

COUNCIL - 30 MARCH 2010

COMMUNITY PLAN - SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY ACTION PLAN 2010-2013

Report of the: Community & Planning Services Director

Also considered by: Social Affairs Select Committee: 19th January 2010

Cabinet - 18th March 2010

Status: For Consideration

Executive Summary: The final draft of the Sevenoaks District Sustainable Community Action Plan 2010-2013 is attached at Appendix A.

The Plan is based on extensive consultation throughout the District and includes 12 priorities together with outcome targets and a structure for delivery. The Plan will be delivered by partnerships, agencies and other organisations operating in the District.

This report seeks recommendation from Cabinet that the Council adopts the Sustainable Community Action Plan 2010-2013.

This report supports the Key Aims of the Community plan, the Council's vision and the Corporate Performance Plan

Portfolio Holder All Portfolio Holders

Head of Service Head of Community Development – Mrs Lesley Bowles

Recommendation:

That the Council adopt the Sustainable Community Action Plan 2010-2013.

Background

1 Making it Happen, the ten year Community Plan for the District was put in place in April 2004 following extensive consultations with the community, Members and partner agencies. This long-term strategy meets the requirements of the Local Government Act 2000 to develop community plans and to promote community well-being. The Community Plan focuses on issues that will significantly affect the long term future of the District and reflects what local people told us was important to them and the area. It sets out a ten year vision statement:

We want Sevenoaks District to be recognised by all as a place with:

- Safe and caring communities

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- A green and healthy environment
 - A dynamic and sustainable economy
- 2 These themes are supported by three-year action plans which set out priorities, targets and timescales. Delivery is the responsibility of many statutory and other providers and the Community Plan is therefore supported by partner agencies and organisations including:
- Sevenoaks District Council
 - Kent County Council
 - West Kent Primary Care Trust
 - Kent Police
 - Business Link
 - Connexions
 - The Learning and Skills Council
 - West Kent Housing
 - Moat Housing Group
 - Voluntary, Community and faith organisations
- 3 These organisations together form the Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).
- 4 A comprehensive consultation programme has informed the new Plan. A copy of the results of this is available in the Members' Room or from Officers.

Consultation

- 5 The following groups have been consulted as part of the preparation of the Plan:
- Sevenoaks District Council Members
 - Kent County Council Members
 - Town and parish councils
 - The Residents' Panel
 - Local Strategic Partnership
 - The Voluntary Sector Forum
 - 3 Local Children's Services Partnerships
 - Community Safety Partnership
 - Economic Group
 - West Kent Extra

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- Youth Network
- Community Safety Days, Sevenoaks, Swanley and Edenbridge
- Disability open day at Sevenoaks Leisure Centre
- Trickster, Sevenoaks and Swanley (a public performance aimed at older people)
- Sevenoaks Area Mind
- Youth Zone – Hollybush, Leigh, Seal, Swanley, Edenbridge, NAG, Shoreham, Dunton Green, Halstead and Westerham
- Businesses via business link, Sevenoaks and Swanley Chambers
- Planning Policy team
- Health Action Team
- Service Managers
- Corporate Climate Change Group
- HERO Project users
- Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty boards

This consultation included workshops, surveys, face to face consultation at community events, a survey of the Residents' Panel and publication of a final consultation draft.

6 The results of the consultation are available in the Members' Room or from Officers.

7 Delivery of the Action Plan

8 The Action Plan includes 12 priorities with targets for each priority. It also identifies links with other strategies, for example Balanced Communities and the Local Development Framework.

9 The Action Plan will be monitored and the results reported quarterly to the Local Strategic Partnership and half-yearly to this Council's Social Affairs Select Committee and Cabinet.

Key Implications

Financial

9 Funding associated with the delivery of the Sustainable Community Action Plan is provided either by the agencies responsible for each activity or is sought from external funding. The Council's contribution for work that supports the Plan is approved as part of the usual annual budgeting process.

Legal, Human Rights etc.

10 Part I of the Local Government Act 2000 places a duty on local authorities to prepare a community strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK.

Community Impact

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- 11 The Community Plan is based upon the priorities identified by the community as well as other data about the needs of the District. The Action Plan includes a range of targets and actions by agencies and other organisations aimed at meeting the identified needs.

Resource (non-financial)

- 12 The non-financial resources required relate to Officer time, which has been planned as part of the usual budget process.

Value For Money and Asset Management

- 13 Costs will be kept to a minimum through electronic circulation of the document wherever possible.

Equality

- 14 Every effort has been made to reach diverse groups across the District and to reflect their needs in the document. An Equality Impact Assessment has been completed and the Plan will continue to be monitored for its impact on diverse groups.

Sustainability Checklist

- 15 A sustainability checklist has been prepared for the final document and a positive impact is anticipated.

Conclusion

- 16 A recommendation is sought that Council should adopt the Sevenoaks District Sustainable Community Action Plan 2010-2013.

RISK ASSESSMENT

RISK	IMPACT	CONTROL	RESIDUAL RISK
Failure to fulfil strategic ambitions through non-delivery of actions and targets within the Community Plan	High The CPA guidance for District Councils highlights the extent to which the Council gives and is seen to give clear leadership to strategies to build cohesive and sustainable communities, the extent to which ambitions have been determined by	To mitigate any potential lack of involvement, this Council will fully engage with the monitoring and delivery of the plan through its co-ordination of the Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership, to ensure	Even with appropriate remedial action, it is sometimes the case that actions and targets cannot be met.

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	working with partnerships and the community and how the Community Plan drives achievement.	that community priorities are met as far as possible. Partner commitment to delivery is essential to the success of this plan. Wherever possible, external funding will be sought to help to deliver the priorities.	
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Sources of Information: Results of consultation and other sources of statistical data referred to in the draft document

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