

CLEARview

Consultants In Regeneration



DARFIELD COMMUNITY AUDIT

FINAL REPORT

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Darfield Community

Darfield is a large village community of 8,000 people. Situated 4 miles from Barnsley and within 2 miles of some of the large new employment creating sites in the Dearne Valley, it is a largely residential area of mixed housing. Council estates, new private housing and pre-1919 housing co-exist to produce a diverse but largely cohesive community which nevertheless hides pockets of acute deprivation.

Since the late 20th Century decline in the coal and ancillary industries, the Darfield working population has adjusted to a varied pattern of commuting to work, early retirement and unemployment. Particular issues of concern to residents include providing a solid working future for young people and improving a built environment which shows the effects of under investment during the long decline of the coal industry.

The loss of the coal industry also led to under-investment in recreational and social facilities together with a breakdown of traditional networks of informal support. As the community attempts to lead itself into new structures, networks and ways of involvement that provide leisure and support, it must contend with a transport network and pattern of public services which have adjusted to these new economic and social realities by contraction.

Darfield, in common with much of Barnsley Borough, displayed outstandingly low out-migration in the 1991 Census. These strong community links remain as a resource on which to build. However, there are some concerns that economic logic is increasing the number of young people leaving the area to work, whilst increasing in-migration of people who see Darfield only as a dormitory town is undermining community spirit.

Community led action is taking place and funding has been or will soon be drawn down for a healthy living centre project, museum project and a fishing amenity. In addition, smaller projects for e.g. environmental work have already been funded.

However, Darfield village had never qualified as a target area for any European or SRB community based initiatives. The community strongly believes that it has not received its "fair share" of other regeneration funding such as Coalfields Regeneration Trust and National Lottery Community Fund.

1.2 Aims of the Community Audit

A specific change in circumstances occurred in 2001 with the designation of a substantial part of Darfield as an Objective 1 Priority 4A Pioneer area. Darfield Community Association are one of a number of community groups seeking to renew Darfield. As the lead group in the Objective 1 Pioneer programme for Darfield, they have commissioned the community audit in order to:

- Obtain the views of local residents in Darfield, especially from people who are hard to reach or engage;
- Identify recommendations on the needs of local people, to form the focus of the client's activity, aims and objectives;

- Gain sufficient information to feed the production of a Neighbourhood Plan and be the source of feasibility information for other organisations within the community that are developing new ideas and to support applications to Objective 1 and other funders.

2. INTRODUCTION TO THE AREA

2.1 Defining Darfield

Darfield is a term applied to two distinct entities:

- The **village of Darfield**, a sizeable community of 8,000 people;
- The **electoral ward** of Darfield, with a population of just over 10,000, which includes the smaller settlements of Middlecliffe, Little Houghton, Great Houghton and Billingley.

The community audit is concerned only with Darfield village and its people. However, much of the published statistical data relates to the electoral ward. In general, the Darfield village is believed to be marginally less deprived on all indicators than other settlements in the ward, but this is not necessarily a correct assumption.

2.2 Data On Darfield

On the 2000 Index of Multiple Deprivation, the ward is ranked as the 1004th most deprived ward out of the 8414 wards in England. This means that it is in the 12% most deprived wards nationally.

Darfield is ranked as relatively deprived on all the issues (known as domains) covered by the Index. Areas of particular deprivation are:

- Health (in the worst 5% of wards nationally).
- Employment (in the worst 8% of wards nationally).
- Child poverty (in the worst 18% of wards nationally).
- Income (in the worst 18% of wards nationally).

Darfield has also been the focus for primary research into health and social capital by Green et al under the Health Action Zone. This involved a survey of 487 homes during 1999/2000.

2.2.1 Population Characteristics and Social Capital

Table 2.1 shows the gender characteristics of Darfield residents. As may be seen, the proportions of men in both Darfield ward and Darfield village are very close to the Barnsley and national averages of 48.7%. However, there are fewer men proportionately in the Pioneer area but more men in North Saltersbrook. It is worth noting that the 2001 population **for the Darfield ward** showed a decline of 2.9% compared to the 1991 Census estimate.

Table 2.2 shows the population profile from the 2001 Census. From this it can be seen that the age profile of Darfield village is not significantly different from that of the ward, although there are fewer children, especially below the age of 9 years. Equally, the age profile of the village is similar to that for Barnsley except that there are 4% more people of pension age and the workforce is slightly younger. There are, however, clear differences in the Pioneer area which has higher numbers of children of all ages and of older pensioners than the village, the ward, Barnsley or the country.

Table 2.1 Gender Characteristics

| Geographical Area | Total residents (nos)** | Males % | Females % |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|---------|-----------|
| Darfield Ward | 10234 | 48.6 | 51.4 |
| Darfield Village | 8061 | 48.9 | 51.1 |
| Pioneer Area | 2453 | 47.6 | 52.4 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 3090 | 49.9 | 50.1 |
| Main estate | 2101 | 47.5 | 52.5 |
| School Street | 809 | 49.1 | 50.9 |
| Millhouses | 551 | 49.0 | 51.0 |
| Central | 858 | 47.1 | 52.9 |
| North Saltersbrook | 652 | 51.2 | 48.8 |
| Barnsley | 218,063 | 48.7 | 51.3 |
| England | 49,138,831 | 48.7 | 51.3 |

* The totals shown are based upon Table 1 of the 2001 Census Key Statistics and, as such, are different from the ONS annualised estimates used to provide the figure of 10,075 residents in the ward.

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Table 2.2: Ages of All Residents in Interviewees Homes

| Age | Darfield Village Nos | Darfield Village % | Darfield Ward % | Pioneer Area % | Barns'y % | England % |
|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|-------------|-------------|
| 0-4 years old | 459 | 5.7 | 6.2 | 7.3 | 5.7 | 6.0 |
| 5-9 years old | 530 | 6.6 | 7.0 | 7.9 | 6.7 | 6.4 |
| 10-15 years old | 599 | 7.4 | 7.5 | 7.5 | 7.9 | 7.8 |
| Sub Total u-16 | 1588 | 19.7 | 20.7 | 22.7 | 20.3 | 20.2 |
| 16-19 years old | 391 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 5.3 | 4.8 | 4.9 |
| 20-24 years old | 390 | 4.8 | 4.6 | 5.8 | 4.9 | 6.0 |
| 25-44 years old | 2173 | 27.0 | 28.0 | 27.4 | 29.0 | 29.3 |
| 45-64 years old | 2154 | 26.7 | 25.4 | 21.6 | 24.8 | 23.8 |
| 65-74 years old | 775 | 9.6 | 9.5 | 8.8 | 8.8 | 8.3 |
| 75+ years old | 591 | 7.3 | 7.2 | 8.3 | 7.4 | 7.5 |

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1.3% of village residents originate from a minority ethnic community. This is one tenth of the England average (13.0%) and less even than Barnsley (1.88%) or Darfield ward (1.52%). However, the proportion of ethnic minority residents is higher in the Pioneer area (1.9%).

Household characteristics are shown in Tables 2.3 and 2.4 overleaf.

The first column of Table 2.3 shows the proportion of adults living as single people, defined by their living arrangements as opposed to their legal marital status. This shows that significantly fewer people live alone in Darfield village compared to Barnsley or England. Equally important, the proportion of lone residents is much higher in the main Berneslai Homes estate than in the Italian / Doveside estates, an unexpected result given housing densities.

Table 2.3 also shows that household size is higher in Darfield than in Barnsley or England, with particular concentrations in the Pioneer area

(especially the North Saltersbrook part) and, to a lesser extent, the Doveside and Italian estates.

The proportion of households with dependent children in Darfield is similar to the English average, but lower than Barnsley. However, there are significant variations, from only 24% of households in the School Street area to 42% in the North Saltersbrook area.

The additional household information given in Table 2.4 illustrates lone pensioner households and lone parents households are more numerous in the Pioneer area than in Barnsley, but less numerous in Darfield village than in Barnsley. In terms of lone parents, it is worth noting that only 5.7% of lone parent households in Darfield are headed by a man, compared to 8.8% in Barnsley and 9.5% in England. Table 2.4 also shows that Darfield has a higher proportion of all pensioner households than Barnsley.

Table 2.3 Household Characteristics

| Geographical Area | % of Adults Living As Single People | Average People Per H'hold | % of H'holds With Dependent Children |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Darfield Ward | 34.6 | 2.39 | 30.6 |
| Darfield Village | 32.7 | 2.40 | 29.8 |
| Pioneer Area | 36.9 | 2.48 | 34.1 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 28.2 | 2.43 | 29.6 |
| Main estate | 39.0 | 2.35 | 27.1 |
| School Street | 32.8 | 2.24 | 23.8 |
| Millhouses | 34.3 | 2.33 | 31.8 |
| Central | 36.3 | 2.47 | 33.6 |
| North Saltersbrook | 28.5 | 2.65 | 42.3 |
| Barnsley | 36.2 | 2.34 | 30.8 |
| England | 39.4 | 2.36 | 29.4 |

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Table 2.4 Household Characteristics

| Households Containing | Darfield Village % | Pioneer Area % | Barnsley % |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|
| Lone pensioner only | 13.9 | 16.2 | 14.9 |
| More than one person – all pensioners | 11.7 | 10.2 | 9.4 |
| Lone person – not pensioner | 10.5 | 10.6 | 13.1 |
| Other households WITHOUT dependent children | 32.5 | 27.1 | 29.7 |
| Lone adult with dependent children | 6.6 | 8.9 | 7.3 |
| More than one adult with dependent children | 23.0 | 24.9 | 23.5 |
| Other (e.g. multiple households) | 1.7 | 2.0 | 2.1 |

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The 2001 Census also shows that 70.7% of households have at least one car. This is lower than the national average of 73.2% but higher than Barnsley (67.8%). Car ownership is lowest at 63% in the Pioneer area and highest in the Doveside /Italian area (80%) and Millhouses (75%).

Turning to the literature, Green et al focused upon social networks. This showed, using odds ratio analysis, that Darfield residents were more likely to be integrated into informal self help networks than the average for the Coalfield, but no less strongly than the other identifiable pit villages in the study. The three questions utilised covered a general view of whether the community members helped each other, whether the respondent could ask for an urgent lift and whether the respondent had done a favour for a neighbour in the past six months.

Civic engagement was also measured by the study. Darfield people reported the lowest ability to influence decisions affecting their neighbourhood by means of combined action. Given that comparators included inner city areas then undergoing extreme 'shocks' and acute economic pressure (Intake, Kendray and Denaby) this is significant. However, Darfield residents were amongst the most satisfied with the amount of control they had over decisions affecting their personal life and reported themselves as amongst the best informed about local affairs. The apparently contradictory nature of these results may in part be due to the finding that Darfield people have a high degree of trust for politicians, the Council, neighbours, family and friends.

2.2.2 Health

Most current health information is based upon data taken from 1995-99. This makes the information reliable within itself but may also render it to some extent outdated in wards where there are large building programmes or significant demographic and/or economic change. The health data shown in this section relates to this period except where otherwise stated. The data also relates to the ward, again except where otherwise stated.

Life expectancy in Darfield ward is above that for Barnsley, despite the high ranking on health deprivation. Table 2.5 shows the disparity is especially important for women, with the average Darfield woman living four years more than her Barnsley borough equivalent.

Table 2.5 Life Expectancy

| Area | Life Expectancy at Birth Males Years | Life Expectancy at Birth Females Years |
|----------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Darfield | 74.8 | 82.9 |
| Barnsley | 73.8 | 78.9 |
| England | 75.2 | 80.1 |

Table 2.6 overleaf shows a number of other pieces of health data drawn from NHS sources.

- Teenage conception rates show discrepancy to the Great Britain position although they are favourable in comparison with Barnsley.

- Standardised mortality rates for people under 75 years show that the reasons for dying in Darfield are similar to the Barnsley pattern, except that circulatory diseases are marginally lower and respiratory diseases marginally higher. However, it is important to recognise that the differences may be no more than the discrepancies caused by normal variations in statistical probability.

Maps produced in the health inequalities atlas would **suggest** that mortality rates for people under 75 years are higher in Millhouses than the rest of the village.

Table 2.6 Health Data

| Indicator | Darfield | Barnsley | Great Britain |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|-------------------|
| Conception rates, per 1,000 women under 18 years | 58 | 62 | 46 |
| % of parents breast feeding at 6 weeks (years 2001-2002) | Dearne area, 13 | 22 | 42 |
| Standardised Mortality Rates for people aged under 75 years per 100,000 1996-2000 | | | England and Wales |
| - all causes | 420* | 434.6 | |
| - circulatory diseases | 150* | 161.1 | 127.7 |
| - all cancers | 150* | 152.2 | 133.9 |
| - respiratory diseases | 54 | 45.8 | |

* Rounded to nearest 10

Levels of disability and incapacity are high. 7.8% of Darfield residents claimed disability living allowance in 2000, compared to 6.8% of Barnsley residents, although attendance allowance claims were close to the rates for Barnsley. 8.4% of Darfield residents claimed incapacity benefit in 2000, higher than 7.9% for Barnsley but lower than wards such as Dearne Thurnscoe.

The 2001 Census does not directly ask about disability, but does ask about limiting long term illness. Table 2.7 shows the results for two groups of people. The first column of figures shows the percentage of all residents who said they are limited in activity by long term illness. The second column of figures is the same information but for those of working age only. As may be seen, Darfield residents are half as likely again as the average English resident to be limited by long term illness, and even more so for those of working age. However, there is little difference between Darfield and Barnsley. The main variation within the village is a high proportion of residents of the main estate who experience limitations.

This increased level of limiting illness has a direct impact in terms of the people who class themselves as carers. Only 10% of English people say they are carers, compared to 13% of Darfield people and 12% of Barnsley people. Surprisingly, the care load is lower in the Pioneer area (12%).

Table 2.7 Limited By Long Term Illness

| Geographical Area | % Limited By Long Term Illness All Residents | % Limited By Long Term Illness Working Age Residents |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| Darfield Ward | 27 | 22 |
| Darfield Village | 26 | 21 |
| Pioneer Area | 27 | 22 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 23 | 19 |
| Main estate | 32 | 26 |
| School Street | 28 | 19 |
| Millhouses | 19 | 18 |
| Central | 24 | 19 |
| North Saltersbrook | 24 | 17 |
| Barnsley | 25 | 20 |
| England | 18 | 13 |

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Green et al focused on wider health issues in nine South Yorkshire Coalfield communities. For specific aspects of health, they used an ‘odds ratios’ method for local area data. This technique allows age and gender bias to be adjusted for, and a proper comparison made. Compared to eight other Coalfield communities, Darfield residents were amongst the least likely to suffer from long standing illness, limited mobility, limited self care and limited activities.

Darfield residents were, however, much more likely to report ongoing anxieties and depression – although the authors used a separately derived mental health score which showed Darfield residents to experience, on average, better mental health than other Coalfield communities. Darfield men reported better mental health than Darfield women.

This issue of self perception of health was also dealt with in the 2001 Census, as shown in Table 2.8. Darfield people self judge their health at about the same levels as Barnsley people, but are considerably less likely to report good health in comparison to England as a whole. Within Darfield, people in the main estate experience worse health.

Table 2.8 Self Perception Of Health Trends

| Geographical Area | % Whose Health Was Good | % Whose Health Was Fairly Good | % Whose Health Was Not Good |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Darfield Ward | 60 | 25 | 15 |
| Darfield Village | 60 | 25 | 14 |
| Pioneer Area | 59 | 25 | 16 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 63 | 25 | 12 |
| Main estate | 54 | 27 | 19 |
| School Street | 59 | 25 | 16 |
| Millhouses | 66 | 24 | 10 |
| Central | 62 | 23 | 16 |
| North Saltersbrook | 61 | 27 | 12 |
| Barnsley | 61 | 25 | 14 |
| England | 69 | 22 | 9 |

Further information is not available at a Darfield level, but given the close nature of the mortality statistics to Barnsley, it is not unreasonable to take Barnsley data or issues as applying in Darfield. Headline issues in Barnsley from the 2001 Public Health Report include:

- A steeply declining birthrate which is lower than the national average.
- Higher than national average deaths from:
 - Lung cancer for men.
 - Colorectal cancer.
 - Coronary heart disease.
 - Chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (which includes emphysema).
- Lung cancer claims the lives of more women than breast cancer – 90% of lung cancer is caused by smoking and it is fatal in 95% of cases.
- Declining uptake of cervical screening.
- Very high rates of prescribing benzodiazepines (sedatives and sleep inducers) indicating overuse.
- 30% of the population smoked regularly or occasionally in 1997 (31% of women and 28% of men).
- Poorer dental health than even the neighbouring boroughs of Rotherham and Doncaster.
- Less than two in three children, and less than one in four of those under two years old are registered with a dentist.
- A need for additional foster parents.
- Higher prescription rates for anti-biotic drugs and drugs of limited clinical value

Overall, it can be seen that Darfield's relatively high (for Barnsley) life expectancy rates and average mortality rates (for Barnsley) belie underlying issues of poor health arising largely from lifestyle factors and disability. These lifestyle factors may themselves be exacerbated by, or may cause, high levels of anxiety and depression.

2.2.3 Employment, Worklessness and Income

Neighbourhood Statistics estimate that the ward has a workforce of 4,320 people whilst the 2001 census shows 5005 people of working age within the village. The ward data suggests a low economic activity rate of 72% among 16-64 year olds compared to economic activity rates estimated from the 2001 Labour Force Survey as 79% for Great Britain and 77% for Barnsley.

The 2001 Census provides details of economic activity rates but based upon 16-74 year olds. Tables 2.9 and 2.10 are based upon this data, which is useful for geographical comparisons even though it cannot be used with the Labour Force Survey data to provide comparisons over time. As may be seen, the Darfield position comes out very close to Barnsley with the Pioneer area suffering slightly greater "unemployment". However, to reach the England average, another 7 people in every 100 would need to find work, with the difference mostly accounted for by the permanently sick and disabled.

Table 2.9 Economic Activity, All People Aged 16-75 Years

| Activity Type | Darfield Village % | Pioneer Area % | Barnsley % | England % |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------|------------|
| Full time Employees | 36 | 34 | 36 | 41 |
| Part Time Employees | 12 | 12 | 12 | 12 |
| Self employed | 6 | 5 | 6 | 8 |
| Sub Total Employed | 54 | 51 | 55 | 61 |
| Unemployed | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 |
| Full time student | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 |
| Sub Total Economically Active | 59 | 58 | 60 | 67 |
| “Unemployment Rate” | 7.0 | 9.0 | 7.2 | 5.5 |
| Retired | 17 | 15 | 15 | 14 |
| Other student | 3 | 3 | 3 | 5 |
| Looking after home / family | 7 | 9 | 7 | 7 |
| Permanently sick/disabled | 10 | 12 | 10 | 5 |
| Other inactive | 3 | 4 | 4 | 3 |

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Looking within Darfield, the key issues are:

- Less than 48% of people in employment in the Saltersbrook and main estate areas, compared to more than 58% in Millhouses and the Doveside / Italian estates.
- “Unemployment” as high as 11% in Central Darfield.
- 12% looking after home and family in Saltersbrook.

Table 2.10 overleaf illustrates similar information within Darfield village based upon gender. As may be seen, there are huge differences (greater even than the national averages), not least in the fact that only just one half of women are economically active. Traditional economic theory would have it that as male activity rises, demand for workers would pull female activity rates towards convergence. In fact, this is not the case in Darfield. Whereas 67% of men are economically active in Doveside and the Italian estate, 17% fewer women are active. Conversely, 42% of women are active in the main estate, where the least proportion of men (51%) are active.

In June 2003, there were 161 people registered as unemployed Job Seekers Allowance (JSA) claimants, more than in 2002 but less than in 2001. Unemployment rates at ward level are subject to a wide range of calculation errors, but it may be considered that this represents a rate of around 3.6% in comparison with the official Barnsley rate of 2.8% at the same time.

39 people claiming JSA had been unemployed for over 6 months. 65 people were aged 18-24 years, meaning that 40% of the unemployed are young people.

Table 2.10 Economic Activity, By Gender, People Aged 16-75 Years

| Activity Type | All % | Men % | Women % |
|--------------------------------------|------------|-------------|-------------|
| Full time Employees | 36 | 49 | 23 |
| Part Time Employees | 12 | 3 | 21 |
| Self employed | 6 | 9 | 2 |
| Sub Total Employed | 54 | 61 | 46 |
| Unemployed | 4 | 5 | 3 |
| Full time student | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| Sub Total Economically Active | 59 | 67 | 51 |
| “Unemployment Rate” | 7.0 | 7.65 | 6.45 |
| Retired | 17 | 14 | 19 |
| Other student | 3 | 3 | 3 |
| Looking after home / family | 7 | 1 | 14 |
| Permanently sick/disabled | 10 | 12 | 9 |
| Other inactive | 3 | 3 | 4 |

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Of more concern is the number of people who are not working and not signing on. Barnsley MBC estimate that 930 people, or 15.1% of the working age population is on some form of long term sickness benefit or leave – compared to 15.2% for Barnsley as a whole. The 1998 estimate of the proportion of the working age population who are deprived of work is 20.8% - again close to Barnsley’s average of 20.6%.

Of the 1280 people who are work deprived, the largest group are the 840 who are on incapacity benefit. 540 of these are male and 465 are aged 50 years or over.

The opportunities for local work in Darfield ward are limited. There were only 900 employee jobs (less than one for every 6 people of working age) in 1998 and only 120 VAT registered businesses in 2000 – all of them small enterprises. This equates to 12 VAT registered businesses per 10,000 persons – well below the averages of 17 for Barnsley and 42 for England.

In terms of income, Darfield ward has a smaller proportion of people claiming Income support than the Barnsley average (8% against 8.5%). It also had a marginally smaller percentage classed as income deprived in 1998 (29.1% compared to 29.5% for Barnsley).

Reliable official statistics for wages are not available at ward level. However, the 2002 New Earnings Survey showed gross average weekly wages for men in Barnsley as only 83% of the average for England (£406.10 as against £490.87). For women, the differential is slightly greater (£317.26 in Barnsley compared to £392.01 in England).

Official data on the types of work people do, and the industry in which they are employed is monitored annually through the Labour Force Survey. In addition, the 2001 Census contained information on these issues. Table 2.11 overleaf shows both sets of information for Barnsley and England, together with the Census information for Darfield.

There are some key differences in method and presentation between the Census and Labour Force Survey, of which the main one is that the Census uses 16-74 year olds for presentation of key statistics compared to 16-64 year olds for the Labour Force survey. Both refer only to people currently in employment.

As may be seen in comparison to the England data, Barnsley people are much less likely to work in managerial, professional or technical jobs, but much more likely to work as operatives or in elemental occupations such as labouring or cleaning. Equally, Barnsley people are more likely to work in manufacturing but less likely to work in growth service industries (although the effect of Census data is to reduce the extent of these tendencies in comparison to the Labour Force Survey).

The differences from the England picture are generally slightly magnified at the Darfield village level. We may fairly conclude that the current skills of Darfield residents are less likely to be competitive in the future UK economy, and residents in work are therefore at greater risk of unemployment in the medium to long term, but with less susceptibility at the more vulnerable process and elementary occupational levels.

Table 2.11 Standard Occupational and Industrial Class

| Occupational Class | England 2001 LFS % | Barnsley 2001 LFS % | England 2001 Census % | Barnsley 2001 Census % | Darfield 2001 Census % |
|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Managers and senior officials | 14 | 10 | 15 | 11 | 11 |
| Professional occupations | 12 | 6 | 11 | 7 | 6 |
| Associate professional and technical occupations | 14 | 9 | 14 | 11 | 10 |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations | 13 | 9 | 13 | 11 | 11 |
| Skilled trades occupations | 12 | 16 | 12 | 15 | 16 |
| Personal service occupations | 7 | 7 | 7 | 8 | 8 |
| Sales and customer service occupations | 8 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Process, plant and machine operatives | 8 | 16 | 8 | 14 | 15 |
| Elemental occupations | 12 | 15 | 12 | 16 | 14 |
| High level occupations | 40 | 25 | 40 | 29 | 27 |
| Process/elemental occupations | 20 | 31 | 20 | 29 | 28 |
| Industrial Class | | | | | |
| Primary and extractive industries | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Manufacturing | 17 | 25 | 15 | 20 | 19 |
| Construction | 7 | 11 | 8 | 10 | 12 |
| Retail and hospitality | 19 | 20 | 22 | 23 | 22 |
| Transport & communications | 7 | 7 | 7 | 6 | 6 |
| Business services | 17 | 6 | 18 | 11 | 10 |
| Public sector (incl. health and education) | 25 | 23 | 24 | 24 | 24 |
| Personal services | 6 | 5 | 5 | 4 | 4 |

There is also a clear difference between Pioneer and other Darfield residents in occupations, as shown in Table 2.12 overleaf. This table also shows significant differences between men and women, especially in the higher

proportions of women working in retail and service occupations and industries.

Table 2.12 Standard Occupational and Industrial Class (Census 2001)

| Occupational Class | Darfield All % | Darfield Men % | Darfield Women % | Pioneer Area % | Not Pioneer Area % |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|----------------|--------------------|
| Managers and senior officials | 11 | 12 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| Professional occupations | 6 | 7 | 6 | 6 | 7 |
| Associate professional and technical occ'ns | 10 | 10 | 8 | 9 | 10 |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations | 11 | 3 | 21 | 11 | 11 |
| Skilled trades occupations | 16 | 26 | 3 | 15 | 16 |
| Personal service occupations | 8 | 3 | 14 | 8 | 8 |
| Sales and customer service occupations | 10 | 6 | 17 | 11 | 10 |
| Process, plant and machine operatives | 15 | 21 | 6 | 16 | 14 |
| Elemental occupations | 14 | 13 | 15 | 15 | 14 |
| High level occupations | 27 | 29 | 24 | 25 | 28 |
| Process/elemental occupations | 28 | 34 | 21 | 30 | 28 |
| Industrial Class | | | | | |
| Primary and extractive industries | 2 | 3 | NIL | 2 | 2 |
| Manufacturing | 19 | 26 | 11 | 20 | 19 |
| Construction | 12 | 20 | 2 | 11 | 12 |
| Retail and hospitality | 22 | 19 | 27 | 23 | 22 |
| Transport & communications | 6 | 8 | 4 | 6 | 6 |
| Business services | 10 | 9 | 11 | 11 | 10 |
| Public sector (incl. health and education) | 24 | 12 | 40 | 23 | 24 |
| Personal services | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 4 |

Table 2.13 shows the travel to work transport used by Darfield residents and compares this to the Barnsley and national picture. As may be seen, three quarters of workers from Darfield go to work in private motor vehicles – a greater proportion than the rest of Barnsley or England.

Table 2.13: Travel To Work – Mode of Transport

| Geographic Area | % Work from Home | % By Public Transport | % By Private Vehicle | % By Bicycle | % On Foot |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|----------------------|--------------|-----------|
| Darfield Ward | 8 | 8 | 75 | 1 | 8 |
| Darfield Village | 7 | 9 | 74 | 1 | 9 |
| Pioneer Area | 7 | 10 | 71 | 1 | 11 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 7 | 9 | 77 | 1 | 6 |
| Main estate | 7 | 10 | 70 | 1 | 12 |
| School Street | 8 | 9 | 69 | 2 | 12 |
| Millhouses | 9 | 8 | 75 | 0 | 8 |
| Central | 6 | 10 | 72 | 2 | 9 |
| North Saltersbrook | 4 | 8 | 76 | 3 | 9 |
| Barnsley | 7 | 10 | 70 | 1 | 12 |
| England | 9 | 15 | 62 | 3 | 10 |

Source: 2001 Census (Key Statistics for Wards and Output Areas): Crown Copyright 2003. Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO.

We have already noted that wages are relatively low in Barnsley. The income and claimant rates issues are likely to be intensified in the Pioneer area,

where only 54.9% of residents are aged 20-65 years, compared with 58.5% in the village as a whole (see Table 2.2).

2.2.4 Education

Darfield ward is in the most deprived third of the Index of Education Deprivation. However, there is a relative paucity of geographically based official educational attainment data relating to small areas such as Darfield, based upon residence.

Attainment of 11 year olds in school at Key Stage 2 is very variable between the three local schools. However, the overall position in 2002 was better than the Barnsley average and the national average, as Table 2.14 shows. This shows a marked improvement over 2001, although even then the Barnsley average was exceeded.

Table 2.14 Educational Achievement at Level 4+ at Key Stage 2

| Schools | English % | Maths % | Science % | Average Points |
|-------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|----------------|
| Darfield All Saints | 68 | 65 | 76 | 25.6 |
| Darfield Upperwood | 82 | 88 | 97 | 29.7 |
| Darfield Valley Primary | 67 | 70 | 91 | 27.7 |
| Three school average | 72 | 74 | 88 | 27.6 |
| Barnsley LEA | 65.5 | 63.5 | 79.5 | 26.4 |
| England | 75 | 73 | 86 | 27.4 |

The Foulstone Secondary School is situated in the centre of Darfield. It is important to recognise that secondary school pupils are widely dispersed at the age of 16 when they take their GCSE examinations. Therefore, the results for Foulstone are not the same as for Darfield resident pupils. Nevertheless, the position of Foulstone means that it caters for the majority of Darfield pupils.

Foulstone's performance at GCSEs in 2002 was somewhat below the Barnsley and national averages. Only 32% of pupils gained 5 or more GCSEs at Grade C or above, compared to 35.4% in Barnsley and 51.6% nationally. 11% of Foulstone pupils gained no qualifications, compared to 7% for Barnsley and 5.4% nationally.

The first destination of pupils is important as the labour market requires increasingly more qualified workers. As may be seen from Table 2.15, Barnsley has a shortfall of people learning in the year after leaving school, and this is intensified in the case of Foulstone school leavers.

Table 2.15 First destination at Age 16, 2002

| Schools | School / FE % | Employment % | Training % | Unemployed % |
|---------------------|---------------|--------------|------------|--------------|
| Foulstone | 60 | 18 | 8 | 13 |
| Barnsley LEA | 62 | 24 | | 9 |
| England | 72 | 16 | | 7 |

The 2001 Census also asked about students studying away from home. Whereas the national average is for 0.99% of residents to fall into this

category, Darfield village was only just above the Barnsley average with 0.63%. Excepting the Doveside and Italian estate areas which conformed to the national average, Darfield was below even the Barnsley figure.

In terms of educational achievement, the 2001 Census shows that Darfield village is very similar to Barnsley in terms of the qualifications held by residents (See Table 2.16). However, it is desperately behind England, with residents half as likely again to have no qualifications. Within Darfield, residents of Doveside, the Italian Estate and Millhouses are the best qualified, and residents of the main estate are least qualified. ***It should be noted that the usual assessment of qualifications used in the UK is based around people aged 16-64, whereas the Census uses the age group 16-74 for analysis.***

Table 2.16: Highest level of Qualification, Residents Aged 16-74

| Geographical Area | No Quals % | Level 1 Quals % | Level 2 Quals % | Level 3 Quals % | Level 4+ Quals % |
|--------------------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Darfield Ward | 46 | 20 | 18 | 5 | 11 |
| Darfield Village | 45 | 20 | 19 | 6 | 11 |
| Pioneer Area | 47 | 20 | 19 | 6 | 8 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 39 | 21 | 21 | 6 | 13 |
| Main estate | 55 | 17 | 16 | 5 | 8 |
| School Street | 47 | 20 | 15 | 6 | 12 |
| Millhouses | 39 | 23 | 19 | 5 | 13 |
| Central | 44 | 19 | 23 | 7 | 7 |
| North Saltersbrook | 45 | 23 | 15 | 5 | 12 |
| Barnsley | 45 | 20 | 18 | 6 | 12 |
| England | 31 | 18 | 21 | 9 | 21 |

Source: 2001 Census (Key Statistics for Wards and Output Areas): Crown Copyright 2003. Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO.

2.2.5 Housing

Darfield ward contained 4,258 households distributed among 4,483 dwellings in 2001. Darfield village included 3,374 households. Tenure is shown in Table 2.17 overleaf. The headlines are that Darfield village tenure reflects the Barnsley average but shows almost twice the national average for Council / Berneslai Homes housing. However, of most interest is that:

- Only two in five houses in the main former Council estates remain in Council ownership.
- The Pioneer area has the lowest proportion of owner occupation of any defined geography.
- Private renting in the central area covers almost one in four houses.

Median average house price in 2001 was 20% below the Barnsley median of £45,000. This is not wholly due to the type of housing available, as the 65.6% of housing in Council Tax Band A is very similar to the 64.7% of housing in this band for Barnsley.

Almost 40% of dwellings are estimated to be at risk of low demand by CURS – very similar to the Barnsley average. One in 20 dwellings is empty – again very similar to Barnsley’s average.

Table 2.17: Housing Tenure

| Geographical Area | Owner occupied % | Berneslai Homes % | Social Landlord % | Other Rented % |
|--------------------------|------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| Darfield Ward | 63 | 25 | 1.4 | 11 |
| Darfield Village | 66 | 24 | 1.2 | 9 |
| Pioneer Area | 52 | 37 | 0.4 | 11 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 80 | 12 | 1.6 | 6 |
| Main estate | 53 | 39 | 0.4 | 7 |
| School Street | 62 | 23 | 4.1 | 11 |
| Millhouses | 67 | 17 | -- | 16 |
| Central | 58 | 23 | -- | 19 |
| North Saltersbrook | 53 | 40 | -- | 3 |
| Barnsley | 64 | 24 | 2.1 | 10 |
| England | 69 | 13 | 6.1 | 12 |

Source: 2001 Census (Key Statistics for Wards and Output Areas): Crown Copyright 2003. Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO.

High risk is a function of strength of market demand more than of the housing supply itself. However, the worst housing will suffer the lowest demand. In this context, the 2001 Census shows that only 2% of Darfield housing is without central heating, compared to 4% in Barnsley and 9% nationally. Similarly, only 3% of Darfield dwellings lack basement or ground floor access, compared to 4% in Barnsley and 12% nationally.

However, Table 2.18 shows selected Census statistics relating to some of the supply factors which are believed to be linked to low demand. As may be seen, Darfield homes:

- Have fewer rooms than the national average, especially those on the main estate (due to concentrations of elderly accommodation).
- Are less likely to be vacant than Barnsley as a whole, **but more likely to be vacant in the older housing of the Pioneer area, Central Darfield and Millhouses.**
- Less likely to be terraced housing / flats, again except at Millhouses, Central and School Street.

Table 2.18: Selected Housing Statistics

| Geographical Area | Average Rooms Per Household | % Vacant Homes | % of Housing Which Is Terraced &/ Or Flats |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------------------|
| Darfield Ward | 5.2 | 3.7 | 29.6 |
| Darfield Village | 5.2 | 3.2 | 26.2 |
| Pioneer Area | 5.1 | 4.5 | 24.9 |
| Italian/Doveside estates | 5.3 | 2.0 | 19.3 |
| Main estate | 4.9 | 3.2 | 17.4 |
| School Street | 5.0 | 3.0 | 42.7 |
| Millhouses | 5.3 | 5.5 | 45.3 |
| Central | 5.1 | 5.7 | 54.0 |
| North Saltersbrook | 5.6 | 3.7 | 12.2 |
| Barnsley | 5.1 | 3.9 | 33.3 |
| England | 5.3 | 3.3 | 47.3 |

2.2.6 Crime and Community Safety

Reported crime and criminal damage is relatively low in Darfield ward, as shown by Table 2.19.

Table 2.19 Reported Crime

| Type of Crime | Darfield | Barnsley |
|----------------------------------------|----------|----------|
| Crimes per 1,000 population | 72 | 99.5 |
| Domestic burglary per 1,000 households | 20.7 | 29 |
| Criminal damage per 1,000 households | 18.7 | 22.3 |

2.3 Current activity

Community Venues

The location of community venues is shown on Map 3. As may be seen, there are three church halls:

- Low Valley Church Hall;
- Darfield Wesleyan Methodist Church;
- Darfield Church Hall

The Council manage Centre 17 primarily as a youth centre. The Council owned Darfield Community Centre (formerly the Darfield Old People's Centre) is currently being transferred over to community management and hosts the Community Association's own staff. The only community owned non-denominational building is the Maurice Dobson Museum which has very limited opening hours and poor disabled access.

Community Groups

The definition of a community group is fraught with difficulty. We have used a definition of a not for profit group which has tangible, non-religious aims, activity and membership distinct from other groups. We thus ignore constitutional and legally based definitions. Thirty four such groups in Darfield may be considered to include:

- Boys Brigade;
- Centre 17 Parent and Toddler Group;
- Companions;
- Darby and Joan Club;
- Darfield Against Crime;
- Darfield Allotments Society;
- Darfield Amenity Society;
- Darfield Bowling Club;
- Darfield Community Association;
- Darfield Dynamo's;
- Darfield Gala Committee;
- Darfield Old People's Group;
- Darfield Scouts;
- Darfield Table Tennis Club
- Darfield Toddler Group;
- Darfield Walking Club;
- Dearne Big Band;

- Deemob;
- Little Dearne Credit Union;
- Longbow Football Club (11 teams);
- Low Valley Dance Group;
- Low Valley Mum and Toddler Group;
- Low Valley Kids Club;
- Maurice Dobson Trust;
- Neville Close / Cover Drive TARA;
- Rainbows, Brownies and Guides;
- St. Barbara's Road TARA;
- Saturday Coffee Mornings;
- 10+ Drama group;
- Wesleyan Junior Youth Club;
- Women's Fellowship;
- Women's Institute;
- Woodhall Flats Coffee Morning;
- Yorkshire Army Cadet Force – Darfield Detachment.

Community Priorities

Barnsley Council has prepared a local plan for the Darfield and Wombwell area. Based upon primary consultations with residents, the priorities for action have been identified as:

- Anti-social behaviour;
- Vandalism;
- Drugs;
- Parking problems.

The plan also sets out results from a community summit, where residents were concerned with:

- Crime and fear of crime;
- The need to improve public transport;
- A cleaner environment;
- Hospital waiting times.

Current and Proposed Initiatives

There are a number of new initiatives and proposals to improve services and amenities already being developed in Darfield. The following presents a synopsis of these proposals, with more information presented in Appendix 6. However, it should be noted that not all of these projects are funded.

The Council launched the **Tenant Participation Compact for Wombwell and Darfield** in 2001. This enables the limited number of TARAs especially to exert more local influence on social housing matters. Berneslai Homes, who have taken over management of Council housing stock, are shortly to re-structure so that staff work on specific areas under the **Impact Team** initiative. This initiative will link to a multi-agency **Local Partnership Team**, probably based at Hoyland, and incorporating Police Officers, Police Community Support Officers and Impact Wardens being deployed in Darfield. A repairs hotline is also to be established.

Darfield is to be the scene of significant improvements to health services. The Primary Care Trust is seeking to integrate services for families, children and young people under their **Family Support Strategy**. Darfield is the pilot area for an approach which seeks to implement new ways of working around a customer led process. Simultaneously, the new **Darfield Health Centre** is set to open in 2004, providing a new doctor's surgery and wider range of health services for residents.

A **Healthy Living Centre** project employs the first of two outreach health workers. It aims to empower local people to address their own health needs and increase access to services. Priority will be given to issues of young people, family and parenting skills, health management and health awareness.

The new health centre also acts as the first stage of a proposed series of integrated projects to redevelop and renew Darfield Park. These include an **All Weather Sports Pitch** linked to the school (which is also to see changing rooms) and general **Environmental Improvements** within the park to provide facilities such as a youth shelter. Finance is being made available for some work in the park under the Transforming Your Space initiative.

A cluster of projects supporting the health and park developments form a local sports development portfolio. These include the new **Sports Development Worker**, the previously mentioned all weather pitch, **kickwalls** (multi sports areas) at three locations across the village and development of the **Darfield Community Lake** for anglers, including those with disabilities. The fishing lake and all weather pitch are at funding application stage.

Development of new community facilities is also expected on the Longbow playing fields to the east of the village. Plans are being developed for a replacement **scout hut / community centre** and hopes of extensive sports facilities remain. Another community facility being planned is a classroom addition for the **Maurice Dobson Memorial Trust**.

A fourth strand concerns childcare in its different forms, with development of Darfield's first **Pre-school Playgroup** being undertaken. A **Neighbourhood Nursery** will be provided at Upperwood School from 2004. In addition, Darfield is one of 17 wards within Barnsley which will have a Children's Centre providing entry to a wide range of services for children and families. Initially, it is proposed to use the current doctor's surgery as the site for any new build relating to this.

At school age level, **Low Valley School** is to be completely rebuilt under the Barnsley schools private finance initiative. This is expected to occur in 2004/05.

Other projects are being developed around community enterprise ideas. A **credit union collection point** has been instituted and projects for a **Skills Exchange** and organic produce retailing co-operative (called **Veggiebox**) are under development.

Under-pinning these tangible projects are three development activities. The Objective 1 Pioneer Partnership, Darfield Community Association, employs a **Community Participation Worker** to increase community activity and involvement in issues of local importance. The Workers Educational

Association has appointed a **Community Education Facilitator** as part of a national pilot to increase adult educational participation in Darfield. Barnsley Council employs a **Community Development Worker** who has a remit to build the community infrastructure within Darfield ward.

Foulstone School, located in the centre of the village, has been designated as the site for a **City Learning Centre** to open in 2004. This involves equipping new space with computers and other ICT equipment for use by children and the community.

We were unable to locate any specific projects to enhance the employment prospects of Darfield people. However, opportunities exist through initiatives such as the South Yorkshire Opportunity Network and South Yorkshire Coalfields Social Enterprise Project.

2.4 Summary

Darfield village contained 8,000 people in 2001. Most live in the Darfield ward, which exhibits high deprivation in terms of health, employment, child poverty and incomes. The village has slightly fewer children than the Barnsley average although there are fewer people living alone. There are significant variations within Darfield in terms of households with dependent children and numbers of people per household. 71% of households have a car – higher than the Barnsley average but less than in England as a whole.

Life expectancy is above average, but levels of disability and incapacity are high – even compared to Barnsley. 26% of residents are limited by long term illness, compared to 18% for England. Respiratory, circulatory and cancer diseases kill more people under the age of 75 years than the national average. People's self reported overall health is less good than for England but similar to that for Barnsley. The limited Census data suggests that Council tenants are less healthy than other residents.

The 2001 Census suggests that the economic activity rate for the village is similar to that for Barnsley – with much less activity than for England as a whole. Unemployment rates are hard to calculate accurately, but are believed to be above the Barnsley average. There are significant differences within Darfield. Nevertheless, there remain more people on incapacity benefit than are unemployed. The level of work deprivation is above the Barnsley average, although the proportion of income support claimants is less than Barnsley.

Barnsley residents earn less than people in England as a whole and women in Barnsley earn less than men. In terms of the jobs people do and the industries which employ them, Barnsley people are significantly less likely to be in growing industries and occupations. The profile for Darfield residents is similar to that for Barnsley. Within Darfield, Pioneer residents are more likely to work in declining industries and occupations.

Attainment at primary school Key Stage 2 is slightly better than the Barnsley average, although this masks significant differences between schools.

Secondary school performance is catching up with, but still behind the Barnsley average. It is 20% behind the national average for attainment of 5 GCSEs at Grades A*-C and one in nine pupils leave with no qualifications.

One in four rent their homes from the Council, with the remainder being largely owner occupiers. However, there is significantly less owner occupation in the Pioneer areas and one in six homes in the older housing areas are private rented. These same areas exhibit the greatest level of risk factors for low demand. Indeed, almost 40% of dwellings are estimated to be at risk of low demand and house prices are lower than the average for Barnsley.

Crime and criminal damage are lower than the Barnsley average.

A wide range of new initiatives are being planned, covering most aspects of community life. Community priorities as defined in previous consultations include:

- Anti social behaviour;
- Vandalism;
- Drugs;
- Parking;
- Crime and fear of crime;
- Improved public transport;
- A cleaner environment;
- Hospital waiting times.

3. STAKEHOLDER INTERVIEWS

Thirteen formal interviews were undertaken with providers of services in Darfield and decision makers in services with local impact. In addition, we undertook six informal interviews with staff involved in the delivery of public services “on the ground” in Darfield.

The interviews took the form of discussions around a range of topics including unmet needs, the quality of existing services and the current status of community development. (We also asked interviewees about any available data and their organisations’ plans for future developments. This information has been included in Section 2.)

The views presented here are those of the consultees and are not necessarily those of the authors.

3.1 Unmet Needs

From the interviews, it is clear that the main unmet needs are widely, but not universally, agreed as being:

- More visible and more effective policing to address youth nuisance, vandalism and other misdemeanours;
- Improvements to bring the park back into use **and** for this space to be preserved by some form of “policing”;
- Reduction in litter;
- Leisure facilities for young people especially;
- Other specific service quality issues (see section 3.2).

A number of agencies reacted positively to the news of the Community Audit with requests for additional questions to be included. For example, the Primary Care Trust asked for information to support its “Fit for the Future” strategy.

Bringing the park back into use is seen as a priority, but there is a clear recognition that without some form of supervision through park wardens and/or CCTV, any investment will be wasted.

As well as improving the park and litter, other environmental issues such as poor recycling facilities were mentioned. A desire to see footpaths improved and the screening of eyesores such as the sewage station emerged. A key footpath for improvement is Pinfold Lane, where streetlighting is also required. Concern was expressed that the visual amenity of Darfield is declining due to poor enforcement of planning guidance. In addition, some expressed the view that future housing development should concentrate more on infill of the existing village rather than expansion.

Traffic emerged as an issue with calls for improved school drop off facilities and village centre traffic management. The paucity of safe off road parking is seen as an issue by consultees.

Leisure facilities are seen by some consultees as an issue which will be resolved if current funding bids are successful. However, others remain concerned that the high cost of use will put people off (as it does now) and

also that more can be done to make use of existing school facilities for community use.

Economic and employment needs were very rarely mentioned. For the agencies involved in employability and economic development, Darfield was not seen as being particularly deprived or as needing additional resources. However, the agencies involved were interested in responding to any specific issues arising from the audit.

Related to this, only 2 interviewees noted any need for improved adult educational achievement or provision. The WEA pilot project, focused on especially disadvantaged groups, is attempting to build the informal and formal networks that “market” participation. The project has some scope for development funding, but needs were identified for additional work around Barnsley College participation and the provision of more classes within Darfield. From the early work undertaken on this project at the time of interview, times of provision and street safety issues were developing as barriers.

Other unmet needs noted by consultees include:

- North / south road network links;
- The need to replace the buildings at Foulstone, preferably on an out of village site such as Longbow fields;
- Tackling drug availability and drug use;
- Vandalism to the remembrance park opposite the doctor’s surgery.

We probed a number of interviewees as to whether there were particular areas of Darfield which are less desirable, or where residents experience particular service difficulties. The areas given include:

- Millhouses;
- Bellbrooke, Rose and Tempest Avenues;
- The lower end of Upperwood Road / St Barbara’s Road;
- The older terraced housing in the village centre;
- New Street / Havelock Street area (environmental issues only).

We asked ‘on the ground’ staff about these areas. Agencies do not keep data in a form which is amenable to establishing whether these areas have special needs. However, the first three areas are seen to have particular issues – but not the same ones – by on the ground staff. Responses suggested to meet these particular needs include:

- Development of TARAs;
- A specific service and advice office and a play facility for young children in the Rose Avenue / Bellbrooke Avenue area;
- A prescription delivery service.

Berneslai Homes are currently surveying tenants in these areas on a rolling programme. The results from Maran Avenue focus on housing issues such as double glazing, but also include suggestions for parking bays and road widening. The other two areas are not yet analysed.

3.2 Service Quality

On the whole, our interviewees considered that service quality was already good within Darfield.

A particular area currently under scrutiny is family support services, with the Primary Care Trust, Social Services and Education looking to overhaul their services for families from childbirth to adulthood. This new initiative has the general support of our consultees. However, there is a perceived need for shorter doctor's waiting times and a better hospital service from the point of view of access and patient care.

For the agency consultees, community safety issues revolve around a number of specific and changing 'hotspots' which appear to be unresolved, often after several years. This issue is against a background of widely differing perceptions held by the police and residents. Part of the issue *may be* that collecting the type of evidence required to underpin legal action is the responsibility of no current actor. However, consultees wish to see a more co-ordinated approach to early intervention and/or problem solving. The total police resource available to deal with these issues is also a concern, with realistically, only 25% of a community constable available.

The quality of service on offer from the new Berneslai Homes was a concern for several consultees. The quality of repairs and repairs inspection were the main concerns expressed. These are recognised by Berneslai Homes who aim to deal with them through the Impact Team and Repairs Hotline.

The bus service came in for particular criticism from those who work 'on the ground' in Darfield. Whilst the "Safe" bus scheme was welcomed, the reducing frequency of services, numbers of routes and timekeeping was an issue described as 'deplorable'. The requirement to catch two buses in order to access the main employment sites was a specific concern.

The service offered by the schools was praised by a number of interviewees. Low Valley's record of undertaking environmental projects being a particular example. However, a number of consultations elicited a desire for Foulstone to control pupil behaviour outside of statutory school hours. Others wished to see the schools more involved in community activities (especially around social cohesion) and encouraging adults to return to education.

The library was seen as a valuable resource but several people considered the opening hours too brief and one wanted it based at the school to increase use by young people.

Environmental services were generally believed to be improving, even allowing for the specific criticisms implicit in the reported environmental issues. However, the detailed working practices of the grass cutting and street cleaning teams came in for criticism as inefficient and ineffective.

The current community meeting facilities available were widely seen as inadequate. Concern was also expressed that conflicts between users at one centre remains unresolved.

One interviewee noted that the ability of Darfield residents and groups to access services offered from central Barnsley bases was constrained by the

poor promotion of the opportunities available. Better networking between agencies 'on the ground' was seen as a solution. However, there was a view among some delivery staff that services being based in Barnsley, Goldthorpe or Wombwell did not constitute a barrier to accessibility.

3.3 Community Development

A number of interviewees expressed concern at the degree of negativity brought to the Darfield Community Association by a few individuals. There is a very clear consensus that the group contains the skills needed to lead on community development, but that the negativity of a few is holding back progress. Some interviewees commented that, until this issue is resolved, their support cannot be more than minimal. More specifically, others reported that the negativity had held back progress and a more positive approach would be a big step towards Darfield gaining more grant funding

Beyond this organisational issue, there was also a regular view that more work was needed to foster community spirit. The breakdown in trust and communication between young people and old people was one source of concern – especially in the light of an aging population. Another is the low level of integration into the community by residents in the more recent housing developments of the Italian Estate and Doveside areas.

A third theme on community development is the extent to which consultees perceive agencies to be inconsiderate in their handling of community groups. An often mentioned example is the failure to re-develop a scout hut in central Darfield, with a number of interviewees commenting that promises had been broken. A second, similar issue is the perceived clumsiness with which management of the Old People's Centre is being handed over to the users.

Some consultees wished to see more being done by agencies and the community to actively promote the development of more community groups. The proposed playgroup in particular is seen as a useful development. Equally, others emphasised the need for more publicity around the services available.

Another theme on community development was the perceived need for young people to be more involved in the detailed decisions of services to be provided. Particular criticism was directed towards agencies planning youth facilities and services without involving young people in their design.

3.4 Suggestions For Development

A number of interviewees suggested possible future projects and actions to develop the services and facilities available to residents of Darfield. These included:

- A **full employment project** - similar to that being piloted in Kendray;
- **Community learning ambassadors** to increase the numbers of adults participating in learning;
- **Young people as learning mentors** to assist older people to use ICT in the new facilities at Foulstone School – as an example of a project to bridge the divide between young and old;

- A repeat of the **Social Capital Survey** is expected to be carried out in 2004/05 and will include Darfield as a target community;
- Establishing a better network of **neighbourhood watches with two way radio contact** as a response to nuisance hot-spots;
- A **park management group** to police and ensure the protection of a refurbished park;
- A **young people's group**;
- Larger scale and a greater number of **junior school led environmental schemes**;
- **Environmental improvements at Millhouses**;
- A new **community centre / meeting facility** – possibly as a part of the new scout hut and/or using the Old People's Centre and/or as a 'central core' to the village, perhaps based around the new health centre;
- Outreach work from the **City Learning Centre** to other community venues;
- A service offering to **garden for frail residents**;
- Additional **neighbourhood wardens**;
- A **detached youth work** team (although it is worth noting that a team is currently funded in Darfield ward);
- More **basic equipment for youth work** at Centre 17;
- Facilities to utilise **Centre 17 as an 'on site' café** for Foulstone pupils.

3.5 Summary

Thirteen formal interviews were undertaken with decision makers together with six interviews with staff involved in the delivery of services 'on the ground'.

The main unmet needs were generally perceived to be:

- More visible and more effective policing to address youth nuisance, vandalism and other misdemeanours;
- Improvements to bring the park back into use **and** for this space to be preserved by some form of "policing";
- Reduction in litter;
- Leisure facilities for young people especially.

Five areas of Council rented and older terraced housing were identified as having more intensive needs than the rest of Darfield. These are:

- Millhouses;
- Bellbrooke, Rose and Tempest Avenues;
- The lower end of Upperwood Road / St Barbara's Road;
- The older terraced housing in the village centre;
- New Street / Havelock Street area (environmental issues only).

Service quality was generally perceived to be good, but improvements are perceived to be required around:

- Family support;
- Effectively tackling specific 'hotspots' of crime and youth nuisance;
- Berneslai Homes repair service;

- The bus services;
- Local accessibility.

The Darfield Community Association can be said to have the support of the majority of consultees. However, the negativity of a few members is seen as a significant drag factor on community development.

Interviewees wish to see more work to develop community activities and a better community spirit, especially between young and old residents.

A number of suggestions were elicited for developing new services and community activities for Darfield.

4. RESIDENTS SURVEY

4.1 Sample

A survey of existing residents was undertaken. 312 names were selected from the electoral register using a regular sample based on a random first number.

The village was divided into two parts for sampling purposes. For the pioneer area, every eighth person was selected, giving a total of 202 names. For the remainder of the village, a total of 110 names were selected – this being one in 42 adults or 2.4%.

We sampled on the basis of named individuals. Where these individuals were no longer living at the address, we requested an interview with the new occupant. We achieved 208 interviews from this initial sample and identified five vacant properties, a response rate of 68%.

We compiled a similar sample of 'reserve' individuals. When we were refused an interview at the first address, we visited the relevant person from the reserve sample. In this way, the geographical coverage of the sample was maintained.

Overall, 301 interviews were completed.

4.2 Characteristics of the Interviewees

59% of the interviewees were female and 41% male (compared to 51.4% of women in the 2001 Census). This skewed response is in part (4%) due to the predominance of females in the original sample frame. The remaining 5% is due to a tendency for women to remain in the property after departure or death of a male (3%) and to a higher proportion of women responding where the original male resident has moved away (2%).

There is a significant difference in interviewees' gender between the Pioneer area (where only 38% of respondents were male) and the rest of Darfield (45% male). This reflects the greater population of women relative to men in the Pioneer area.

All but two of our respondents described themselves as white. One described themselves as mixed English/Pakistani and a second as Indian. This is consistent with the population as shown in the 2001 Census.

The age profile of respondents is shown at Table 4.1. In terms of the anticipated response against the 2001 Census data for the defined village, we have achieved a very similar age profile. Only in the 17-19 years age range is there a significant difference, and to some extent this is compensated for by over-response in the 20-24 year group.

Table 4.1 also shows that adult Pioneer residents are more likely to be aged under 25 years and less likely to be in the 45-64 years range than those in the rest of Darfield.

Table 4.1: Ages of Interviewees

| Age | All % | Pioneer % | Non-Pioneer % | All (Census) % |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 17-19 years old | 1 | 2 | 0 | 4.5 |
| 20-24 years old | 8 | 10 | 5 | 6.1 |
| 25-44 years old | 36 | 36 | 35 | 34.1 |
| 45-64 years old | 34 | 31 | 39 | 33.8 |
| 65-79 years old | 15 | 15 | 14 | 15.8 |
| 80+ years old | 6 | 6 | 7 | 5.6 |

The average household size was 2.64 persons per household (higher than the 2.40 shown for the 2001 Census) indicating under-representation of single households. Table 4.2 shows the people within the age ranges for all residents of the households where interviewees lived. In comparison to Table 4.1, the additional factor is that the preponderance of adults aged 45-64 in the non-Pioneer areas has a corollary in the older age of children at home in this area. Table 4.2 also suggests that the Pioneer area has more children overall.

Table 4.2: Ages of All Residents in Interviewees Homes

| Age | All % | Pioneer % | Non-Pioneer % | All (Census) % |
|-----------------|-------|-----------|---------------|----------------|
| 0-4 years old | 6 | 8 | 4 | 5.7 |
| 5-11 years old | 9 | 9 | 9 | 9.0 |
| 12-16 years old | 6 | 5 | 7 | 6.3 |
| 17-19 years old | 2 | 2 | 3 | 3.6 |
| 20-24 years old | 8 | 8 | 8 | 4.8 |
| 25-44 years old | 28 | 30 | 26 | 27.0 |
| 45-64 years old | 26 | 25 | 29 | 26.7 |
| 65-79 years old | 11 | 11 | 11 | 12.5 |
| 80+ years old | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4.5 |

84% of residents had access to the regular use of a car (compared to ownership by only 71% of households). However, whereas 94% of those aged 25-44 had the regular use of a car, only 79% of those aged 17-24 years, 62% of those aged 65-79 years and 50% of those over 80 years had regular access. 60% of those without regular access to a car were women.

We asked people about their tenure. The changeover from council management to Berneslai Homes will have confused the true split between rented tenures, but the distinction between those who live in an owner occupied home and those who live in a rented house is unaffected.

As Table 4.3 shows, just under two thirds of interviewees live in an owner occupied home, the same as census estimates. We found a less significant difference than the Census between the Pioneer area (where less than three in five interviewed households own their own home), and the rest of Darfield.

There is also a difference in gender, with 70% of men living in an owner occupied home compared to 63% of women.

Table 4.3: Tenure

| Tenure | All % | Pioneer % | Non-Pioneer % |
|------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Owner occupier | 66 | 58 | 81 |
| Rent from Council | 31 | 40 | 14 |
| Rent from someone else | 3 | 2 | 5 |

Another significant factor in tenure is age, with 77% of those aged 45-64 years living in owner occupied housing compared to just 50% of those aged over 80 years and 44% of those aged 17-24 years.

4.3 Overall Views on Darfield

We commenced by asking interviewees to rate Darfield according to their views on how pleasant it is. As may be seen from Table 4.4, the overall rating was very high.

Table 4.4: Pleasantness

| Perceived Pleasantness of Darfield for Residence | All % |
|--------------------------------------------------|-------|
| A very pleasant place to live | 21 |
| A pleasant place to live | 50 |
| No more or less pleasant than anywhere else | 19 |
| An unpleasant place to live | 8 |
| A very unpleasant place to live | 2 |

Areas with least satisfaction include the areas around the village centre / Foulstone School/ Snape Hill Road and the area north of Saltersbrook Road. Council tenants also see Darfield as considerably less pleasant than owner occupiers.

We asked interviewees why they gave their answer as a means of gaining general comments on issues in the area. The most important issues which make Darfield a pleasant area to live are quietness, friendly communities and neighbours, a lack of problems, a good environment and proximity to services. The 'top ten' responses are highlighted in Table 4.5.

Other regularly mentioned factors which make for a pleasant residence in Darfield include:

- Children play together;
- Knowing the area;
- Own home is good;
- Close to fields and countryside;
- Not much traffic;
- Cleanliness;
- Privacy;
- Generally convenient location.

Table 4.5: Factors Making Darfield A Pleasant Area To Live

| Factor | Nos |
|--------------------------------------------|------------|
| Quiet | 73 |
| Neighbours | 41 |
| Friendly / good community feel | 39 |
| No problems / no trouble | 28 |
| From here / lived here a long time | 13 |
| Gardens / homes well kept | 12 |
| Close to private services / village centre | 12 |
| Good view | 11 |
| Pleasant environment | 10 |
| Close to schools and public services | 10 |
| Residents responding | 194 |

The most commonly noted factors making the area unpleasant to live in are highlighted in Table 4.6. As may be seen, the issues raised revolve largely around nuisance, criminal activity and young people. However, traffic and environmental issues are also important.

Table 4.6: Factors Making Darfield An Unpleasant Area To Live

| Factor | Nos |
|----------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Graffiti, vandalism and/or criminal damage | 15 |
| Housing allocations policies / new residents | 11 |
| Young people in gangs and youth nuisance | 11 |
| Drugs / drug users | 10 |
| Young people hanging around on the streets | 9 |
| State of houses, gardens and/or streets | 9 |
| Burglary, muggings and other crime | 7 |
| Foulstone pupils behaviour | 6 |
| Speeding / dangerous traffic | 6 |
| Traffic noise | 4 |
| Litter | 4 |
| Off road bikes / quads | 4 |
| Residents responding | 87 |

Other issues mentioned as making interviewees' areas of Darfield unpleasant include:

- Abusive and tormenting children;
- Underage drinking;
- Lack of facilities for leisure and children;
- Neighbours;
- Noise;
- Dogs;
- Fear of crime;
- Lack of community spirit;
- Confusing effect on children of short term refugee placements.

4.4 Priorities For Darfield

We asked interviewees what they thought needs to be changed in Darfield. This was an open question intended to elicit specific new ideas and to gain an idea of the strength of feeling around different issues already in the public arena. Table 4.7 illustrates those issues which are recommended as priorities by more than 5% of interviewees. As may be seen, facilities and activities for

young people dominate the responses, but bus services, policing and environmental improvements are also important priorities for the communities.

Table 4.7: Main Recommendations To Improve Darfield

| Factor | % of 301 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| More facilities / activities for children (age and type of facility not specified) | 21 |
| More facilities / activities for teenagers (activity / facility not specified) | 15 |
| Better bus service (general comment) | 14 |
| More / community / more visible policing | 10 |
| Improve Darfield Park | 9 |
| Decent play areas | 9 |
| Traffic calming / speed cameras | 6 |

Other key issues which emerged as themes but without widespread agreement on specific suggestions for action include:

- Need for a wide range of leisure facilities such as community centres, leisure centre and swimming pool;
- Parking around Darfield, especially in the centre;
- More and better shops / financial outlets;
- Actions to provide a cleaner and tidier environment.

The full list of ideas is given at Appendix 3.

We also asked about people’s support for a range of project ideas which are proposed for the village. We asked the interviewees to identify the **three** projects from a pre-defined list which they thought would most improve Darfield. We then asked them to identify those projects that they themselves would use, if available. No limit was placed on the number of selections for projects they anticipated using.

The results, shown in Table 4.8, demonstrate that improving the park and sports facilities come across as priorities – as one would expect given the results of the open question as shown in Table 4.7. More unexpected is that almost a quarter of residents say they would use better adult education facilities and one in five are interested in joining a skills exchange scheme.

Within the overall results shown for Table 4.8, there are three services which may be expected to be particularly appropriate to disadvantaged groups.

- Of the six people who have debts that they cannot pay, none saw a credit union as a priority and only one stated that they would use such a facility.
- Of the 37 people with children under five years, 57% prioritised a pre school playgroup, and the same number said they would use it. This is relatively high given the availability of nursery places for children aged 4 years and some aged 3 years.
- Of 97 families with children aged 16 years or less, 24% prioritised better family support services and 26% said they would use them.

Table 4.8: Importance / Anticipated Use Of Projects

| Proposed Project | Would Most improve Darfield % | Interviewee Would Use % |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Sports development worker | 22 | 10 |
| Pre school playgroup | 20 | 10 |
| Better fishing facilities | 6 | 7 |
| Road closures in Darfield centre | 11 | 9 |
| A credit union | 6 | 6 |
| All weather sports pitch | 40 | 23 |
| Better adult learning facilities | 20 | 23 |
| Kickwalls | 34 | 14 |
| Improvements to Darfield Park | 80 | 61 |
| Skills exchange | 16 | 21 |
| "Veggie Box" | 4 | 10 |
| Better family support services | 22 | 12 |

4.5 Service Priorities

Our third method of identifying priorities concerned issues around the delivery of specific public and private services.

We asked whether residents had used a range of services, and where they had used them. The full results are shown in Table 4.9 overleaf.

In reading this table, it is important to consider that the individual cells showing the places where some of the less well used services are accessed may contain only one or two individuals and are hardly significant.

Whilst it is hard to draw firm conclusions from this table, there are clearly inferences to be further investigated:

- Use of facilities in the Dearne is low except for shopping, sports clubs and doctors surgeries. Is it that these are the only facilities available there but Darfield residents find the Dearne an easy place to get to?
- Use of childcare facilities appears to relate largely to other areas – reflecting a lack of local supply;
- The use of Foulstone School by Darfield residents is, perhaps, higher than expected;
- Less than two thirds of residents use the doctors surgery in Darfield – (connecting this to other evidence, there may be an availability issue);
- There may be a need for welfare rights advice in Darfield;
- Four in five people using adult education travel outside of Darfield and two thirds go further than Wombwell – clearly there is existing demand for more adult education locally and other evidence from the survey suggests significant 'pent up' demand for local adult education.

Table 4.9: Use of Local Services

| Service | Used % of res'ts | Where Used (Shown as % of users) | | | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------------|--------|---------|--------|----------------|
| | | Darf'd | Womb'l | Barns'y | Dearne | Else- where |
| Bus routes | 41 | 53 | 44 | 68 | 4 | 7 |
| Primary / junior school | 20 | 86 | 11 | 0 | 2 | 2 |
| Secondary school | 12 | 83 | 6 | 0 | 8 | 3 |
| Childcare facilities for pre school children | 5 | 50 | 6 | 6 | 0 | 38 |
| Childcare facilities for school age children | 1 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Sports clubs | 18 | 33 | 9 | 26 | 13 | 22 |
| Health / medical centre or clinic | 70 | 65 | 22 | 1 | 9 | 3 |
| Doctors surgery | 97 | 59 | 25 | 2 | 12 | 2 |
| Dentist | 82 | 60 | 17 | 15 | 2 | 8 |
| Hospital | 86 | 0 | 0 | 96 | 2 | 8 |
| Welfare rights advice | 4 | 8 | 0 | 92 | 0 | 0 |
| Debt advice | 1 | 0 | 0 | 100 | 0 | 0 |
| Berneslai homes | 18 | 8 | 73 | 29 | 0 | 0 |
| Library | 54 | 86 | 8 | 12 | 1 | 3 |
| Adult education classes | 10 | 21 | 17 | 45 | 10 | 10 |
| Post office | 91 | 89 | 10 | 2 | 0 | 2 |
| Other shops | 96 | 54 | 30 | 17 | 17 | 5 |
| Bank | 91 | 23 | 48 | 30 | 3 | 2 |
| Pub / social club | 67 | 77 | 14 | 10 | 2 | 9 |
| Activities for young people | 13 | 62 | 21 | 28 | 8 | 5 |
| Laundrette | 2 | 86 | 0 | 14 | 0 | 0 |
| Hairdresser | 65 | 61 | 21 | 13 | 2 | 6 |
| Community centre | 18 | 96 | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Church / place of worship | 25 | 82 | 12 | 0 | 4 | 0 |

Table 4.10 looks at **satisfaction levels** with local services **by their users**. In order to give any kind of validity to the table presented, we have looked only at those services used by 10% or more of respondents.

It may be seen that the key areas for service improvements are:

- Bus services (56% dissatisfied);
- Berneslai Homes (40%);
- Secondary school (21%);
- Activities for young people (21%);
- Hospital (15%);
- Doctors (13%).

We asked people why they were dissatisfied with these services. The most frequent comments include:

- Waiting time for a doctor's appointment at Darfield surgery;
- Bus reliability and timekeeping;
- Bus routes;
- Bus frequency;
- Hospital waiting lists;
- Not enough activities for young people;
- Having to wait around once at the hospital;
- Too little choice or high prices at Darfield shops;

- Housing repairs not done or poor workmanship;
- Poor facilities, treatment and accessibility at the hospital.

Table 4.10: Satisfaction With Services

| Service | Used % of res'ts | Satisfaction level (Shown as % of users) | | | | |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------------------|--------|---------|------------|--------------------|
| | | Very Sats'd | Sats'd | Neither | Dissatis'd | Very Dissatis'd |
| Bus routes | 41 | 5 | 24 | 15 | 31 | 26 |
| Primary / junior school | 20 | 49 | 39 | 6 | 2 | 4 |
| Secondary school | 12 | 6 | 45 | 27 | 18 | 3 |
| Sports clubs | 18 | 37 | 54 | 7 | 0 | 2 |
| Health / medical centre or clinic | 70 | 22 | 55 | 12 | 8 | 2 |
| Doctors surgery | 97 | 23 | 53 | 11 | 10 | 3 |
| Dentist | 82 | 40 | 52 | 6 | 1 | 1 |
| Hospital | 86 | 23 | 46 | 16 | 13 | 3 |
| Berneslai homes | 18 | 2 | 34 | 25 | 13 | 25 |
| Library | 54 | 33 | 51 | 13 | 3 | 1 |
| Adult education classes | 10 | 48 | 52 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Post office | 91 | 41 | 52 | 6 | 1 | 0 |
| Other shops | 96 | 28 | 59 | 11 | 3 | 0 |
| Bank | 91 | 33 | 60 | 6 | 2 | 0 |
| Pub / social club | 67 | 35 | 48 | 12 | 3 | 1 |
| Activities for young people | 13 | 30 | 36 | 12 | 18 | 3 |
| Hairdresser | 65 | 52 | 47 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Community centre | 18 | 27 | 45 | 27 | 0 | 0 |
| Church / place of worship | 25 | 38 | 55 | 6 | 0 | 1 |

Prior to questionnaires being sent out, a number of specific service issues had been raised for more detailed investigation. We used a technique of making statements and asking people to agree or disagree with them. These covered a diverse range of service areas. The headline results are shown in Table 4.11.

From the evidence of the table, we can see that:

- Residents regard litter and fly tipping as a widespread problem;
- Not only do residents consider the bus service poor, but one in three find it hard to use at all;
- The proportion of residents against young people on the streets is lower than may be expected from public meetings;
- Access outside of Darfield is a problem, with 40% finding it hard to get to social facilities and one in three working age people saying they would have difficulty travelling to a job in the Dearne.

Table 4.11: Responses to statements

| Statement | Agree % | Neither % | Disagree % |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-----------|------------|
| I find it hard to get to the shops I need | 18 | 7 | 75 |
| I can easily access independent advice on benefits, social services etc | 38 | 38 | 24 |
| Fly tipping is a problem around Darfield | 71 | 17 | 12 |
| We have a good bus service | 19 | 34 | 47 |
| I find it hard to use public transport | 30 | 38 | 32 |
| Young people & children playing football in the streets is a nuisance | 54 | 12 | 33 |
| I find it hard to get to sports and social facilities | 27 | 33 | 40 |
| Parking facilities in the centre of Darfield are adequate for my need | 24 | 18 | 58 |
| I would have no trouble getting to a job at Wath upon Dearne (people u-65 years only) | 50 | 16 | 34 |
| Litter is not a significant problem in Darfield | 15 | 9 | 76 |
| I know where to go to get advice on jobs (people u-65 years only) | 66 | 18 | 15 |

4.6 Community Safety

In response to specific community concerns, we asked residents five questions about crime and fear of crime.

First, we asked about whether residents reported crime. As may be seen from Table 4.12, almost three quarters of residents, 72%, either report all crimes or have never experienced a crime. Another 26% report some crime.

Less than 2% never report crimes. All but one of these individuals is in full time employment, *implying* that they are too busy to report rather than that they have no faith at all in the police response.

Table 4.12: Reporting Crime

| Type of Crime Reported | All % | Pioneer % | Non-Pioneer % |
|------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| All crimes | 47 | 42 | 56 |
| Serious crimes only | 14 | 15 | 14 |
| Sometimes report | 12 | 14 | 9 |
| Never report | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Never been a victim | 25 | 28 | 19 |

We asked how safe people felt in different situations around Darfield – on the streets during the day, on streets at night and in their own home. As may be seen in Table 4.13, approximately one in ten residents feel unsafe or very unsafe when walking about during the day or in their own homes. The main issue is people feeling unsafe outside after dark – with over a half of interviewees feeling unsafe and less than a third feeling safe.

Table 4.13: Feelings of Safety

| Reported Feeling of Safety | Out During The Day % | Out At Night % | In Own Home % |
|----------------------------|----------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Very safe | 28 | 6 | 29 |
| Safe | 51 | 23 | 56 |
| Neither safe nor unsafe | 10 | 18 | 6 |
| Unsafe | 9 | 32 | 7 |
| Very unsafe | 2 | 21 | 2 |

Only 5% of those active in the labour market (i.e. people in work, studying or actively seeking work) felt unsafe walking about Darfield during the day. This compares to 18% of those who describe themselves as retired, long term ill, house persons or carers. Another issue is gender, with only 8% of men feeling unsafe walking during the day compared to 13% of women. People living in the older housing around Darfield centre and Snape Hill Road are most likely to feel unsafe during the day (23%).

Table 4.14 shows some of the key groups who feel unsafe walking around after dark. Women, residents of the older housing areas of central Darfield and the economically inactive of all ages are more likely to feel afraid when walking after dark. People over retirement age are **not** more likely to be afraid, but those who are afraid feel it more intensively.

Table 4.14: Feelings of Safety Walking After Dark

| Reported Feeling of Safety | Out During The Day % | Econ. Inactive % | Women % | People aged 65+ % | Central Darfield Res'ts % |
|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------|---------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| Very safe | 6 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 24 |
| Safe | 23 | 13 | 13 | 17 | |
| Neither safe nor unsafe | 18 | 23 | 15 | 22 | 8 |
| Unsafe | 32 | 32 | 42 | 22 | |
| Very unsafe | 21 | 29 | 29 | 34 | 68 |

The people afraid in their own home were generally more widely spread across the population. The only specific issues arise for those in the area north of Saltersbrook Road (23% feeling unsafe) – vastly different from the 3% of residents in the newer developments around Doveside and the Italian estate.

Where people stated that they felt unsafe, we asked why this was. The question used was open in order to identify a wide range of issues. 159 interviewees gave reasons for feeling unsafe. In general terms, the five key issues were identified as:

- Fear of young people on the street (47%);
- Reports of crime from personal contacts or the media (21%);
- Fear of crime without a specific reason (25%);
- Previous victimisation (13%);
- Having witnessed crime on the streets (2%).

For most people, the fear of young people was their noisy congregation, drinking and swearing rather than specific victimisation. In terms of reported

crime, the main factors are recent reports of rapes and muggings communicated via informal community networks (13%).

4.7 Involvement In Community Affairs

Interviewees were asked about their involvement, in an unpaid capacity, in community groups or activities.

Table 4.15 shows the responses in total and broken down by gender. As may be seen, a quarter of residents are currently involved in community groups and almost a quarter wish to become more involved. There is no significant difference between men and women in current involvement but women are more likely to wish to become more involved now.

There is a significant difference in current involvement by age. Whereas 30% of those aged 45 and over are involved in community activities, just less than 20% of younger residents are involved. However, 35% of people aged 20 – 45 wanted to become more involved in community activities, compared to one in eight older people.

Three in seven interviewees have heard of Darfield Community Association. Women were slightly more likely than men to have heard of the Association. However, the main difference was that more than a half of people aged 45 years and over had heard of the Association compared to less than a third of younger people.

Table 4.15: Involvement

| Level of Involvement | All % | Men % | Women % |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|
| Currently involved | 25 | 25 | 25 |
| Previously involved | 12 | 14 | 10 |
| Never been involved | 63 | 62 | 65 |
| Heard of Darfield Community Association | All % | Men % | Women % |
| Yes | 42 | 40 | 44 |
| No | 58 | 60 | 46 |
| Wish To Become More Involved | All % | Men % | Women % |
| Yes | 23 | 18 | 25 |
| No | 77 | 82 | 75 |

We asked the 64 people who wished to become involved about their interest areas:

- 35 in work for young people;
- 26 in work relating to the elderly and well being;
- 26 in education and training issues;
- 25 in environmental issues;
- 17 in work on health issues.

We also asked whether any of our respondents had attempted to establish a community group in Darfield. Four said they had. For one person, there had been no problems. Two had experienced problems in getting together enough people to support the group and one had found rents for rooms too high. Two had sought help without finding anyone who could assist them.

4.8 Qualifications and Learning

We asked about the qualifications people hold, their current study and their skill needs / aspirations.

We asked interviewees about the highest qualification they hold. We have then made a ‘best fit’ to grade these qualifications to their nearest NVQ equivalents from the information given. This methodology involves a number of pitfalls. **For example**, five GCE O Levels are classed as equivalent to NVQ level 2, but 4 O Levels or less are equivalent to NVQ1. However, many respondents cannot remember accurately how many O levels they possess. ***It is important therefore to note that, in cases of doubt, we have coded qualifications to the higher level, unless other evidence exists to the contrary. This is a different approach to that used for official statistics and therefore the figures shown here cannot be used as comparators outside of Darfield.***

As context, it is worth noting that labour market specialists generally recognise level 2 qualifications as giving an individual the likelihood of stability of employment. Level 3 is generally considered to be the level of qualification at which a worker will contribute to the growth or increased efficiency of an organisation and/or economy.

Table 4.16 shows the qualifications held by all residents, and those held by people of working age. As can be seen, there is a distinct difference in qualifications between those aged under 65 and those aged over 65 years.

Table 4.16: Qualifications Held By Interviewees

| Highest Qualification held | All % | 17-64 years only % |
|------------------------------|-------|--------------------|
| No qualifications | 37 | 26 |
| Less than NVQ2 or equivalent | 7 | 9 |
| NVQ2 or equivalent | 28 | 33 |
| NVQ3 or equivalent | 16 | 20 |
| NVQ4 or equivalent or higher | 11 | 12 |

Tables 4.17 to 4.20 show information for people of working age (17-64 years old) only. They allow comparisons to be made between specific sub groups of people of working age.

Table 4.17 shows that qualifications and access to work are intimately linked. People who are unemployed are twice as likely to have no qualifications as those in work. Equally, even without adjusting for some highly qualified people taking early retirement, people of working age who are inactive in the labour market are even less well qualified. Table 4.17 also shows that people with qualifications as low as NVQ2 (or equivalent) have household incomes 50% higher than those who are unqualified.

Table 4.17: Qualifications Differences Between Groups (Working Age Residents Only)

| Highest Qualification held | All Working Age % | In Work % | Seeking Work % | Other Inactive % | Average household income £s |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-----------|----------------|------------------|-----------------------------|
| No qualifications | 26 | 18 | 36 | 40 | 15,600 |
| Less than NVQ2 or equivalent | 9 | 10 | 7 | 7 | 23,100 |
| NVQ2 or equivalent | 33 | 37 | 29 | 25 | 24,700 |
| NVQ3 or equivalent | 20 | 21 | 21 | 18 | 22,600 |
| NVQ4 or equivalent or higher | 12 | 14 | 7 | 9 | 33,400 |
| Average level | 1.84 | 2.03 | 1.57 | 1.48 | na |

We looked at the age profile of qualifications (see Table 4.18), expecting that for people qualified at NVQ2 and above, there would be a steady decline in qualification levels as residents get older. To some extent we found this to be the case, but there are actually more people not qualified to NVQ2 in the under 25 years group than in the 25-44 years age group.

Table 4.18: Qualifications Differences By Age (Working Age Residents Only)

| Highest Qualification held | All Working Age % | Under 25 years % | 25-44 years % | 45-64 years % |
|------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| No qualifications | 26 | 19 | 15 | 39 |
| Less than NVQ2 or equivalent | 9 | 15 | 9 | 8 |
| NVQ2 or equivalent | 33 | 41 | 39 | 24 |
| NVQ3 or equivalent | 20 | 15 | 25 | 15 |
| NVQ4 or equivalent or higher | 12 | 11 | 12 | 13 |
| Average level | 1.84 | 1.85 | 2.11 | 1.56 |

Looking at other factors in Table 4.19, there is marginally lower achievement in the Pioneer area compared to the rest of Darfield, but the key story is the significantly lower achievement of people in rented accommodation. It is also worth noting that men of working age have better average qualifications than women.

Table 4.19: Qualifications Differences Between Groups (Working Age Residents Only)

| Highest Qualification held | All Working Age % | Pioneer Res'ts %s | Tenants % | Men | Women |
|------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------|------|-------|
| No qualifications | 26 | 27 | 42 | 24 | 26 |
| Less than NVQ2 or equivalent | 9 | 10 | 10 | 7 | 11 |
| NVQ2 or equivalent | 33 | 31 | 29 | 31 | 34 |
| NVQ3 or equivalent | 20 | 21 | 16 | 22 | 18 |
| NVQ4 or equivalent or higher | 12 | 11 | 3 | 16 | 10 |
| Average level | 1.84 | 1.78 | 1.28 | 1.98 | 1.75 |

Interviewees were asked about the length of time since they obtained their last qualification. As may be seen in Table 4.20, almost a half of residents with qualifications received their latest qualification more than 10 years ago.

Table 4.20: Qualifications Age

| Length of time since last qualification | All % |
|-----------------------------------------|-------|
| < 1 year | 6 |
| 1-2 years | 13 |
| 3-5 years | 11 |
| 6-10 years | 22 |
| 11-20 years | 20 |
| 21 years plus | 28 |

16% of interviewees of working age are currently studying. Only five are studying in Darfield. Sixteen are studying at work, six in Barnsley, three in the Dearne and two elsewhere in South Yorkshire.

28% of residents wish to undertake a course, including one in three of those of working age and 40% of those aged 44 years or less. 31% of unemployed interviewees want to study but only 19% of tenants and 18% of economically inactive residents wish to do so. 26% of those not currently studying wish to undertake a course.

The courses that people wish to undertake are wide ranging and difficult to categorise effectively. However, it is possible to class them as follows:

- Degree or professional qualification – 8;
- A Levels / NVQ3 / Equivalent – 10;
- GCSEs or NVQs – 4;
- Computing – no level specified – 21;
- Obviously vocational – no level specified – 17;
- Probably leisure interest – 12;
- Basic Skills – 1;
- Not sure what they wish to study – 6.

People were also asked to state the barriers to developing their interest in studying. The key issues are:

- Available time – 11;
- Childcare responsibilities – 4;
- Cost / fees – 4;
- Times at which courses are available are unsuitable for workers – 4;
- Travelling requirement to nearest course – 2;
- Poor availability of courses in Darfield – 2;
- Health / mobility – 2;
- Care responsibilities for an adult – 1;
- Telephones busy - unable to contact a person to book course – 1;
- Not knowing the options – 1.

We went on to ask whether interviewees needed to improve particular types of basic skills. As may be seen from Table 4.21, very few people wished to improve their English or maths, but two in three wish to improve their computer skills. It should be noted that this last group covers a range of people, including those who are users or even confident users but wish to become more sophisticated PC users.

Table 4.21 also shows that:

- The youngest cohort see most need to improve their English and maths skills;
- People aged 25-44 years most want to improve their computer skills – largely building on existing knowledge;
- Tenants and, to a lesser extent, Pioneer area residents, see the least need to improve their basic skills.

Table 4.21: Demand for Basic Skills

| Type of Basic Skill | All % | Aged <25 % | Aged 25-44 % | Tenants % | Pioneer Res'ts % |
|---------------------|-------|------------|--------------|-----------|------------------|
| Reading | 5 | 15 | 6 | 5 | 5 |
| Writing | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 4 |
| Mathematics | 8 | 23 | 13 | 5 | 7 |
| Computer skills | 39 | 35 | 49 | 32 | 25 |
| None of these | 57 | 54 | 48 | 65 | 60 |

Finally, we asked people about their familiarity with four types of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), and whether they felt confident using the technology. As may be seen, 35% of residents have not used any of these technologies although 63% have used a personal computer. However, Table 4.22 also shows the same data for people of working age only. The change is dramatic with only one in five never having used any of the technology. Underlying the table, is that only people of working age feel comfortable using email, the internet and multimedia / AV packages.

Table 4.22: Use of, and Confidence With, Technology

| ICT Type | Used - All % | Confident – All % | Used – Working Age % | Confident – Working Age % |
|----------------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Personal Computer | 63 | 45 | 77 | 55 |
| Internet | 44 | 34 | 55 | 43 |
| Email | 37 | 32 | 47 | 40 |
| Multimedia/ Audio Visual package | 17 | 13 | 21 | 16 |
| None of these | 35 | 47 | 21 | 35 |

Also underlying the table are differences within Darfield:

- 50% of men feel confident using a PC, compared to only 41% of women.
- Whereas 54% of tenants have never used a PC at all, this applies to only 26% of owner occupiers.
- Whereas 53% of unemployed people and 58% of all inactive people have never used any of the four ICT tools, only 12% of employed people have never used these tools.
- Whereas 64% of employed people feel confident using a PC, only 40% of unemployed people and 23% of inactive residents do so.

4.9 Health

We asked four questions which seek to identify whether or not people are at risk of mental health problems. These were designed to replicate those asked in the 2000 Social Capital Survey. The overall results are as shown in Table

4.23. It should be noted that the results shown are not adjusted for over-sampling in the Pioneer area or for men.

As may be seen, almost two thirds feel calm and peaceful for a good bit of the time or more often and a half have a lot of energy for a good bit of the time or more often. One in six people feel downhearted and low on a regular basis and one in seven find that their health limits their social activities.

Table 4.23 Statements of Mental Well Being

| Response | I have felt calm, and peaceful (Cum %) | I have a lot of energy (Cum %) | I have felt downhearted and low (Cum %) | My health has limited my social activities (Cum %) |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| All of the time | 11 | 8 | 3 | 7 |
| Most of the time | 47 | 38 | 11 | 12 |
| A good bit of the time | 61 | 52 | 17 | 15 |
| Some of the time | 80 | 74 | 40 | 22 |
| A little of the time | 94 | 89 | 64 | 26 |
| | % | % | % | % |
| None of the time | 6 | 11 | 36 | 74 |

A simpler way of expressing these figures in order to compare different elements of the population is to provide a mean average of the answers. In this method, a higher score shows that someone in that category (e.g. men or women) will be likely to experience the feeling more often. This method is similar to a Lickert scale approach. The results are shown in Table 4.24. As may be seen:

- Women are much more at risk of mental health problems than men in Darfield, judged on all factors;
- Age factors appear less important, but those aged under 25 and over 65 are marginally less at risk;
- Excepting feeling downhearted and low, unemployed people are less at risk than other activity groups;
- Tenants show much higher risk factor levels than owner occupiers (as, to a lesser degree, do Pioneer area residents compared to other residents).

Table 4.24 Statements of Mental Well Being By Category

| Category | I have felt calm, and peaceful (Score) | I have a lot of energy (Score) | I have felt downhearted and low (Score) | My health has limited my social activities (Score) |
|-------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| ALL INTERVIEWEES | 3.91 | 3.61 | 2.35 | 1.82 |
| Under 25 years | 3.93 | 4.15 | 2.04 | 1.96 |
| 25-44 years | 3.71 | 3.79 | 2.49 | 1.85 |
| 45-64 years | 3.93 | 3.55 | 2.46 | 1.86 |
| 65+ years | 4.23 | 3.15 | 2.07 | 1.63 |
| Men | 4.36 | 3.94 | 2.11 | 1.69 |
| Women | 3.61 | 3.39 | 2.51 | 1.87 |
| In work | 3.90 | 3.92 | 2.29 | 1.99 |
| Unemployed | 4.06 | 4.47 | 2.53 | 1.56 |
| Inactive | 3.92 | 3.15 | 2.39 | 1.65 |
| Owner occupiers | 4.02 | 3.74 | 2.19 | 1.61 |
| Tenants | 3.70 | 3.35 | 2.68 | 2.21 |
| Pioneer res'ts | 3.84 | 3.54 | 2.41 | 1.91 |
| Other residents | 4.05 | 3.75 | 2.23 | 1.65 |

We asked about smoking habits. Table 4.25 shows the extent to which people currently smoke. As may be seen, almost one in three people currently smoke, higher than the average for Barnsley.

Table 4.25: Current Smoking Habits

| Smoking habit | All % |
|---------------------------------|-------|
| Smoke daily | 26 |
| Smoke occasionally | 6 |
| Used to smoke, but have stopped | 18 |
| Never smoked | 49 |

Smoking is higher among:

- Younger people (44% of those aged under 25 years and 35% of those aged 25-44 years);
- Women (34%);
- Unemployed people (47%) and the economically inactive (37%);
- Tenants (54%) and Pioneer area residents (37%).

Of those people who currently smoke, half were happy to keep on smoking as Table 4.26 shows. Only one in eight definitely wishes to stop and would like help.

Table 4.26: Current Smokers Design To Stop Smoking

| Smokers Views On Quitting | All % |
|--------------------------------------|-------|
| Happy to keep smoking | 50 |
| Thinking about stopping | 16 |
| Want to stop – will do it my own way | 21 |
| Want to stop – would like help | 13 |

Of those who had stopped smoking, 96% had stopped longer than one year ago.

We also asked about the levels of exercise which people currently undertake. Table 4.27 shows two levels of exercise. The first column of figures is the frequency with which people undertake any physical exercise for 30 minutes or more. The second column relates to 30 minutes of exercise **with sufficient intensity to increase perceived body heat and/or rate of breathing**.

As may be seen, only one in ten people exercise less than once a week, but less than two thirds exercise to a degree where their health benefits significantly through increased exertion.

Table 4.27: Current Exercise Frequency

| Frequency of physical activity of 30+ minutes per day | All activity % | Activity increases heat / breathing % |
|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------------|
| Never | 6 | 26 |
| Sometimes – less than once a week | 4 | 11 |
| 1 or 2 days per week | 10 | 17 |
| 3 or 4 days per week | 14 | 15 |
| 5 or more days per week | 66 | 31 |

In general terms, vigorous exercise is least likely to be undertaken by:

- Economically inactive residents;
- People aged over 65 years;
- Tenants;
- Women.

We asked what would encourage people to undertake more exercise. From 201 cases, 44% gave answers which could be construed to imply that they see no need for further exercise or would be unable to do so. Of those indicating they wished to undertake more exercise, the top five enablers are:

- More time (23%);
- More and/or better local facilities (14%);
- Local swimming pool (5%);
- Local classes for keep fit, yoga etc (3%);
- Better and/or women only gym in Darfield (2%).

4.10 Demand For Family Support Services

We asked four questions which required people with children living in their home to provide information for a review of family support services.

A number of people without resident children appear to have taken the term ‘family support’ to have a wider meaning than services for families with dependent children. These responses were cleaned out prior to the analysis given below.

As seen already in section 4.3, one in four families prioritised family support services as one of their top three priority projects for Darfield.

The next question concerned the experiences people with children in their home had of existing sources of family support. We asked which, if any of a range of possible support sources they had found useful. Table 4.28 illustrates the results. The most obvious thing is the high dependency on informal support from family, friends and neighbours. More surprising is that 5% have found a pre-school playgroup helpful although none exists in Darfield.

Amongst the professionals, doctors were seen as the most useful support, with strong showings by health visitors and midwives. The low proportion stating they had received useful support from teachers or school is a reflection of the fact that these professionals did not appear in the original list shown to respondents.

Table 4.28: Experience of Family Support Sources

| Source of Support | Support Useful % | Top 3 Most Useful % | Most Useful of All % |
|--------------------------|---------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Family | 85 | 80 | 68 |
| Friends | 68 | 65 | 20 |
| GP | 33 | 29 | 3 |
| Neighbours | 29 | 29 | 2 |
| Health visitor | 24 | 19 | 3 |
| Midwife | 19 | 14 | 2 |
| Childminder | 5 | 5 | 0 |
| Pre-school playgroup | 5 | 2 | 0 |
| School nurse | 3 | 2 | 0 |
| Church | 3 | 1 | 0 |
| Other (school / teacher) | 2 | 2 | 0 |
| Internet | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Books / journals | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Social Services | 1 | 1 | 0 |
| Youth service | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Connexions | 0 | 0 | 0 |

Parents were then asked to describe their experiences of support for several key stages and issues in parenthood. Table 4.29 shows the results. The first column of numbers shows the percentage that had used support. The second column highlights the percentage of respondents that had used the service and found it “not very good” or “poor”.

The question was set out so that residents using the service could give a range of answers from “very good”, through “good” and “quite good” to “not

very good” and “poor”. This use of a continuous range enables us to give each of these answers a score, with 5 representing “Very good” and 1 representing “Poor”. By averaging the scores from the 97 respondents we can give each service an average score. The higher the average score, the better the service. These average scores are shown in the final column, which is headed “Lickert score”.

Overall, the evidence shows very clearly that health services in the round are satisfactory and the schools are well regarded. However, facilities for parents and facilities for children are seen as extremely poor by the parents. Support for parenting skills across all age groups is also seen as very poor in Darfield – where they exist at all.

Table 4.29: Experience of Support At Key Stages

| Support Stage | Used Support % | Found Poor or Not Very Good % | Lickert Score |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Preparation for parenthood | 79 | 21 | 3.4 |
| Time for me / time away from children | 75 | 41 | 2.7 |
| Health services available | 88 | 20 | 3.3 |
| Breast feeding support | 28 | 37 | 3.1 |
| Access to pre school education | 75 | 30 | 3.1 |
| School child attends | 78 | 12 | 3.9 |
| Advice and support | 57 | 18 | 3.0 |
| Support with parenting skills for pre school children | 55 | 53 | 2.5 |
| Support with parenting skills for children up to 11 years | 38 | 49 | 2.6 |
| Support with parenting skills for children aged 11 – 18 years | 19 | 56 | 2.3 |
| Facilities for children in the area | 82 | 94 | 1.5 |
| Facilities for parents in the area | 74 | 96 | 1.4 |

Finally, we asked parents for their views on what support should have been provided to their family. This was a totally open question, and the responses included:

Access to childcare, leisure and play facilities

- Facilities for families to use together x 14;
- More / better youth centres x 2;
- Better leisure parks / facilities x 2;
- Out of school clubs x 2;
- Supermarket crèche x 3;
- Crèches at clinics and meeting places x 2;
- More childminders;
- Facilities for parents with young children;
- Better child friendly pubs;
- Toy library;
- Cheaper entry to leisure as a family;
- Organised holiday activities;
- More childcare facilities;
- Nursery;
- Pre school shop with childminding facilities;

- Play areas x 2.

Access to advice, support and information

- A telephone helpline for people who do not wish to / cannot visit the doctor x 2;
- More support from the teachers at school x 2;
- Support tailored to the needs of fathers;
- Support group for families with children aged over 5 years;
- More support from health visitor x 3;
- Better access to the doctor / more medical support x 2;
- Centre / groups for parents to support / talk to each other (with socials) x 5;
- Centre / group for parents and children to meet others in the same situation;
- Drop in centre to discuss problems x 3;
- Support worker for problems with children;
- More advice for first time parents;
- Parenting to be taught at school;
- Drop in advice centre;
- Someone to talk to;
- Pre natal classes;
- More clinics for children or advice to be available locally and immediately;
- More privacy at health and other facilities when discussing problems;
- Counsellor available locally other than through / at the clinic x 2;
- Older mentors for young parents with larger families;
- Parenting classes;
- More family around.

Groups for pre-school children

- More mother and toddler groups x 4;
- Better pre school facilities;
- Pre school playgroup x 2.

Other

- Better advertising of available services;
- More information.

4.11 Incomes

We asked residents about their incomes. In general, the data as a stand alone dataset should be treated with some suspicion. However, it is useful in comparison with similarly sourced information at a borough level and from elsewhere.

Based upon 186 answers, the average household income of respondents is £19,600 per annum. However, adjusting for the different sampling rates within the two parts of Darfield, the average annual household income would be £20,800. Whereas Pioneer incomes average £18,800 per annum, those in the rest of Darfield average £21,500.

Average weekly earnings, based on 113 cases, equate to £295 per week across all occupations, or £15,400 per annum. This probably understates the

true position as many of the apparently higher wage earners outside the Pioneer area declined to answer this question. Male average weekly earnings are £383 compared to the female equivalent of £214.

We asked about four types of benefits which people often claim. Inevitably, there will be some understating of benefits dependency. However, it can clearly be seen that, especially in terms of income support and housing benefit, the Pioneer area is more benefit dependent than the rest of Darfield, as shown in Table 4.30.

Table 4.30: Benefits Claimed

| Benefits Claimed | All % | Pioneer % | Non-Pioneer % |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------|---------------|
| Child benefit | 30 | 31 | 29 |
| Income support | 12 | 16 | 7 |
| Housing benefit | 16 | 20 | 8 |
| Working families tax credit | 14 | 15 | 12 |
| None of these | 53 | 49 | 60 |

3% of residents admitted to debts that they were unable to pay. These derived from the cost of being out of work, house repossession and catalogues. The people admitting to these debts covered a mixture of genders and ages.

4.12 Employment

We asked residents a number of questions about their employment. First, we asked them to choose from a list of eleven options which best describes their labour market position. Table 4.31 shows the results. (It should be noted that this covers all respondents).

This table is relatively complex but serves to show some key differences between men and women. Men, as we would expect from the Census data shown in Section 2.3.2, are:

- More likely to be in employment;
- But less likely to be in part time employment;
- More likely to be registered unemployed;
- Less likely to be primarily a childcarer of a house person.

Table 4.31: Employment Status

| Employment Status | All % | Men % | Women % |
|------------------------------|-------|-------|---------|
| Full time employment | 32 | 47 | 22 |
| Part time employment | 14 | 3 | 22 |
| Self employment | 4 | 9 | 1 |
| Unemployed – registered | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| Unemployed – not registered | 2 | 1 | 2 |
| Full time student | 1 | 0 | 2 |
| Limited by Long Term Illness | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| Childcarer | 2 | 0 | 4 |
| Carer of an adult | 1 | 2 | 1 |
| Retired | 28 | 27 | 28 |
| House person | 7 | 1 | 11 |

A more concise version of the same data is shown in Table 4.32, but this time incorporating data broken down by the housing tenure of interviewees. As may be seen, the significant differences between men and women should be seen against an even more significant difference between owner occupiers and tenants. Within these highlighted figures, it should be noted that tenants are only one quarter as likely as owner occupiers to be in full time work. The difference is attributable to tenants being;

- twice as likely to be unemployed;
- two and a half times more likely to be limited by long term illness;
- five times as likely to be childcarers;
- three times as likely to be house persons;
- including 40% more retired people.

There were less significant differences between Pioneer area residents and other Darfield residents. ***If we were expressing unemployment as a rate in the tenanted areas it would amount to 22%.***

Table 4.32: Economic Activity Status (All Population Basis)

| Economic Activity Status | All | Men | Women | Owner Occ'rs | Tenants |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----|-------|--------------|---------|
| | % | % | % | % | % |
| In employment | 50 | 60 | 44 | 61 | 29 |
| Unemployed | 5 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 8 |
| Full time student | 1 | 0 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| Retired | 28 | 27 | 28 | 25 | 35 |
| Other economically inactive | 16 | 8 | 21 | 10 | 28 |

The data shown above is usually used to develop a measure of the proportion of people who are economically active. This is expressed in two ways:

- % of all residents who are economically active;
- % of residents of **working age** who are economically active.

The first measure, based on all residents, is useful in assessing the relative **wealth** of a community.

Based upon weighting the data for the under-representation of men and non-Pioneer area residents in the response, the economic activity rate based upon **all adult** residents, for Darfield, **is 64.3%**. This compares to Census data (see Section 2.3.2) suggesting a rate just below 60% for those aged 16-75 years. As our unweighted rate for all residents is in line with the Census (allowing for our inclusion of people aged 75+years) 56%, this would suggest that:

- economic activity in Darfield rose significantly between April 2001 and summer 2003; and/or,
- our survey was biased towards people who are active in the labour market, independently and corrective of the in-built gender and geographic biases.

The second, more restrictive measure is useful in examining the health of the employment market in the area and is the measure usually used in documents produced for Barnsley. (Please note that the activity rates shown in the tables below are unadjusted and are still slightly above the best

estimate of 68% that can be gained for this age group from 2001 Census key statistics).

Table 4.33 shows the headline economic activity rate for different groups of residents. Again, tenants are far less active, reflecting far higher rates for unemployment, limiting illness and home carers. Women are also less active, primarily due to low female employment rates (61% against 77% for men). The gender difference is proportionately the same as that shown in the 2001 Census.

Table 4.33: Economic Activity Status (Working Age Residents Only)

| Economic Activity Status | All Working Age % | Men % | Women % | Owner Occ'rs % | Tenants % |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-------|---------|----------------|-----------|
| Economically Active | 70 | 83 | 62 | 78 | 53 |
| Inactive | 30 | 17 | 38 | 22 | 47 |

Table 4.34 shows a more expanded version of the above table to examine age and car access issues in the employment status of Darfield residents. As may be seen, employment declines sharply in the 45-64 age group, with the difference being a sharp increase in the number of people describing themselves as retired. Unemployment remains reasonably steady throughout the age ranges. Hidden within the 'other inactive' category is a rise in limiting long term illness from 5% in the 25-44 years age group to 13% in the 45-64 age group.

Table 4.34: Economic Activity Status (Working Age Residents Only)

| Economic Activity Status | All % | Aged < 25 yrs % | Aged 25-44 % | Aged 45-64 % | W/out Car % |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|
| In employment | 63 | 67 | 73 | 52 | 36 |
| Unemployed | 6 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 18 |
| Full time student | 1 | 7 | 1 | 0 | 0 |
| Retired | 9 | 0 | 0 | 22 | 14 |
| Other economically inactive | 20 | 19 | 19 | 21 | 32 |

We asked about people's occupations and classified them according to the Standard Occupational Classification 2000. We also asked about the interviewees' employers and classified them according to the Standard Industrial Classification. This classification is too detailed to work at this level so we have grouped several categories together as shown in Table 4.35. This table shows indicative results from the survey, compared to 2001 Census information. Indicative issues identified include:

- Out of work interviewees are more than twice as likely to have had a last job in process or elemental occupations (such as cleaning, labouring and machine operating) than employees are to work in these jobs.
- Only one in eight people out of work last occupied a "higher level" post, compared to almost one in four employees.
- Those out of work are disproportionately represented in the declining primary, extractive and manufacturing industries.
- No person out of work last worked in education.

Table 4.35: Occupational Class (Working Age Residents Not Retired or House Carer Only)

| Occupational Class | Out of work (Last Job) Clearview 2003 % | In work Clearview 2003 % | In work Census 2001 % |
|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|
| Managers and senior officials | 0 | 8 | 11 |
| Professional occupations | 3 | 6 | 6 |
| Associate professional and technical occupations | 10 | 9 | 10 |
| Administrative and secretarial occupations | 5 | 10 | 11 |
| Skilled trades occupations | 15 | 17 | 16 |
| Personal service occupations | 15 | 13 | 8 |
| Sales and customer service occupations | 8 | 15 | 10 |
| Process, plant and machine operatives | 21 | 11 | 15 |
| Elemental occupations | 23 | 12 | 14 |
| High level occupations | 13 | 23 | 27 |
| Process/elemental occupations | 44 | 23 | 28 |
| Industry of Occupation | | | |
| Primary and extractive industries | 12 | 3 | 2 |
| Manufacturing | 31 | 21 | 19 |
| Utilities and construction | 13 | 14 | 12 |
| Retail and hospitality | 8 | 24 | 22 |
| Communications | 3 | 4 | 6 |
| Business services | 5 | 3 | 10 |
| Public sector (incl. health and education) | 22 | 30 | 24 |
| Personal services | 3 | 2 | 4 |

We asked residents about how far they travelled to their current or last job. We also asked out of work residents how far they would be willing to travel in order to work. Table 4.36 shows the results in terms of cumulative percentages.

The main inferences to be drawn from the table are that the travel to work patterns of the out of work are not significantly different from those of people in work, and that there is equally little to choose between Pioneer and other Darfield residents in terms of willingness to travel to work.

Table 4.36: Travel To Work Times (Working Age Residents Not Retired or House Carer Only)

| Travel To Work Time | Out of work (Last job) Cum % | Out of work (Willing to) Cum % | In work Cum % | In work – Pioneer Res'ts Cum % | In Work – Not Pioneer Res'ts Cum % |
|----------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Work at home only | 0 | 3 | 3 | 0 | 8 |
| Less than 5 minutes | 10 | 3 | 13 | 11 | 16 |
| Less than 10 minutes | 23 | 3 | 32 | 31 | 33 |
| Less than 15 minutes | 36 | 10 | 56 | 55 | 57 |
| Less than 30 minutes | 65 | 50 | 81 | 83 | 77 |
| Less than 60 minutes | 82 | 87 | 90 | 92 | 84 |
| Longer | 95 | 97 | 91 | 93 | 86 |
| Various sites | 100 | 100 | 100 | 100 | 90 |

We asked about barriers to longer travel. From the limited number of answers, key issues appear to be:

- Childcare commitments;
- Adult care commitments;
- Disability;
- The appropriateness of the bus services on offer;
- Cost.

Finally, we asked people who are not in employment to say how long it is since they had last worked. Three quarters have been out of work for longer than 6 months (usually termed long term worklessness) and 70% have been workless for longer than 2 years.

4.13 Summary

Compared to Census estimates for the Darfield ward, the 301 respondents to the interview survey were more likely to be women, of working age and tenants. The Pioneer area contains more women and younger adults than the rest of Darfield.

71% find Darfield a pleasant place to live, compared to 10% who find it unpleasant. People like Darfield because it is quiet; they have good neighbours, a good community and relatively little trouble. Those people who find Darfield unpleasant suffer primarily from vandalism, neighbours, youth nuisance and a drugs problem.

We used several methods to ascertain the community's priorities for action. In broad terms, the key priorities are:

- More facilities / activities for children of all ages / teenagers;
- Better bus service;
- Improved policing;
- Improved play areas;
- Improved park;
- Improvements to Berneslai Homes repair services;
- Improvements to the secondary school;
- Improved general practitioner service;
- Improved hospital service.

Projects currently being developed in the area are often well received. The top five priorities can be considered to be:

- Improvements to Darfield Park – but with some form of warden system;
- All weather sports pitch;
- Kickwalls;
- Better adult learning facilities;
- Skills exchange project.

Community safety is a key concern. Most people report crime, only 2% stating that they never report crime. A half say they feel unsafe or very unsafe walking around Darfield in the dark. This includes more than three quarters of

women. 23% of people living north of Saltersbrook Road feel unsafe in their own home during the day compared to 9% of all interviewees. 11% of people feel unsafe walking around during the day. These are more likely to be economically inactive people, women and/or residents of older terraced housing areas.

One in four people are currently involved in community affairs, and 42% had heard of Darfield Community Association. 23% wish to become more involved.

Using a more permissive methodology than the Census, 32% of residents of working age are estimated to have a higher level qualification at NVQ level 3 or equivalent or above. Those out of work and those inactive in the labour market are more than twice as likely to have no qualifications as those in work. Surprisingly, young people under 25 years are less qualified than those aged 25-44 years. Tenants are especially under qualified and women are less qualified than men. Almost a half of Darfield residents' most recent qualifications are more than ten years old.

The relationship between qualifications and income is stark. People without qualifications have a household income of no more than 63% of those who have 5 O Levels or equivalent. This amounts to more than £445,000 difference over a working life.

28% of residents wish to undertake a course of study and 16% are currently studying. Unemployed interviewees and those aged less than 44 years are more likely to wish to study; tenants and the economically inactive are least likely to wish to study. People reported relatively few problems with basic skills, but there is a high demand for computer skills. Tenants, unemployed people and women are especially likely to have poor ICT skills.

In terms of health, women and tenants show the greatest risk of developing or having mental health problems. Almost one in three people currently smoke with young people, women, unemployed people, the economically inactive and tenants more likely to smoke than others. Only one in eight wishes to stop smoking. Two thirds exercise for more than 30 minutes per day at least five days per week. However, only 31% exercise at this frequency to an extent where they increase perceived body heat or breathing rate.

One in four residents with children said they would use improved family support services and a similar number prioritised this issue. Current support is largely through informal networks (e.g. family and friends). Interviewees' experience of services for families highlighted that the main needs were better facilities for children and parents, increased support with parenting skills and time away from children.

We estimate the average household income of interviewees to be £20,800, but recognise that this is almost certainly an under-estimate. However, incomes of Pioneer residents are only 87% that of other residents. Average weekly earnings come out at £295 per week, with a big difference between men (£383 per week) and women (£214 per week). We also found that families in the Pioneer area were more than twice as likely as other Darfield residents to claim income support.

Of those who describe themselves as economically active, just under one in ten say they are unemployed and seeking work (though not necessarily registered). Women, tenants and those aged 45-64 years are the least likely to be in employment. 70% of those describing themselves as unemployed had been out of work for more than 2 years.

The industrial and occupation structure shows that out of work residents are far more likely to have worked in elemental or process occupations and in declining industries than those in work.

5. COMMUNITY CONSULTATIONS

A number of qualitative methods were used to supplement the desk research, stakeholder consultations and residents survey. These included:

- Two community events;
- Video interviews with residents and businesses;
- A focus group and various consultations with young people.

The results from these qualitative methods cannot be said to be fully representative of the position in Darfield, but they do increase our understanding of the range of issues and add depth to the proposals for new projects, services and facilities.

5.1 Consultation Events

We undertook two consultation exercises with the community at existing community events. These were the Darfield Gala and the Garden Party.

At each event, we had a number of displays which were designed to elicit residents' suggestions for priority actions in Darfield. Some of these displays were issue based (e.g. policing) whilst others were geographically based. The full list of responses is shown at Appendix 2.

5.1.1 Issue Based Responses

Many of the responses were around specific issues such as young people or crime. The largest single group of issue based responses concerned the need for facilities for young people. Within this group of responses, key themes included:

- More and/or better equipped play parks;
- A replacement scout hut;
- Activities to keep teenagers especially away from nuisance activities;
- Childcare facilities.

Environmental issues formed the second largest group. General improvements to the cleanliness of the streets and litter bins were the single most significant components. Also important are seats for people to rest on and 'watch the world go by', prevention of dog fouling and a range of responses to increase flowering plants in the area.

The third most significant issue was crime and policing. Responses were dominated by a desire for more police on the streets, calls to prevent drug use and enforcement action with regard to off road vehicles. However, tackling graffiti and more CCTV coverage were also raised by two or more people.

Transport, especially the current state of bus services formed the fourth key group of issues. However, speed cameras and road humps to stop traffic speeding were common requests in specific parts of the village.

Fourteen residents completed a survey in which we asked about their support for specific projects and prioritisation of specific issues. The results would

suggest that all of the project ideas being considered by the Darfield Community Association would have broad support. However, support for kickwalls (multi-sports play areas), the fishing lake, veggiebox, credit union and road closures is least well defined. Adult education, sports facilities and more local jobs came out as the lowest priority issues for these few residents.

5.1.2 Geographically Based Responses

A second type of response included ideas for specific improvements in specific areas of Darfield. Overwhelmingly, these related to children's facilities and environmental concerns.

Darfield Park was a focus of many comments, with detailed ideas for improvement. However, a number of people called for park rangers, park wardens or park attendants to maintain any improvements. The background to this was a fear that any investment in the park will be wasted unless there is a clear commitment to policing and maintaining the area.

The Longbow playing fields were suggested as an alternative site for developing a renewed park by four people and as a site for new facilities by several others. Their logic was a combination of the greater space for redevelopment, the existence of playing fields to complement new sports facilities and the natural security given by the houses overlooking the field.

The third area which focused suggestions was the recreation ground behind Upperwood School from Ferrara Close as far down as Verona Drive. A wide variety of investment was suggested, from play areas and multi-sports areas to footpath and lighting improvements. This area also emerged as the focus for suggestions to restrict entry to vehicles and, in some cases, pedestrians.

Fifteen other recreational areas, for example those at Doveside, Illsley Road, Balkley Lane and Pinfold Lane, received similar suggestions.

A fourth focus for comments was the village centre. Road safety issues, traffic flow and suggestions for dealing with litter formed the bulk of comments here.

Particular concerns around parking and speeding traffic emerged in the Doncaster Road and Millhouses areas.

5.2 Additional Information From Video Interviews

Thirty video interviews were carried out with residents and 'on the ground' workers in order to gain footage for the CD presentation of the report. The issues raised generally reflect those which came out from the questionnaires and community events, for example:

- A general perception that Darfield is a nice place to live;
- Perceptions of problems with youth vandalism and nuisance;
- Low satisfaction with policing;
- Parking as a major issue in the village centre, especially near the Post Office;

However, two additional themes emerged strongly through the video work.

The first is a concern that Darfield does not get its 'fair share' of resources from the Council and other agencies. This comes through most prominently in a view that community groups do not receive the same level of support as those in more deprived areas. There is a similar concern that Darfield's voice is not heard very loudly when services are ineffective or when regeneration is being planned.

The second prominent issue is specific incidences of 'nuisance neighbours' around the village centre and elderly person's accommodation. Here, the issue is not defined as young people being noisy, but intimidation perpetrated by whole families.

Other issues emerging from these interviews include:

- A number of people requested help with parenting skills;
- Most people shop at large supermarkets, but would make more use of shops in Wombwell if the entry via Station Road was not cut off;
- Something of a consensus around provision of a sports and community centre on the Longbow Playing Field as a possible answer to most problems.

5.3 Consultations With Young People

A number of individual interviews and a focus group were undertaken with young people. In addition, we had the opportunity to view the video "Through Your Eyes" which was made by Darfield young people.

Most of the young people like living in Darfield. However, there are a number of downsides which they wish to see addressed:

- Drugs are seen as more of a problem than alcohol.
- The current park is too dangerous to use with needles and gangs of other young people.
- Agencies – especially the police and Council are perceived to have let young people down and their voice is not heard in plans or disputes.
- Relationships with older residents which are characterised by unwarranted mistrust from elders who approach young people without showing any respect or openness to debate.
- Educational aspirations are perceived to be as high as anywhere, but the educational system is failing to help young people realise these ambitions.

Specific proposals for additional services and project work emerged as:

- More education needed on the hard drugs currently available.
- A safe meeting place in an area that will not cause problems for other people. This would include somewhere to study but would most certainly not be a youth club.
- A leisure centre with swimming baths.
- CCTV coverage and better streetlighting for the re-developed park.
- Further development of the 'Youth Council' to give a say in decision making.
- A method by which policing can be made more responsive to young people's needs and concerns.

- More information on sexually transmitted diseases.
- Free condoms to be available locally, rather than a trip to Barnsley being necessary.
- Help to establish their own music and drama projects.
- Awareness raising among elders that the majority of young people are reasonable, law abiding citizens.
- Projects to develop relationships between young people and elders.
- Better options for study at school.

Whilst not directly mentioned in interviews, we gain an impression that young people and those who work with them are relatively isolated from the rest of the community networks. As a result, they are unaware of the support and grants that are available to assist in developing and implementing these projects

5.4 Business Viewpoints

Whilst we only conducted two interviews with businesses which were selected as such, the scope of methods means that we gained the views of nine businesses in total. Emerging viewpoints include:

- People not trained for work in the service sector;
- Fear of crime is a major threat to retail businesses, as it pushes people into cars and away from local centres;
- Poor public transport links also adversely affect businesses;
- A need for additional business space, other than retail, in new building developments.

5.5 Summary

A number of qualitative methods were used to supplement the desk research, stakeholder consultations and residents survey.

Residents generally like living in Darfield. However, they identified key issues around young people, community facilities, childcare facilities, the environment, nuisance neighbours and policing. Several specific proposals were made for new play areas, parks and community centres. The village centre is a focus for concerns around road safety, traffic management and litter.

Residents also voiced their concern that Darfield does not get its fair share of public sector resources.

Young people were interviewed in a variety of ways. Their responses suggest a similar range of concerns to those of adults. Worthy of note is a desire for opportunities to build better relationships with elders. Young people's specific proposals for action also include:

- better health, drugs and school education;
- a safe meeting place;
- more of an influence on services;
- assistance with establishing music and drama projects themselves.

A number of specific suggestions from businesses were also noted.

6. COMMUNITY FACILITIES AUDIT

6.1 Introduction

The consultation stage identified key issues around provision of leisure facilities and activities. As an additional exercise, we have undertaken an initial review to provide basic information on the buildings and open spaces that can be used in addressing these perceived needs. We did not include membership clubs such as the Cricket Club and Conservative Club.

The detailed review is attached as Appendix 7.

6.2 Community Buildings

In total there are seven buildings which may be considered to be in primarily community use. However, of these, the youth club is currently used by statutory services only, the meeting area in the Maurice Dobson Museum is upstairs and difficult to access for people with disabilities. Three of the remaining buildings are owned by churches and have restrictions on their use. The final building is associated with old people and sees little use by the rest of the community.

Only the Low Valley Church centre has good access for people with disabilities, but even here car parking is poor.

Taken together, this means that there is no fully accessible and independent community centre in Darfield. The following current proposals from community groups may provide three accessible and independent centres:

- A new building on the Longbow Playing Fields, currently promoted by Darfield Scouts;
- Re-development and re-launching of the Darfield Old People's Centre;
- A new reading room and meeting room for the Maurice Dobson Museum.

In addition, the future of the Centre 17 is currently being considered as part of the Youth service strategic review. This may make it either more or less available.

The development and improvement proposals appear to be fragmentary and driven by the needs of individual groups rather than an assessment of the long term potential for community development.

Geography of the buildings is also an issue. There are no buildings or proposals which will serve the people in the Millhouses area. The Longbow Playing Fields proposal has merit in serving the area north of Saltersbrook Road, but the need for children and elderly people to cross a trunk road cannot be said to be desirable. Given that these two areas include some of the most deprived streets in Darfield, there is a clear but unrecognised service gap.

The existing buildings are generally the subject of ongoing improvements, but also require additional investment to different levels.

6.3 Open Space Areas

Appendix 7 shows that there are a number of green open space areas across Darfield. The areas most distant from accessible open space for public recreation are the Rose Avenue / Tempest Avenue and Low Valley communities.

However, the abundance of green space masks their generally poor quality. Specific issues to come from the brief review we have undertaken include:

- Unattractive entrances with baffles that prevent use by people with mobility problems and the more corpulent residents.
- Sports facilities are restricted to the private cricket club and football pitches.
- The areas are unsuitable for a range of recreation uses from jogging to quad biking.
- Play equipment is old, unattractive, often vandalised and restricted almost exclusively to swings.
- Very little investment has taken place in the last ten years.

6.4 Village Centre Facilities

A number of shops in the village centre were also visited and the overall area reviewed. Disabled access is very poor, with few dropped kerbs, uneven surfaces, difficult parking and stiff doors. However, maintenance of shop units was generally good and the area was generally clean on our two visits.

6.5 Summary

There are a number of issues which came out from our visual audit.

- Access for people with disabilities is uniformly poor, and facilities for the visually and aurally impaired very rare.
- Play areas and green space are poorly equipped and offer few opportunities for active recreation.
- The current selection of community buildings is largely concentrated in one area and have restricted availability. Current proposals appear opportunistic and to respond to specific current demands rather than a more balanced review of future community development needs.

7. CONCLUSIONS

We present the conclusions from the study under headings which reflect the main neighbourhood renewal floor targets and which follow the sub group structure of Darfield Community Association. However, we commence with some general conclusions on perceived priorities in the area.

7.1 Perceived Priorities

It is important to recognise that residents generally find Darfield to be a pleasant place to live. Indeed, only one in ten – mostly tenants - find it an unpleasant place to live.

The perceived priorities of are clear from all methods.

The main priority is work to develop facilities and activities for young people of all ages. Peoples' stated preferences are for better equipped play parks (as opposed to a single park), community centre type facilities which have an emphasis upon work with young people (including but not exclusively a scout hut) and sports activities. The driving force behind this priority is partly fear of crime, but largely a sense that service provision lets young people down. We have no data on young people's health, but that on qualifications and first destinations suggests that secondary school pupils are in most need and are the group which the majority would prioritise for first actions.(See sections 7.4 and 7.10)

The second priority is a better bus service. 30% of people would find it hard to use public transport, 34% would have trouble getting to a job at Wath upon Dearne and 40% find it hard to get to sports and social facilities. The issues around the bus service are manifold – wrong routes, poor timekeeping, people passed at bus stops, slowness in getting to key centres such as Barnsley and bus frequency are specific issues referred to regularly.

The third key priority is improved policing. The issue here is not one of crime, but rather one of social nuisance and a number of geographically specific issues which have not been resolved over several years. Traffic and road safety also feature as community safety issues (see section 7.2).

Darfield Park features high on people's priorities for action, but is only the fifth priority for action on the open question in the survey and is not first on the issues emerging from the community events. The key issue here is whether or not any investment can be protected from vandalism.

Litter is the final issue which features strongly in the consultations and the community events. A large number of people clearly feel that more needs to be done in this area.

7.2 Crime and Community Safety

The key issue here is fear of crime, especially by women and incapacitated people at night. There appears to be an underlying issue of joining up various services to achieve results in several specific problem areas. For example, young people around Woodhall Flats, vandalism in Darfield Park and off road cycling on the central recreation ground. In each of these cases, there is an evident need for 'joined up' action between agencies.

The latest proposals for Local Partnership Teams include a 'tasking officer' whose job it will be to join services up at the level of individual 'hotspots'. There is a clear role for Darfield Community Association in acting as an information, and possibly prioritisation, conduit for this new team.

Fear of being broken into at home is a particular issue for residents north of Saltersbrook Road. Specific housing allocation policies and a lack of community activity appear to be developing a declining community. Some targeted action to build community cohesion in this part of Darfield is required.

During the day, fears are concentrated upon the village centre area. This is partly related to the congregation of young people and partly to road safety fears. Measures to improve the management of traffic flows through Snape Hill Road onto Doncaster Road are required.

7.3 Health

Darfield emerges from fieldwork as a relatively healthy place in Barnsley terms, despite the ward appearing in the worst 5% nationally on the Index of Multiple Deprivation. Life expectancy is over the national average for women and similar to the national average for men. Teenage conceptions remain high, but are slightly less than Barnsley. However, smoking is higher than for Barnsley as a whole (32% as against 29.5%) and only one in three people exercise sufficiently. Limiting long term illness and disability are relatively high, causing a high rate of people acting as carers.

The health services are a clear source of dissatisfaction for the residents. The new health centre will solve the majority of these issues provided that more treatment rooms and staff are to be provided. However, waiting times for hospital appointments and the facilities for / treatment of patients at the hospital will remain a source of dissatisfaction.

We asked about people's perceptions of well being. About one in five people can be said to show significant risk factors for mental health problems. This data should be seen in the light of previous research which found Darfield residents to have higher levels of anxiety and depression than other coalfield communities.

In considering the health data, there is a need for further work to benchmark the statistics against the Social Capital Survey and the Barnsley Voice data. However, there is clearly evidence that women and tenants are the groups most at risk of ill health. However, unemployed people and younger people also smoke more than other groups.

The Healthy Living Centre workers will be a key resource for developing services with young people in particular. Our survey and other data would suggest that the main drugs issues are around alcohol and smoking, with sexual health, diet and sedentary lifestyles also an issue. It is worth noting that specific health factors such as breast feeding and dental health which can be identified by general practitioners will also need attention.

The limited amount of information we have received on illegal substances suggests localised problems. Whilst it is right to target young people given

their relative openness to lifestyle change, there appear to be particular gaps in the supply of health promotion to women and tenants.

7.4 Family Support For Families With Dependent Children

We asked a number of survey questions relating to family support for families with dependent children. These are intended to inform a strategic, multi-agency pilot for realigning family support services.

The data shows that the main outstanding needs are better facilities for parents and children, increased support with parenting skills and time away from children. Parents made several suggestions for self help groups and better access to advice and information. Parenting classes appear to be a minority, or at best second tier, demand in this context.

A theme running through the study is the need for greater pre school provision. Self help groups such as playgroups and mother and toddler groups are clearly requested to deliver this agenda. Moves towards neighbourhood nurseries and children's centres need to build upon residents' preferences for informal support. These new initiatives should recognise the validity of pre-five provision which extends beyond education value.

Our consultations leave us concerned that the family support and education agendas may join up in a way that leaves the majority of parents without the 'bread and butter' informal and ongoing support which they could receive through self help activity. Demand data demonstrates that this support should be built into core service provision rather than being subject to the vagaries of decisions on external grant aid.

Finally, it is worth noting that many respondents to the survey answered that they would use family support, even though they have no children. Whilst these have been filtered out of the data, it does suggest that the term 'family support' is open to misunderstanding. The responses also suggest that there is a need for further work to assess whether support provision for elders and people with disabilities is adequate.

7.5 Housing

There are two housing issues developing in Darfield. The most significant of these is poor repairs service from Berneslai homes. The second is concern that people moving into rented accommodation in the village may be a source of nuisance problems.

The first issue is anticipated to be dealt with through the Housing Impact Team. The second issue requires action through a combination of targeted family support which picks up new residents and neighbourhood management via the Local Partnership Team.

7.6 Education

Education, or more specifically qualifications, emerged as a major issue in the statistics, but one which barely registered as a priority in our consultations with agencies and residents. Table 7.1 shows that educational attainment is consistently lower at all levels when compared to Barnsley and England.

Table 7.1: Education Issues

| Achievement By Geography | 5 GCSEs A*-C % | 16 Yr Olds To College % | Holds NVQ 4+ 16-74 % | Holds NVQ3+ 16-74 % | Holds NVQ2+ 16-74 % |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Darfield | 32 | 60 | 11 | 17 | 36 |
| Barnsley | 36 | 62 | 12 | 18 | 36 |
| England | 52 | 72 | 21 | 30 | 51 |

Qualifications emerge as an important issue in Darfield. Darfield people without qualifications have a household income only 63% of those with an NVQ2 or equivalent (e.g. 5 O Levels) equivalent. This amounts to £445,000 over a working life. Qualifications can equally be seen to have an impact on people's likelihood of employment, the sustainability of their employment and their contribution to wealth creation in the economy.

Tenants, women, and surprisingly, young people are the least qualified.

Participation in study and training is less than the Barnsley average as shown in the last skills survey in 1999 (16% against 18%). This low participation should be seen against the need for people to travel outside of Darfield, where there were only three courses programmed for the summer term. However, current interest in undertaking a course is much higher than for Barnsley (28% against 18%). One in four said they would use better adult education facilities in Darfield.

Interest in basic skills courses is centred on ICT skills, with very little interest in other basic skills. However, people also wish to undertake a wide variety of higher level and vocational courses in other subjects.

The proposed City Learning Centre can be expected to address some of these issues. The WEA project can be expected to drive up demand for basic skills. However, these projects are unlikely to fulfil the great majority of latent demand for higher level and vocational learning. In addition to the greater provision of introductory courses being promoted by the WEA, better careers guidance and advice is required in the local area, together with better marketing of the available courses.

Even these measures are unlikely to bring school age educational achievement up to the national benchmark. The proposals for youth facilities and activities, children's centres and play areas may have some impact. However, the school needs to reach out to the community at large if the benefits of these other actions are to be maximised.

7.7 Employability

Ward level unemployment rates are notoriously difficult to make with any accuracy. However, Darfield appears to exhibit a higher per capita claimant count than that for Barnsley as a whole with 187 claimants in February 2003 and 161 in June 2003. Official statistics for the ward show that 40% of the unemployed were under 25 and 24% were long term unemployed as at June 2003.

However, official statistics also show that Job Seekers Allowance claimants only account for about one in five of the people who are 'work deprived'. From

our survey, the vast majority of work deprived people have not worked for more than two years.

We estimate that one in fourteen adult Darfield residents would need to enter the labour market before rates for economic activity – that is working, studying or actively looking for work - reach national levels. Women are less active than men and tenants are also far less active than owner occupiers.

One result of low economic activity rates is a high benefit dependency. Therefore, a welfare rights worker dedicated to increasing benefit take-up is worthy of further investigation. Anecdotal evidence from Sunderland suggests that such a worker can also increase activity rates if specifically deployed to advise on 'in work' benefits.

Darfield has a structure of occupation which compares relatively well with that for Barnsley. For example, only 14% are in elemental occupations compared to 16% for Barnsley. However, compared to the national picture it falls behind in higher level occupations.

- In Darfield, 17% of workers are employed as managers or professionals – compared to 26% nationally.
- In Darfield, 10% are in Associate professional or technical occupations – compared to 14% nationally.
- In Darfield – 19% work in manufacturing compared to 15% nationally.

The evidence suggests that low participation in the labour market and high unemployment are a product of the jobs on offer and educational achievement. At a Darfield level, we can see the correlation between low qualifications and low pay. For example, we estimate average weekly earning for men in Darfield to be £383 compared to £406 for Barnsley and £497 for England.

For those not in work – who are more likely to be tenants and/or women – getting back into a sustainable job will be difficult. Out of work interviewees are far more likely not to have qualifications, to have had an elemental occupation as their last paid job and to have been employed in a declining industry. The labour market has left them behind.

To some extent, these issues can be tackled by getting people back into good jobs. However, their labour market history is such that they will remain especially at risk of a return to worklessness. Equally, for those who describe themselves as too ill to work, they will never be able to return to an 'entry level' job in the labour market.

Addressing the issues of qualifications and long term worklessness is key to sustaining the future of Darfield as a viable community. Despite this, the issue was barely mentioned by consultees. Further, those consultees in employment development agencies recognised no specific issues for the Darfield population. Clearly, these perceptions require changing to reflect the very real employability issues for a significant proportion of Darfield residents.

7.8 Environment

The environmental agenda in Darfield is dominated by five specific issues:

- Safe play and recreational spaces (for children in particular);
- Litter and general grubbiness around the town centre in particular;
- Darfield Park;
- Sporting facilities;
- Footpath safety.

In terms of play and recreational space, the main areas for favoured development include:

- Longbow playing fields;
- Darfield Park;
- Recreational ground from Verona Rise to Ferrara Close;
- Balkley Lane recreation area;
- Doveside recreation area.

People wish to see better play equipment for all ages, footpath improvements, access denied to off road vehicles and a variety of 'leisure landscaping' such as skate parks, more sports fields and quad cycle tracks. Current defined use is largely restricted to walking, football and outmoded play equipment.

The land is available in most areas, the issue is developing a range of sustainable uses, finding funding and encouraging participation. A clear need emerges for an open space and recreation strategy which encompasses best practice. Example additional uses may include health walks, specific jogging tracks, skate parks and multi-sports areas to name a few examples. Such a strategy should also seek to sort out access for people with disabilities and eliminate conflicts between dogs and other users. A more radical solution may also seek to establish a "Residents Service Organisation" to take over maintenance from the Council.

From our consultations, we surmise that, with the exception of Darfield Park, improvement to these facilities is off the agenda of all organisations except for a few community groups.

Litter is an issue which features strongly in the consultations and the community events. A large number of people clearly feel that more needs to be done in this area. Consultees have seen improvements through Neighbourhood Pride but want more action. A suggested remedial action is the provision of more litter bins. However, several consultees believe that the Foulstone school in particular should address this issue through citizenship work with pupils. Both suggestions appear to have some merit, but are unlikely to completely resolve the problem.

Other issues around the town centre are lack of parking which causes problems for pedestrians and the lack of repair to private premises, pavements and public areas. The need for more empathetic development was mentioned by one consultee. Currently, we can see little hope of funding being made available to tackle these issues.

Darfield Park features high on people's priorities for action, being the top priority among the projects specifically suggested to residents. However, it is only the fifth priority for action on the open question in the survey and is not first on the issues emerging from the community events. An important issue is whether or not any investment can be protected from vandalism. Several people suggested that the park be moved to the Longbow fields in order to provide better security and greater scope for development.

Realistically, the current park is unlikely to meet all of the demands expressed and many supporters of investment in the park will be disappointed. The proposed open space and recreation strategy will therefore need to ensure that the varied requirements of different groups are met across the village.

The park itself will continue to be in a vulnerable location and all but the most low maintenance solutions are unlikely to be sustainable. (An exception to this is facilities that the Foulstone School agree to maintain.) Therefore, the more vulnerable equipment and facilities should be placed elsewhere.

There is a wide ranging demand for more leisure facilities. However, no one solution has the widespread support which would justify large capital investment beyond that proposed at the Foulstone School. As one interviewee commented, the issue is marketing the school's facilities to the community at large. Within this context, management of a community sports hall and all weather pitch could increase utilisation by ensuring that a gym is included and that some sessions in the facilities are designated all women. The viability of these facilities as a community enterprise or a schools run enterprise will be increased through the "exercise on prescription" scheme which will be a central plank of the Barnsley wide "Fit for the Future" strategy.

Requests for footpath improvements are concentrated around the recreation ground, except for the regular calls to improve Pinfold Lane and Houghton Lane.

7.9 Elderly and Well Being

The key issues drawn from the survey in respect of elderly people are around fear of crime, and, in this context, they apply particularly to women.

In addition, identified service difficulties around low income, health and public transport will impact unevenly upon this age group. Equally, poor access to welfare benefits will adversely affect this group who are, by and large, benefit recipients. Otherwise, current services appear to be largely adequate to meet the needs of elderly people.

The questionnaire did not, however, enquire about home maintenance and there may be scope for further work specifically with elders in order to validate proposals for 'handyperson' type projects. This type of project may also help to address the fear of crime among this group and the incapacitated.

Elders fear crime may indicate isolation and low self esteem. Addressing these issues head on could include the provision of luncheon clubs and social groups at several venues around Darfield, together with activities to bring children and old people into contact with each other. An ILM for young people to provide a 'handyperson' service may also be worthy of consideration.

7.10 Young People

The main priority for residents is work to develop facilities and activities for young people of all ages. Peoples' stated preferences are for better equipped play parks (as opposed to a single park), community centre type facilities which have an emphasis upon work with young people (including but not exclusively a scout hut) and sports activities. The driving force is partly fear of crime, but largely a sense that service provision lets young people down. We have no data on young people's health, but that on qualifications and first destinations suggests that secondary school pupils are in most need and are the group which the majority would prioritise for first actions.

The main stated priorities of agencies revolve around decreasing teenage conceptions and increasing school age achievement. It is therefore difficult to see where further long term public sector investment in youth activities will come from to supplement the team of two (currently vacant) detached youth work posts and a youth centre. This young people's activities agenda is therefore one which the community will itself need to drive forward. The sports development worker, in concert with better facilities (including the multi-sports area), would be a clear step forward.

There is scope to increase the positive content of existing and new work with young people. Additional training for volunteers, an equipment bank and mentoring by the youth service would all be relatively easy targets to achieve. However, many existing opportunities are not capitalised upon for young people. Therefore, there is a need for some kind of focus for these actions if they are to be successful. Further support for the youth council should already be available.

Reducing teenage pregnancy is largely being delivered through the existing work of agencies. Improvements to the health services, the family support strategy and children's centres should all have a major impact on this area of work.

An area of work with young people which requires significant action is that of youth unemployment. Over the past three years, young people aged 17-24 years have consistently made up 35-40% of the unemployed people in the ward. This would appear to confirm the effects of information regarding poor educational achievement. This does not, however, feature as an issue for interviewees or consultees.

We were unable to secure interviews with the Foulstone School. We are therefore unable to report further on how community activities can be integrated into school work in order to increase attainment.

7.11 Validity of the Pioneer Area

The selection of the Pioneer area has largely been validated by the survey results. On almost every indicator, Pioneer area residents are more deprived than other residents of Darfield.

However, the geography appears to be of less consequence than tenancy across Darfield. To give some specific examples:

- 27% of working age Pioneer residents have no qualifications compared to 42% of working age tenants;
- The score for Pioneer residents who have felt calm and peaceful over the last month is higher, at 3.84, than that for the tenants at 3.70.

The targeting methodology for revenue support in Darfield may, therefore, be in need of change so that it follows tenure rather than a specific geographical area.

7.12 Darfield Community Association Project Proposals

A number of projects proposed by the Darfield Community Association (DCA) are clearly going to meet the above priorities in part at least. In terms of the first priority of the community, providing facilities for young people, a combination of the following will undoubtedly have some impact:

- The all weather pitch;
- Kickwalls;
- Sports development worker.

Improvements to the park have clearly got the favour of the Darfield population - as described earlier in section 7.8.

The market for a playgroup appears to be confirmed, with 57% of the relevant group of parents prioritising and saying they would use this service.

The market for a skills exchange service also appears solid – with the equivalent of 706 households interested in the service. However, there may be a problem when people are asked to give their services or state their skills.

The equivalent of 330 households said they would make use of the Veggiebox proposal.

The numbers of households saying they would use the fishing lake and credit union aggregate up to 242 and 223 respectively. Given the struggling start made by the Little Dearne Credit Union, publicity will be a key issue for all initiatives.

Road closures in Darfield centre do not appear to be a major priority for the community.

7.13 Community Facilities

Currently, community buildings, in the generally accepted sense of accessible space for all groups of the community, do not exist in Darfield. This statement is not intended to belittle the very real benefits wrought by managers of church, museum and Council buildings. Rather, it is to highlight the stark facts.

The six buildings which see community use are, with the exception of Low Valley chapel, all located in the centre of a sprawling village, and do not serve two of the communities in most need – Rose Avenue / Tempest Avenue and Millhouses. Evidence from events and the survey suggests that people in

these two neighbourhoods and in Low Valley see themselves as isolated from Darfield for social purposes.

The proposals for a new scout hut and conversion of the Old People's Centre appear to be *ad hoc* and opportunistic responses to specific current issues rather than an attempt to find the best response to the needs of all Darfield's residents. In particular, it is difficult to see how a new scout hut serves the housing north of Saltersbrook Road in a better manner than the Old People's Centre. Equally, the current and future use of Centre 17 appears to be governed by the Borough wide concerns of the Youth Service rather than an appreciation of its possibilities as a true community facility for the village centre.

Given the new community development workers and strategies aimed at developing community activity, it appears that a properly planned community buildings strategy is urgently needed if resources are not to be wasted and the opportunities for more local service delivery realised.

7.14 Summary and Next Steps

For the people of Darfield, perceived priorities are clearly focused upon:

- Facilities and activities for young people.
- A better bus service.
- Improved policing.
- Darfield park.
- Litter and village centre environment.

However, these are not high priority issues for agency mainstream expenditure. Equally, there are clear issues for mainstream agencies to tackle in Darfield which are already high on the Borough wide agenda for Barnsley, but not necessarily in a manner which allows Darfield to benefit. Specifically:

- Young people, alcohol, teenage pregnancy and youth unemployment.
- Self help and informal family support provision.
- Improved housing repairs management.
- School and adult education.
- Long term worklessness and access to employment.

Another issue to arise from the audit is the unevenness of resource benefit within Darfield. There are clear issues of deprivation for women and tenants in particular.

The Community Audit was commissioned as a precursor to the community developing an action plan for Darfield village. In order to achieve this, the community requires the full engagement of the agencies. Agencies need to be clearer in communication with the community about their plans for the area and there is a clear need for more community involvement at project design and development stages.

Equally, agencies need to reflect on the findings of the study and work with the community to provide appropriate responses to the issues raised. We suggest that a starting point for 'joined up' working should be a workshop with

key managers to agree appropriate action and divide responsibility according to the strengths and authorities of each partner.

Finally, this report is not an action plan for the Darfield Community Association. However, taking the above factors into account, the Darfield Community Association may wish to consider the following areas of work (in no particular order of priority) for its new agenda:

- A strategy for community buildings, including investigation of the opening of community houses as new service foci in the Millhouses and Rose Avenue / Tempest Avenue areas.
- Development of health self help groups and outreach provision in relation to families with children, women, tenants and young people.
- Supporting and promoting additional provision for young people in relation to sports and leisure provision – including an extension of the sports development worker post.
- Acting as a focus for lobbying on bus services.
- Becoming a significant partner of the Local Partnership Teams in order to identify and resolve nuisance ‘hot spots’.
- Encouraging the development of support groups and mentoring for families with dependent children.
- An “Open Space and Recreation Strategy” as a first step towards improving community facilities and recreational space for a wide range of uses.
- Prioritising educational attainment, through specific initiatives that build on the work of the schools and WEA, for example, an ILM, learning mentors for adults, bursaries and educational after school clubs. (The ‘net wars’ project falls within the latter category.)
- Working with the Foulstone School to create employment and open up the school sports and learning facilities for community use.
- Attracting employment support agencies to advertise and provide outreach services within the village.
- A welfare rights development worker.
- A ‘Millennium Volunteers’ style programme to act as a focus for meeting the self-expressed needs of young people.
- Providing advice and social support for carers – especially elderly carers.
- Development of lunch clubs and coffee mornings for elders at all community venues.
- Development of ‘inter-generational’ projects, using school contacts and the South Yorkshire Police Lifestyle programme as catalysts.

APPENDIX 1: INTERVIEWEES

Interviews held in depth with stakeholders:

| | |
|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Mike Andrew | Barnsley MBC Area Forum Officer |
| Cllr Gillian Bates | Barnsley Council |
| Amanda Bradshaw | Workers' Educational Association |
| Wayne Blake | Barnsley Development Agency |
| Steve Bray | South Yorkshire Police |
| Alison Brown | Job Centre Plus |
| Cllr Terry Dixon | Barnsley Council |
| Cllr Ron Fisher | Barnsley Council |
| Ian Harris | Job Centre Plus |
| Isobel Harris | Barnsley MBC Community Education |
| Mark McGee & Yolla Walker | Berneslai Homes |
| Cathy Read & Hilary Mosley | Barnsley Primary Care Trust |
| Mick Tinch | Barnsley MBC Social Services |
| Paul Brannan | Barnsley MBC Neighbourhood Safety Unit |

Informal Interviews held with people involved in local delivery:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------|
| Kath Whelan | Berneslai Homes |
| Health Visitors | Darfield Surgery |
| Receptionist | Darfield Surgery |
| Learning Mentor | Centre 17 |
| Team Leader | Wombwell Action Team for Jobs |

Video Interviews held with people involved in local service delivery and residents:

| | |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| George Needham | Darfield Community Association |
| Carmen Hancock | Business/Darfield Against Crime |
| Lesley Booth | Centre 17 Mother and Toddlers |
| PC Steve Bray | South Yorkshire Police |
| Mick Empsall | Darfield Scouts |
| Glenda Shephard | Darfield Community Association |
| Keith Bird | Longbow FC |
| Ian Haigh | Resident |
| Geoffrey Shone | Elderly resident |
| Mrs Mantefield | BMBC Librarian |
| Carol Hunter | Church |
| John Ranford | Resident |
| Thomas Steer | Young person |
| Brad Cutler | Young person |
| Lewis Sharman | Young person |
| Brett Allen | Youth Council |
| Rebecca & Natalie Dalby | Young people |
| Emma, Jessica & Laura Tilson | Young people |
| Pamela Long | Resident |
| Trevor Stevenson | Resident |
| Ian MacMillan | Resident |
| Anna Curry | Drop Hotel/Business Federation |

APPENDIX 2: RESPONSES FROM COMMUNITY EVENTS

We undertook two consultation events with the community at existing community events. These were the Darfield Gala and the Garden party.

At each event, we had a number of displays which were designed to elicit residents' suggestions for priority actions in Darfield. Some of these displays were issue based (e.g. policing) whilst others were geographically based.

A2.1 Issue Based Responses

The community events included issue boards which asked people for their responses around crime, drugs, young people, community facilities, transport, parks and environment. Those that came out as short comments included:

Young People

- More things for kids to do x 4;
- More / better equipped parks / play areas for kids x 20;
- A playground for children and something for youth;
- A decent park for age 3+;
- Park and play area for kids at Illsley Street;
- Farms with animals to look at x2;
- A good park for children like the one at Broomhill;
- Youth club for all ages / more youth clubs x 3;
- Have a disco once a week in Darfield / discos x 2;
- Keep kids / teenagers busy x 2;
- Don't play 'knock a door run';
- Stop swings being wrapped over the crossbar in the park / play area x 2;
- Don't lose scout group – find them land NOW!
- Decent mother and toddler group in decent premises with nice toys;
- Playgroup;
- Daycare facilities;
- New scout hut / HQ x 10;
- Skatepark;
- Farm to visit with shops, horses, sheep and lambs;
- More football fields;
- Lack of parental control over kids;
- Have village and self pride as part of school activities;
- Leisure swimming pool;
- Sandpit in a field;
- One of these multi sport play areas;
- A crèche for little children to spend a day in;
- Something for teenagers e.g. dancing club;
- More activities for young people;
- A supervised theme park;
- Secure, outdoor basketball court;
- Pre school childcare activities at an affordable cost;
- Somewhere for my sister;
- Better places for kids;
- Good quality, OFSTED registered childcare & breakfast clubs & after school clubs;
- Another nursery or crèche;

- Play areas;
- Crazy golf;
- Football;
- Basketball;
- Tennis court;
- Our children are important – lets show them by providing some decent facilities for them;
- Community centre used for children of junior age for after school disco and other activities;
- Football and skate park for older children.

Crime

- Don't break into people's property;
- Ban drugs / Get rid of the drugs to make it a safer place x 9;
- Make parents accountable for children's actions;
- More info for school kids on drugs;
- Punish people severely who take drugs;
- Keep kids;
- Park keepers;
- No graffiti x 3;
- Don't feel safe walking through park;
- More police on street / foot x 10;
- More police / warden patrols as a visual deterrent;
- Community warden;
- Get the motorbikes off the fields;
- Better safety and security for people in sheltered housing (and less nuisance from youngsters);
- More community police x 3;
- A community policeman based in Darfield;
- More to stop vandalism;
- Dog patrol;
- More police cameras on watch x 2;
- Actively enforce the law;
- Police giving talks in school;
- Stop burglaries;
- Speed humps on Doveside estate;
- Stop gangs bothering old people by sitting on walls;
- More speed bumps.

Environment

- Somebody clean up the litter / no more litter in the streets x 15;
- More litter bins x 16;
- More dog dropping bins x 2;
- Fine dog fouling;
- Bin collection creating litter;
- More flowers;
- More street seats x 5;
- Cleaner parks;
- Keep things tidy;
- Cleaner village;
- Footpaths need attention from nursing home down;
- Public toilets;

- An end to fly tipping;
- Council to clean up branches when they trim bushes – very difficult for prams, wheelchairs and walkers when twigs and branches are all over;
- Ponds with ducks and frogs x 3;
- Removing grass cuttings after Council cut;
- Edges and verges on main Doncaster road into Ardsley keeping trimmed and tidy;
- Track down and shame those that dump rubbish;
- Flowers and birds;
- Stop dogs fouling paths and/or kids parks x 5;
- Have more respect for people and places;
- Sweep pavements more at Millhouses;
- Flowery banks off the river Dearne;
- More animals and wildlife.

Transport

- More reliable buses x 2;
- They run unreliably;
- More bus routes;
- Missing service times through Billingley;
- To Rotherham area and Doncaster area;
- Buses to stop at a bus stop x 2;
- More bus services Darfield to Great Houghton;
- More frequent bus services x 2;
- Not enough buses and unreliable. They go all round Kendray which has a good service anyway;
- Better bus routes – Edderthorpe Lane end;
- Better bus routes;
- More parking;
- Better bus services;
- More bus stops so old people don't have to walk so far;
- Traffic slowed down to 30mph from Bellbrooke Avenue through to Millhouses on main road through Darfield;
- Stop traffic;
- A bus for old people – it needs to stop for old people;
- Buses need to come on time.

Local advice required

- On benefits x 4;
- On health x 4;
- On education x 4;
- On housing x 2;
- On jobs;
- On training.

Other services

- Another post office at other end of the village;
- Issues raised need sorting – being passed back between Highways and Area Forum;
- No reply to written enquiry to Area Forum;
- Some nicer places to eat instead of chippy's and take aways;

- Community centre offering courses, training, childcare, café facilities etc like the ones all 'rundown' areas get e.g. Kendray, Athersley, Grimethorpe.
- Newsletter to publicise things happening in the community e.g. this.

A2.2 Geographically Based Responses

The community event also included a large map onto which people were invited to make specific suggestions. The results are shown below. For the sake of clarity, we have also shown the issue based responses where they relate to a specific locality:

Darfield Village Centre

- Too much litter from schoolchildren;
- Review traffic system in School St, Church St – One way system on top of Snape Hill / Barnsley Road between hardware store and chemists;
- All fast food shops to have their names on bags so we know whose litter it is;
- Steep hill off Cross Keys is a blind corner, please put a mirror up so drivers can see around it;
- There is a lack of parking facilities (near post office);
- Car park near the shops and doctor's surgery;
- A pelican crossing opposite Darfield post office;
- Swimming pool.

Park

- Better park x 8;
- Better park to suit all ages;
- More and better equipment x 3;
- Move to a better, more open area;
- More seating areas in the park x 2;
- Clear the glass from the park;
- Make it a pleasure to visit the park with the children;
- Park ranger / attendants x 5;
- People to be employed as park keepers and litter attendants to keep parks and public areas clean and respectable, and THEN to have proper park facilities for children and young people.
- Café in park with live in person;
- Tidy park up;
- Rebuild or re-instate the tennis courts x 3;
- Use Clifton park at Rotherham to benchmark ideas;
- Garden area for elderly people to sit and talk;
- The park is too small;
- Crazy golf, tennis courts, basketball;
- Water feature with benches;
- Skate park like the one in Mexborough;
- Toilets;
- Get the park fixed – we pay rates – where's the money going – why spoil a lovely village;
- Football pitch marked out and with nets.

Longbow Playing Fields

- Toilets on playing field. We support football and have come from away
- New scout hut x 7;
- We could have another / a new park here x 4;
- Parks, pond, ducks, resting place;
- Skate park x 2 ;
- Indoor sports centre;
- Toilets;
- Ideal for a park, skateboard and cycling tracks;
- Play area x 2.

Upperwood School

- Sand pit;
- Swimming pool;
- Nursery school.

Field Behind Upperwood School

- Better lighting. Fallen trees to be cleared;
- Pathway made safe from fallen trees;
- Close footpaths – burglars paradise (Ferrara Crescent);
- Dog walk and picnic area;
- Children's play park near top of Milano Rise;
- Streetlighting for paths;
- Block field off at bottom of Inkerman Road to stop off road bikers;
- Parks at top of Inkerman Road;
- Stop cars, horses, off roaders and quad bikes using recreation ground x 3;
- Provide kickwall and outdoor basketball posts off top of Verona rise;
- Stop rubbish tipping (top of Verona rise);
- Resurface footpath from Milano Rise to Barnsley road;
- Install vandal proof floodlighting;
- Repair footpaths
- Tackle dog muck.

Nanny Marr Road

- Play area for small children by Foulstone school;
- Enclosed play area for children under school age on corner of Foulstone school on Nanny Marr Road;
- Seats on corner of East Street.

Illsley Road Recreation Ground

- Farm with animals;
- Speed ramps.

Darhaven Area

- Something for kids 8-15 years.

Clarney Avenue

- No playing football in this street.

Schofield Road

- Park with swings.

Ridgeway Avenue

- Bigger playing area.

Upperwood Road near Roundwood Way

- Replace temporary bollards with permanent ones.

Little Houghton Lane

- Stop dogs fouling;
- Clean rubbish up.

Balkley Lane Recreation area

- Adventure play ground;
- Better playground;
- A theme park with more seating;
- New park x 2;
- Dog bins on path that continues Balkley Lane;
- Quad cycle track on the old railway line;
- Adventure playground in disused quarry.

Edderthorpe Lane

- More buses.

Green Area rear of Bellbrooke Avenue

- A playground;
- Nice park not just 4 swings;
- Improve this park and stop people climbing into the farmer's field.

Green Area rear of Doveside Drive

- More parks;
- Move football fields;
- Motor bike track.

Green Areas off Pinfold Lane

- Bigger playing field near school x 2;
- Deliver play equipment on recreation ground at Churchfields.

Pinfold Lane

- More streetlighting.

Doncaster Road / Cat Hill

- Stop HGVs;
- Permit parking on Howard Street;
- Speed ramps on Howard Street;
- Speed cameras near bridge.

Millhouses

- Enforce speed restrictions / slow down the traffic at Millhouses x 2;
- Fishing lake;
- Playground on Bridge Ings.
- New bus stop.

Low Valley School Field

- Sand pit;

- Playground.

A2.3 On The Day Questionnaire Responses

People were given the opportunity to complete a questionnaire on the proposed projects. We received 14 responses.

We asked “what do you think is the most important thing that needs doing in Darfield?” Responses included:

- Policing;
- More police on the beat;
- A community centre;
- Park x 3;
- More to do for young people;
- Drama group;
- Anything that promotes the family;
- Speed cameras on main road;
- Things for children (specifics included above);
- Safe children’s play areas;
- Traffic control;
- Cleanliness / tidiness/ grass cutting on verges;
- More things for kids 11-16 to do;
- Something for young kids.

We then asked them whether they agreed or disagreed with a number of projects ideas, with the results shown in table A2.1. As may be seen, all of the ideas get general support, although that for kickwalls, the fishing lake, veggiebox, credit union and road closures is least well defined.

Table A2.1: Response to Project Ideas

| Project idea | Agree Nos | Disagree Nos |
|---------------------------------------------------|------------------|---------------------|
| Sports development worker | 11 | |
| Pre school playgroup | 11 | 1 |
| Better fishing facilities | 9 | 3 |
| Road closures in Darfield centre | 7 | 2 |
| Credit union | 8 | 2 |
| All weather sports pitch | 11 | |
| More local advice and information | 12 | |
| Better adult learning facilities | 12 | 1 |
| A new multi purpose community centre | 13 | |
| Kick wall facilities for children | 6 | 2 |
| Improvements to Darfield park | 13 | |
| Skills exchange project | 11 | |
| Veggie box delivery service | 7 | 1 |
| Better family support services | 13 | |
| Somewhere for parents and children to go together | 13 | |

We next asked respondents to prioritise ten different types of issues that need to be addressed in Darfield. Table A2.2 shows the numbers of people that placed each issue in their ‘top three’ or ‘bottom three’ priorities. As may be seen, crime and nuisance, leisure facilities for young people and the bus service improvements came out as the most often prioritised, whilst adult

education, sports facilities and more local jobs came out as the lowest priorities.

Table A2.2: Prioritisation of Issues

| Issue | Times in 'Top Three' Nos | Time in 'Bottom Three' Nos |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| More leisure facilities for young people | 6 | 1 |
| Local courses for adults | 1 | 8 |
| Better public transport | 6 | 3 |
| Action on crime and nuisance | 10 | |
| Help for people to find work | 3 | 3 |
| More community interaction and events / better community spirit | 3 | 2 |
| More sports facilities | 1 | 1 |
| Environmental improvements | 3 | 4 |
| More local jobs | | 3 |
| More or better childcare | 3 | 5 |

We also asked whether people had other priorities we had not included. One person mentioned tidiness, litter, dog fouling and cleanliness. They wish to see better school dinner facilities. A second person wishes to have an accessible local community centre in the Rose Avenue / Bellbrooke Avenue area.

We then asked what activities should be provided from community centres in Darfield, with the following responses:

- Promotion of family values;
- Drama group;
- Parents and toddler group x 2;
- Pre school activities;
- Indoor games and bingo;
- Scouts;
- More for young people;
- Adult art / craft classes x 2;
- Spring fayres, jumble sales, coffee mornings;
- Sport;
- Courses;
- Legal entitlements advice;
- Meeting group for adults and children;
- Day trips.

APPENDIX 3: FULL LIST OF QUESTIONNAIRE IDEAS FOR DARFIELD ACTION

The questionnaire asked people to identify "What do you think needs to be changed in Darfield. The list below records the responses as written down by the interviewers.

Another youth centre for 12-16 year olds.
Park overgrown around bowling green
Community centre
More buses, early morning to Wombwell
More browsing shops
Locally based community policing
More sports facilities
More for kids
Bring more health services into the new health centre
Decent play area, somewhere to take children
None
More community policing - especially near where old people live
More social facilities for teenagers and toilet facilities for ladies
A well supervised youth centre
Somewhere for young people to use motorbikes
Community policeman
Buses a problem
Good bus service needed. Difficult to get to facilities outside of Darfield
Somewhere decent for kids e.g. Broomhill Park
Short of nurseries
Better banking facilities
More services for kids at Centre 17
Dog warden needs to visit fields more regularly
Play areas for kids e.g. carting
Pre school care facilities - more play groups
Bus service is inadequate for all residents
Nicer pubs and restaurants
Speed cameras on Snape Hill
Address drug abuse/burglars
Efforts to slow down traffic near the post office
Drains cleaning more often
Police to be seen walking.
Neighbourhood watch
Road ramps
Some things for kids - parks and sports for all ages
Play areas without having to cross unsafe roads
More for teenagers up to 18
A place to go and congregate
Local childcare
Not enough activities for under 5s
Things for children of all ages
Pre school playgroups and facilities
Activities to take children off the streets
None
Better park for kids
Somewhere for kids to go
Easier access to police -free phone number
Facilities for children-mostly younger end
Better bus to Morrisons

Better bus services
A post office this end
Better policing
Facilities for teenagers
Something for the kids to do to keep them out of trouble.
More kids play areas
Youth movement for kids
Nothing
More for teenagers
Better bus services
Parks - stop druggies using it.
Local sports facilities for children and youths
Youth clubs and facilities for youngsters to keep them out of mischief
Childcare
More safe facilities for children and more encouragement for them to go.
More things for children - all ages
Reposition seats in past locations at Nanny Marr Rd, School St, bottom East St and front of school.
More for elderly - not just teas
Street cleaning
CCTV
More for kids to do
Paring for hairdressers at top of Snape Hill
Youth clubs for all school ages -mentioned scout hut lost.
Better policing in all Darfield
Better facilities for children
See more police 24 hours a day
Community policing
New park
Somewhere for children to play
Activities for family and children
Need leisure centre - facilities for all age groups
Young people's centres open at night.
Pooper scooper bins
Clean up streets
Playground for youth
Improve law and order
Swimming pool
Not enough for young people
Park for youngsters, similar to Broomhill
Park needs doing up
Things for children of all ages to do
Recycling locally - collected from the doorstep for people unable to go to bins.
More play areas for kids
Something for young people
More for kids to keep them off the street and away from the elderly
Support for old people re new pension books
Need better council tradesmen.
More parks and things for children to do
Swimming baths
Bus services
Swimming pool and recreation centre
More buses
Change to cemetery from Edderthorpe Lane
Youth club and other things got children to go and do - all ages

More places for people with disabilities - pavement ramps for scooters
More police on beat
More police walking around
Lot more play areas for children of all ages
Provision of parking bays on Barnsley Road
Better policing
More buses - number and routes
Things to keep children off the street where they are safe
Something for kids of all ages to do - e.g. sport wall, skate boarding park
Better bus service - don't keep changing routes
More for teenagers
Better access to doctors and dentists
More activities to keep kids off streets and away from drugs
Better supermarket
All okay here
More sports facilities - tennis
Improve doctors
Community centre
Better policing
Litter a problem from school children
More policing of school children in morning and lunchtimes
After school clubs
Need to build a new park in an open area.
More nurseries
Better park
Someone other than doctor to talk to about health issues.
Somewhere for teenagers e.g. youth club, community centre
Stop children dropping litter
Not enough for kids
More for kids - youth clubs, after school clubs
Improve bus service
More for kids - especially park
Playgroup for pre school kids
More for elderly
Supermarket
Proper place for scouts to hold meetings etc
Improve park
Somewhere for youngsters to go
More activities for children and teenagers
New clinic
Something for young people
Better children's facilities in park
Park needs re-doing
Nothing
Park
Replace tennis courts in park
Community policing - especially of drugs problem
More for 12-15 year olds
Restore park
Bank
More for kids
More for kids
Stop traffic going so fast
Better bus service

Facilities for teenagers but used efficiently
Main one facilities for youngsters e.g. skateboard park
Not enough community policing
More facilities for young people
Sports facilities
Bus route could be improved
Activities for young people
Street signs sorted
Park needed
Hall for 10-18 year olds
Community policeman based at Darfield
Lower speed limit on Doncaster Rd
Emergency red card at doctors not available on occasions
parks
More play areas for younger people
Better policing
More frequent buses to Barnsley and Wombwell
Park needs improving
Bus service (running on time) between Wombwell Stn and Upperwood Rd connecting with train times.
School holiday activities for children
Better bus service
Better bus service
Children's playgrounds
Advertise local facilities e.g. church hall badminton better
Restaurants
Premises provided for scouts
Playground s and park for u-13s
More facilities for teenagers youth clubs, sports etc
Facilities for teenagers to prevent them hanging around on street corners in gangs
Not enough for teenagers to do
Facilities for children - especially teenagers
Somewhere to stop children vandalising (more)
Buses from Darfield to Wath for schoolchildren
Some activities for teenagers – e.g. youth club, community hall, skatepark
Some facilities to keep 16-18 year olds off streets
Swimming baths
Better play facilities for children e.g. on Inkerman fields
Somewhere for children instead of having to travel to Wombwell or Barnsley
More for children 5-16 years.
Facilities for young children
A proper park. This ones not big enough
Swimming pool
Many more dog bins required
Better bus service - pensioners have difficulties
Police station
Bottle banks around Darfield
Bus service improved
Computer centre for all ages
Better bus services that can be relied upon
Proper post office
More facilities for teenagers
More sports facilities for young people

Safe places to play for children of all ages
More police
More facilities for kids
Parking improvements (specific suggestion)
Not enough nurseries
More beat bobbies
Something for young ones
More doctors
Local policeman
Sports clubs
Clean up village
Better policing
Better cycle paths
More activities for all ages
Swimming facilities
Children roaming the village and dropping litter at lunchtime should be stopped
Recycling facilities - only things for people with cars, no blue bag for papers
Classes / events more widely advertised
More for children - better park
Tarmac road on Church View
Somewhere to get kids from playing by her house. They play on the roofs of empty bungalows
Better facilities for all young people
Short of shops
Traffic calming measures
More sports facilities for young people
Somewhere permanent for local scouts to meet
Park needs attention
Local doctor accessible at any time of day
Park
Refurbish pathways
More buses on Italian estate
Need a proper park
Happy as it is
More help to get people into work
More buses
More nurseries
More for children of all ages
Recreational facilities for all ages
Sort car parking on Garden Street
Road works
Nothing for kids
Darfield park needs completely refurbishing
A car park near the shops in the centre
Bus punctuality
Double yellow lines on Snape Hill
More recreational activities for children
Something for pre-5s
Youth facilities with proper youth programme
Things for children
Dinner club for kids at Foulstone to stop litter.
Park and outdoor leisure facilities
Facilities for young children e.g. parks
Bigger library
Crossing for people around Parry's shop opposite post office

Park - somewhere to walk child
Better gym/aerobics etc nearer
Shoe shop
Police cameras on Snape Hill & Nanny Marr Rd
General play areas
Inadequate policing
Make more of local surroundings
Clean place up
Bus services
More bungalows
More visible police patrols
More buses
Traffic calming by installing roundabout
Bus service improvements
Parks need improving
Facilities for both parents and children
Good park area in central location
Need youth club
Clean Darfield
A market place
More sports facilities
More sport for teenagers
Better bus services
Park for young children
Bigger post office
Never see the local police.
Out of school facilities
Have an indoor market at the church hall
Improve appearance
More community galas and events
Free supervised activities for teenagers
Proper bowling green
Youth clubs
Tennis courts back in park
Better bus times
Repair broken pavements
Summer holiday activities
Improve police surveillance
Yoga classes
Something for older kids
More stuff for the kids
Bring back the park keeper
Better bus services
Snack bar
More police to be seen on the beat.
More reduction in rent for old people
Improve Darfield Park
Places for children to play instead of on streets
Swings
Places to get children off the streets
Youth clubs
Better buses
More services to be within reach
Clean needles and dog dirt off fields

Better policing on foot or bike
Somewhere for young ones not street (but not a nuisance)
More things for kids
Lot of stuff about kids needing safe places to play
More things for teenagers
Facilities for teenagers
Swings & playgrounds for children
Local help for the elderly, incl. somewhere to go and get a bath.
Improved park
Lot of speeding at end of Edward Street so introduce speed cameras on Snape Hill Road
Somewhere to walk kiddies in pushchairs
Things for teenagers
More for young
Someone for the elderly to contact to give them a little hand e.g. someone to put up a curtain rail.
Community policeman
Facilities for 12-16 year olds
Gangs around the school and war memorial swearing
Proper stewardship and wardens
More police foot patrols
Speed humps in roads
Youth centre
Dietician
Council need to control private properties
Make paths fit for wheelchairs
Some facilities for children and young people
Improve park
Litter and verbal abuse from school children at midday
More social activities for all ages
Reduced rates for children to participate in sports
More play areas for children
Keepers to look after young people's facilities
More things for youngsters
Sports facilities
General tidying up
Community policing
Improvements to park
Open up Pinfold Lane to deter drug users
Make Cathill roundabout into proper roundabout
More facilities for young children
Better health facilities - nurses treatments rather than hospitals
More police on the beat
More for young people
Recreation facilities for all ages
Better bus service in this part of Darfield
Somewhere safe for children to play
Do something about school children and litter
Need something for youths to do
Car parking outside Low Valley School
Rubbish collectors to collect rubbish dumped rather than arrange for it to be collected
Park type benches for old people to sit on
Skateboard park
Activities for children
Community police
Sports ground

Lack of nursery facilities
Buses - have difficulty in getting to some places
Sports hall
Facilities for youngsters
Dog excrement all over - better policy for dog owners
Activities for kids
Places for mothers to take small children
Hurry up with new clinic
More shops
Perhaps internet café
More facilities for teenagers
Park needed
More on/off street parking
Better park
Amenities for children
improve bus service
Road closures and create parking spaces
Community policing
Dance (salsa) class
More activities for teenagers e/g/ youth club
More shops down below Bridge Inn
Youth clubs to take children off the streets
Parking for post office
The new clinic
More community policing
Longer library hours for full time workers
Ladies only gym
Snape Hill should be monitored as it is dangerous, cars park double at school times
Play area on estate with swings etc
Local poll tax payment point
More for 9-14 year olds
Playgrounds built in the housing projects
Community policing
Lower speed limits
Play facilities for children
Stop dog fouling pavements
Something for 40-60 year olds ladies who don't want to go to church
Swimming baths
Bring back park
Through route to Wombwell, Station Rd has cut Darfield off.
Facilities for young people
Facilities for teenagers and young adults
Gym
Modern family pub
Youth activities
More policing
More police patrols on foot / bike
Better bus services
Football
Need more playgroup places
Improve play areas
Swimming pool
More in school holidays
Childminders

Better bus services
Improve shops
More sporting facilities
Generally dirty
Community hall
Direct bus to Morrisons
Communal computer games
Cheaper home help/cleaning service
Better councillors
Speed bumps on Morrison Road - they're speeding all over Darfield
Facilities for children of all ages
Sleeping policemen on Garden St
Policeman on the beat
Turn grass outside post office into a car park.
Dog poo bad in spring - needs action
Better bus service after 6pm
Scout out scouts accommodation
More police patrols
More things for teenagers to do
Recreation facilities for children of all ages
More wheelchair ramps in High Street
Improvements to roads
Slow speeding down on Upperwood Road
Park keepers / rangers to look after facilities
30mph limit sign other side of garden centre
Pavements need surfacing
Make it so can get into Wombwell
Enforcement of yellow lines
Address litter problem caused by Foulstone children
Sort out parking in middle of Darfield
More sports facilities
More visible police walking around
Community constable
Play areas for teenagers
Better policing on foot or bikes
More facilities for younger children
Buses to be improved
More for young people to stop them hanging around on streets
Supermarket
Better bus service
One or two late night closings at the library
Community centre
More at Centre 17
Car parking more needed
Buses, buses, buses
Bus services bad
Need more police
Partnership to discuss community issues
Sports club for kids
Pavement repairs
Better parking
Adults' gym
Nurseries for working mums
Purpose built community centre

For children 8 & 11 years old – roller blading, skateboarding, ice rink, outdoor pursuits
Need activities late in the day for working people
More nurseries and pre school nurseries from babies upwards, 8.30am to 6.30pm
Road sweeping / drains unblocked
More for youngsters
More things for children
Houses need re-vamping
More things for young people to do

APPENDIX 4: SOURCE DOCUMENTATION

Key reports

Barnsley Forum Barnsley Community Plan 2003/04, Draft For Consultation Barnsley Forum, February 2003-09-18

Darfield / Wombwell North and Wombwell South Area Forum Think Local 2001

Darfield / Wombwell North and Wombwell South Area Forum Area Community Plan 2003 2001

Geoff Green et al Social Capital, Health and Economy in South Yorkshire Coalfield Communities Sheffield Hallam University, UK, October 200

Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Health Authorities Joint Report of the Directors of Public Health Doncaster Health Authority, UK, March 2001

Directors of Public Health in Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield South Yorkshire Health Inequalities Atlas Barnsley etc Primary Care Trusts, UK, March 2002

Barnsley Primary Care Trust Practice Profile Barnsley NHS Primary Care Trust, UK, 24 June 2003

Villages 4 Partnership Healthy Living Centre: Darfield Health Park Business Plan, no date

Prof. L Adams Healthy Living Centres Barnsley PCT, February 2003

Barnsley PCT Fit For The Future Barnsley PCT, 2003

Villages 4 Community Partnership Objective 1 Action Plan Village 4 CP, September 2003

Community Empowerment Team Through Your Eyes Voluntary Action Barnsley, 2002 (Video)

Sources of Data

Area Forum Statistics available to download from www.barnsley.gov.uk

Initial population data for Darfield village provided by Barnsley MBC based on 2001 Census initial results.

A major source is the www.neighbourhood.statistics.gov.uk which has been used for data on:

- Levels of disability and incapacity benefit claimants.
- Levels of income support claimants.
- VAT registrations and employee jobs at ward level.

Education performances statistics, audited to 2002 from www.dfes.gov.uk/cgi-bin/performanceables

Labour market statistics taken from www.nomisweb.co.uk unless otherwise credited.
Data on unemployment based around Claimant Count data
Adult achievement data based upon the 2001 Labour Force Survey data
Barnsley and national earnings taken from the New Earnings Survey 2002
VAT registrations for Barnsley and England are taken from the Annual Business Enquiry 2001

Voluntary Action Barnsley Bluebell Pre-school Playgroup Survey Results January 2003

Connexions South Yorkshire Moving On Activity Survey Report 2002 Connexions South Yorkshire, 2003.

Adult Learning and Training Free Adult Learning Opportunities Barnsley MBC, 12.2.03

Pioneer Project Venues – Darfield Pioneer Project, 2003

Use of Census Data and Definition of Areas

Source: 2001 Census, [Key Statistics for Wards and Output Areas]. Crown copyright 2003. Crown copyright material is reproduced with the permission of the Controller of HMSO"

Census data has been used on several different levels and it is important to be specific about the area covered.

Unless other wise stated, ***national*** refers to the standard ONS definition of England and Wales.

Barnsley refers to the Barnsley Metropolitan Borough area as defined by local government boundaries.

Darfield ward always refers to the 2001 electoral ward, which also includes Great Houghton, Middlecliffe, Billingley and Little Houghton. It is important to note that parts of our definition of the Darfield village are NOT included in Darfield ward.

We developed a community led definition of "***Darfield village***". In visual terms, this may be considered to include those parts of Darfield ward NOT in the civil parishes of the Houghtons, Middlecliffe or Billingley, plus those parts of Wombwell North ward which are north-west of the Stoneyford Road, Ings Road and Station Road junction.

The boundaries of this ***Darfield village*** definition are not fully compatible with Census output areas. However, if the 40 houses on Stoneyford Road are excluded, Census output areas do provide an almost exact fit. For the purposes of clarity, Table A4 overleaf provides details of the Census output areas which make up our Darfield village definition.

Table A4 also shows the extent to which output areas are included in the defined ***Pioneer area***. Unfortunately, there is not such a clear fit between Census output areas and the Pioneer area. Table A4 therefore contains notes on the treatment of these areas.

Finally, we have developed a breakdown of ***areas within Darfield*** based around the Census output areas. Table A4 also shows the how the output areas are assigned to

our definitional areas. Please note that these are not currently compatible with our earlier definitions used for analysing the survey.

Table A4: Relationship of Geographical Definitions to Census Output Areas

| Output Area Code | Included in Darfield Ward | Included in Darfield Village | In Pioneer Area | Area Within Darfield |
|--------------------------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| OCCFF0001 | YES | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0002 | YES | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0003 | YES | YES | 91% See note 4 | Main estate |
| OCCFF0004 | YES | YES | 52% See note 4 | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0005 | YES | YES | NO | School Street |
| OCCFF0006 | YES | YES | 22% See note 4 | Main estate |
| OCCFF0007 | YES | YES | 70% See note 4 | Main estate |
| OCCFF0008 | YES | YES | NO | School Street |
| OCCFF0009 | YES | YES | 70% See note 4 | Main estate |
| OCCFF0010 | YES | YES | NO | Millhouses |
| OCCFF0011 | YES | YES | NO | Millhouses |
| OCCFF0012 | YES | YES | NO | School Street |
| OCCFF0013 | YES | YES | YES | Central |
| OCCFF0014 | YES | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0015 | YES | YES | YES | Central |
| OCCFF0016 | YES | YES | NO | Central |
| OCCFF0017 | YES | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0018 | YES | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0019 | YES | YES | YES | North Salters'k |
| OCCFF0020 | YES | YES | NO | North Salters'k |
| OCCFF0021 | YES | YES | 41% See note 4 | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFF0022 | YES | YES | NO | Main estate |
| OCCFF0023 | YES | YES | YES | Main estate |
| OCCFF0024 | YES | YES | 50% See note 4 | Main estate |
| OCCFF0025 THRU TO OCCFF0036 | YES | NO | NO | Na |
| OCCFW0004 | NO | See note 1 | NO | Na |
| OCCFW0017 | NO | See note 2 | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFW0018 | NO | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFW0019 | NO | YES | NO | Italian/Doves'e |
| OCCFX0027 | NO | See note 3 | NO | Na |

Note 1: This output area contains approximately 40 odd numbered houses on Stoneyford Road which were included in Darfield village for survey purposes. However, these are a small minority of the total residential stock of the output area and so this is excluded for Census statistics.

Note 2: This output area includes a large tract of land which was not included within our definition of Darfield village. However, over 99% of the residential property within the output area is within our definition of the village and so 100% of statistics relating to this output area are included in the village for Census analysis.

Note 3. We included parts of the green land but no residential property within our definition of the village. Therefore this output area is not included for statistical analysis.

Note 4: parts of these output areas are included in the Pioneer area. For census analysis purposes, the estimated percentage of housing for each output area within the Pioneer is shown in the table and this percentage is used as weighting for purposes of analysis.

APPENDIX 5: REVIEW OF FUNDING SOURCES

The Following provides a brief review of the main funding sources available to Darfield. It does *not* include charitable sources nor does it claim to be complete. It should be seen very much as a snapshot in time.

Objective 1

A substantial amount is available for the benefit of the Darfield area from Priority 4 "Developing Economic Opportunities in Targeted Communities". However, before projects can be approved, the following issues need to be addressed:

- There is a need to develop an Action Plan which prioritises projects.
- The implicit assumption of the measures is that only a relatively small amount would be made available for capital building costs.
- The projects would need to show clear and easy access linkages for Pioneer area residents.
- Projects must have an economic outcome such as jobs created or new social enterprises.

After the end of the Pioneer period in March 2004, any projects will need to find half of their funding from elsewhere.

There are other 'pots' (known as *priorities* and *measures*) in Objective 1, but Darfield is unlikely to be in a position to bid directly to the programme for these resources. However, a number of *measures* can be accessed via third party organisations. For example:

- "Global grants" for small new projects of up to £25,000 can be accessed via South Yorkshire Key Fund.
- Social enterprise support and funding for ILM placements can be accessed via Barnsley Development Agency.
- Funding for additional support for job seekers can be accessed via Job Centre Plus and/or other organisations to whom they give grants.
- Improved careers advice and information are being provided via Lifetime Careers.

Coalfield Regeneration Trust

The Coalfield Regeneration Trust fund regeneration projects in coalfields communities such as Darfield. There are six strands to their current programme for the period to 2004:

- Self reliant communities;
- Working communities;
- Lifelong learning communities;
- Enterprising communities;
- Attractive communities.

Grants of up to £200,000 may be applied for from the Trust. However, we understand that the current round for the years 2001-2004 is already over-subscribed. New rules are likely to govern the next round of funding and there are some fears that Barnsley groups will be discriminated against.

If the Coalfields Regeneration Trust illustrates a key issue, it is that funding is easier to obtain when projects are developed in advance of the funding being available or identified.

Neighbourhood Renewal Community Chests

Voluntary Action Barnsley manage these grants which range from £50 to £5,000 for projects which raise the quality of life in deprived neighbourhoods. Community and voluntary organisations clearly serving hard to reach communities are the target recipients. The eligible items are very flexible but aim to get people involved in improving their communities.

As well as the general community chest, there is a specific Community Learning Chest aimed at helping residents gain the skills and knowledge they need to play an active role in neighbourhood Renewal. Individuals and groups may also apply where they are sponsored by a community group.

National Lottery Community Fund

Community groups may make an application for £300,000 or less to the Community Fund's major grants initiative.

Strengths of such an application would be that Barnsley has had less than a fair share of money and there are no large previous grants in the area. A well developed case illustrating need and the contribution of the project to the community's own development is always an advantage in applications to the Community Fund. However, the fund is increasingly over-subscribed and the risk of failure is generally high.

National Lottery New Opportunities Fund

The New Opportunities Fund distributes National Lottery grants under a wide range of programmes. These programmes are increasingly being delivered through "award partners" who make the final grant awards. A wide range of partners are utilised, including County wide public sector bodies, national and regional charities.

The programmes which are currently open for applications, or shortly will be, include:

- ***Green Spaces & Sustainable Communities*** – there are seven award partners for this programme, which lasts to 2006.
- ***Social, Economic and Environmental Development (SEED) Programme*** – is managed by RSNC to fund sustainable development projects such as local food growing and marketing, waste management, energy efficiency, environmental education and sustainable transport. Applications up to £100k are available for groups able to make a real difference to disadvantaged communities. Applications under £5,000 are "fast tracked".
- ***Doorstep Greens*** – managed by the Countryside Agency, this provides grants of over £5,000 to communities in disadvantaged areas who wish to create and manage multi-purpose community greens.
- ***Better Play*** – is a Barnardo's managed fund for grants of £2,000-£100,000. Community groups who wish to provide play services or develop play strategies which are "distinctive and innovative" will be supported
- ***People's Places*** – is managed by BTCV to provide grants for the creation and renovation of green spaces. Projects of £3,000 to £10,000 can apply, but must actively involve residents. Priority will be given to disadvantaged areas with little or no green space.

- **Wildspace** – provides grants of £5,000 to £25,000 for projects managing and developing Local Nature Reserves. Land purchase and community liaison officers are eligible under this scheme.
- **Transforming Communities** – grants specifically for the delivery of renewable energy and recycling projects.

National Lottery Sports Fund

Sport England distribute Lottery grants through several programmes. All aim to support and promote participation in sport. They include schools sports programmes, but the ones most relevant to community groups are:

- **Community Capital Programme** – funds up to 65% of the costs for projects of greater than £5,000. Projects must lead to a significant increase in participation / standards of sporting achievement. Projects can include sports halls, football pitches etc.
- **Active Communities Development Fund** is a revenue fund to increase sports participation among ethnic minority communities, people with disabilities, women, girls and people on low incomes. Projects must have partnership, community leadership, links with other funding streams, a strategic framework and long term sustainability. Community sports workers, a development 'chest', expert advice and education and training opportunities can be funded.

National Lottery Arts Fund

The **Regional Arts Lottery Programme** provides the main stream of arts lottery fund which will interest Darfield partners. Grant support of up to £100,000 is available for projects which support arts activity, capital and organisational development under the headings of:

- Access to the arts;
- Education through the arts;
- Production and distribution of arts;
- Investment in artists;
- Development and sustainability of arts organisations.

Smaller grants of up to £5,000 are available through Awards For All.

National Lottery Heritage Memorial Fund

This organisation use Lottery money to support the care, conservation, preservation and interpretation of natural land and countryside, urban parks, historic buildings, archive collections, industrial, transport or maritime heritage. A revenue grants programme exists for projects.

National Lottery Awards For All

This stream provides local community groups with grants of between £500 and £5,000 and is confirmed as a funding stream to March 2005. Projects must enable people to take part in art, sport, heritage or community activities, as well as projects that promote education, the environment and health in the local community. Applicants must be not for profit groups, school, health body or parish council.

Applicants must provide accounts, constitution and bank statements. Timescales from application to award are 3 months. It is possible to achieve a bidding success rate of 97% from this fund, making it one of the most accessible.

Learning and Skills Council (LSC)

The South Yorkshire Learning and Skills Council is the main body for funding colleges, adult learning and workforce development in South Yorkshire. Generally, it prefers to fund community groups via two routes. The first is the Barnsley Learning Partnership, which is the route taken by the Learning Net projects. The second is VCTrain, which accredits learning organisations and acts as a funding conduit.

The only community driven 'pot' available from the LSC is Neighbourhood Learning in Deprived Communities, which funds 100% of project costs up to £25,000. This is a useful pot as the quality threshold requirements are relaxed, enabling a community group to gain a track record and establish the quality systems that will enable them to access more mainstream resources via VC Train.

Single Pot

The "Single Pot" is the name for the funding stream which is replacing the Single Regeneration Budget (SRB). It is being directly administered by Yorkshire Forward. Applications are made via "lead partners". These include local strategic partnerships (LSPs) and county level organisations.

Currently, the main route in for Darfield projects would be via the Barnsley LSP. Projects are selected according to how well they meet strategic development priorities and it is increasingly difficult for community led schemes to access this route. This programme is also heavily over-committed with bids for this year and next year.

Single Regeneration Budget (SRB)

The current SRB programmes run until 2007. At this stage, there are no spare resources. However, it is in the nature of these programmes that "oven ready" projects able to spend relatively quickly can enter the programme in the last 18 months if they have broad based support. For this to happen, the project will need to have already developed support among larger organisations.

Summary of Funding Position

It is apparent that there are a number of potential funding streams. Some of the funding streams are open to the Local Authority, others to the community. Some will fund large projects, whilst others fund smaller projects. Some require match funding, whereas others are open to funding a wide range of initiatives. However, there are a number of clear trends:

- It is easier to obtain smaller grants;
- New programmes are more likely to approve an application than older programmes –meaning that projects should be designed BEFORE the funding is available;
- Success in larger projects is generally much more likely where statutory agencies express clear support for the project.
- Early consultation with potential funders is advisable in order to avoid wasted effort and applications.

APPENDIX 6: CURRENTLY PROPOSED INITIATIVES – DETAILED INFORMATION

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Tenant Participation Compact for Wombwell & Darfield An agreement between Berneslai Homes, tenants and community groups to improve the housing service.</p> | Community Development Officer (being appointed) Berneslai Homes | Berneslai Homes TARAs Barnsley Federation of Community Groups | NA – Baseline data | Ongoing |
| <p>Impact Team Responsive 'front end' service dealing with housing management issues for existing tenants and new tenancies. Aims to provide a more visible service for tenants. Have dedicated budgets for initiatives around environment, elderly and boundaries.</p> | Yolanta Walker Berneslai Homes | Steering groups being established with the public in order to target hot issues / hot spots | Base budget – difficult to pull Darfield costs out . | Ongoing. Looking to develop service level agreements for a number of services working on estates. Darfield managed as part of Wombwell team. |
| <p>Local Partnership Team A new initiative joining together community policemen, community support officers and neighbourhood warden functions. Darfield probably to be covered by Hoyland Team. Key aim is to tackle crime and nuisance hotspots and 'generators' of crime or nuisance behaviour.</p> | Paul Brannan Barnsley MBC Until the local Co-ordinator is appointed. | S Y Police Berneslai Homes Area Forums Environmental Health Community Groups | Not available | Expected to be operational from the first quarter of 2004. |
| <p>Family Support Strategy Pilot The Barnsley Children's Trust is implementing a pilot in Darfield with the aim of changing the way in which services are offered to parents and children. <i>Family support in this context covers only families with school age children.</i></p> | Hilary Mosley Barnsley Primary Care Trust on behalf of the Barnsley Children's Trust | BMBC Social Services Northern College BMBC Education Barnsley Choices Barnsley Hospital Voluntary Organisations | Re-use of existing mainstream budgets – estimated value unknown | Proposals in consultation |
| <p>Darfield Health Centre A larger health centre / doctor's facility for Darfield.</p> | Dr. Sics and Partners' practice | Barnsley PCT Possibly other services to deliver specific health services from the new centre | Not known | New centre being built. Open early 2004 |

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Healthy Living Centre Employment of a worker to improve healthy lifestyles within Darfield. Specific project work to be agreed on an ongoing basis. Priority groups include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people, sexual health, drug and alcohol abuse • Family and parenting skills • Preventive work with all ages | Robin Bates Villages 4 Partnership | Darfield Community Association Barnsley PCT Community Groups BMBC Youth Service | £190,000 over 3 years | Worker appointed for Darfield. Second worker will cover other areas. |
| <p>Renewal of Darfield Park A collection of projects to improve the park and surrounding area. Environmental improvements, improved sports facilities and safety initiatives most likely to be included. The all weather sports pitch (see below) is also included within the scope of this 'portfolio'.</p> | Mike Andrew Barnsley MBC | Foulstone School Darfield Bowls Club Darfield Community Association | Total costs not quantified, but £160k set aside from "Transforming Your Space" | Youth shelter complete. Multi-sports area at 'idea' stage. Other proposals subject to consultation, although £160k funding has been set aside. Note that Planning for Real was held in 2002. |
| <p>All Weather Sports Pitch Provision of a new pitch to be managed jointly by the school and community, based at Darfield Park.</p> | Phil King Foulstone School | Barnsley MBC Darfield Community Association Sport England | Approx £100,000 | Initial funding applications in with Safer Space for Sports, expected decision in 2004. Transforming Your Space also considering funding this project as part of sports centre facilities (see below) |
| <p>Sports Centre Facilities This project includes the all weather sports pitch as well as new changing facilities at Foulstone School. It is proposed that community use be managed by the community</p> | Phil King Foulstone School | Darfield Community Association Sport England | Not assessed | Project developed with considerable BMBC support. Funding applications in with Safer Space for Sports, expected decision in 2004. |

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sports Development Worker Employment of a worker to work with existing and new community groups to develop sports and active recreational activities. | Glenda Shepherd Darfield Community Association | Voluntary Action Barnsley BMBC Leisure | £20,330 | Post filled on an initial contract. To June 2004. Further continuation funding needs to be sought. |
| Kickwalls / Multi-sports Areas These are a form of sports / play facility aimed at teenagers, with a metal goalpost/basketball assembly located on a playing field in grass or concrete | Darryl Marshall People United Against Crime | Barnsley MBC Leisure Darfield Community Association | Undefined | Dormant – no current activity following a consultation exercise. Previously, 3 potential areas were identified. |
| Darfield Community Fishing Lake To develop a community lake which will provide sporting and recreational facilities aimed at disabled people and will include environmental improvements | Dorothy Higginbotham Villages 4 Partnership | Environment Agency Villages 4 Partnership Barnsley MBC Houghton Main Fishing Club Darfield Community Association Sport England | £452,000 | Awaiting response to funding applications. |
| Longbow Scout Hut / Community Centre The proposal is to build a new community centre on the Longbow Playing Fields. This will be managed by the Darfield Scouts and available for other community use. | Mick Hemsall Darfield Scouts | BMBC Area Forum | Up to £200,000 | Initial drawings being undertaken. BMBC have agreed to lease land. |
| Maurice Dobson Extension Proposed extension to take in another building (the former reading room) to use as storage and classroom. Video equipment will also be used to make a history of Darfield and a virtual tour. | Geoff Hutchison Maurice Dobson Memorial Trust | English Heritage NH Memorial Fund | £170,000 | Taken over for restoration. Estimates for work have been obtained. |
| Bluebells Pre-School Playgroup Aiming to establish a new pre school playgroup to meet a gap in provision within Darfield. The project costs include conversion of an existing building. | Rachel Cook Bluebells Pre-School Playgroup | Darfield Community Association Darfield Wesleyan Chapel | Costings to be developed | Awaiting a response from potential landlord. Funding applications and registration will then be required prior to start up of activities |

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Neighbourhood Nursery Provision of additional childcare facilities based at Upperwood School. | David Donnelly Barnsley Choices | BMBC Education Upperwood School | Not known | Funding agreed and development stage now underway. |
| Children's Centre A centre where families can go to access support services. Some services will be based on site, others can be brought in whilst the centre will be a point for booking appointments for another groups of services. To be sited at the current doctor's surgeries. | Nina Gilmore Barnsley Choices | Barnsley Children's Trust BMBC Social Services Primary Care Trust BMBC Education Voluntary Organisations Community Groups | Uncertain – detailed plans awaited. | Basic policy proposal agreed within the Barnsley context. Funding is also approved in principle but individual village centres will need to be worked up in detail as a next stage. |
| Low Valley School PFI The school will be completely rebuilt, probably in the 2004/05 academic year. The facilities management company may offer the premises for wider community use. | Anthony Walker Barnsley LEA | Low Valley School | Unknown | The PFI project is certain to go ahead. A shortlist of 3 contractors has been selected, with final tendering over the next few months. |
| Study Support Project Already up and running, but requiring continuation funding. Provides assistance in the library for young people wishing to learn out of school. | Michelle Derbyshire BMBC Libraries | Villages 4 Partnership Foulstone School | £29,500 | Ongoing, but seeking sustainable funding. |
| City Learning Centre Foulstone is the 'hub' for a city learning centre covering a number of schools. One feature of this hub is construction of additional rooms at Foulstone for ICT for school and community use. Services will also be available at Wombwell High School. Can be used for beginners IT, multi-media, music technology, IT technician training with a performance / meeting space, cyber cafe and recording studio. | Shirley Corns Excellence in Cities Partnership (Contact via Foulstone School) | Foulstone School BMBC Education e-SY Barnsley College | £1,200,000 includes revenue and capital | Work commenced on the centre site to open early 2004. The manager for the CLC has been appointed. Plans are for opening 8am-8pm Mon- Friday and Saturday morning incl. school holiday openings with children's activities. Presentation will be held in early November 2003. |

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Credit Union Collection Point Based in the Old People's Centre, the collection point provides savings and loan accounts for Darfield residents.</p> | Angie Taylor Little Dearne Credit Union | Darfield Community Association | NA – project costs met by savers | Operational – but more volunteers needed to ensure sustainability |
| <p>Skills Exchange The project would enable people with skills to register with the project. People wanting work undertaken could then ask someone on the register. Some schemes operate by people on the register being both donors and receivers of the service. The Darfield proposal would allow people to 'buy' from the register.</p> | Dorothy Higginbotham Villages 4 Partnership | Community groups | Unknown | UNLIKELY TO GO AHEAD. Basic concept stage only. Requires a feasibility study if it is to gain form and then proceed. |
| <p>Veggie Box A project involving organic vegetables to encourage healthy eating. This is likely to link into allotments, gardening clubs and / or doorstep delivery.</p> | Dorothy Higginbotham Villages 4 Partnership | Community groups | Unknown | UNLIKELY TO GO AHEAD. Basic concept stage only. Requires a feasibility study if it is to gain form and then proceed. |
| <p>Community Participation Project Two members of staff, based at Darfield Old People's Centre, are employed to increase resident participation in the provision of services in Darfield. Community chest and area development also included.</p> | Andrew Glover Darfield Community Association | Community Groups Mainstream service providers | £230,000 | Workers in post |
| <p>Community Education Facilitator The project employs a part time worker to increase adult participation in learning. The project also seeks to work with other adult education providers to increase the amount of provision within Darfield.</p> | Amanda Bradshaw Workers Educational Association | Darfield Community Association Barnsley MBC Barnsley College Community Groups | Not known | Worker in post and initial courses underway |

| Project Name & Description | Project Champion | Other Key Partners | Est'd Cost | Current Status |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Community Development Worker The worker supports the Villages 4 Partnership in developing community groups across the Darfield ward. | Joe Micheli Barnsley MBC | Villages 4 Partnership Community Groups | Unquantifiable | Worker in post |
| Personal Attack Alarms 100 personal attack alarms distributed to older people in the village. | Robin Bates Darfield Community Association | NA | Not known | Complete |
| Darfield Gala Now an annual gala in July of each year. 1,500 people were attracted in 2002. | Glenda Shepherd Darfield Gala Group | Community Groups | £1,500 approx – most in kind | Ongoing – annual event |

APPENDIX 7: COMMUNITY FACILITIES REVIEW

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Community Buildings | | | | | |
| Darfield Wesleyan Reform Church, Barnsley Road | Church hall with two community rooms, stage, kitchen. Used by a range of community groups and situated in village centre. | Access ramp around side and induction loop system fitted. Looking into disabled toilets. Internal layout and access for visually impaired people as poor. | Electrics recently updated. Windows guarded. Heaters need covering for child safety | Electrics and kitchen recently upgraded. Toilets in need of upgrading | Dark entrance and dim lighting. Litter collected / graffiti removed by church members and guides, but rubbish bin not used at lunchtimes. |
| Darfield Library, Church Street | Two room flat roofed library. Host to study support and has a Council payment counter. | Ramp and wheelchair access, but sometimes blocked by cars. Needs toilet facility and outlining for visually impaired people. Removal of the curb near gate would be helpful. | Shutters used when closed. | No major requirements. | Another litter bin would be useful. Small amounts of graffiti only. |
| Maurice Dobson Museum, Church Street | Two storey former home now used as museum, shop and community meeting rooms upstairs. | Handrails. Wheelchair access through the staff entrance and disabled toilet. No lift. Possible steps danger clearly marked. No parking. | Have alarms, CCTV and shutters | No issues. | Excellent |
| Darfield Old People's Centre, Illsley Road | One large, dividable hall with kitchenette, bar and two offices. A desire to permanently divide the large hall has been expressed. | Wheelchair access at side. Toilets have handrails only. No induction loop or visual impairment assistance. | Has alarm, entry intercom and clearly marked fire exits. Steps not clearly marked. | Daily caretaker. | Entrance dull and dark. Lighting dim. Décor out of date. |

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
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| Low Valley Methodist Church, Snape Hill Road | The only community centre in Low Valley, behind the church. One medium sized hall, one large room, kitchen and toilets. Storage needs increasing. | Good wheelchair accommodation and induction loop. Assistance for visually impaired people not considered. | No current problems. Double glazing and locks in place. | Maintenance and upgrade schedule in place. No obvious defects but minor kitchen upgrade desirable. | Very warm and welcoming. Access via rear of church only minus point. |
| Centre 17, Barnsley Road | Standard large 1960s youth centre. Main room with side lounge plus three medium size lounge rooms. | Small steps into buildings. No disabled toilets, wheelchair access and stiff doors. No provision for visually or audio-impaired people. | Bars on windows due to occasional break ins. Security fencing around outside perimeter. | Coffee bar not suitable for food preparation. Electrics tested and basic building weatherproof. | Poor. Welcoming in areas where staff have already re-decorated but otherwise dark and shabby. Male toilets smell. |
| Darfield Church Hall, Church Street | A large building. Two large downstairs rooms with stage, kitchen, storage. Two smaller upstairs rooms. | Disabled ramp to side – car park a barrier. No handrails. Upper floor reached only by stairs. | No specific issues for existing uses. | Key structural issues well maintained. Two rooms require investment if they are to be open to the public. | Internally attractive, with recent decorations. |
| Parks and Open Areas | | | | | |
| Darfield Park | The main park includes a fenced off bowls area, youth shelter and playground, together with grass, flowerbeds, derelict tennis courts and crazy golf. | Barriers to prevent motorcycling also prevent wheelchair access. Uneven paths. Not visible from road. | Entries unlit and with several potential hiding places to create fear. Three clear 'crime generators'. Poor maintenance creates unsafe areas. Glass under play equipment. | Significant investment is required. | Uninviting and unpleasant enclosed area. Litter has collected in clustered 'traps' as well as being spread across the park. |

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
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| Longbow Playing Fields | Large field with 4 football pitches and grit car park which is used by school and community. 3 swings and an unusable see-saw on edge near houses. | Road gate prevents car entry and barriers prevent access to people with disabilities and corpulence. | Vehicle entrance from Barnsley road has no visibility and no proper parking. Dog mess everywhere. No lighting. | Play equipment unusable. Grassed areas in reasonable condition. | Litter all over play area. Burnt equipment in poor condition. |
| Land at rear of Verona Rise | Very large grassed area with considerable planting and several paths. Former play equipment area at rear of Barnsley Road. | Barriers prevent access to wheelchairs and larger bodies. Some paths in poor condition. Paths heavily graded. | Streetlights absent for some paths. Crossing of Roundwood dangerous as visibility restricted. | Grass recently cut. Barriers broken and bushes overgrown. | Dog mess and litter at low levels. |
| Land at rear of Upperwood School and Padua Rise | Large grassed area with considerable planting and several paths | Barriers prevent access to wheelchairs and larger bodies. Some paths in very poor condition – one without any remaining definition at all. Paths heavily graded. | Streetlights cut down in several locations. Most paths pass thickets or overgrown trees and bushes. Crossing of Roundwood dangerous as visibility restricted. | Grass recently cut but bushes / trees require attention. | Dog mess and litter at low levels. |
| Land at rear of Springfield Crescent | Playing fields containing two football pitches, car park and changing rooms. | Single entrance gated for vehicles. Pedestrian entrance through ill defined breakage of fencing. No disabled or pushchair access. | In use for quad bikes on our visit. Changing rooms boarded up. | Grass recently cut. General surroundings in poor condition. | Minor litter. Mud paths and car park poor. Large amounts of dog mess away from football pitches. |

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
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| Illsley Road Recreation Ground | Large area of grassland containing broken swing frame with no play equipment. One path through the area. | Not suitable for anyone with mobility difficulties. One entrance only tolerable for pram. | No lights on path and broken glass near path. No bushes or obvious crime generators. | Grass newly cut. Play equipment not replaced at all. | Litter and tipping is evident. |
| Darfield Cemetery | A small village cemetery with chapel located in centre. | Parking is difficult and some paths beginning to break up. Otherwise access is good. | Area gated and chapel boarded up. A few gravestones lean. | The grass was newly cut and almost all of the area looked pleasant and well maintained on our visit. Fence and some individual graves need attention. | See maintenance. |
| Cricket Ground | Full size cricket ground with clubhouse and car park. | Not available to the public. Internal accessibility for people with disabilities unknown, but external access appears adequate. | Gated off and no apparent hazards. | Unknown – no issues noted on visual inspection. | Pleasant looking ground and building with well maintained and painted fencing. |
| Pinfold Lane Playing Field | Medium sized field used by school. Grassed area which is gated off to public. | Not available to public. Entrance is up steps for pupils. | No immediately apparent hazards. Entrance through bushes and 'closed' sides would make potential crime generators if open to public. | Good. | Good. |

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
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| Darfield Bridge Recreation Ground | Medium sized recreation ground with a youth shelter, mini pitch, new slide and four swings. | No paths. Pedestrian entrance poorly defined through mud. Parking is available. | Grass rather than matting under swings. Fence has gaps on the river side. | Other than appearance and age of equipment, maintenance seems good. | Most equipment is useable but appears very dilapidated. No significant litter or dumping issues. |
| Balkley Lane Recreation Ground | Small grassed area with seven swings and one mini football goal. | No barriers to entry. Parking is possible but difficult. | Fence in good condition but absent on side with road. Swings on tarmac bases only partly covered by wood chippings. Hole in ground at one entrance. | Grass newly cut but areas of high weeds | Dumped material in one part only, otherwise little litter. Dog mess in specific parts. |
| Land at rear of Attlee Crescent | Small grassed area with five swings, with an entrance off Attlee Crescent. | Narrow baffle. No pathway. Parking extremely difficult. | Tarmac under play equipment. Dog mess and dumped items compromise safety. | Good fencing but incomplete. Grass cut. Swings work. | General litter and large quantities of dumped materials. Swing frames with large parts of exposed rust. |
| Examples of Other Facilities In Village Centre | | | | | |
| Bus stops on Nanny Marr Road | Six bus stops were examined as an example. Varying construction. | Kerbs in two places may create problems for people with limited leg movement or poor balance. | Brick construction may reduce vandalism. | Well maintained and painted. | Brick construction prevents seeing who is inside. No apparent graffiti. |
| Highways in the main shopping area | The pavement and road area of central Darfield around Garden Street, Barnsley Road, Church Street and Snape Hill Road. | Uneven surfaces, narrow in places. No definition in white paint for visually impaired. No disabled parking. | No pelican crossing. Illegal parking creates difficulties in crossing road for the slower people. | Patchwork maintenance. | Unkempt in places. Problem with chewing gum but litter not bad on our visit. Minor graffiti only. |

| Name of Facility | Description | Accessibility | Safety / Security | Maintenance | Appearance |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Co-operative Store, Snape Hill Road | Double shop unit providing small supermarket. | Doors closed and difficult to move. No facilities for visually or aurally impaired. Few obstacles in aisle. | Fully secured. Some items stick out into aisles. | Maintenance good. | Well laid out and clean. Bins outside with signs urging reduced litter on floor. No litter. No graffiti. |
| GT News, Snape Hill Road | Newsagents Shop | Flat wide isles etc. Easy access for wheelchairs when doors open. Door unsuitable for people with disabilities. No facilities for visually or aurally impaired. | Shutters cover whole of front. | Maintenance good. | Good. Bin provided for litter. |
| Post Office, Garden Street | Small, three counter post office unit. | Steps up to enter shop. Too small inside to turn a wheelchair. No signs or handrails to steps. No facilities for the visually impaired. | Shutters on doors and windows. Lot of smashed glass outside. | Generally good, although outside paintwork chipping off. | Generally clean No graffiti. |
| Coral Bookmakers, Garden Street | Two unit betting shop. NOTE NO INTERNAL INSPECTION | Steps up – was a disability scooter parked outside. Nice wide door which is easily opened. No handrail. | Shutters along front. | Newly repainted. | Generally clean. |