

SCRUTINY COMMISSION FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES	Agenda Item No. 7
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Report of the Executive Director of Operations

Contact Officer(s) – Gary Goose/Laura Almond
Contact Details – 863780/864385

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS

1. PURPOSE

1.1 The purpose of this report is to note and update on progress on the Community Action Plans.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 Members of the committee are asked to note the contents of the report, and confirm their support or otherwise for the purpose of the Community Action Plans and their function within the structures of the Neighbourhood Committees, local communities and council and wider partner service delivery.

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

3.1 Our communities understand the area in which they live and local people's hopes and aspirations will continue to inform the plans, which will be used to guide policy and service delivery in the future.

The priorities within the Community Action Plans are aligned to the Single Delivery Plan, which supports the delivery of the objectives in the Sustainable Communities Strategy.

4. BACKGROUND

4.1 The Localism Act sets the framework for a new system of Community-led planning in England and it is proposed that Community Action Plans are a key feature to support this approach in Peterborough.

Draft Community Action Plans have now been produced for all Neighbourhood Committee areas utilising data, statistics and information collated by the Safer Peterborough analysts. In addition, community views have been captured from previous consultation events and meetings held in the relevant areas.

Over-arching priorities have been identified in line with the Single Delivery Plan and the draft Community Action Plans have been produced to be a public facing document. Work is now underway to populate a more detailed working Action Plan, outlining processes, projects and key agencies involved in the delivery of the objectives.

The process has begun to share the draft Community Action Plans with Members, key partners and services within the Council to verify priorities and input into the detailed working document through the following process:

1. Members at Neighbourhood Management Delivery Meetings
2. Partners at workshop to follow delivery meetings
3. Circulation of Community Action Plans with amendments
4. Public viewing at Neighbourhood Committee
5. Annual review through Neighbourhood Committee

All work generated by the Community Action Plans will be held accountable by the Neighbourhood Committees, who will be updated with progress made at the quarterly meetings. Monthly Neighbourhood Management Delivery Meetings will also include updates as required.

5. KEY ISSUES

5.1 Community Action Plans will provide a focus for service delivery and a platform to prioritise resources which directly respond to evidenced need within the community. A database of agreed schemes and projects will be compiled for each Neighbourhood Committee area aligned with the Community Action Plan. In order for funding to be released from Neighbourhood Committee budgets, corporate budgets, S.106 or POIS/CIL, projects must be listed in the Community Action Plan.

This process will ensure effective use of resources aligned with community priorities. Further processes are underway to register infrastructure projects on the Integrated Development Schedule (IDS) to link the Community Action Plans to the Strategic Planning Process.

6. IMPLICATIONS

6.1 The Neighbourhood Managers are confident that the Community Action Plans can focus work in each area to assist moving away from reactive ways of working and will further develop the roles of Neighbourhood Committees.

Community Action Plans will be a tool for managing expectations by forward planning for an area.

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 The Neighbourhood Manager for each area will continue to consult with all elected members and Parish Councillors and through:

- Neighbourhood Committee meetings
- Neighbourhood Panel meetings
- Requests and concerns reported by community members
- Other community events

Due to the unique make up of Rural North Neighbourhood Committee, appropriate measures will be taken to ensure that all rural Parishes/villages are engaged with according to their individual requirements. This may involve the creation of a:

- Vision Statement
- Village Plan
- Neighbourhood Plan
- Or other such documents

8. NEXT STEPS

8.1 Processes for implementation as outlined above (4.1).

Publication and dissemination of adopted document to be agreed through corporate communications team.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

10. APPENDICES

None