

ECONOMIC AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
21 October 2014 at 7.00 pm

At the above stated meeting the attached documents were tabled for the following items:

7. **Budget: Service Reviews and Service Change Impact Assessments (SCIAS) -** **(Pages 1 - 4)**
Adrian Rowbotham

10. **Economic Development Strategy - Final Draft** **(Pages 5 - 6)**
Lesley Bowles

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Economic and Community Development: 2015/16 Budget Setting

Service Overviews (SOs)

Service	Service Area	Chief Officer
Health & Communities	Communities and Business	Lesley Bowles

Service Overview:

The Health & Communities team is responsible for a broad range of services including the District Council's contribution to the new Health & Wellbeing Boards, health improvement and prevention, grants to help local communities and voluntary organisations, a wide range of community activities, leisure and sport. The team is also very active in terms of promoting and supporting tourism in the District.

The team employs 6 full time equivalent employees of which 3 are externally funded. A number of externally funded casual workers are responsible for delivering services for which particular funding has been obtained.

The relationship with a wide range of external partners is essential to the ongoing success of the service and its ability to deliver on issues that really matter to our local community including the safe, caring and healthy communities' priorities and dynamic and sustainable priorities in the Community Plan. The team also supports or runs regular events across the District. These include the Summer Fun Days and the Why Weight programme.

Alongside this the team also supports a number of corporate projects which this year have included community consultation on the Council's proposals for the Buckhurst 2 car park in Sevenoaks.

Current and Future Pressures:

Future asset maintenance requirements for Whiteoak Leisure Centre, potential development at Sevenoaks Leisure Centre to enable additional income, plus the All Weather Pitch at Edenbridge is coming to the end of its life. There is a need to address all of these projects by finding sources of funding and generating additional income and work has started on each of them. The new role that District Councils play on Health and Wellbeing Boards is challenging for this District as we have two Health and Wellbeing Boards covering the District whereas most Districts have just one. Helping the tourism economy to expand is a current focus. The team is also tasked with bringing together information about the needs of older people, identifying the support available to them and taking forward appropriate actions to help improve the experience of older people in the District.

2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Community Development Service Provisions	-	(5)	(5)	Reduce core salaries with external funding and reduce health budget	2011/12	(2)
All weather pitch	-	(2)	(2)	Reduce Youth Budget – SNAP, drugs/ alcohol	2011/12	(13)

Economic and Community Development: 2015/16 Budget Setting
Service Overviews (SOs)

2014/15 Budget	Gross	Income	Net	Savings	Year	Amount (£'000)
Community Plan	45	-	45	Reduce grants budget	2011/12	(3)
Grants to Organisations	181	-	181	Arts Development	2011/12	(5)
Health Improvement	45	-	45	Sustainability – delete remaining cost	2011/12	(4)
Leisure Contract	315	(20)	295	Health – reduced activity	2011/12	(17)
Leisure Development	20	-	20	West Kent Partnership	2011/12	(2)
Tourism	29	-	29	Grants	2011/12	(25)
Youth	48	-	48		2012/13	(20)
				Leisure – Asset Maintenance	2011/12	(70)
					2012/13	(70)
				Leisure – Reduced Management Fee	2011/12	(80)
					2012/13	(80)
				Youth – reduced activity, only statutory duty remains	2011/12	(20)
					2012/13	(60)
				Share of Corporate Targets	2011/12	(3)
					2012/13	(2)
				Youth - 8-12's project	2012/13	(23)
				Tourism - reduced activity	2012/13	(30)

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**Economic and Community Development: 2015/16 Budget Setting
Service Overviews (SOs)**

	STAG agreement expiry	2013/14	(25)
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Agenda Item 10

Responses to the Economic Development Strategy Consultation Draft – received after Committee publication date		
Response from:	Response	Comment
Sevenoaks Town Council	Sevenoaks Town Council welcome the opportunity to comment on this document, and are in general support of the aims and aspirations set out within it. Sevenoaks Town Council wished to thank the staff at Sevenoaks District Council, and the Portfolio Holder for their work in drafting it.	Noted
	Throughout the document the proposal to extend Zone 6 to Bat and Ball is highlighted, Sevenoaks Town Council requested that this proposal be extended to encompass Sevenoaks Mainline Station.	Members' views are sought
	the reference to “team around the business” is vague, and the Town Council would request that a named individual or central email address be provided for the convenience of new/prospective businesses	This will be included in the Team Around the Business promotional material when the scheme is finalised.
	Sevenoaks Town Council requested a specific reference to the redevelopment of Sevenoaks Community Centre and the positive impact this would have on the wider regeneration plans for Bat and Ball	This can be included in the ‘Places for Growth and Improvement’ section
	It was noted that Knole were anticipating a double of their visitors as part of their restoration project, and that more should be done to capitalise on this influx of visitors to the town, which could benefit Town Centre retailers.	There is a commitment to work with tourism partners to develop a destination management plan and to provide networking for tourism businesses. This should include networking with town centre partnerships.
Riverhead Parish Council	No consumer groups have been consulted except ‘young people’ at several locations. A survey around people who are shopping in town would have been welcome.	This is a strategic document which covers the whole district and further consultation will be required when taking forward some of the actions in various localities. A survey of all businesses was undertaken and the response helped to shape the draft document. Every effort was made to reach as wide a variety of groups as possible.
	Cycling facilities should be included.	We make reference to the Sevenoaks District Transport and Cycling Strategy in the document, saying that it identifies a number of schemes that promote sustainable forms of transport.

Agenda Item 10

Responses to the Economic Development Strategy Consultation Draft – received after Committee publication date		
Response from:	Response	Comment
	Under places for growth and improvement, attracting further high street names should not be a target. Small specific retailers should be encouraged.	P33 of the document refers to Marks and Spencer and Waitrose saying they ‘should help Sevenoaks town to remain an important shopping centre in the future, attracting further high street names as well as boosting football to the benefit of the smaller, independent traders’. Members views are sought.
	Traffic issues to be considered when planning permissions granted to developers, especially in the busy London Road”	Action 3.4 supports efforts to ease congestion in Sevenoaks and Swanley.
	The specificity of each town should be enhanced. A study on the businesses/trade (independent or not) they type of market and the architectural particularities of each town should be added.	Again, this is a strategic document and any more localised actions would need to look at the locality in more detail. There are actions under inward investment to encourage viable and vibrant town centres through a range of partnerships and to market the District as a place to work live travel and stay.
National Farmers’ Union	Agriculture and horticulture have not been given specific and targeted consideration	Actions have been added following a consultation with rural regarding a Produced in Sevenoaks campaign, rural sectors skills and rural worker accommodation workshops, enhancing the rural economy through Leader and renewable energy schemes (woodburning), which address some of the issues raised by the NFU. Further consideration can be given to this but the comments have been received very recently.