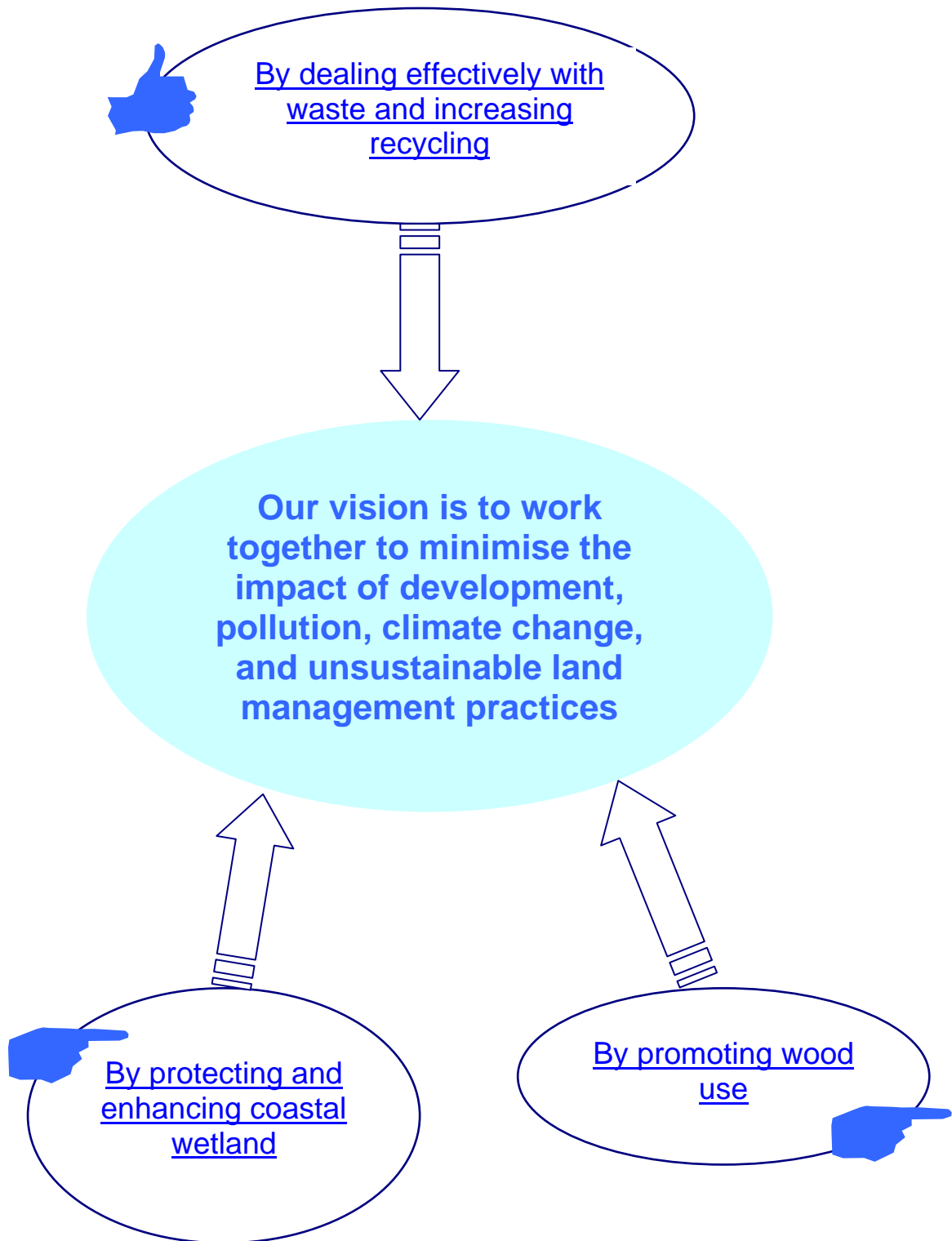





# Protecting and promoting the environment



-  On or exceeding target
-  Progress unclear
-  Not yet on target



# Protecting and promoting the environment

## Target 1: Dealing effectively with waste and increasing recycling



### ***What did we say we would achieve?***

We said we would deal effectively with waste by sending 27% of household waste for recycling and that we would complete 150 visits by the Re-think Rubbish Bus by the end of 2005.

### ***How does this target help achieve our vision?***

We consume a lot of expensive resources in East Sussex. Many of these resources may be in danger of running out, or may damage the environment during their extraction, processing or disposal. By recycling as much as possible we can play our part in reducing the need to produce more and more, protecting natural resources and reducing emissions.

### ***What did we achieve?***

The target of 27% of household waste being sent for recycling was achieved for the year 2005/06.

In 2005/06 the Rethink Rubbish Bus carried out 141 further visits to 81 schools covering all ages of school children, 50 public & community events and 10 household waste recycling sites, providing education and information to 12,697 people. This brings the total of visits by the bus over the last three years to 408, greatly exceeding our target.

### ***Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?***

The Local Area Agreement for East Sussex, which will be the focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership for the next three years, includes the following target:

Target 22.2 Reduce the total levels of waste produced across East Sussex.

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## Target 2: Promoting wood use



### ***What did we say we would achieve?***

We said we would promote wood use, complete 20 site appraisals for local wood use as fuel or timber and install the first industrial-scale wood-fired heating by the end of 2005

### ***How does this target help achieve our vision?***

Wood is an important natural resource in East Sussex. By reminding people of the uses to



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which wood can be put and encouraging its use, we can help sustainable forestry develop in our rural areas.

## ***What did we achieve?***

The Wood Season 2005 programme provided 150 opportunities for people to meet those working with wood in our area; events were organised by residents and local businesses. There were just over 10,000 visitors and 130 exhibitors at WoodFair 2005. WoodFair will continue at Bentley (15-17 September in 2006), organised by Bentley staff. 5 editions of WoodLots magazine (an 'Exchange and Mart'-style magazine for those who have or who want local wood) were produced by WoodNet and supported by one of our partners, East Sussex County Council, reaching 1700 readers.

Efforts have been concentrated on appraising sites suitable for wood-fired heating at Beacon Community College, Crowborough, where it is intended to install a co-fired heating system, using wood as a primary fuel with gas as a back up supply. External funding is being sought to bridge the gap between the capital cost of a wood and non-wood system.

## ***Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?***

The East Sussex Strategic Partnership will be reviewing its Community Strategy at the end of 2006 and will be considering appropriate environmental targets to include.

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## **Target 3: protecting and enhancing coastal wetland**



### ***What did we say we would achieve?***

We said we would protect and enhance coastal wetland through the creation of Pebsham Country Park and by beginning managed coastal re-alignment works at Cuckmere Valley by 2005.

### ***How does this target help achieve our vision?***

Much of our landscape in East Sussex is classified as Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty. We live in a very rich and beautiful place. We want to both conserve this resource for future generations and ensure that it can be fully enjoyed by residents and visitors in the County.

### ***What did we achieve?***

The first stage of consultation has been completed at Pebsham Country Park. This large programme involving responses from 1,000 residents and including workshop discussions and special sessions for children, was enabled by a £200,000 grant won from the EU



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INTERREG fund. In Hastings and Bexhill, residents are overwhelmingly in favour of a country park, with nature conservation as the most popular activity proposed.

To celebrate our internationally-important coast and wetland, an annual “Wildlife Weekend” was organized in May, attracting around 4,000 visits to nature sites, the new Shinewater Park, art exhibitions and other events.

At the Cuckmere Valley, progress has been slower than expected as the Environment Agency, proponents of the scheme to return the lower part of the valley to a more natural flooding cycle and thereby lower long term maintenance costs, have been re-designing the scheme.

## ***Is this a future focus for the East Sussex Strategic Partnership?***

The East Sussex Strategic Partnership will be reviewing its Community Strategy at the end of 2006 and will be considering appropriate environmental targets to include.

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