

Have Your Say at  
[www.goashford.com/youth](http://www.goashford.com/youth)

Funded by Ashford Borough Council and ?

Produced by the Ashford Partnership and the Ashford Youth Forum Trust



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## Safe and Clean Streets:

### You want:

- ⇒ More surveillance cameras and visible policing
- ⇒ A greater sense of security
- ⇒ To know where to get help when you need it
- ⇒ Less discrimination of young people
- ⇒ Less littering and vandalism
- ⇒ Cleaner play parks

### We will:

- ☞ Launch various campaigns on improving your environment
- ☞ Promote your contributions to the community
- ☞ Tackle crime and fear of crime through closer contact with the Police and groups of young people

## Improved Leisure Facilities

### You want:

- ⇒ A larger, modern sports centre including better swimming pool and gym
- ⇒ Look closer at your ideas for a local Ice Rink
- ⇒ A theatre and better facilities for doing arts
- ⇒ Cheaper and more exciting activities
- ⇒ To know what is on and have more choice

### We will:

- ☞ Develop a gym for young people in the newly refurbished Stour Centre
- ☞ Deliver classes at the Stour Centre only for young people
- ☞ Promote activities and clubs better in a range of ways
- ☞ Investigate the possibility of a discount card
- ☞ Work on finding a place for the arts
- ☞ Look at your ideas for a closer local Ice Rink

A youth strategy responding to views and concerns raised by local young residents from the borough of Ashford

to download the full youth strategy, visit  
[www.goashford.com/downloads](http://www.goashford.com/downloads)

WHAT MATTERS  
2005-2008

## The Ashford Partnership

Key organisations working together to serve and improve the local community

In 2004, you (young people from Ashford borough aged 11-19) told us, through the What Matters survey, that your top concerns are:

- ➔ Getting to places
- ➔ Having Things to do
- ➔ Having a Say
- ➔ Safe & Clean Streets
- ➔ Improved Leisure facilities

Of course there is a range of views from the 1174 young people who took part in the survey, but these are the common areas of concern.

**Generally we aim to:**

- Ⓢ Continue to involve you in what is provided, how and when.
- Ⓢ Improve the way you receive information on services and what is available.
- Ⓢ Provide better activities and help you participate

**Under each concern we will aim to deliver some new projects . . . read on**

## Getting to Places

**You want:**

- ➔ Cheaper fares and discount cards
- ➔ More buses and routes
- ➔ Improved timetabling
- ➔ Cleaner and more modern buses
- ➔ More polite drivers

**We will:**

- Ⓢ Look into a town centre bus project to stop at all the key venues, such as the cinema & bowling alley
- Ⓢ Involve young people in planning new transport routes and services

## Having things to do

**You want:**

- ➔ Better advertising as to what's on and where
- ➔ More after school activities
- ➔ Wider range of activities at youth clubs
- ➔ Free activity taster sessions
- ➔ Clean and safe informal places to hang out

**We will:**

- Ⓢ Work locally to bring about new facilities for young people in parks and villages
- Ⓢ Upgrade and refurbish the Ashford Skate and BMX Park
- Ⓢ Provide free tasters and welcome sessions at local clubs
- Ⓢ Promote holiday programmes and other activities

## Having a say

**You want:**

- ➔ Your views listened to and acted on
- ➔ Councillors to visit schools
- ➔ Politics relevant to you through good communication
- ➔ See the work of the Council

**We will:**

- Ⓢ Develop new neighbourhood youth forums
- Ⓢ Promote youth issues and activities in a range of places, including the Youth Forum newsletter and the Ashford Voice
- Ⓢ Make politics relevant to you through a promotional campaign
- Ⓢ Upgrade [www.goashford.com](http://www.goashford.com) to include a dynamic youth section and interactive site
- Ⓢ Encourage Councillors and other decision-makers to visit schools and youth projects