

Gloucester, Cheltenham & Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy development

Report from Local Strategic Partnerships consultation
workshop

November 10th 2008



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1 Introduction

In July 2008, Gloucester City Council, Cheltenham Borough Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council formally agreed to prepare a Joint Core Strategy (JCS). The Core Strategy is the most important element of the Local Development Framework (the replacement to the old system of Local Plans).

As one of the earliest steps in the development process of the JCS, the members of the executive groups of Local Strategic Partnerships of the three areas, together with the Gloucestershire Strategic Partnership, were brought together for a meeting on November 10th. Independent facilitators, (Lynn Wetenhall Associates) were commissioned to help plan and to facilitate the meeting. This is a report of proceedings from that meeting, produced by the facilitators. The material in here is largely verbatim material, as set out by participants on their worksheets during the group work sessions, together with material from the presentations made on the day, and additional points made in the plenary sessions.

1.1 Aims of the meeting

The aims for the events were for all present to:

1. Understand the context behind the Joint Core Strategy, and what it will and won't be able to achieve
2. Build their understanding of, this pioneering process, the great potential it offers for *all* LSP member organisations and how the ultimate content of the Joint Core Strategy and related infrastructure planning will:
 - Help deliver the LAA, Sustainable Community Strategies and co-ordinate activities by LSP partners, to support the delivery of infrastructure and services
 - Impact on service and facilities needs, in relation to both existing and proposed provision
3. Understand the new governance and other working arrangements by which the Joint Core Strategy will be developed over the next two years. This will include detail on the process for the next nine months, which will see engagement on high-level strategic issues of particular interest to Local Strategic Partnerships.
4. Give their views on a set of potential strategic outcomes, which describe key aspects of what the area might be like in 2026, building upon the existing visions set out in the Sustainable Community Strategies, in line with the Government's 'place-shaping' agenda.
5. Discuss the issue of infrastructure and service provision and the way in which the LSP partner organisations can most effectively inform the Joint Core Strategy and infrastructure planning process to help deliver their own plans and programmes
6. Reflect on the implications of this highly significant and entirely new process, for each of the respective LSPs and for their joint working over the coming months.

2 Briefing on the JCS

A number of presentations were made, giving participants further information about what the JCS is, why it is important to Local Strategic Partnerships, and how it is being developed. The presenters' material is reproduced in this section.

2.1 The new spatial planning framework and the Joint Core Strategy

Key things LSPs need to know

Toby Clempson - Planning Policy Manager - Tewkesbury District Council

Background

- 2004 – Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act
- Transition from Local Plans to Local Development Frameworks
- Dealing with the aftermath of adopted local plans
- Focus on place shaping
- Emphasis on infrastructure planning
- Focus on delivery by multi- agencies

Context

- National target -delivery of 2 million new homes by 2016 and 3 million by 2020
- South West RSS – 592,060 new homes by 2026
- Gloucestershire 'minimum' requirement of RSS totals – 56,400 new homes = major impact on the way we support communities and provide appropriate levels of infrastructure, services and facilities

RSS focus on urban areas – role of Cheltenham & Gloucester

What is a Core Strategy?

- Most important document within Local Development Framework
- Sets out a clear vision for managing development over the next 15 - 20 years
- Includes strategic allocations
- Aligned to Sustainable Community Strategies
- A statutory part of the development plan and required to be in conformity with RSS
- A vehicle to help deliver the LAA agenda and wider LSP priorities

Where does the Joint Core Strategy fit into the wider strategic context?

Joint Core Strategy – shifting agenda

- Inclusion of strategic allocations
- Redrawing of green belt boundaries
- Preparation of Central Severn Vale Transport Strategy
- Infrastructure planning
- Balancing local issues with strategic issues
- Managing political expectations in context of delivering a sound plan in conformity with the RSS

2.2 Joint working on the JCS:What's the process?

Tracey Crews - Strategic Land Use Manager - Cheltenham Borough Council

Joint working - how did we get here?

- Discussions with GOSW/RDA early 2008 on preparation of a Joint Core Strategy – focus on delivery and emphasis on infrastructure planning
- March 2008 – agreement “in principle” by 3 districts to joint working – supported by County Council
- July 2008 – resolution to joint working and supporting infrastructure planning. Focus on programme management and a timetable for delivery agreed

JCS Timetable

• JCS SA Scoping Report published	September 2008*
• Ongoing stakeholder engagement	September 2008 - June 2009
• Wider public consultation	August 2009
• Publication of draft Joint Core Strategy	March 2010 * Potential for this to be final submission,
• Submission of Joint Core Strategy	August 2010* thereby pulling forward remaining timetable by c.2 months
• Examination of Joint Core Strategy	January 2011
• Adoption of Joint Core Strategy	July 2011*

2.3 What the JCS can & can't do for you

Janice Morphet – Consultant

Thinking about the future

- Implications of 56,000 new homes over the next 20 years
- Population of about 130,000
- Equivalent to a large town in Gloucestershire
- How can the public and voluntary services best deliver for this new population and the existing people and communities

What the JCS can and can't do for you

- What the JCS can do
- What it can't do
- How you can get the most from the process
- What happens next...

What it can do

Help you to:

- plan and deliver your services and facilities as part of your day to day business
- plan early for changes in population
- maximise your current assets and expenditure on capital programmes
- see what others are doing
- make more effective external funding bids
- meet external performance requirements and LAA

What it can't do

- Guarantee that funding will be available from development through s106 agreements – need to look at existing expenditure first
- Guarantee effective joint working – that is down to you

How you can get the most from the process

- Participate!
- Benefit from the opportunity to work with partners
- Be a champion within your own organisation
- Think about ways that assets and funding could be more effectively used
- Identify how services can better serve communities and individuals in the future

What happens next?

- Need to move with all speed to:
- collect together the current picture of capital expenditure
- Understand when and how these capital programmes are to be reviewed
- Identify the service standards that you are using for existing and new development and why
- Identify thresholds where central funding is triggered

Timescales

- By the end of 2008, with your help, we would like to
- Identify existing public sector capital expenditure
- identify your service delivery standards and any expected changes in delivery patterns currently expected
- Start to identify shortfalls in areas of intensification and growth

Why do it this way?

- Working together will be more efficient
- We will be able to learn from each other
- No one feels left out or behind
- Opportunity for everyone to identify what is needed and why
- Opportunity to consider places that need change and improvement through joint working

2.4 The draft strategic outcomes: How they were developed

Chris Hargrave - Principal Planning Officer - Gloucester City Council

Chris explained that the Policy Development Group had produced these draft outcomes through drawing on the relevant evidence and related strategies. They were to be taken very much as a first draft and evolve over the next few months.

3 Commenting on draft strategic outcomes

Participants were presented with a set of draft strategic outcomes, developed by the JCS Planning Development Group. Working in small groups, (with a mixture of people from across the three district areas and the county area, and mixed by organisations also,)they were asked to:

- Suggest any **additional** aims that they felt should be added to the draft list
- Suggest any **amendments** / **improvements** that they felt should be made to the draft statements put forward.
- Give their views on any of the draft strategic outcomes they **strongly disagreed with**.

3.1 Suggested amendments to draft strategic outcomes

1. **Developing complementary relationships between settlements whilst retaining local distinctiveness** – A co-ordinated planning strategy that cuts across administrative boundaries and seeks to build on the strengths of the different settlements within the JCS area, whilst maintaining their individual character and identity, in order to develop a strong and coherent sub-regional 'hub'.
 - Not clear what 'hub' means in this context. 'City region' could be alternative but limitations as Stroud/Cotswold/Forest not involved. Suggest find alternative to 'hub'.
 - Think we need to understand what this means in more detail.
 - Sustainable aim to reduce journeys (self-containment vision) CO2 etc.
 - Different needs/requirements across the batch. (Homes, jobs, leisure culture).
 - Ensure that joined up approach.
 - Clarification on word 'settlement'. What is the relationship to 'communities' which may not be co-terminus to 'settlements'?
 - Too much jargon, what are the outcomes and why complementary? What is the rationale?
 - Apply the 'anywhere' test i.e. substitute any place name for Gloucester etc - if it still reads okay it is not locally distinctive and should be dropped.
 - How are they complementary? Be more specific e.g. describe the retail offer of the three places - how will they be in 20 years? How do we develop energy? Think of outcomes -- a new theatre etc.
2. **Improved retail offer** - Promoting competition and innovation in the retail sector and developing a complementary retail offer that allows the JCS area to more effectively compete with other locations including Bristol, Cardiff and Swindon. This will be achieved through a positive and pro-active approach, based on a 'city/town centre first' approach, exemplified by the expansion of Cheltenham town centre, the redevelopment of the Kings Quarter area of Gloucester, and a thriving Gloucester Quays.
 - Tewkesbury needs may not be recognized -- they are not mentioned.
 - Fails to recognize that Gloucester and Cheltenham are competing with each other -this retail competition needs to be recognized.
 - Links to number 4 on transport links to aid people shopping locally. Also to13, on need for neighbourhood shopping.
 - Emphasis is should be on accessibility. Town centres are important, but local areas are important.
 - Be clearer about distinctions. JCS area to be outwardly, not inwardly competitive.
 - Avoid 'cloned' settlements.
 - 'Town centres at first approach
 - Tewkesbury is not mentioned but we feel it should be.

- Attraction of shoppers conflicts with self containment?
 - Support what is already happening in Gloucester and Cheltenham.
 - Perhaps not advisable to compete with Bristol; each place is unique and should build on their strengths.
 - Need to explore and describe existing hinterland and propose to extend it. Be more specific about what a place will offer in 2026 perhaps floor space increase of particular time.
3. **Meeting the housing needs of all** - Ensuring a supply of suitable, deliverable sites for housing and the provision of new homes of the right size and type including affordable housing for those whose needs cannot be met in the open market. There will be step-change in the quality, availability and affordability of housing within the JCS area, exemplified by sustainable urban extensions to Gloucester and Cheltenham.
- Quality should include design of new housing.
 - Need to recognize need for uplift in existing communities.
 - Sustainability (carbon culprit and resource conservation) needs to be more prominent. Greenfield development is a last resort. Landscape and a biodiversity may be more important than whether 'green' or 'brown' field designations.
 - Housing for young people - needs to be taken into account. Be explicit about supported housing.
 - How does one define 'all'? Some caution about the needs of all. The sentiment is correct but clearer definition is required.
 - Need for specialised supported housing -built into new communities (local if possible, people with learning disabilities, deaf, blind)
 - Even out supply - apparent present surplus apartments -- higher density?
 - PPS3 push for Brownfield equals higher density - conflict greenfield may need to include point about balance of mix in and out of centre.
 - Future proofing for 'lifetime living'.
 - Tackling fuel poverty.
 - Homes for home working.
 - Sustainable building designs, e.g. homes and offices.
 - Who is 'all'? If needs can't be met, where will people go?
 - More emphasis on mixed communities.
 - The importance of design, link to jobs and place-making, not just plonking down large blocks of housing.
 - Different housing mix balance in each needs describing and addressing.
4. **Innovative solutions for transport, planning and urban design will deliver** 'modal shift' away from the private car to public transport, powered two-wheelers, walking and cycling leading to an overall reduction in travel demand. There will be a step change in accessibility to jobs and essential services by non-car modes. Congestion pinch points will be tackled. The network will become safer and more secure for all road users. The natural and built environment will be respected and enhanced. Transport will contribute strongly to people's health, well-being and quality of life.
- 'Modal shift' is an unrealistic expectation. Need to provide high-quality alternative to the car.
 - Include community transport.
 - Overall reduction in the 'projected growth of travel'. An overall reduction in travel demand not likely.

- Need to say that delivery may depend on government support - realistic finance for concessionary fares for example?
 - Link to plans of others PeT LEA's?
 - Pilot innovation in one community.
 - Appropriate alternative options taking into account rurality of environment - car sharing, flexible working.
 - In general okay; could refer to strategic infrastructure, and links to existing conurbation.
 - The objective should support the outcomes in the other strategic outcomes.
5. **Developing the employment portfolio of Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury** in order to diversify and strengthen the economic base of Gloucestershire and the sub-region as a whole. This will focus on ensuring a plentiful supply of employment land, improved office provision in Gloucester City Centre, developing creative industries in Cheltenham, providing for rural employment needs and building on the forecast growth sectors as defined in the Gloucestershire Urban Economic Strategy in order to increase productivity and competitiveness.
- Issue of complementarity - need to define what this means and need to identify basic ingredients for all areas:
 - sustainability of Tewkesbury communities
 - home working: supporting rural areas, availability of broadband connections.
 - Need to find imaginative use of existing employment land
 - Tewkesbury, again, not mentioned in the text;(concern about Tewkesbury being ignored).
 - Statements re key business parks. Junction 9
 - Protect and enhance key employment locations. Waterwells, Lansdown / Kingsditch
 - Create office quarter in Gloucester city, all to be retained for high-value added/light industrial /high tech
 - Create quality commercial sector.
 - Currently a narrow focus of employment opportunities:
 - Develop engineering
 - Incentives to encourage diversification.
 - Is this too prescriptive? Why specify? Why office provision just in Gloucester reference needed to economic strategy and urban economic strategy.
 - Needs to mention productivity it not just land use.
 - Importance of ICT and broadband etc
 - Link to housing development.
 - What are the *illegible* ?
6. **Developing the skills agenda**, leading to improved retention of school leavers, college students and graduates within the local economy. This will be achieved by co-ordination of Gloucestershire College and Gloucestershire University with the business community, local chambers of commerce and the roll out of 'Gloucester Works' - the Gloucester City employment and skills initiative. Developers will be expected to enter into legal agreements to secure employment and training opportunities for local people, particularly the long-term unemployed.
- Need to upskill people who are here. Promoting the importance of learning at all ages.
 - Remote training opportunities, continuing education.
 - Needs more than 4 words as a heading
 - What can the JCS really do to influence on this?
 - Not so much about stopping young people leaving the area about encouraging them to come back after university.

- Ultimately we want decent jobs to encourage people to want to work here, wherever they come from.
 - We need not just college and university. Gloucester F. E. and work-based training provision with the business community. (Link to rebadging at Gloucester as quality commercial sector).
 - Linked to early education, not just post-16. What do the employers want? Need to hang on to younger people. Other higher education institutions not just Gloucestershire.
 - Iterative consideration of the spatial implications of the economic strategies.
7. **An enhanced cultural, leisure and tourism offer** which enhances the JCS area's role as a 'gateway' to the South West and capitalises on the area's important heritage. This will include completion of the redevelopment of the historic Gloucester Docks; the redevelopment of Blackfriars, public realm improvements through Civic Pride and the GHURC, additional hotel provision in Gloucester City Centre and the development of a thriving festival and theatre programme which strengthens, diversifies and increases the value of the evening economy of Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury.
- Motorway represents a crucial gateway into the area.
 - Opportunity for more 'green' tourism. Emphasising role of diverse communities e.g. ethnic mix. Varieties of cultural offers/options.
 - JCS can only achieve in partnership with many other partners. More cross boundary than just the JCS area.
 - Quays link to City Centre a must and to create higher quality City Centre too.
 - Discount rent/business rate as incentive for city centre; make Kings Quarter happen quickly/more quickly.
 - Needs to reflect diversity of cultural communities. Feels urban focused.
 - Emphasis only on 'evening' economy.
 - What about rural open spaces in attracting tourism.
 - Need to ensure that existing communities benefit, not just visitors.
 - Need to take in to account demographics.
 - What about Tewkesbury? Is it underplayed?
 - Question whether individual schemes should be named? How about higher level objectives?
 - What about children etc want - broader area.
8. **Mitigating contributions to climate change and ensuring effective adaptation to climate change to help improve the resilience of the JCS area.** Driving forward the existing climate change strategies for Gloucester and Cheltenham, seeking to maximise the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increase the amount of electricity generated from low carbon or renewable sources, safeguard biodiversity and ensure the maintenance of a high quality of life. This will be achieved through the pursuit of ambitious, yet viable targets for sustainable building design and renewable energy generation, implementation of sustainable transport measures, the protection and enhancement of biodiversity across the JCS area and effective air quality, water and waste management.
- Needs to reflect what is in the Gloucester Environmental Partnership business plan and LAA indicators.
 - Tewkesbury's contribution that needs to be recognised more explicitly.
 - Be adventurous on what you will allow. Technology will have moved on by 2011 - be proactive.
 - Part of the objective should be to ensure complementarity and/or consistency of standards across Gloucestershire.

- Maximise the government's standards.
 - Needs to be more ambitious and enacted from now. Could this be the high level vision? Seems out of place. Need to consider what's in the existing community strategies on this issue. Needs to be more aspirational e.g. code for [?sustainable?] homes.
 - Fails the 'anywhere' test.
9. **Reduction in the risk of flooding and the impacts of flooding through the design and location of development and improvements in surface water management.** Through application of the 'sequential test', new development will be steered towards areas of lowest flood risk and where development cannot be located outside the floodplain, measures will be required to reduce the risk of flooding and mitigate any increase in the likelihood/impact of flooding. Flood risk in existing areas will be reduced through more effective surface water management.
- Need for sequential test to be applied over the JCS area rather than separately by each district area.
 - Recognize that river flooding happens in Wales/River but affects us.
 - Choices about the use of land for agriculture can affect water retention capability.
 - land management coherent across the JCS area.
 - Wording: there is high expectation, particularly in Tewkesbury re flooding. Need to manage expectations -this needs to be carefully explained.
 - It's a subset of outcome number 8 but we agree it needs mentioning separately -hard to argue with.
 - Flood proof building designs the homes.
 - Grey water management.
 - Look at wording from public perception, e.g. 'will be steered...'
 - Much more than surface water management. Need to test this with Environment Agency etc.
 - Could be broadened to include other 'emergencies' e.g. loss of electricity. Reference to critical points of infrastructure.
 - Emphasise local resilience -to adapt to all circumstances.
 - Be more specific - fails the anywhere test. Make distinctive - perhaps effect of short streams flowing offthe Cotswold escarpment.
10. **Protection, management and enhancement of biodiversity and the natural environment** including Sites of Special Scientific Interest, areas of landscape and biodiversity importance. This will be achieved through a co-ordinated approach to the management of the natural environment.
- This is old hat. Need now is to link important sites so wildlife can move. Green infrastructure needs to be linked with the countryside.
 - Hard to disagree with or add to it as a vision.
 - AONB it needs to be included.
 - Local approaches should be considered.
 - Should references be made to agriculture?
 - Needs to be expand and refer to AONB.
 - Link to recreation and healthy living.
 - Could link in with the other fact is e.g. design to set out how places will function.
 - Fails the 'anywhere' test. Could be okay if more specific.

11. **Effective and ongoing social, economic and physical regeneration of Gloucester City Centre via GHURC and Cheltenham town centre via Civic Pride** – Tackling inequality and leading to reduced social exclusion, unemployment and improved access to service provision within the most deprived wards of Westgate, Barton and Tredworth (Gloucester) St. Paul's, Hester's Way (Cheltenham) and Prior's Park (Tewkesbury).
- Inequality happens across the whole of the JCS area. The small text doesn't tackle the bold text issue. Rewording in terms of regeneration scheme contributing to regeneration effort. Need for holistic regeneration. More about social and economic regeneration and tackling inequality so all areas benefit and we don't move the problems to other areas.
 - Should be the whole urban area.
 - Tend to concentrate too much on the GHURC areas in Glos in particular.
 - Make urban areas nicer places to live again.
 - Addition: the concept of safety (links into transport - encouraging people to walk, they need to feel safe).
 - 'Areas of deprivation' rather than mentioning specific areas.
 - Too urban -- what about Tewkesbury. Deprivation in all areas.
 - Needs to not just apply to those areas - wider issue. Could separate physical and social regeneration but need to be linked.
 - Should be higher level, not so specific. Needs to talk about timing/delivery/funding. What drives the GHURC and Civic Pride? Overall framework. Who owns this on a daily basis?.
12. **Improved health and access to healthcare** - to be achieved through the provision of improved greenspace within the urban areas and on the urban fringe including access to the countryside through the retention and development of a comprehensive 'green infrastructure' network. Ensuring the priority objectives of the Primary Care Trust are met so as to improve the quality of health care and provision where it is most needed, including enhanced facilities at the local level to reduce pressure on main hospitals.
- Ticks lots of boxes. The second sentence: objectives are those of the community not the PCT, which should reflect the community view.
 - Need to remember positives of existing areas - focus on developing appropriately.
 - What does 'green infrastructure' mean? Need elaboration
 - Does saying 'ensuring priority objectives... of PCT' allow for flexibility over the next 18 years? Could be a different organisation in a very few years time (for example).
 - Not just PCT - relatively 'small fry' in overall community/health terms. What about health and well-being strategy?
 - Could move green infrastructure to outcome10.
 - Need to reflect agreed outcomes of PCT.
 - Fails anywhere test. Look at LAA for local priorities.
13. **Providing for the needs of neighbourhoods** - Each neighbourhood will have a clear vision of its needs and will be working collectively with service providers to fulfil it. Day-to-day shopping and service needs will be met through an appropriate mix and scale of provision at the local level. There will be an emphasis on promoting and accessing local produce and reducing 'food miles'. Communities will be able to access improved service provision as key agencies work collectively to deliver a co-ordinated and cost effective approach to service provision including the potential co-location of services e.g. multi-functional community 'hub' buildings. Residents will be more involved in decision-making and the 'shaping' of the places they live in.
- How do we define it neighbourhood areas? What about villages or parishes? What about communities of interest or communities of need?
 - Too broad a heading

- We were little confused about what this objective is saying - needs to be clearer. Feels like a bit of a catchall. The purpose of the objective needs better explanation.
- We don't disagree with the concept of the JCS assisting in providing for the needs of neighbourhoods in principle.
- What can people realistically expect from their neighbourhoods.
- Local allotments: provide/allocate.
- Community facilities need to be appropriate to the needs of the community. What about equalities and diversity, e.g. BME, gypsies and travellers and migrants.
- Use of words neighbourhood is too 'urban'. What about communities?
- Greater reference needed to employment and [???
- How will people be involved in decision-making? Role of elected members.
- Fails anywhere test.
- Keep this strategic – needs of whole JCS area and urban extensions
- What should be the 'standard entitlement' for neighbourhoods? A very detailed level of work -is this another tier of work? But if this all works at a coherent level you will provide something that works as a neighbourhood level = enabling framework : proactive, not imposed → this cannot determine activities of each neighbourhood, but can facilitate.

3.2 Draft strategic outcomes that caused strong concern

2. **Improved retail offer** - Promoting competition and innovation in the retail sector and developing a complementary retail offer that allows the JCS area to more effectively compete with other locations including Bristol, Cardiff and Swindon. This will be achieved through a positive and pro-active approach, based on a 'city/town centre first' approach, exemplified by the expansion of Cheltenham town centre, the redevelopment of the Kings Quarter area of Gloucester, and a thriving Gloucester Quays.
 - Outcomes need to differentiate between city centre shopping and sustainable 'local' shopping facilities.
 - Being controversial – do we want to make this more local? Emphasis should be on accessibility.
6. **Developing the skills agenda**, leading to improved retention of school leavers, college students and graduates within the local economy. This will be achieved by co-ordination of Gloucestershire College and Gloucestershire University with the business community, local chambers of commerce and the roll out of 'Gloucester Works' - the Gloucester City employment and skills initiative. Developers will be expected to enter into legal agreements to secure employment and training opportunities for local people, particularly the long-term unemployed.
 - Re-draft wording with assistance from Gloucestershire 1st. Wording appears Gloucester-centric.
 - Need to reach out to those on Incapacity Benefit / Unemployment.
 - Linkage back to LAA.
8. **Mitigating contributions to climate change and ensuring effective adaptation to climate change to help improve the resilience of the JCS area.** Driving forward the existing climate change strategies for Gloucester and Cheltenham, seeking to maximise the reduction in greenhouse gas emissions, increase the amount of electricity generated from low carbon or renewable sources, safeguard biodiversity and ensure the maintenance of a high quality of life. This will be achieved through the pursuit of ambitious, yet viable targets for sustainable building design and renewable energy generation, implementation of sustainable transport measures, the protection and enhancement of biodiversity across the JCS area and effective air quality, water and waste management.
 - Should be more overarching theme of JCS which then influences each of the outcomes. Specific actions listed in 8 should be incorporated under their respective outcomes.
11. **Effective and ongoing social, economic and physical regeneration of Gloucester City Centre via GHURC and Cheltenham town centre via Civic Pride** – Tackling inequality and leading to reduced social exclusion, unemployment and improved access to service provision within the most deprived wards of Westgate, Barton and Tredworth (Gloucester) St. Paul's, Hester's Way (Cheltenham) and Prior's Park (Tewkesbury).
 - Bold writing refers only to Cheltenham & Gloucester; remaining text refers to other areas. Suggest rewrite.
12. **Improved health and access to healthcare** - to be achieved through the provision of improved greenspace within the urban areas and on the urban fringe including access to the countryside through the retention and development of a comprehensive 'green infrastructure' network. Ensuring the priority objectives of the Primary Care Trust are met so as to improve the quality of health care and provision where it is most needed, including enhanced facilities at the local level to reduce pressure on main hospitals.
 - Suggest: rewrite. Needs to reflect physical & mental health. Needs to reduce health inequalities –needs wider determinants of health

3.3 Proposed new strategic outcomes

Proposed new strategic outcome	Why this is proposed
Meeting the needs of older people – health, accommodation, services.	Not just about physical development, also about the people
Improving people's quality of life , including business, residents & visitors	Needs to be more aspirational & holistic / joined up
Need for cross cutting themes eg Climate change. Need to reorganise overall vision & reflect existing Sustainable Community Strategy, not reinvent wheel	Series of collective outcomes need organising into a more composite whole. Also important to build on existing SCS not just develop a new vision
Need to 'close the gap' eg children & young people but also more generally. Greater cohesion within communities.	Not mentioned – needs to be.
Some support for overall underpinning concept of climate change.	Could act as overall steer for remainder of strategic outcomes.
Issues of safety and personal security: physical design and services	Transport: affects the way people choose to use their network (eg is it safe to walk to the shop?). Important component of physical and social regeneration/development
Capacity building for neighbourhoods (building strong communities)	Sustainability issues
Putting the infrastructure in first – funding and phasing issues	
Community engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communities feeling involved • Have ownership of the new communities • Making our communities feel 'the right thing is being done'
Waste management	Question: very different collection systems within the three districts. Is this picked up by waste LDF? Should waste infrastructure be incorporated into JCS?
Leadership role of voluntary sector – could fit into outcome 13?	Investing in infrastructure for the voluntary sector. Implementation plan. Are you straying into LAA territory? Creating the right environment for good community organisations to deliver
Coordinated implementation plan	Essential at bringing everything together. 'Sign up' all relevant stakeholders = commitment. Engagement with LSPs
Rural areas	Ensure that the focus is not just on Cheltenham and Gloucester
Overarching city / town centre	Bringing together elements of existing outcomes. 'Vibrant, multi-cultural centres' – including retail, leisure centre

3.4 General comments by participants on the outcomes

- Paragraph one rather weak, needs to be revisited.
- More emphasis on linking and integration of objectives, eg housing, employment and climate change
- On some of the strategic outcomes, we questioned how much impact the JCS can have on the outcomes
- Motherhood and apple pie – this may improve as the debate develops. Probably cannot do much. Make more local
- Are all the outcomes of equal priority? The devil will be in the detail
- All needs to based on evidence base
- Missing from all: tackling inequalities and sustainability. All cross cutting in delivering these outcomes. → need an overarching statement

4 Implications & issues for the LSPs

Participants were asked to work within in their own LSP groups to consider, in the light of all that they heard about the JCS, the kinds of things might they might need to discuss, do or take decisions on, in order to ensure that they fully carry out their role in the JCS development process, between now and June 2009 in particular, and beyond.

Cheltenham Strategic Partnership

Comment	Actioned by
Tension between the JCS and existing county thematic partnerships and action plans	CSP + PDG
Need to overlay JCS timetable with the LSPs timetable	CSP
Process should sign up to the Gloucestershire compact protocols	PDG
Engagement and empowerment principles	CSP → PDG
Who do we consult with in terms of urban extensions? Who is the new population?	PDG
Clarify how LSPs are engaged in the process: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Their capacity to be involved ○ What is expected to be delivered? ○ How many LSP representatives? ○ Can LSPs represent agencies? 	PDG
Take reports on infrastructure work and data to LSP	PDG
Look at spending reports generated through Sustainable Communities Act	CSP
Create space on agendas for proper discussion	CSP
Need to include police on membership list	PDG
Clarity over relationships with Community Strategy Executive Board / programme board	CSEB
Comprehensive area agreements and local area agreements	CSEB
Evidence base – need to incorporate health/social / community needs and data eg Joint strategic health needs assessment – Maiden / SIB	PDG
Focus on closing the gap outcome, and on climate change outcome – cross cutting principles	CSP/PDG/CSEB

Tewkesbury Strategic Partnership

- Tewkesbury Strategic Partnership will check the emerging draft outcomes for JCS against their own Sustainable Community Strategy
- Want to double check Tewkesbury's profile – where does it sit in the JCS outcomes? More visibility needed within the emerging material?

Gloucester Strategic Partnership

- What about the degree of influence that LSPs have? What's the scope for divergence from the local planning authority's political view? How much real influence
- There could be a further session with LSPs. This idea should be brought back through the LSP executives for further discussion.
- Cross boundary programme board : LSP representation needs to be non local authority. Concern expressed that the local planning authority will already be well represented on the programme board and hence any LSP representative should be not be from the local planning authority
- Potential JCS LSP group could be set up: the LSP executives could nominate members to sit on a joint LSP Joint Core Strategy Group that would engage with the process on behalf of the LSPs.

Community Strategy Executive Board (Gloucestershire Conference)

- Recommend that the Gloucestershire Strategic Partnership (GSP) is the lead body to be engaged in this JCS work – particularly over the next few months in this 'visioning' work, eg keep the GSP informed, enable them to give their views. It would be lead on behalf of the Gloucestershire Conference.
- The five Gloucestershire thematic partnerships should be included too
- Need for clear communication strategy across all of this JCS work
- GSP has role to play in coordinating LDF dialogue between 3 districts / the county, engaged in JCS work, and the other 3 districts
- GSP needs to pay attention to the reality of how the JCS will be implemented ie once it is all signed off.

5 General points arising

- Is there a need for more involvement of local authority councillors in this process, eg playing a scrutiny role? Jane Burns to investigate this with Gloucestershire County Council, and report back.
- The future of the airport is not agreed across the different local authorities and Gloucestershire First. This will need to be addressed within the JCS.
- The South West Regional Spatial Strategy – there is a lack of clarity on the target of jobs to be created. This has knock on effects for the JCS work.