# Developing our New Sustainable Community Strategy

## 1.    Purpose

1.1    The new Local Strategic Partnership agreed at its first meeting, on 21 April 2010, to a process for preparing a new sustainable community strategy for the district areas. This paper outlines progress to date and presents the first draft of a joint strategy.

## 2.    Recommendations

2.1    The Board is asked to agree a vision and a small number of priorities for inclusion in the Sustainable Community Strategy.  This will allow the strategy to be focused and for conversations with specialist officers to take place to work up more detailed actions that the LSP could achieve.

## 3.    Progress

3.1    The process for preparing the new strategy included two stages of consultation. The first stage started in June 2010 and involved discussions with the local partnerships, linked with the LSP, about their priorities and how they could be reflected in the strategy. The partnerships include:

- o   Informal Adult Learning Partnership
- o   Improving Health Partnership
- o   Affordable Housing Partnership
- o   Biodiversity Group
- o   Children and Young People's Area Partnership
- o   Community Safety Partnerships
- o   South Cambs Transport and Access Group

3.2    Officers attended meetings of most of the partnerships and have collated responses into an evidence base.

3.3    An evidence base was assembled to help gauge what has changed over the past three years and to get a feel for emerging issues.  The evidence base has been regularly updated throughout the strategy development process to include consultation responses, but also includes information about local demography and from research / needs assessments.

3.4    A meeting of lead officers from the local partnerships and the other main themes covered by the existing strategies also took place in August 2010 to look at present priorities alongside emerging priorities in the evidence base and from local working knowledge.  The workshop outcomes, alongside the evidence base, helped to shape the content of the consultation with wider stakeholders in the second stage.

3.5    The second stage wider stakeholder and public consultation ran from 11 October 2010 until 31 December 2010.  This consultation took the form of a survey, which could be completed online or by hardcopy, and a wiki to enable people to comment upon and suggest changes to the draft vision.  Over 100 responses were received to the survey.

3.6    The first draft of a joint Sustainable Community Strategy for 2011 to 2014 can be found at Appendix A.  The priorities have been limited using the responses to the wider stakeholder and public consultation i.e. where a higher percentage of people

stated a priority to be a key issue.  The original vision posted on the Wiki site and the final revision is shown in Appendix B.  A full list of the priorities that were consulted upon can be found at Appendix C.  Members are asked to confirm the vision statement they would like to appear in the strategy and agree the small number of priorities, taking into account views provided in the consultation, that can be developed further.

**4.      Next Steps**

4.1     The draft strategy, including the final vision and selected priorities agreed at this meeting, will be circulated to partnership leads and within partner organisations on the LSP Board for further refinement and development before the LSP's next meeting.

4.2     Officers will be required to make any agreed amendments to the draft strategy before formally taking it through the appropriate political processes (a statutory requirement).

4.3     A final draft will be presented to the LSP Board at its meeting in April 2011.

4.4     The new Sustainable Community Strategy will be ready for implementation from June 2011.

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Please contact Gemma Barron or Graham Saint for a copy of the evidence base and/or stakeholder consultation results.