

Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Agenda

Date: Thursday, 26th July, 2012
Time: 10.30 am
Venue: Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields, Middlewich Road,
Sandbach CW11 1HZ

The agenda is divided into 2 parts. Part 1 is taken in the presence of the public and press. Part 2 items will be considered in the absence of the public and press for the reasons indicated on the agenda and at the foot of each report.

PART 1 – MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED WITH THE PUBLIC AND PRESS PRESENT

1. **Apologies for Absence**

2. **Declarations of Interest**

To provide an opportunity for Members and Officers to declare any disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests in any item on the agenda.

3. **Declarations of Party Whip**

To provide an opportunity for Members to declare the existence of a party whip in relation to any item on the agenda.

4. **Public Speaking Time/Open**

A total period of 15 minutes is allocated for members of the public to make a statement(s) on any matter that falls within the remit of the Committee.

Individual members of the public may speak for up to 5 minutes, but the Chairman will decide how the period of time allocated for public speaking will be apportioned, where there are a number of speakers

For any apologies or requests for further information, or for a member of the public to make a statement:

Contact: Katie Smith
Tel: 01270 686465
E-Mail: katie.smith@cheshireeast.gov.uk

5. **Minutes of the Previous Meeting** (Pages 1 - 6)

To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 June 2012 as a correct record

6. **Police and Crime Commissioners**

To receive a presentation on the arrangements for PCC's and Crime Panels under the Police Reform Act 2011.

7. **Armed Forces Community Covenant** (Pages 7 - 22)

To give guidance on additional service initiatives to explore.

8. **Libraries Strategy** (Pages 23 - 40)

To give consideration to the Libraries Strategy prior to it being submitted to Cabinet for approval

9. **Work Programme** (Pages 41 - 44)

To give consideration to the work programme

10. **Forward Plan** (Pages 45 - 46)

To give consideration to the extracts of the forward plan which fall within the remit of the committee.

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the **Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee**
held on Thursday, 21st June, 2012 at Committee Suite 1,2 & 3, Westfields,
Middlewich Road, Sandbach CW11 1HZ

PRESENT

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)
Councillor M Grant (Vice-Chairman)

Councillors A Barratt, L Brown, P Hayes, J Jackson, W Livesley, M Parsons,
J Wray, Lam and R Fletcher
Emily Lam – Police Authority

Apologies

Councillors D Hough and B Silvester

OTHERS PRESENT

Councillor Rachel Bailey – Portfolio Holder for Communities and Registration
Services

OFFICERS PRESENT

Zandra Neeld – Performance Manager
Amanda Rudham – Human Resources Policy Manager
Jan Griffiths – Community Safety Operations Manager
Judith Gibson – Domestic Abuse Manager
Kate Rose – Principal Children's Safeguarding Manager
James Morley – Scrutiny Officer
Katie Smith – Scrutiny Officer

11 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting on 10 May 2012 be approved as a
correct record

12 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no Members of the Committee present who wished to declare any
interests.

13 DECLARATIONS OF PARTY WHIP

There were no Members of the Committee present who wished to declare any
party whip.

14 PUBLIC SPEAKING TIME/OPEN

There were no members of the public present who wished to address the Committee

15 EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The Committee considered a report on the consultation on the equality objectives that had been discussed at the Committee's meeting on 1 March 2012. The report also contained examples of equality issues regarding employment procedures which the Committee requested on the 1 March 2012.

The Performance Manager and the Senior Personnel Officer attended the meeting to present the report. The officers gave an outline of the report. Members asked questions and the following point arose:

- An Equality Impact Assessment had to be carried out with every business plan to consider how decisions made to change a service affect equality.
- Members believed the equality of Councillors and Service Users should be as important as the equality of staff and should be reflected as such in the equality objectives of the Council.
- Bullying and Harassment were difficult to define. Personal perception played an important role in whether an individual was being bullied or harassed. There were management structures in place to deal with disputes. Managers would be responsible for making a judgement in each case and the Human Resources service was there to offer advice.
- Members believed that Social and Economic status should not be included in the list of protected characteristics as social and economic status was considered to be irrelevant when managing and hiring employees.
- There was an objective to "develop a culture where staff understand their role in relation to equalities and behaviour in a way that illustrates this understanding". Members wanted to know how this culture change would be carried out.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received.
- (b) That the Performance Manager and HR Manager be requested to amend the equality objectives to include Councillors and Service Users as well as Officers so that Councillors and service users are equally protected.
- (c) That the Performance Manager and Senior Personnel Officer be requested to report back to the Committee to explain how Councillors and

Service Users will be supported in future as well as Officers.

- (d) That “social or economic status” should be removed from the list of protected groups in the Council’s policy on equality for staff however that “social or economic status” should be a protected group for Service Users.
- (e) That the Performance Manager and Senior Personnel Officer be requested to show the practical steps that will be used to “develop a culture where staff understand their role in relation to equalities and behaviour in a way that illustrates this understanding” and the method that will be used to measure achievement of the culture development.

16 CCTV UPDATE

The Community Safety Operations Manager attended the meeting to present an update to the Committee on the current status of work to remove trees obscuring the sightlines of a number of CCTV Cameras. At previous meetings Members had expressed concern that the safety of communities was being put at risk by the effect trees were having on the coverage of CCTV cameras.

The Community Safety Operations Manager outlined the process which had to be carried out to trim or remove trees so that they no longer obscured the view of CCTV cameras. If a tree was subject to a Tree Preservation Order (TPO), planning consent would need to be obtained from the relevant planning committee prior to any alterations being made to the tree. Trees without TPOs could be trimmed or removed without the need for planning permission which made the process of dealing with obscuration much quicker.

There were currently a significant number of trees obscuring various cameras throughout the Borough which would take time to deal with. Once the current issues with tree obscuration had been dealt with a plan would need to be put in place whereby CCTV staff were able to anticipate future obstruction by growing tree so that action could be taken before issues arose.

The Committee was keen to ensure that community safety was maintained at all times, by making sure that no CCTV cameras were obscured. The Committee also recognised that it was important acknowledge the adverse effects of poor lighting in an area covered by CCTV cameras. The Committee wanted to ensure that these issues were also dealt with by Officers.

There was no specific budget for the work that needed to be carried out and the cost of the work was being borne by Highways and Streetscape as they were responsible for the trimming of trees under their jurisdiction. The Committee was keen to see a specific budget for the work associated with maintaining the effectiveness of CCTV cameras so that the budgets and duties of Highways and Streetscape were not adversely affected by the extra work.

The Portfolio Holder for Communities and Regulatory Services was in attendance and addressed the Committee by thanking them for their work and that she would

do what see could to help improve the situation regarding obscuration of CCTV cameras.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received.
- (b) That the Community Safety Operations Manager be requested to formally document the process by which the removal of tree obscuration is carried out and present it to the Committee at a future meeting.
- (c) That it be recommended to Cabinet that a budget for tackling tree obscuration should be included in the next annual budget for the Safer Communities department.
- (d) That the Committee write formally to the Portfolio Holder for Communities and Regulatory Services to express their belief that the process to ensure that CCTV cameras are not obscured should be reviewed to improve the process in order to protect community safety.

17 DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

The Committee considered a report on Domestic Abuse in Cheshire East from the Domestic Abuse Manager for the Cheshire East Integrated Safeguarding Unit and Cheshire East Domestic Abuse Partnership. The Principal Children's Safeguarding Manager was also present.

The Officer presented an overview of the report. Members asked questions and the following points arose:

- Funding for the Domestic Abuse Partnership was only provided for one year each year and the future of funding was unstable. This made it difficult to plan for and develop future service provision for victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.
- The Domestic Abuse Partnership wanted to provide more support for perpetrators of domestic abuse however were unable to due to lack of funding. The Domestic Abuse Manager suggested that by working with perpetrators they would be able to reduce the number of repeat offenders and help to protect victims of domestic abuse.
- There were 5000 domestic incidents reported to the Police in Cheshire East, 35% of which were alcohol related. Mental health issues was also a factor in many cases. The highest number of high risk cases totalling 158 (2per 1000 population) which was shown in the table at 4.1, occurred in Crewe
- 2% of victims of domestic abuse use refuges for accommodation away from perpetrators. There was a refuge in Crewe for Cheshire East

residents and residents from outside the Borough. Some victims required refuge further away from perpetrators for safety reasons which meant Local Authorities had to support each other by providing refuge for victims from outside their Borough.

- Out of Hours services could provide emergency support in finding overnight accommodation for victims if necessary. Most of the services provided to victims who come forward for support were best provided to them during office hours.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the report be received.
- (b) That the Committee recommend to Council that funding for the provision of support to perpetrators of domestic violence to provided.
- (c)
- (d) The Committee the Domestic Abuse Manager be requested to return to a future meeting of the Committee with proposals for funding to deal with perpetrator behaviour.
- (e) That the Committee recommend to Council and its partners that the funding of the Domestic Abuse Partnership be budgeted for three years in the next budget to provide stability and increase confidence in the continuity of the work carried by the Partnership.

18 WORK PROGRAMME

The Committee gave consideration to the Work Programme and the business of future meetings. Members of the Committee were asked if they would represent the Committee as a non-voting member of the Budget Task Group.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the Work Programme be noted.
- (b) That Councillor Peter Hayes be the Committee's representative as a non-voting member of the Budget Task Group.

19 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee gave consideration to the Forward Plan.

RESOLVED - That the Forward Plan be noted

Before concluding the meeting the Chairman thanked the outgoing Scrutiny Officer James Morley for his work with the Committee over the past 11 months and welcomed back Katie Smith who was due to take over as Scrutiny Officer for the Committee.

The meeting commenced at 10.35 am and concluded at 1.05 pm

Councillor H Murray (Chairman)

CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting 26th July 2012
Report of: Head of Performance, Customer Services & Capacity
Subject/Title: Armed Forces Community Covenant
Portfolio Holder: Councillor

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 The Council has recently become a signatory to a Cheshire wide Community Covenant, which is a voluntary statement of mutual support between the civilian community and the Armed Forces Community. The Council now needs to set out an Action Plan to demonstrate how it will meet its commitments through practical service initiatives.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 Committee is requested to:
- 2.2 Note the information contained within the report.
- 2.3 Give guidance on additional service initiatives to explore.

3.0 Wards Affected

- 3.1 Not applicable

4.0 Local Ward Members

- 4.1 Not applicable

5.0 Policy Implications including - Climate Change - Health

- 5.1 None

6.0 Financial Implications

- 6.1 None

7.0 Legal Implications

- 7.1 None

8.0 Risk Management

8.1 None

9.0 Background

9.1 A Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces community. The Covenant is signed by various members of the community including representatives of the Armed Forces and the local authority. It may also be signed by other agencies keen to support the principles of the Community Covenant. It is intended to complement, at a local level, the national Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces.

9.2 On 30th June, and on behalf of the Council, the Mayor signed the Cheshire Community Covenant which was also signed by the following organisations:

- Cheshire East Borough Council
- Halton Borough Council
- NHS
- Job Centre Plus
- Cheshire Army Benevolent Fund
- SSAFA
- Cheshire Constabulary
- Veterans UK
- Cheshire West & Chester Council
- Warrington Borough Council
- Cheshire Chamber of Commerce
- Combat Stress
- Royal British Legion
- Probation Service

A copy of the Covenant is appended for information.

9.3 In keeping with the principles of the Covenant, it is now appropriate to develop a local action plan detailing those measures which are/could be in place to support service personnel and to reinforce this, the following Motion was submitted to Council by Councillor Baxendale:

“The Council’s formal signing of the Community Covenant scheme which clearly demonstrates its commitment and support to the Armed Services is to be welcomed. However, this Motion seeks to ask the Cabinet to take responsibility for the development of a detailed Action Plan, based on the Scheme, which will outline, by Service area, the practical support that the Council can provide to those currently serving in the Armed Services, their families and those that have served in the past.”

10.0 Current Position

10.1 Councillor Gordon Baxendale, as the Council’s armed forces champion oversaw an initial audit of services currently in place for service personnel or veterans was undertaken across the Authority. The

following measures have been identified, albeit that it is possible that there may be others:

Services provided by:	Description of the Service
Leisure	Everyone Options Card – this enables serving members of the Armed Forces to access a range of activities at leisure facilities across Cheshire East free of charge. (There is also a list of qualifying benefits which includes War Disablement Pension).
Adult Services	Cheshire East residents who are disabled (includes ex-service personnel) have access to: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Smart Team 2. Supported employment 3. Access to community equipment and Independent Living Centres 4. Assistive Technology and telecare/telehealth 5. Carers support and access to carers assessment 6. Reablement services
Strategic Housing	For the purposes of assessing housing needs priority a person will be considered for ex-armed forces personnel priority if they are leaving the armed forces having received their notice of discharge date or have left in the last 5 years, having been medically discharged or served the required minimum level of service, usually at least four years (does not include Discharge As Of Right -DAOR). Those who will not be in housing need or are already adequately housed will be placed in Band D. Where they have any additional housing need they will be placed in Band B. (draft - policy currently out for consultation) Disabled residents can apply for help to adapt their homes to enable them to live independently A money advice service is available
Children & Families	Admission to Schools –children of service personnel moving into the area would be given priority for admission to a reception or secondary transfer application. For in-year admission, applications would be looked at sympathetically (though schools that are their own admission authorities could refuse). The admission of children from the armed forces is now a permitted exception where infant class size regulations are involved so would allow the 30 limit to be exceeded in these circumstances. Attendance at School – it is Ministry of Defence

	<p>practice for service personnel returning from active deployment to get a 2 week period of rest. For service personnel with young people this usually means them wanting to take their children out of school for all or part of this. While the Pupil Registration Regulations constrain a school's ability to allow term-time holidays, DfE guidance on the regulations makes specific reference to service personnel as one of the special cases that would warrant the school allowing up to 10 days holiday in term time.</p>
Housing Benefit/Council Tax Benefit	<p>There is a local agreement whereby War Disablement Pension and War Widows Pensions is disregarded in full from income.</p> <p>(For information, Armed Forces personnel who are deployed to a relevant location e.g. Afghanistan, do receive a contribution from MoD in lieu of Council Tax for the period of the deployment. The payment is made direct to them through their Unit HR administrator)</p>
Electoral Registration	<p>Service declarations by members of HM Forces and their spouse or civil partner may be made at any time throughout the year. The declaration will request certain information from the applicant and providing it is submitted and accepted by the Electoral Registration Officer as valid, it is then valid for 5 years.</p>
Customer Services – Blue Badges	<p>There is a national policy issued by the Department for Transport which takes account of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People who receive War Pensioners Mobility Supplement • People who have been awarded a benefit under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme and have been assessed and certified by the Service Personnel and Veterans Agency as having a permanent and substantial disability which causes inability to walk or very considerable difficulty in walking

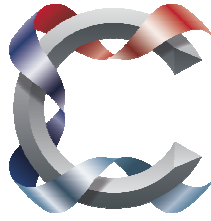
- 10.2 To help promote the services available, a webpage has been set up on the Council's intranet site which provides some links and general information. This page can be developed as more information becomes available.

- 10.3 Members are asked to note the current position and, if appropriate, identify any further service areas where the development of new initiatives could be pursued.

11.0 Access to Information

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

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Designation: Policy Manager
Tel No: 01270 686633
Email: zandra.neeld@cheshireeast.gov.uk



Community Covenant



Cheshire, Halton and Warrington

Community Covenant General Principles

The Armed Forces Community Covenant is a voluntary statement of mutual support between a civilian community and its local Armed Forces Community. It is intended to complement the Armed Forces Covenant, which outlines the moral obligation between the Nation, the Government and the Armed Forces, at a local level.

The purpose of this Community Covenant is to encourage support for the Armed Forces Community working and residing in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington and to recognise and remember the sacrifices made by members of this Armed Forces Community, particularly those who have given the most. This includes in-Service and ex-Service personnel and their families and widow(er)s in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington.

This publication explains how we will deliver the Armed Forces Community Covenant. It details our intentions, pledges and the approach that we are taking in order to ensure that the Covenant is a success for the Armed Forces, the Public, Private and Third Sectors as well as the wider community. As such, this covenant supersedes all and any previous versions held by individual signatory Local Authorities

The Armed Forces have a long history in Cheshire, Halton and Warrington:

- The Royal Navy assault ship HMS Albion is affiliated to the city of Chester.
- 75 Engineer Regiment has its Regimental Headquarters in Warrington.
- The 1st Battalion, The Mercian Regiment (Cheshire) recruits its soldiers from within the traditional Cheshire boundaries; the regiment has its area HQ at The Castle in Chester. The battalion is the successor to the 22nd (Cheshire) Regiment.
- The 1st Battalion, The Mercian Regiment has been granted freedom of the Borough of Cheshire East
- B (Cheshire) Company, 4 MERCIAN are located in Widnes.
- D (Cheshire) Company, 4 MERCIAN are located in Crewe.
- C (Cheshire Yeomanry) Squadron are located in Chester.
- The Royal Welsh (The Royal Welch Fusiliers) are located in Dale Barracks, Chester.
- The region's bomb disposal squad is Chester Troop from 521 Squadron, Dale Barracks, Chester. Part of the Royal Logistic Corps, the squadron deals with about 100 call-outs to unexploded ordnance across the region every year.
- B Squadron, 208 Field Hospital are located in Ellesmere Port.

We are immensely proud of our Armed Forces, particularly those from, stationed or returning to Cheshire, Halton and Warrington. We hope that this Covenant will demonstrate our commitment to all of our Armed Service Personnel, Veterans and their Families.

Participants

The following organisations have come together to form a Community Covenant Working Group while additional organisation have come forward to

provide advice and support. They have shown their commitment to our Armed Forces Community by signing this Community Covenant:

Community Covenant Working Group

- The Armed Forces
- NHS Western Cheshire
- NHS Cheshire, Warrington and Wirral
- Cheshire Probation Services
- Cheshire West and Chester Council
- Warrington Borough Council
- Cheshire East Borough Council
- Halton Borough Council

Supporting organisations

- Halton Chamber of Commerce and Enterprise
- Cheshire Army Benevolent Fund
- Combat Stress
- SSAFA
- The Royal British Legion
- Cheshire Constabulary
- SaBRE - Cheshire
- Jobcentre Plus

Issues affecting the relationship between the Armed Forces community and the civilian community cannot be solved by one organisation alone, nor does it stop at Local Authority boundaries. The potential barriers faced by a member of the Armed Forces community may also be influenced by, or subject to, the systems created by any or all of these organisations. This is why the organisations listed above have made a commitment to work together to ensure that members of the Armed Forces community are not subject to disadvantage when residing or returning to our communities, accessing services or seeking support throughout Cheshire, Halton and Warrington.

Each member of this Armed Forces Community Covenant has a specialist area of knowledge and expertise. By working together we can be greater than the sum of our parts, working holistically to create the best outcomes for all.

Aims and Objectives

The key values identified at a national level through the government's Covenant guidelines have formed the basis of our Community Covenant:

1. Encourage local communities to support the Armed Forces communities in their areas through the development of local actions.
2. Nurture understanding and awareness amongst the public of issues affecting the Armed Forces Community.
3. Recognise and remember the sacrifices faced by the Armed Forces Community.
4. Encourage activities which help to integrate the Armed Forces Community into local life.
5. Encourage the Armed Forces Community to help and support the wider community.

Furthermore we have identified five recurring themes that we feel we can significantly and positively contribute to. These are not a limit to what we will do but provide some focus to our actions.

- Housing
- Employment and Benefits
- Education
- Health
- Wellbeing

How we work

The Community Covenant Working Group is set up as a network where ideas, issues and best practice can be shared between organisations. Armed Forces Champions from each organisation will act as the first point of contact between organisations to allow the sharing of information and joined up working. Champions have responsibility for facilitating the implementation of the covenant principles and pledges within their organisations. They are also a central point to receive and distribute information within their organisation and externally with partners.

The Community Covenant Working Group will link in to the 42 (NW) Brigade Transition Delivery Working Group which covers Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside. The Community Covenant Working Group will provide local support, taking into consideration the themes, direction and intelligence provided at this highly strategic level.

The Community Covenant Working Group will also seek to engage with relevant organisations from the private, public and charity sectors. Active engagement with these groups will allow expert advice to be sought, working relationships to be built and further progress to be made.

Themes and Pledges

Housing

Both research and anecdotal evidence has shown that access to housing can be a problem, particularly for those leaving service or for the families of those currently serving or recently widowed. Traditionally, Local Authority Housing Policy has placed housing applicants into priority 'bands' to reflect need, with current residency status forming part of the assessment in accordance with the Common Housing Allocations Policy. Those discharged from service, with no medical needs, are therefore placed in a low band.

Those injured during service may also require additional support to adapt housing to help retain independence and remain in their own home, while homelessness is also recognised as an issue that may be faced by those discharged from the Armed Forces.

Pledge: All Local Authorities agree to place members of the Armed Forces in housing need into priority band B (or equivalent) and will not apply residency criteria to armed forces personnel. Those in housing need who have a serious injury, medical condition or disability that has

been sustained as a result of their service in the Armed Forces will be placed in Band A (top priority). This commitment will extend to the dependents and widow(er)s of those serving in the Armed Forces.

Pledge: All Local Authorities agree to acknowledge that Service people occupying Service Family accommodation and who have been issued with a Certificate of Cessation demonstrates impending homelessness. In such cases, a possession order is not required before provision of housing assistance.

Pledge: Those in receipt of a War Pension will have part of this income disregarded in the means test when accessing funding from the Disabled Facilities Grant.

Pledge: Some instances of homelessness can be linked to mental health issues. The NHS is committed to ensuring improvement in mental health services for veterans at a regional level. All organisations will follow their lead and work together to support this aim.

Employment & Benefits

The health and wellbeing of people of working age is critical for supporting the local and national economy and positively contributing to society. It's recognised that being in work is generally good for health and wellbeing, while being out of work can lead to poorer physical and mental health.

Accessing employment opportunities and benefits can be challenging for those leaving service or the partners of those in service. There are approximately 5,000 Early Service Leavers leaving the Armed Forces per year with only 61% of these Early Service Leavers being employed at six month following discharge. Those leaving service may have spent the majority of their career with the Armed Forces and may therefore require additional support when entering the job market. Entrepreneurial individuals may also benefit from business advice and support for accessing investment.

Families of those in the Armed Forces may also be required to move frequently. This can make finding employment difficult. Having sole responsibility for child care whilst their partners are serving can also significantly reduce the ability to keep regular employment.

Pledge: Work together to share and distribute information about existing services allowing access to job opportunities, business advice and benefits.

Pledge: Work with Jobcentre Plus Armed Forces Champions along with Third Sector Organisations to signpost extra support to those discharged from the Armed Forces.

Pledge: Cheshire Probation will continue to provide additional support to veteran offenders, including mentoring.

Education

Frequent moves can cause practical issues when enrolling children into school, particularly outside of the school term. These families generally receive good support when a whole regiment moves but it can be more difficult when individual families move.

Children may also require additional support to ease integration into a new school or area and may face additional challenges when a parent is in service.

Pledge: Where possible, ensure that school admissions and local members of the Armed Forces work together before a move takes place.

Pledge: Work with schools and local groups to develop understanding and support for children of those in service. This includes the timely provision of appropriate support for Service Children with Special Educational Needs.

Health

The public health agenda recognises the Armed Forces community as an important demographic to address in terms of health inequalities and specific health behaviours and needs that are related to Service. Health refers to both clinical and non-clinical elements.

Pledge: We will ensure that all parts of the NHS community will offer support to the local Armed Forces community and make it easier for Service personnel, ex-service personnel, families and veterans to access the services, help and support which will be available in a timely and appropriate manner in order to maximise their potential to achieve good physical health and positive mental health and wellbeing. Accordingly, service members and their families required to move or relocate will maintain their position within a hospital waiting list and in accordance with clinical priorities.

Pledge: Regardless of changes to NHS structures and delivery we will aim to ensure that there is a commitment to service user led design in order that the health care needs of veterans are recognised and met.

Pledge: We pledge to raise the awareness among healthcare professionals about the needs of veterans so that these needs are met. To this end Hospital and GP records will indicate that a patient is a current/former service member. The identification of an individual as a former service member may help identify vulnerable individuals who can then be brought to the attention of supporting agencies.

Pledge: In line with the establishment of pilot schemes by Central Government we pledge to improve veterans' access to Mental Health Services

Pledge: The NHS/Primary Care Trust (PCT) pledges that in the provision of prosthetic limbs the NHS/PCT will as a minimum match the standard provided by Defence Medical Services.

Wellbeing

Wellbeing is intrinsically linked in to all of the themes already described, both as a contributor to and an indicator of the state of individuals and our communities. However, each organisation can further support wellbeing in our communities.

Furthermore, we recognise the Armed Forces community as a distinct group that may experience common issues and needs. We aim to fully integrate involvement and consideration of this community, as we do with all stakeholders, as part of our core business, not as an add-on or afterthought.

Pledge: Cheshire Probation will continue to provide additional support to veterans using Veteran Support Officers with specialist awareness training and will continue to work with Veterans in Custody Support Officers from Merseyside and Great Manchester to ensure best practice

Pledge: Partners will work together to promote existing opportunities including Healthy Living Centres, access to mentoring services, and other services available to members of the Armed Forces community.

Pledge: Where possible, partners will work to provide discounts to leisure facilities and promote relevant discount schemes to the Armed Forces community.

Pledge: Armed Forces Champions will work to promote the needs of the Armed Forces community as part of existing services.

Pledges: All organisations aim to encourage a positive and strengthened relationship between the Armed Forces community and the wider community.

Pledge: All organisations will work together in a mutually beneficial way, acting in accordance with the key values of this Community Covenant.

Monitoring and Development

As our communities develop so too will the role of the Community Covenant. It is therefore important to revise this agreement when necessary.

Organisations may also create action plans that will be developed and implemented locally to further support the aims and pledges outlined. The core Community Covenant Working Group will formally meet no less than every six months for the first two years to discuss existing pledges, achievements and issues as well as opportunities for development. Until a suitable non-military lead can be identified, this will be led by the Armed Forces Commanding Officer who holds a responsibility for Cheshire. Annual

reviews will provide opportunity for additional organisations to officially sign the covenant.

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: CABINET

Date of Meeting:	20 th August 2012
Report of:	Paul Bayley, Customer Service and Libraries Manager
Subject/Title:	Libraries Strategy
Portfolio Holder:	Councillor David Brown

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 This report introduces the new Libraries strategy that has been developed to define the priorities for Cheshire East Libraries to ensure the Council fulfils its statutory duty while also contributing to the priorities for action set out in the Cheshire East Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- 1.2 The strategy is not proposing radical changes to the library service. The key challenge is to continuously improve and modernise the way that we deliver the service to keep pace with evolving customer expectations, and to be flexible and responsive to take advantage of opportunities when they present themselves.
- 1.3 The strategic objectives for our libraries are:
- Improve literacy
 - Support informal learning
 - Enable digital inclusion
 - Provide information
 - Promote libraries as community anchors

2.0 Decision Requested

- 2.1 That Cabinet endorse the new Libraries Strategy.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 Cheshire East Council has a statutory duty 'to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons desiring to make use thereof' as set out in the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964. The Libraries strategy defines the priorities for Cheshire East Libraries for the next three years to ensure that it fulfils its statutory duty while also contributing to the priorities for action set out in the Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.2 The strategy is not proposing radical changes to the library service. Its purpose is to provide the strategic priorities for the service against which developments and opportunities should be assessed. It does not aim to describe everything that we will do to achieve the objectives as this will be

reviewed and documented through annual service plans, but it will highlight some high profile developments or opportunities that we will proactively consider during the next 12 to 18 months, such as whether to introduce the ability to download e-books through libraries.

4.0 Wards Affected

4.1 All wards.

5.0 Local Ward Members

5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications including - Carbon reduction - Health

6.1 The review of the mobile library service and the proposal to reduce the number of vehicles from three to one will reduce fuel consumption.

6.2 Libraries provide a wide and diverse range of health and wellbeing activities, from Reading Groups to Health promotion activities to books on prescription. Volunteering is also recognised as delivering important health benefits, and Libraries offer a number of volunteering opportunities such as Reading Challenge Champions, IT Buddies and Rhymetime Assistant. Cheshire East Libraries are involved in a project being jointly lead by the Reading Agency and the Society of Chief Librarians to better articulate what libraries can offer to support health and well being. The project has so far defined the Public Library Health offer as:

- A network of local community hubs
- Non-stigmatised, non-clinical community space
- Community outreach expertise, access to vulnerable people and local knowledge
- Expertise and support
- Supported on-line access
- Health related self -help reading programmes, services and resources, referral and signposting and social and recreational activity
- Volunteering and community engagement opportunities

7.0 Financial Implications (Authorised by the Director of Finance and Business Services)

7.1 The Libraries strategy does not have any direct financial implications. The financial implications of any subsequent actions will be considered on a case by case basis, and may contribute to savings already budgeted or contribute to new policy proposals in future business plans.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 The Libraries strategy does not have any direct legal implications. The legal implications of any subsequent actions will be considered on a case by case basis. There have been examples of both successful and unsuccessful legal challenges to proposals to close libraries or alter the service in other local authorities. The key lessons from these challenges are that the public consultation process to support any proposals should be thorough, and equality impact assessments that consider the impact on vulnerable groups must be produced.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 Reputational risk is the main risk associated with any proposals to change a library service. The risk to Cheshire East is low given the Libraries strategy is not proposing any radical changes to the service. Thorough consultation and equality impact assessments will mitigate the risk of reputational damage.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 An informal review of the Library service undertaken by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee in September 2011 described Libraries as an important resource to the public that are seen by many as an integral part of a city, town or village identity and aesthetic. The Committee's report stated that it is important that Cheshire East Council has a strategy in place to maintain and develop its library services for the residents of the borough.
- 10.2 A Peer review carried out by the Local Government Association in March 2012 concluded that we are providing a good library service, professionally managed and delivered by highly motivated staff. Amongst its recommendations, the review advised us to urgently focus on improving the positioning of the library service in the council, recognising that the services' corporate profile may be limited, although apparently valued politically, and potential as a major contributor to wider priority outcomes not properly understood or utilised. They advised that the production of a library strategy should seek to address this by examining the future of the library service in terms of this wider contribution as well as looking at the specific service needs to be met by libraries.
- 10.3 The strategy has considered the learning from the Future Libraries Programme that was published in August 2011. Cheshire East has already implemented or considered many of the opportunities outlined by the programme. For example, the programme recommended one of the possible models for delivering more efficient and effective library services could be to deliver the service network in different ways through co-location or new, non traditional outlets and service points. Cheshire East has already taken the opportunity to co-locate customer service points in Libraries. The Council is also currently considering the business case for developing Lifestyle Centres in some towns. The opportunity to include the library within the scope of a Lifestyle Centre is being considered in locations where it makes sense. Any proposal to include a library within a new lifestyle centre could clearly have an

impact on the location of libraries within Cheshire East, but it will not affect the core purpose or strategic objectives of the service.

11.0 Access to Information

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

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Libraries Strategy 2012-2015



July 2012

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Executive Summary

- This Libraries strategy defines the priorities for Cheshire East Libraries for the next three years to ensure that it fulfils its statutory duty while also contributing to the priorities for action set out in the Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy.
- The Council provides libraries in 18 communities in Cheshire East, receiving 1.8 million visitors and issuing over 3 million books each year. A recent LGA Peer review concluded that Cheshire East is providing a good library service, professionally managed and delivered by highly motivated staff.
- The strategy is not proposing radical changes to the library service. The key challenge is to continuously improve and modernise the way that we deliver the service to keep pace with evolving customer needs and aspirations, and to be flexible and responsive to take advantage of opportunities when they present themselves.
- The strategic objectives for our libraries are:
 - Improve literacy
 - Support informal learning
 - Enable digital inclusion
 - Provide information
 - Promote libraries as community anchors

1. Introduction

Cheshire East Council has a statutory duty 'to provide a comprehensive and efficient library service for all persons desiring to make use thereof' as set out in the Public Libraries and Museums Act 1964. This Libraries strategy defines the priorities for Cheshire East Libraries for the next three years to ensure that it fulfils its statutory duty while also contributing to the priorities for action set out in the Cheshire East Sustainable Community Strategy.

The strategy is not proposing radical changes to the library service. Its purpose is to provide the strategic priorities for the service against which developments and opportunities should be assessed. It does not aim to describe everything that we will do to achieve the objectives as this will be reviewed and documented through annual service plans, but it will highlight some high profile developments or opportunities that we will proactively consider during the next 12 to 18 months, such as whether to introduce the ability to download e-books through libraries.

The key challenge for the Library service is to continuously improve and modernise the way that we deliver the service to keep pace with evolving customer needs and aspirations. We need to be flexible and responsive to take advantage of opportunities to make the service more efficient and effective and we need to be brave to challenge existing service delivery when opportunities present themselves.

2. Cheshire East Library Service

An Overview

The Council provides public libraries in 18 communities across Cheshire East, plus the library at HMP Styal. Our libraries are a key resource within these communities providing books, music, information, learning, recreation and community spaces for residents, visitors, businesses and community groups. These are supplemented by a mobile library and books on wheels service for rural communities and housebound customers that are unable to access a static library. Specialist and support services such as the Education Library Service, Bibliographical Services and the Library Management System are shared with Cheshire West and Chester. Each year our libraries receive 1.8 million visitors and issue over 3 million books and multimedia items. 190,000 customers log on to the People's Network to access the internet. The total net revenue budget for the library service is £3.5m.



Cheshire East Libraries



The Library service has continued to modernise and develop during the first three years of Cheshire East. The roll out of RFID self service technology to enable customers to borrow and return books themselves is nearing completion. This has released more staff time to engage with customers and run activities for the community, as well as provided the opportunity to refurbish and refresh the layout of many of the libraries. At the same time, the Libraries have taken on the face to face customer service function for the Council in their communities, enabling net annual savings of £240,000 as stand alone Customer Service Points have been relocated into the libraries.



The service is perceived as good value for money, as a low cost and high performing service. The most recent customer survey conducted in 2009 reported that 93% of respondents rated the library service overall as good or very good. According to the CIPFA Public Library Statistics 2009-10, out of 22 North West library authorities Cheshire East Libraries had the third lowest expenditure per resident and the highest number of issues per resident.

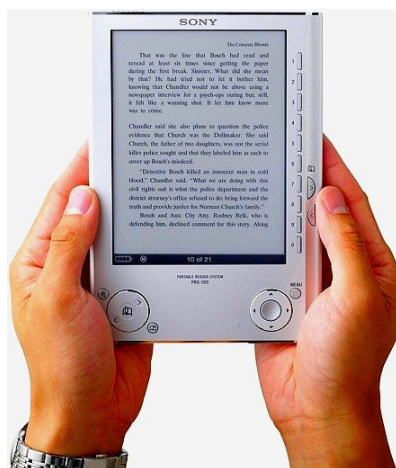
An informal review of the Library service undertaken by the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee in September 2011 described Libraries as an important resource to the public that are seen by many as an integral part of a city, town or village identity and aesthetic. The Committee's report stated that it is important that Cheshire East Council has a strategy in place to maintain and develop its library services for the residents of the borough.

National Context

The past year has seen high profile local and national campaigns against library cuts and closures and a huge public concern about public library services. Areas such as Somerset and Gloucestershire saw library closures quashed by a legal challenge, but in Brent, the Brent SOS Libraries campaign group failed to prevent six libraries from closing. In March 2012, the Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) reported that it was "seriously concerned" that libraries are disproportionately bearing the brunt of cuts in government funding. The group carried out a survey of library authorities in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. It found that 2,000 library workers have lost their jobs and 3,000 opening hours a week cut since April 2011. The survey also revealed that reported actual library closures are small but that the overwhelming majority of responding authorities have reduced staff. The report also challenges the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport,

to set out a “fresh vision for the 21st century public library service defining what comprehensive, efficient and accessible means.”

The Future Libraries Programme was established in August 2010 to help library services during the current challenging financial climate. It aimed to ensure libraries continued to play a central role for communities, with the vision of library and other local services working better together to deliver services genuinely designed around the needs of the public. The programme initially worked on 10 innovative, collaborative projects involving 30 councils. The learning from the programme, published in August 2011, suggested that there are four emerging change models. The Cheshire East response to the Future Libraries Programme is considered in section five of this strategy.



Considering and responding to the opportunity or threat that e-books presents to the traditional library service is a key priority. The e-books market is still evolving, and there are restrictions on what e-books are currently available through a library service in the UK. Amazon will not allow public library services in the UK to have access to the Kindle format, although they have recently allowed access in the United States. Book suppliers to Libraries estimate that only 25% of books that are available in printed form are currently available to libraries in e-book form with many publishers not yet signing up to the practice, and some withdrawing while the ground rules are established.

Peer Review

A Peer review carried out by the Local Government Association in March 2012 concluded that we are providing a good library service, professionally managed and delivered by highly motivated staff. The review added that they were extremely impressed by the way the service has accommodated the customer service function and made it a success. They also stated that they would be very happy to recommend other councils to see what we have achieved and learn from us. Amongst its recommendations, the review advised us to urgently focus on improving the positioning of the library service in the council, recognising that the services' corporate profile may be limited, although apparently valued politically, and potential as a major contributor to wider priority outcomes not properly understood or utilised. They advised that the production of a library strategy should seek to address this by examining the future of the library service in terms of this wider contribution as well as looking at the specific service needs to be met by libraries. The review also concluded that the service has no fundamental issues around buildings and IT, although any opportunities to improve the environment in our buildings or operate in new shared spaces should be taken, and to also continue to keep a watching brief on the e-book situation.

3. Customer Needs and Expectations

The needs and priorities of the people of Cheshire East are articulated in the Cheshire East Sustainable Communities Strategy. Libraries have an important role to play in contributing to the priorities for action from this strategy, and in particular:

- Nurture Strong Communities
- Support our children and young people
- Prepare for an increasingly older population

There is no data currently available on what the people of Cheshire East expect from their Library service, and so this strategy assumes that the expectations of people who live and work in Cheshire East is consistent with national attitudes to Public Libraries in England gathered by Ipsos Mori on behalf of the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council in October 2010. The research identified the top ten reasons for using libraries and library services:

- 1) Using / borrowing books for pleasure
- 2) Using / borrowing books for study
- 3) Use computers with internet connections
- 4) Find local information, e.g. OS maps, phone numbers / Tourist Information / information about public services
- 5) Rent CDs, DVDs, videos or vinyl
- 6) Somewhere to take the children / children's and parent / toddlers' activities and clubs
- 7) Read newspapers / magazines
- 8) Place to study
- 9) Local history information
- 10) A community focal point, e.g. meetings and events

The Spring 2012 Influence Cheshire East Survey includes a section on libraries that will help us to better understand what the people of Cheshire East expect from Libraries now and in the future. The feedback from this survey will be available in September 2012 and prompt a review of the priorities for action within this strategy.



4. Looking Ahead – Our Service Objectives

The core purpose of Libraries in Cheshire East is to provide a comprehensive and efficient Library service that fulfils the needs and expectations of the people who live and work in Cheshire East. The strategic objectives for the Library service that we will use to assess and prioritise service developments and opportunities to ensure we provide a comprehensive service that meets these needs and expectations are:

Improve literacy - promote books and reading to people of all ages to improve children's and adults literacy and to improve life opportunities and health.

Support informal learning - provide an informal learning environment that encourages people to participate in activities that contribute to their learning and skills development.

Enable digital inclusion - support people to develop digital and information skills through free internet access and skilled support to help people that are digitally excluded to get online.

Provide information - provide simple and straightforward access to the information that local people need.

Promote libraries as community anchors - promote Libraries as local community hubs that provide welcoming, neutral and safe places, and organise and host activities and events for communities to come together to improve life opportunities, health and wellbeing.

We will measure the success of the service by monitoring usage of our Library services and regularly checking that library users are satisfied with the service. This will be supported by qualitative evidence of how our Libraries have improved outcomes for people who live or work within the borough. We will also regularly review the efficiency of our Library service by checking that individual libraries and services continue to provide value for money.

There are no plans to make radical changes to the existing library network. We will continue to operate the individual Libraries as long as we are confident that they are efficient and are meeting the needs of the local community. There are no plans to build new libraries but we will be happy to work with communities without libraries to explore alternative delivery models that could provide solutions in their communities. This may be through the provision of books in community centres, churches or other community hubs; or it may be through outreach activities with local community groups to support informal learning or address digital skills gaps.

5. The Future Libraries Programme – a Cheshire East Response

The learning from the Future Libraries Programme, published in August 2011, outlined four possible models for delivering more efficient and effective library services. It was recognised that the delivery models are frequently hybrid – a combination of approaches to meet local political priorities, community needs and aspirations and the ambitions of other partners. Cheshire East have already implemented or considered many of the opportunities from these emerging delivery models.

Delivering the service network in different ways through co-location or new, non traditional outlets and service points

- The opportunity to co-locate customer service points in Libraries has already been taken, with the roll out due to be completed in all libraries by August 2012.
- The Council is currently considering the business case for developing Lifestyles Centres in some towns. The opportunity to include the library within the scope of a Lifestyle Centre is being considered in locations where it makes sense.
- There are currently no plans to co-locate libraries in other community locations, such as shops, sports centres, village halls or churches, but these opportunities may be considered where the cost and usage of existing libraries is not representing value for money or in communities without a library where there is strong demand.

Using external providers such as Trusts and charitable companies, other councils or through the private sector

- There are no plans to explore using an external provider to deliver the Library service in Cheshire East as it is not clear what added value such as arrangement could bring given the existing service is perceived as high performing and good value for money.
- The business case for Lifestyle Centres to bring together the delivery of a range of health and wellbeing services may result in the creation of new company structures or Trust arrangements which could have an impact on the delivery of the Library service in a location where it is part of a Lifestyle Centre.

Sharing services with other councils to varying degrees of integration

- The Libraries Shared Service, hosted by Cheshire West and Chester Council, provides back office and specialist support to Cheshire East libraries, including Bibliographical Services, Library Transport, Education Library Service, Inter-lending Unit, and a shared Library Management system. The Libraries Shared Service is subject to formal review during 2012-13 to ensure that a shared service continues to represent the most efficient and effective way to deliver these functions.

- There are no plans to extend the services that are delivered through the Libraries Shared Service. The Shared Service is planning to explore the opportunities to extend their services into other neighbouring Library authorities.

Empowering communities to do things in their own way

- Cheshire East Libraries has increased the use of volunteers to work alongside professional Library staff to assist in running events and activities.
- There are no plans to transfer Libraries to a Community organisation or social enterprise. Any opportunity presented by a community based group will be properly considered to assess whether it could be a more efficient and effective way of delivering the Library service in that community.

6. Delivering the Strategy – Priorities for Action

	Priority	By Whom	By When
1.	Improve Literacy		
1.1	Review the business case for providing e-books through Cheshire East Libraries	Customer Service & Libraries Manager	Oct 2012
1.2	Participate in national library initiatives to promote libraries, books and love of reading, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Summer Reading Challenges – World Book days – National Bookstart week – Stories of the World adult reading challenge to support the Cultural Olympiad – The 6 Book Challenge for people with low literacy levels. 	Librarians / Specialists	Ongoing
1.3	Offer and promote class visits for local schools in all Libraries	Library Managers	Ongoing
1.4	Offer and promote reading groups for people with mental health issues	Library Managers	Ongoing
1.5	Lead on the National Libraries Health Offer for the North West libraries cluster	Projects Librarian	Mar 2013
2.	Support Informal Learning		
2.1	Participate in national library initiatives including Adults Learners week	Reference Specialist	Ongoing
2.2	Establish a pilot Work Club in Macclesfield Library	Library Manager	Mar 2013
3.	Enable Digital Inclusion		
3.1	Participate in the Race Online 2012 to help 2000 people in Cheshire East get online by the end of 2012	Reference Specialist	Dec 2012
3.2	Provide IT taster sessions in all Libraries, and participate in national initiatives such as Get Online week, I-Tea and Biscuits week	Reference Specialist / Library Managers	Ongoing

	Priority	By Whom	By When
3.3	Review options for extending Wi-Fi provision, currently piloted in Crewe Library, into all other Libraries	Area Librarians	Apr 2013
4.	Provide Information		
4.1	Complete the roll out of Customer Service Points in all Libraries	Area Librarians	Aug 2012
5.	Promote Libraries as Community Anchors		
5.1	Provide weekly Rhymetime sessions in all Libraries	Library Managers	Ongoing
5.2	Develop a communications plan to promote the availability of Library space for community events and activities	Area Librarians	Oct 2012
5.3	Review community meeting spaces at all Libraries and submit capital bid to refurbish or create spaces in all Libraries	Customer Service & Libraries Manager	Sep 2012
6.	Improve Efficiency		
6.1	Review the Mobile Library Service to ensure that it delivers consistently across the borough and represents value for money	Community Libraries Manager	Jul 2012
6.2	Review the lowest performing Libraries (cost per issue / cost per visit) to ensure that they continue to represent value for money and identify alternative and more efficient ways to deliver Library services to affected communities	Customer Service & Libraries Manager	Jan 2013
6.3	Review all income generating products and services to ensure they continue to represent value for money and are meeting the expectations of customers	Customer Service & Libraries Manager	Oct 2012

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CHESHIRE EAST COUNCIL

REPORT TO: SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date of Meeting:	26 July 2012
Report of:	Borough Solicitor
Subject/Title:	Work Programme update

1.0 Report Summary

- 1.1 To review items in the 2012 Work Programme, to consider the efficacy of existing items listed in the schedule attached, together with any other items suggested by Committee Members.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the work programme be received and noted.

3.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1 It is good practice to agree and review the Work Programme to enable effective management of the Committee's business.

4.0 Wards Affected

- 4.1 All

5.0 Local Ward Members

- 5.1 Not applicable.

6.0 Policy Implications

- 6.1 Not known at this stage.

7.0 Financial Implications for Transition Costs

- 7.1 None identified at the moment.

8.0 Legal Implications (Authorised by the Borough Solicitor)

- 8.1 None.

9.0 Risk Management

- 9.1 There are no identifiable risks.

10.0 Background and Options

- 10.1 In reviewing the work programme, Members must pay close attention to the Corporate Plan and Sustainable Communities Strategy.
- 10.2 The schedule attached, has been updated in line with the Committees recommendations on 21 June 2012. Following this meeting the document will be updated so that all the appropriate targets will be included within the schedule.
- 10.3 In reviewing the work programme, Members must have regard to the general criteria which should be applied to all potential items, including Task and Finish reviews, when considering whether any Scrutiny activity is appropriate. Matters should be assessed against the following criteria:
- Does the issue fall within a corporate priority
 - Is the issue of key interest to the public
 - Does the matter relate to a poor or declining performing service for which there is no obvious explanation
 - Is there a pattern of budgetary overspends
 - Is it a matter raised by external audit management letters and or audit reports?
 - Is there a high level of dissatisfaction with the service
- 10.4 If during the assessment process any of the following emerge, then the topic should be rejected:
- The topic is already being addressed elsewhere
 - The matter is subjudice
 - Scrutiny cannot add value or is unlikely to be able to conclude an investigation within the specified timescale

11.0 Access to Information

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

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Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 17 July 2012

Issue	Description/Comments	Officer	Suggested by	Portfolio	Corporate Priority	Current Position	Date
Libraries Strategy	To give consideration to the proposed Libraries Strategy	Paul Bayley	Committee	Strategic Communities	Nurture Strong Communities	On Target	26 July 2012
Section 106	To receive a report on s106 project plan for improvements to processes	Rachel Bolton	Committee	Communities & Regulatory Services	Nurture Strong Communities	Defer to enable relevant information to be collated	13 September 2012
Police and Crime Commissioner	To receive a briefing on the arrangements for PCCs and Crime Panels under the Police Reform Act 2011	Stephen Pickup – Police Auth.	Committee	Communities & Regulatory Services	Nurture Strong Communities	On Target	26 July 2012
Armed Forces Community Covenant	TO receive a report on the development of the Community Covenant	Zandra Neeld	Scrutiny Chairmen's Group	Strategic Communities	Nurture Strong Communities	On Target	26 July 2012
CCTV Update	To receive the process for the removal of tree obscuration	Peter Hartwell	Chairman	Communities & Regulatory Services	Nurture Strong Communities	On Target	13 September 2012
Domestic Violence	To receive details of the proposals to deal with perpetrator behaviour	Judith Gibson	Committee	Health and Adult Social Care	Nurture Strong Communities	On Target	13 September 2012

Possible Items to Monitor or consider at future Meetings

- Voluntary Sector Grants
- Performance Management
- Budget Monitoring
- Risk Management – Information, research & Business intelligence – Partnerships - Community Safety
- Customer Service Charter
- Customer Service complaints information
- Customer Relationship Management Programme – Paul Bayley

Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Work Programme – 17 July 2012

- CIL – Charging Schedule and Neighbourhood funding levels
- CCTV Camera Review – September/October
- Antisocial Behaviour in Private Housing – September
- Cheshire Road Safety Partnership (results of routes review) - October

Dates of Future Committee Meetings

26 July 2012, 13 September 2012, 25 October 2012, 22 November 2012, 20 December 2012, 17 January 2013, 14 March 2013 and 25 April 2013.

Dates of Future Cabinet Meetings

20 August 2012, 17 September 2012, 15 October 2012, 12 November 2012, 10 December 2012, 7 January 2013, 4 February 2013, 4 March 2013, 2 April 2013 and 29 April 2013.

Dates of Future Council Meetings

11 October 2012, 13 December 2012, 21 February 2013 and 18 April 2013.

Key Decision	Decisions to be Taken	Decision Maker	Expected Date of Decision	Proposed Consultation	Relevant Scrutiny Committee	How to make representation to the decision made
Cheshire East Local Plan Borough Development Strategy	To approve the Borough Development Strategy.	Cabinet	17 Sep 2012	With housing stakeholders, parish councils and people on the local plan database, and the housing market partnership, via the website, post and email.	Sustainable Communities	John Nicholson, Strategic Director (Places and Organisational Capacity)

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