

CABINET

22 MARCH 2006

REVIEW OF DISTRICT WIDE PARTNERSHIPS

REPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Contact Officer: Jen Anderson (Head of Policy) No: 01962 848592

RECENT REFERENCES:

Statement of Community Involvement: Consultation Draft – CAB1215, 1 March 2006

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

A review has been undertaken to better understand the role and remit of the Council's district wide partnerships, and the way they operate within the overall context of the Local Strategic Partnership and the Community Strategy process. The final report is attached at Appendix 1. The review revealed that improvements could be made in the way that partnerships operate, and in the development of skills and processes to support their work. The review resulted in a number of recommended actions for the Council itself, the Local Strategic Partnership Board, and for individual 'themed' partnerships. These have been translated into an action plan (Appendix 2)

RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet approves the Action Plan detailed at Appendix 2 of the Report.

CABINET22 MARCH 2006REVIEW OF DISTRICT WIDE PARTNERSHIPSREPORT OF CHIEF EXECUTIVEDETAIL:1 Introduction

- 1.1 A review of district wide partnerships was initiated as part of the Modernisation and Improvement Plan following the Council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment in 2004. The full range of partnerships in which the Council is involved was mapped but the review focused on those 'district wide' partnerships which together make up the Local Strategic Partnership. The Local Strategic Partnership is best understood as a 'partnership of partnerships'.
- 1.2 The purpose of partnership working is to deliver broad quality of life outcomes which cannot be addressed by any one agency on its own. It should 'add value' by producing outcomes which would not have happened without those agencies and individuals working closely together.
- 1.3 The specific purpose of the Local Strategic Partnership is to deliver the Community Strategy which sets out an overall vision for the District. The partnership system which is emerging has the delivery of the Community Strategy as its starting point.
- 1.4 Although the review did not look in detail at all the partnership working which is going on, many of the recommendations in relation to the district wide partnerships are also applicable across the board.
- 1.5 The full report is attached at Appendix 1. A range of recommendations are included and these have been translated into an action plan at Appendix 2. In addition the LSP Board's Framework is attached at Appendix 3 for information, and the list of partnerships in which the Council has involvement, and the way they relate to each other within the LSP is at Appendix 4. Further detail on the individual district wide partnerships which informed the review is held by the Head of Policy.
- 1.6 The report has been considered by the LSP Board at the draft stage and comments fed into this final version.
- 1.7 An Informal Scrutiny Group is currently looking at the LSP. When this group reports its recommendations can be added to the action plan.

OTHER CONSIDERATIONS:2 CORPORATE STRATEGY (RELEVANCE TO):

- 2.1 This report relates to a number of Corporate Strategy objectives under the Working Better section, but specifically

- Community Leadership - ensuring communities can help shape their own future, led and guided by elected representatives who are well informed about local needs and aspirations
- Partnership – ensuring we work with partner organisations to deliver real improvements to peoples' quality of life
- Clear Aims - maintaining an evidence based, outcome focused vision for the future endorsed by our community and translating this into priorities for action shared by our partners

3 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS:

The action plan is largely about changing the way we work – a cultural shift. The recommended actions require officer time, or changes to priorities for the corporate training calendar. A post of 'Data Analyst' is proposed to co-ordinate the evidence base required for community planning. This co-ordinating role will be achieved within existing resources.

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:

None

APPENDICES:

1. Review of District Wide Partnerships – Final Report
2. Action Plan
3. LSP Board Framework (with diagrams of some of the partnerships)
4. Diagram showing how partnerships relate to each other.