

EAST HERTS COUNCIL

COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – 12 JUNE 2012

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MANAGER

EAST HERTS SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2009 TO 2024
– REVIEW OF PROGRESS

WARD(S) AFFECTED: ALL

Purpose/Summary of Report

This is an update report on the Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) for East Herts (2009-2024).

<u>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMUNITY SCRUTINY COMMUNITTEE</u>	
(A)	That Members approve the progress being made by the Local Strategic Partnership's (LSP) on the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS).

1.0 Background

1.1 The LSP is responsible for the development and delivery of the SCS. Whilst the LSP is chaired by East Herts Council, the committee is reminded that the SCS and its action plan are owned by the LSP. The SCS address areas of activity of all the members of the LSP and are not the sole responsibility of East Herts Council. Membership of the LSP is set out at **Essential Reference Paper "B"**

1.2 The LSP published the SCS for East Herts in 2009. In April 2009 the SCS was endorsed by East Herts Council's Executive following approval by Community Scrutiny Committee. Subsequently, the Community Scrutiny Committee was presented with a progress report in March 2011.

1.3 The full version of the SCS can be viewed at <http://www.eastherts.gov.uk/media/EastHertsFlippingBooks/scsfinal1/index.html> (paper versions available on request).

1.4 This report provides an update focusing on two elements:

(a) Delivery of SCS projects funded by the Local Area Agreement Performance Reward Grant (PRG) (monies made available to East Herts Council as a result of targets achieved at county and district level under a previous national performance framework).

(b) Development of a refreshed LSP focus on three priorities contained within the longer term SCS.

2.0 Report

(a) **PRG summary and progress**

2.1 The financial summary of the PRG programme presented at **Essential Reference Paper “C”** shows the level of PRG available, committed and spent as at the last LSP Board meeting on 21 May 2012.

2.2 **Essential Reference Paper “D”** shows the projects that have been funded through the PRG programme and the progress with delivery of those projects.

(b) **The LSP’s new focus on three priorities**

2.3 In recognition of the strength of the partnership and its capacity for innovation, East Herts LSP was recently awarded development funds by the local government development and learning agency IDeA (Innovation Development and Improvement Agency). This development grant has been used to facilitate new approaches to partnership working. Emerging from this process has been a streamlined structure that now consists primarily of the LSP board and an LSP strategy group, with a smaller number of sub groups, together with a sharper focus on the following three key priorities from the SCS:

- Promoting economic wellbeing
- Supporting vulnerable people
- Community safety

2.4 At its meeting on 21/05/12, the LSP board was presented with proposals relating to each of these priorities, as summarised below.

2.5 Promoting economic wellbeing.

- 2.5.1 The LSP board agreed to support a new initiative called 'Get East Herts Working'. This initiative was presented to the board by the Council's economic development manager Paul Pullin on behalf of a new working group consisting of Jobcentre Plus and Herts Regional College. The initiative seeks to deliver a range of interventions designed to remove barriers to employment. The full programme is set out at **Essential Reference Paper "E"**. The LSP agreed to match fund the group's development proposals with £20,000 from the remaining PRG revenue funds set out at **Essential Reference Paper "C"**

2.6 Supporting vulnerable people

- 2.6.1 The supporting vulnerable people working initiative is initially focusing on improvements to community and subsidised transport provision in the area. A first attempt to map provision is presented at ERP F. The LSP on 21/5/12 received a report on this initiative and agreed to use £5,000 of the remaining PRG revenue funds to support the development of a single point of contact for customers to access community transport provision. This work will be developed through the CVS's new Voluntary Car Scheme. The LSP also agreed in principle to support additional resources to this project once it had been properly established.

2.7 Community safety

- 2.7.1 The LSP was presented with an initiative from the Community Safety Partnership designed to address the gap between actual levels of crime and anti-social behaviour and the perception or fear of crime. The proposal was previously presented to the Community Scrutiny Committee on 28 February 2012 as part of the findings of the task and finish group on community safety. The initiative centres on a campaign of reassurance that East Herts is a very safe place to live and work. No additional resources were requested for this campaign other than an input into the campaign design from each of the partners' communications officers.

2.8 Conclusion

- 2.8.1 The committee is invited to consider and support the work of the LSP in its development and delivery of the SCS.

3.0 Implications/Consultations

3.1 Information on any corporate issues and consultation associated with this report can be found within **Essential Reference Paper 'A'**.

Background Papers:

None.

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