

**CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL
CABINET 16 DECEMBER 2014**

Background Papers, if any, are specified at the end of the Report

**DRAFT CHILTERN AND SOUTH BUCKS COMMUNITY AND
WELLBEING PLAN 2015 – 2018**

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RECOMMENDATIONS

**To advise on developing a joint community and wellbeing plan
and to consider its themes.**

Relationship to Council Objectives

(i) Objective 2: Safe, Healthy and Cohesive Communities

Implications

(i) Within the Forward Plan

(ii) Within the policy and budgetary framework

Financial Implications

The consultation and development of the plan will be delivered within existing budgets.

Risk Implications

Failing to enable local communities to take responsibility for identifying local needs and delivering local solutions will hinder both Councils to deliver against the Joint Business Plan objectives.

Equalities Implications

None

Sustainability Implications

Supporting communities to identify local needs and solutions will enable local initiative that not only improve wellbeing but also empower communities and individuals to live more sustainable lifestyles

Report

- 1 The Joint Committee report on the Community Shared Service identified the need to develop a clear plan that would enable the joint team to;
 - Deliver a service that understands and meets the current and future needs and expectations of the community.
 - Create a visible and resilient team that has clear roles and responsibilities but is able to be flexible to changing needs and to maximise opportunities
 - Work in partnership with others to maximise delivery and minimise duplication.
 - Create a service that can maximise the quality and benefits associated with the leisure management contract.
 - Create a service that enables the most vulnerable and hard to reach, to be supported (helping them to access services that will enhance their lives).
- 2 In order to deliver these aims the Community Team will need to support and enable communities to identify local needs and deliver local solutions. The benefit is that communities are better placed to access funding and resources and so shape the delivery to meet local needs.
- 3 For example this could include;
 - i. Greater community support to deliver activities for young people
 - ii. Building community capacity to develop local volunteers
 - iii. Improving access to healthier lifestyles
 - iv. Revitalising the local economy and high streets
 - v. Reducing the fear of crime and enabling communities to become more resilient
 - vi. Foster a sense of place and local identity and celebrate cultural diversity.
 - vii. Improve and protect the local environment and enable actions to reduce the impact of climate change.
- 4 In both authorities there is a strong track record of enabling the community to develop and deliver initiatives. Therefore the opportunity is to build on the strong foundations that are already in place e.g. working with Towns and Parishes, Revitalisation groups, community associations and the voluntary and community sector.
- 5 To continue with this approach it is critical that a plan is in place enabling the joint team to deliver and support both communities.

- 6 This plan should be informed by community engagement, and also support the delivery of the Councils' Joint Business Plan, the Sustainable Communities Strategy, Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and the Community Safety Plan.
- 7 Given the success of the current [Chiltern Community Cohesion Plan](#) a similar approach should be undertaken across both authorities. Early consultation in 2012, with partners on the Chiltern and South Bucks Joint Strategic Partnership, revealed the following six themes to have resonance with the community:
- To facilitate community participation, community appraisal and the sustainable development of communities
 - To support services that improve opportunities for older people to live fuller, safer, more active and ultimately more fulfilling life styles
 - To improve the health and well-being of the population and reduce health inequalities
 - To provide an environment for young people to enjoy, stay safe, be healthy, make a positive contribution and achieve economic well-being
 - Help to stimulate and support a vibrant local economy
 - Help to support, promote and celebrate the rich and diverse wealth of cultural heritage
- 8 It is proposed to consult and test these themes and the approach to be taken in each authority to build community capacity. As each authorities communities have different backgrounds and capacities it is recognised a one size fits all approach is not appropriate. For example in Chiltern District the Towns and Parish Councils work closely with the Revitalisation Groups to improve local services. These groups do not currently exist in South Bucks and research will determine the most appropriate way to proceed, which may be more about capacity building community associations and residents groups, than developing revitalisation group in South Bucks. Whatever the approach a strong partnership with the towns and parishes in both areas is required.
- 9 Consultation will be undertaken through a broad number of community, public sector and commercial organisations. Methodology used will include; workshops, social media, formal presentations, website questionnaires local media.

Background Papers: None
