

This letter is to accompany the draft for consultation of Maidstone Borough Council's Community Development Strategy.

Thank you for taking the time to read it.

We welcome your response to this draft strategy as part of our consultation period. The deadline for receiving responses is no later than 4pm on Friday 30 March 2012.

Background

The main purpose of this document is to put forward a number of new priorities and actions, framed within the Borough Council's new strategic priorities.

This is an ambitious document establishing a long-term commitment and approach to giving every child the best start in life and building central government's vision for reshaping relationships between individual citizens and their communities to ensure communities play a central role in securing our vision for the borough and delivering the priorities of both the Borough Council's Strategic Plan and Sustainable Community Strategy.

The development of this draft has been a cross-sector piece of work, with involvement from statutory partners.

How you can respond

Specific templates are not provided, however responses to the following questions would be useful:

1. Do you agree with the expression of strategic priorities and actions outlined in the draft Community Development Strategy?
 - If not, what alternatives would you suggest and why?
2. Do you think that there is anything missing from this draft?
 - What is your justification for inclusion?

Please return your consultation responses by 4pm on Friday 30 March 2012 to:

'Community Development Strategy Consultation'

Community Development Team
Maidstone Borough Council
Maidstone House
King Street
Maidstone
Kent ME15 6JQ

Alternatively, responses can be submitted by email to;
williamsolly@maidstone.gov.uk

The steps following the end of the consultation will be to:

- Gather responses to the consultation
- Moderate responses and amend the document
- Report to the Borough Council's Corporate Leadership Team in April 2012
- Seek approval from Cabinet Member in April 2012

Thank you for your considered response to this consultation.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Robson
Community Partnerships Manager