

# Kingsbury Ward Development Plan

## Summary

### A ward with quality housing

Our commitments

- Birches Green – to improve the appearance of estates by clearing rubbish, litter and graffiti
- Castle Vale – to continue working in partnership with the Hosing Action Trust to complete development of the Castle Vale estate.
- Pype Hayes – the continuing redevelopment of this area

### Access and mobility for all

Our commitments:

- To improve access to public buildings
- To work with other agencies and improve transport for people with disabilities such as Ring and Ride

### A safer cleaner ward

Our commitments:

- Safer, cleaner streets and neighbourhoods
- Safer, cleaner parks and play areas
- Traffic calming
- More CCTV cameras
- Work together with Police, Schools, and community organisations to reduce crime and disorder across the ward.
- Extra pedestrian crossings.

### Better facilities for older people

Our commitments:

- Support Social Clubs
- Improve facilities for disabled people

### A better ward for young people

Our commitments:

- Support before and after school clubs
- Equip and support youth clubs and sports clubs
- Purchase equipment for pre-school playgroups, mother and toddler clubs
- Provide funding for holidays for children who might otherwise not benefit
- Support training of volunteers to run youth clubs and sports clubs
- Work with local businesses to create partnerships and secure sponsorship in future years

### A ward for learning

Our commitments:

- To raise standards of pupil achievement and school improvement for all youngsters in the ward
- To fund opportunities for life long learning for everybody in the ward and to give all people a chance to contribute their skills and experience back to the community

### Achievements/the future

Much of the housing stock in Castle Vale and Pye Hayes has been replaced and this has been accompanied by environmental improvements and investment in health and community facilities.

The redevelopment of the Castle Vale area has been undertaken by the Housing Action Trust (HAT), established in 1993. The rebuilding of the Pye Hayes estate has been carried out by the City Council, in partnership with private developers and housing associations.

Castle Vale is undergoing a 12-year, £270 million regeneration by the HAT, directly funded by the government. Although the changes chiefly entail ambitious and far-reaching physical changes and community initiatives, one of the most important aspects of the HAT's work is the development of future "succession" options.

The issue of what will happen once the HAT has finished improving the estate in 2005 has been addressed from the outset and already a number of vehicles are in place which the HAT is confident will be sustained long into the future. The HAT has so far developed the following "succession" options:

- A democratically elected tenants/residents group – the tenants and residents alliance (TRA). This is the first point of contact for the HAT on all strategic issues that affect the future of the estate.
- A community based housing association (Castle Vale Community Housing Association) which has a 50% resident representation on the board and manages around 500 homes.
- A Development trust – Merlin Venture Ltd – to develop employment and training opportunities for castle Vale residents, a role currently fulfilled by the HAT.
- A Charitable Fund for good causes
- A Credit Union to help residents borrow and save at reasonable rates
- In addition the TRA are, with HAT support, promoting the idea of Tenant Management on Castle Vale.