

Maidstone Borough Council

External Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Monday 24 November 2008

Sustainable Community Strategy: Vision and Objectives

Report of: Senior Overview and Scrutiny Officer

1. Introduction

1.1 The Sustainable Community Strategy Vision has been developed following consultation with a variety of stakeholders, including the Council's partners and the public, and outlines the 'vision' or aims and ambitions for the Borough for the next ten years.

1.2 The Forward Plan entry for this document is outlined below:

Title:	Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) "Vision"
Portfolio:	Leader of the Council
This will be a "key decision" because:	The SCS will be a policy framework document
Purpose:	The report will seek amendments/approval for the draft "Vision" for Maidstone Borough for the next ten years for the new SCS, developed with the Maidstone Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).
Decision Maker:	Cabinet
Proposed Date of Decision:	12th November
Consultation and Method:	The Vision will be based on the result of extensive consultation with the public, other stakeholders and organisations on the SCS "issues and choices" paper presented to Cabinet on 8th October, with the External Overview and Scrutiny Committee and a workshop with LSP members later in October.
Representations should be made to:	Jim Boot, Community Planning Co-ordinator jimboot@maidstone.gov.uk
Representations should be made by :	All stakeholders, including the public, both within and outside Maidstone Borough.
Relevant documents:	The Community Strategy for Maidstone "Maidstone Matters" (adopted 2003, revised 2005) http://www.digitalmaidstone.co.uk/community/community_strategy.aspx , Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities Statutory Guidance, July 2008 http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/strongsafeprosperous
Wards affected:	All

Director:	Deputy Chief Executive
Head of Service:	Assistant Director of Development and Community Services
Report Author:	Community Planning Co-ordinator

- 1.3 The report was due to be considered by the Cabinet at its meeting on 12 November 2008, however this has been delayed until 10 December 2008. This is due to guidance from the Government on the SCS, which was published in July (almost a year late) requiring a more detailed approach than had previously been anticipated.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 Members are recommended to consider the Sustainable Community Strategy Vision and make recommendations on amendments to this as they see fit. These recommendations will be considered by Cabinet at its meeting on 10 December 2008.