

At a meeting of the SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the CIVIC CENTRE on TUESDAY, 14TH JULY, 2009 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor S. Watson in the Chair

Councillors Chamberlin, M. Dixon, Ellis, Errington, Foster, Rolph, J. Scott and A. Wilson.

Also in Attendance:-

Councillor Tate – Chairman of the Management Scrutiny Committee.

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors L. Walton and Wares.

Minutes of the last Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee held on 15th June, 2009 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

Item 5 – Empire Theatre Annual Report

Councillors J. Scott, Tate and S. Watson declared personal interests as Council appointed Members of the Sunderland Empire Theatre Trust.

**Response from Cabinet – 3rd June, 2009
Policy Review – A Place to Play – A Review of Music Venues in
Sunderland**

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing feedback from the Cabinet meeting held on 3rd June, 2009, which considered the Culture and Leisure Review Committee's policy report into music venues in Sunderland.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Nigel Cummings, Review Co-ordinator, commented that the report had been well received by the Cabinet and that the first report monitoring the policy review recommendations would be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee for consideration at its September meeting. A copy of the policy review final report would be circulated to all Members of the Committee in due course.

2. RESOLVED that the response of the Cabinet on the policy review into music venues in Sunderland be noted.

Empire Theatre Annual Report

The Director of Community and Cultural Services submitted a report (copy circulated) updating Members of the work ongoing within Sunderland Empire Theatre and the monitoring systems currently in place to ensure the highest quality of service is achieved within the Theatre.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Ms. Vicki Medhurst, Principal Librarian, Culture and Tourism, proceeded to brief the Committee on the report and referred Members to the annual performance list and figures detailed at Appendix II. She advised that ticket sales of 15,000 had already been achieved for the 2009 pantomime Peter Pan. Ms. Medhurst highlighted the education and outreach work undertaken by Live Nation detailed at paragraph 3.3 of the report. She advised that in relation to the Arts Council's new free theatre initiative, 500 free tickets had been given out in Sunderland and the theatre was on target to give away 2,000 tickets in the next two years.

In relation to the Dr. Gilbert Fund, there were now over 20 schools taking part.

In response to the comment made by Councillor J. Scott that Live Nation were dispensing with a number of theatres in the light of the current economic climate, Ms. Medhurst assured Members that there was a management contract in place with Sunderland. The Theatre was owned by the City Council and the City Council would have to approve any takeover and they would in any case have to adhere to the Council's terms and conditions.

Councillor Foster congratulated everyone involved with the Theatre which he hailed as one of the successes of the Council and a shining light to what Sunderland offered.

In response to an enquiry from Council Rolph concerning the free theatre initiative, Ms. Medhurst advised that the free tickets were allocated over a range of age groups and that young people needed to apply.

Councillor Rolph added that she would be interested to find out whether the scheme targeted people from disadvantaged areas and also, whether Live Nation worked with the Children's Services Directorate as well as other

education providers. Finally, she asked whether the Theatre was a fair trade venue and, if not, urged that this be considered.

Ms. Medhurst advised that Live Nation was working with the Library service and different partners such as Tyne and Wear Museums, however, she would make enquiries and provide the information requested to Councillor Rolph on the issues raised.

Councillor M. Dixon enquired as to the financial situation of the Theatre.

Ms. Medhurst stated that the Council paid a management fee to Live Nation to manage and operate the Theatre and that as far as the Council was aware Live Nation was flourishing.

In response to Councillor Errington, Ms. Medhurst advised that there was a wide ranging programme of shows staged at the Theatre which was detailed as part of the current management agreement between Live Nation and the Council. She added that she was sure Live Nation would book shows in the area where the demand was.

Full consideration having been given to the report, it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted and that an update on the Sunderland Empire Theatre be submitted to the Scrutiny Committee on an annual basis.

Policy Development and Review 2009/10 Scope

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) putting forward proposals and seeking agreement from Members in relation to the forthcoming policy review into Access to Housing.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Mr. Alan Caddick, Head of Housing, briefed the Committee on the report and referred Members to the proposed terms of reference for the Scrutiny Policy Review detailed at paragraph 5 of the report as follows:-

- (a) To provide a national and local context to the availability of housing in the City;
- (b) To consider the current ways by which people access social housing in the City;
- (c) To identify and highlight the issues relating to how people access housing in the City;
- (d) To look at what services are available to support people to access housing;

- (e) To investigate how the Council and its partners work together;
- (f) To look at the potential impact of Choice Based Lettings on how people access housing;
- (g) To ensure that a single route in to housing is attained so that improved customer outcomes are achieved;
- (h) To consider examples of best practice and innovative provision from local authorities and other key stakeholders across the country in relation to access to housing.

Mr. Caddick emphasised the importance of (g).

Members were in agreement that this was a key issue.

Mr. Caddick pointed out that it must be acknowledged that any new supply of housing would take many years to come to fruition and therefore the key driver for the review would be looking at how people access the housing that we already have. He advised that a meeting had been held with Registered Social Landlords and it had been accepted that one approach to access housing was needed. However, as some were national organisations dealing with various local authorities this may be an issue. Further meetings would be held with the group to link into the Scrutiny Committee's review.

In response to an enquiry from Councillor J. Scott, Mr. Caddick advised that in relation to the information on the Local Context detailed in the report, from the 17 households in Sunderland living in temporary accommodation that this included 2 who were in bed and breakfast accommodation. He added that there had been significant impact in decreasing homelessness in Sunderland and that focus had been on prevention by working with people at an early stage and that efforts would continue this year; stretched targets to reduce homelessness in the City having been set. Work had also been done to bring back 390 empty properties back into use by working with landlords in order to help reduce housing waiting lists.

In response to Councillor M. Dixon, Mr. Caddick commented that there was a balance to be struck in meeting local people's needs and also the need to attract people into the City to achieve City outcomes.

Councillor Rolph referred to the list of potential witnesses detailed at paragraph 6.4 and suggested the following additions that may be appropriate:-

- the Cabinet Members with Portfolios for Prosperous City and Responsive Services due to the overlap in their respective remits with that of the Cabinet Member with Portfolio for Sustainable Communities;

- the Regional Development Agency;
- the Homes and Communities Agency.

In response to Councillor Ellis' enquiry concerning empty properties, Mr. Caddick advised that every property was mapped on the GIS property system and returns were made to Government on an annual basis.

In relation to the Homes and Communities Agency, he advised that a financial appraisal had been completed based on 18 sites put forward in the City. A meeting had been arranged to assess what this meant for Sunderland. This was an opportunity for the Council to help with housing in the City. It linked to the City Housing Investment Plan which would look at what the City Council, Gentoo and other housing providers can do and sits alongside the Economic Masterplan. Mr. Caddick stated that he would be happy to bring more detail on the above matters to the Scrutiny Committee.

4. RESOLVED that the scope of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee's policy review for 2009/10 as outlined the report be approved, together with the inclusion of the additional witnesses to the potential list of witnesses and the further information detailed above.

Work Programme 2009-10

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) detailing for Members' information the current Work Programme for the Committee's work during the 2009-10 Council year.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Councillor Rolph having proposed that climate change and the Sunderland Strategic Corridor be included in the Committee's Work Plan in relation to the Committee's remit of sustainability overview, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the information contained in the Work Programme be noted and that the above items be included.

Forward Plan

The Chief executive submitted a report (copy circulated) providing Members with an opportunity to consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st July to 31st October, 2009 and seeking the views of Members on the value of the Committee continuing to receive the Forward Plan on a regular basis.

(For copy report – see original minutes).

Members commented that they found the opportunity to look at the Forward Plan useful.

6. RESOLVED that it be noted that the following entries were proposed as being issues in relation to which Scrutiny could add value, were of interest to the Committee and were under the remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee and that the Committee continue to receive the Forward Plan on a regular basis:-

No. 01090 To approve the submission document and sustainability appraisal for development in the Hetton Downs area to form part of the Council's Local Development Framework.

No. 01134 To consider the outcome of exhibitions and consultation on parking management schemes for the Royal Hospital and Stadium of Light.

No. 01241 To approve the amended Stadium Village Development Framework and adopt it as a Supplementary Planning Document.

No. 01227 To approve a Young Persons Supported Housing Project.

No. 01273 To approve the development of a supported housing unit for people who misuse alcohol.

No. 01269 To agree the award of a short term waste contract.

(Signed) S. WATSON,
Chairman.

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE 22nd SEPTEMBER, 2009

POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW 2009/10: APPROACH TO THE REVIEW

LINK TO WORK PROGRAMME: POLICY DEVELOPMENT & REVIEW

Report of the Chief Executive

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP1: Prosperous City; P5: Attractive and Inclusive City

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4: Improving Partnership Working to Deliver 'One City'.

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to seek agreement from members in relation to the final terms of reference for this year's Policy Review – Access to Housing.

2. Background

- 2.1 At its meeting on 15th June, 2009 following discussions at the recent Scrutiny Conference the Committee considered a variety of possibilities for the policy review and decided to look at the access to housing in the city. An initial scoping document providing several options for detailed focus was presented to the Committee on 14th July 2009 and looking at access to housing in Sunderland was agreed as the focus. This report adds structure to the review and further focuses the subject area to look at the various ways local people access housing in the city and how this can be streamlined.

3. Title of the Review

- 3.1 The title of the review is suggested as 'Waiting for a House: Access to Housing in Sunderland'.

4. Objectives of the Review

- 4.1 To provide a national and local context to the availability of housing in the City;
- 4.2 To consider the current ways by which people access social housing in the City;
- 4.3 To identify and highlight the issues relating to how people access housing in the City;
- 4.4 To look at what services are available to support people to access housing;
- 4.5 To investigate how the Council and its partners work together;
- 4.6 To look at the potential impact of Choice Based Lettings on how people access housing;

- 4.7 To ensure that a single route in to housing is attained so that improved customer outcomes are achieved;
- 4.8 To consider examples of best practice and innovative provision from local authorities and other key stakeholders across the country in relation to access to housing.

5. Consultation for the Review

5.1 Research activities over the coming months will be co-ordinated by this Committee's Scrutiny Officer in consultation with the relevant directorate staff. To assist in this, a small working party will meet on a regular basis outside of the Committee to bring forward relevant ideas and ensure all relevant issues are considered and brought to Members' attention. Every effort will be made to involve Members in the research. Although alternative opportunities may present themselves during the review, data collection techniques may include a combination of the following:

- Desktop research
- Use of secondary research e.g. surveys
- Evidence presented by key stakeholders
- Evidence from members of the public at meetings or focus groups
- Site visits
- Questionnaires
- Expert Witness evidence

5.2 The review will gather evidence from a variety of sources. The main evidence will come from information provided by council officers and external partners likely to include, though not exhaustive, the following:

- Cabinet Member with Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities, Prosperous City and Responsive Services
- Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services
- Director of City Services
- Head of Housing
- Representatives from Chief Executives including economic regeneration & employment
- Key Stakeholders (e.g. Gentoo, Housing Associations, Registered Social Landlords)
- Regional Development Agency
- Homes and Communities Agency
- Local residents;
- Representatives of minority communities of interest; and
- Ward Councillors.

6. Scope of the Review

6.1 The review will consider, as part of the review process, the following issues related to access to housing:

- Who are the key stakeholders in social housing in Sunderland?
- What is the current experience of people looking to access social housing?
- What are the current allocations policies in use across the city and how do these work?
- What advice is available to people looking for housing and how is this signposted?
- What is the current supply and demand for housing across the city?
- What is the role of Private Sector Landlords in housing provision and how does this compliment social housing?
- What are the barriers to accessing housing in the city? Do these barriers change depending on circumstances?
- How do key partners work together and what barriers exist to effective access to housing?
- What are Choice Based Lettings and how would this work in Sunderland?
- How would a Choice Based Lettings scheme improve access to housing across the city?
- How can a single route into housing be achieved?
- What policies and practices are working successfully in other local authority areas and what can Sunderland learn from these?

6.2 As the review investigation develops Members may decide to reduce or widen the remit of the review to ensure that the findings are both robust and based on the evidence and research gathered.

7. Timescales

7.1 Also attached for Members information is a draft timetable for the policy review which outlines the various activities and evidence gathering that will be undertaken throughout the review process. The timetable forms the basis of the review process and allows members to see the range of activities and methodologies to be employed during the evidence gathering stage. The timetable is subject to amendment and throughout the review process members will be provided with an up-to-date timetable reflecting any changes.

7.2 Members of the review committee will be invited to attend the various focus groups and visits that are to be undertaken as part of the policy review, and will be kept informed of all review activities as and when they are arranged.

8. Policy Review Working Group

8.1 It is suggested that the majority of the work is conducted through the establishment of a policy review working group, which would conduct the key evidence gathering aspects of the review. It is envisaged that this working group would report on progress to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee on a regular basis. This will have the benefits of;

- being able to progress quicker outside the confines of the formal meeting
- not slowing down business in formal meetings
- allowing for greater investigation of issues by members.

9. Recommendations

- 9.1 That the committee agrees the title of the review as 'Waiting for a House: Access to Housing in Sunderland.'
- 9.2 That Members of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee discuss and agree the outline aims, objectives and scope for the review.
- 9.3 That Members also give consideration to the suggestion of establishing a working group and also to the membership of such a working group in order to progress the policy review work outlined.

Background Papers

- Corporate Improvement Plan – City of Sunderland Council

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SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – POLICY REVIEW PLAN

Timeline	Review Task	Aims & Objectives	Methodology	Contributors
Sept/Oct 09	Meeting with working group and council officers	To provide an overview of access to housing in Sunderland	Working Group Meeting	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
20.10.09	Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Formal Meeting	To provide an update on review progress to all members of the committee	Written Report	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Nov 09	Meeting with tenants & people on the waiting list	To discuss firsthand the experiences of applying for social housing	Focus Group	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Nov 09	Meeting with Social Housing Providers	To discuss issues around housing allocations including barriers and simplifying application process	Focus Group	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
17.11.09	Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Formal Meeting	To provide an update on review progress to all members of the committee	Written Report	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Dec 09	Meeting with council officers/key stakeholders	To look at Choice based Lettings & other allocation schemes	Focus Group	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
15.12.09	Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Formal Meeting	To provide an update on review progress to all members of the committee	Written Report	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Jan 10	Good Practice Visit	To look at examples from other local authorities / key stakeholders on how they have tackled access to housing	Site Visit	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE – POLICY REVIEW PLAN

19.01.10	Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Formal Meeting	To provide an update on review progress to all members of the committee	Written Report	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Jan 10	Meeting with Key Stakeholders	To look at the practicalities of a single entry into housing and how partners can work together more effectively	Focus Group	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services General Public
16.02.10	Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee Formal Meeting	To provide an update on review progress to all members of the committee	Written Report	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services
Feb/March10	Preparation of draft and final reports	To gather all the evidence together, draw conclusions and make recommendations	tba	Scrutiny Officer Health Housing and Adult Services

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
22 SEPTEMBER 2009**

UPDATE ON POLICY REVIEW RECOMMENDATIONS – ‘A PLACE TO PLAY’

Report of Executive Director of City Services

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP1: Prosperous City; P5: Attractive and Inclusive City

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4: Improving Partnership Working to Deliver ‘One City’.

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 To update the Committee on progress against the policy review recommendations from the A Place to Play Review

2. Background

- 2.1 During 2008/09, members undertook a policy review, which focussed on music rehearsal and performance spaces in Sunderland. The policy review objectives followed on from the Music Strategy adopted by Cabinet in October 2008.
- 2.2 At the Review Committee in 21 April 2009, the final policy review report was presented, providing a wealth of information to inform and strengthen the local implementation of the Music Strategy.
- 2.3 The report presented 20 recommendations to take forward, all of which would also be incorporated into the action plan of the Music Strategy. It was agreed that quarterly reports would be received from Culture & Tourism.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The following sets out the recommendations, alongside progress to date against each recommendation.

Recommendation 1:

To identify potential sites for poster points in and around the city and also to identify the resources to purchase poster points.

Progress

This issue will be explored through the City Centre Quick Wins initiative.

Recommendation 2:

To undertake research into best practice with regard to the management and maintenance of poster sites.

Progress

Research has been undertaken comparing models in a range of town centres across the country.

Recommendation 3:

To explore the development of a promoter's network for Sunderland including other forms of entertainment like dance and theatre.

Progress

The Arts & Creative Development are currently exploring the development of a Promoters Network

Recommendation 4:

To identify existing and emerging promoters and look to develop support mechanisms within the city for promoters.

Progress

The Arts & Creative Development Team are seeking support from Generator – the regional music agency with regard to supporting existing and emerging promoters. A Training Day has already taken place in Sunderland organised by Generator and supported by the City Council.

Recommendation 5:

To continue to ensure that music plays a prominent part in festivals and flagship events and that relationships with the local music scene are further enhanced.

Progress

The development of a 'fringe' festival to support the recent concerts at the Stadium of Light ensured that a wide range of local musicians were able to showcase their talent.

Recommendation 6:

To support the development of music with both young people, adults and professionals through the development of Arts Centre Washington as a music venue.

Progress

Two initiatives are in progress at Arts Centre Washington to respond to this recommendation: Mix Up – a series of workshops held over the summer holidays for young people aged 13 – 19. Activities included:

- Rehearsal space, recording studio time, master classes and performance opportunities for bands, solo musicians and singers
- Graphic design and printing workshops
- Acting workshops and performances
- Modern dance workshops and performances
- Filmmaking workshops and presentation

Community Music Space – we are awaiting final confirmation that Arts Centre Washington has been successful in securing funding from DCMS for one of ten Community Music Spaces in the country.

Recommendation 7:

To hold discussions with youth development groups to consider the issues around transport for young people to access music events within the city centre.

Progress

This recommendation will be picked up in the autumn.

Recommendation 8:

To identify and develop a Sunderland directory of rehearsal and performance spaces for performers, promoters and audiences.

Progress

Funding has yet to be identified for the development and production of the Directory.

Recommendation 9:

To explore the notion of a centralised ticket sale facility for the city.

Progress

Currently the Tourist Information centre in Fawcett Street can provide this facility to any organisation for a small fee. Funding is currently being sought to develop a computerised Box Office at Arts Centre Washington which would enable tickets to be bought over the internet as well as over the phone.

Recommendation 10:

To raise awareness of the current marketing avenues available to promote music events and to explore a variety of different methods including the use of new technology.

Progress

Organisations have been sign posted to advertise their events on the sunderlandevents.com website. A number of groups are also using Facebook and Myspace to promote their activity.

Recommendation 11:

To raise awareness of existing venues through the development, production and distribution of a Sunderland Music Directory.

Progress

Funding has yet to be identified for the development and production of the Directory.

Recommendation 12:

To continue to explore opportunities for a small to medium sized venue within the current regeneration of the city centre.

Progress

Discussions are ongoing with a number of interested parties regarding refurbishment of existing building and the potential for new build

Recommendation 13:

To raise the profile of the diverse range of music venues currently available in and around Sunderland that already cater for a variety of music genres.

Progress

Venues are encouraged to promote their activity through the sunderlandevents.com website

Recommendation 14:

To develop a venue network for the city that provides support and assists venues in supporting themselves.

Progress

This issue will be picked up in the autumn.

Recommendation 15:

To highlight and signpost Springwell Village Hall as a model of good practice as a local community venue.

Progress

This issue will be picked up in the autumn between the Arts & Creative Development Team and Oxclose and District Young People's Project.

Recommendation 16:

To support the refurbishment of Holy Trinity by the Churches Conservation Trust through partnership working that realises the potential of the venue as a hub of creative activity.

Progress

The Arts & Creative Development Team and other officers of the City Council are supporting the development of the venue as a centre for Creative Activity.

Recommendation 17:

To continue to offer advice, support and information to the University Big Band.

Progress

The Arts & Creative Development Team are supporting the University's application to the Arts Council for funding towards the 2010 festival.

Recommendation 18:

To identify resources within the City Council to address issues identified throughout the review report that will develop the infrastructure required for music to grow and develop in Sunderland in line with the overarching music strategy for Sunderland.

Progress

Funding is being sought from the Medium Term Financial Strategy with regard to a Music Development Officer that would work as part of the Arts & Creative Development team to address the issues within the Music Strategy and the recommendations from A Place to Play.

Recommendation 19:

To look at the creation of a music development group, that includes the key music stakeholders within the city, to ensure a coordinated and joined up approach to the development and implementation of the recommendations of this review and the wider music strategy delivery plan.

Progress

A review of the original Music City Steering group is underway to better reflect the organisations across the city and to support the implementation of the music strategy

Recommendation 20:

To devise a delivery plan including key actions, milestones and costings to monitor progress on the review report and its recommendations, that will sit within the wider delivery plan for music development in Sunderland.

Progress

This is currently underway and will be reported in the next Quarter.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 Sustainability Scrutiny Committee are asked to receive this update as part of the monitoring arrangements for the policy review recommendations.

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Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

Performance Report and Value for Money Self-Assessment 2008/2009

Report of the Chief Executive, Director of Financial Resources, Executive Director City Services, Executive Director Health, Housing and Adults Services and Director of Development and Regeneration

1. Why has this report come to committee?

- 1.1 To provide members with a value for money assessment in relation to Sustainable Communities for the period April 2008 to March 2009 as part of the committee's work programme. It includes findings from a range of performance information including spend, investment, improvements, residents perception and both national and local indicators including those within the Local Area Agreement.

2. Background

- 2.1 On an annual basis the Audit Commission's 'Use of Resources Assessment' considers how well organisations are managing and using their resources to deliver value for money and better and sustainable outcomes for local people. The Audit Commission provides a score and judgement on value for money in the use of resources which in turn contributes to an overall score for the council's Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) Organisational Assessment.
- 2.2 Although it is no longer a statutory requirement to produce a Value for Money Self Assessment to inform this judgement the council has chosen to do so to demonstrate how well we manage and use our financial resources to achieve value for money. The Audit Commission has continued to publish 'Value for Money Cost Profiles' which inform our assessment and are referred to within the report. The cost profiles are used to compare Sunderland's position relative to other Metropolitan Authorities and it's 'Nearest Neighbourhoods' (a group of other authorities which are assessed by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) as having comparable demographics to Sunderland).
- 2.3 Members will recall that a new national performance framework has been implemented during 2008/2009. This includes 198 new National Indicators which replaces the Best Value Performance Indicators and Performance Assessment Framework Performance Indicators. As a consequence 2008/2009 has been a transition year as we develop baselines for the new indicators and ensure any corrective action will be effective in the new framework.
- 2.4 Two residents' surveys were undertaken during 2008/2009: the Council's long-established annual Residents' Survey, used to which find out residents' views on Council services, and the Place Survey, a new statutory national survey (taking place every 2 years) to find out residents' views on all public services in the area. The results of the latter are used as the basis for a number of

National Indicators, some of which to calculate National Indicators (some included in the LAA), and therefore represent residents' perceptions of services and their impact on their life.

- 2.5 As part of this new framework 49 national indicators have been identified as key priorities to be included in the Local Area Agreement. Targets have been agreed for these indicators through a process of negotiation with partners and government. These improvement targets will also be a key consideration in the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) in terms of the extent to which the partnership is improving outcomes for local people.

3. Current position

- 3.1 In preparing the report Directorates have reviewed the Audit Commission's Value for Money cost profiles in addition to a whole range of other performance information including satisfaction levels, and benchmarking information in order to formulate a balanced assessment of the position of each service area.
- 3.2 During the first year of the implementation of the new national performance framework the Council is only statutorily required by government to set targets for those performance indicators that formed part of the Local Area Agreement. However, the Council and its partners decided to set targets for the other national and local performance indicators for 2008/2009 in order to ensure there's a strong commitment to service improvement across the partnership in Sunderland. This cannot be done for all indicators as this is the first year of collection for a number of the new national indicator set and 2008/2009 needs to be used as a baseline year against which the partnership can target future improvement. It is also important to note that in relation to many of the new National Indicator set data is available at different points of the year and will not always readily follow the quarterly monitoring cycle, e.g. perception measures from the Place Survey.

The 5 Year Housing Strategy is a locally determined strategy informed by regional priorities and locally identified need and endorsed by citywide partners, who will be instrumental in its delivery. The Strategy sets out 3 major aspirations for the city, which are supported through a number of delivery priorities. These aspirations are:

- Improve the choice of type, location and price of housing to meet 21st Century aspirations and demands, and reverse the trend of outward migration;
- Improve the quality and standard of housing and ensure that sustainable communities are created;
- Provide housing and accommodation with support options that reflect and meet the needs and aspirations of Sunderland's large and diverse population.




These key aspirations match a number of priorities in the Local Area Agreement, as well as the direction of Government housing policy, as explored below. The analysis provided in the CAA will incorporate the Audit

Commission's judgement about the extent to which housing-related issues are addressed in the city. Historically, an individual rating was provided about the extent to which the Council had addressed this issue through the Comprehensive Performance Assessment. The Audit Commission rated the 2008 position for housing as a 3 out of 4 service in Sunderland (with 4 being top-rated).

3.3 **Appendix 1** provides a value for money assessment of each service area within the Committee's remit. The information is structured in the following way:

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Section 1 | Financial information – how our spend compares with other authorities and efficiency gains |
| Section 2 | Key improvements delivered – how we have spent the money including investment and progress in relation to those actions we identified in last years value for money assessment |
| Section 3 | What residents think of the services – results of consultation exercises |
| Section 4 | Performance & Outcomes Delivered– how the service is performing including progress in relation to LAA targets including any areas of risk. Increasingly these measures are based on an outcome-based approach as part of the improvement to the National Indicator set |
| Section 5 | Next steps – Plans to achieve greater value for money in 2009/2010 |

A summary of key performance indicators for each service area relating to 2008/2009 is contained in Section 4. This outlines performance across the full range of services within the Committees remit. It provides a risk-based analysis, using a standard 'traffic light' approach:

-  Performance improving year on year or cost reducing year on year
-  Performance stable year on year
-  Performance declining year on year or cost increasing year on year

Section 4 also explains the corrective action against key performance indicators that are either declining or failing to achieve targets. The relevant Director has provided details of corrective action underway or proposed in this respect. Where this is the first year of collection for an indicator or definitions have changed no trend analysis is available.

3.4 **Appendix 2** provides an overview of the position for relevant national indicators and also any local performance indicators that have been retained to supplement areas in the performance framework that are not well covered by the new national indicator set. This fulfils the expectation that Councils will identify local performance measures to support delivery of local priorities.

4. Recommendation

The Committee is asked to consider the content of the report and provide comment where relevant to be included in the 2008/2009 value for money assessment that will be presented to Cabinet in October 2009.

5. Background Papers

1. Value for Money Cost Profiles
2. Annual Report 2008/2009
3. Value for Money Self Assessment Summary
4. Value for Money detailed Directorate Self Assessment Housing Services
5. Value for Money detailed Directorate Self Assessment Cultural Services

APPENDIX 1

Summary Value for Money Assessment - Housing

Section 1 Finance (comparative spend and efficiency)

Service Area	Cost per Head		Benchmarking Group	Latest Benchmark Position			
	2007/08	2008/09		Lower Quartile (less cost)	Lower Median Quartile	Upper Median Quartile	Upper Quartile (higher cost)
Total Housing Services	£60.38	£60.90	Metropolitan authorities				
			Nearest Neighbours				
Homelessness	£3.74	£3.13	Metropolitan authorities				
			Nearest Neighbours				
Other GFRA Housing Services	£6.05	£8.36	Metropolitan authorities				
			Nearest Neighbours				

- 1.1 Spend per head of population on Housing Services in 2008/2009 continued to be in the upper median quartile compared to Metropolitan Authorities and Nearest Neighbour Authorities for 2008/2009. However, planned expenditure on Housing Services represented an increase of only 0.9% between 2007/2008 and 2008/2009 which is below the current rate of inflation.
- 1.2 Spend per head of population for people at risk of homelessness remained in the upper median quartile compared to Metropolitan Districts and upper median quartile compared to Nearest Neighbours (upper quartile in 2007/2008), reflecting the fact that additional funding has been provided to assist in addressing this priority area for improvement in 2008/2009. The additional funding has succeeded in improving Value for Money, as it has enabled the Council to help a greater number of people and family's reduce their risk of homelessness outside of a statutory process, i.e. at an earlier and more preventative stage. This not only improves outcomes for individuals and promotes their independence, but also provides a more cost-effective approach to supporting people.
- 1.3 Spend per head of population for Other Housing Services for 2008/2009 was ranked upper median against both Metropolitan and Nearest Neighbour authorities, similar to the positions the previous year. The increased spend in this area is primarily related to additional investment in preventative support, including information and advice, and the increase in the number of empty properties returned to occupation.

Section 2 Investment and Key Improvements made during 2008/2009

- 2.1 Key improvements achieved include:

- Sunderland on course to meet national Decent Homes Standards for 2010;
- Progressed developments associated with renewal activity described above;
- Progressed improvements to support people at risk of homelessness through advice, information and support earlier and more effectively and developed Improvement Programme to continue the development of improved support for people at risk of homelessness;
- Developed Accommodation Solutions for Vulnerable People Project to identify the housing needs of vulnerable people;
- Continued development of Home Improvement Agency;
- Ongoing development of Extra Care schemes to better support individuals to live independently, with the first delivered in March 2009.

Section 3 Customer Focus

- 3.1 The Ipsos MORI residents survey 2008 asked about satisfaction with housing services results are detailed below:

	Satisfied (%)		Dissatisfied (%)	
	2007	2008	2007	2008
Homelessness and housing advice	38	51	42	34

Satisfaction with homelessness and housing advice has improved from 38% to 51%.

Section 4 Performance Information (outcomes delivered)

- 4.1 In relation to Housing Services two National Indicators are priorities identified in the LAA. An overview of performance can be found in the following table.

NI	Performance Indicator	Performance 2008/09	Target 2008/09	Target achieved	Target 2009/10
NI 154	Net additional homes provided	299	260	▲	90
NI 159	Supply of land ready to develop housing sites	145%	100%	▲	100%

There are no key risks in relation to the Local Area Agreement at this stage.

There are a number of areas of positive performance as follows

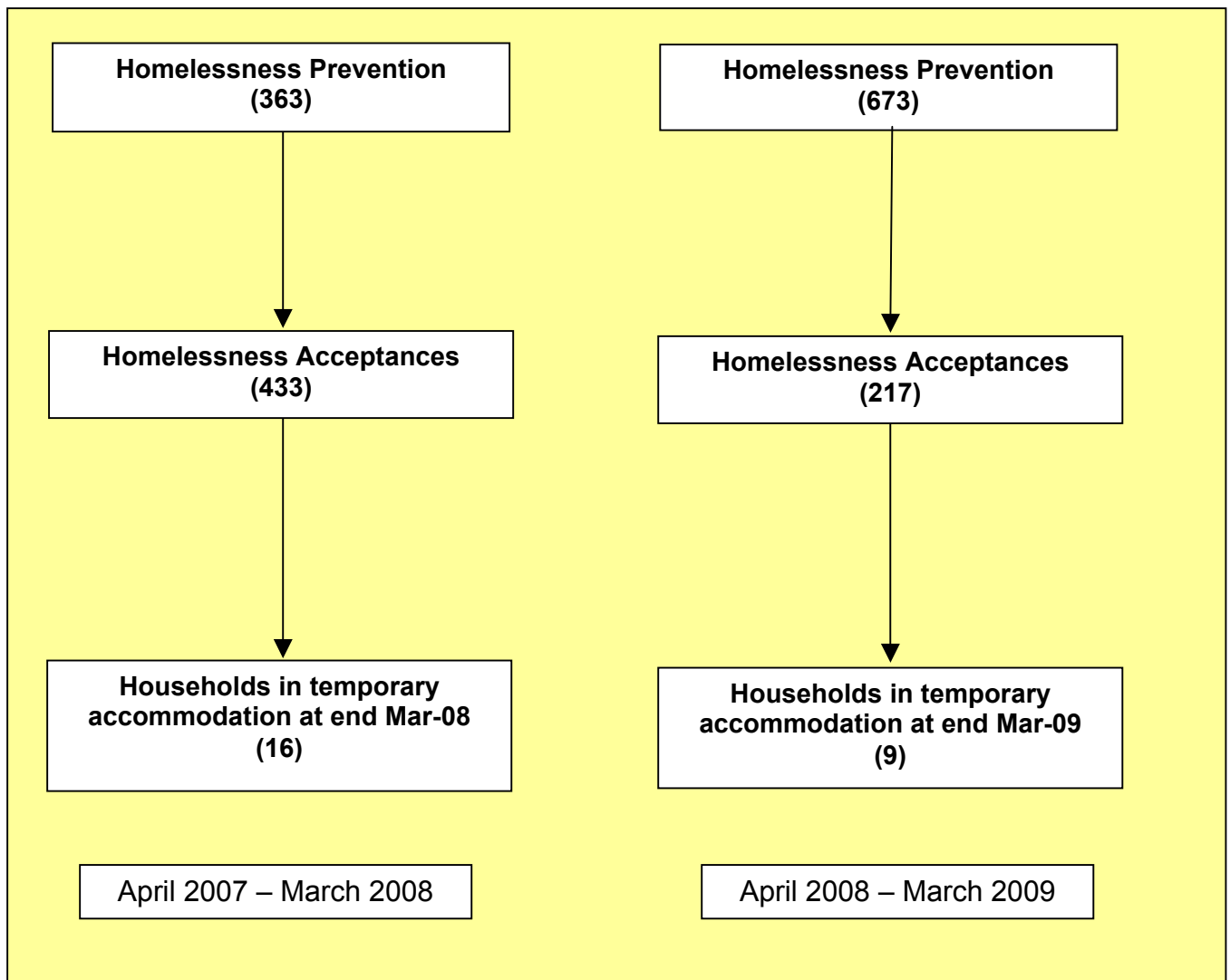
Housing Strategy

- 4.2 230 affordable new homes have been provided during 2008/2009. This has been achieved by supporting Registered Social Landlords (RSLs) in their bids for National Affordable Housing Programme funding and by liaising with the planning department to give all schemes the best opportunity for success.
- 4.3 Despite the economic downturns detrimental effect on the housing market 299 additional homes have been built during 2008/2009 this is an improvement on

the previous year when 186 additional homes were provided. 230 affordable homes were provided during 2008/2009.

- 4.4 The energy efficiency of a house is measured through a formal toolkit using the Standard Assessment Procedure (SAP), which was used to assess the energy efficiency of a sample of households in receipt of income-based benefits in 2008/09. This found that whilst 33.7% of these households had high energy efficiency ratings, 4.7% had lower rating. Reducing the proportion of the latter is a key objective associated with National Indicator 187, with 2008/09 representing the benchmarked year.
- 4.5 Reducing the Risk of Homelessness
The work in relation to homelessness can be divided into 3 areas:
- *“Homelessness Prevention”*: Providing appropriate information, advice and support to individuals and families earlier to reduce their risk of homelessness before these individuals become accepted;
 - *“Statutory Homelessness Acceptance”*: This refers to those individuals and families to which the Council has statutory responsibilities in relation to homelessness, housing advice and housing allocations within the Acts discussed above;
 - *“Using Temporary Accommodation”*: This refers to the statutory homelessness acceptance cases of families and individuals that need to access temporary accommodation and are then supported to identify and move to more permanent accommodation solutions in the city.
- 4.6 Clearly, a key objective of the Housing Options Team is to work with individuals and families as early as possible to reduce their risk of homelessness before individuals need statutory intervention. If this statutory intervention is needed, however, then an objective is to ensure that an individual or family’s current circumstances are resolved without the need for a spell in temporary accommodation. Finally, individuals/families that do access temporary accommodation need to be supported to move to more permanent accommodation as soon as appropriate.
- 4.7 Figure 1 shows progress in achieving these objectives diagrammatically, and this shows that a number of objectives have been achieved. This means there was an increase in the number of preventative cases at an earlier stage, consequent reduction in people accessing support through statutory acceptance and a reduction in households in temporary accommodation. This was achieved through a much greater focus on prevention, including additional investment in schemes designed to help people maintain their current tenancies and help finding move-on accommodation.

**Figure 1 – Comparison of Homelessness Performance Objectives
(Figures in brackets are number of cases)**



Section 5 Plans to achieve greater value for money in 2009/2010

- 5.1 In October 2008, the council launched Sunderland’s Plan for Adult Social Care 2009-2025 which sets out how the challenges of an ageing population and rising expectations will be met, enabling people to have more choice and control over the support they receive. One of the key aims is for every person to have the support to live independently in their own home or community, if that is what they want.
- 5.2 In the first three years this will focus on building on the successes of services such as Telecare, exploring new ways of delivering services and working with housing partners to provide affordable housing, to improve the choice, quality and design of property available for vulnerable people in Sunderland. This includes Extra Care accommodation, a form of sheltered housing with care and support tailored to individual needs, which provides independent living for

particularly vulnerable people. Four schemes are being developed across the city providing over 170 mixed tenure apartments – the first in Silksworth opened in March 2009.

- 5.3 During 2009/2010 the council has allocated £1.2m to support the Adult Social Care 2009-2025 plan.
- 5.4 The Council also implemented a Business Improvement Project aimed at reducing the risk of homelessness. This will build on the work, and additional investment, in these services (e.g. Private Sector Homelessness Project) to ensure improvements for customers through earlier and more joined up information, advice and support. By improving services for residents, the Project will also deliver a more efficient service as a result of its implementation.

Culture

Section 1 Finance (comparative spend and efficiency)

Service Area	2007/08	2008/09	Benchmarking Group	Latest Benchmark Position			
				Lower Quartile (less cost)	Lower Median Quartile	Upper Median Quartile	Upper Quartile (higher cost)
Culture and Heritage	£10.72	£14.15	Metropolitan authorities				
			Nearest Neighbours				

- 1.1 Cultural Services expenditure is in the upper median quartile when compared to Metropolitan authorities and our Nearest Neighbours. This reflects the high priority attached to these services and Sunderland's ongoing commitment to improving cultural opportunities for its citizens in order to address the strategic themes of Healthy City, Learning City and Attractive and Inclusive City.

Section 2 Investment and Key Improvements made during 2008/2009

- 2.1 Decision taken to develop a new city centre based facility that will provide information and access to the city's cultural heritage. The centre will involve volunteers from relevant community groups and will maximise the use of technology and visual impact to showcase and explore the city's heritage, landmarks and visitor attractions. This will be the focal point of a series of interventions designed to enhance the cultural and visitor attractiveness of Sunderland city centre through investment in the City Library and related facilities.
- 2.2 The twin Anglo-Saxon monastery of Wearmouth-Jarrow is the UK's nomination for World Heritage Site status in 2010. The monastery is centred on St Peters Church in Wearmouth, Sunderland and St Pauls Church in Jarrow. Wearmouth-Jarrow was a major centre of European learning and culture in the 7th century and was home to the venerable Bede, whose influence remains today. Original and rare remains of 7th century architecture are also still standing. If it achieves World Heritage Site status, this incredible site and its inspirational story will receive the world-wide recognition, and protection for the future, that it richly deserves. Tourism makes up 10% of the regions economy and employs, directly and indirectly, 100,000 people. Evidence shows that a World Heritage Site has significant potential to increase visitors to, and spend in, an area. These increases translate directly and indirectly into jobs being safeguarded and created.

Section 3 Customer Focus

- 3.1 Levels of satisfaction with cultural services from the Councils annual MORI survey are detailed below:

Satisfied (%)	Dissatisfied (%)
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	2007	2008	2007	2008
Theatres / cinemas	89	86	5	7
Tourist Information Centre	81	84	2	3
Events in the City	83	83	7	7
Beaches	86	85	8	10

- 3.2 Satisfaction with the Tourist Information Centre has improved from 81% to 84%, while satisfaction with events in the city remained the same. 68% of residents were satisfied with things to do in the evening in the city centre. While 59% of residents were satisfied with leisure and entertainment facilities in the city centre.
- 3.3 In addition the Place Survey tells us that satisfaction with museums and galleries is 57.1% which is higher than both the North East (41.6%) and England (41.5%) averages

Section 4 Performance Information (outcomes delivered)

4.1 Risks

51.3% of residents have visited a museum or gallery at least once in the past 12 months. While 35.3% have attended an arts event or participated in an arts activity at least 3 times in the last 12 months.

There has been a decline in the number of visitors to museums and galleries in the last 12 months. There were 1,437 visits per 1,000 population during 2008/2009 compared to 1,650 visits per 1,000 population during 2007/2008. 1,249 visits per 1,000 population were in person during 2008/2009 compared to 1,297 during 2007/2008. 16,333 pupils visited museums and galleries in organised schools groups during 2008/2009 compared to 18,037 in 2007/2008.

- 4.2 Improvement activity – Significant work has been undertaken in 2009 to encourage and enable residents to engage with a wide range of arts activity. This includes education outreach work with the Northern Gallery for Contemporary Art; the appointment of a new Creative Director at Arts Centre Washington which has led to the development of an exciting professional programme of music, dance and theatre; creative activity for all the family at the Sunderland International Friendship Festival and the showcasing of new and existing musical talent at a range of events across the city.

Section 5 Plans to achieve greater value for money in 2009/2010

- 5.1 Currently there is no cost to gain entry to the site at St Peter's at Wearmouth, which enables visitors to enjoy access to one of the great historical sites in the country free of charge.
- 5.2 Sunderland City Council is one of a number of partners working on the processes to apply to UNESCO for World Heritage Site Status.

At its height, in the 7th and 8th century, Wearmouth-Jarrow was the premier centre for learning and culture in Europe and was the home to the era's greatest scholar, the Venerable Bede.

Presently work is ongoing to enhance the visitor experience at the Site and to reflect its huge historical significance. Funding from ONE North East has been allocated to improve signage and interpretation at the Site and to link it more closely with the nearby National Glass Centre.

Most recently an outline of the monastic footprint has been constructed at the Site, showing how the monastery would have looked 1,300 years ago, with financial support from Northumbria Water. It is hoped that this will add further to the heritage tourism experience in Sunderland and encourage greater levels of visitors to the city.

5.3 Music City

In October 2008, Cabinet adopted a new Music Strategy for Sunderland that aims to develop Sunderland as a Music City. The strategy embraces all musical genres and has a particular focus on supporting new and emerging musicians. The development of musical talent in Sunderland will lead to greater recognition of the city by regional and national promoters which in turn will lead to live music events that promote the city and bring inward investment.

5.4 Public Art

A programme of public art is currently underway that ranges from small scale community led initiatives to large scale projects such as the Stadium Gas vents artwork and the C2C. The programme of work encourages partners – both internal and external, to incorporate an element of creativity within a scheme. This includes artists recruited to sit on Steering Groups such as Seafront Strategy; artists commissioned to design new reception area for an Adult Day centre and artwork for windows at two new pools in Hetton and Silksworth. The programme also aims to encourage residents and visitors to be more aware of their surroundings and to consider the 160 pieces of public art that already exist across Sunderland.

5.5 Seafront Regeneration Strategy

A Seafront Regeneration project group was established in Autumn 2007 to look at development and regeneration opportunities for the seafront over the next few years. Key objectives include improving the seafront's physical environment, increasing accessibility, identifying and promoting high quality development, improving the range and quality of facilities and attractions, and protection of the natural environment and historic character of Seaburn and Roker.

A series of options have been brought forward for wider discussion in a comprehensive consultation exercise, with a view to informing the preparation

of a master plan to guide the sustainable development of the seafront over the long term. Ultimately an adopted master plan will give greater control over developments at the seafront, will support applications for funding and help to bring private sector investment contributions where appropriate.

5.6 Partner initiatives – Sunderland Museum and Winter Gardens, Monkwearmouth Station Museum and Empire Theatre

Sunderland City Council works in partnership with Tyne and Wear Archives and Museums to deliver a world class service that is innovative, imaginative, creative, inclusive and sustainable.

- In 2009/2010 a £47,500 cash releasing efficiency was built into the base budgets for Sunderland Museums
- An application to the Carbon Reduction Capital Innovation Fund has been made to renew old lighting with energy efficient lighting at Sunderland Museums and Winter Gardens reducing energy costs, carbon emissions, lamp replacement and labour costs.

5.7 Empire Theatre

Live Nation are contracted by Sunderland City Council to deliver a first class theatre in the North East. Working under the title of “The West End of the North East” the theatre continues to deliver a variety of performances. The recent redevelopment of the theatre enables top shows including “We Will Rock You” and the “Sound of Music” to perform in the North East, attracting audiences from across the wider region and benefiting the economy within the city. The theatre also delivers a diverse education programme which encourages young people to have the opportunity to experience all elements of the theatre as well as taking the theatre to outside audiences through various projects and outreach work.

5.8 Legible City

Legible City is currently being re-positioned to support partners undertaking capital projects (Sunderland University, Sunnyside, Nexus) in delivering the physical elements of information and wayfinding solutions based on Sunderland’s identity and core values of ‘life-enhancing’ ‘smart’ and ‘balanced’ in order to make Sunderland an attractive place where our residents and visitors want to be. Having high quality legible public areas in the city centre which re-enforce Sunderland’s identity and differentiate it from other cities is important in attracting investors, employers, employees, residents, shoppers, visitors and tourists to the city, and encouraging them to return.

5.9 Events Inward Investment and Development

Within the Corporate Improvement Plan 2009/2010 to 2011/2012 provision has been made to support the strategic priorities of Sunderland City Council. One of these priorities for 2009/2010 is to support the Cultural Development of

Festival and Events and an amount of £250,000 has been allocated. The Director of Financial Resources has identified an additional amount of £192,000, which is to be spent in 2009/2010.

This has enabled the City Council to expand its core events programme and work with large scale events organisers such as Nova International. For 2009/2010 this has included the delivery of: -

- Great North Walk
- Great North 10K, Sunderland
- Live Music events
- Airshow 21st Birthday Celebrations
- Support to Stadium of Light concerts
- World Cup Bid work

Work is ongoing to ensure quality events are delivered and evaluated.

Sustainability

Section 1 Finance (comparative spend and efficiency)

- 1.1 There is no comparative cost information included for Sustainability, as it does not form part of the Audit Commissions cost profiles. There is satisfaction and performance information included below.

Section 2 Investment and Key Improvements made during 2008/2009

- 2.1 Environmental sustainability is both a key priority, at both a city and national level, and as such forms and element of the new inspection framework of Comprehensive Area Assessment. The Climate Change Act 2008 was enacted during 2008 and will set legally binding targets for carbon dioxide emission reduction at a national level.
- 2.2 £1.14 million has been allocated from the Strategic Investment Plan for a range of sustainability projects and interventions. The range of projects will help the council implement both the city wide climate change action plan as well as the council's carbon plan and will further emphasise our commitment to meeting emission reduction targets over the next three years.
- 2.3 19 Sunderland schools joined a city wide sustainable schools project all aiming to improve the environmental performance of their school and increase environmental awareness of the pupils with the goal of becoming Green Flag Eco Schools.
- 2.4 Work continued to develop a Travel Plan for the council that will aim to reduce the number of people commuting to work by car by increasing the amount of employees travelling to and from work by public transport, cycling or walking and also encouraging car sharing. Staff travel discount schemes and organised walk to work days has increased the amount of employees leaving their cars at home. The Council continues to work with employers at key employment sites such as Doxford Park and the City Hospital to develop work based travel plans aimed at reducing dependency on cars and alleviating access issues.
- 2.5 The Sunderland Aquatic Centre received BREEAM excellent rating, making it the first building of its type to receive the highest BREEAM rating for its sustainable design, which included harvesting and treating rainwater falling on the roof to top up the swimming pools.

Section 3 Customer Focus

- 3.1 Following a successful bid to the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), Sunderland City Council received funding to develop a citywide climate change awareness campaign. The aim of the campaign was to change people's attitudes towards this issue and encourage them to reduce their energy consumption by raising awareness of climate change.

- 3.2 The campaign ran from May 2007 to February 2008 and included a billboard and bus shelter poster campaign and community displays that were rotated throughout community centres and venues across the city including the University. Posters and informative card packs were distributed to all schools, community and youth centres, libraries and council buildings.
- 3.3 In order to understand people's attitudes towards climate change before the campaign and then measure how this may have changed after the campaign, questions regarding climate change were included in both the Priority Issues Survey 2007 and Priority Issues Survey 2008.
- 3.4 The results from 2008 indicate that just under a third of respondents say they have heard of or seen the council's climate change campaign (31%), the majority of respondents believe that the world's climate is changing (86%), understand why the world's climate is changing (70%) and believe they can personally limit the effects of climate change (67%). Just over half of the respondents believe that climate change has become more of an issue for them in the last year (51%).

Section 4 Performance Information (outcomes delivered)

4.1 Key Risks

NI 186 Per capital CO2 emissions in the LA area

The per capital CO2 emissions in the Local Authority area (% reduction against the previous year) for 2008/2009 is 1.4% against a target of 2.9%. This current data relates to 2006 as DEFRA publish it with a 2 year lag. The next data will be published in November 2009 and will relate to 2007.

Improvement activity – A three pronged approach to reducing CO2 emissions in the Local Authority Area is being undertaken focussing on: improving the Council's energy efficiency through progressing projects such as introducing wood burning boilers, implementing the wind energy programme and upgrading the Council's Building Management System and lighting; encouraging local businesses to become Carbon Champions and having them sign up to action to reduce their carbon footprint; and encouraging the development and use of more sustainable forms of transport through travel plans development, Bus Network Redesign and continuing to improve the cycleway infrastructure.

4.2 Positive Performance

In relation to planning to adapt to climate change, the authority is currently at Level 1 which means that we have made a public commitment to identify and manage climate related risk. There are five levels ranging from level 0 to level 4. There are plans in place to achieve level 2 by 2009/2010 with a view to ultimately achieving level 4 by 2011/2012.

Section 5 Plans to achieve greater value for money in 2009/2010

- 5.1 As part of the Strategic Investment Plan a range of projects and interventions have been identified which will be further progressed during 2009/2010 to cut carbon emissions in both the council and the community. The programme includes:
- 5.2 Wood fuel Programme to install wood fuel boilers and develop a local wood fuel supply chain - during 2009/2010 a feasibility study will inform a business plan to enable an application to be submitted to DEFRA bioenergy grant scheme.
- 5.3 Wind energy programme to install 3 wind turbines on council land –During 2009/2010 a report will be presented to cabinet detailing the choice of sites available to take the project forward to enable an application to be made to BREs Community sustainable energy programme
- 5.4 Building Management System Replacement / upgrade – a tender process will be undertaken during 2009/2010 with project completion by March 2011.
- 5.5 Climate Change Project to secure commitments from local organisations in cutting their own carbon emissions – a high profile media campaign will publicise and encourage carbon commitments from local employers. The low carbon city campaign was launched in March 2009 and to date 15% of carbon emissions from Sunderland’s employers are registered with the campaign with 18 organisations having made carbon commitments. Further promotions during 2009/2010 include:
- A programme of street advertising
 - Campaign brochure
 - 2 newsletters
 - features in the Sunderland Echo
 - Celebration event planned for march 2010 which will mark the end of the year long campaign
- 5.6 Continuing work on the Local Development Framework – the city’s new spatial land-use plan for the next 15 years – 2009/2010 will see further consultation around the emerging Core Strategy. In due course this will be one of the key delivery mechanisms of the Sunderland Strategy. The Core Strategy will set out the overarching planning framework for the sustainable development of the city setting out in broad terms where new housing, employment and shops will be located.
- 5.7 Increase resources to deliver Sustainability Impact Appraisals to help council services develop projects, services and business plans in a way that maximises the mutual benefit to all of the city’s objectives and help the city develop in a sustainable manner.
- 5.8 The Council is working with Nexus on their Bus Network Redesign which is aimed at improving standards of accessibility to public transport across the City.

- 5.9 Work is ongoing with schools during 2009/2010 to develop travel plans that will reduce dependency upon car usage and encourage other more healthy modes of travelling to school. A target has been set to reduce the number of pupils using car \ van \ taxi to travel to school from 22.79% to 12.67% by 2011.

Community Cohesion

Section 1 Finance Information

- 1.1 There is no comparative cost information included for Community Cohesion, as it does not form part of the Audit Commissions cost profiles. There is satisfaction and performance information included below.

Section 2 Investment and Key Improvements made during 2008/2009

- 2.1 The Council seeks to fully embed the principles of equality and inclusion into all elements of service delivery and employment practice. Not only removing barriers to equal access but also making sure that equality is pro-actively considered as part of all function planning and management. This approach is required to meet the requirements of legislation. The Council is also committed to achieving the 'Excellent' level of the 'Equality Framework for Local Government' which is the top level of a best practice framework to help Councils to make sure that equality is considered throughout all it's work. We are currently at 'the 'Achieving' level of the framework, which is the level below.
- 2.2 Almost 24,000 people have taken advantage of the 24 hour hotline which tackles noise, nuisance and mess in the North East. Rubbish and litter, noise, vandalism and street lighting have emerged as the four main reasons people in Sunderland and Newcastle have called their Neighbourhood Helpline. The Council launched the joint venture with Newcastle after the Government withdrew funding for the national 'non-emergency' 101 project. Since its launch we have dealt with over 9,000 reports of litter and illegally dumped rubbish, over 7,300 noise complaints, over 3,000 vandalism incidents and almost 2,000 street lighting issues. Other issues include intimidation or harassment underage drinking, stray dogs, environmental issues and rowdy behaviour.
- 2.3 The Digital Challenge Programme, worth £3.5 million, sets the vision for a digitally enabled Sunderland. Services are being delivered where, when and how they are needed and wanted; in the home, local community point, face to face or remotely using technology as the enabler. The council and the Sunderland Partnership have implemented a number of projects including:
- **Community Tech** – a free equipment loan scheme for voluntary and community sector organisations based in Sunderland. The scheme allows organisations to loan equipment on a short term basis for training purposes. It also provides free support for the equipment which is loaned.
 - **e-Mentoring** – the aim is to provide disadvantaged and disengaged children with the continuity and engagement to raise aspirations and awareness of opportunities.
 - **Health-e** – a project aimed at addressing the issue of childhood obesity will allow children, parents, guardians or carers to record simple data such as height, weight, gender and date of birth and return the child's BMI against reference curves.

Section 3 Customer Focus

- 3.1 The Place Survey tells us that in relation to inclusive communities 64.6% of people feel they belong to their neighbourhood in Sunderland this is above the Tyne and Wear average of 60.7% and the England average of 59%. However, there has been a decline in the percentage of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area from 72.6% in 2006 to 67.2% in 2008.
- 3.2 39% of respondents perceived that people in the area do not treat one another with respect and consideration this compares to a 35.8% Tyne / Wear average and a 31% England average.
- 3.3 26.3% of residents agree that they can influence decisions in their local area compared to a North East average of 28% and England average of 28.9%. In Sunderland 24.3% of residents would like to be more involved in decision-making.

Section 4 Performance Information (outcomes delivered)

4.1 In relation to Community Cohesion two national indicators are priorities identified in the LAA and associated improvement targets will be a key consideration in the Comprehensive Area Assessment (CAA) in terms of the extent to which the partnership is improving outcomes for local people. The two national indicators are sourced from the Place Survey which is undertaken nationally every two years. An overview of the current position and future targets can be found in the following table.

NIS Ref.	Indicator Title	2008/09 Outturn	2008/9 Target	2009/10 Target	2010/11 Target
1	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together	65.2% (baseline from 2008/09 Place Survey)	Not set first year of collection	Survey not undertaken until 2010/11	68.88%
4	% of people who feel that they can influence decisions in their locality	26.1% (baseline from 200 / 09 Place Survey)	Not set first year of collection	Survey not undertaken until 2010/11	29.07%

- 4.2 There are no key risks in relation to the Local Area Agreement at this stage. There are a number of areas of positive performance as follows:
- 4.3 The ARCH multi-agency racist incident reporting system continues to improve. ARCH has been operating in Sunderland since October 2007 and there are now 13 partner agencies that have joined the ARCH scheme. Over 120 people from these organisations have been trained on the web based IT systems allowing them to add incidents onto ARCH. Once an incident is reported to ARCH, victims of racist incidents can be offered the most appropriate support, and where possible, action can be taken against perpetrators. The ARCH system is confidential and victims and witnesses can also choose to remain anonymous. During 2008/2009 259 racist incidents were reported through the ARCH system, 100 of incidents were followed up and victims offered support where relevant.

Section 5 Next Steps

- 5.1 Deliver the partnership Community Cohesion Strategy.
- 5.2 Work with partners to respond to the Audit Commission report on Community Cohesion in Sunderland that has been carried out recently and develop an action plan based on the recommendations of that report.
- 5.3 Integrate the Community Cohesion Action Plan developed by GONE into existing council and partnership action plans.
- 5.4 Work with partners to deliver the action plan for the Attractive and Inclusive Delivery Partnership.
- 5.5 Deliver the Prevent agenda as per the action plan agreed with GONE.
- 5.6 Roll-out the ARCH system to incorporate other forms of hate based incident reporting.

Reference	Description	2007/08 Out turn	2008/2009 Outturn	Trend	2008/09 Target	On Target	2009/2010 Target
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Outcome By 2025 Roker and Seaburn will have a key role in providing cultural and tourism attractions

National Indicators

NI 189	Flood and coastal erosion risk management	New in 200809	100%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	33%
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Outcome By 2025 the city's carbon emissions from homes, businesses and transport will be reduced by at least 26% compared to 1990 levels

National Indicators

NI 185	CO2 reduction from Local Authority operations	New in 200809	-4%	N/A	-1%	N/A	2.80%
NI 186	Per capital CO2 emissions in the LA area	New in 200809	1.4% (latest data = 2006)	N/A	6.77 tonnes	N/A	5.70%
NI 188	Adapting to climate change	New in 200809	1	N/A	baseline year	N/A	2
NI 194a	% reduction in NOx emissions	New in 200809	Information delayed	N/A	baseline year	N/A	To follow
NI 194b	% reduction in PM10 emissions	New in 200809	Information delayed	N/A	baseline year	N/A	To follow

Outcome: By 2025 all housing in Sunderland will meet the decent housing standard and the city's stock of social housing will have been rebalanced with 3800 replacement dwellings constructed on sites across the city and 700 higher value houses will have been developed across the city

Local Area Agreement Indicators

NI 154 (LAA)	Net additional homes provided	186	299		260	✓	90
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National Indicators

NI 155	Number of affordable homes (gross)	New in 200809	230		Not Set	N/A	133
NI 158	% non decent council homes	0.59%	0.58%		Not Set	N/A	0

Local Indicators

BVPI 64	Number of non-local authority-owned vacant dwellings returned to occupation or demolished during the financial year as a direct result of action by the local authority.	248	387		369	✓	375
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Outcome Ensure that people of all ages and backgrounds have access to cultural activities and are engaged in the design and development of them

National Indicators


NI 10	Visits to museums or galleries	New in 200809	51.30%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	54.7%
NI 11	Engagement in the arts	New in 200809	35.30%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	45%

Outcome By 2021 we aim to provide 15000 new homes in the right place at the right price that people can afford through an affordable housing policy enabling everyone to access the housing market

Local Area Agreement Indicators

NI 154 (LAA)	Net additional homes provided	186	299		260	✓	90
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National Indicators

NI 12	Refused and deferred Houses of Multiple Occupation (HMO) license applications leading to immigration enforcement activity	New in 200910	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
NI 155	Number of affordable homes (gross)	New in 200809	230 homes	N/A	Not Set	N/A	133
NI 156	Number of household living in Temporary Accommodation	New in 200809	9 households	N/A	15 households	✓	5
NI 158	% non-decent council homes	0.59%	0.58%		Not Set	N/A	0
NI 187	Proportion of households in receipt of income based benefits and a low energy efficiency rating	New in 200809	4.7% (low) 33.7% (high)	N/A	Not Set	N/A	4.50% (low) 38.70%

Local Indicators

BVPI 183a	The average length of stay in bed & breakfast accommodation which include dependent children or a pregnant woman are unintentionally homeless and in priority need	4 weeks	3.55 weeks		3 weeks	✗	2
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BVPI 183b	The average length of stay in hostel accommodation which include dependent children or a pregnant woman are unintentionally homeless and in priority need	0 weeks	0 weeks		0 weeks	✓	0
BVPI 214	Percentage of households accepted as statutorily homeless who were accepted as statutorily homeless by the same Authority within the last two years.	4.16%	5.5%		3.60%	✗	Indicator deleted 2009/10
HOUSING 21	Housing Advice Service: preventing homelessness (total number prevented)	Not Collected	674	N/A	621	✓	700
LPSA 5	Total number of homeless acceptances.	433	217		410	✓	195

Being one council

Local Indicators

BVPI 2a	The level of the Equality Standard for local government to which the Authority conforms in respect of gender, race and disability.	Level 2	Level 3		Level 4	✗	Level 3
BVPI 11a	Percentage of top-paid 5% of local authority staff who are women.	38.97%	39.41%		41%	✗	43%
BVPI 11b	The percentage of the top 5% of Local Authority staff who are from an ethnic minority (excludes not knowns and refused).	1.36%	1.60%		1.50%	✓	1.90%
BVPI 11c	Percentage of the top paid 5% of staff who have a disability (excludes not knowns and refused).	2.34%	1.87%		2.80%	✗	3.00%
BVPI 16a	The percentage of local authority employees with a disability.	2.59%	2.46%		2.90%	✗	3.20%
BVPI 17a	The percentage of local authority employees from ethnic minority communities.	1.11%	1.16%		1.50%	✗	1.80%

Improving partnership working to deliver one city

Local Area Agreement Indicators

NI 1 (LAA)	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	New in 200809	67.2%	N/A	65.20%	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
NI 4 (LAA)	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	New in 200809	26.3%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11

National Indicators

NI 2	% of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood	New in 200809	64.6%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
NI 3	Civic participation in the local area	New in 200809	8.2%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
NI 6	Participation in regular volunteering	New in 200809	14.4%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11

Outcome: By 2025 at least 25% of residents will feel that they contribute to their community and 50% of residents will feel that they can influence decisions affecting their local area

Local Area Agreement Indicators

NI 4 (LAA)	% of people who feel they can influence decisions in their locality	New in 200809	26.3%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
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Outcome: By 2025 over 75% of people will agree that Sunderland is a place where people from different backgrounds get on well together

Local Area Agreement Indicators

NI 1 (LAA)	% of people who believe people from different backgrounds get on well together in their local area	New in 200809	67.2%	N/A	65.20%	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
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Outcome: We will address the barriers to creating active citizenship and increase the number of people formally volunteering to five percentage points above the national average by 2025

National Indicators

NI 6	Participation in regular volunteering	New in 200809	14.4%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
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Outcome: We will build confidence and trust in local areas so that by 2025 50% of people feel that their neighbours can be trusted and 90% of people agree that people in their local area are willing to help out their neighbours

National Indicators

NI 2	% of people who feel that they belong to their neighbourhood	New in 200809	64.6%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
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Outcome: We will ensure that people feel that local services have the best interests of the community at heart so that by 2025 more than two thirds of the population agree that this is the case

National Indicators

NI 3	Civic participation in the local area	New in 200809	8.2%	N/A	baseline year	N/A	Next collected in 2010/11
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Local Indicators

BVPI 156	The percentage of authority buildings open to the public in which all public areas are suitable for, and accessible to, disabled people.	88.04%	88.04%	← →	90%	✘	90
BVPI 165	The percentage of pedestrian crossings with facilities for disabled people, as a proportion of all crossings in the local authority area.	89.50%	89.7%	↑	90%	✘	90

REQUEST TO ATTEND CONFERENCE

LINK TO WORK PROGRAMME – POLICY REVIEW

Report of the Chief Executive

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP5: Attractive and Inclusive City.

CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services; CIO4: Improving Partnership Working To Deliver ‘One City’.

1. Purpose

- 1.1 For the Committee to consider sending delegates to the Housing Quality Network conference entitled ‘Under Pressure – Fairness and Flexibility in Local Housing’.

2. Background

- 2.1 An invitation has been received from the Housing Quality Network to attend a national conference relating to the allocation of social housing. The event takes place on Wednesday 14 October 2009 from 10am until 4.30pm at the Hilton Paddington Hotel in London.

- 2.2 The conference will include sessions on the following:

- Key proposals from the new Communities and Local Government draft guidance
- A legal update
- Tackling overcrowding
- Choice Based Lettings Schemes
- TSA Standard for allocations

- 2.3 The full advert is attached at appendix 1 for members’ information.

- 2.4 The itinerary for the event will provide members with some useful information in relation to this years policy review which centres on access to housing. The event also provides other useful information which will help increase the knowledge and expertise of members of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

- 2.5 The cost of the event is £262 per individual delegate. It is suggested that the Committee consider attendance at this event.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider the attendance of members to the above network event to be funded from the budget of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

4. Background Papers

- Housing Quality Network invitations issued by the Centre for Public Scrutiny.

Contact Officer: Nigel Cummings (0191 561 1006)
nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk

Under pressure

Fairness and flexibility in local housing

Despite the government drive to increase the number of affordable homes, demand for social housing continues to exceed supply. Applications for social housing are rising and intensifying the challenge for landlords to provide a fair allocations policy that reflects the needs and demands of their local communities.

The process of allocating social housing is complex and often misunderstood. *Fair and flexible*, the recently published CLG draft guidance and consultation, is calling for landlords to work with tenants to develop fairer allocations systems that offer greater choice and mobility. The guidance proposes to strengthen the freedoms councils have to prioritise needs specific to their local area.

Attend this conference to hear the latest thinking on housing allocations policy and practice, contribute your opinions to the debate, and inform your response to the CLG consultation.

SESSIONS INCLUDE:

- Key proposals from the new CLG draft guidance

- The proposed TSA standard for allocations
- A legal update
- Tackling overcrowding – local and sub-regional initiatives
- Promoting mobility across local authority boundaries
- Choice-based lettings schemes – just how successful have they been?

OUR SPEAKERS

The conference will be chaired by **Gill Leng**, Executive Director, Strategic Housing Services, HQN. Speakers include **Frances Walker**, Head of Allocations Team, CLG; **Tim Gray**, Head

of the Homelessness Action Team, Tenant Services Authority; **Peter Marcus**, Barrister at Arden Chambers; **Stephen Ellis**, Mobility Services Delivery Manager (Housemoves), Communities and Local Government and **Elizabeth Alexander**, West London Overcrowding Co-ordinator, West London Housing Partnership.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

This conference will be of interest to everybody involved in the design and delivery of housing allocation schemes from local authorities, ALMOs and housing associations including project managers, heads of allocations, homelessness and housing management in addition to equal opportunities, policy and strategy officers.

Wednesday 14 October 2009 | Hilton Paddington Hotel, London

hqn

To reserve places, please telephone: 0845 4747 004 or see booking form on reverse
Visit our website to find out more: www.hqnetwork.co.uk

Under pressure

Fairness and flexibility in local housing

4.5 CPD hours

Registration: 10.00am

Start: 10.30am

Finish: 4.30pm

HOW TO BOOK

By phone: Please telephone us on 0845 4747 004 (*and send this booking form as soon as possible*)

By fax: Fax us on 0845 4747 006 (*a fax transmission will secure a firm booking if places are available*)

By post: Complete this form and send it to: HQN Limited, Rockingham House, St Maurice's Road, York YO31 7JA

Online: For our online booking form, go to: www.hqnetwork.co.uk/forthcoming_events

Please do not send any payment! We will confirm your booking and send an invoice to you.

WHO ARE WE?

HQN Limited is a housing consultancy and training company providing high-quality advice and support to councils, ALMOs, housing associations and other housing providers. Our subscription service, The Housing Quality Network, has over 750 members, who are kept up to date on policy and best practice via briefings, workshops and our electronic information bank. We also run specialist networks for practitioners on a range of housing issues and provide interim and project management services. To find out more, visit our website at www.hqnetwork.co.uk, or call us on **0845 4747 004**.

DELEGATE FEES

The cost of this event is £262.00 (plus VAT at the applicable rate). Discounts are available to members of The Housing Quality Network – please tick here if eligible . The fee includes refreshments, lunch* and a detailed information pack.

BOOKING FORM

		Fee payable (incl. VAT)
Delegate name	Position	£ :
Email address		
Delegate name	Position	£ :
Email address		
Delegate name	Position	£ :
Email address		
		TOTAL £ :

To enrol additional delegates, please photocopy this form.

Name of person making booking	Order no.	
Organisation	Job title	
Email address	Tel no.	
Invoicing address		
		Postcode

How did you hear about this event?

Bookings: Bookings are subject to HQN Limited's conditions dated 23 February 2005, a copy of which can be obtained from our offices, free of charge.

Cancellations and substitutions: A full refund will be given if a cancellation is made 28 calendar days or more prior to the event, and a 50% refund if a cancellation is made 15-27 calendar days prior to the event. We regret that no refund can be given if a cancellation is made 14 calendar days or less before the event. Cancellations must be made in writing, and will be acknowledged by HQN Limited. There is no refund for non-attendance, but delegates may be substituted at any time.

Guarantee: As with all our events, our guarantee is that if a delegate attends this event and for any reason does not find it worthwhile, we will refund their delegate fee in full. To take advantage of this guarantee, the delegate fee must be paid in full prior to the date of the event.

* Please let us know if a delegate has any particular needs, including dietary, and we will do everything possible to meet their requirements.

hqn

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1 SEPTEMBER – 31 DECEMBER 2009

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

22 SEPTEMBER 2009

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 September – 31 December 2009 which relate to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

2. Background Information

- 2.1 Holding the Executive to account is one of the main functions of Scrutiny. One of the ways that this can be achieved is by considering the forthcoming decisions of the Executive (as outlined in the Forward Plan) and deciding whether Scrutiny can add value in advance of the decision being made. This does not negate Non-Executive Members ability to call-in a decision after it has been made.
- 2.3 To this end, it has been agreed that, on a pilot basis, the most recent version of the Executive's Forward Plan should be included on the agenda of each of the Council's Scrutiny Committees. The Forward Plan for the period 1 September – 31 December 2009 is attached marked **Appendix 1**.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 Following member's comments on the suitability of the Forward Plan being presented in its entirety to each committee it should be noted that only issues relating to the specific remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee are presented for information and comment.
- 3.2 For members information the remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee is as follows:-
- Major Projects; Sustainability overview; Creating Inclusive Communities overview; Housing overview; Housing Strategy; Private Housing; Housing Associations; Culture overview; Art Development; Museums; and Heritage.
- 3.3 In the event of Members having any queries that cannot be dealt with directly in the meeting, a response will be sought from the relevant Directorate.

4. Recommendations

- 4.1 To consider the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1 September – 31 December 2009;
- 4.2 To seek the views of Members on the revised format presented to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

5. Background Papers

None

Contact Officer : Nigel Cummings 0191 561 1006
Nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk

Forward Plan: Key Decisions for the period 01/Sep/2009 to 31/Dec/2009

Items which fall within the remit of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01189	To consider a request from Gentoo to amend its borrowing powers.	Cabinet	09/Sep/2009	Director of Financial Resources	correspondence	Via Contact Officer by 20th August 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Bob Rayner	5611001
01227	To approve a Young Persons Supported Housing Project.	Cabinet	09/Sep/2009	Cabinet Portfolio Holders, Health, Housing & Adult Services Staff, Children's Services, Partner Agencies	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties.	Via the Contact Officer by the 20th of August 2009 - Sustainable Communities & Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny Committees	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01273	To approve the development of a Supported Housing Unit for people who misuse alcohol	Cabinet	09/Sep/2009	Service Users, Carers, Portfolio Holder. staff and Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings	Via Contact Officer by 20 August 2009 - Sustainable Communities & Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committees	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01280	To agree the sale of land at Farringdon Row, Sunderland to HMCS for a new Justice Centre.	Cabinet	09/Sep/2009	Chief Solicitor and Director of Financial Resources	Meetings and emails	Via contact office by 20th August 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report	Nick Wood	5612631
01294	To approve the Household Alterations and Extensions draft Supplementary Planning Document for the purposes of consultation.	Cabinet	07/Oct/2009	Portfolio Holders, Chief Solicitor and Director of Financial Resources	Meetings, briefings and email	Via contact officer by 21 September 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report and Household Alterations and Extensions draft Supplementary Planning Document.	David Giblin	5611540
01303	To agree Neighbourhood Management & Selective Licensing Policy	Cabinet	07/Oct/2009	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via Contact Officer by 21 September 2009 - Community and Safer City & Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committees	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690

No.	Description of Decision	Decision Taker	Anticipated Date of Decision	Principal Consultees	Means of Consultation	When and how to make representations and appropriate Scrutiny Committee	Documents to be considered	Contact Officer	Tel No
01302	To approve Redhouse Core & Cluster	Cabinet	07/Oct/2009	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holder, Adult Services Staff, Health Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via Contact Officer by 21 September 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01114	To agree a joint approach to improving Access to Social Housing	Cabinet	04/Nov/2009	Cabinet, Service Users and Carer Groups, Portfolio Holders, Adult Services Staff and Partners	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via contact officer by the 26 of October 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet Report	Alan Caddick	5662690
01295	To approve the Sunnyside (Sunderland Central) Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Strategy as Planning Guidance.	Cabinet	04/Nov/2009	Statutory consultees, businesses, residents, local Members, relevant Portfolio Holders, Chief Officers	Meetings, briefings, letters, memos and emails, public exhibition, sunderland.gov.uk	Via contact officer by 26 October 2009 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report and Sunnyside Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Strategy	David Giblin	5611546

WORK PROGRAMME 2009-10

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

Strategic Priorities: CIO1: Delivering Customer Focused Services, CIO4: Improving partnership working to deliver 'One City'.

1. Why has this report come to the Committee?

- 1.1 The report attaches, for Members' information, the current work programme for the Committee's work during the 2009-10 Council year.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the Council in achieving its Strategic Priorities of a Healthy, Learning, Attractive and Inclusive City, support delivery of the related themes of the Local Area Agreement, and, through monitoring the performance of the Council's services, help the Council achieve its Corporate Improvement Objectives CIO1 (delivering customer focussed services) and C104 (improving partnership working to deliver 'One City').

2. Background

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which Committee can develop throughout the year. As a living document the work programme allows Members and Officers to maintain an overview of work planned and undertaken during the Council year.

3. Current position

- 3.1 The work programme reflects discussions that have taken place at the 14 July 2009 Scrutiny Committee meeting. The current work programme is attached as an appendix to this report.

4. Conclusion

- 4.1 The work programme developed from the meeting will form a flexible mechanism for managing the work of the Committee in 2009-10.

5 Recommendation

- 5.1 That Members note the information contained in the work programme and consider the inclusion of proposals for the Committee into the work programme.

6. Glossary

n/a

Contact Officer: Nigel Cummings, Review Co-ordinator: 0191 561 1006 :
nigel.cummings@sunderland.gov.uk

	JUNE 15.06.09	JULY 14.07.09	SEPTEMBER 22.09.09	OCTOBER 20.10.09	NOVEMBER 17.11.09	DECEMBER 15.12.09	JANUARY 19.01.10	FEBRUARY 16.02.10	MARCH 16.03.10	APRIL 27.04.10
Policy Review	Proposals for policy review (Review Coord)	Scope of review (Review Coord)	Approach to review (Review Coord)	Progress on Review (Review Coord)	Progress on Review (Review Coord)	Progress on Review (Review Coord)	Progress on Review (Review Coord)	Progress on Review (Review Coord)	Draft report (Review Coord)	Final Report
Scrutiny		Empire Theatre Annual Report Forward Plan	Forward Plan	Climate Change (JG)			Climate Change (JG)			Annual Report (Review Coord) Climate Change (JG)
Scrutiny (Performance)			Performance & VfM Assessment Progress on Policy Review 08/09 – A Place to Play		Heritage Update (JH)	Performance Framework Q2 Progress on Policy Review 08/09 – A Place to Play			Progress on Policy Review 08/09 – A Place to Play	Performance Framework Q3
Ref Cabinet	Terms of Reference of the Review Committee	Cabinet Response to the Policy Review-A Place to Play								

Committee business	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord) Conference Attendance	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)	Work Programme 2009/10 (Review Coord)
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CCFA/ Members Items/Petitions										
Information										