

## Appendix A

The South Somerset Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) is a master plan, summarising how people in the district want to live and work, now and in the future. South Somerset Together set its long term goals through the Sustainable Community Strategy and in 2010, a study was completed that reassessed the key issues and trends identified in the SCS

It uses pump priming money to attract matching funds and commission research and/or kick start new multiagency projects. Lead partners champion particular programmes of work.

As a strategic partnership (LSP) its role is not duplicate any of the work or activities being delivered by the organisations that belong to the partnership, other organisations or communities. The focus of South Somerset Together is to identify what is not happening, what could be delivered differently to give better outcomes, make it happen faster or more consistently across the District and save money and effort.

The table below provides a progress summary for 2014/15.

Projects  LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)	Role of LSP as an initiator and facilitator 2014/15	Project Lead and Progress
<b>Strategic Priority: Building Community Resilience. Helping individuals and communities to do more things for themselves and others</b>		
Long Term Outcome - Improving People's Long Term Health (especially in places with health inequalities)	<b>LSP funding awarded in 2013/14 (£4,500) to take forward work in Westfield</b>	<b>Kim Close, SSDC</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the work done in 2013/14 a small group of local stakeholders considered feedback on the findings in the report and produced a draft action plan for the Westfield community. The consultation has enabled the community association and partner organisations to focus resources on the priorities identified by residents.</li> <li>• The community association have taken the lead on a number of projects, including commissioning a new youth service provider.</li> <li>• The former Health Inequalities Project Manager, who now has experience of the Our Place program has been brought back to manage the Westfield project. After years of uncertainty now have a viable way forward in terms of the provision of much needed community facilities and this provision will provide the community hub from which Healthy Lifestyle activity will be promoted.</li> </ul>

## Strategic Priorities – Progress Summary 2014/15

Projects	Role of LSP as an initiator and facilitator 2014/15	Project Lead and Progress
<p><b>LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)</b></p> <p>Supporting 'Our Place' type Integration of Services</p> <p>Long Term Outcome - Improving People's Long Term Health (especially in places with health inequalities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Awarded £20k pump priming sum by DCLG for an "Our Place" pilot programme in Westfield.</b></li> <li>• <b>Supported Martock Parish Council</b> in a similar bid that has also been awarded</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rina Singh, SSDC / Jeremy Martin, NHS / John Evans, Yeovil College</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development strategy submitted in May 2014 was successful and following this a Cost Benefit Analysis was worked up and a business plan developed. An operational plan was submitted in February 2015 and a decision anticipated end of March.</li> <li>• Martock Parish Council was also successful with their Our Place development plan and is awaiting further announcement following submission of their operational plans.</li> </ul>
<p>Long Term Outcome - Improving People's Long Term Health (especially in places with health inequalities)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LSP funding awarded (£5,000) towards the mapping of support &amp; care services and delivery of Symphony self-management pilot</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Jeremy Martin, YDH</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• LSP funded element of this projects only recently commenced and progress will be reported in next update.</li> </ul>
<p>Supporting 'Our Place' type Integration of Services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LSP agreement in principal to support the coordination of Yeovil One project</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Jeff Foreman, A&amp;S Constabulary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is ongoing to develop a formal structure to long-term sustainability of the Yeovil One team</li> </ul>
<p>South Somerset Family Focus (Troubled Families)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Family Focus is now a freestanding project</b></li> <li>• Local Authority areas deliver multi-agency support to families meeting DCLG's criteria of:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Anti-Social behaviour and criminality in children and, ASB in adults;</li> <li>○ Non-attendance or exclusions at school</li> <li>○ Worklessness</li> <li>○ Local discretionary criteria</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Steve Joel, SSDC / SCC</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Since 2012 239 families have been 'turned around' achieving the government criteria for ASB, education and worklessness.</li> <li>• Since February 2013, <b>127</b> families have been 'attached' and received direct support through Yeovil4Family with a dedicated Link Worker; of these <b>39</b> have also had support from a volunteer mentor.</li> <li>• <b>84</b> families currently in the programme being supported by <b>7</b> Link Workers and <b>16</b> volunteer mentors.</li> <li>• Majority of families receive support for at least a year. However in the order of 2/3rds of families have received support for 17 months. Y4F assess the progress made by each family on a monthly basis to</li> </ul>

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LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)		<p>determine whether a family is ready to 'exit' the programme.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As well as the 3 Government measures around ASB, school attendance and employment, other achievements for families include 'stepping down' from Children's Social Care (Child Protection Plan), securing more suitable housing, engagement with mental health services, engaging with a youth group, sorting out benefits, volunteering, training, addressing alcohol and drug problems, improved family relationships, children's counselling, moving on from school to college avoiding NEET status.</li> <li>• Some other things families have been supported with include attending court cases, supporting families through relationship breakdown, working with CSC and the family when children are taken in to care, establishing processes for reporting concerns of sexual abuse, working with Housing as a family are evicted.</li> <li>• To date, a total of <b>58</b> families have been approved for exit from the programme.</li> <li>• All families participating in the programme complete a Family Journey Mapping tool and a well-being survey, to monitor progress and achievements made.</li> <li>• Since September 2014, when reward funding for Family Focus finished, a further <b>32</b> families have been referred in to the programme. With new referrals still being accepted until March 2015 we estimate overall approximately <b>150</b> families in South Somerset will receive intensive Link Worker support and <b>285</b> families overall will benefit from the programme in South Somerset.</li> <li>• Phase 2 of Family Focus will be delivered as part of <b>getset</b> services from April 2015. All Government funding for Family Focus in Somerset will go into <b>getset</b> and therefore there will be no funds to continue with the existing model offering family support through Yeovil4Family. Any new referrals received from agencies from April 2015 will be referred to <b>getset</b>.</li> <li>• At this stage, the existing programme will continue to take referrals until March 2015 and families will be offered support up until December 2015 or as long as financial resources allow. From April</li> </ul>

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LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)		2015 any new families referred to Family Focus will be referred to <b>getset</b> .
Promote localism and volunteering	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>LSP funding awarded (£1,000) towards a SSVCA hosted major voluntary sector Fayre later in 2015</b> to showcase what the sector achieves and offer local groups practical support</li> <li>• <b>Funded a pilot project delivering themed drop-in support sessions</b>, delivered through South Somerset Mind</li> </ul>	<p><b>Sam Best, SSVCA</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2 Voluntary Sector forums held focused on: recruiting and retaining volunteers and getting the best out of social media.</li> <li>• Set up a volunteering desk at Yeovil Library desk to promote volunteering; plans are in place to roll out to other libraries in the district in 2015.</li> <li>• SSVCA continue their work with private businesses to encourage sign up to an Employer Supported Volunteering scheme. The new Premier Inn has contacted us to set up employer volunteering scheme.</li> <li>• A new Volunteer Manager Peer Support Group has been set up with over 12 groups attending.</li> <li>• Due to identified demand for funding/income generation advice, SSVCA – Voluntary Sector Support are exploring the possibility of hosting a voluntary sector fare later on this year.</li> <li>• SSVCA were commissioned between April &amp; December 2014 by SCC to provide volunteer management to the volunteers working on the flood recovery programme on the Somerset Levels.</li> <li>• SSVCA are representing the voluntary sector on a number of strategic boards including Police and Crime Commissioning, Clinical Commissioning Group and LEP, with the intent to ensure the voice of the sector is heard.</li> </ul>
Monitor impact of benefits and other austerity changes on vulnerable people	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>A new, multi-agency welfare reform task group has been formed to review available data and assess impact</b> of changes covering South Somerset and agree how to address any gaps identified</li> <li>• <b>Data sharing is raising the profile and</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Cathy Bakewell, LSP Chair</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A multi-agency Task Group has been in place for two years, meeting every 10-12 weeks. The Task Group composition has grown with interest and now has representation from SSDC, CAB, Yarlinton, DWP, Somerset Digital Inclusion Group, Somerset Advice Network,</li> </ul>

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<p>LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)</p>	<p>understanding of the issues and stimulating creative solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LSP awarded £5k towards welfare reform project to map the impacts and support services and develop suitable options</li> </ul>	<p>Police, South Somerset Mind and Yeovil College.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued to monitor impacts through local organisational data collection and sharing practice, knowledge and experience. An interim report was produced in July 2014 highlighting key issues and challenges people are facing including impacts of ‘digital by default’, rise in money management/debt problems, rise in use of food banks and job sanctions.</li> <li>Identified two particular groups as being potentially vulnerable to welfare changes, those people with mental health issues, and people in private rented housing who may not necessarily have the support of a Housing Association and associated advice eg. managing debt.</li> <li>The Task Group are looking to undertake research to further map the local impacts and add value to the work of existing advice agencies, with a focus on helping vulnerable people access services and cope with the impacts of welfare reform.</li> <li>The roll out of Universal Credit in South Somerset is scheduled for April 2015 and the group will continue to look at where there may be opportunities to link work and mobilise quickly.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Priority: Skills for a Thriving Economy</b></p>		
<p>Increasing access to training to help people gain skills/ qualifications and improve work prospects</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Successful Skills Assembly</b> was held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014 with speakers from Further Education, Employers and the Heart of the South West LEP</li> <li><b>LSP funding awarded (£4,750) towards an employability project</b> in Martock and Westfield area of Yeovil</li> </ul>	<p><b>John Evans Yeovil College</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Strategy Group represented on SW LEP Forum to feed in local issues and seek to influence strategy</li> <li>College engaged with partners on;                         <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work programme</li> <li>Programme to develop employability skills. From September 2014 all full time learners (1500) have to participate in a ‘community challenge’ that requires them to deliver 100 hours per group of community work.</li> </ul> </li> <li>A very successful Apprenticeship evening was held at Yeovil College on 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014 with 30+ employers attending and over 200 visitors. Many positive comments were received from attending employers.</li> </ul>

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<p>LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another successful apprenticeship recruitment event was run on 27<sup>th</sup> March called 'IT Speed dating'! This involved a number of IT employers speed interviewing potential apprentices at Yeovil College.</li> <li>• Following the successful Skills Assembly held on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2014 Yeovil College have recruited two work experience co-ordinators as a result of the Skills Assembly action plan. Their aim is to address and improve the employability skills of young people as a result of the feedback at the skills assembly.</li> <li>• Successful bid for project to support the development of enhancing Employability skills delivered by Yarlington -Inspired to Achieve and Yeovil College. Project started in January 2015</li> <li>• In the academic year 2013/14 Yeovil College managed over 700 apprentices</li> <li>• Yeovil District Hospital and Yeovil College have created a bid to build a 14-19 Career College. The concept is to create a college on the hospital site that will directly address the skill shortages in the Health sector.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Priority: Rural market housing to meet local need</b></p>		
<p>Developing new models for market housing in rural communities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>The group that formed in 2012 to explore options has continued</b> (following the data analysis that showed escalating demand from increasing numbers of older residents, with needs not met by current housing stock). The aim is to encourage innovation in private sector, older persons housing provision</li> <li>• <b>LSP hosted successful housing assembly in October 2014</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Ric Pallister, SSDC / Phyllida Culpin, Yarlington</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Of the three rural sites under construction one has completed and the other two are nearing completion and expected before the end of the financial year. Consultation has completed on the fourth, funding secured and planning being sought.</li> <li>• A very successful Housing Assembly was held on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2014 with 70 representatives from the district's Parish Councils, organisations and some local developers. A second housing assembly is anticipated later in 2015 to update on some of the work being taken forward by partners.</li> <li>• SSDC about to consult on the proposed rural lettings policy (raised in the Housing Strategy Implementation plan &amp; consulted on in 2014). This would aim to enable some families to remain closer to their</li> </ul>

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<p>LSP holds partner project funding (£37,000)</p>		<p>roots.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work is underway on the Strategic Housing Market Assessment and this will explore further the need for bungalows, regardless of tenure.</li> <li>• Lack of revenue support continues to impede access to HCA funding stream launched to support this type of development.</li> <li>• Housing related support for sheltered schemes by SCC received significant cuts in 2014 though not as high as the 50% reduction of funding as previously anticipated. However further changes are now being considered, including a potential cut to extra care housing schemes.</li> <li>• LSP needs to help bring forward detailed appraisals from private sector for tailored older person accommodation.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Strategic Priority: Transport and Access to Services</b></p>		
<p>(a) Promote integrated transport system in Yeovil</p> <p>(b) Promote rural transport &amp; access solutions</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Multi agency Steering Group formed and pump priming funding of £10,000 for rural transport analysis report</b></li> <li>• <b>Partners gave written support to SCC and earmarked a contribution in principle of up to £10,000, in support of bid to DfT.</b> However the bid was not successful and sum returned – more was required on cycling.</li> <li>• <b>LSP funding awarded (£5,000) for development of Wincanton public information website</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>Martin Woods, SSDC / Phyllida Culpin, Yarlington Housing Group</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SST employed a dedicated Transport Research Officer in Sept 2013 (hosted by Yarlington) to undertake research and develop transport options. A report on the findings was published in 2014 and is available on the SST website. The action plan from report is being followed by small working group of partners.</li> <li>• Funding of £20k procured (through SCC’s Small Improvement Schemes fund) for improvements to the current bus stop at Wincanton to form a rural bus and coach interchange with improved information. This will ‘open’ in February.</li> <li>• Hub concept being developed in Wincanton in partnership with transport operators including community transport. A detailed public transport information website is being developed that is bespoke for Wincanton as part of the Wincanton Hub Pilot.</li> <li>• Transport SIG of the HoSW LEP received a report from Stagecoach on decline of bus services in Devon.</li> </ul>

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Improving  
the Quality of Life  
in South Somerset

