

**APPENDIX 1: EXTRACT FROM 'TOWARDS A SHARED AGENDA FOR MOLE VALLEY',  
MARCH 2001**

**A FOCUS ON NEIGHBOURHOODS AT RISK**

**Issues identified in interviews:**

- North Leatherhead is an area of particular need, isolated and showing the signs of urban decline – abandoned cars, etc. Removal of Social Services to Dorking has left schools and GP to take on social work / counselling functions – unsustainable. They need a community worker, and a centre
- North Leatherhead had a partnership but needs reviving. Recently formed Cleeve Road Resident's Association needs encouragement.
- Also identified were Goodwyns (drugs detritus a concern), Chart Downs, a couple of streets in Bookham, and some rural pockets of deprivation
- Deprivation in Box Hill needs to be acknowledged and tackled
- Agencies need to respond positively to local communities which want to help themselves eg Goodwyns
- Sustainability of villages, especially closure of post offices and banks
- Community education and learning are important, need to change community norms. Must be local, not a central bureaucracy
- Areas such as Goodwyns and North Leatherhead appear to be 'bolted on' to more affluent communities and largely overlooked.

**Statistics:**

- Housing: Leatherhead North is one of the 15% most deprived wards nationally, and among the worst 5% in Surrey
- Income: Only Leatherhead North is below the national average. Both Leatherhead North and Leatherhead South are among the worst 10% of wards in Surrey for unemployment
- Health: both Leatherhead South and Leatherhead North are below the national average and among the worst 10% of wards in Surrey (this may be because of the high numbers of disabled people living in these wards). The Jarman Index also identifies Dorking South West and Dorking North West as worse than average
- Children: Leatherhead North and North Holmwood are worse than the national average for child poverty, and among the worst 10% of wards within Surrey. Leatherhead North has the sixth highest proportion of <15s Social Services cases. Teenage pregnancies are highest in Leatherhead North, Bookham North and Ashted Common
- Older people: the greatest concentrations of older people in need live in Ashted Village, Bookham North, Leatherhead South and North, and Dorking South East
- Access: Okewood and Leith Hill are among the 10% of worst-served wards nationally. Leith Hill, Rural South and Rural East have very poor public transport access to towns
- Local concentrations: the 7 most deprived enumeration districts in Mole Valley are in Leatherhead North (3), North Holmwood (2) and Box Hill (2).

Ward	DETR index	Housing	Income	Health	Children	Older people	Access	Concentrations
Ashted Vill.						X		
Bookham N						X		
Box Hill								X
Dorking NW				X				
Dorking SE						X		
Dorking SW				X				
L'head North	X	X	X	X	X	X		X
L'head South				X		X		
Leith Hill							X	
N Holmwood					X			X
Okewood							X	

**Public views from recent surveys:**

There is a strong sense of community in the District. 48% of Citizens' Panel respondents saw the village as the basis of their local community, and 51% felt there was a lot of community spirit. 91% were satisfied with their quality of life. Community co-ordination is likely to be well received in Mole Valley (MORI 98).

**Existing strategies:**

Community development and safeguarding the future of village communities is a stated priority for the Mole Valley framework, whilst North Leatherhead and Box Hill are specific priority areas for the Surrey Children's Services Plan.