



## Workshop:

# Linking sustainable development with community strategies and local strategic partnerships

### Workshop aims

- To understand the links between sustainable development, community strategies and LSPs
- To understand the range and interconnectivity of issues if viewed through the perspective of sustainable development
- To understand how sustainable development principles can help in the process of community strategies.

### Resources to use

- The Briefings: [“What is sustainable development”](#), [“Why sustainable development is important for local authorities and their partners”](#), and [“Policy integration”](#) form the ‘Sustainable development defined’ resources area.
- Briefings [“Routemaps”](#) and [“Policy integration and LSPs”](#)
- The case studies ‘CS and LSPs’
- PowerPoint presentation [slides 2 and 3](#).

NB Click on [Hints for managing workshops](#) for general guidance on running successful workshops.

Summary (indicative timings are shown in brackets)

### **1. Introductions** (10 minutes)

Introductions, agree objectives for the workshop (these can be used for evaluation of the session at the end).

## **2. Plenary presentation and discussion: Sustainable development and community strategies and LSPs (20 minutes)**

A short presentation:

The sustainable development ‘hooks’ within the guidance and legislation (see the briefing [“Why sustainable development is important for local authorities and their partners”](#) from the ‘Sustainable development defined’ Resources area, and making the explicit link between community well-being and sustainable development principles. A strength of the guidance is its links to existing structures and strategies which promote sustainable development.

Facilitate a discussion about how these new powers and structures could be used to work towards community well-being / sustainable development. Keep the discussion short (max 10 mins) and try to head off any tendency to philosophise. Note on the flip-chart. Introduce the idea that the local authority is already doing many related things ... that the opportunities build on existing knowledge and experience.

NB: This discussion could be couched more in terms of what was holding us back before, and now that the new power and the community strategy / LSP process offers opportunities to move beyond this, what does this mean for sustainable development?

## **3. Mind-mapping brainstorm / or use of existing lists: Issues of concern (35 minutes)**

Purpose of session: to compile a list of issues and themes that can be used to inform the following plenary discussion about the role of sustainable development principles within community strategies and LSPs.

- a) Option 1: To use existing lists of issues identified through the community strategy process
- b) Option 2: To create a mind map of issues which concern participants and which they feel are moving us further away from the sort of future they want– these could be local, regional, national or global concerns. This is described in the Workshop resources [“Managing a mind map”](#) and [“Using a mind map to explore issues which move us further away from our vision of the future”](#).

## **4. Plenary discussion: Drawing lessons from the mind map (40 minutes)**

Facilitate a five minutes discussion about the key trends or initiative groupings identified on the mind map. These could be documented simply by drawing around groupings on the map, or by noting the trends on a flip-chart. To help with this discussion use the Workshop resource [“Using a mind map to explore issues which move us further away from our vision of the future”](#).

**5. Wrap up and action planning: Learning for the community strategy and LSP processes**  
(15 minutes)

Use this session to draw out lessons for the community strategy and LSP processes within your area.

Facilitate a discussion about how sustainable development principles can be used to strengthen the community strategy and LSP process:

- The need for processes which promote integrated decision making, helping to address some of the crunch issues identified in the workshop
- The need to work with partners to develop these solutions.

Agree next steps for integrating this learning into the community strategy and LSP process.