

Sustainable Community Strategy – proposed Supplementary Note

Special Committee

Date: 9th December 2009

Author: Leader of the Council; and the Director of Policy, Performance and Communications

Parish / Wards Affected: All

Purpose

- To update the statutory Sustainable Community Strategy – A Shared Vision for Swindon 2008-2030 by way of a Supplementary Note in order to reflect the wish to enhance the local economy by establishing Swindon Commercial Services Limited as a separate legal entity from Swindon Borough Council

Recommendation

Special Committee is requested to:

- Approve the proposed Supplementary Note for inclusion in the Sustainable Community Strategy

1. Reasons

- 1.1 The Council's Sustainable Community Strategy is set out in the "A Shared Vision for Swindon 2008-2030". The aims of the Strategy (inter alia) are that 'all Swindon People are benefiting from our growing economy' (Theme 2), and that Swindon is 'a place where local people can have real influence and where they feel safe' (Theme 6). In order to help promote those aims, the Council has agreed to establish Swindon Commercial Services in the private sector and it is recommended that the Sustainable Community Strategy be updated by way of a supplementary note to recognise this.
- 1.2 The Council consulted the Swindon Strategic Partnership Board on the 10th November 2009 as to how the Sustainable Community Strategy should be amended and the proposed amendments set out below are recommended having regard to the comments received from members of the Board and the guidance of the Secretary of State.

2. Detail

2.1 Proposed amendments to the Sustainable Community Strategy

The following amendments are proposed:

(1) as a new penultimate paragraph on page 12 "Theme 2 - All Swindon people are benefiting from our growing economy" -

Further information on the subject of this report can be obtained from either Matt Gott on *Direct Dial No.463097* or Email mgott@swindon.gov.uk or Stephen Taylor on *Direct Dial No. 463012* or email staylor@swindon.gov.uk.

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"To achieve our ambition of maintaining a prosperous economy and looking towards the challenges of the future Swindon Borough Council has decided to establish Swindon Commercial Services Ltd which will deliver housing related services, environmental and street scene services and other services."

(2) *"Establishing Swindon Commercial Services Ltd"* to be inserted as the final item to the list of page 13 "Theme 2 - All Swindon people are benefiting from our growing economy"

(3) as a new third paragraph on page 20 "Theme 6 - A place where local people can have real influence and where they feel safe" -

"The creation of Swindon Commercial Services Ltd will be a key delivery agency in providing public services to enhance the general well-being of the place in which people live."

(4) *"Establishing Swindon Commercial Services Ltd"* to be inserted as the final item to the list of page 21 "Theme 6 - A place where local people can have real influence and where they feel safe".

Alternative Options

- It is open to the Special Committee to either not approve the proposals or make alternative changes to the Sustainable Community Strategy.

Risk Management

Financial and Procurement Implications

- There are no significant financial implications in relation to the proposed Supplementary Note.
- There are no operational risks associated with the decision to amend the Sustainable Community Strategy. Risks associated with the establishment of Swindon Commercial Services Limited have been separately assessed in the risk register, which is available to members of the Partnership Board, a copy of which will be available at the meeting.

Legal / Human Rights Implications

- In order to modify the sustainable community strategy the Local Government Act 2000, as amended by section 114 of the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007, requires the Council to consult each partner authority and such other persons as the authority considers appropriate and must have regard to any guidance issued by the secretary of state.

Links to Corporate Plans and Policies (in particular to Swindon 2010 Promises)

- The Shared Vision for Swindon 2008-2030 is the overarching vision for the Council and its partners which articulates how we want the Borough to be by 2030.

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Consultees

- The Director of Finance (Section 151 Officer) and Director of Law and Democratic Services (Monitoring Officer) are consulted in respect of all reports.
- Swindon Strategic Partnership Board

Background Papers and Appendices

- Report to the Swindon Strategic Partnership Board on 10th November 2009
- Appendix - the relevant Community Strategy pages are attached as a reference guide

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