

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

AGENDA

Meeting to be held in the Civic Centre, Committee Room No. 1, on Tuesday, 28th February, 2012 at 5.30 p.m.

Membership

Cllrs Errington, T. Foster, Howe, Kay, Maddison, McClennan, Porthouse, Rolph, Smiles, S. Watson and Wakefield

ITEM		PAGE
1.	Apologies for Absence	
2.	Minutes of the last meeting held on 17th January, 2012 (copy attached)	1
3.	Declarations of Interest (including Whipping Declarations)	
	Policy Review Items – Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity Policy Review 2011/12	
4.	Mapping Exercise and Consultation Results (Incorporating Future Priority Sports / Activities)	10
	Joint Report of the Chief Executive and Executive Director of City Services (copy attached)	
5.	Sport England	15
	Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached)	

Scrutiny Items

- | | | |
|----|---|----|
| 6. | Localism Act : Housing and Planning Provisions | 18 |
| | Joint Report of the Deputy Chief Executive and
Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services
(copy attached) | |
| 7. | Work Programme 2011-12 | 29 |
| | Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached) | |
| 8. | Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1 March,
2012 – 30 June, 2012 | 32 |
| | Report of the Chief Executive (copy attached) | |

E. WAUGH,
Head of Law and Governance.

Civic Centre,
SUNDERLAND.

20th February, 2012

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday, 17th April, 2012

At a meeting of the SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE held in the RAICH CARTER SPORTS CENTRE on TUESDAY, 17th JANUARY, 2012 at 5.30 p.m.

Present:-

Councillor S. Watson in the Chair

Councillors Errington, Howe, Kay, Maddison, McClennan, Porthouse and Smiles

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted to the meeting on behalf of Councillors T. Foster and Rolph

Minutes of the Last Meeting of the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee held on 13th December, 2011

Ms. Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Officer, referred to page 5 of the minutes and advised that the next meeting of the Housing Developer's Forum was to be held on Wednesday, 25th January, 2012 at 1:00pm at St Thomas Street and informed Members that there would be the opportunity for a Member to attend with the Chairman. Any Member interested should contact either the Chairman or Ms. Lancaster directly for arrangements to be made.

Councillor McClennan issued her thanks to Mr. Caddick for having responded to her queries as raised at the last meeting, and it was:-

1. RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th December, 2011 be confirmed as a correct record.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor Porthouse declared a personal interest in Item 4 – Reducing the Barriers to Accessing Sport and Physical Activity as a member of the Council's Wellness Centres.

Councillor McClennan declared a personal interest in Item 6 – Community Development Annual Report as a member of the Sunderland VCS network.

Councillor Howe declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Enabling Independence Delivery Strategy – Long Term Housing Solutions with Care and Support.

Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity Policy Review 2011/12 : Reducing the Barriers to Accessing Sport and Physical Activity

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided information to Members in relation to the barriers identified by residents of the city in accessing sport and physical activity provision.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Officer, briefly presented the report introducing Ms. Victoria French, Assistant Head of Community Services, Mr. Bill Leach of Pennywell CA and Mr. Gavin McGhin of ABC Boxing Club to the Committee who were in attendance to give Members the opportunity to have discussions with providers about barriers to participation in sport and physical activity and ways in which to overcome them.

Councillor Howe commended Officers for the comprehensive report stating that he felt the services were taking the right route in tackling any issues or problems that were identified as barriers.

Ms. French advised that the report only contained a snapshot of examples of projects that were being undertaken at any one time and advised that it was a moving programme of continuous work with clubs and providers to remove the barriers where possible.

Mr. Leach and Mr. McGhin gave the Committee an overview of the programmes they currently ran and were aiming to develop for the future, advising that funding streams, such as the SIB grant that had been received from the West Sunderland Area Committee to help in supporting the school holiday provision was invaluable in ensuring that new provisions were continually introduced and supported.

In response to a query from Councillor Porthouse around the involvement of local schools, Ms. French recalled that representatives from schools had attended the last meeting to advise of the engagement they had with local communities and in providing sport and physical activities and commented that they were now working more with schools than they had in the past around the opportunities available to provide activities outside of the usual school day.

With regards to the example of the football training being provided at St Robert's which Councillor Porthouse had referred to, Ms. French advised that this was delivered by the SAFC Football Foundation and therefore the school would liaise with this organisation directly rather than through the Council.

Councillor Porthouse went on to ask if a school approached the Council wanting help in providing certain activities were the service capable to do this and Ms. French advised that yes, if the service were approached by a school wanting to engage with certain providers or offer specific activities Officers would be able to signpost them to the most relevant clubs and groups.

Councillor McClennan referred to the wear and tear of equipment used by the groups and asked the two providers how they coped with finding the capital funding to replace it as and when needed. Mr. Leach informed Members that they would apply for funding through other streams available to them such as Sport England, although the situation was becoming worse. He explained that as the Chairman of the Regional Technical Committee he would get to apply for as many of the available funding streams that were on offer.

Mr. McGhin advised that they had been lucky enough to support the success of two previous Olympians through their gyms and funding had been accessed through Northumbria Police to provide new bags and equipment. He explained that the club had held fund raising dinner events in the past but that these were not being as widely attended as they once had been with this years only hosting eighteen tables compared to sixty in previous years.

Councillor Watson asked if there was a specific person within the club responsible for identifying and applying for funding and Mr. McGhin advised that this was part of his role. He explained that the club had been set up as a charity to allow more access to funding but that they were not always successful with bids. In response to a further question from Councillor Watson around needing help in completing funding applications, Mr. McGhin advised that he worked with VCAS and professionals within the family as he had found from experience that having better knowledge of funding and being able to complete forms using the right terminology helped.

With regards to the upcoming Olympics, Members were keen to ensure that any Olympian hopeful's profiles were raised in the city. It was felt that we needed to capitalise as a city where maybe we had not before with the success of the local boxer Tony Jeffries. Ms. French advised that she was aware of six individuals they were hopeful would be part of the Great Britain squad and it was intended to showcase them in a pamphlet issued by the Council to allow residents of the city to be able to follow them in their preparation and attendance at the games.

Having considered the report and thanked all Officers and representatives for their attendance, it was:-

2. RESOLVED that the content of the information provided within the report and by the representatives from Sunderland City Council, Barnes Boxing Club and Pennywell Community Centre around the provision of sport and physical activity and overcoming barriers to participation be received and noted.

Cultural Strategy

The Executive Director of City Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which invited Members to discuss the current Cultural Strategy and agree the way forward.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Jane Hall, Assistant Head of Culture and Tourism, presented the report advising that the current Cultural Strategy had been launched by the Council in 2003 having

been based on an extensive consultation that had taken place across the city using the theme 'Culture – what's yours?', whereby two key themes had emerged:-

- Identity, pride and positioning; and
- Access, aspiration and equality.

Members were now being consulted to decide whether they felt the cultural strategy needed or updating or refreshing.

Councillor McClennan raised concerns that the definition of culture within the report appeared to be very narrow and relating to the services and facilities provided by the Council and not more around identities and backgrounds of communities and asked how relevant the strategy would now be given the cultural change in Sunderland over the last ten years.

Councillor Watson asked what a review of the strategy would consist of and how long it may take and was advised by Ms. Hall that if it was agreed by the Committee that a review was necessary then she would develop what the 'light touch' review may look like and consider and bring back the proposal to the Committee to consider how it could be carried out. This was the very initial stages to see if a review should be initiated and if so the workings of one would be developed further. Ms. Hall advised that if Members felt a review was not needed that they would continue to deliver services as set out in the service plan with the Committee having an overview to feed their views into as and when necessary.

In response to a further question from Councillor Watson regarding funding to undertake a review, Ms. Hall advised that it would be carried out within the constraints of the services current budget with minimal costs, using existing forums and networks Officers had in place.

Councillor Porthouse commented that he was unclear as to what would be gained by carrying out a review of the strategy, as culture could mean completely different things to different people. Ms. Hall advised that the strategy was about having a vision for developing culture as a whole within the city and to identify what the aims of residents and communities were through the consultation process. She commented that it was of benefit to cultural services to best indicate how they could support the wellbeing of the city and individuals who lived, worked and visited in Sunderland.

Councillor Kay also asked how achievements would be measured and was advised that within the main strategy each of the key aims and objectives had targets to reach, but reiterated that these were obviously produced almost ten years ago when the strategy was first published so may not be as relevant as they once were.

Councillor Wakefield stated that as a starting point the Committee at least needed the definition of culture as it had already been stated that the word could mean many different things to different people and had to have developed over the ten years. Councillor McClennan also queried how actively involved Members and communities had been in the original strategy and raised concerns over how relevant any information from then may be in today's society.

Ms. Hall agreed to take on board the Committee's comments and come back to the next meeting of the Committee with proposals of how to undertake the review, and it was:-

3. RESOLVED that the information provided within the report be received and noted and that Members comments on the next steps / way forward be considered and agreed, with a report being submitted to the next meeting of the Committee.

Community Development Annual Report

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided an update to the Committee in relation to the Council's Community Development Service and work with the City's Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) over 2011/2012.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Graham Burt, Strategy Development Manager, presented the report advising that Community Development had a clear and lasting impact on every aspect of Sunderland life and informed Members of updates to service provision, volunteering and the Area VCS Networks.

Councillor Errington referred to paragraph 10.8 of the report and the pilot workshop that had been recently carried out with the Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group and the East VCS network and asked which Committee the feedback from the workshop would be submitted to. Mr. Burt advised that in the first instance, the responsibility lay with the PCT as they had requested to meet with there network. He was unsure which Committee it would feed directly into but felt it would probably be the Health and Well Being Scrutiny Committee.

Councillor Errington also referred to the Sport, Leisure and Community Development Structure that had been included as appendix 3 to the report and asked if a copy of this with the relevant Officers names included could be circulated to Members, to which Mr. Burt agreed.

Councillor Porthouse referred to paragraph 10.11 of the report and the review of Area VCS Networks and asked what the review would be looking at in particular, as he felt the network for the West Sunderland area covered too many wards of the city and there was no migration between groups on either side of the A690. Mr. Burt advised that they were looking at reviewing the procedure around representation on the networks and how best to have an area represented, for example, were three organisations in one area the right number to involve or too many, and looking at whether there was a need to change any representatives. He advised that processes had been in place for around two years and it was important to ensure that they were still fit for purpose with the VCS networks.

Councillor Watson commented that she suffered a similar issue between the areas of Pennywell and South Hylton and they had been awarded funding jointly and it had been interesting to see how they had begun to work together successfully.

Mr. Burt advised that the Community Development Team often took the role of devil's advocate to get organisations to work together and adopt new ways of approaching issues, whilst also being careful to ensure that they were not being overstretched.

Councillor Kay commented that he was under no doubt that this year could be one of the most difficult for the sector and it was important how the Council worked with volunteer groups in supporting communities and noted that the report showed clearly where the pressures were. He went on to say that many of the funding streams previously available to voluntary sector groups were no longer available or ringfenced for other organisations that may be part of a bigger consortium and it was important that the Council could give effective support and advice when needed.

Mr. Burt informed Members that the points raised by Councillor Kay were poignant around the pressures organisations were either facing, or could be in the future. He explained that some were partners who delivered Council functions and were engaging with Officers but advised that beyond that there was a wider network of organisations who the Council had little to do with and they needed to understand what was being provided across the board but not necessarily take the lead.

Councillor McClennan asked how confident Officers were that the reduced number of Officers in the team could deliver on all the identified priorities and Ms. French advised that the merging of the two teams into a smaller Community Development Team should help the Council in getting better value for money and with joined up working offer them a wider reach over VCS groups and organisations. She advised that the review of the network was to ensure they were not overloading the groups and by having continuous discussions through the network it would help build relationships to the best they could be.

Mr. Burt advised that there may be bigger issues for the VCS groups to face in the future and part of the function of the Community Development Team would be to ensure that Officers were involved with the organisations to understand what the sector is, what they provided for the City and how best to deal with any issues they had. Mr. Caddick, Head of Housing commented that the way the team were set up now would help provide a more focussed, joined up approach and as the team settled in this should hopefully give Members confidence.

The Chairman thanked the Officer for his report, and it was :-

4. RESOLVED that the content of the report be received and noted.

Enabling Independence Delivery Strategy – Long Term Housing Solution with Care and Support

The Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services submitted a report (copy circulated) which provided Members with an annual update on progress relating to the delivery of priorities associated with the Enabling Independence Strategy ('The Strategy').

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Mr. Alan Caddick, Head of Housing, presented the report advising that the Council were engaged in an ambitious project to deliver supported accommodation to meet the needs of the city's current and future communities to meet the needs of vulnerable people who choose to live in the city including older people, people with a learning disability or with mental health and those with long term conditions including physical disability.

Councillor Watson referred to the proposed Fordfield Road development that was to start January, 2012 and Mr. Caddick advised that the demolition works were in order and it was expected to start in the next six weeks, although he would let Members know directly when works began. He advised that as it was a large site it would be undertaken in two phases and with it being in the very early stages allocations would not be being made yet. He advised Members that he would keep them informed of start dates and expected completion dates.

In response to a query from Councillor Errington around the proposed scheme at Doxford Park, Mr. Caddick advised that Gentoo would be carrying out consultation prior to the development but at present they were confirming funding and no designs or plans for the site had been developed yet. He informed Members that Gentoo had been told categorically that there was a need to involve local Councillors and had been assured this would be done as part of their development plan, giving them indicative timescales, etc.

Councillor Porthouse asked if any of the developments would be of mixed use, for example older people sharing a site with people with learning disabilities and Mr. Caddick advised that it would depend on each individual's circumstances and associated care needs. With regards the large development at Fordfield Road he informed the Committee that it could have separate wings allocated to residents with particular needs, who may then share communal facilities.

Councillor Porthouse referred to the four people from outside of the city who had moved into the scheme at Cherry Tree Gardens, Houghton and was advised that these could be individuals who had moved away from the city and wished to return. He explained that they had the same rights to allocations as any individual who was living in the city but could provide Members with more detail on the particular cases if it would help them.

Councillor Kaye commented that they had discussed a number of schemes at the meeting which he had not been aware of and asked if it may be worthwhile to arrange a visit to them to give Members a better idea. The Chairman advised that they had visited schemes in the past and Mr. Caddick confirmed that visits could be arranged at any time and suggested it may be beneficial for the Committee to hold a future meeting at one of the scheme.

In relation to owner occupiers taking up accommodation in the schemes, Mr. Caddick advised that there had been on instance, whereby, Gentoo had given a small licence to a resident to allow them to move in with a view of them selling their private property in the near future. He explained that due to the current economic environment and issues around house prices and the property market, it was normal for each case to be looked at individually and on its own merit.

Having answered Members questions and the Officer having been thanked for his report, it was:-

5. RESOLVED that the information within the report be received and noted and Members views on the progress and key outcomes outlined be considered.

Work Programme 2011-12

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) which set out the work programme for the Committee's work during the 2011-12 Council year.

(for copy report – see original minutes)

Ms. Sarah Abernethy, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer, presented the report advising that any requests for future reports that had been raised at this meeting would be added to the Work Programme at the appropriate future meeting.

Ms. Lancaster advised that there had been a request to consult Members on the Equality Scheme and with the Committee's approval an informal meeting would be arranged to discuss it in further detail as there was not time to present the report to a Committee meeting before it was report to Cabinet.

Ms. Lancaster also advised that there had been an extraordinary meeting of the Committee scheduled for 6th March to agree the Draft Policy Review Final Report but that due to time constraints it would not be possible for this to go ahead at that time. She asked the Committee to consider having the meeting rescheduled for a later date or if they would prefer the report could be circulated to Members in advance of the April meeting with any comments to be forwarded to herself for inclusion.

Members having agreed to the second option for the draft policy review report, it was:-

6. RESOLVED that the information contained within the Work Programme be received and noted.

Forward Plan – Key Decisions for the Period 1st January, 2012 – 30th April, 2012

The Chief Executive submitted a report (copy circulated) to provide Members with an opportunity to consider those items on the Executive's Forward Plan for the period 1st January, to 30th April, 2012 which related to the Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee.

(for copy report – see original minutes).

A copy of the recently published Forward Plan for 1st February, to 31st May. 2011 was circulated to the Committee for their consideration, and it was:-

7. RESOLVED that the contents of the Forward Plan be received and noted.

The Chairman then closed the meeting having thanked everyone for their attendance and input.

(Signed) S. WATSON,
Chairman.

**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AND LASTING LEGACY IN
SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY POLICY REVIEW 2011/12:**

**MAPPING EXERCISE AND CONSULTATION RESULTS
(INCORPORATING FUTURE PRIORITY SPORTS/ACTIVITIES)**

**JOINT REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE AND EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF CITY SERVICES**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP2: Healthy City; SP3: Safe City; SP5:
Attractive and Inclusive City**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1 Customer focused services; CIO2 One
Council; CIO3 Efficient and effective council; CIO4 Improving
partnership working**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides information to the Scrutiny Committee in relation to the mapping exercise undertaken as part of the review and contributed to by Ward Members; the results of the annual consultation undertaken by Sport and Leisure; and the future priority sports and activities for the city. This report contributes to the evidence for the Committee's policy review for 2011/12; Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity.
- 1.2 Due the timescales associated with the completion of the mapping exercise and the time taken to analyse the data, it was not possible to publish the findings in advance. Therefore, a presentation will be provided at the meeting by Victoria French, Assistant Head of Community Services (Sport, Leisure and Community Development) on the headline information analysed to date.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 13 September 2011, the Scrutiny Committee agreed the approach to the Policy Review; Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity, which included identifying the barriers to participation and ways in which to encourage greater take up of sport and physical activity.
- 2.2 This report contributes principally to the following terms of reference for the review;
 - (a) To understand the importance of sport and physical activity in the city and how this contributes to the strategic priorities of the city;

- (d) To understand the range of sport and physical activity provision currently being delivered across the city by the council, the voluntary and community sector and private sector;
- (e) To understand the current level of diversity of provision across the city, considering the opportunities available for traditional and non traditional and alternative forms of activity; and
- (i) To consider the city's 'priority' sports and physical activity opportunities and the pathways in place to sustain and increase participation.

3. MAPPING PROVISION

- 3.1 One of the objectives of the Scrutiny review was to map the sport and leisure provision across the city to ensure that there is an understanding about what activity is taking place in the community. As Members will appreciate, in times of limited resource this has been no easy task, but the results will be an important piece of work to inform the review outcomes and assist the service in community sport and physical activity provision.
- 3.2 During the mapping exercise Ward Councillors have played a vital role in helping to identify the sport and physical activity provision in their area of the city. The mapping exercise took into account all areas of provision and delivery including, sports clubs, privately owned gyms, community venues, something as small as an exercise class in a school, or a group of cyclists who meet on a regular basis.
- 3.3 It is anticipated that the information gathered will allow the Committee to make an informed assessment of the amount of activity in the city, who is providing it, where it is located and allowing us to identify issues.
- 3.4 The mapping exercise ran from October 2011 to 31 January 2012. Results from the Mapping Exercise are detailed in Appendix 1.

4. CONSULTATION 2011 - 2012

- 4.1 As Members will be aware, officers within the Sport, Leisure and Community Development Service area have been engaging residents, partners and activity providers to understand the type of sports and physical activity they would like to see available in the city.
- 4.2 Responses from this process will help shape future sport and physical activity priorities. Therefore it was important that the consultation was completed by as many residents, partners and activity providers as possible. The consultation was undertaken in the main electronically and was displayed on the Council's website, partner websites, in newsletters, blogs and disseminated via social media.
- 4.3 In order to gain an understanding from residents who may not have access to the internet, consultation continues to be undertaken in leisure centres,

libraries and at a Sunderland football match. The consultation period began in November 2011 and will be extended until the end of February 2012.

5. PRIORITY SPORTS AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITIES

- 5.1 Sport England recognises 145 sports, and in addition to these sports there are a number of physical activities that are available across the city but it is clear that the service area cannot offer full attention to all of them, all of the time. This review proposes an approach to prioritising certain sports and physical activities to help them grow, sustain or excel. It is suggested that using Sport England's Sustain, Grow, Excel model, it is proposed that a selected number of sports and physical activities are identified based on selected criteria. This would allow the city to focus its resources on a small, but wide reaching number of sports and physical activities for a period of time. A sport or physical activity would also have the opportunity to move between categories ie. it could be chosen to be 'grown' for one year then becomes a sport or activity upon which to focus on either the excel or sustain component the next.
- 5.2 There are some key sports and activities in the city that the Council and partners are already prioritising and it is proposed that these are adopted as priority sports and activities due to the resources committed and infrastructure currently in place, as detailed below:
- (i) Football - an adopted city Football Investment Strategy and high participation levels
 - (ii) Swimming - Sunderland is a coastal city with an established Learn to Swim Programme and the Sunderland Aquatic Centre delivering a regional Beacon Swimming Programme
 - (iii) Cycling - Active Travel and Green agenda have played a key role in establishing cycling programmes and cycle routes across the city.
- 5.3 It should be noted that those sports and activities developed as a priority will be complementary to other partners' priorities, without duplicating resources or existing commitments. For example, the University will lead on the development of basketball / netball as they have already invested significantly into these sports and the Marine Activity Centre would take the lead for sailing. The established Active Board would ensure that this process was in place to avoid duplication.
- 5.4 The factors which should be considered in selecting priority sports and physical activities are detailed below:-
- *Current Participation levels and representation*
 - *Current/Planned Investment – capital*
 - *Current/Planned investment – revenue*
 - *National Governing Body Support*
 - *Number and geographic distribution of clubs / provision in the city*
 - *Number and skill level of qualified coaches and activity providers*
 - *Sport Leagues/competitive opportunities*

- *Number of Performance athletes*
- *National Strategy Priorities*
- *Accessibility*
- *Outcomes of Mapping Exercise undertaken by Elected Members and*
- *Outcome of the 2011 Consultation Process.*

5.5 In order to identify appropriate sports and physical activities, it is necessary to develop a scoring matrix encompassing the above factors for selecting a priority sport and physical activity. In some cases it should be noted that low participation rates may also be a good reason to invest time and energy into a specific sport or physical activity. Therefore, it is a balance of factors which might mean a sport or physical activity should be prioritised. Above all, readiness and impact on overall participation rates should be the key driver.

5.6 Members will recall previous review work relating to the Active Sunderland Board. It is proposed to build on the established Board infrastructure in order to drive forward the work required, including developing the selected sports and physical activities. In addition, the detailed work associated with the selected priorities can be delivered through the network groups, which will focus on the full pathway from learning the activity through to higher performance levels. Attendance of such groups needs to be 'fit for purpose' to tackle relevant issues and should therefore include involvement from Active Sunderland Board partners and community clubs who have experience in growing capacity in the voluntary sector.

6. RECOMMENDATION

6.1 The Committee is recommended to consider the report and supporting presentation.

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Scrutiny Committee Minutes

Contact Officers:

Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Officer (0191 5611233)
Helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk

Victoria French, Assistant Head of Community Services (Sport, Leisure and Community Development) (0191 5614555)
Victoria.french@sunderland.gov.uk

Appendix 1

Headline data from Ward Audit

Please note that the audit only takes into account clubs and does not take into account the number of squads/teams within a club.

The audit has identified that there are currently **832** clubs / organised activities operating within the city providing sport and physical activity opportunities for all ages.

The activities with the largest amount of opportunities are football (237) and dance (63)

In addition other activities that have a low provision combined for young people and adults are cheerleading, futsal, volleyball (1 per activity) and bokwa, hockey, rowing, snowboarding (2 per activity).

Currently, based on findings from the audit there are no formal opportunities for archery, rugby league and tai chi.

Young People

There are **307** clubs and organised activities for young people across the city. The wards with the highest number of clubs and organised activities for young people are Hendon (24), Hetton (20) and Southwick (20).

The wards with the lowest number of clubs and organised activities for young people are Washington West (6) and Pallion and Ryhope (7) and Castle (8).

The activity with the largest number of clubs and organised activities for young people is football (75), karate (30) sporting youth clubs (26) and dance (20).

The sports and activities with the lowest provision is, cheerleading, hockey, rowing, snowboarding, water polo, and fitness classes (1 per activity)

Based on detail from the audit there is currently no provision for young people in futsal, volleyball, bokwa, pilates, running (not athletics) and zumba.

Adults

There are **525** clubs and organised activities for adults across the city. The wards with the highest number of clubs and organised activities for adults are Southwick and Silksworth (38), Houghton and Millfield (36) and Hendon (30).

The wards with the lowest number of clubs and organised activities for adults are Washington West (9), Washington East (11) and Barnes, Copt Hill and Fulwell (12)

The activities with the largest number of clubs and organised activities are football (162), dance and bowls (43) and karate (28). The activities with lowest number of clubs and organised activities are cheerleading, futsal, volleyball, hockey, rowing, snowboarding and water polo.

**BUILDING A SUSTAINABLE AND LASTING LEGACY IN
SPORT AND PHYSICAL ACTIVITY POLICY REVIEW 2011/12:
SPORT ENGLAND
REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE**

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP2: Healthy City; SP3: Safe City; SP5:
Attractive and Inclusive City**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1 Customer focused services; CIO2 One
Council; CIO3 Efficient and effective council; CIO4 Improving
partnership working**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides information to the Scrutiny Committee in relation Sport England's emerging Strategy for Sport and the way in which market segmentation is undertaken. This report contributes to the evidence for the Committee's policy review for 2011/12; Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity.
- 1.2 A supporting presentation will be given at the Scrutiny Committee by representatives of Sport England, Ian Thurlbeck, Relationship Manager (Local Government) and Judith Rasmusson, Sport England Strategic Lead.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At its meeting on 13 September 2011, the Scrutiny Committee agreed the approach to the Policy Review; Building a Sustainable and Lasting Legacy in Sport and Physical Activity, which included which included identifying the role of Sport England and its future strategy.
- 2.2 This report contributes principally to the following terms of reference for the review;
 - (a) To understand the importance of sport and physical activity in the city and how this contributes to the strategic priorities of the city; and
 - (i) To consider the city's 'priority' sports and physical activity opportunities and the pathways in place to sustain and increase participation.

3. MARKET SEGMENTATION

- 3.1 Sport England has developed nineteen sporting segments to help understand the nations' attitudes to sport and motivations for doing it (or not).
- 3.2 Market segmentation provides those working in sport and physical activity industry with an insight into the sporting behaviours, barriers and motivations amongst existing participants and those who we need to engage in a more active lifestyle.
- 3.3 Pen portraits are a great way to familiarise the characteristics of each of the nineteen segments and have been developed in great detail. For example, 'Leanne' is a Supportive Single – she is the least active segment amongst 18-25 year olds. Sport England know that she is likely to be single, living in private/council rented accommodation and is very likely to have children. Sport England also know what motivates her, what brands she aspires to, things that stop her taking part in sport and how to get her involved in sports she likes - such as the gym and keep-fit.
- 3.4 The market segmentation data builds on the results of Sport England's Active People Survey, the Department of Culture, Media and Sport's Taking Part Survey and the Mosaic tool from Experian. Sport England uses this knowledge to help influence people and persuade more to take part in sport. It is also part of Sport England's drive to get one million people doing more sport by 2012.

4. SPORT ENGLAND'S STRATEGY FOR SPORT

- 4.1 Increasing sports participation and the opportunities to play sport is a goal Sport England and all those interested in sport are working towards. A new strategy will be announced early in 2012, with a vision for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport.
- 4.2 Sport England will aim to deliver a world leading community sport system and will to make participation in sport a regular habit for many more people, and ensure the delivery of sporting opportunities in the ways and places that people want.
- 4.3 Sport England aim to deliver the new strategy through the five themes set out below by:-
 - Maximising the value delivered from our current investment in National Governing Bodies (NGB):
 - Delivering the aims of Places People Play programme;
 - Developing the right criteria and support system for NGB investment;

- Creating an environment in which the key providers continue to invest in sport; and
- Providing strategic direction and market intelligence.

4.4 In 2017, five years after the London Olympic and Paralympic Games, Sport England want to have transformed sport in England so that playing sport becomes a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. National governing bodies will continue to play a pivotal role in increasing participation, particularly among young people. County Sports Partnerships will support NGB's, foster local links and help transition young people into clubs. Sport England will support and work with local authorities through advocacy tools and investment including a new community activation fund. Partners including the National Partners, StreetGames, the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust, the Youth Sport Trust and others will add value and support our work. Sport England is seeking a year-on-year increase in the proportion of people who play sport once a week for at least 30 minutes. In particular, they will aim to increase the percentage of 14 – 25 year olds who play sport at least once a week.

5. RECOMMENDATION

5.1 The Committee is recommended to receive the presentation at Committee delivered by Ian Thurlbeck, Relationship Manager (Local Government) and Judith Rasmusson, Sport England Strategic Lead.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- Scrutiny Committee Minutes
- Sport England website – Market Segmentation
- E-mail from Sport England 10 January 2012

Contact Officer: Helen Lancaster, Scrutiny Officer (0191561 1233)
Helen.lancaster@sunderland.gov.uk

LOCALISM ACT : HOUSING AND PLANNING PROVISIONS

Joint report of the Deputy Chief Executive and the Executive Director of Health, Housing and Adult Services

Strategic Priorities: SP1: Prosperous City; SP5: Attractive and Inclusive City.

Cross Cutting Priorities: Sustainability; Creating Inclusive Communities; Housing.

Corporate Improvement Objectives: CIO1: Delivering Customer focused services, CIO3: Efficient and Effective Council, CIO4: Improving Partnership working to deliver 'one city'.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 This report provides information to the members of the Scrutiny Committee in relation to the 'Localism Act 2011' specifically on the details of the Planning and Housing provisions within 'the Act' and the consequences for their implementation in Sunderland.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Localism Bill was introduced to Parliament on 13 December 2010 and received Royal Assent on 15 November 2011. However, the majority of the provisions within the Act have not taken immediate effect. The publication of secondary legislation and regulations will be required in due course in order to bring the provisions into force at a future date.
- 2.2 The Localism Act seeks to give effect to the Government's ambitions to decentralise power away from Whitehall and back into the hands of local councils, communities and individuals to act on local priorities.
- 2.3 The Localism Act includes five key measures that underpin the Government's approach to decentralisation which are :
- community rights;
 - neighbourhood planning;
 - housing;
 - general power of competence; and
 - empowering cities and other local areas.
- 2.4 Part 6 chapters 1 to 7 cover the Planning provisions within the Act and Part 7 chapters 1 to 6 cover the Housing provisions within the Act.

3 KEY AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ACT

- 3.1 The Localism Act looks to devolve decision-making powers from Whitehall to communities and their local democratically-elected representatives.
- 3.2 It contains a wide range of measures to devolve more powers to councils and neighbourhoods and give local communities greater control over local decisions like planning and housing matters amongst others.
- 3.3 A summary of the main planning and housing related changes in the Act are as follows and further detail is provided in the report :
- **Planning** – including the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies, the use of the Community Infrastructure Levy, new powers for neighbourhood planning, and new rules for nationally-significant infrastructure projects.
 - **Housing** – including powers to discharge homelessness duties, tenure reform for social housing, abolition of the Housing Revenue Account subsidy, reform of housing finance and the regulation of social housing.

4. PLANNING PROVISIONS

Plans and Strategies – Part 6 chapter 1

- 4.1 Section 109 of the Act will enable the Government to achieve the objective of revoking Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS). In July 2010, the Government announced the revocation of RSS but this was subsequently challenged and overruled through a series of High Court judgments. Separate orders are to be laid before Parliament to formally revoke these Strategies and this is expected in Spring 2012.
- 4.2 Section 110 introduces a ‘duty to cooperate’ in relation to planning. The ‘duty’ requires local authorities and other public bodies to work together on strategic planning issues. Plans will be tested by an independent Inspector and councils must provide evidence that they have complied with this duty.
- 4.3 All policy setting documents within the Local Development Framework (LDF) are subject to an ‘examination’ before an independent Inspector who will test the soundness of the plan. Under the new provisions the Inspector’s recommendations will no longer be binding on the local authority to accept.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – Part 6 chapter 2

- 4.4 The Community Infrastructure Levy is effectively a roof tax which councils can charge on development. Section 115 amends the existing legislation to explicitly require that such levy charges do not make development economically unviable. The applicant would be required to pay a pre-set (and non-negotiable) charge to the council for the delivery of the infrastructure such as roads, schools, parks, etc (which need not be in the same location as the development itself). The Act also gives the

Government the power to require that a 'meaningful proportion' of the monies accrued from the levy goes directly to the neighbourhoods where development takes place. Regulations are awaited to clarify the amount of levy monitoring and who would or could receive the payments, etc.

Neighbourhood Planning – Part 6 chapter 3

- 4.5 Section 116 introduces a number of opportunities for local communities to engage in addressing planning issues at a neighbourhood level. The Act introduces a new right for Parish and Town councils and 'neighbourhood forums'¹ to initiate a process to develop :
- Neighbourhood Development Orders, which can extend the existing permitted development rights of occupiers to undertake further levels of development without the need for planning permission (such as loft conversions, extensions, changes of use) over and above what is already classed as permitted development as laid out within the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development Order 1995).
 - Neighbourhood Development Plans, which can propose more development than is set out in the council's LDF, but will not be able to constrain development set out in the LDF. Upon approval, such Plans would form part of the council's statutory development plan for that neighbourhood and planning applications would have to be considered against the Neighbourhood Development Plan.
 - Community Right to Build Orders would allow local people to hold a referendum to approve small local developments (up to 20 dwellings), without the need to go through the normal requirement for planning permission. This should come into force in April 2012.
- 4.6 Neighbourhood development plans and the two Orders must go through a process of independent examination and must comply with other relevant policies including national planning policy and the LDF. At the end of the process, a council must adopt these documents if more than half of those voting through a referendum are in favour of the Plan or the Orders.
- 4.7 The council must give appropriate advice and assistance to facilitate the development of neighbourhood development plans or Orders. The council will be expected to provide financial assistance to fund the examination and the referendums.

Consultation – Part 6 chapter 4

- 4.8 Section 122 introduces a new requirement for developers to consult local communities before submitting planning applications for certain developments in order to give people a chance to have a say when there

¹ Where no Parish or town council exists, 'neighbourhood forums' proposed by that community must be formally designated by the council and must meet a number of key criteria specified in legislation. Councils will also have powers to de-designate forums. A 'neighbourhood' can also include a business area if the area is wholly or predominantly business in nature.

is still genuine scope for changes to be made. The section imposes a further duty for the applicant to take account of responses received from the consultation.

Enforcement – Part 6 chapter 5

- 4.9 Sections 123 to 127 strengthen Local Authority powers to tackle abuses of the planning system, such as deliberately concealing new developments and giving the council the power to decline to determine a retrospective planning application if granting such an application would constitute a breach of planning control as specified in an enforcement notice.

Nationally significant infrastructure projects – Part 6 chapter 6

- 4.10 Sections 128 to 142 abolish the Infrastructure Planning Commission, which was created in 2008 to determine nationally significant infrastructure projects (such as major offshore windfarms and nuclear power stations). This decision making power has now been conferred to a new Major Infrastructure Planning Unit which will be part of the Planning Inspectorate. Parliament would make the final planning decision based on recommendations of this new unit.

Other planning matters – Part 6 chapter 7

- 4.11 Section 143 now provides that local financial considerations for the local authority (such as the receipt of New Homes Bonus or other grant/ financial assistance by the Government to the authority and payments due under the CIL arising from a development proposal) will be classed as material planning considerations when determining planning applications. Whilst the development plan remains the formal starting point in the determination of any planning application, other material planning considerations can also be taken into account and may justify a departure from the development plan.
- 4.12 Beyond the Planning provisions within Chapter 6 of the Act, Section 25 is also relevant to the planning process. It makes clear that it is proper for Councillors to play an active part in local discussions prior to the formal determination of a planning application. The key point is for Members to ensure by their conduct or statements that they have still retained an open mind on the ultimate determination of a planning application.

5 HOUSING PROVISIONS

Allocations and Homelessness - Part 7 chapter 1

- 5.1 Sections 145, 146 and 147 make reforms to the legislation on the allocation of social housing under Part 6 of the Housing Act 1996 (the 1996 Act). This provides the Council with the power to determine who can be allocated housing.
- 5.2 Section 148 enables councils to fully discharge the main homelessness duty to secure accommodation with an offer of suitable accommodation from a private sector landlord, without requiring the applicant's agreement. Tenancies must be for a minimum fixed term of 12 months.

- 5.3 Section 149 provides that the main homelessness duty will be reapplied regardless of whether the applicant has a priority need for accommodation, if the applicant becomes unintentionally homeless again within 2 years of accepting a private sector offer, and re-applies to the Council for accommodation.

Social Housing : Tenure reform - Part 7 chapter 2

- 5.4 Section 150 places a new duty on local authorities to publish a tenancy strategy. The strategy should set out, in high-level terms, the matters that all registered providers of social housing operating within the local authority area should take account of when developing their own tenancy and allocations policies.
- 5.5 Section 151 sets out the procedure that local authorities must follow when preparing the tenancy strategy or making changes. There is also an obligation for the Councils to consult registered providers on a draft of the strategy.
- 5.6 Section 152 provides that the Secretary of State may direct the social housing regulator to set a standard on tenure.
- 5.7 Section 153 requires that the Council, as the local housing authority, when formulating its homelessness strategy, must have regard to its current allocations scheme and tenancy strategy.

Housing Finance – Part 7 chapter 3

- 5.8 Sections 167 to 175 and Schedule 15 provide for a new system of council housing finance. The Housing Revenue Account subsidy system will end and Local Authorities that operate a Housing Revenue Account will keep all of their rental income and use it to support their own housing stock. (Not relevant for Sunderland City Council due to stock transfer).

Housing Mobility - Part 7 chapter 4

- 5.9 Sections 176 and 177 provide assistance for tenants of registered providers in relation to mutual exchanges and assisting tenants into owner occupation. (Not relevant for Sunderland City Council due to stock transfer).

Regulation of Social Housing - Part 7 chapter 5

- 5.10 Section 178 introduces Schedule 16 which abolishes the Office for Tenants and Social Landlords (known as the Tenant Services Authority) and transfers the regulation of social housing to the Homes and Communities Agency through the creation of a regulation committee of that body.

Other matters - Part 7 chapter 6 – Housing Ombudsman

- 5.11 Sections 181 and 182 provide for the creation of a unified service for investigating complaints about the provision of social housing. These sections extend the Housing Ombudsman's remit to cover all local authorities in their capacity as registered providers or managers of housing services while removing these matters from the jurisdiction of the Local Government Ombudsman.

6 IMPLICATIONS OF THE LOCALISM ACT 2011 FOR SUNDERLAND

Planning and Housing provisions

- 6.1 Government sees the planning system playing a central role in delivering a strong economy and providing for attractive and sustainable environments. Government is therefore committed to reforming the planning system so that it actively encourages growth (both in housing delivery and economic development) whilst giving local people greater influence in the process than ever before.
- 6.2 In tandem with the Localism Act, the Government has also sought to streamline national planning policies which influence the Local Development Framework (LDF) content and the decisions made in the determination of planning applications.
- 6.3 The Draft National Planning Policy Framework (published in July 2011), seeks to consolidate over 1,000 pages of themed policy statements into a single document. When taken in conjunction with the terms of the Localism Act, it raises a number of implications for how the City will discharge its statutory land use planning functions.
- 6.4 The over-riding housing policy objective is to create a system in which social landlords are able to manage their stock more flexibly to meet the local housing needs and aspirations of their tenants and prospective tenants more effectively. Common standards between registered providers in Sunderland would ensure that this works effectively and consistently.

Plans and Strategies

- 6.5 The Act will, in due course, completely abolish Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS) and replace them in the definition of the development plan with a new tier of plan, the Neighbourhood Plan (drawn up at the community level). The loss of regional / intra regional planning co-ordination will be replaced by the 'Duty to Cooperate' with other local authorities to maximise the effectiveness of LDFs (to require them to take on-board important cross-boundary planning issues). Sunderland's emerging LDF must still legally conform to the RSS until the latter is abolished.

Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

- 6.6 The Council will need to establish a CIL Charging Schedule. A prerequisite will be an adopted LDF Core Strategy which sets the growth ambitions and consequent infrastructure requirements for the city.
- 6.7 Critical to the CIL will be a clear understanding of the economic viability proposed development sites to ensure they are able to absorb the additional CIL financial burdens whilst still retaining a reasonable profit margin for the developer. It is proposed to produce the CIL Charging Schedule alongside the Core Strategy and this is programmed for adoption in January 2014.

Neighbourhood Planning Issues

- 6.8 Further regulations are expected on neighbourhood planning. But for the present time, it remains unclear as to how potential differences between the various planning documents will be managed. For example, the local planning authority's own evidence (e.g. need, viability, delivery and sustainability) may justify restraint in an area, whilst the Neighbourhood Development Plan could seek to promote more development. Conversely, the drive to create a Neighbourhood Development Plan could raise expectations within that local community that they will have the power to restrict certain types of development which is set out in the LDF. This will not be possible. Furthermore, the Act specifically excludes certain types of development such as waste, minerals, or windfarms creating over 50MW from the neighbourhood planning process.
- 6.9 Neighbourhood Development Plans will, upon adoption, form part of the Council's development plan for that particular area and will take priority over the authority's own LDF. The practical consequence will in taking planning decisions, the local planning authority will only be able to override the provisions in the Neighbourhood Development Plan if material considerations support such a course.
- 6.10 Neighbourhood Development Plans can in theory be proposed at any point by a Parish Council or neighbourhood forum. Future regulations are expected to clarify what powers and the Council will have to approve to such proposals and what responsibilities Councils will have for taking on the financial liability of funding the examination and any subsequent referendum².
- 6.11 Neighbourhood Plans should not in theory require significant professional involvement from the Council. However, it is feared that significant local authority input will be required to enable the delivery of such plans, for example in supporting the need to comply with EU obligations around the completion of formal sustainability appraisals. This could result in considerable unplanned costs to the Council.
- 6.12 With specific regard to the use of Neighbourhood Development Orders and the Community Right to Build Orders (it is not yet clear how these would work in practice). There is some concern about how neighbourhoods would be able to practically discharge and enforce these Orders, such as dealing with planning guidance, representations opposed to developments, statutory consultees and agreeing Section 106 Agreements and or the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Consultation

- 6.13 Pre-application consultation has long been endorsed and promoted by Sunderland City Council. It allows for consensus to be reached on

² Scope remains within the Act for Local Authorities to recover such expenses though it remains unclear who exactly will pay.

controversial issues before proposals are finalised. Many objections can be resolved before a planning application is submitted.

- 6.14 During such consultations, local ward members would be entitled to express preliminary views on the merits of a planning application (either in support or against), prior to a formal decision being made provided that there is evidence that the Member does not have a closed mind on the application. The key test is how the statements or conduct would be perceived by a "fair minded and informed observer". Member training and workshops are shortly to be arranged by the Planning and Environment Service to advise Members on the practical implications of the predisposition and predetermination rules.

Enforcement

- 6.15 It has never been a criminal offence to undertake development without planning consent. Criminal liability is only triggered on failure to comply with the terms of an enforcement notice. The new provisions are to be broadly welcomed though given that additional regulations are awaited, it remains unclear how they would take effect when applied in specific circumstances.

Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects

- 6.16 The effect of handing back the final planning decision on major projects to the Secretary of State is at this stage difficult to predict. Government is firmly of the view that decisions on major infrastructure applications should be made by Ministers.

Allocations and Homelessness

- 6.17 The government is currently consulting on new draft statutory guidance for social housing allocations for local authorities in England. The new guidance is intended to assist authorities to take advantage of the provisions in the Localism Act 2011 which give local authorities the freedom to manage their own housing waiting lists, and make it easier for them to move existing social tenants to more suitable accommodation. It also encourages authorities to make use of the existing flexibilities within the allocation legislation to ensure that social homes go to people who need and deserve them the most.
- 6.18 The Act will allow the local authority to restrict access to the statutory allocation scheme, and to exclude existing social housing tenants unless they have reasonable preference (that is priority housing groups).
- 6.19 There are no plans to make any changes to the existing statutory 'reasonable preference' categories which determine who has priority for social housing.
- 6.20 This will mean that Sunderland City Council's recently revised allocations policy will need to be further reviewed and work carried out with Members and all social housing providers in Sunderland to agree whether new local eligibility criteria are required, and if so what they would be.

- 6.21 With respect to homelessness it is expected that the amendments to the Homelessness Code of Guidance will be implemented in either May or June 2012. There will be two fundamental changes:
- The ability to discharge a homelessness duty by the offer of a 12 month tenancy in the private rented sector.
 - A re-application duty if someone re-applies to the Council within a two year period who had received an offer of a property in the private rented sector.
- 6.22 These changes will require further consideration to decide whether the Council adopts a policy on discharging the homeless duty in the private rented sector and the Homelessness Strategy and Action Plan will need to be reviewed and any subsequent changes will need to link in to the Council's Tenancy Strategy and Allocation Policy.

Social Housing : Tenure reform

- 6.23 The over-riding objective is to create a system where registered providers are able to use greater freedoms to manage their stock effectively, and meet the housing needs and aspirations of tenants. This approach requires local authorities to prepare and publish a Tenancy Strategy and registered providers in Sunderland will have to have regard to it with respect to :-
- The kinds of tenancies providers should grant;
 - When and why they grant tenancies for a fixed term and the length of those tenancies;
 - The circumstances under which they will grant tenancies of a particular type;
 - The circumstances under which a tenancy may or may not be reissued at the end of the fixed term, in the same property or in a different property.
- 6.24 In Sunderland, a Tenancy Strategy is being developed in Sunderland. Consultation with registered providers and all Members is planned for Spring 2012, with the aim of seeking approval by November 2012.

7 CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE FUTURE

- 7.1 The Act introduces a number of changes to the local decision making process and how some local services will be delivered in the future and we await further clarification from Government.
- 7.2 As regards planning matters, only when final National Planning Policy Framework, transitional arrangements and the associated regulations are issued can the Council accurately assess how all of these new powers will be applied in practice.
- 7.3 Local authorities, will now be responsible for identifying their own future housing requirements. Combined with the Localism Act's 'duty to cooperate', the Council will need to provide a substantial level of analysis and evidence,

including how it will work on housing and employment requirements with neighbouring local authorities.

- 7.4 It remains to be seen how, in practice, Councils will work to secure appropriate and accurate housing and employment forecasts in the context of a positive attitude to development; how the Council will work with all local communities; how the Council will work with neighbouring authorities; what variations in methods and evidence will occur so questions of consistency in approach will come to the fore.
- 7.5 Given the importance attached to the North East Local Enterprise Partnership (NELEP) in coordinating and encouraging regional growth further clarification is required as to NELEP's role in the context of the overall 'duty to co-operate'.
- 7.6 The Act introduces a provision which places a duty on the Council to pass a 'meaningful proportion of funds to communities where development has taken place which will allow them to spend these funds on local priorities. The question of what level of funding should be set aside, who will receive it, and on what and where in the community it will be spent remain to be answered.
- 7.7 In relation to the Community Infrastructure Levy one topic for further clarification is the use of CIL funding to deliver affordable homes, and if so, how this will be used alongside Section 106 agreements, New Homes Bonus funding, mainstream funding, Affordable Homes Programme 2011-2015; and if it was used in this way would this be to the detriment of infrastructure projects.
- 7.8 In relation to community consultation the Localism Act could create the potential for a challenge where local communities may take the view that insufficient regard has been paid to the process of consultation and its outcome.
- 7.9 If the discharge of the homelessness duty by the offer of a 12 month tenancy in the private rented sector occurs then the issue of an accredited or non-accredited landlord might occur as may the type, location, suitability and condition of the property.
- 7.10 The Act also has implications for Sunderland City Council's allocations policy which will require modifications and work regards eligibility criteria.
- 7.11 The Tenancy Strategy will require detailed negotiation with all registered providers around the type, length and re-issuing of tenancies.

8 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 8.1 Scrutiny committee Members are requested to note the contents of the report and consider the implications for the Council and City.

9 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 9.1 Planning and Highways Committee Report 3 December 2010 – Planning Reform Update.
- 9.2 EMT Initial Briefing Note 14th December 2010 - Localism Bill 2010 -2011.
- 9.3 EMT Report: 15th February 2011 - The Localism Bill and the implications for Sunderland.
- 9.4 Sunderland City Council 16th February 2011 - Localism Bill: Submission to the Public Bill Committee.
- 9.5 Planning and Highways Committee Report 11 October 2011 – Draft National Planning Policy Framework : Response to Consultation.
- 9.6 EMT Report: 31st January 2012 – Outline of the Localism Act 2011.

Contact Officers: Alan Caddick (Head of Strategic Housing)
0191 566 1711
alan.caddick@sunderland.gov.uk

Lee Cranston (Head of Strategy and Policy, Economy and Place)
0191 561 1160
lee.cranston@sunderland.gov.uk

**SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE
WORK PROGRAMME 2011-12**

**28 FEBRUARY
2012**

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP2: Healthy City; SP3: Safe City; SP5:
Attractive and Inclusive City**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1 Customer focused services; CIO2 One
Council; CIO3 Efficient and effective council; CIO4 Improving
partnership working**

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 The report attaches, for members' information, the work programme for the Committee's work during the 2011-12 Council year.
- 1.2 The work of the Committee in delivering its work programme will support the council in achieving its strategic priorities of Healthy City, Safe City and Attractive and Inclusive City. It supports the 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 Customer focused services; CIO2 One Council; CIO3 Efficient and effective council; and CIO4 Improving partnership working.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The work programme is a working document which the Committee can develop throughout the year. 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 17 January 2012 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 2011-12.

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.

Contact Officer: Sarah Abernethy, Scrutiny and Area Support Officer
0191 561 1230, sarah.abernethy@sunderland.gov.uk

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2011/2012

REASON FOR INCLUSION	JUNE 14.06.11	JULY 26.07.11	SEPTEMBER 13.09.11	OCTOBER 25.10.11	DECEMBER 13.12.11	JANUARY 17.01.12	FEBRUARY 28.02.12	APRIL 17.04.12
Cabinet-Referrals and Responses			Response to the 10/11 Policy Review – Role of Culture in Supporting Sustainable Communities (Cllr Kelly)					
Policy Review	Annual Work Programme and Policy Review 2011/2012 (HL)	Policy Review – Scoping (HL) Scene Setting (JDG/VF)	Approach to the Policy Review (HL)	Active Sunderland Board (VF)	Policy Review Progress Report (HL) Community and Education Facilities (HL) 2012 in Sunderland Update (VF)	Sport and Physical Activity Providers (HL/VF/)	Mapping Exercise and Consultation Results (Incorporating Future Priority Sports/Activities (VF) Sport England (I Thurlbeck & J Rasmusson)	Policy Review: Final Report (HL)
Performance			Performance Q4 (KDP) Policy Review Progress (HL)		Performance (KDP)			Performance Policy Review Progress (HL)
Scrutiny	Housing Allocations Policy (AC) Forward Plan (HL)	Private Sector Enforcement Policy 2010/11 – Update (AC) Work Programme (HW) Forward Plan (HW)	Empty Property Plan (AC) Work Programme (HW) Forward Plan (HW)	Empire Theatre Annual Report (VM) Maudlin St (AC) Low Carbon Social Housing Pilot (AC) Work Programme (SA) Forward Plan (SA)	Annual Heritage Report (VM) Built Heritage (ML) Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (AC) Work Programme (SA) Forward Plan (SA)	Cultural Strategy (CDA) Community Development Service and VCS Annual Report (JDG) Enabling Independence Strategy Update (AC) Work Programme (SA) Forward Plan (SA)	Localism Act: Housing (AC) Work Programme (SA) Forward Plan (SA)	Empty Properties Year End (AC) Cultural Strategy Progress (JH) Work Programme (SA) Forward Plan (SA)
CCFA/Members items/Petitions								

**FORWARD PLAN – KEY DECISIONS FOR THE PERIOD 1
MARCH 2012 – 30 JUNE 2012**

REPORT OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE

**STRATEGIC PRIORITIES: SP2: Healthy City; SP3: Safe City; SP5:
Attractive and Inclusive City**

**CORPORATE PRIORITIES: CIO1 Customer focused services; CIO2 One
Council; CIO3 Efficient and effective council; CIO4 Improving
partnership working**

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 March, 2012 – 30 June, 2012.

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.
- 2.2 To this end, the most recent version of the Executive's Forward Plan is included on the agenda of each of the council's Scrutiny Committees. The Forward Plan for the period 1 March, 2012 – 30 June, 2012 is attached at **Appendix A**.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 It should be noted that following member's comments on the Forward Plan, it is presented in its entirety to this Scrutiny Committee. Due to agenda and publication deadlines a revised copy of this information will be circulated at the meeting reflecting any amendments if necessary.
- 3.2 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 March, 2012 – 30 June, 2012.

5. Background Papers
None

Contact Officer : Sarah Abernethy 0191 561 1230
sarah.abernethy@sunderland.gov.uk

Forward Plan - Key Decisions for the period 01/Mar/2012 to 30/Jun/2012



**E Waugh,
Head of Law and Governance,
Sunderland City Council.**

14 February 2012

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2012 to 30/Jun/2012

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
01562	To approve the Public Health Transition plan	Cabinet	14/Mar/2012	Cabinet, Council Directorates, Council Partners connected to health agenda	Discussion and circulation of drafts of the plan through the Early Implementer Health and Wellbeing Board in early draft (public meeting) and advisory boards. Circulation of draft plan through the LSP and on the LSP website	Via the Contact Officer by 22 February 2012 - Health and Well-Being Scrutiny Committee	Public Health Transition Plan for Sunderland and Cabinet paper	Sarah Reed	5611134
01563	To approve the arrangements for admissions to schools in Sunderland for the academic year 2012/2013	Cabinet	14/Mar/2012	All Sunderland schools, CE & RC Diocese, neighbouring LAs, Commercial and Corporate Services	Distribution of documents and publication on website	Via the contact officer by 22 February 2012 - Children, Young People and Learning Scrutiny	DfE Guidance on school admissions	Val Thompson	5611372
01565	To approve the Local Authority Mortgage Scheme	Cabinet	14/Mar/2012	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/or meetings with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 22 February 2012 - Health and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee	Full Report	Phillip Foster	5662042

Forward Plan: Key Decisions from - 01/Mar/2012 to 30/Jun/2012

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
01556	To agree the new Equality Scheme for the Council and respond to the Equality Act 2010.	Cabinet	14/Mar/2012	Citizen Panel, Equality Forums, Voluntary Community Sector Forum, Employees	Briefing and attendance at group sessions.	Via Contact Officer by 22 February 2011 - Management Scrutiny Committee	Cabinet report and Equality Scheme	Jane Hibberd	5614587
01561	To approve the Highway Maintenance Programme for 2012/13.	Executive Director of City Services	18/Apr/2012	Member with Portfolio for Attractive and Inclusive City; Utility Companies; Elected Members;	Meetings; Correspondence	In writing to Decision Taker by 21 March 2012 - Environment and Attractive City Scrutiny Committee	Key Delegated Decision and Report	Graham Carr	5611298
01564	To approve the new Landlords Accreditation Scheme.	Cabinet	18/Apr/2012	Cabinet, Service Users and Ward Members, Portfolio Holders	Briefings and/or meeting with interested parties	Via the Contact Officer by 21 March 2012 - Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Committee	Full Report	Alan Caddick	5662690