

Community Cohesion Strategy 2004-9: Major Themes

The findings from the IDeA's research and the Community and Sector Consultations have resulted in the identification of five community cohesion themes and revealed four broader cross-cutting issues. The five theme areas relate to specific community cohesion objectives while the four broader issues impact on all themes.

Community cohesion themes:

Community Cohesion

1. Supporting the social integration of communities in Leicester

- sharing issues and concerns between geographical communities
- fostering inter-cultural contacts between communities
- addressing the concerns of communities on the outer estates
- supporting local activities for local people
- strengthening local social networks – family, friends, neighbours
- developing strategies for welcoming newcomers.

2. Working with and supporting young people

- addressing the generation gap
- improving support to alienated young people
- fostering inter-cultural contact between young people in schools and colleges
- providing appropriate 'things to do' for young people.

3. Building confidence and a sense of belonging about living in Leicester

- building the sense of self-esteem of individuals, communities, neighbourhoods and of the city
- supporting cultural festivals and celebrations to open up contact across communities
- developing community leadership at all levels
- supporting inter-faith activities
- establishing inter-cultural activities and events which value both shared and distinct cultures.

4. Addressing the immediate social tensions in the city

- the tensions between communities
- intra-community tensions i.e. tensions within communities
- reducing the disaffection amongst some youth

5. Improving communication and information activities

- spreading the Community Cohesion message across the city
- improving information and channels of communication to Leicester residents
- addressing perceptions of unfairness
- raising understanding of different cultures.

Cross-cutting issues:

Community Plan
Partnership Working
Equalities Strategy

- Delivering better services and tackling broad social problems
- Developing collaborative relationships with other agencies – i.e. greater partnership and cross-sectoral working
- Tackling inequalities, prejudice and discrimination.
- Addressing economic and social disadvantage through regeneration programmes.



Community Plan issues:

Community Plan

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reducing crime and the fear of crime • raising poor educational standards • alleviating poverty and deprivation • addressing unemployment | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • cleaning up the physical environment • improving social housing • fostering greater confidence in the police. |
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* Communities – refers to geographical communities, communities of interest and recognises the diversity of individuals within these communities.

** Culture – refers to the wide and rich customs and traditions which exist within all communities and which may change over time.