

March 2009

Understanding the Role of the Environment Theme Group

1. The Coventry Sustainable Community Strategy

Two key themes relate primarily to the Environment Theme Group:

4. Cleaner, greener local streets and open spaces

4a. Long-term outcomes

- Coventry people will see their streets, neighbourhoods, parks and open spaces as more attractive and enjoyable places to be

4b short-term priorities

- Improve street cleanliness in Coventry, especially in neighbourhoods involved in the New Deal for Communities and Your Neighbourhood matters programmes and in areas of high density housing
- Reduce fly-tipping in problem areas of the City
- Improve the quality of open spaces, including car parks, hedgerows and verges
- Improve the quality and use of local parks and open spaces

10. Improving Coventry's environment and tackling climate change

10a Long-term outcomes

- Coventry's carbon footprint will have reduced
- Coventry will be making more sustainable use of natural resources – less energy and water will be used, less waste and pollution will be produced, more waste will be recycled
- Coventry will be better prepared for the impacts of climate change

10b Short-term priorities

- reduce CO2 emissions produced by Coventry City Council and the wider community supported by robust systems of measuring, managing and monitoring – learn from this and disseminate good practice across the Coventry Partnership
- improve understanding and awareness among local people of how they can adopt a more sustainable lifestyles through education, advice and support
- proactively encourage individuals and organisations to adopt behaviours that will minimise their impact on climate change, and provide specific guidance to help them do so
- 'climate-proof' Coventry's key strategies and plans
- develop and start to implement the city's Climate Change Strategy
- develop and start to implement the City's waste strategy

2. Coventry Local Area Agreement 2008/9 – 2010/11

The Environment Theme Group identified as 'key partner' for 4 LAA Priority indicators (City Council identified as Lead partner)

- NI 195 Improve street cleanliness
- NI 196 Reduce fly-tipping in problem areas of the city
- NI 186 per capita reduction in CO2 emissions in the local authority area
- NI 191 develop and start to implement the City's waste strategy



Draft Terms of Reference of the Environment Theme Group

1. Take an overview of the environment of Coventry and pursue key strategic opportunities where partnership working will achieve further improvements.
2. Facilitate effective and efficient partnership working to address the priorities and targets outlined in the 'Climate Change' and 'Cleaner, Greener' sections of the Coventry Sustainable Communities Strategy and Coventry Local Area Agreement.
3. Ensure action on climate change is embedded as a key cross-cutting theme within the Partnership Board and all Theme Groups.