

## RECOMMENDATIONS FROM CABINET ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- a) Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy & Action Plan 2014/15 (Minute 39, Housing & Community Safety Advisory Committee – 29 April 2014)

The Chief Officer for Communities and Business presented a report which sought approval for the adoption of the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy & Action Plan 2014-15, which took into account the Strategic Assessment undertaken during September 2012 and October 2013 as well as more recent data where available. Members' attention was brought to the replacement Plan which contained updated information and had been circulated after the agenda, and it was noted that this version was the version being submitted to the Cabinet at its meeting on 8 May 2014.

In response to a question about the links between unemployment and re-offending, Officers confirmed that one of the initiatives within the Action Plan focused on providing positive incentives for younger people serving short custodial sentences. Officers also referred to targeted projects to prevent younger people entering the youth justice system.

A Member questioned why the eight priorities referred to were not ranked. The Chief Officer for Communities and Business explained that the priorities were, inevitably, weighted differently by the various agencies. However, she advised that each of the priorities had emerged from a systematic impact assessment process which had involved scoring the various issues against specific criteria details of which were contained within the Strategic Assessment which could be accessed via the Council's [website](#).

The Chairman invited Mr. John Morrison to address the Committee. Mr. Morrison co-ordinated a Speed Watch Group in Sevenoaks and welcomed the support received from SDC, urging Councillors to become involved in their local Speed Watch schemes. Maintaining the enthusiasm of trained volunteers and lack of response to warning letters sent by the Police were some of the issues facing the Group. Mr Morrison called upon the Police to address the 'enforcement gap' by deploying Neighbourhood Police teams to apprehend offenders. He commented that the adverse impact of speeding vehicles on local communities was not properly reflected by casualty and crash statistics. The Chairman thanked him for his comments and confirmed that the matter would be looked into by the Road Safety Working Group.

### Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that the Sevenoaks District Community Safety Action Plan be adopted.

- b) Safeguarding Policy For the Protection Of Children And Vulnerable Adults (Minute 40, Housing & Community Safety Advisory Committee – 29 April 2014)

The Chief Officer for Communities and Business presented a report which contained an updated and refreshed Safeguarding Policy which would enable the Council to more effectively meet its responsibilities to safeguard children and vulnerable adults under s.11 of the Children's Act 2004 and guidance published by the Department of Health and

Kent County Council in relation to vulnerable adults. Members' attention was brought to the replacement Appendix 1 and updated Policy which had been circulated after the agenda was despatched - reflecting legislation brought into effect this month. It was noted that this version was the version being submitted to the Cabinet at its meeting on 8 May 2014.

#### Public Sector Equality Duty

Members noted that consideration had been given to impacts under the Public Sector Equality Duty.

Resolved: That it be recommended to Cabinet that the updated Safeguarding Policy for the protection of children and vulnerable adults be adopted.