

Report Title: "A Sustainable Way Forward" – Haringey’s Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2016/17

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): **[add reference]**

Report of the Chief Executive Dr. Ita O’Donovan

Wards(s) affected: ALL

Report for: Key

1. Purpose (That is, the decision required)

1.1 To receive and adopt "A sustainable way forward" Haringey’s Sustainable Community Strategy 2007/16

2. Recommendations

2.1 To adopt the Strategy, subject to the comments of the Haringey Strategic Partnership. To delegate to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Leader, the agreed consequential changes following the HSP meeting on 22nd March 2007

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3. Director of Finance Comments

3.1 The financial implications are set out under 10.1

4. Head of Legal Services Comments

4.1 The legal implications are set out in paragraphs 9.1 and 9.2 of the report.

5. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

5.1 Any further information or background documents referred to in this report or associated with the Sustainable Community Strategy can be obtained from Janice Robinson 020 8 489 2613 janice.robinson@hairngey.gov.uk

6. The Development of “A sustainable Way Forward”

- 6.1** The Sustainable Community Strategy (the Strategy) is the top level overarching strategy for the whole borough. The purpose of the Strategy is to “promote and improve the economic, social and environmental well-being of the area and to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development in the U.K.” There is a requirement on the local authority to produce such a strategy in partnership. Our existing community strategy reached the end of its lifecycle at the end of March 2007 and this strategy will become effective from April 2007. The Strategy attached as Appendix 1 is the outcome of the Haringey Strategic Partnership (HSP or Partnership).
- 6.2** The document has been developed through the structures of the HSP. The main board has overseen the entire process. However, the on-going development was delegated to a Steering Group formed from the HSP. The HSP theme groups were also engaged in the development process. The Council has been fully informed on the development of the strategy with the involvement of the Majority and Minority Groups, the Executive Advisory Board, chief officers and other tiers of staff.
- 6.3** Following extensive consultation the Strategy has the following overarching vision:
“A place for diverse communities that people are proud to belong to”
and sets out six outcomes for Haringey:
- **people at the heart of change**
 - **an environmentally sustainable future**
 - **economic vitality and prosperity shared by all**
 - **safer for all**
 - **healthier people with a better quality of life**
 - **people and customer focused**

The consultation formed a central pillar for the development of the strategy. Alongside this the biggest opportunities and challenges facing the borough also informed the development of the strategy and this is incorporated into the allied Local Area Agreement (LAA). The LAA forms a major part of the delivery of the strategy. The LAA has been developed through an evidence based planning process. The priority indicators and targets have been agreed in partnership, and they are and developed upon a clear understanding of the key issues for Haringey. Because of external government deadlines the LAA had to be developed, agreed and signed-off by the HSP prior to the completion of the Strategy.

7. Consultation

- 7.1** An inclusive and comprehensive consultation programme was used to engage residents, business and other partners in the development of the Strategy. The consultation programme was given a distinct identity with the “Have your say – shape the future” logo. The consultation used a range of means that were appropriate to the varying audiences to ascertain views and comments. The results of this consultation underpin the strategy. Set out below is a condensed overview of the consultation process. A more detailed report setting out the

elements of the consultation process can be obtained from the contact officer listed on the frontpiece of this report.

7.2 The consultation took place over two main phases

- **Phase 1** was largely, but not wholly based upon a postcard campaign and was designed as qualitative consultation. The postcard phase of this consultation commenced on 17th June 2006 and ended on 25th August 2006. The consultation then moved onto more formal groups and meetings, but still used the four questions from the postcard as a basis for engaging with residents and stakeholders. This phase of the consultation ended on 31st October by which time
 - there had been approximately 1,200 responses to the postcard questionnaire,
 - the “Have your say – shape the future” road show had made 7 visits to shopping areas across the borough
 - An article was placed into the July issue of Haringey people
 - the road show had visited all the Area Assemblies
 - staff working on the Strategy had met with 17 community, voluntary and hard to reach groups
 - the road show went to four large community events across the borough
 - the consultation campaign had made contact with every community group known to the borough
 - A competition to engage children and young people was set up
- **Phase 2** of the consultation invited comment on the first draft of the strategy. This commenced on 20th November 2006 and ended on 5th January 2007. This consultation included
 - A newsletter giving an update and feedback on the results of the consultation and how to comment on the draft was sent to all earlier participants in the process and all community and voluntary groups
 - A similar article was posted onto the Haringey website and placed in the December issues of Haringey People
 - The draft Strategy was publicly available on the Haringey website
 - An invitation to comment sent out to those groups previously involved with the strategy
 - It was an agenda item at Area Assembly Meetings
 - It was discussed at the HSP theme board meetings to allow feedback and comments on the draft
 - A workshop event for staff across the Partnership to comment on the Strategy was held
 - A briefing was provided to majority and minority groups on Haringey Council.

7.3 Results of the first phase of the consultation

The most common themes arising from the postcard questionnaire are set out below

What are the good things about living in Haringey?

- The cultural diversity - the people was also a popular response
- Open space/trees /parks
- Transport - proximity to central London was also a common theme

- The shopping experience

What three things do you think would make Haringey a better place?

- Less crime/anti social behaviour/greater safety
- It should be cleaner/tidier/less rubbish/dirt
- Better services/opportunities for young people
- Better public services

What should Haringey be like in 10 years time?

- A good place to live - there was also an aspiration that Haringey should be as good as 'other' places
- It should be clean and tidy
- It should be safe
- Better open spaces and parks

What concerns do you have about living in Haringey?

- The prevalence of crime and anti-social behaviour
This was the overwhelming response followed a very big drop to:
- Lack of cleanliness/amount of rubbish
- Young people - either concern about them or about the lack of services
- Education and schools

These results have all been incorporated into the strategy

7.4 Results of the second phase – comments on the draft

The results of the second phase or comments on the draft were, unsurprisingly, more focused and confined to the draft document. The comments and advice received from partners and other stakeholders can be summed up: The final strategy should:

- Focus more on children and young people
- Address health inequalities
- Tackle deprivation and poverty
- Ensure that the need for more and improved affordable housing should be a central part of the strategy

These issues are now clearly worked into the strategy.

8. Next Steps

8.1 Monitoring progress and delivering the strategy

The Strategy is ambitious and sets high expectations for Haringey. The action plans to support the delivery of this strategy are currently being developed and these will be in place by April 2007. The Local Area Agreement forms a large element of the delivery of the strategy and the targets for these have already been developed by the HSP. The performance indicators that will be contained within the scorecard covers those elements most critical to the delivery of the strategy and the 'health' of the borough.

Both the 'scorecard' and the action plans will be reviewed to check progress and outcomes against targets and objectives. There will be a quarterly review of the 'scorecard' for members of the Partnership to review progress. There will be a

six monthly review of the wider action plan and a wider annual evaluation of the Strategy and the underpinning action plans. The entire Strategy will be fundamentally reviewed every four years. The next review will take place in 2010.

The consultation and evidence underpinning the Strategy will also inform our spatial planning and be built into the development of Haringey's Local Development Framework.

8.2 Production

The Strategy and the supporting action planning documents will be produced in a variety of formats and will also be available electronically.

9. Strategic Implications

9.1 The Community Strategy sets the high level vision for the Haringey Strategic Partnership until 2016/17. It is a long term strategy addressing the biggest opportunities and issues facing the whole borough. It seeks to build upon the borough's success and potential but also to tackle the issues associated with deprivation that face some parts of our community and some of our areas. It will shape the business and resource planning of the Partnership agencies and organisations. It is a Strategy that will be reviewed and renewed and will therefore retain its relevance.

10. Financial Implications

10.1 This is a high level strategy. The activities of the Council under this Strategy clearly need to be contained within existing financial plans.

10.2 The budget for producing the community strategy will be met by resources that have already been identified. The costs of projects and programmes associated with the delivery of the strategy will be contained within existing resources. The Local Area Agreement aligns funding streams that will deliver a large part of the Sustainable Community Strategy.

11. Legal Implications

11.1 The council has a duty to prepare a Community Strategy under the Local Government Act (section 4(1) of the LGA 2000). Government guidance states this should be done in partnership with the local strategic partnership. This strategy has been developed under the direction of the Haringey Strategic Partnership and through its structures.

11.2 **Whenever the Council proposes to use its very important powers, under section 2 of the LGA 2000, to promote the economic, social or environmental well-being of the Borough, Members must first have regard to the Community Strategy.**

12. Equalities Implications

12.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy sets out a long term vision for the whole borough. It covers spatial, economic, social and environmental issues. An initial

equalities impact assessment has been undertaken. The initial assessment shows that if delivered, the strategy will have a favourable impact upon those facing social disadvantage or those with high needs. However, the full delivery/action plans are not yet drawn up. Once these are completed it will be possible to undertake a more holistic impact assessment that brings in those wider issues that are associated with the Strategy. The Local Area Agreement will deliver a large part of the Sustainable Community Strategy. The Local Area Agreement was subject to an earlier impact assessment. This assessment demonstrated that the LAA would have a positive impact upon equalities groups in the borough by addressing identified needs and would significantly reduce the barriers faced by some equalities groups.

13. Use of Appendices / Tables / Photographs

- 13.1** The Sustainable community Strategy “A Sustainable Way Forward” is attached as Appendix 1.