

# **CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL**

## **REPORT TO: Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee**

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**Date of Meeting:** 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2010  
**Report of:** Head of Policy & Performance  
**Subject/Title:** Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy

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### **1.0 Report Summary**

- 1.1 To update Members on the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and seek comments on the final draft of the document.

### **2.0 Recommendations**

- 2.1 To comment on any aspects of the final draft Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 2.2 To note the approval process for the Strategy and indicate whether the Committee wishes to receive a further draft prior to its submission to Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July.

### **3.0 Reasons for Recommendations**

- 3.1 To enable the Sustainable Community Strategy to be adopted by the Council and the Cheshire East Partnership.

### **4.0 Wards Affected**

- 4.1 All

### **5.0 Local Ward Members**

- 5.1 All

### **6.0 Policy Implications**

- 6.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy provides the framework for all policy development within Cheshire East. It is important that the priorities and ambition set out in the Strategy are translated into delivery through partner agencies business plans and issue based plans.

### **7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs**

- 7.1 None

### **8.0 Financial Implications 2010/11 and beyond**

- 8.1 There are likely to be financial implications from delivering the Strategy as the priorities are translated into actions. This will be addressed through service

providers budget setting and also through the partnerships working together to seek additional funding for specific projects or services as required.

## **9.0 Legal Implications**

9.1 None.

## **10.0 Risk Management**

10.1 None

## **11.0 Background and Options**

11.1 Members will be aware that, over recent months, the Cheshire East Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) has been preparing a Sustainable Community Strategy for Cheshire East. This will set out the vision for Cheshire East to 2025 and the partnership's priority actions for the next 2-3 years.

11.2 At the meeting of the Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> March, Members received details of the process that had been adopted for preparation of the document and the consultation arrangements that had been put in place to inform its preparation. In summary this has involved:

- A Local Strategic Partnership Assembly at Tatton Park, attended by over 160 representatives from service providers, town and parish councils, elected Members, community and voluntary groups, where broad priorities were set
- Public engagement and consultation via the internet and local libraries on a discussion document called "Shaping the Future of our Communities"
- 5 local events held across Cheshire East to identify what people consider important aspects of Cheshire East in 2010 and priority actions for the future
- A Town and Parish Councils Conference in March 2010 which focused on the vision and priorities in the Sustainable Community Strategy
- A second LSP Assembly held at Crewe Alexandra Football Club in March 2010, where 140 delegates discussed the proposed vision and priorities for the Strategy
- Discussion of the LSP Executive to the vision and 7 priorities contained in for the Strategy
- A final stage of public consultation on the draft final document (this closes on June 11<sup>th</sup> 2010)

## **12.0 "Ambition for All" – Cheshire East's Sustainable Community Strategy for 2010-2025**

12.1 A final draft of the Strategy has now been produced and is subject to further consultation until 11<sup>th</sup> June. A copy is attached at **Appendix 1** to this report and the views of the Committee are requested as part of this formal consultation.

- 12.2 The proposed vision for Cheshire East is contained within the document and is as follows:

*“Cheshire East is a prosperous place where all people can achieve their potential, regardless of where they live. We have beautiful countryside, unique towns with individual character and a wealth of history and culture. The people of Cheshire East live active and healthy lives and get involved in making their communities safe and sustainable places to live.”*

- 12.3 To respond to this vision, the Strategy proposes that action is focussed on 7 key priority areas. The structure and wording of these priorities was a focus of the LSP Assembly in March. The proposed priorities are set out below:

**1. Nurture strong communities**

- Give people a strong local voice
- Support the community to support itself
- Deliver services as locally as possible
- Ensure communities feel safe

**2. Create conditions for business growth**

- Harness emerging growth opportunities
- Provide a leading broadband infrastructure
- Make the most of our tourism, heritage and natural assets
- Create a climate attractive to business investment

**3. Unlock the potential of our towns**

- Regenerate Crewe
- Revitalise Macclesfield
- Deliver sustainable growth for our towns

**4. Support our children and young people**

- Ensure good transitions and skills for the future
- Improve support and facilities for children and young people
- Strengthen the voice of children and young people
- Improve the health of children and young people

**5. Ensure a sustainable future**

- Provide affordable and appropriate housing
- Encourage environmentally sustainable living
- Improve transport connections and accessible services
- Protect and enhance our heritage and countryside

**6. Prepare for an increasingly older population**

- Help people stay fit and active for longer
- Improve care and support for those who need it

**7. Drive out the causes of poor health**

- Target actions to reduce heart disease and cancer
- Tackle the impact of alcohol misuse on individuals and society
- Focus local actions on the wider determinants of health

**13.0 Process for Approval**

- 13.1 The draft Strategy will be submitted to Cabinet on 14<sup>th</sup> June with a recommendation that the Leader be authorised to agree the changes needed as a result of the consultation exercise. The Strategy will then be submitted to the LSP Executive Board on 28<sup>th</sup> June for partner approval and then to Council on 22<sup>nd</sup> July for formal adoption as part of the Council's policy framework. There will be opportunity to report on this final version to the meeting of this Committee scheduled for 15<sup>th</sup> July if Members so wish.

## **12.0 Overview of Year One and Term One Issues**

- 12.1 None

## **13.0 Access to Information**

The background papers relating to this report can be inspected by contacting the report writer:

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