

TONBRIDGE & MALLING BOROUGH COUNCIL

POLICY OVERVIEW COMMITTEE

29 September 2009

Report of the Chief Executive

Part 1- Public

Matters for Recommendation to Cabinet

1 SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2009-2012

To endorse the final draft of the Sustainable Community Strategy for onward reporting to Cabinet and Council

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Members will be aware that the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) is a partnership document which is 'owned' by the Borough's Local Strategic Partnership (LSP). Whilst the Borough Council has a major role in its delivery, and a statutory duty to prepare the document, priorities and actions set out within it reflect the activities of a number of key partners. A report was made to the meeting of this Board in January 2009 which presented a summary of the initial consultation findings along with the proposed 'vision' and themes. Subsequent to this, draft documents have been submitted for approval to both the LSP and Community Development Advisory Board.

1.2 Final SCS

1.2.1 Attached an Annex 1 is the final Sustainable Community Strategy for the borough. This document incorporates comments received through consultation on the draft strategy, which has been underway since April of this year.

1.2.2 The document was endorsed by the Tonbridge & Malling LSP at their meeting on the 15th July and by Community Development Advisory Board on 28th July.

1.3 Next Steps

1.3.1 Following adoption of the strategy, an annual monitoring system will be developed which tracks both the actions set out in the plan, and monitors the key performance measures for each theme. This will be reported to the Local Strategic Partnership and Community Development Advisory Board on a regular basis.

1.4 Legal Implications

- 1.4.1 The Borough Council has a Statutory Duty to prepare an up to date Sustainable Community Strategy.

1.5 Financial and Value for Money Considerations

- 1.5.1 The SCS is based on wide consultation with local people on the issues which matter most to them. By taking forward those issues which are the responsibility of the Authority, we are ensuring resources are focused where they are perceived to be most needed.

1.6 Risk Assessment

- 1.6.1 Any document based on partnership working runs the risk of actions not being taken forward by external partners. Joint working through the LSP and through individual partner meetings to develop realistic actions has reduced this risk.

1.7 Recommendations

- 1.7.1 That the Sustainable Community Strategy, as set out at Annex 1 to this report **BE ENDORSED** for approval by Cabinet and Council.

Background papers:

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Nil

David Hughes
Chief Executive