

COMMUNITY PLAN 2016-19 PUBLIC CONSULTATION DRAFT

Cabinet - 14 January 2016

Report of Chief Officer Communities & Business

Status: For decision

Key Decision: Yes

Executive Summary:

This report seeks approval of the public consultation draft of Community Plan for the period 2016-19. The document and its supporting Action Plan has been developed following comprehensive consultation with Members, residents, town and parish councils, a wide range of voluntary and community organisations and partner agencies. Copies of the draft public consultation document have been circulated to Members of the Economic and Community Development Advisory Committee and their comments will be available at the Cabinet meeting.

This report supports the Key Aim of Safe and Caring Communities, Green and Healthy Environment and a Dynamic and Sustainable Economy

Portfolio Holder Cllr. Hogarth

Contact Officer(s) Alan Whiting Ext. 7446

Recommendation to Cabinet

Members are asked to approve the public consultation draft Community Plan and strategic level action plan for the period 2016-19. The public consultation period will run from 15 January to 26 February 2016.

Reason for recommendation: The public consultation draft and subsequent public consultation period will be used to enable Members, partners and residents make changes or suggest additions for inclusion in the final draft before it is submitted to Full Council for approval.

Introduction and Background

- 1 The long-term Community Plan vision remains in place until 2028. However, the three year action plan will expire in March 2016. Whilst the District Council is responsible for co-ordinating this work, the Community Plan is a multi-agency strategy, delivered in partnership with many agencies and therefore covers a wide range of issues and services.

- 2 A thorough consultation programme took place during the second half of 2015 which helped to identify local priorities for action:
 - Over 350 people responded to the survey;
 - 200 people were offered the opportunity to answer Community Plan related questions in the Council's 2015 Residents Panel Survey;
 - Over 650 people were seen at 30 events, forums and partnership meetings
- 3 This included two workshops for Members on 25 August and 4 September together with further opportunities Portfolio Holders and their Deputies to comment at Portfolio Holder meetings. The consultation together with examination of local data has informed the public consultation document which sets out how we will deliver the priorities in the plan. A summary of the consultation results is set out at Appendix A.
- 4 It is intended that the public consultation period will run from 15 January to 26 February 2016 and will enable Members, partners and residents to make comments and suggestions for changes and additions.
- 5 It will also be used to agree strategic actions and ensure there are appropriate operational level partnership performance indicators to enable the Council to demonstrate realistic delivery of the aspirations.
- 6 Please note the public consultation draft does not represent the final design. Members will be presented with design concepts at the time the final plan is submitted for approval.
- 7 The timetable for the production of the Community Plan 2016-19 is as follows:
 - 14 January 2016 - Cabinet asked to approve of the Public Consultation Draft;
 - 15 January 2016 - public consultation period starts;
 - 11 February 2016 - Economic and Community Development Advisory Committee asked to comment on the public consultation draft;
 - 26 February 2016 - end of public consultation period;
 - 18 March 2016 - partners asked to approve the Community Plan 2016-19;
 - 21 April 2016 - Cabinet asked to recommend approval of the Community Plan to full Council;
 - 26 April 2016 - Approval of the final document.

Key Implications

Financial

Delivery of the Community Plan is through each agency's own resources. In some cases, work will be dependent upon external funding sources and appropriate funding bids will be made.

Legal Implications and Risk Assessment Statement.

There are no legal implications associated with this report. The Community Plan forms part of the Leader's Vision and is closely linked with the Local Plan. The Community Plan enables the District Council to work with partners in a structured and co-ordinated way. By improving coordinated action on shared priorities, the Council is able to improve its efficiency, share resources, enhance its reputation and most importantly secure additional resources and commitments from partners that are based on the delivery of local community aspirations.

Whilst every effort has been made to identify realistic actions, outcomes rely on the continued input of a range of agencies working together, along with the goodwill of communities and voluntary organisations. Regular quarterly monitoring of the Community Plan will identify at an early stage outcomes that may not be delivered so that alternative strategies or revised actions can be agreed.

Equality Assessment

Members are reminded of the requirement, under the Public Sector Equality Duty (section 149 of the Equality Act 2010) to have due regard to (i) eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Equality Act 2010, (ii) advance equality of opportunity between people from different groups, and (iii) foster good relations between people from different groups. The decisions recommended through this paper directly impact on end users. The impact has been analysed and does not vary between groups of people. The results of this analysis are set out immediately below.

The Community Plan has been assessed as not having an adverse impact. It includes an Equalities and Inclusion statement which partners are expected to consider in all decision making and service delivery.

Community Impact and Outcomes

The Community Plan is based upon the results of consultation with the community, including its harder to reach groups, partner agencies and other stakeholders. It also reflects community needs identified through local data.

Sustainability Checklist

A sustainability checklist has been prepared and demonstrates a positive impact.

Conclusion

Members are asked to consider the public consultation draft of the Community Plan and approve it for publication.

Appendices

Appendix A - Summary of consultation results

Appendix B - Community Plan 2016-19 Public Consultation Draft

Background Papers

Sevenoaks District Community Plan - Our Vision for the next 15 years (2013-2028)

Lesley Bowles

Chief Officer for Communities and Business