

<b>STRONG AND SUPPORTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE</b>	<b>Agenda Item No. 7</b>
<b>21 JULY 2010</b>	<b>Public Report</b>

## **Report of the Solicitor to the Council**

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### **SCRUTINY BIG DEBATE – ISSUES PAPER**

#### **1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to advise the Committee of the outcomes of the Big Debate event which was held in February 2010.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 To consider and comment on the outcomes of the Scrutiny Big Debate.
- 2.2 To delegate to the Group Representatives consideration of which items should be added to the Committee's work programme.
- 2.3 To receive an update on the progress of the outcomes at a future meeting.

#### **3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT**

- 3.1 The report and the outcomes of the Big Debate are linked to the Sustainable Community Strategy priority of Creating Strong and Supportive Communities.

#### **4. BACKGROUND**

- 4.1 The Scrutiny Big Debate involved an investigation by the four Scrutiny Committees in to how the economic downturn had affected the City in terms of its aspirations for growth, levels of crime, requirements to support vulnerable people and its credentials for environmental sustainability with particular reference to transport. It was a pioneering piece of work that had been designed and delivered in consultation with the Centre for Public Scrutiny.
- 4.2 The scope of the review for the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Committee had been to look at how the economic downturn had affected the amount and type of crime in Peterborough.
- 4.3 The event was held at the Key Theatre on the 16 February and involved a group of students from the Key Youth Theatre who put on a short performance that told the story of a family living in Peterborough who had been affected by the economic downturn. After the performance the audience were able to question a panel of representatives from partner organisations on the effects of the economic downturn and crime in Peterborough.

#### **5. KEY ISSUES**

- 5.1 Following the discussion which was held on the evening a number of issues were suggested to take forward for further work. The issues which were raised at the Strong and Supportive Communities event are attached at Appendix 1.

- 5.2 The Committee are now asked to formally receive the issues which were raised and to:
- (i) consider and comment on the outcomes of the Big Debate; and
  - (ii) delegate to the Group Representatives consideration of which items should be added to the Committee's work programme.

## **6. IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 Any implications are contained within the Issues Paper.

## **7. CONSULTATION**

- 7.1 Consultation has taken place as part of the Scrutiny Big Debate event held on 16 February 2010.

## **8. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

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

- 8.1 The Scrutiny Big Debate Issues Paper – April 2010

## **9. APPENDICES**

- 9.1 Appendix 1 - Outcomes from the Strong and Supportive Communities Scrutiny Big Debate