

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Environmental Services
Portfolio Holder

15 November 2011

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HEALTH & ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES – SERVICE PRIORITIES 2012-13

Purpose

1. To seek Portfolio Holder Environmental Services agreement to suggested high-level service priorities for financial year 2012-13.
2. This is not a key decision. This matter is before the Portfolio Holder Health & Environmental Services as Cabinet-owner of this Service.

Recommendations

3. That Portfolio Holder Health & Environmental Services notes the emerging priorities that will be developed in the Service Plan for 2012-13.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. These service priority options reflect the draft South Cambridgeshire DC Corporate Plan “3 A’s” priorities, as well as technical matters raised by officers as part of the service planning process. A final draft of the H&ES Service Plan for 2012-13 will be brought to Portfolio Holder Meeting on 14 February 2012.

Background

5. Work on developing key service priorities for 2012-13 has been undertaken as part of the SCDC corporate service planning process. The draft priorities for the Service are set out in Appendix 1 to this report.
6. The final draft of the H&ES Service Plan will continue to be developed to reflect political and customer priorities, service and partner intelligence, and officers’ professional insight and be presented to Portfolio Holder in March 2012.

Considerations

7. The Service Plan and Improvement priorities are designed to:
 - (a) Take forward specific Corporate Aims and Actions e.g. Achieving 65% recycling rate.
 - (b) Maintain and enhance current areas of good performance.
 - (c) Address areas for improvement e.g. implementing the outcomes of the Corporate Enforcement & Inspection Review.

Options

8. The Portfolio Holder Health & Environmental Services is invited to further shape and influence the development of these draft priorities into the final service plan.

Implications

9. Financial	These draft priorities will help refresh the South Cambridgeshire DC Medium Term Financial Strategy and the development of detailed service budgets, efficiency targets for 2012-13.
Legal	The detailed implications of legislative changes will be considered during the development of the detailed service plan.
Staffing	It is anticipated that the Service Plan will be delivered within existing staff resources.
Risk Management	Detailed risk treatments will be developed as part of the final service plan.
Equality and Diversity	No implications identified at this time.
Equality Impact Assessment completed	No. Any policy changes arising from the service planning process will be subject to detailed Equality Impact Assessments before the final draft of the service plan is presented for agreement.
Climate Change	There are clear climate change benefits to be delivered from increasing recycling to 65% and so reducing the amount of waste sent to landfill. Projects and actions in the final, detailed service plan will be assessed for climate change implications.

Consultations

10. These Service Plan proposals make use of consultations, neighbourhood panel views and surveys undertaken with a range of residents and service users. H&ES staff and partners have also contributed through the service planning process.

Consultation with Children and Young People

11. No specific consultations have been undertaken with Children and Young People.

Effect on Strategic Aims

12. The Service Plan proposals will contribute to the delivery of all relevant strategic objectives of South Cambridgeshire DC, translating the Council's Aims, Approaches and Actions into H&ES Service Plan deliverables.

Conclusions / Summary

13. These draft Service Plan priorities reflect the emerging Council Aims, Approaches and Actions and will be refined and developed in the light of consultations, discussions and budget planning over the next 3 months.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: None

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APPENDIX 1 - Health & Environmental Services Draft Service Priorities 2012-13

Cross-Cutting Priorities

1. Lead on improving Health & Wellbeing and the promotion & protection of public health for the people and communities of South Cambridgeshire
2. Lead on protecting and enhancing the South Cambridgeshire environment.
3. Lead on operational response to South Cambridgeshire Neighbourhood Panel Priorities & supporting CDRP Tasking & Co-ordination Group
4. Supporting Growth Areas by contributing to effective planning for the future of South Cambridgeshire
5. Supporting Economic Development and the creation of successful, competitive businesses across South Cambridgeshire.
6. Supporting operational arrangements for the celebration of the 2012 Olympics across South Cambridgeshire

Individual Service Priorities

Awarded Water	Environmental Protection	Food, Health & Safety	Health Protection	Licensing	Waste
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Covell's Drain Project – Complete the Fen Drayton section of the Fen Drayton / Swavesey Flood Defence scheme. 2. Maintain the 250 miles of Awarded Water Courses across the District. 3. In partnership with Cambridgeshire CC, take a lead for SCDC on Flood & Water Risk Management. 4. Respond to planning consultations and negotiate drainage funding with Developers. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve standards of private sector housing across South Cambs as a key determinant of health. 2. Implement action plan to deliver recommendations of the Private Sector Housing Survey. 3. Support roll-out of HomeLink Approved Landlord Accreditation Scheme. 4. Investigate complaints and reports of statutory nuisances. 5. Respond to planning consultations. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Support local businesses and consumers by migrating to the national Food Hygiene Rating System. 2. Work with the HPA, FSA and local businesses to reduce risks from e-coli and campylobacter. 3. Reduce risk from Legionella by updating database of cooling towers and reviewing management process. 4. Target "problem traders" and work to reduce risks at "High Risk" traders. 5. Follow-up on "0-2 Star" project to ensure improved compliance. 6. Provide advice to new and existing South Cambs businesses. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Implement new South Cambs Local Health Partnership & support Portfolio Holder as member of Shadow Health & Wellbeing Board & District Council Members' Group. 2. Support delivery of the "Ageing Well" project. 3. Take a lead for H&ES on co-ordinating and responding to Major Planning Consultations. 4. Complete verification work on remediation of Hauxton site. 5. Review & update Contaminated Land Strategy and complete "Part 2a" Database to prioritise key risk areas for remediation. 6. Design process to review & update Air Quality Strategy. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ensure new Licensing legislation is effectively implemented across South Cambs. 2. Ensure taxis are safe to use and taxi-drivers are safe to drive. 3. Support local events by running a District Safety Advisory Group. 4. Investigate and support set-up of dedicated Safety Advisory Group for Duxford Air Show. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Continue work to deliver 65% recycling rate by December 2012. 2. Lead of the development of shared waste services for South Cambs via the RECAP partnership. 3. Continue to tackle environmental damage through effective enforcement. 4. Maintain the quality of local environment and the reputation of South Cambs via clearance projects on major routes and across 10 villages. 5. Ensure effective transfer of footway lighting maintenance from Parishes to SCDC. 6. Lead multi-agency work to improve compliance at scrapyards across South Cambridgeshire.

H&ES Service Improvement Priorities

1. Contribute to maintaining SCDC Customer Service Excellence Accreditation.
2. Ensure Equality Impact Assessments are completed for all relevant matters.
3. Implement the recommendations of the SCDC Enforcement & Inspection Review.
4. Implement Planning Consultation Process Review.
5. Contribute to SCDC Contact Centre moving "in-house".
6. Contribute to the implementation of the SCDC Website Review.
7. Work with Partners to better share information and intelligence and align information governance.
8. Refine H&ES Performance, Finance, Risk, Project, Contract and Tactical Operations management arrangements.
9. Licensing Team - To investigate progression to a paperless system where legislation permits and better use of web-based applications to integrate with back-office systems.

Corporate Health & Safety / Emergency Planning / Business Continuity Priorities

1. Implement Legionella policy in SCDC Sheltered Housing
2. Review implementation of Fire Risk Assessment Action Plans in SCDC Sheltered Housing.
3. Continue roll-out of support for development of Parish Emergency Plans.
4. Deliver desk-top exercises to test SCDC Emergency and Business Continuity Plans.