



Ringwood's Future 2008 Strategic Implementation Programme



RINGWOOD'S FUTURE

STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME

One of the over-riding aims of the Strategic Implementation Programme is to influence the service plans of other agencies, in particular New Forest District and Hampshire County Councils. The townspeople's views and feelings may be incorporated into the Local Development Framework. These key issues have been identified through local consultation and analysis, and this programme lists a number of measures which will help address the problems. Whilst different projects will require different agencies/organisations to be the lead, the organisation that will facilitate or promote the process is Ringwood Town Council (**RTC**). A number of potential partners have been proposed, since it is most likely that they are the appropriate agency to assist in the achievement of the aims of the Plan and indeed, where required, to lead. It must be noted that, at this time, this can in no way commit the organisations listed to taking these measures, as discussions need to be held with each of them on the projects in terms of feasibility and resources.

STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION PROGRAMME PRIORITIES

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- **THE ENVIRONMENT:-** The beautiful areas surrounding Ringwood are highly valued by the community and feature most strongly on the list of things that people like most about living in the area. To help protect this, people have clearly expressed the view that future necessary development should be very carefully managed, both with regard to position and quality of design. There is a need to improve the appearance of the Town, both in terms of the built and natural environment, and to create more green open space. There should be more access to the River Avon from the town - at present this is a wasted resource. There is a need to address the unacceptable behaviour that leads to excess litter, graffiti and dog waste spoiling the local environment. Risk of flooding needs to be assessed and addressed on an on-going basis.

No.	Theme	Key issues identified in the Town Plan	Projects	Objectives	Short, Medium or Long Term	Facilitating Organisation and Potential Partners
1.	Built Environment	Attractive townscape marred by poor signage. Visitors tend not to find their way through to Southampton Road, the High Street and Market Place. Visitors are not encouraged to call in from the A 31.	1.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve and co-ordinate signage in the town through the Signage Project Group • Improve signage from the A31, A338 • Produce Parish Maps which also show seating, gradients. 	Visitors will find their way easily and readily about the town, especially from the Furlong Car Park through to the High Street, Southampton Road and Market Place. Footfall will increase in those areas. Increased number of visitors travelling on the A31 will call into town.	Short	RTC Potential Partners NFDC, HCC, local businesses, New Forest Access For All

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		Inadequate and unattractive street furniture	1.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working group to audit street furniture over the whole parish • Decide on appropriate design(s) • Improve, add and co-ordinate where necessary • Ensure that seats are added to the town maps 	Attractive, co-ordinated street furniture that enhances the appearance of the town and that is sited for the maximum benefit of the community. Disabled and elderly will be able to plan their routes around the town with needed rest stops.	Short	RTC Potential Partners HCC, NFDC, NFAFA, local interested parties
		Unattractive, uneven pavements and poor accessibility in places	1.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the narrow, uneven pavements. • Install dropped kerbs and crossing points where needed 	Attractive, even and safe pavements which will enhance the street scene, improve safety (by reducing falls) and accessibility in the High Street, Christchurch Road and Southampton Road	Short	RTC Potential Partners HCC, NFDC, Chamber of Commerce, NFAFA
		<p>Entry to Ringwood in the Furlong Car Park is unsightly, unattractive and gives no clue that it is an attractive market town.</p> <p>Old cinema is unsightly and dilapidated.</p> <p>Linkages between the Furlong Car Park and the High Street, Market Place and Southampton Road are not clear and make it difficult for</p>	1.4 Encourage environmental improvement initiatives and developments to improve certain areas of and linkages within the town: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Old cinema - support private developer with plans to renovate cinema building and improve linkages between Furlong and Market Place/High Street • Eastern and Western Service Roads • Southampton Road • Back of buildings as seen 	<p>Attractive entry to the town.</p> <p>Good, clear, attractive linkages between the Furlong Car Park, High Street, Market Place and Southampton Road.</p> <p>Cinema building attractively restored.</p> <p>No dilapidated and run down areas.</p>	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC, HCC, Chamber of Commerce, Ringwood Society

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		visitors.	from car park - support development that will hide these buildings whilst not decreasing the number of parking spaces			
		The town centre is degraded by chewing gum on the pavements. Dog excrement, litter and graffiti are problematic in certain areas	1.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean up the town centre and pavements. • Work with HCC/NFDC on the litter problem on the A31 to resolve it. • Maintain a clean and tidy town by working to change practice through a combination of effective communications and targeted penalties 	Clean town centre Chewing gum removed from pavements Fewer people throwing litter and gum on the pavements Fewer incidents of dog fouling Less litter on A31	Short and then on-going	RTC Potential Partners NFDC, HCC, schools, police Local press
2.	Natural environment, features and green open space	Many residents complained that there is insufficient access to the River Avon, a natural resource for the town.	2.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support initiatives that offer the public better access to the riverside • Consult on proposals to develop 8 acres at Moortown Farm • Link with Healthy Walks initiatives • Develop conservation activities 	Better access to the riverside for the public More affordable housing Nature trails with information boards and educational activities along the riverside	Medium	RTC Potential Partners Environment Agency, Living River Project, New Forest Access for All, Ringwood and Fordingbridge Footpath Society, Primary Care Trust HCC

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		Town is 47 acres under provisioned with managed green open space	2.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop Carvers as a central Town Park for the enjoyment and benefit of the whole community • Further develop sports facilities and pitches at Long Lane • Improve small, local open spaces such as Pocket Park, Jubilee Gardens and The Mount. • Develop informal, outdoor trim trail facilities. 	More sports pitches for football, rugby, cricket, hockey, netball. Landscaped Town Park with facilities for enjoyment and benefit of town Pocket Park improved for benefit of town	Short - Medium	RTC Potential Partners HCC NFDC PCT Sport Clubs Local environmental groups Other interested parties
		There is no record of significant trees and landmarks	2.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map significant trees and landmarks 	A record of significant trees and landmarks is kept to ensure that they are given due consideration in future planning decisions.	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC, NPA
3.	Cycleways and Footpaths	Castleman Trailway peters out in the town There are no cycle ways down to Long Lane Poorly maintained footpaths	3.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of the quality walking and cycling routes identified by the Walking and Cycling Group • Improve and increase the links and the number of cycle ways within the town and out to the New Forest and Dorset • Ensure that walking route 	Castleman Trailway joined up. More cycle ways in and out of town and linking into the New Forest and Dorset Cycle ways down to Long Lane sports ground Leaflets marked as whether suitable for wheelchair users.	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC, HCC, Ringwood and Fordingbridge Footpath Society, local interest groups/individuals

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			<p>leaflets are marked as whether suitable or not for the disabled.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the public are aware of where to address concerns re condition of footpath/cycle ways and act on the information given to keep them in good condition. • Put up information boards on the Castleman Trailway 	<p>Well maintained footpaths and cycle ways Information boards on the Castleman Trailway</p>		
4.	Climate Change and Recycling	<p>Insufficient opportunities for recycling.</p> <p>Insufficient variety of items can be recycled</p>	<p>4.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lobby to increase the recycling opportunities in Ringwood • Increase the ways in which recycling is collected • Increase the variety of items that can be recycled. • More education about recycling • Ensure that any initiatives re climate change are taken up 	<p>More items being recycled It is easier for people to recycle People have more knowledge of what, how and where to recycle</p>	Short	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC Schools</p>

ECONOMY:- Ringwood has a diverse mix of businesses spread throughout the town and over nine industrial estates. Some businesses are experiencing difficulties because they wish to expand but there is no land available. Salaries are generally low. There is a need to encourage high tech business into the area and provide opportunities for land use that allow existing businesses to expand and provide employment opportunities, rather than lose potential employment to other areas. Any new building should incorporate the necessary infrastructure, including that for upgrading to the fastest speed of internet. Ringwood boasts a good variety of independent shops with some nationals. The recently built Furlong Centre has attracted more ‘up market’ shops and they attract customers from far and wide. However, some independent retailers need to address the challenges of the internet and embrace its opportunities in order to compete. There is an active Chamber of Commerce which could help address some of these issues.

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5.	Housing	Some housing in the past has been built to poor design standards and created unattractive areas in the town	5.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Invite experts in innovative and ecological housing design to create site-specific design briefs to ensure that all new building will be built to attractive and innovative design standards 	New housing built to attractive design and exacting environmental standards	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC
		Insufficient affordable housing First time buyers who have grown up in the town cannot afford to buy. People moving into the area for work are unable to afford houses.	5.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage the allocation of additional land for housing use through the Local Development Framework to enable the building of more affordable housing 	Provide sufficient affordable housing Ensure that there are enough young people in the town to fulfil business needs.	Short	RTC Potential Partners NFDC
6.	Business Needs	Lack of land/premises available to enable businesses to expand Lack of high tech businesses in the town offering highly skilled, high value employment opportunities.	6.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Develop allocated land as soon as possible in line with known business needs, including Crow Arch Lane. Develop the former Wellworthy site as mixed 	Sufficient premises available to allow for the expansion of businesses New business attracted to the town Employment for people who live in the town	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC Private sector developers

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		<p>Low salaries in the area - over reliant on service industries for employment. Lack of top quality hotel accommodation and conference facilities</p>	<p>business and residential use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allocate additional land if necessary • Assess the viability of Lynes Farm for high tech business and high end 3 star hotel. 	<p>Fewer people travelling out of the town to work Employment for highly skilled people. People earning higher salaries High end 3 star hotel to cater for business and community needs.</p>		
		<p>High rents and taxes threaten the existence of small, independent shops. Difficulties of trading in small interiors of listed buildings and obtaining planning permission to alter them.</p>	<p>6.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Facilitate more retail development • Support and encourage more independent businesses in order to maintain the town's distinctiveness and to offer the consumer more choice. • Support necessary alterations to listed building interiors to create modern retail space required 	<p>Ringwood retains a healthy mix of independent shops and high street, national stores which encourage shoppers to shop in town rather than travel to other shopping centres so that the town at least retains its 'market share' in terms of shopping spend. The consumer has a wide choice of shopping. Ringwood is not a 'clone' town. Retailers will have the necessary space to operate in the modern retail environment. An increase in visitors to the town and footfall through all shopping areas.</p>	Short	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC Chamber of Commerce Ringwood Tourism Furlong Centre Management</p>

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		High Street narrow and congested. The number one complaint in surveys.	6.3 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a feasibility study to assess the practicality of pedestrianisation of the High Street and Market Place 	Pedestrianised High Street No more congestion. More pleasant shopping experience Increased footfall.	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC HCC Chamber of Commerce
		Lack of recognisable image for the town	6.4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Design a town brand to establish a recognisable corporate identity to be used as a marketing tool to develop the town's distinctiveness Ensure that the town is well promoted and marketed, especially Ringwood's events and attractions 	Ringwood will be an easily identifiable destination synonymous with quality in the mind of the visitor. Increased footfall in the town. Town logo and colours used by businesses and attractions to create high quality recognition	Short	RTC Potential Partners Chamber of Commerce. Ringwood Tourism. Furlong Centre Management.
		'Run down' and 'unsightly' areas of the town	6.5 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Upgrade Southampton Road 	Increased footfall More attractive street more in keeping with market town image	Short	RTC Potential Partners NFDC HCC
		Shoppers and visitors do not easily find their way from the Furlong to the High Street, Market Place and Southampton Road.	6.6 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support developments that will result in improved and attractive links from the Furlong, into the High Street, Market Place and Southampton Road 	Improved and attractive links from the Furlong, into the High Street, Market Place and Southampton Road. Increased footfall in those areas. Visitors easily find their	Short - Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC

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				way to other parts of the town and feel encouraged to explore and stay.		
7.	Market	Perceived decline in the quality of the market over the years. Stalls face the middle of the road, which is not closed, thus creating danger for pedestrians.	7.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaise with market charter holder to try to effect improvement in the quality of the market • Liaise with market charter holder to turn the stalls so that they are facing the pavements. • Form an Avon Valley Local Producers Market • Invite different markets to the town 	Good quality market with local produce that attracts visitors from a wide area. Safer market with shoppers able to shop on the pavements. More business in the shops because the stalls will be facing the pavements Local economy boosted because of local produce market Demand for local produce satisfied More visitors to the town because of the variety of markets	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC Chamber of Commerce Charter Market Operator
8.	Tourism	Current Visitor Information Centre is shabby and run down. The VIC is not open enough and does not sufficiently cater for visitors' needs.	8.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved Visitor Information facilities with longer opening hours • Supplementary visitor information services at Ringwood Town and Country Experience 	Visitor information available every day and during working hours. Smart and welcoming visitor information centre Increased number of satisfied visitors Increased footfall	Medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC Ringwood Town and Country Experience

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		<p>Lack of sufficient hotel accommodation for business visitors</p> <p>Lack of conference facilities and function rooms locally.</p>	<p>8.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invite expressions of interest from 3/4 Star hotels • If there is sufficient interest, support the construction of such an hotel 	<p>Sufficient hotel accommodation in the area for business visitors, as well as holiday makers. Conference and function facilities available locally of a high standard</p> <p>Additional amenities, such as swimming pool, for the town.</p> <p>More day and staying visitors in the town.</p>	<p>Short – medium</p>	<p>RTC</p> <p>Potential Partners</p> <p>NFDC</p> <p>HCC</p> <p>Chamber of Commerce</p>
9.	Training and Skills	<p>Local skills shortage</p> <p>Lack of training facilities locally post GCSE</p> <p>50% of workforce have no qualifications.</p> <p>Lack of availability of non academic training.</p>	<p>9.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Form a steering group to: • Develop post GCSE training opportunities • Identify what training is needed and how to deliver it • Provide Skills Centre 	<p>Training available locally for skills needed post GCSE.</p> <p>Fewer people travelling out of the town to access training courses.</p> <p>Increase in the skills of the local workforce</p>	<p>Short</p>	<p>Ringwood School</p> <p>Potential Partners</p> <p>Brockenhurst College.</p> <p>Learning & Skills Council.</p> <p>Train to Gain.</p> <p>RTC</p>

TRANSPORT AND ACCESSIBILITY:- The A31, whilst being Ringwood's lifeline, also brings traffic misery. The road is already operating close to capacity with long tailbacks in both directions at peak times and on weekends. It is a source of both air and noise pollution. Congestion in the town is another problem with illegal parking in the High Street adding to the difficulties. The proposal for a relief road needs to be studied in earnest along with an appraisal of the exits onto the A31, whilst also considering pedestrianisation of the High Street and Market Place. There is also insufficient long stay car parking which means that the verges on the approaches into the town are littered with cars. Public transport is expensive and unreliable. There is no public transport into the neighbouring towns in the evenings and young people in particular are barred from opportunity if they cannot drive. There is a need to match the availability and cost of public transport services with the wide range of community needs in Ringwood.

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10.	Traffic management in the town	<p>Illegal parking in the High Street. Traffic congested and at times gridlocked.</p>	<p>10.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enforce parking regulations rigorously in the High Street 	<p>Cessation of illegal parking in the High Street Traffic flows freely through the High Street. Congestion is eased. Safer and more pleasant shopping environment.</p>	Short	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC Police</p>
		<p>Accident blackspot on the A31 by the West Street exit. Traffic speeding along the High Street to exit through West Street. Increased congestion as a result of traffic exiting through West Street. Proportions of the High Street naturally lend it to traffic restriction</p>	<p>10.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pedestrianise the High Street or make it one way. Close the West Street exit 	<p>Creation of a much more pleasant shopping environment. Ability to hold events in the High Street and Market Place. Increased footfall. No more congestion, gridlock and speeding traffic caused by people using the West Street exit onto the A31. Fewer accidents on the A31 at the West Street exit.</p>	Medium	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC Highways Authority (HCC) Police</p>

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		<p>Car parking around the schools creates a hazardous situation.</p> <p>Roads around the schools are very congested</p>	<p>10.3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initiatives to encourage more children to walk to school or come by bus 	<p>Fewer children are driven to school in cars.</p> <p>More children are walking or cycling to school.</p> <p>Safer and less congested outside schools.</p>	Short	<p>RTC</p> <p>Potential Partners</p> <p>Ringwood Schools</p> <p>HCC</p> <p>Police</p>
11.	A31 and strategic road network	<p>Congestion on A31 set to become much worse with natural growth in traffic volumes due to development in SE Dorset and Olympic traffic.</p> <p>Very heavy traffic and lorries on the Christchurch Road.</p> <p>Congestion in the High Street.</p> <p>Lack of long stay car parking provision.</p> <p>People who work in Bournemouth parking on verges around the town before being picked up by minibuses.</p> <p>Accidents around the West Street exit.</p> <p>Noise on the A31</p>	<p>11.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commission a study of the whole town from the Transport Research Laboratory to include strategic road network (A31, A338), exits and entries to A31, pedestrianisation, car parking, park and ride possibilities, relief road, Christchurch Road, ways of easing congestion on A31. Reassess transport projects in the light of the findings. Look at strategic solution to long term parking problems 	<p>The viability of the following will have been assessed and it will be possible to move forward with the realistic projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Park and ride Pedestrianisation of the High Street Closure of West Street exit Provision of a Relief Road Additional lane from Ringwood to Verwood junction Effects of variable speed limits on A31 Noise limiting measures on A31 Methods to ease congestion Move the bus depot 	Medium	<p>RTC</p> <p>Potential Partners:</p> <p>HCC</p> <p>Transport Research Laboratory</p> <p>East Dorset District Council</p> <p>New Forest District Council</p> <p>Highways Agency</p>

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		Noise and air pollution from the A31.	11.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new resurfacing to be done with low noise material. • Sound proof fencing to be erected in certain areas. • Noise and air pollution to be monitored in line with European law 	Less noise from the A31.	Medium	RTC Potential Partners: Highways Agency HCC NPA
12.	Public Transport	<p>No buses in the early mornings or evenings around Ringwood or to the neighbouring towns and cities.</p> <p>Such public transport that exists is not affordable for the majority of people, unless they have a bus pass.</p> <p>Cannot access train stations by public transport from Ringwood.</p> <p>Lack of integration of buses with trains.</p> <p>A present there is no shelter for those waiting for a taxi in the Furlong Car Park.</p>	12.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at innovative ways to meet the demand for more public transport that is reliable, affordable and meets people's needs. • Look at ways of providing a bus service to Southampton Airport Parkway, Bournemouth and Brockenhurst • Provide a taxi shelter 	<p>More regular and reliable public transport.</p> <p>People can travel to nearby towns and cities to access work, training and entertainment.</p> <p>Public transport will be more affordable.</p> <p>Bus service will link up with train stations.</p> <p>Fewer cars on the roads.</p> <p>Taxi shelter in the Furlong Car Park</p>	Short	RTC Wilts and Dorset HCC Private entrepreneurs

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		Congestion and difficulties in the High Street caused by buses using the narrow street.	12.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identity a location and work with Wilts and Dorset to relocate the bus depot 	Buses will no longer go up and down the High Street and through the Market Place. Less congestion, noise, pollution. High Street will be safer. Land where the bus depot is can be used for something more attractive and useful.	Medium	RTC Potential Partners Wilts & Dorset HCC/NFDC
13.	Road, pavement and footpath maintenance	Potholes, deteriorating condition of the roads, overhanging vegetation and weeds on footpaths.	13.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publicise complaints and reporting procedures for these problems 	Well-maintained and safer roads, footpaths and pavements. Public are aware of the reporting procedure and use it.	Short	RTC Potential Partners: HCC NFDC
14.	Parking	Gridlock in the Furlong Car Park and outside as far as down Christchurch Road. The layout of the Furlong Car Park does not allow traffic to progress straight to the far end. As a consequence there are very long queues on the highways outside the car parks and unnecessary delays in the town.	14.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change the layout of the Furlong Car Park • Take appropriate measures to provide more long stay parking which will accommodate people working in the town and in Bournemouth and those using the National Express Coaches. 	Traffic will flow freely around the town and queues, delays and gridlock will no longer happen as a result of the layout of the Furlong Car Park. No more cars parked on the verges.	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners: HCC NFDC

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15.	Accessibility	Lack of disabled access to some shops and businesses	15.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map the areas, such as walks, businesses, seats, that are accessible • Integrate into Signage Project Group - show gradients and rest points • Create Town Council commendation for meeting certain standards of accessibility • Produce written information that will identify business premises that are accessible to wheelchair users. 	Disabled people know the degree of ease with which they can access shops and businesses, Maps will clearly show people accessibility information, rest stops etc. Businesses will be rewarded by receiving Town Council commendation for high standards.	Short	RTC Potential Partners New Forest Access For All NFDC Chamber of Trade
		Insufficient crossing points. Some crossing points do not meet a dropped kerb on the other side of the road	15.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that sufficient crossing points are installed 	Sufficient crossing points are installed	Medium	RTC Potential Partners: New Forest Access For All NFDC
16.	Speeding	Speeding in the town	16.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Look at ways of enforcing speed limits 	Enforcement of speed limits	Medium	RTC Potential Partners Hampshire Police

COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL:- The town is comprised of three wards, Ringwood North, Ringwood South and Ringwood East and Sopley. The town appears to be generally prosperous but pockets of real deprivation exist which are largely masked. There are some telling indicators of this problem; for example, in Ringwood South 10% of babies are born with low birth weight which is the highest in the New Forest. There are areas where the quality of life of children and the elderly is negatively affected by poverty.

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17.	Young People	<p>Anti social behaviour amongst young people. Complaints that there is nothing for young people to do. Need for support for families, education in bringing up a family. Insufficient play facilities. Insufficient youth facilities. Insufficient sporting facilities.</p>	<p>17.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Involve young people in Town Council decision making processes. • Form a forum to bring together all service providers for young people and youth organisations to ensure that an integrated approach is adopted. • Sub group to establish more play areas for the whole community, i.e. playgrounds, youth shelters, outdoor gyms. • Sub group to establish need and engage detached youth workers. 	<p>Organisations work together for the benefit of children, families and young people. Greater understanding of the needs of children and young people. Understanding of provision is increased, gaps filled. More for children and young people to do which is targeted at their needs. More youth workers. More play areas. More amenities, e.g. Arts facility, sporting facilities. Drop in which will also give impartial and confidential advice on health, emotional and social issues.</p>	Short	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC NFDC Crime and Disorder Joint Action Group. Ringwood School. Local youth groups. Connexions. Church groups. Drop In.</p>
18.	Amenities	<p>Lack of amenities. Number one on the public's wish list in the Love It, Hate It, I Wish survey - 72% of respondents.</p>	<p>18.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build a high quality Arts Centre incorporating cinema, theatre, concert hall. 	<p>An arts facility with excellent acoustics that will deliver high quality cinema, theatre, concerts, arts exhibition area with</p>	Medium	<p>RTC Potential Partners NFDC</p>

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		Lack of theatre for Forest Forge. All age groups have asked for this facility		bar/restaurant.		
19.	Sporting Facilities	Lack of sporting facilities for town's needs. Lack of amenities. Complaints about facilities and bookings at the District Council's Recreation Centre.	19.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enlarge the facilities at Long Lane • Provide outdoor gyms • Improve the facilities at the Recreation Centre 	Sufficient sports facilities for the town's needs. Improved opportunity for young sportsmen/women. Improved health.	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC HCC PCT Sports Clubs
20.	Health	Statistics show an exceptionally high number of falls in the Avon Valley area compared with others in South West District. Statistics show some problems with drug prescribing. It is very difficult to acquire certain information locally.	20.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish a community health forum to look at specific health issues, and work with providers to address them and raise standards. • Encourage NHS dentists into the town. • Establish an information point to produce relevant information on all health services available in the town • Make sure that this information is held at relevant points such as surgeries, libraries, council offices, youth centres etc. 	People enjoy better health. Fewer falls and therefore broken hips, hospitalisation. Less drain on resources. People access information easily on such areas as drugs and alcohol counselling, any aspect of health.	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners PCT Local doctors' surgeries.
21.	Security	Many complaints from all age groups regarding lack of street lighting in certain areas	21.1 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve street lighting 	More street lighting. People feel safer and have a greater sense of well being	Short - medium	RTC Potential Partners NFDC HCC

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		Ringwood has the highest incidence of crime overall in the New Forest at present.	21.2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the police and other agencies to address this problem and to reduce the fear of crime 	Reduction in crime and disorder.	Short - long	RTC Potential Partners Police NFDC Crime & Disorder JAG Youth Services



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