

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 15th July 2010
Report of: Head of Policy & Performance
Subject/Title: Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To update Members on the development of the Sustainable Community Strategy and invite the Committee to make any formal comments for submission to Cabinet and Council.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 To comment on any aspects of the final draft Sustainable Community Strategy.

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 2010/11 and beyond

- 7.1 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 partnerships working together to seek additional funding for specific projects or services as required.

8.0 Legal Implications

- 8.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy forms part of the Policy Framework and must be submitted to Council for adoption following a process prescribed in the Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 None

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 Members are 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.
- 10.2 At the meeting of the Committee held on 3rd June, 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. A draft document was also considered by the Committee and the following comments made:
- That the document was aspirational rather than based on reality and that there were gaps in some areas that needed to be addressed
 - With regard to 'unlocking the potential of our towns' Members expressed concern that Congleton had been omitted from the strategy and that the report should refer to service areas rather than market towns.
 - With regard to 'our vision for Cheshire East' it was felt that this was an overview of what the Borough had already achieved rather than a vision for the future. Therefore this should be rewritten to include priorities for the future.
- 10.3 A final draft of the Strategy has now been produced which takes account of many of the comments made during the public consultation process and this is attached.

11.0 Process for Approval

- 11.1 The Strategy will be submitted to Cabinet on 19th July with a recommendation that it be adopted by Council on 22nd July. The Strategy has already been approved by the LSP Executive Board on 28th June Any comments from this Committee will be reported to Cabinet.

12.0 Access to Information

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

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