

Subject:	Living Within Environmental Limits section of the City Performance Plan		
Date of Meeting:	25 March 2011		
Report of:	Strategic Director, Resources		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Thurstan Crockett	Tel: 29-2503
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Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report explains the role of the new City Performance Plan for the city and how the Living within Environmental Limits section is being dealt with in this.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Committee notes the current draft section and the timetable for the plan as a whole.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 In 2010 the Brighton & Hove Strategic Partnership and its family of partnerships refreshed the city's Sustainable Community Strategy. The strategy was revised during a time of unprecedented economic challenge and is focussed on shielding the city from the impacts of the recession and ensuring the city is best placed to make the most of the opportunities during and after the down turn.
- 3.2 In October 2010 the Coalition Government announced that it no longer expects local areas to report performance on Local Area Agreement targets. Eric Pickles, Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government emphasised that areas are now free to focus on their own priorities without the burden of reporting to central government.
- 3.3 Therefore for 2011/12 the Strategic Partnership is developing a new City Performance Plan. The plan will be led by the priorities identified in the Sustainable Community Strategy. It will measure and report against indicators that best demonstrate if the Partnership is achieving a change on local priorities as set in the Strategy.
- 3.4 The City Sustainability Partnership oversees in particular the "Living Within Environmental Limits" chapter of the Strategy, so its chairman and vice-chairs have commented in detail on the draft Sustainability section of the plan.

About the City Performance Plan

- 3.5 The City Performance Plan will be the main mechanism by which the Strategic Partnership will monitor and manage the city's performance against the outcomes defined in the Sustainable Community Strategy.
- 3.6 Where appropriate, and locally relevant, indicators from the 2008-2011 Local Area Agreement (LAA) will be used in the City Performance Plan. However, it is an opportunity to discard any LAA indicators that were not measurable, useful or relevant.
- 3.7 The plan will be reported to the Strategic Partnership, the Public Service Board and to meetings of the city council, specifically, Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, several times a year.
- 3.8 There is no financial reward attached to the City Performance Plan. The Strategic Partnership is not required to report progress against the plan to Government.

Timetable for producing the Plan

- 3.9 The city council is currently leading the development of the Plan on behalf of the Public Service Board and Strategic Partnership. Officers from the council's corporate performance team are working with the thematic partnerships on the outcomes and indicators for inclusion in the plan. The political groups within the council have been briefed on the Plan.
- 3.10 The plan will be presented for endorsement by the city council in June and approval by the Public Service Board and Local Strategic Partnership thereafter.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 Colleagues in Performance, City Services, City Planning and the Chairs group of the City Sustainability Partnership have been consulted.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendation made in this report. The staff time required in developing the City Performance Plan will be met from within existing revenue budgets.

Finance Officer Consulted: Mike Bentley

Date: 25/02/11

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The report is for noting only, and there are no legal implications directly associated with it. Part 1 of the Local Government Act 2000 requires local authorities to prepare a sustainable community strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social or environmental well-being of their area. Local authorities may modify the strategy from time to time.

Lawyer Consulted:

Oliver Dixon

Date: 02/03/11

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The City Sustainability Partnership has undergone an Equalities Impact Assessment and an action plan is being prepared currently.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 The Living within Environmental Limits section of the performance plan represents the areas of city-wide performance that are considered a priority for action in 2011/12.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 Strategic risk in relation to sustainability in the city is being reviewed currently by the Sustainability Team in relation to legal compliance, city reputation and leadership, resource efficiency and environmental impact.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 As the city performance plan, this is for the city as a whole and so has real significance in terms of action planning and achievement in Brighton & Hove.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 There is no other realistic option than to produce a plan of this kind.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Members of the Sustainability Cabinet Committee are aware and reassured that sustainability issues are being incorporated into the city performance plan.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

