

Appendix A

Summary of Community Plan consultations

Social Affairs Committee – Tuesday 22nd January 2013

Groups consulted

- All residents via the District-wide questionnaire through the Council's In Shape magazine – 205 responses
 - Sevenoaks Kent Locality Board (Sevenoaks District Council and Kent County Council Members)
 - Sevenoaks District Council Members
 - Town and Parish Councils
 - Young People at Kent County Council's Youth Advisory Group
 - West Kent Ability Group
 - Sevenoaks District Kent Locality Board Housing Sub-Group
 - Community Safety Partnership
 - Sevenoaks Local Children's Trust Board
 - Sevenoaks Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Staff engaged in Housing, Planning, Health and Wellbeing, Community Safety, Economic Development and Regeneration and Environmental Health.
 - Businesses through Business Breakfasts
 - Young People at Youth Café at the Stag Community
 - Families in Knockholt at half-term activities)
 - Residents at launch of White Oak Charter in Swanley
 - Families in Eynsford at half-term activities
 - Residents in Edenbridge, Sevenoaks, New Ash Green and Swanley
 - Sevenoaks Voluntary Sector Forum
 - Older People at Hollybush Court Day Centre
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- Values Incorporated, completed survey with details of all Learning Disability Consultations over past year
 - Age UK also completed the survey on behalf of older people in the District.

Key issues arising from the consultation

General across all themes, improving communication and information

Community Safety – 95.4%

- Protect PCSO posts – local faces important
- Police and Council working together – PACT
- Deal with nuisance neighbours and ASB
- Diversionary activities and early intervention for young people

- Intimidation by groups of young people hanging about and perception that they need things to do.
- Domestic violence
- Speeding vehicles
- Increase perception and confidence that the Police and the Council are working together
- Work with the new crime commissioner – West Kent voice must be heard

2 Clean environment -89%

- Weekly refuse system – keep and communicate
- Fly-tipping and litter – harsher penalties
- Maintaining good standards
- Cycling – more cycling and safer cycling
- Education about litter
- Improving traffic flow and continue focus on air quality
- Recycling

3 Meeting the needs of an ageing population – 88.8%

- Private retirement accommodation
- Enable downsizing (including private options)
- Maintain independence in own home
- Keeping active
- Redefine ‘older’ – 50 too young and recognise life stages
- Access to health services and health appointments– to be closer to – or transport to
- Tackling rural isolation and its impact on health and wellbeing
- Local services and facilities are important
- Social activities are important
- Respite care facilities
- Support for carers and families
- Planning services for increasing ageing population

4 Improving the lives of young people – 87%

- Vocational training and apprenticeships
- Challenging generational issues, e.g. worklessness
- Improving school transport and access to secondary schools
- Continue focus on NEETS
- Youth crime on youth/ bullying
- Continue to focus on transition from primary to secondary
- Focus on Youth provision
- Involving young people in decision making and giving a voice to more young people, including those traditionally disengaged

- Dealing with perception of young people and celebrating achievements

5. Thriving economy – 85.9%

- Regenerate New Ash Green & help for Swanley
- Support a “Pro-business culture”
- Support for businesses and help for smaller businesses, e.g. desk sharing
- Tourism and the tourist economy
- Skills and jobs - ensuring young people have work readiness skills
- Helping vulnerable people to access employment and training opportunities
- Apprenticeships
- Vocational training
- Keep high streets alive
- Encourage start ups and make better use of community buildings
- Look at what is going to keep businesses in Sevenoaks – Transport and Brownfield sites are important
- Focus in tourism and rural economy
- Provision of broadband – faster speeds and better coverage
- Mitigating the issue of parking (provision and charges)
- Access to appropriate financial support
- Planning and how we think about business
- Access to good infrastructure
- Good communication is important

6 Transport and road safety – 85.4%

- Sustainable transport
- Encouraging cycling and safe cycling
- Reduce speeding vehicles
- Improve access to key local services and facilities
- Better transport links
- Improve public transport to school
- More affordable public transport
- Lobby for better bus provision
- Community transport
- Encourage flexible working/home working to reduce need to travel
- Impact of developments outside the District e.g. Improvement at London Bridge
- Impact of HS1 to commuters
- Can we lobby to extend the range of travel cards?

- Better lighting and improved access for pedestrians, people with disability
- Improve maintenance on roads

7. A better start for our children – 82.6%

- Children’s Centre services and provision essential
- Help for “Troubled Families”
- Early intervention
- Healthy schools
- Dealing with health inequalities – “Mind the Gap”
- Better outcomes for children and young people
- Deal with child and family poverty
- Deal with aspirations – aspiration can affect a child’s whole life cycle
- Increase opportunities to take part in physical activities
- Outdoor space access for sport facilities for play important
- Dealing with distances children travel to school
- Bullying and making social networking safer
- Support voluntary sector involvement
- Support reading and literacy
- Ante natal and post natal support

8 Strong, active communities – 83.2%

- Support and encourage volunteering
- Encourage children and young people to volunteer
- Building local capacity
- Involving communities and businesses in developing Neighbourhood Plans
- People need to feel engaged
- Change perceptions of Councils’
- Maximise benefit from Olympic and Paralympic legacy
- Consider how we can better use University of the 3rd Age
- Need for good local community facilities
- Citizenship is about responsibility not just rights
- Involve people in decision making and design of local services

9 Health and wellbeing – 82.5%

- Tackle health inequalities – “Mind the Gap”
- Improve preventative services and health and wellbeing programmes
- Active lifestyles
- Olympic and Paralympic legacy
- Importance of leisure facilities

- Access to hospitals and health appointments, especially for vulnerable groups
- Bringing facilities to communities e.g. mobile services, sharing community facilities
- Continue to focus on health and wellbeing of young people and focusing on children right from the start
- Mental health support
- Education on drinking e.g. binge drinking/adult drinking
- Continue to focus on teenage pregnancy
- Early detection of dementia
- Better support for people with learning disability

10 Development and the environment – 80%

- Continue to protect the green belt and AONBs
- Protect the character of the District
- Conservation and heritage
- Sustainable and energy efficient buildings
- Use of brownfield sites – make them more attractive to developers
- Involve community in new developments/redevelopments or regeneration opportunities
- Home extensions policy

11 Housing – 69.4%

- More affordable housing – it has an impact on the economy
- Smaller more affordable private housing - first time buyers can't afford deposits on homes in the District
- Housing that can adapt to changing needs
- Mix of housing is important
- Variety of tenure/shared ownership
- Housing related support, particularly for vulnerable groups
- Impact of Universal credit and benefit capping
- Making best use of existing housing
- Need for rural housing schemes including affordable housing
- Housing needs of vulnerable groups considered, e.g. accessible homes for people with learning disabilities.
- Deal with empty homes and under occupation
- Continue to access the private rental sector

12 Energy, resources and climate change – 59%

- More sustainable forms of transport, e.g. walking, cycling
- Encouraging use of public transport
- Sustaining our resources

- Mitigating the impact of climate change and adapting to change
- Focus on fuel poverty and better information about grants etc.

Timetable

	Date of meeting	Papers to go out
Locality Board Officer Delivery Group	22 nd Nov	15 th Nov
MT	28 th November	21 st Nov
Cabinet Briefing	13 th Dec	6 th Dec
Public consultation starts		24 th Dec
Social Affairs consultation	22 nd January 2013	9 th January 2013
Public consultation ends		15 th Feb
MT – final report	6 th March	27 th Feb
Cabinet briefing – final	21 st March	14 th March
Locality Board - final	6 th March	21 st Feb
Social Affairs – final	26 th March	13 th March
Cabinet – final	11 th April	27 th March
Council	23 rd April	10 th April