


REPORT TO SAFER NEIGHBOURHOODS AND ACTIVE COMMUNITIES SCRUTINY BOARD

22 March 2018

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| Subject: | Update from Scrutiny Work Groups |
| Presenting Member: | Councillor Goult (Vice-Chair) Councillor Hevican (Vice-Chair) |
| Director: | Director - Monitoring Officer - Surjit Tour |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Contact Officer(s): | Alex Goddard, Scrutiny Officer alexander_goddard@sandwell.gov.uk |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board:

1. receives the updates from the Vice-Chairs;
2. considers any recommendations identified by the Scrutiny Work Groups.

1 PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To provide an update on the activity of the two Scrutiny Work Groups established by the Safer Neighbourhoods and Active Communities Scrutiny Board.

2 IMPLICATIONS FOR SANDWELL'S VISION

- 2.1 The issues considered by the Scrutiny Work Groups directly support the following ambitions contained with Vision 2030:-

Ambition 2 – Sandwell is a place where we live healthy lives and live them for longer, and where those of us who are vulnerable feel respected and cared for.

Ambition 5 – Our communities are built on mutual respect and taking care of each other, supported by all the agencies that ensure we feel safe and protected in our homes and local neighbourhoods.

Ambition 7 – We now have many new homes to meet a full range of housing needs in attractive neighbourhoods and close to key transport routes.

Ambition 10 – Sandwell now has a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

3.1 Each Work Group has been led by one of the Scrutiny Board's Vice-Chairs. The Groups have been aligned around two key areas of the Scrutiny Board's terms of reference: housing and crime/anti-social behaviour.

3.2 The Work Groups have:-

- Carried out a pre-decision scrutiny review of the Prevention of Homelessness Strategy;
- Carried out an evidence gathering workshop with partners around vehicle-based anti-social behaviour.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

4.1 The Vice-Chairs will present updates on the activity of their Work Groups and identify any potential areas to make recommendations to Cabinet.

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

5.1 Housing Work Group:

The Work Group did not directly carry out any consultation as part of its pre-decision review of the Prevention of Homelessness Strategy however the national organisation CRISIS had acted as a 'critical friend' during the drafting of the Strategy.

5.2 Crime/Anti-Social Behaviour Work Group:

The Work Group held an evidence gathering workshop with representatives of West Midlands Police and the Wardens Service.

6 **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS**

- 6.1 Alternative options, if identified by the work groups, will be considered in the final work group reports.

7 **STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 Any financial and resource implications arising from the recommendations of a Work Group will be included in the final work group reports.

8 **LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 8.1 Any legal, regulatory, internal governance etc implications arising from the recommendation of a Work Group will be included in the final work group reports.
- 8.2 A scrutiny body discharges the functions conferred by Section 21 (Overview and Scrutiny Committees) of the Local Government Act 2000 and any regulations made under that section.

9 **EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

9.1 Housing Work Group:

An equality impact assessment would be included in the submission of the Prevention of Homelessness Strategy to Cabinet in due course.

9.2 Crime/Anti-Social Behaviour Work Group:

Vision 2030 contains an ambition that our communities are built on mutual respect and taking care of each other. Any specific equality issues will be included in the final Work Group report.

10 **DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

- 10.1 None arising from this report.

11 **CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT**

- 11.1 None arising from this report

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 Sustainability of proposals arising from the recommendations of the Work Groups will be included in the final work group reports.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 Any comments relating to benefits to individuals or the wider community will be included in the final work group reports.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 None arising from this report.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 This is an update report from the Vice-Chairs. Conclusions and recommendations of the work groups will be included in the final work group reports to Board.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

No additional papers.

17 APPENDICES:

None.

Surjit Tour
Director – Monitoring Officer