

seven years of new thinking, new investment

...Newlands





Cutting the ribbon at new sports facilities

// Newlands will produce an empowered, educated, skilled and healthy community, a refurbished and improved environment and a functioning local economy, in the five estates of Thorpe Edge, Ravenscliffe & Greengates, Fagley, Bradford Moor and Thornbury. //

Where we've come from

In March 1997 the Newlands Partnership set out with £17.6 million of Single Regeneration Budget (SRB) and ambitious plans to empower the local community.

Seven years on, the achievements have been outstanding.

Where we started...

The Newlands Partnership focuses on the area covered by Thorpe Edge, Greengates, Ravenscliffe, Fagley, Thornbury and Bradford Moor.

When the Newlands programme began the community suffered from long-term unemployment and the associated problems of poverty, crime, low educational achievements and poor health.

But Newlands saw the area's potential - a prime location on the Leeds side of Bradford adjacent to beautiful Yorkshire countryside - and the regeneration began.

Equally important, the Newlands Partnership wanted to create sustainable investment growth, providing a solid foundation from which the community could continue to grow and flourish.

What we did...

Five areas key to the future welfare of Newlands were identified:

- Education and training
- Employment initiatives
- Environmental and physical infrastructure
- Crime prevention
- Social, community and health / cultural
 - Community centres
 - Land and building purchases



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A holistic approach to regenerating the Newlands area was taken, as it was vital that all the problems faced by the people of Newlands were tackled together.

As a result, a range of projects designed to approach the problems within each key area were implemented.

What we achieved . . .

Not only has the Newlands Partnership smashed many of its ambitious targets during the last seven years but, more significantly, it has made a real impact on the lives of people within the community.

In a nutshell, the Newlands Partnership has supported over 100 projects, created nearly 500 jobs, helped thousands of individuals, and improved over 4000 homes, but that's only part of the story.

"Now residents across Newlands have new health and community facilities in the heart of their neighbourhood. Other notable successes at Newlands include the SPEED project, making homes safe for residents; Artworks, bringing arts to the people; and the Environment Fund, that helped pay for small environmental improvements undertaken by local communities," said Jez Lester, past chief executive at Newlands Partnership.

Keep reading on for more achievements from the key project areas >



Victoria Rangers rugby club wearing their distinctive Newlands strip with pride



Jack Straw meets local children during his visit to Greengates and Ravenscliffe

A future to look forward to . . .

The Newlands programme officially finishes on 30 September 2004, but it's the beginning rather than the end of the story.

Many of the projects are already self-sustaining and a forward strategy is in place to keep the momentum going. Furthermore, the Newlands Community Association (NCA) has been created to continue the work started by the Newlands Partnership.

...IT HAS MADE A REAL IMPACT ON THE LIVES OF PEOPLE WITHIN THE COMMUNITY...

"We can be proud of the legacy that the Partnership has left the Newlands community in its forward strategy. There is now a portfolio of land and buildings that will only grow in value, ensuring that there are resources and revenue available to the community to seed further regeneration works in the future," said Newlands Partnership's past chief executive, Jim Smith.



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Making the grade at Newlands

When the Newlands Partnership first began the area had a low academic record and high unemployment. Levels of literacy and qualifications fell short of national and local averages.

The challenge for the Newlands Partnership was to encourage a culture of lifelong learning among the community, with an overall aim to:

Enhance the employment prospects, education and skills of local people, particularly the young and those at a disadvantage and promote equality of opportunity.

Over the last seven years a number of projects aimed at different levels of learning have been successfully implemented.

Below is a selection of the initiatives that have taken place >

Better Reading Partnership: The objective of this project was to increase the reading ability of pupils of all ages by providing one-to-one support. The project also offered employment for local adults, plus work experience and training for volunteers.

Parental Involvement: By forging an essential link between parents, pupils, schools and the wider community, this project developed a greater understanding by parents of their children's education. In turn this led to a reduction in problems like truancy.

... ENCOURAGE A CULTURE OF
LIFELONG LEARNING
AMONG THE COMMUNITY...

Top Marks

Check out some of the facts and figures achieved by the Newlands Partnership Education and Training programme over the last seven years:

- 55,395 Young people benefiting from personal/ social development
- 10,098 Pupils benefiting from projects designed to raise attainment
- 9,801 Training weeks
- 1,982 People trained obtaining qualifications
- 247 People trained obtaining a job
- 603 Residents obtaining employment through guidance and support

£3.8million SRB spend
£8.2million Total spend

No time to waste! A Newlands resident on route to training



Access to Training: Education and training for people of 16 years and upward was available through Access to Training. All the courses provided were designed to help people into employment, and almost 900 individuals benefited from this project during its lifetime.

Horticultural Project: This ongoing initiative allows trainees to work towards a vocational qualification while providing a valuable community service by renovating small areas of derelict land and developing community gardens. The project is especially suited to individuals with disabilities or learning difficulties.



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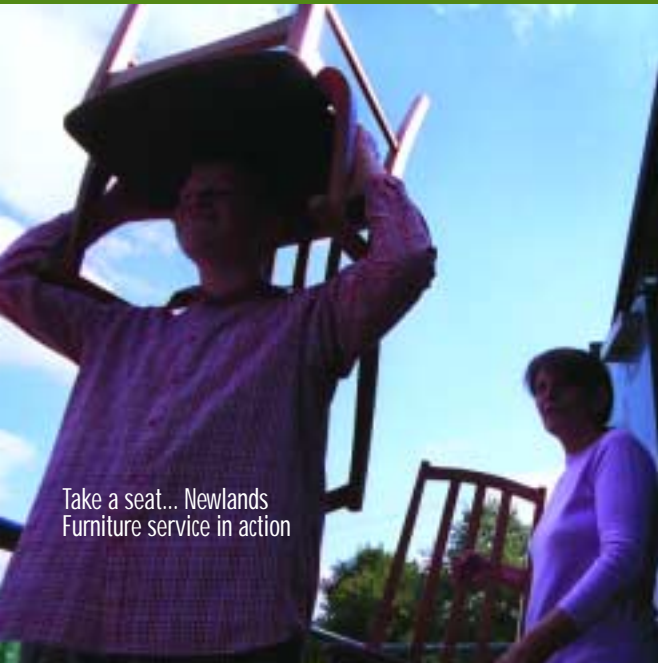
In a community with chronic unemployment problems, creating opportunities for sustainable businesses and long-term employment was seen as vital, particularly as economic regeneration contributes to many other areas of the programme.

Employment initiatives focused on two main areas. Firstly, finding more opportunities for employment with existing organisations, and secondly, offering assistance, advice and relevant training for business start-ups.

Over the last seven years, the Newlands Partnership has started to turn around the area's economic decline.

Some of the projects responsible for this upturn in economic fortune are detailed below >

Local Enterprise: A continuing initiative, Local Enterprise aims to develop and support community enterprises. It helps small and new local businesses by providing low-level grants for feasibility studies and development, help with publicity materials and use of equipment. In addition, Local Enterprise includes a 'Jobshop' to help individuals find employment.



A good job done

Take a look at some of the facts and figures achieved by the Newlands Partnership Employment Initiatives programme over the last seven years:

486	Jobs created
174	Jobs safeguarded
7,856	Square metres of new business/ commercial floorspace
1,358	Businesses advised
34	Community enterprise start-ups

£1.1million SRB spend
£2.2million Total spend

Take a seat... Newlands
Furniture service in action

Furniture Service: This sustainable community business supplies low-cost furniture to local people of all ages on low incomes. The project also links with organisations such as women's refuges to assist individuals fleeing from violence to set up home in a new, safe area.

...ECONOMIC REGENERATION CONTRIBUTES TO MANY OTHER AREAS OF THE PROGRAMME...

Business Support: Providing employment support for self employed people and those looking to create new business start ups, this project continues to offer grants and training. Advice is also available to new and existing organisations on general business operations, marketing and IT. The project has also facilitated the re-development of the Parklands Business Centre, Greengates.

// I recently attended a beginners' course in IT at Enterprise 5, with an organisation called Skills Academy. In my opinion it is a way forward for unemployed and low-income people. //

SKILLS ACADEMY, COURSE PARTICIPANT



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A place to live and play

Seen as an important aspect of the area's overall regeneration, the Newlands Partnership placed a great deal of emphasis on the physical and environmental regeneration of the area.

Originally Newlands was blighted by poor quality housing and empty flats and houses. There were areas of derelict land with fly-tipping and there was a lack of safe leisure facilities for children and young people within the community.

The Newlands Partnership helped to create cleared sites where developers and housing associations could build brand new homes to replace old and empty buildings. It also helped to landscape green areas to make them an asset to the community. New communities were created in a pleasant, secure environment.

Detailed below are just some of the projects that have been undertaken>

Children's Play Areas: New play areas have been constructed at Thorpe Edge, Ravenscliffe and Fagley. Aimed at children and young people, the areas provide multi-play leisure facilities and include surfaces for sports such as football, basketball and cricket plus fenced play areas. Funding for three multi-use kickabout areas at Bradford Moor Park was also provided.

Fagley Road / Gain Lane Junction: In association with Bradford Council, traffic lights have been provided at this notorious accident black spot.

... EMPHASIS ON THE PHYSICAL AND ENVIRONMENTAL REGENERATION OF THE AREA ...

Fagley Play Area Security: The existing play area at Fagley received security fencing to prevent invasion by motorcycles and horses. The area was further improved with the provision of seating, litter bins and a lit footpath that allows children access to the park without having to travel down busy roads. The project had the full support and participation of the Fagley Village Forum.



Thorpe Edge football team take part in the 2003 Round Bradford Tournament, winning the fair play trophy

The numbers game

If you're into statistics, the facts and figures achieved by the Newlands Partnership Environmental and Physical Infrastructure programme over the last seven years are pretty impressive. Here's a sample:

- 5 Community play areas built
- 13 Sports facilities improved
- 3,706 Local people given access to new sports facilities
- 31.53 Hectares of land reclaimed for open space

£1.1million SRB spend
£2.8million Total spend



// It's much better now - more kids come to use it, and more people can play at once because it used to be just one pitch, rather than three. //

A YOUNG NEWLANDS RESIDENT ENJOYING ONE OF THE THREE KICKABOUT AREAS AT BRADFORD MOOR PARK



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Newlands - all together now

It's all very well providing outstanding facilities, creating opportunities for education, training, employment and economic growth and implementing crime prevention programmes, but the Newlands Partnership had higher aspirations in mind. It wanted to create a real and enduring community spirit - to empower the people within Newlands to take ownership and direction of their future.

Several community groups already existed at the start of the Newlands programme, based at community centres throughout the area. However, while some groups had a great deal of enthusiasm, funds were limited and membership and confidence were often low.

Powerhouse: Through this project, the Newlands Partnership set out to give these community groups a voice, support them with facilities and offer advice and training to help them develop. Over the last seven years the Powerhouse project has supported numerous groups and developed several new innovative and creative projects to help the people of Newlands help themselves, including **Culture Club:** which provided education and improved knowledge of cultural issues in an effort to ease racial tension in this multi-cultural area.

Artworks: Another project designed to bring communities closer together, Artworks worked across the five Newlands estates, using creativity to engage local people in the regeneration of their communities.

// The new facilities will bring important services to local people and have involved bringing the resources of different partners together. //

GARETH LOGAN, CHAIR OF THORPE EDGE COMMUNITY FORUM,
TALKING ABOUT THE OPENING OF THE ROCKWELL CENTRE, THORPE EDGE



Turf cutting at Eccleshill School

Community Focus

Funding has been provided through the Newlands Partnership to improve and increase the number of community centres available throughout the area.

Thornbury Centre: The Newlands Partnership provided financial aid for the Thornbury Centre which replaced the previously demolished St Margaret's Church, but now offers far more. The Thornbury Centre houses a community centre, a branch library, childcare facilities, café and meeting rooms.

Holybrook Centre: The original Brookfield first school was acquired for the community and converted into the Holybrook centre, which now provides a base for community groups in the area and a much needed community facility in the Greengates estate.

Rockwell Centre, Thorpe Edge: A major development, the Rockwell Centre has provided essential social and health facilities for the area. It involved the construction of a medical centre for six doctors and a pharmacy, plus a new community centre complete with nursery, childcare facilities, café and meeting rooms.

St John's Centre, Fagley: Through investment and renovation, this declining church has evolved into a vibrant community centre used by a host of local community groups.



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Facilities in good health

Poor health is often associated with deprived neighbourhoods. Newlands was no different and health was a particular issue that the Partnership set out to improve.

Within the Powerhouse project a dedicated health team was established to identify and address the particular health needs of the Newlands community. Various initiatives and safety courses were implemented, including:

Young Lifesavers: This initiative provided valuable training and lifesaving qualifications for young people in Newlands.

Homesafety: Free safety equipment for families with young children was made available through the Homesafety service.

Counting on the community

To give you an idea of what has been achieved through the Newlands Partnership Social, Community and Health/Cultural programme, check out a selection of the facts and figures.

6,970 Local people have access to new health facilities

1,808 Local people have access to improved health facilities

55 New cultural facilities

24 Improved cultural facilities

25,386 Local people have access to new cultural facilities

1,004 Community groups supported

1,214 Voluntary groups supported

5,111 Individuals involved in voluntary work

1,127 New childcare / childminding places

185 Capacity-building initiatives carried out

4,574 Construction weeks

£8.5million SRB spend
£17.9million Total spend



Rosie Winterton, Minister for Health, topping out at the new community hospital

A clear impact of the Newlands Partnership programme has been the improved provision of healthcare facilities within the area.

Thorpe Edge Doctors Surgery: This new surgery provides much needed primary healthcare facilities for the local community. The facility generates income through surgery unit rental, which will be used to fund future projects in the Newlands area.

...INNOVATIVE AND CREATIVE PROJECTS TO HELP THE PEOPLE OF NEWLANDS HELP THEMSELVES...

Eccleshill Community Hospital: Built on the site of Eccleshill Upper School, the 18-bed hospital has an integral Diagnostic and Treatment Centre for outpatients, as well as a doctors surgery. This allows diagnostic procedures and day-case surgery to be carried out quickly and locally, benefiting everyone in the community.

// **The development is part of an exciting large-scale investment programme in the whole of the Newlands area.** //

BOB SOWMAN, CHAIR OF THE NEWLANDS PARTNERSHIP,
SPEAKING ABOUT THE ECCLESHILL HOSPITAL PROJECT



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An unfortunate side effect of the high unemployment, poor facilities and rundown areas that prevailed prior to the Newlands Partnership was a high crime rate.

Recognising that crime was a major obstacle to the regeneration of the area, the Newlands Partnership placed a great deal of emphasis on tackling crime and its root causes.

In partnership with the local police, and linking into the Bradford District Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy, the Newlands approach to crime is so successful that it has been adopted by other police divisions in Bradford.

Here are a few of the projects that helped create a safer and more secure environment for the Newlands community >

Caution Plus: By continuing to target young offenders between 9 and 25 years old, this project aims to reduce youth crime by diverting youngsters into alternative pastimes such as leisure activities, training and education. Through Caution Plus, volunteers are also trained to support Police Youth Service Officers.

...THE NEWLANDS APPROACH TO
CRIME IS SO SUCCESSFUL THAT IT
HAS BEEN ADOPTED BY OTHER
POLICE DIVISIONS...

Youth Action Team: This project worked to train 18 - 25 year olds to act as role models and mentors in their local communities, providing a credible link for young people to existing agencies. In doing so it ensured that young people were effectively involved in crime prevention initiatives.



Extra locks being fitted as part of the SPEED initiative

Crime facts

The Newlands Partnership Crime Prevention programme has achieved some pretty impressive statistics over the last seven years. Here are just some of them.

- 119 Community safety initiatives
- 631 Youth crime initiatives
- 21,318 Young people on youth crime initiatives
- 23,575 Beneficiaries of community safety initiatives
- 4,150 Dwellings with upgraded security
- 28 Business security upgrades

£1.8million SRB spend
£3.7million Total spend

SPEED (Securing Properties Effectively Economically and Daily): Households in the Newlands area that have experienced a break-in, attempted break-in or are at risk of being broken into are targeted by SPEED. Crime prevention experts work with these vulnerable people to increase security and reduce the likelihood of a repeat burglary. SPEED continues to be an outstanding success, reducing crime by a massive 26% in some areas.



// **This has been a really huge success in reducing crime and reducing the fear of crime, and therefore improving the quality of people's lives.** //

PC JEZ MOORE COMMENTING ON NEWLANDS' SPEED PROJECT

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Over the last seven years the Newlands community has changed, almost beyond recognition in certain parts. New housing has replaced derelict dwellings, multi-purpose play areas provide young people with a safe alternative to street corners and the community now benefits from state-of-the-art health facilities.

What's more, improved facilities and opportunities for residents and community groups have boosted community spirit and reduced crime. Individuals have greater access to education and training opportunities and there is more support and encouragement for existing and new businesses.

None of this would have been possible without both SRB funding and an enormous amount of hard work and enthusiasm from members of the community, volunteers and the Newlands Partnership team.



Planting seeds of hope - young people work on a Newlands horticultural project

So what happens now?

It's vital that all the good work achieved over the last seven years continues after September 2004. To ensure that this happens, the Newlands Partnership SRB programme has had a forward strategy in place from the outset.

Many of the projects established through the Newlands Partnership are already self-sustaining.

The scheme has also built up an asset base valued at over £2 million. Income generated from these assets and other profitable projects, such as the Thorpe Edge Doctors Surgery and the hospital in Eccleshill, will provide financial support for further developments in the local area.

...THE NEWLANDS PARTNERSHIP SRB PROGRAMME HAS HAD A FORWARD STRATEGY IN PLACE FROM THE OUTSET...

Responsibility for managing these assets and future projects will be the job of the scheme's successor - the Newlands Community Association (NCA). Over the last few months a number of projects have already been handed over to the NCA.

Working with Bradford Council and Yorkshire Forward, the NCA will play an important role in ensuring funding generated by the assets it manages is effectively distributed to generate new regeneration initiatives, delivered by and for the local communities.

The Newlands Partnership wishes to thank everyone who has helped to make the regeneration a success. In particular thanks go to Yorkshire Forward who were the lead funding agency providing £17.6 million of government money, Bradford Council who were the accountable body responsible for managing the bureaucracy, all of the many agencies who contributed staff time and funds, and all the project managers who worked tirelessly to get results. And above all thanks go to the many local people who contributed their time, their local knowledge and their talents to support the regeneration in so many different ways. Without them none of this would have been possible. Newlands was above all else a success for community leadership.



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For further information:

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