

Appendix D1

Summary of Community Plan consultations

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.