

networkfareham Board Meeting **Wednesday 24 September 2008**

Item 3 Briefing Paper **Draft Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)**

INTRODUCTION

At the last two Board meetings on 4 March and 3 June 2008, Members considered papers relating to the development of a new Sustainable Community Strategy. In March the Board agreed the overall format of the Strategy and the introductory chapters. In June, the Board considered a draft vision for the Strategy and an update on how it was progressing

The purpose of this paper is to seek broad agreement to a draft strategy for consultation purposes.

FORMAT OF THE STRATEGY

The format of the strategy is as outlined at the March meeting. The introductory chapters have been amended to reflect updated figures and the draft vision agreed in June.

Over the summer months the seven themed chapters have been drafted and shared with the relevant Partnerships. In most cases the draft strategy incorporates the views and comments expressed at Partnership meetings. However, some of the meetings took place too late for views to be included. In these cases the draft chapter has been shared with the lead officer and the Chairman of the Partnership and any comments made at the meeting will be relayed verbally to the Board.

At the moment the draft is in a purely text format, but when it is finalised it will be made more user friendly with appropriate graphics, photographs and tables and charts to illustrate some of the statistics.

The draft also makes reference to an Action Plan, but it is not intended to include this until the priorities have been finalised following consultation.

CONSULTATION PROCESS

The proposed consultation process involves a number of steps as follows:

- A summary of the draft strategy will be prepared and posted on the website together with a question about the issues which concern most residents and the priority ranking they would give to these issues. This will also be sent to people who have made enquiries following the article in the autumn 2008 issue of Fareham Today.
- The same question will be put to the members of the Citizen's e-Panel

- Specific efforts will be made to consult hard to reach groups and particular groups within the population, for example young people via the Youth Council and older people.

NEXT STEPS

Following this, a further report will be made to the December meeting of the Board on the headline issues arising from the consultation process. The strategy will then be redrafted to enable a final version to be approved by the Board in March 2009 with publication as soon as possible after that.

Subject to comments from the Partnership meetings, the Board is invited to endorse the draft strategy, which is attached at Appendix A, for consultation purposes.