

PAGE 3: Menu of Opportunities

The following is a menu of opportunities for business community involvement. The list is not exhaustive and is an easy introduction to the range of activities with which businesses can get involved locally in support of neighbourhood renewal.

The menu is divided into five themes:

Education, Enterprise, Crime, Employment and **Local Strategic Partnerships & Community Support**

Menu of Opportunities - Education

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Provide work experience for secondary school pupils	Contribute to the school curriculum by providing project work, speakers and resources. Become a school governor	Adopt a school to develop a long-term partnership providing a range of skills
Provide workplace visits for primary schools to help raise ambition	Provide sponsorship for local education and regeneration initiatives, such as school bids for specialist status and new community facilities	Help schools / colleges develop and deliver employer based vocational courses for 14 – 16 year olds. Help schools plan and bid for specialist status e.g. in enterprise
Encourage staff to give an hour a week to help with reading or maths in schools	Share senior management experience with a head teacher	Set up an education partnership centre on business premises to provide work related learning and inspiration for young people
Provide learning mentors for students	Develop education projects with schools which are specific to the company's expertise	Contribute specialist expertise to a school or cluster of schools

Menu of Opportunities - Enterprise

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Provide business role models to assist enterprise teaching schools	Provide mentoring and expertise for new business start-ups, SME's & social enterprises including how to secure cash investment and growth strategies	Partner in a school in the teaching of enterprise by providing a range of business skills and resource
Be an advisor to a Young Enterprise or a Prince's Trust youth business	Provide loan finance for community enterprises or business start-ups (e.g. through Community Development Finance Initiatives).	Work with groups of local businesses to develop strategies for working together to address the needs of their area
Promote involvement with start-ups and small enterprises to retirees	Open up procurement processes to enable local firms and social enterprises to bid for contracts	<p>Work alongside a Regional Development Agency (SEEDA) or Local Strategic Partnership to develop enterprise support strategies</p> <p>Spearhead the development of a Business Improvement District, where businesses pay a supplement on their business rate to be spent on local improvements decided by business to help enterprise</p>

Menu of Opportunities - Crime

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Coordinate spending with other local businesses and the public sector services such as CCTV and security patrols	Provide work experience placements or mentoring for ex-offenders and other individuals who may be more difficult to employ	Set up or join a group of local businesses to improve security and the business environment eg. ShopWatch or Bar Watch, 3C's Committee
Encourage staff to volunteer support for youth activities	Support preventative action with youth (e.g. help with the development of employment preparation initiatives to improve their attractiveness to business	Improve product design and architecture to reduce crime (e.g. phones and cars)
Provide rewards for youth achievement	Offer mentoring / advice to leaders of youth crime projects to help them connect more effectively with the world of business	Provide business expertise to police and local authorities in breaking down silos, sharing information, IT solutions, etc.
Sponsor crime prevention initiatives or local graffiti clear-up days		

Menu of Opportunities - Employment

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
<p>Advertise job vacancies through local Job Centres and commit to employing locally where possible, reflecting the diversity of the area</p>	<p>Enter a partnership with local organisations to train and recruit staff to new operations</p>	<p>Provide job opportunities for people with disabilities, those who have been homeless or who have been offenders or unemployed for over 6 months</p>
<p>Help unemployed people become ready for work by providing work experience or other skills training</p>	<p>Develop internal awareness and recruitment practices to cut out postcode discrimination and inappropriate barriers</p>	<p>Provide job coaches for previously unemployed people in their first 6 months in work</p>
<p>Take on Modern Apprentices</p>	<p>Help with practice interviews and provide help with CV writing in employment centres</p>	<p>Help with youth development and employment programmes to make them attractive to business</p>
<p>Indicate the training you believe local people will need in order to make them attractive potential employees so that others can attempt to meet those training needs</p>	<p>Develop a partnership with a local community based job club to help them relate to employers' needs</p>	

Menu of Opportunities – LSP and community support

Level 1	Level 2	Level 3
Join local residents in a town centre or estate clean-up day	Give advice to community project managers to help them with business analysis and making connections	Form a strategic long term partnership with the local authority or Regional Development Agency to share skills and develop capacity
Take part in a team challenge for a voluntary organisation	Offer professional advice free of charge to voluntary organisations	Sponsor the development of a Business Action Group focussed on business support for communities locally
Support local community events with money or skills	Join the management committee of a voluntary organisation or regeneration project	Become a member of the LSP Board to develop and follow through strategy, represent business views and feed back to the business community
Donate surplus products, equipment and materials to the community	Join a LSP sub-group or help facilitate consultation events	Share business skills to help develop effective leadership and governance of the LSP
Make meeting rooms or spare places on in-house training schemes available to local community groups		

Note: This menu of suggested actions for businesses to support local Neighbourhood Renewal is intended to provide a starting point whether large or small. The three levels progress from simple / one-off actions at level one through to more sophisticated support at levels two and three.