

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Community, Arts and Sports Advisory Group 19 April 2007
AUTHOR/S: Chief Executive / Cultural Services Manager / Ccommunity Development Manager

DRAFT COMMUNITY AND CULTURAL STRATEGY 2007-11

Purpose

1. To consider and approve the a draft Community and Cultural Strategy 2007-11 (attached Appendix A)
2. To consider and approve the draft Community Capital Grants Programme guidelines (attached AppendicesB and B 1-5)

Executive Summary

3. The draft Strategy has been prepared by a number of different officers and is recognised as a working and evolving document. Members are asked to consider this draft whilst acknowledging that further work is required; this will include incorporating a number of good practice case studies as well as pictures and images to support the text as well as an explanation of the acronyms. Members are also asked to consider and comment on the draft capital grants programme guidelines.

Background

4. The Community, Arts and Sport Members Advisory Group has met 6 times as follows:

28 February 06	Agreed on the terms of reference of the group and the main headings
4 April 06	Review of the Community Development Service and presentations from the voluntary sector and youth service. Members agreed to incorporate the LAA and LSP Priorities in the new Strategy.
9 May 06	Review of the Arts Service and presentations from the three Arts Development Managers.
6 June 06	Review of the Sports Development Service including presentations from Living Sport and the Health and Exercise Co-ordinator
4 July 06	Review of the capital grants programme including the Dual Use Sports Facility Programme including presentations from Sport England, Dual Use Sports Centre Manager and Cllr Neil Davies
5 September 06	Review on more detail of the capital grants programme including grants for play facilities

In addition a Members Workshop was held to help identify priority areas for the Strategy.

Implications

5.	Financial	The Strategy identifies the best value use of existing budgets
	Legal	There are no direct legal implications
	Staffing	The Strategy identifies use of existing staff
	Risk Management	Delivery of the Strategy and Action plan is subject to continuing budget levels
	Equal Opportunities	The Strategy plays a significant role in delivering the Councils Equity and Inclusive responsibilities

Consultations

6. The series of Advisory Group meetings have involved consultation with wider partners. Officers suggest that consultation with a small number of Parish Councils on the draft grant guidelines before they are finalised may be helpful. Limited resources are available to do this but it would be considered good practice.

7. Effect on Annual Priorities and Corporate Objectives

8.	Affordable Homes	N/a
	Customer Service	Access to services is a key priority for the Strategy. The new capital grant guidelines help improve and standardise our Community Capital Grants programme to help potential applicants
	Northstowe and other growth areas	Successful new communities is a key priority area for the Strategy
	Quality, Accessible Services	Access to services is a key priority heading for the Strategy
	Village Life	The Strategy and improved Capital Grants Programme contribute significantly towards improving village life in South Cambs
	Sustainability	The Strategy focuses on sustainable initiatives and facilitating and enabling the community.
	Partnership	The Strategy is based entirely on successful partnership working

Recommendations

9. (a) To support the draft Community and Cultural Strategy 2007-11 subject to the addition of case studies, pictures and a table explaining the acronyms and make recommendation to Cabinet to approve.
- (b) To support the draft revised Capital Grants Programme Guidelines and make recommendation to Cabinet to approve.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: Previous Community Services Strategy documents, The Local Area Agreement and SCDC Community Strategy. Numerous other Strategies, policy documents from Government and partner organisations.

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