

## **Bucks Strategic Partnership Board, 31 March 2009**

### **Review of Sustainable Community Strategies 2009**

1. This report updates the Board on the Review of Sustainable Community Strategies (SCS) at county and district level. There is an acknowledged aim of optimum integration of community planning across Buckinghamshire, whilst maintaining the individual approaches of LSPs and recognising the important influence of the thematic partnerships in developing the strategies. The outcome will be a family of Sustainable Community Strategies which will be mutually supportive across the county whilst continuing to clearly identify the distinctiveness and issues of each LSP area. The strategies are scheduled to be finalised by the summer.
2. The consultation period ended on 31 January 2009, and the responses have been taken into account by the BSP Implementation Group, alongside consideration of the key underlying strategies and inputs. This will include results from the Place Survey, once available. Building on previous input from the Board, the BSP Implementation Group has agreed:
  - The SCS will be organised under the 5 themes of Thriving Economy, Health and Wellbeing, Sustainable Environment, Safe Communities, and Cohesive Communities.
  - That we promote and illustrate demographic change/growth as a cross cutting theme.
  - That some topics, e.g. transport, would appear under more than one theme, depending on the focus of the particular priority.
  - That a single vision would not be achievable for this version of the strategies, given that some partnerships have only recently developed their visions, but that future refreshes could provide an opportunity to bring the visions more closely into line.
  - However, consideration should be given to developing a joint strapline around the recurring themes of economic prosperity, sustainable environment and community wellbeing. One suggestion is to adapt the existing LAA strapline by amending it to “Promoting Prosperity – Tackling Inequalities, in a changing Bucks”.
  - That each LSP should be invited to identify the top priorities they want to focus on in the year ahead, rather than an expectation of covering the breadth of the strategy.
  - A further consultation exercise, in the format of focus group work with seldom heard groups, is scheduled for late Spring/Summer which will inform the later drafts of the strategies.
  - A workshop, with representatives from key partners, to undertake a sustainability appraisal, equalities impact assessment and rural proofing of the draft strategies will take place in April.
3. The review is now at the stage of formulating the key outcomes, and the Board is asked to comment on the attached outcomes proposals, which will be discussed at the meeting.
4. **The Board is asked to:**
  - **Comment on the outcomes proposals.**
  - **Comment on the proposal for a common strapline across the family of SCS of “Promoting Prosperity – Tackling Inequalities, in a changing Bucks” and agree a common strapline.**