

Committee:	Executive	Agenda Item No.:	7.
Date:	8 th April 2013	Status	Open
Category	1. Key decision included in Forward Plan		
Subject:	Sustainable Community Strategy Refresh 2013		
Report by:	Chief Executive's and Partnership Manager		
Other Officers Involved	Partnership Performance and Sustainability Officer Partnership Consultant Programme Manager Partnership Administration and Communications Officer		
Director	Chief Executive Officer		
Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor E. Watts, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Policy, Strategy, Finance, Customer Services and Human Resources. Councillor A. Tomlinson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Regeneration.		

RELEVANT CORPORATE AIMS

COMMUNITY SAFETY – Ensuring that communities are safe and secure
ENVIRONMENT – Promoting and enhancing a clear and sustainable environment
REGENERATION – Developing healthy, prosperous and sustainable communities
SOCIAL INCLUSION – Promoting fairness, equality and lifelong learning.

Due to the broad thematic focus of the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and the involvement of key partner organisations and the 4 sectors, public, private, community and voluntary, the above Corporate aims apply.

The SCS provides a clear vision for the Local Authority and its partners to achieve locally agreed priorities across Bolsover district.

Each of the strategic themes in the document have a specific vision and priorities to deliver against until 2020 using an established Action Plan with a series of targets. These have been monitored and reviewed on an annual basis to date.

VALUE FOR MONEY

Working in partnership provides the opportunity for the Authority and its partners to continue to establish sound working relationships and build trust and reliability between organisations.

In the current economic climate this approach has been crucial in agreeing joint projects, initiatives and services to ascertain areas for collaborative working, the achievement of joint priorities, the potential to achieve savings and opportunities to lever in additional funding resources.

The SCS is the key driver in promoting this method of collaboration through Bolsover Partnership and its thematic Action Groups.

TARGETS

N/A

THE REPORT

The Local Government Act 2000 required all local authorities to consult, develop and deliver, with partners, a Sustainable Community Strategy to include aims, objectives and a vision for the area. In 2006 Bolsover District Council consulted and produced the Sustainable Community Strategy covering a 15 year period (2006-2020) and since has delivered against those aims in partnership with the public, private, community and voluntary sectors via the former Local Strategic Partnership (now known as Bolsover Partnership).

A 'light touch review' of the original document has been completed on an annual basis and this has reflected the achievements and reviewed the aims moving forward. During 2011/12 an annual review process did not take place due to the change of Government in 2010 following the General Election and the subsequent need to await any changes to the way in which we were performance monitored to ensure that processes and procedures could be adapted. However, one of the key decisions by the new Government was to repeal the statutory duty upon Local Authorities to produce a Sustainable Community Strategy and there were no newly imposed methods of performance managing our agreed priorities for the district.

Locally, however, it was agreed to continue to utilise our existing Sustainable Community Strategy, as there was recognition that the strategy was a key driver in ensuring local priorities are raised, discussed and agreed by local people. As the Strategy is now six years old it was agreed that a full refresh of the document would be undertaken to reflect current priorities moving forward. A consultation process has been carried out to gauge feedback. It is evident that a significant number of successes have been achieved in working together with partner agencies.

The format of the refreshed strategy is made up of the following thematic areas:

- 'A safer and better community'
- 'A better place to live'
- 'A better life'

- 'Getting better all the time'
- 'A better place to work'
- 'Better access to all areas'
- 'Better results, a better future'
- 'Better together'

And the following is explored for each:

- What were the priorities in 2006
- What has been done to address them
- What impact has been achieved
- What are the priorities moving forward

The Sustainable Community Strategy remains a corporate document within the Local Authority and directly links to the following corporate aims:

- Regeneration
- Social Inclusion
- Developing healthy and prosperous communities
- Environment

IMPLICATIONS

Financial: None

Legal: None.

Human Resources: None

RECOMMENDATION

That the Executive note the report and endorse the Sustainable Community Strategy Refresh and launch event to be staged on the 18th April 2013.

REASON FOR DECISION TO BE GIVEN IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CONSTITUTION

To advise Members of the Sustainable Community Strategy Refresh and seek endorsement of the launch event.

ATTACHMENTS:

FILE REFERENCE:

SOURCE DOCUMENT:

http://www.lsp.bolsover.gov.uk/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=18&Itemid=138