

APPENDIX C: Glossary Of Terms

Communities of Geography: Communities with a geographical basis. Eg a residents association which defines itself by area, a number of streets, an estate or neighbourhood

Communities of Interest: These transcend geography. Older people, younger people, people with a disability, BME groups and others. People included within these groups will come from anywhere in the town, not just one, discrete, area. They may have different needs from residents who are more geographically based and there must be, therefore, different structures which are not based around “place” to ensure that their voices are heard and that services are alive to their needs and priorities.

Community Cohesion: Ensuring that all the different people and groups living in the town feel that they can live and work harmoniously together and that there is a genuine sense of community within the town. Ensuring that no group gains an unfair advantage over others and that services are of a high quality and delivered to all residents wherever they live and wherever they are.

Community Engagement: Working in a range of neighbourhoods or with communities of interest to listen to their concerns and to help individuals form themselves into groups or residents’ associations, and to retain the support of the residents in their area over time

Community Capacity Building: Providing relevant training and information to help communities to build and retain residents’ associations, run them effectively and to ensure they have a full understanding of how to address the issues in their areas in partnership with the Council and other organisations

Community Empowerment: Enabling communities to move from expressing concerns about their area and commenting on the level and quality of services they receive to the shaping of those services so that they are better able to meet their needs. This can only be achieved after high and sustained levels of community capacity building