

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY 2008-18 PROGRESS AND FUTURE DIRECTION

Cabinet Member	Councillor Douglas Mills
Cabinet Portfolio	Improvement, Partnerships and Community Safety
Officer Contact	Ian Edwards, Deputy Chief Executive's Office
Papers with report	Sustainable Community Strategy Work Programme

HEADLINE INFORMATION

Purpose of report	<p>To provide Cabinet with a corporate overview of the progress made by officers and partners in implementing the Sustainable Community Strategy agreed by full council in September 2008.</p> <p>In addition to instruct officers to consider options for stream lining performance management arrangements in light of the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment and need to make further financial savings.</p>
Contribution to our plans and strategies	The annex reports on progress in implementing the Sustainable Community Strategy to March 2010.
Financial Cost	There is no direct financial cost resulting from this report. Costs for the Sustainable Community Strategy are met within existing resources by aligning service priorities across the Council and its partners.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	All
Ward(s) affected	All

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Notes the outturn of Hillingdon's Sustainable Community Strategy objectives up to end of 2009/2010.
2. Instructs officers to develop future proposals, with partners, that:
 - I. reflect the opportunities presented to focus on local priorities given the abolition of the Comprehensive Area Assessment,
 - II. put residents at heart of everything the Council and LSP does
 - III. streamlines performance management processes wherever possible

- IV. supports partnership working where clear benefits in service delivery can be demonstrated
- V. Explore possibility of a Partnership Shared Services Social Enterprise model for Hillingdon
- VI. are realistic about the financial challenges facing the council and partners.

And to report back to Cabinet initially in three months time.

INFORMATION

This report sets out the progress so far made by officers and partners in implementing the Sustainable Community Strategy across the Local Strategic Partnership.

Reasons for recommendation

1. Cabinet agreed that the Sustainable Community Strategy should be monitored regularly.
2. The current economic climate and decisions by the new Government present opportunities and challenges in delivering that Strategy which should be considered fully and proposals made.

Alternative options considered / risk management

Cabinet may choose not to instruct officers to take further action.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

Specific Policy Overview Committee involvement has been referred to in the work programme circulated separately, where appropriate.

Supporting Information

Progress Overview: The complete Sustainable Community Strategy work programme can be found in appendix A. 99.3% of the tasks being implemented to deliver the commitments made within the strategy have been completed or are on track to be completed within the timescales identified.

	Green – Completed	Green – On Track	Amber – Some Slippage	Red – Serious Slippage	Total
Number	130	17	1	0	148
Percentage	87.8%	11.5%	0.7%	0%	100%

The 1 task showing 'some slippage' is:

SHP 10 - Increase sanctioned detection rate for serious acquisitive crime.

The sanctioned detection rate for serious acquisitive crime at the end of Q4 has decreased compared to 2008/09. The police have identified that sanctioned detections are an area for improvement. The police are conducting an internal review to identify steps that they need to take to improve this performance next year.

Future direction: The new coalition government has announced that the **Comprehensive Area Assessment** (CAA) has been abolished. The Government Office for London is also to close. As part of the reduction in public expenditure, reward grant in relation to the Local Area Agreement (LAA) for 2007-10, will be paid based on 50% of previously expected levels. There has been no announcement so far on the 2008-2011 LAA which has now entered its final year (see Council Plan and LAA performance reports also on this Cabinet agenda).

This presents an opportunity to review with our partners our priorities and processes as it removes the requirement to engage with the previous inspection regime undertaken by the Audit Commission. Hillingdon's stance on performance management has always been to focus on delivery for residents rather than satisfying central regimes. The demise of CAA and the prospect of further changes to the LAA and national indicator sets, as yet to be determined, present an opportunity to go even further in refocusing our efforts.

We would then expect to renew the borough's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2018 based on an updated needs analysis and consideration of local priorities and resources.

Financial Implications

The financial implications of the Sustainable Community Strategy targets are being absorbed by aligning directorate and partner organisations service priorities, and enhanced by bidding for external funding, which in several areas has already been successful in delivering additional resources towards the strategy's priorities.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

The recommendations will allow officers to monitor progress on a quarterly basis for the Sustainable Community Strategy to ensure the priorities are being delivered across the partnership.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

The Sustainable Community Strategy was widely consulted on amongst key stakeholders. Specific task focussed consultations carried out have been referred to in the work programme where appropriate.

Corporate Finance

Corporate finance has reviewed the report and is satisfied that the financial implications reflect the resource implications for the Council and its partners.

Legal

There are no significant legal implications arising out of this report

BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix A – Sustainable Community Strategy Work Programme 2009/10