

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Leader and Cabinet

9 June 2005

AUTHOR/S: Chief Executive

MEMBERS ADVISORY GROUPS FOR COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND SPORTS DEVELOPMENT

Purpose

1. To agree on the setting up of two new members advisory groups to steer the development of the new Community Development and Sports Development Strategies. The proposal is to nominate seven Members to sit on two separate advisory groups, which will meet four or five times. The Groups will review the previous Strategies for these services and develop new Strategies and action plans for the coming years.

Effect on Corporate Objectives

2. Quality, Accessible Services	Both Community Development and Sports Development Services illustrate the Council's high quality and accessible approach to direct service provision.
Village Life	Both services directly benefit the quality of village life and the health and well being of residents
Sustainability	Both services aim to develop sustainable activities and opportunities in the community by developing local capacity encouraging good practice.
Partnership	Both services show SCDC best practice in partnership working

Background

3. The previous Community Development Strategy, Growing Through the Community, covers two years work and finishes in 2005. The previous Sports Development Strategy covered 2 years and finished at end of 2004. Sports Development work has been continuing to develop and expand in 2005 however work on the replacement Strategy has been delayed due to maternity leave.

Considerations

4. The two advisory groups would meet four or five times over a period of 4-5 months with each meeting focussing on different elements of the services. External agencies and professionals will be invited to attend appropriate meeting to help feed into the process.

This is similar to the current Arts Advisory Group, which has almost completed its work in developing the new Arts Development Strategy. This system has worked well.

Options

5. It is suggested that both advisory groups should comprise the Community Development Portfolio Holder plus six other Members who have a particular interest in the Community Development Service and the Sports Development Service.

Financial Implications

6. The cost of producing these new Strategies is budgeted for within existing Community Development and Sports Development budgets.

Legal Implications

7. There are no legal implications

Staffing Implications

8. No new staff implications

Risk Management Implications

9. No significant risks

Consultations

10. Members of the Scrutiny Committee highlighted the need for more Member involvement in compiling community service strategies during the question and answer session for the Community Development Portfolio Holder in January 2005.
11. There are a number of key issues for consideration in both services; these include identifying future priorities and direction for staff and resources, further development of capital and revenue grant aid schemes and managing growth. There are substantial implications to both services relating to the planning for and implementation of Arbury Park, Northstowe, Cambridge East and other new developments across the district whilst maintaining a valued and quality service to existing residents.

Recommendations

12. That Cabinet approves the establishment of two new Advisory groups as outlined above and if approved that:
 - six Members plus the PFH for Community Development are nominated to sit on a Community Development Advisory Group
 - six Members plus the PFH for Community Development are nominated to sit on a Sports Development Advisory Group

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: Previous Community Development and Sports Development Strategies

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