

Devon Strategic Partnership Delivery Board
1st May 2008

Agenda Item 3: Sustainable Community Strategy for Devon 2008-2018

Recommendations:

- The Delivery Board notes the progress of the Sustainable Community Strategy

Summary and process:

Devon's Sustainable Community Strategy has been developed over the past 18 months involving a process of evidence gathering and consultation. We have reached the stage where the vision and priorities have been agreed, and the 10 year outcomes associated with the priorities have been approved in principle. In addition the draft Sustainable Community Strategy booklet has been produced in limited numbers and is being finalised, with a revised text version included in this report. In parallel, a website is being developed to give more detailed information about the Sustainable Community Strategy. The DSP Partnership Board approved the booklet for publication in principle, subject to various changes, and following the DCC Executive meeting on 30th April it is planned to seek approval of the final document by DCC Full Council on 22nd May.

- 1 **The Sustainable Community Strategy** As discussed at previous Delivery Board meetings, the Sustainable Community Strategy is being produced in two formats to address two different target audiences:
 - a. A short booklet. This is aimed at an audience that has limited knowledge of the work of the Devon Strategic Partnership but would be interested in knowing what the Sustainable Community Strategy says ('the interested public'). The booklet that will be available to view at the meeting is a draft document that was produced in very limited numbers for the Devon Strategic Partnership Conference on 28th March 2008. It is produced on recycled paper, and summarises the vision, aims and outcomes, together with a short explanation of what the Devon Strategic Partnership and a Sustainable Community Strategy is. It signposts readers to more detailed information. The Devon Strategic Partnership conference considered this draft, as did CMB and DSP Partnership Board, which led to some helpful comments being made. As a result the booklet is being revised and the new text for the booklet is shown in Annex 1 below. This is currently work in progress. It encompasses many changes including:
 - i. Reordering of the pages, so that the cross cutting themes have more prominence, the themes appear alphabetically and the explanation of the Devon Strategic Partnership is nearer the back.
 - ii. A foreword from the chair of the Devon Strategic Partnership is included to make it less anonymous
 - iii. Pictures are being revisited to show more realism and to be more appropriate
 - iv. The How Devon Is Now facts are being reviewed to reflect more closely the outcomes they relate to.
 - v. The role of the booklet and website is more clearly explained
 - vi. An equality statement will be included within the section on crosscutting themes
 - vii. Accessibility information re other languages/ formats etc will be included on the back, together with information about the recycled/ sustainable nature of the booklet
 - viii. A reduction in the use of jargon where possible

- b. A Sustainable Community Strategy website. For people who require more detailed information, this booklet will be backed up by a website that will give access to the evidence behind the priorities, other related websites and delivery plans, and to the Local Area Agreement and its delivery plans that will be the route by which the Sustainable Community Strategy is delivered. There is intentionally no Delivery Plan associated with the Sustainable Community Strategy, as the primary mechanism for achieving the outcomes will be via successive LAAs and other delivery plans.

Annex 1 to report to Delivery Board 1st May 2008: Sustainable Community Strategy draft booklet

Below is the revised text for the booklet, with ongoing actions in italics or in text boxes

Devon's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2018

Pages 1 & 2

Welcome to Devon's Sustainable Community Strategy

Foreword from Sally Foxhall, Chair of the Devon Strategic Partnership

Local people in Devon take great pride in coming from a beautiful area steeped in history. It is unsurprising then that they want to ensure their local area is sustained and improved to make it an even better place to live.

Local partners in the Devon Strategic Partnership have been working together to develop a Sustainable Community Strategy that sets out how they will respond to and work with the people in Devon to improve their quality of life. I believe it is equally important that as individuals we are prepared to accept the need for fundamental change and take responsibility for making a significant personal contribution to our own neighbourhoods, to the benefit of all. This booklet is designed to give an overview of what the vision and the key priorities are for Devon and how we want things to be different in 10 years' time. For more detailed information we have designed a website where you can find out more about each of the priorities, the evidence behind it, and how it links to actions that we plan to take. This can be continually updated as more information is gathered or action takes place. The website address is shown at the bottom of every page. We hope you find this booklet useful and that together we can make Devon a better place to live over the next 10 years.

Insert Sally's Signature and picture

Include a statement about how people could get involved?

Pages 3 & 4

The Sustainable Community Strategy

The Sustainable Community Strategy is the overarching plan for promoting and improving the well being of everyone in Devon. The Sustainable Community Strategy is the long term vision for Devon with key priorities and outcomes for the next ten years.

Our vision (see page 5) is: We want Devon to be...

England's greenest county with strong local communities that are prosperous and welcoming with an excellent quality of life and a sustainable future.

Our priorities (see pages 9-22) are to improve aspects of the quality of life for everybody in Devon:

- A World Class Environment
- Strong and Inclusive Communities
- A Growing Economy

- Homes and Housing
- Inspiring Young People
- Health and Wellbeing and
- A Safer Devon

Cutting through all these areas will be consideration (see page 7) of:

- Diversity and Equality
- Accessibility and Demographic Change.
- Climate Change, and our Impact on the Environment.

Each priority also has one or more high level outcomes that we want to have achieved over the course of 10 years. These are listed under each priority in the pages that follow. Achievement of the outcomes would provide a tangible difference to the issues being addressed.

Pages 5&6

A Vision for Devon

We want Devon to be...

England's greenest county with strong local communities that are prosperous and welcoming with an excellent quality of life and a sustainable future.

All the partners who form the Devon Strategic Partnership have agreed to the above Vision statement. This vision is a result of asking a wide range of members of the public and our partners over several months, and listening to what they had to say.

The Vision is based in robust evidence which was collated by partners in the Devon Strategic Partnership and covers all aspects of life in Devon.

Pages 7&8

Cross Cutting Themes

The Devon Strategic Partnership has agreed the top seven priorities for Devon, which are detailed on the pages that follow, but there are also pressing cross cutting themes that must run through all of the work we do:

Value diversity, using the equality of opportunity for everyone as a guiding principle.

Improve accessibility to the services and opportunities people want and need, taking in to account demographic change.

.

Address the challenges and seize the opportunities of climate change, and reduce our impact on the environment.

As well as cross cutting themes the following **principles** apply where appropriate to all the work we will do to address the priorities:

- all priorities will be addressed in a way that improves the quality of life for all ages of the population 'from **cradle to grave**'
- we want to **narrow the gap** between the best performing and the worst performing in each area of work, whilst increasing performance overall.

Also need to add either an equality statement or reference to the joint declaration on equality

NB priorities now ordered alphabetically by theme

General note to check appropriateness of photographs and change where necessary

Comments received re facts needing to relate better to outcomes and need some positive and well and negative – all currently being revisited

Jargon being removed where possible

Pages 9 &10

A Growing Economy

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Creating the conditions to enable Devon to have a strong and growing economy, ensuring maximum opportunities are available for everyone to contribute and benefit from it.

How Devon is Now:

Twenty one communities in Devon are among the 20% most deprived in England.
The Devon Economic Strategy, Devon Economic Partnership 2008

There are more than 6,000 births and 8,000 deaths a year but with people moving here the population continues to grow.
The Devon Economic Strategy, Devon Economic Partnership 2008

Income from earnings throughout Devon is below the England average.
State of the Devon Economy, Devon economic partnership 2007

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- Worklessness and economic exclusion have been reduced, the employment rate and wage levels of the disadvantaged have increased, and more affordable housing is available.
- Sustained investment will have been achieved and as a result business infrastructure and communications, including the transport infrastructure, have improved.
- Co-ordinated strategies are in place to unlock the economic potential of the most disadvantaged communities, and positive progress has been made as a result.
- Skills have been developed and harnessed, in particular greater investment has been made in workforce development plans, barriers to learning opportunities have been reduced, graduates have been attracted and retained and, as a result, the economy is more competitive.
 - Business start-up and growth has increased as a result of the promotion of enterprise, improved productivity, promotion of innovation and development of the knowledge economy.

Pages 11&12

A World Class Environment

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Supporting our County's world class natural environment, our built environment and cultural heritage to improve the look and feel of the places where we live.

How Devon is now

A total of 6,896 kt of carbon dioxide was emitted into the atmosphere from Devon during 2005.
(make more meaningful with comparator or different fact)

Source: Defra 2007 (Emissions of carbon dioxide for local authority areas: 2005 results)

In Devon more than 15% of properties are in flood risk areas.

Source: Environment theme analysis (Devon Strategic Partnership 2007)

Fewer than 40% of residents see Devon as a good place for artistic and cultural activities.

Source: Devon Strategic Plan (Culture) 2006-2011

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- The waste produced in Devon has been reduced so that the reliance on landfill has decreased, the need to process waste has reduced, recycling of all types has increased, and the impact on the environment of the waste produced in the County is minimised.
- The natural environment of Devon has been sustained and continues to be a priority for all those involved in planning for the future. The quality of our built environment and public spaces has been maintained, and steps have been taken to enhance those areas that need further work.
- Devon has reduced its carbon emissions, has incorporated the necessary adaptations to manage the effects of climate change, in particular flooding, into new buildings, roads and infrastructure, is adapting existing structures and is monitoring what else can be done to ensure that wherever possible the effects of climate change are mitigated.
- Opportunities have been taken to promote participation in and contribution to activities to support Devon's cultural heritage, arts initiatives have been supported and Devon's rich heritage has been strengthened.

Need to include reference to coastal/ maritime

Pages 13&14

Health and Wellbeing *NB will change photographs in booklet*

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Promoting health and personal wellbeing for all so that people are as healthy as possible.

NB what follows in this section has been developed by Devon County Council and PCT since the document was first produced

How Devon is Now

There is a gap of up to 18years in life expectancy between different communities in Devon.

One in five people on GP registers in Devon smokes, more than 52,000 adults are recorded on GP registers as clinically obese, and more than 18,000 people in Devon have an alcohol dependency.

Disease prevalence is higher than for England as a whole for a number of conditions including coronary heart disease, hypertension and cancer.

Devon has a higher proportion of older people than the south west as a whole and England. The older population will grow by one third in the next 15 years and an estimated 17,000 people will have dementia by 2021.

Just over 2,700 people with a learning disability are recorded with GP registers though the actual number is likely to be significantly higher and the numbers are expected to rise

There is a need to shift more care from hospital and care homes to care at home or closer to home

All above are from the way ahead

How we will achieve this priority

- People who experience a down turn in their health and well being will have been identified earlier and have access to effective prevention services and wide ranging community services and activities
- The gap that makes people's well being and life expectancy unequal will have been reduced
- People will have choice and control to arrange and direct their own care and support services
- People with disabilities and long term conditions will have access to advice and services that promote independence, make best use of technologies and support them to remain at home
- All carers will have timely and easy access to information, advice and support
- People will have opportunities to have a say and influence on all aspects of our work including people who are often overlooked and excluded

Pages 15&16

Homes and Housing (*NB improve photos*)

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Ensuring the availability and balance of appropriate housing.

How Devon is now

Average house prices have increased in Devon from £100,127 in the year 2000 to £210,147 in 2006. (*updated figure?*)

Land Registry

11,108 of all dwellings in Devon are second residences or holiday homes.

Census 2001 (put in comparator or percentage or change fact)

Demand for affordable housing has increased with Local Authority Housing Registers increasing by 48.7% in the 5 years from 1999 to 2004.

ODPM Statistics

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- More residents will have access to housing that is of good quality, is affordable and in an environment where people wish to live. Devon will have sufficient development in the pipeline to respond to projected growth.
- Improved housing options are available for the homeless and vulnerable people.

Pages 17&18

A Safer Devon

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Tackling behaviour that intimidates hurts or offends people in Devon.

How Devon is now (*further work needed to improve data- detailed comments received*)

35-55% of child protection case conferences report Domestic Violence in the home.
ADVA Business plan

Between 1st April 2007 and 31st January 2008 11,560 incidents of criminal damage were reported to the Police from the Devon County area, a reduction of 1684 from the previous year.
Devon and Cornwall Police Crime Statistics

1.2m violent incidents and 360,000 incidents of domestic violence in the UK are linked to alcohol misuse.

Safer Devon Theme Analysis – Devon Strategic Partnership

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- Tackle the causes of behaviour that intimidates, hurts or offends

Comments received about the omission of fear of crime, drugs and alcohol, and road safety. DSP Partnership Board agreed that this section would be revisited in consultation with Ch Supt Jo Tennant

Pages 19&20

Strong and Inclusive communities

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Working to ensure strong, prosperous and inclusive communities with a sustainable and vibrant future.

How Devon is now

In North Devon 64% of unemployed respondents to a study of transport needs, highlighted transport as a reason for not being able to obtain a job.

Study of the Transport Needs of Young People in North Devon District Area, 2003

Devon has a high and increasing population of older people with 10.4% of the Devon population aged 75 or over compared with 7.6% nationally.

Devon County Council Strategic Plan 2006-2011

Currently in Devon community planning happens through 9 Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and through the many local community led planning activities at local level.

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- People in Devon report that they have good opportunities to influence decision making which affects them.
- More people have access to services and facilities whatever their particular needs or home area.
- People who belong to vulnerable groups (use different phrase?) report that they are fairly treated by public and private service providers and within their communities.
- The challenges presented by demographic change in Devon are being addressed and the opportunities taken.
- Our communities, including villages and smaller settlements have a continuing and vibrant role in people's lives.

Pages 21&22

Inspiring Young People

We want to improve the quality of life for everybody in Devon by...

Inspiring our County's young people to achieve their best and supporting them in tackling the issues that concern them most.

How Devon is now (*need to change facts to reflect better the outcomes*)

Over the next 5 years there will be a fall of 2.5% in Devon's 0-19 population but the number of vulnerable children and children with special educational needs is expected to increase.

Devon Strategic Plan (Children and Young People) 2006-2011

Devon's children and young people want a bigger say in the decisions that affect their lives.

Devon Strategic Plan (Children and Young People) 2006-2011

Obesity and emotional and mental health problems are increasing among Devon's children and young people, and access to mental health services needs to be improved.

Devon Strategic Plan (Children and Young People) 2006-2011

Achievement by Devon pupils is broadly at or above the national average but attainment by pupils – including children in our care – at some schools should be higher.

Devon Strategic Plan (Children and Young People) 2006-2011

How will we achieve this Priority?

By 2018, measurable improvements will have been made in the following areas:

- We have a variety of education, employment and training routes that give young people real choice as they approach adulthood so that they have the chance to achieve economic wellbeing in Devon.
- Effective prevention processes are in place so that any problems that children, young people or families have are prevented from escalating unnecessarily.
- The achievements of children and young people in Devon are celebrated.

Pages 23&24

The Local Area Agreement 2008 – 2011

The Sustainable Community Strategy does not have its own action plan because it will be

delivered in a variety of ways over the course of its 10 year life. The primary way of addressing the priorities and achieving the outcomes will be via successive 3 year Local Area Agreements. The Devon Local Area Agreement (LAA) 2008-2011 is a settlement between central government, local government and its citizens. It is an Agreement about the priorities for Devon to contribute to the delivery of the Sustainable Community Strategy on the one hand and national priorities as expressed in the new National Indicator Set on the other. Devon County Council, as the accountable body, and its partners have negotiated the Agreement with Government Office for the South West.

The Agreement recognises that every place is different and:

- Focuses on improvement priorities and innovation.
- Involves local people and communities.
- Focuses on coordinated actions tailored to local needs.

The LAA broadens the remit of local government and its partners. It allows us to respond to challenges including those relating to:

- Health and Wellbeing.
- Climate change.
- Adult Social Care.
- Economic prosperity.
- Environmental sustainability.
- Affordable Housing.
- Community Safety.
- Children and Young People

Pages 25 & 26

The Devon Strategic Partnership (DSP)

Many of the most challenging issues which face us, such as addressing climate change or rural deprivation are complex. They cannot be tackled by one agency or group working by themselves. Different ways of working together are needed to further improve the quality of life for people in Devon. This is what the DSP aims to do.

The DSP is made up of people from the business, public, faith and voluntary sectors; people who can decide future plans and work together to assist in the implementation of this strategy. The DSP is responsible for delivering this strategy, and encouraging the work of all partner agencies and groups to have the needs of local people, as outlined in this strategy, at its core.

The analogy of a dry stone wall where differently shaped stones are strongly bound together without mortar has come to symbolise a partnership where the strength lies in valuing the contributions of all.

Partners include:
(add partners)

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Prepared by
Devon Strategic Partnership
To contact us please write to:
Development Officers (DSP and LAA)
Communities and Strategy Team
Room G60
County Hall
Exeter EX2 4QD

If you would like a summary of this in a different format such as large print, Braille or tape, or in a different language, please contact *tel: TBA* or email: *dsp@devon.gov.uk*
(*add logos of partners?*)