

Community & Partnerships Service Review

Findings of the Review Team
26th – 30th Nov 2007

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The Review Team

- Lesley Trusler (Lead Officer)
- Sue Britchford, Elaine Cooper, Caroline Ryan & Alison Thody
- Viv Evans (Corporate Director)
- Cllr Myra Billings (Portfolio Holder, People & Partnerships)
- Cllr Ken Crookes (Scrutiny Member)
- Kelly Handley (Facilitator)
- Sue Kirkwood (Admin Support)

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The Review Week

- Mon (am) - Meeting with internal stakeholders
- Mon (pm) - Meeting with external stakeholders
- Mon - evening - Meeting with Members
- Tues - Visit to Alton Maltings – LAA/SCS refresh conference
- Thurs – Reviewed feedback and information gathered, improvement planning commenced
- Fri – Presentation of findings / prepare improvement plan

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The Service – Core Functions

- Hart Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)
- Partnership Working
- Equality & Diversity Agenda
- Children & Young People
- Fleet Town Centre Management
- Parish Plans
- Community Grants
- Local Area Agreement (LAA)

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The Objectives

- Identify what is wanted from the Service through talking with our stakeholders
- Establish how the service should be delivered
- Prioritise the workload
- Prepare Action Plan and monitor implementation

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What we learnt

- Almost all of the functions are a priority for the Service or the Council
- We need to engage more often and more effectively with partners/stakeholders
- Many of the functions are cross-cutting within the Service and some across the Council as a whole
- We need to improve our communication – internally AND externally
- We will have to be more focused if we are to deliver

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Main Themes Identified

- Communication
- Roles, priorities & resources
- Engage with the Hart business communities
- Linkages between functions

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1. Local Area Agreement

- Statutory requirement
- Define what the LAA means for Hart and its communities
- Be an effective conduit, providing information and guidance UP to HCC and DOWN to the Hart community
- Need to commit resources to be a visible partner

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2. Hart Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)

- Statutory requirement
- Hart delivery arm of the LAA
- Clarify what it does and communicate to all
- Feedback on progress to date
- Meeting management

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2a. Parish Plans

- Discretionary but informs the Sustainable Community Strategy (statutory)
- Establish a multi-service evaluation panel
- Commence Plan reviews & feedback

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2b. Fleet Town Centre

- Discretionary but will inform the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS)
- Report to Cabinet detailing the Strategic Plan for the town centre (Jan/Feb 08)
 - Action planning derived from report
 - Establish corporate direction
 - Review of Town Centre Management?
 - Establish delivery mechanisms

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2c. Children & Young People

- The Children & Young Peoples Plan is statutory but actions are discretionary
- Report to Cabinet – December 2007
- Action planning derived from report
- Multi-agency meeting arranged to discuss mobile youth surgeries & carry out some consultation with young people

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3. Partnership Working

- Continue to meet regularly with partners
- Improve relationships between HDC & individual Parishes
 - Arrange for Parish newsletters etc to be forwarded
- Establish links with local businesses

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4. Equality & Diversity

- Statutory requirements through differing pieces of legislation
- Corporate awareness raising & training (Members, Partners and staff)
- Set meeting of Corporate Equalities Group – revisit Terms of Reference and Action Plans
- Consider how to include the gypsy & traveller population – the largest minority ethnic group in Hart

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5. Community Grants

- Discretionary – although there *is* budget provision
- Research role and constitution of “Grant Board”
- Establish procedures – internal and external
- Consider the role & location of “Grantfinder”

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Thank you

Questions?

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