct.gov.uk/oneplace)
- Some of the areas we will follow up next year.



- our judgment in brief

The county is a good place to live and is getting better due to the work of the public services.

- Older and disabled people are well cared for;
- People are relatively safe – crime levels and anti-social behaviour rates are falling;
- Children’s exam results are good and have improved every year for 4 years;
- People are generally healthy.

But

- Housing is a problem – not enough new homes that people can afford, and some district housing services are poor, although action is now being taken to make them improve.



- Vulnerable people and places

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- More disabled and older people are getting well-coordinated support to live independently at home
 - But
 - learning disabled adults are still living in institutions
 - Physically disabled people wait too long for adaptations to their homes.
 - Extra facilities being provided in 19 priority neighborhoods.
 - Ofsted say almost all schools and services are good at protecting children from harm.
 - Children and YP's exam results have improved but some groups do not do so well.
 - School attendance by children in care has improved, too many move home too often, but this is improving.
 - Disagreements over Traveller sites but illegal sites being dealt with
 - Crime by ex-offenders is reducing. Young offenders are supported well.
 - Not enough new homes to rent or buy are being built.



- Stronger, more cohesive communities

- Over 80% think that people of different backgrounds get on well together, and 9/10 people over 65yrs are satisfied with their homes and areas.
- People of different backgrounds are brought together, and newcomers are supported.
- Local volunteering schemes are being used to help develop local identity and engagement.
- Library re-development involves local communities and leads to locally-tailored services.
- Children and YP are encouraged to play a positive part on society, and young people committing offences has reduced.
- But more YP say they drink too much alcohol or take drugs than in other areas.



- Safe and attractive place to live and work

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- County is a relatively safe and attractive place, with ASB and crime rates are falling.
 - Public confidence in how well police and others are dealing with crime and ASB is lower than national average.
 - Domestic abuse by repeat offenders has risen.
 - FRS and others working well to prevent fires and most types of fires have gone down.
 - Improvements being made to design of public and private buildings and to the network of green spaces
 - Housing services by some councils have been poor but are starting to improve. But too many properties don't meet minimum standards.
 - People are being helped to deal with the impact of the recession



- More effective response to climate change

- Partners working to reduce CO2 emissions
- Road congestion reducing a little.
- Public transport is being made easier to use.
- People being helped to make homes more energy efficient – but too many homes are not energy efficient.
- Recycling rates are high and councils are helping people reduce waste and recycle.
- Councils are developing more green areas and woodlands eg National Forest, Charnwood Forest.



- Prosperous innovative and dynamic economy

- Recession beginning to bite, but partners have responded quickly to provide help to businesses etc.
- Joint economic development plan with Leicester City has been agreed.
 - Too early to see if it is working.



- Healthier Leicestershire

- People's health is generally better and improving faster than elsewhere
- But smoking rates are rising and too many pregnant mothers smoke.
- Drugs and alcohol less of a problem than elsewhere – but too many YP say they drink too much or take drugs.
- Fewer teenage pregnancies than elsewhere but the gap with elsewhere is reducing as the numbers are rising.
- People are being helped to lead healthier lifestyles, but some districts do not do as well as others.
- Fewer primary school children are obese than elsewhere but too few adults eat healthily and too many are overweight.
- More people over 65 are in good health and there are some good quality services.
- Partners need to make sure they target how money is spent on health and healthier lifestyles so that areas with poorer health are improved to the standard of the rest.



- More effective and efficient service delivery

- 3% efficiency savings in the first year against a target of 9% over 3 years - but becoming more difficult to find savings.
- Joint purchasing is helping save taxpayers money eg **green flag** for highways procurement.
- But more savings would be made if partners delivered more services jointly.
- Generally people have good access to services, and people are satisfied. But it is more difficult in rural areas.
- Public services are working to help rural areas stay vibrant - housing, transport and help for rural businesses.
- Contacting and obtaining public services in Leicestershire isn't as straightforward and streamlined as it could be. Better co-ordination could save money.



- what happens next (1)

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- We continue to follow and assess what you are doing and outcomes across the county
 - Oneplace website will be updated through the year – possibly quarterly - but only if things change significantly.
 - There are some areas we will monitor and follow closely in Year 2:
 - Housing
 - Outcomes from Total Place – access to services, drugs and alcohol
 - Efficiency and progress with shared services across all partners and /or enhanced two-tier working.



- what happens next (2)

- Some areas we will look at more closely:
 - Provision of equipment and adaptations for older and disabled people to help them live at home
 - Progress in priority neighbourhoods,
 - Health partners engagement, particularly at local/district level
 - Domestic abuse
 - Some possible **green flag** areas – libraries, work with offenders – and you may identify more.

 - New areas/risks may emerge and we will follow them up
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