

Date: 2 January 2008

To: Members of the Scrutiny Commission

Mr MR Lay (Chairman)	Mr DM Gould
Mrs R Camamile (Vice-Chairman)	Mrs A Hall
Mr KWP Lynch (Vice-Chairman)	Mr C Ladkin
Mr JG Bannister	Mr T McClure
Mr P R Batty	Dr JR Moore
Mr PS Bessant	Mr K Morrell
Mr JD Cort	Mr K Nichols
	Mr AJ Smith

Copy to all other Members of the Council


(other recipients for information)

Dear Councillor

There will be a meeting of the **SCRUTINY COMMISSION** in the Council Chamber, Council Offices, Hinckley on **THURSDAY, 10 JANUARY 2008** at **6.30pm** and your attendance is required.

The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Yours sincerely



Pat Pitt
Corporate Governance Officer

SCRUTINY COMMISSION - 10 JANUARY 2008

A G E N D A

1. APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS
- RESOLVED 2. MINUTES

To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 28 November 2007 attached marked 'SC72'.
3. ADDITIONAL URGENT BUSINESS BY REASON OF SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

To be advised of any additional items of business which the Chairman decides by reason of special circumstances shall be taken as matters of urgency at this meeting.
4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive verbally from members any disclosures which they are required to make in accordance with the Council's code of conduct or in pursuance of Section 106 of the Local Government Finance Act 1992. **This is in addition to the need for such disclosure to be also given when the relevant matter is reached on the agenda.**
5. QUESTIONS AND PETITIONS

To hear any questions and to receive any petitions in accordance with Council Procedure Rules 10 and 11.
- RESOLVED 6. HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Report of the Head of Business Development & Streetscene Services attached marked 'SC73' (pages 1 - 14). *A maximum of 25 minutes has been allocated for this item.*
- RESOLVED 7. THE IMPACT OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

Report of the Director of Community and Planning Services attached marked 'SC74' (pages 15 - 28). *A maximum of 20 minutes has been allocated for this item.*
- RESOLVED 8. POVERTY IN THE BOROUGH – INTERIM REPORT

Verbal Update. *A maximum of 15 minutes has been allocated for this item.*

- RESOLVED 9. HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP – END OF YEAR UPDATE
- Report of the Community Safety Manager attached marked 'SC75' (pages 29 - 59). *A maximum of 10 minutes has been allocated for this item.*
- RESOLVED 10. REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S VISION & EMERGING LEICESTERSHIRE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY
- Report of the Head of Business Development and Streetscene Services attached marked 'SC76' (pages 60 - 69). *A maximum of 20 minutes has been allocated for this item.*
- RESOLVED 11. OUT-OF-HOURS GP ACCESS
- Discussion arising from outcome of Scrutiny Workshop (September 2007). *A maximum of 15 minutes has been allocated for this discussion.*
- RESOLVED 12. OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2007/08
- Attached marked 'SC77' (pages 70 - 77).
13. FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL DECISIONS
- Copy attached marked 'SC78' (pages 78 - 83).
- RESOLVED 14. MINUTES OF SELECT COMMITTEES
- For noting only:
- (i) E-Government Scrutiny Panel, 1 October 2007. Attached marked 'SC79' (pages 84 – 85);
 - (ii) Finance & Audit Services Select Committee, 5 November 2007. Attached marked 'SC80' (pages 86 – 89);
 - (iii) Council Services Select Committee, 8 November 2007. Attached marked 'SC81' (pages 90 – 92).
15. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AS MATTERS OF URGENCY

To: All Members of the Scrutiny Commission with a copy to all other Members of the Council.

NOTE: AGENDA ITEMS AGAINST WHICH THE WORD "RESOLVED" APPEARS ARE MATTERS WHICH ARE DELEGATED TO THE COMMISSION FOR A DECISION. OTHER MATTERS ON THIS AGENDA WILL BE THE SUBJECT OF RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL.

HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL
SCRUTINY COMMISSION
28 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mr MR Lay - Chairman
Mrs R Camamile - Joint Vice-Chairman
Mr KWP Lynch - Joint Vice-Chairman

Mr DM Gould, Mrs A Hall, Mr C Ladkin, Mr K Morrell and Mr K Nichols.

In accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.4, Mr R Ward also attended the meeting.

Officers in attendance: Mr S Atkinson, Mr C Bellavia, Mr Michael Brymer, Miss L Horton, Miss R Owen and Mrs S Stacey.

Mr Allan Watson, JBA Consulting, was present for report no SC61 'Strategic Flood Risk Assessment'.

333 APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Messrs Bannister and McClure. It was noted that Mr WJ Crooks had been invited for item 7 on the agenda 'Rural Areas Review – Update on Implementation' as Executive Member for Rural Issues, but had submitted his apologies due to a prior engagement.

334 MINUTES (SC60)

It was noted that Mrs Camamile had sent apologies but these were not recorded in the minutes. It was moved by Mr Nichols, seconded by Mr Lynch and

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meetings held on 11 October 2007 be confirmed subject to the above amendment and signed by the Chairman.

335 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared at this stage.

336 STRATEGIC FLOOD RISK ASSESSMENT (SFRA) FINAL REPORT (SC61)

Allan Watson, Senior Analyst from JBA Consulting, gave a presentation on the Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, outlining high risk areas and those that would be suitable for development. Members expressed concern with regard to the role of the local water authority and the apparent lack of responsibility taken by them for many issues.

RESOLVED

- (i) the findings of the report be noted;
- (ii) adoption of the report as part of the evidence base in the production of the Local Development Framework be supported.

337 RURAL AREAS REVIEW – UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION (SC62)

Members were updated on progress of the implementation of the Rural Areas Review undertaken by the Scrutiny Commission on 2005/06 and 2006/07. Members reiterated that the review had been worthwhile and there had been progress as a result.

Concern was expressed with regard to the allocation of monies from the Parish Initiative Fund, and in response it was stated that there had not been many applications for funding during the previous year. It was felt that this may be due to lack of publicity amongst Parish Councils, which was being addressed.

With regard to rural housing and in response to a Members' question, it was stated that discussions were being resumed with Twycross Parish Council to commence a housing needs survey. Mr Morrell asked whether an 'Affordable Homes Champion' had been appointed, and whether his name could be put forward if this had not yet been agreed.

Members requested that a further progress report on the implementation of outcomes from the Rural Areas Review be brought to the Commission in 12 months' time.

RESOLVED

- (i) Mr Morrell be put forward as 'Affordable Housing Champion' if this has not yet been agreed;
- (ii) A further report be brought to the Scrutiny Commission in 12 months' time;
- (iii) Progress made to date be noted and future planned actions be endorsed;
- (iv) The Executive Member be asked to produce an annual report.

338 LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP (LSP) REVIEW – INTERIM REPORT (SC63)

Members received a report which outlined comments made by Partners of the Local Strategic Partnership from the interview of witnesses at the previous meeting of the Commission. Generally Members felt that although the answers and information provided was positive, further evidence of tangible outcomes was required. Members felt that they still required further information with regard to how the LSP spends its money. Examples of outcomes delivered were the Community Transport Scheme and the evaluation of the 'What's Going Down' activities.

RESOLVED

- (i) A breakdown of expenditure of the LSP be requested;
- (ii) A further report be received in January.

339 SHELTERED HOUSING REVIEW (SC71)

The Scrutiny Commission received a report which advised of the Housing Task Group's preferred option for the reconfiguration of the Council's Sheltered Housing Service. It was noted that they had supported Flexible Option 2, as detailed in 5.2 and 5.3 of the report.

The Scrutiny Commission wished to express their thanks to the Housing Task Group and the officers for their hard work, and felt that although they still had some concerns with regard to the scheme, the option recommended was the most suitable for all concerned and offered flexibility for future development of the service.

RECOMMENDED – the Executive agrees to Flexible Option 2 as the preferred option.

340 PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK (SC64)

Members were provided with the Council's performance position for the first six months of 2007/08 and an update on the Council's future planning arrangements. It was noted that there had been continued improvement, although the sickness absence figures had increased slightly in October.

Concern was expressed with regard to time taken to re-let housing and it was agreed that a report be brought to the Council Services Select Committee to allow Members to look at possible reasons for this including any changes in regulations which may be a mitigating factor.

RESOLVED

- (i) The Council's continued improvement be acknowledged;
- (ii) A report on time taken to re-let housing be provided to the Council Services Select Committee.

341 RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – 6 MONTHLY REPORT (SC65)

A report was presented to Members which advised on progress to manage strategic and operational risks and the development of the Council's risk management arrangements.

The Chairman of the Finance & Audit Services Select Committee reported that he had requested that risk management reports be supplied on a six-monthly basis. The Scrutiny Commission agreed the recommendations without further debate.

RESOLVED

- (i) The report and recommendations contained therein be endorsed;
- (ii) Future reports be submitted on a 6-monthly basis.

342 DEVELOPING THE WORK PROGRAMME (SC66)

Members received a report which informed them of the latest publication from the Centre for Public Scrutiny on how Overview and Scrutiny could help local authorities meet their equalities duties.

RESOLVED – the Scrutiny Commission

- (i) addresses equality issues within its work programme;
- (ii) includes equalities implications in respect of items/topics on the its agenda and reports on progress of its progress to monitor equality schemes in the annual report;
- (iii) reviews the Council's progress on equalities as part of the Work Programme.

343 OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2008 (SC67)

Members gave consideration to the Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2007/2008. It was agreed that the meeting in February be held on the 19 February 2008.

RESOLVED – the work programme be noted with additions as agreed at this meeting.

344 CABINET FORWARD PLAN (SC68)

Members received the Forward Plan of Cabinet and Council decisions and were given the opportunity to ask to scrutinise any of the reports listed.

RESOLVED – the Forward Plan be noted.

345 MINUTES OF SELECT COMMITTEES / SCRUTINY PANELS

RESOLVED – the following minutes be received:

- (i) Council Services Select Committee – 27 September 2007 (SC69);
- (ii) Housing Task Group – 25 October 2007 (SC70).

(The meeting closed at 7.47pm)

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 10 JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & STREETSCENE SERVICES RE: HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To set out the costs, achievements and added value of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP).

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 It is recommended that Members:

- (i) Review the content of the report,
- (ii) Identify any questions or issues that arise from the report,
- (iii) Make any recommendations for the future role and delivery of the LSP.

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

3.1 LSPs are a single body that;

- brings together at a local level the different parts of the public sector as well as the private, business, community and voluntary sectors so that different initiatives and services support each other and work together
- is a non-statutory partnership
- provides a single overarching local co-ordination framework within which other partnerships can operate
- is responsible for developing and driving the implementation of Sustainable Community Strategies (or Community Plans) and Local Area Agreements

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/localgovernment/performanceframeworkpartnerships/localstrategicpartnerships/>

3.2 Local Strategic Partnerships (LSPs) and Community Strategies were introduced as a result of the Local Government Act 2000. They have helped make great strides to improve the local quality of life. LSPs are now established in all areas and are working in an increasingly complex and challenging environment with important expectations being placed on them.

<http://www.communities.gov.uk/publications/localgovernment/localstrategicpartnerships>

- 3.3 It is intended that from 2009 the audit regime for local authorities will be based on Comprehensive Area Assessment {CAA} (replacing the Comprehensive Performance Assessment – CPA). The CAA is intended to focus on outcomes secured by local authorities working alone or in partnership in areas – as opposed to the focus on local authority delivery in the CPA. It will therefore need to reflect the contribution of all local authorities (i.e. districts and counties in two tier areas), other local partners and the transparency, effectiveness and inclusiveness of local partnership working arrangements in meeting the range of needs and aspirations of local communities and citizens.
- 3.4 The Hinckley and Bosworth LSP was first established in 2000 under the name “Activ8”. The LSP is currently simply called the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership.
- 3.5 The first Community Plan was published in 2002 covering the period to 2007. The second Community Plan was published in June 2007.
- 3.6 The LSP recently undertook a self assessment through a dedicated meeting. The self assessment is included as Appendix 1.
- 3.7 In addition the LSP has recently undertaken a Peer Challenge, (representatives from other localities assess the effectiveness and impact of the LSP). A summary of the results of the Peer Challenge are included as Appendix 2.

4. THE PURPOSE AND ROLE OF THE HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH LSP

- 4.1 The LSP gathers evidence about the state of the borough and the issues facing it, sets priorities and develops plans of action to achieve them. It also monitors progress towards the priorities. The main way that it does all this is through the [Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan](#). The priorities in the Plan form the starting point for the work of the LSP, from which different projects, schemes and work programmes are developed.
- 4.2 The LSP develops an annual action plan setting out how it will work to implement the Community Plan. The current Action Plan is provided as Appendix 3.
- 4.3 Rather than holding its own funds and employing its own staff, the LSP works by drawing upon the resources of its members. At times it can also help them to secure extra resources from central Government or elsewhere based on its evidence of the needs of the borough. Sometimes the LSP will ask some of its members to work together to develop and carry out a new project, while in other cases it may achieve its priorities by influencing their policies or by helping them improve the way they provide their existing services - for example by working better together.

5. STRUCTURE AND ACCOUNTABILITY OF HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH LSP

- 5.1 The Hinckley and Bosworth LSP is led and convened by HBBC. The Partnership has a Board (a list of members is provided in Appendix 3) which

is chaired by the Leader of the Council supported by the Deputy Chief Executive.

- 5.2 The Board makes key decisions for the partnership and identifies and agrees actions. A key part of the role of the Board is to agree a Community Plan, setting out the priorities for the area over the next five years, and the Local Area Agreement. The Board is supported by an Implementation Group which is responsible for ensuring that the decisions made by the LSP Board are implemented.
- 5.3 Many of the priorities identified in the Community Plan are delivered by specific organisations. However the LSP Board identifies where joint action by a number of organisations working together will help to meet priorities and includes these in its annual Action Plan.
- 5.4 The LSP sets up task groups as required to drive forward specific projects; for instance the Economic Theme Group.
- 5.5 The LSP Board also receives reports from a number of other agencies and partnerships that set out how they are progressing with delivering on the agreed priorities of the Community Plan and how these are contributing to achieving the agreed outcomes.
- 5.6 The LSP formally reports to the Cabinet and SLB and through the production of a Quarterly Report. Any significant decisions made by the LSP are taken through the appropriate formal decision making process within HBBC.
- 5.7 Councillors from outside the Cabinet are invited to attend to the LSP Board meetings as observers.

6. **ACHIEVEMENTS OF HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH LSP AND COMPARISON WITH ITS "NEAREST NEIGHBOURS"**¹

- 6.1 The achievements identified by the Hinckley and Bosworth LSP are set out in table 6.1 below.
- 6.2 The list of achievements set out the practical activities driven forward by or developed and delivered through the LSP. However, a key part of the role for the LSP is to develop relationships between the partner organisations so that each organisation applies its own resources in support of the priorities identified in the agreed Community Plan. The Community Plan is increasingly being used by LSP members as part of their service planning approach.
- 6.3 The indirect benefits of the partnership in terms of any improved working relationship between the different partners or the influence working in partnership has on the strategies and delivery of service by the partners are not possible to assess. However, the findings for the Peer Challenge (see Appendix 2) do give an indication of the strengths and weaknesses of these indirect achievements.

¹ "Nearest Neighbours" in this context means those Boroughs and Districts that are most similar to Hinckley and Bosworth based on a series of key statistics.

Table 6.1 Hinckley and Bosworth LSP Achievements

Date	Activity	Impact
2004 onwards	<p><u>Gwendoline (Community) House</u> The LSP drove forward the development of Gwendoline House providing for community activities and developed to reduce local crime and anti-social behaviour</p>	We are not aware of any specific evaluation of the impact of Gwendoline House.
2004 onwards	<p><u>Hinckley and Bosworth Youth Council</u> Working with Leicestershire County Council, HBBC developed and launched a Youth Council to provide a means by which young people could have their voices heard with regard to developing projects and services.</p>	We are not aware of any specific evaluation of the Impact of the Youth Council
2004 onwards	<p><u>What's going down?</u> This is publication providing information to young people about activities during the summer holidays with the aim of increasing take up of these activities and reducing the levels of anti-social and nuisance behaviour. The publication has now been produced for past 4 years.</p>	No assessment on the impact of the publication. However, this is currently being evaluated.
2006	<p><u>Smoke Free Hinckley and Bosworth</u> The LSP developed a Smoke-free charter a service encouraging people to quit smoking and offering advice to employers about encouraging quitters</p>	In 2006 / 2007 the Primary Care Trust achieved 83% of its target for quitting smoking. No evaluation is available for the impact of the Smoke Free Charter

Date	Activity	Impact
2006 onwards	<p><u>Local Area Agreement</u></p> <p>The LSP contributed to the development of the Local Area Agreement for Leicestershire with Leicestershire Together. The LAA process secures resources for Hinckley and Bosworth into a number of work areas and for a number of the partners of the LSP. Specific examples directly related to resources for key projects of the LSP are detailed elsewhere.</p>	<p>The LAA is an agreement with between organisations across Leicestershire and central government setting out very clear outcomes and achievements against which performance will be measured. The agreements are reviewed annually and include “stretch targets” which if met release further additional resources from central government. The impact of the LAA is measured through an agreed performance framework. It is too early to assess the impact of this work.</p>
2006 – 2007	<p><u>Hinckley and Bosworth Community Plan</u></p> <p>The LSP directed the development of the new Community Plan published in 2007. The document sets out a Vision and priorities for the Borough and is signed up to be all the partners.</p>	<p>The plan itself has no impact but the ability to deliver on the priorities will be measured through an agreed performance management framework engaging all partners</p>
2007 onwards	<p><u>Stronger Communities</u></p> <p>The Stronger Communities Project is funded across the County through the Local Area Agreement. The work is led in Hinckley and Bosworth by Voluntary Action Hinckley and Bosworth</p>	<p>The impact of the Stronger Communities work will be assessed against agreed performance measures agreed in the local area agreement. This work is in its early stages and therefore it is not yet possible to assess the impact</p>

Date	Activity	Impact
2007 onwards	<p><u>Neighbourhood Management</u></p> <p>New neighbourhood management arrangements have been established across Leicestershire through negotiation between Leicestershire Together and the District LSPs. In Hinckley and Bosworth four areas have been agreed as places to have a Neighbourhood Management (Earl Shilton, Barwell, Markfield and Bagworth and Thornton). Hinckley and Bosworth LSP have commissioned Voluntary Action Hinckley and Bosworth to lead this project, overseen by the LSP Board.</p>	<p>The impact of Neighbourhood Management will be assessed against agreed performance measures agreed in the local area agreement. This work is in its early stages and therefore it is not yet possible to assess the impact</p>
2007 - onwards	<p><u>Community Transport Initiative</u></p> <p>Established a pilot Community Transport Initiative to enable elderly and disabled people better access to services</p>	<p>Too early to assess impact</p>
2007	<p><u>Performance Management of the Community Plan</u></p> <p>The LSP is developing a performance management framework for the Community Plan</p>	<p>This will be aligned with the Local Area Agreement and used to help measure the impact of the work of all the partners.</p>

6.4 Making a comparison with the achievements of other LSPs is extremely difficult. Some LSPs cite the achievements of all the sub-partnerships regardless of whether or not these have been instigated or overseen by the LSP Board. Some also include the specific achievements of individual partners even where these have not been driven or delivered by the LSP Board. Also what each LSP considers an achievement also varies.

6.5 The comparison was made by speaking to a senior officer responsible for the LSP in 6 of the “nearest neighbour” authorities and by reviewing publicly available information on local authority or LSP websites. This approach does have some limitations in terms of completeness. However, officers were asked to identify all significant achievements.

6.6 A summary of what a number of the nearest neighbours cite as their achievements is provided in table 6.2 below.

Table 6.2 Achievements cited by “nearest neighbour” LSPs

Local Authority	Achievements
High Peak²	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No information available
South Staffordshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Steered a successful Invest to Save Bid • Set up the a Children’s Board to direct services to children • Set up a pilot of a neighbourhood management process • Reviewed and republished the Community Strategy • Negotiated the Local Area Agreement
Lichfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Redeveloped the LSP Board • Supported the operational development of a town centre anti-social behaviour Joint Action Group • Negotiated the Local Area Agreement • Published the Community Strategy / Plan
Newark and Sherwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Published a Community Plan • Improved information exchange between partners • Prepared the groundwork for agreeing the Local Area Agreement • Developed a performance management system • Secured financial support (£50K) to support Market Town Regeneration including additional CCTV in Southwell and Ollerton and a subsidy towards the running of an Eco-Shop • Completed feasibility study of a “Learning Champions” programme

² High Peak has a joint LSP with Derbyshire Dales

Local Authority	Achievements
Staffordshire Moorlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed and published the Community Plan • Negotiated the Local Area Agreement • Multi-lateral arrangements developed for Neighbourhood Management • The development of improved community facilities • More alignment between the business plans of the partner organisations
Gedling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publishing the Community Plan • The development of joint area based initiatives • Development of a one-stop youth shop through joint operational activity • Negotiation of the Local Area Agreement

6.7 The review of achievement of LSPs from the “nearest neighbours” and a comparison with the achievements lead to a number of conclusions;

- a) Many of the LSPs report improved relationships between partner organisations that helps in the development and delivery of improvements locally.
- b) All the LSPs are able to cite some examples of joint working between partners. These are often at an operational level and are rarely led by the LSP Board.
- c) None of the LSPs are able to identify specific impacts of the work of the LSP and acknowledge that there is a need to improve the evaluation and monitoring of the impact of the work of the LSP. Most of the LSPs have already or are developing performance management tools to aid the identification of problems and the focus on delivering solutions.
- d) Many of the LSPs cite improved processes for information sharing, communication, and establishing priorities as some of their key achievements. This in all cases includes developing a Community Plan and the negotiation of the Local Area Agreement.
- e) All the LSPs cite their increasing focus on developing neighbourhood or area management as a key current development. These are often developed through some pooled or joint funding arrangements.

6.8 Based on the comparison of the achievements of Hinckley and Bosworth LSP and other LSPs the type and level of achievements appear to be similar. They have a focus on improving relationships and processes, a further focus on developing joint approaches to neighbourhood management in key areas and a developing approach to performance assessment and management.

6.9 The comparison also indicates that there is an increasing amount of joint working at an operational level that does not involve the LSP Board. This developing approach to delivery is in some part due to improved relationships and commitment to partnership working amongst the key agencies of the

LSPs. Again this is not dissimilar to progress of this type in Hinckley and Bosworth.

7. COMPARISON OF THE HUMAN AND FINANCIAL RESOURCES APPLIED TO LSPS

7.1 The resources provided to support the Hinckley and Bosworth LSP by all partners is presented in the table below.

Financial resources	2006/ 2007	2007/ 2008	2008/ 2009
<u>Core Funding</u> ³			
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council		£10,000	£10,000
<u>Project Funding</u> ⁴	£10,000	£10,000	£10,000
Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council	£11,000	£11,000	£11,000
Voluntary Action Hinckley and Bosworth			
Leicestershire County Council	£5,000	£30,000 ⁵	£5,000
Total	£26,000	£26,000	£26,000

Human Resources ⁶	Days per year	Total
<u>Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council</u>		
• Deputy Chief Executive	10	170
• Strategic and Community Planning Officer (support and secretariat)	140	
• Members	20	
<u>Partners</u>		
• Leicestershire Police • Primary Care Trust • Leicestershire County Council • Voluntary Action Hinckley and Bosworth (8 – 20 days each per year)	32 - 80	41 - 89
<u>Other partners</u>		
• Association of Parish Councils • Business representative from the Economic Network • Business representative from the Hinckley Town Centre Partnership (2 - 6 days each per year)	9	
		211 - 259

³ In 2007/2008 this has included publishing the Community Plan, "What's Going Down" and a number of small scale initiatives

⁴ This is mainly for the Neighbourhood Management and Stronger Communities Project with some funding for the Community Transport Initiative

⁵ £25,000 towards vehicle purchase for the Community Transport Initiative

⁶ All these figures are crude estimates for the contribution made by different organisations to the Local Strategic Partnership Board and Implementation Group such as attending meetings and developing projects.

- 7.2 Making a comparison of resources applied to the LSP of the “nearest neighbours” is complicated by different organisations differentiating between LSP activity and core activity of the authority in different ways. The roles of officers directly engaged with LSPs are often not confined to the LSP. The activities that are typical of these officers include providing policy support and performance management for the authority and not just the LSP. When discussing resources some LSPs include resources offered to the wider partnerships that exist such as Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships, town centre partnerships and a range of other theme based arrangements associated with the LSP and partnership working in general. This does mean that it is like comparing apples and pears.
- 7.3 In most of the authorities contacted the link between supporting LSPs and their role, and the core business of working with partner organisations in different ways have become part of the core business.
- 7.4 Nevertheless an attempt to assess the resource inputs into LSPs in comparable local authorities has been made. The results of this comparison are provided in Table 7.1 below.
- 7.5 Based on this comparison the resource input from Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council for the LSP is broadly similar to those of the “nearest neighbour” LSPs.
- 7.6 The key officer responsible is generally committed between half and full-time to the LSP and is supported by a half or full-time assistant or administrative support. A number of the LSPs have control of dedicated resources to support the running of the LSP in the region of £10,000.
- 7.7 In addition to these “core” resources a number of LSPs are able to secure additional project finance. This additional resource allocation is rarely in the control of the LSP directly but is committed as a result of initial ideas and suggestions from the LSPs.

Table 7.1 Comparative resource inputs to LSPs

Local authority	Financial Resources	Human Resources
High Peak	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £5,000 core funding for the work of the LSP Board from the High Peak Council • £6,250 from Derbyshire County Council to support the LSP • £5,000 from Derbyshire Dales Council 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50 - 100 days a year Policy and Community Planning Officer (High Peak) • c24 days a year Partnership Manager • 10 – 20 days senior officer time (High Peak) • Support and administration (not dedicated to the LSP)
South Staffordshire	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No dedicated resources • £20K - £40K is available through stretch targets for specific programme though it is unclear if this is committed to and controlled by the LSP 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 days for Partnership co-ordinator (includes oversight of a wide variety of partnerships associated with the LSP) • 220 days dedicated administration support • 20 – 50 days management support (Located in Primary Care Trust – and jointly funded by South Staffordshire)
Lichfield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No core funding controlled by the LSP • No other funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • c100 days per year Regeneration Manager • c10 days senior officer time • Support and administration (not dedicated to the LSP)
Newark and Sherwood	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £10,000 core funding from LSP from Newark and Sherwood • £30,000 secured from Sub-regional Strategic Partnership (SSP) for Town Centre regeneration • £5,000 for Learning Champions feasibility study 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • c220 days per year from Community Planning Officer (full-time) • 20 – 40 days of senior officer support • No dedicated administration support
Staffordshire Moorlands	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No core funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 220 days Community Planning Officer (full-time) • c20 – 40 days of senior officer support • Full-time dedicated administration support
Gedling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £8,000 core funding from Gedling Council • £9,000 core funding from Nottinghamshire County Council • Primary Care Trust directly funds a number of joint initiatives around the health agenda 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • c160 days LSP Co-ordinator • c20 – 40 days of senior officer support • c100 days administration and support

8. ADDED VALUE

- 8.1 Assessing the added value of Local Strategic Partnerships is difficult to complete in a scientific way; there are many imponderables. A review conducted by Warwick University⁷ on behalf of the then Office of the Deputy Prime Minister suggests that LSPs should use the concept of “proportionate value” when assessing their contribution; *“By this we mean that an assessment should be made of the outcomes achieved, and value added in relation to the resource demands of the LSP. In relation to this, it can be noted that in one of the case studies reference was made to the ‘good value’ delivered by the LSP because it was achieving progress on the basis of very limited resources. On the other hand, several case studies make reference to the ‘bureaucracy’ of LSP processes, suggesting that proportionate value is not being achieved. We continue to think that many LSPs should do more, in the context of performance management arrangements, to identify ‘proportionate value’.”*
- 8.2 Assessing the “proportionate value” is a question of judgement and perception. Assessing the “proportionate value” of Hinckley and Bosworth LSP and comparing the added value achieved by other LSPs is therefore also a matter of judgement and perception.
- 8.3 Through the research many of the LSPs claim that much of the added value is related to improved relationships, processes, information sharing and alignment between the partners. Drawing any quantifiable conclusions through the comparison of different LSPs is therefore extremely difficult at present.

9. CONCLUSIONS

- 9.1 Overall it is not possible at present to assess and compare the added value of LSPs in a quantifiable manner. A judgement about added value or proportionate value is particularly difficult given that different LSPs count and account for the use of their resources in different ways.
- 9.2 Overall based on the comparisons that have been made, and expressed in this report Hinckley and Bosworth appears to invest a similar amount of resources to the LSP as the nearest neighbours.
- 9.3 Similarly the impacts and achievements of the Hinckley and Bosworth LSP appear similar to that which is achieved by the nearest neighbour LSPs. Much of the achievement is around soft issues such as improved relationships between partners, better information sharing, increased opportunities for joint operational working and the development of neighbourhood management initiatives.
- 9.4 Generally there are no existing mechanisms for comparing added value or proportionate value for LSPs.

⁷ National Evaluation of Local Strategic Partnerships: Formative Evaluation and Action Research Programme 2002–2005 Final Report; http://www.ljmu.ac.uk/EIUA/EIUA_Docs/Evaluation_of_LSPs_Final_Report.pdf

- 9.5 In many respects the LSPs all provide a vehicle for delivering core business through partnerships.
- 9.6 The development of Local Area Agreements and the Comprehensive Area Assessment approach will increase the need for local authorities to work effectively with other agencies to achieve the impact in the community that is being expected. The effectiveness of partnership working at the district level will to some degree impact on how able the local authority is to demonstrate real improvements for local people.
- 9.7 The increasing emphasis placed by all the LSPs on developing performance management frameworks is indicative of the desire and need to assess the effectiveness of partnership arrangements. In the future these performance management frameworks will provide a mechanism to better compare the effectiveness of LSPs in creating real improvement and impact for residents.
- 9.8 The conclusions of the Peer Challenge, whilst not focussed on comparing different LSPs, are therefore key to enabling the Hinckley and Bosworth LSP to identify how it might improve its working practices and processes to enable it to influence outcomes in the community.

10. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [MD]

- 10.1 The financial and other resource contributions made by the Borough Council are detailed in Section 7 above. Provision has been made in the approved Community Planning Supplies and Services revenue budget for the Council's financial contributions.

11. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (LH)

- 11.1 There are no legal implications raised by this report, the report identifies the legal issues within the background information.

12. CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS

- 12.1 The contents of the report relate to and support the strategic aim 'reliability in partnership working'.

13. CONSULTATION

- 13.1 Consultation with other local authorities on the performance of their Local Strategic Partnership.

14. RISK IMPLICATIONS

- 14.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives. It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision/project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

14.2 No significant risks have been identified within this report.

15. RURAL IMPLICATIONS

15.1 The publication considers all aspects of equality and diversity

16. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

16.1 There are no specific implications relating to this interim report.

Background Papers:

- Appendix 1 – LSP self-assessment
- Appendix 2 – Summary of the LSP Peer Challenge
- Appendix 3 – Membership of the Partnership Board

Contact Officer: Michael Brymer
Head of Business Development & Street Scene Services

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 10 JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF COMMUNITY AND PLANNING SERVICES
RE: THE IMPACT OF THE LICENSING ACT 2003

1. **PURPOSE OF REPORT**

- 1.1 To inform Scrutiny Commission of the impact of the licensing legislation in respect of the Licensing Act 2003.

2. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 2.1 That Scrutiny Commission consider the content of the report.
- 2.3 That the Scrutiny Commission refers any comments back to Licensing Committee, particularly in respect of any changes which are considered necessary to the present arrangements in the licensing process for community involvement via Ward Members.

3. **BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT**

- 3.1 The Licensing Act 2003 (The Act), which came fully into force in November 2005, introduced a unified system of regulation of “licensable activities”, including: retail sale of alcohol; supply of alcohol in “private members” clubs; provision of Regulated Entertainment; and provision of late night refreshment.
- 3.2 The Act also transferred responsibility for licensing premises selling alcohol from the Magistrates Court to local authorities and repealed a raft of out-dated licensing legislation.
- 3.3 The Act was primarily deregulatory, seeking to provide increased freedoms and flexibilities and reduced burdens for businesses, but it did also require a sharp focus on four statutory Licensing Objectives to be addressed when licensing functions are undertaken; these being:-
- Prevention of crime and disorder;
 - Public safety;
 - Prevention of public nuisance; and
 - Protection of children from harm.
- 3.4 The main aim of reform was to deliver a balance of protections for local communities by providing better tools for themselves and the authorities to deal with problem premises, licensees and the protection of vulnerable individuals, whilst also providing the flexibility expected by consumers in a modern society and enabling responsible businesses to meet those demands.
- 3.5 This created a necessary focus on the risks posed to the public by the ongoing licensed activities. Licensing authorities, enforcement agencies and applicants are all required to work together to promote the objectives for the well-being of the

wider community. The Act prohibits the imposition of conditions and restrictions on licensed premises unless they are necessary for the promotion of one or more of the objectives following a written representation.

- 3.6 The other area of change came in terms of increased community involvement with the licensing process, including development of local licensing policy, making representations about applications and requesting the Licensing Authority to undertake a review of a premises licence, none of which formed part of the previous licensing regimes.

4.0 Transitional Period – The Local Picture

- 4.1 The purpose of the transitional period was to enable all existing licence holders of Alcohol, Theatre, Late Night Refreshment and Public Entertainment Licences to convert their existing licence to a premises licence or club premises certificate and enable them to continue to trade once the Licensing Act was fully implemented.
- 4.2 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council's 350 affected premises had from 7 February 2005 until 6 August 2005 to apply for a licence under the new Licensing Act if they were to enjoy "grandfather rights". Despite widespread publicity and liaison with the trade by the council including workshops and individual appointments, 50 percent left it until the last two months and the majority of these left it until during the month before 6 August 2005.
- 4.3 While this was anticipated when it was combined with the rejection rate, the process caused considerable difficulty for the licensing team who were working out of normal hours to process the applications and the additional 190 licence variations.
- 4.4 Around 390 personal licences which authorise the sale of alcohol were also being processed at that time. There were estimated to be about a dozen applications for existing premises outstanding some of which were from late night refreshment-type premises, although some were in respect of premises selling alcohol.
- 4.5 If licences were not in place for all these premises by the second appointed day Thursday 24 November 2005, they were not able to trade legally. Plans had been formulated with the police to appropriately deal with unlicensed premises.
- 4.6 The complex nature of the statutory application forms (some 22 pages long in respect of a transition and a variation application) plus the mandatory inclusion of existing licences and proper plans of the premises etc. and the necessity to properly advertise the application, resulted in some applications being invalid.
- 4.7 As a consequence, 53 (over 15 percent) of the initial applications received were rejected, even though it was mostly solicitors or staff in the main offices of the larger breweries who completed these applications.
- 4.8 Following the necessary consultation process, the Council received representations in relation to 30 premises applications involving variations: some were from the police and environmental health (mainly noise nuisance), but the majority from local residents.

- 4.9 Hearings were convened before the licensing sub-committee to determine each application. The hearings had to follow a prescribed format and involve the production of comprehensive detailed reports, which must be sent to each objector, which on occasions has numbered in excess of 20.
- 4.10 As well as the time involved to prepare each report, a licensing officer must attend each hearing, lasting on average two and a half hours.
- 4.11 As the licensing hearings began to tail off, the next challenging piece of work was the preparation and issuing of the licences themselves.
- 4.12 This was not a function that could be automated particularly at that time as the licensing system in operation could not generate the required licences and each one had to be inputted manually via Microsoft Word.
- 4.13 Each licence is unique to that particular business: different hours of operation, different forms of regulated entertainment, different conditions. Great care had to be taken by the Licensing Officers to ensure the documents were correct, especially where there was a hearing and the conditions were altered on that day.

5.0 **Licence Applications**

- 5.1 The Licensing Act 2003 placed the responsibility for notification of applications on the applicant and defines the extent of notification required. Any Premises or Club who wish to be granted a licence/certificate (or who wish to vary an existing one) are required by the Act to send copies of their full application to the Authority and to the “responsible authorities”.

Additionally the Act requires that they:

- i) Display a prescribed Notice prominently at or on the premises to which the application relates where it can be conveniently read from the exterior of the premises by the public for a period of not less than 28 consecutive days;
- ii) Publish a Notice in a local newspaper or, if there is none, in a local newsletter, circular or similar document, circulating in the vicinity of the premises on at least one occasion during the period of 10 working days starting on the day after the day on which the application was given to the relevant licensing authority.

- 5.2 This “public notification” requirement is the same as that which was in place under the Licensing Act 1964.
- 5.3 An individual Licensing Authority cannot require an applicant to undertake additional notification over and above that required by the Act.
- 5.4 The only persons who can make representations about an application are the “responsible authorities” (Police, Environmental Health etc) and “interested parties”. Essentially these are people who live or operate a business in the vicinity of the premises to which the application relates (or someone representing that person). Vicinity is not defined.

- 5.5 All “interested parties” and “responsible authorities” have a period of 28 days in which they can make representations to the Authority about an application. If the Authority considers that the representations are relevant it must hold a hearing to consider those representations, unless all parties agree that this is unnecessary.
- 5.6 This latter reference is a further key aspect of public involvement, in that the Act allows and the guidance encourages mediation between applicant and objector, such that the two parties come together to agree a compromise, or additional controls that will make the application acceptable and remove the need for a hearing. This is a regular feature of applications under the new regime.
- 5.7 The Expecting ‘Great Things’ study (The Impact of The Licensing Act 2003 on Democratic Involvement, Dispersal and Drinking Cultures, University of Westminster July 2007), quotes one late night operator in particular as stating that “it has forced individual pubs to really engage in their community and understand what is acceptable and what is not acceptable”.
- 5.8 Following this 28 day period, the Authority will then have choices as to how it proceeds depending upon what is necessary for the promotion of the licensing objectives. It may:
- Decide to grant or vary the licence/certificate in the same terms as it was applied for;
 - Decide that it is necessary to refuse to issue or vary the licence/certificate;
 - Decide to grant or vary the licence/certificate, but to modify the conditions;
 - Exclude from the scope of the licence/certificate a licensable activity.
- 5.9 Any decision made by a licensing authority can be appealed, within 21 days, to the Magistrates by either the applicant, a “responsible authority”, or an “interested party”. If no relevant representations are made then the application must be granted as applied for.
- 5.10 The Licensing Authority is required to publish a register of all licences it issues. This register is available on the Council Website and is also available at the Council Offices.
- 5.11 In addition to the public register required by the Act, Licensing also publishes, on the Council Website, a register of all applications awaiting determination.
- 5.12 Under the existing notification arrangements public representations have been received in relation to approximately one tenth of all applications to which representations could have been made. This level has remained consistent from April 2005 to date.
- 5.13 Consideration has been given, on a number of occasions, to undertaking additional notifications direct to residents and others in the vicinity of premises. A very recent change in the latest issue of the statutory guidance now makes it possible to re-consider this position. If Members consider changes to the present arrangements are necessary it is perhaps this aspect that Members might wish to consider first.
- 5.14 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council’s current practice does not involve direct notification to residents and others who may be affected by activities at a licensed premise. To date the authority has been concerned that if it chose to do so this

might be viewed as the authority soliciting for objections, thereby undermining the impartiality that it must maintain and placing the authority at risk of legal challenge for acting outside its powers.

The Authority is not alone in this stance. The majority of Councils not undertaking direct notification to residents appear, similar to Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, to have adopted/maintained that stance primarily to avoid any apparent reduction to impartiality, but in some cases also because they do not consider that such an exercise would significantly increase public involvement.

5.15 The most common comparison made has been with planning applications where direct notifications are sent to neighbouring residents. However, there is a very clear difference between the legal frameworks governing licensing and planning. The Licensing Act places the requirement to notify responsible authorities and the general public on the applicant, whereas planning legislation places that requirement on the Local Planning Authority, requiring them to publicise planning applications and as a minimum to either erect a site notice for 21 days, or serve notice on adjoining owner or occupiers.

5.16 If the Licensing Authority were to start directly notifying residents and others who may be affected by activities at a licensed premises, there are a number of implications that need to be considered, including:

- **Who the notifications would be sent to** – if the purpose of the notification is to notify those who may be affected by the licensed activities proposed, presumably to enable them to make representations about the application should they wish to do so, then the notification should be no wider than to those in the vicinity of the premises. However, if the authority were to seek to define vicinity and to notify all in the vicinity this could actually have a restricting impact on public involvement as the authority may not then be able to consider representations from persons who were not notified, on the basis that it had already decided that they were not in the vicinity and therefore are not an “interested party”.
- **Additional cost** – there would be additional costs associated with this notification process, including direct financial costs such as mailing costs. There will also be staffing resource implications. Whilst it is difficult to accurately assess how much staff time this process would take up, if it is to be delivered within existing resources, it inevitably means spending less time on something else.
- **Neutrality** – It would be essential that, any notification is done in a neutral way that cannot be seen as ‘soliciting’ representations. In light of the above implications and the uncertain additional public involvement that might result, if Members are minded to introduce direct notification, they may also wish to consider the merits of doing so on a trial basis so as to enable full monitoring and consideration of the costs and benefits of such a practice.

6.0 Monitoring Compliance / Complaints.

6.1 Residents also have much greater scope for monitoring compliance and registering complaints about premises than ever before. Access to licensing information and to the Licensing Authority itself has been improved enormously. Under the old regime, once the licence was issued residents had no direct access to the Licensing Authority and no way of requiring that authority to re-consider a licence.

- 6.2 As stated previously the Licensing Act 2003 introduced a requirement for Licensing Authorities to publish a public register of all licences issued, the availability of this register enables residents to obtain information about the activities and operating hours a premises is licensed for.
- 6.3 The Council's website identifies who the responsible authorities are and provides contact details for those authorities, enabling residents to enquire and register their concerns directly with those authorities and with the Licensing Authority itself.
- 6.4 In this context, the Expecting 'Great Things' study referred to earlier found that: "the Act provided more opportunities for the residents' voice to be heard" and had resulted in "better partnership working – especially with residents". The study also found that "There is some evidence that residents' groups are demonstrating an increased sophistication in monitoring licensing conditions and initiating reviews. This could be viewed both as an empowerment and as a lifting of the burden from the responsible agency's shoulders".

7.0 Premises Licence Reviews

- 7.1 As licences/certificates are granted in perpetuity, the Act provides a mechanism for "interested parties", "responsible authorities" and club members to ask for Premise Licences or Club Premise Certificates to be reviewed (a licensing authority does not have the power to instigate its own reviews).
- 7.2 A review is a request for the Authority to look at the existing licence/certificate and decide whether its conditions are adequate to meet the four licensing objectives. This is an entirely new provision that was not present within the former regimes and gives great power to local residents to influence the way in which licensed premises operate.
- 7.3 In order to assist "interested parties" a number of Guidance Notes have been produced by the Licensing Section. These outline how to call for a review and the procedure which is followed by the Licensing Committee at any hearing. The Act requires that the person making the application gives notice of his application to each "responsible authority" and to the holder of the premises licence or the club in whose name the club premises certificate is held and to which the application relates by giving to the authority, the holder or the club a copy of the application for review together with its accompanying documents, if any.

The Authority is then required by the Act to:

- i) Display a prescribed Notice at, on or near the site of the premises to which the application relates where it can conveniently be read from the exterior of the premises by the public; and,
- ii) At the offices, or the main offices, of the licensing authority in a central and conspicuous place.

As with licence applications all review applications are on the Council's Website

Following a review hearing the Authority can:

- i) In respect of Premises Licences
 - Modify the conditions of the licence

- Exclude a licensable activity from the scope of the licence
- Remove the designated premises supervisor
- Suspend the licence for a period not exceeding three months
- Revoke the licence
- Any or none of the above

ii) In respect of Club Premises Certificates

- Modify the conditions of the certificate
- Exclude a qualifying club activity from the scope of the certificate
- Suspend the certificate for a period not exceeding three months
- Withdraw the certificate
- Any or none of the above

7.4 Any decision made by a licensing authority can be appealed, within 21 days, to the Magistrates by either the applicant or a “responsible authority” or an “interested party”.

7.5 Since introduction of the new regime the Council has undertaken 3 Reviews with one currently pending, relating to approximately 1% of licensed premises. Of these all were requested by the Police. To date no request to review a licence has been received from members of the public.

7.6 It is suggested that any changes that might be implemented in relation to public notification of licence applications would also need to apply to applications for review.

8.0 Community Involvement

8.1 The Council issued several press releases to raise awareness of the implementation of the Licensing Act 2003 and also the role the local community could play in their area where a new application or variation of an existing licence would directly affect them.

8.2 In the first few months of the licensing reform the feeling was that this was having a positive impact on the engagement of residents in the licensing process. Local people were starting to show a much greater understanding of their rights to make representations.

8.3 This trend has continued as residents have become more aware and engaged in the licensing process and newspapers have publicised successful action by local groups, e.g. to reject longer hours at problem premises. Representations from residents have resulted in new conditions being placed on licences and longer hours have been rejected where this would undermine the licensing objectives.

8.4 Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council had taken pro-active steps to increase resident engagement including publishing details of applications on the website.

8.5 Councillors have also played a key part in keeping residents informed about licensing applications in their areas and encouraging them to play a part in the licensing process.

- 8.6 This increased involvement can be found through the findings of several research studies undertaken since implementation of the Act, including the Scrutiny Councils' Report On the Licensing Laws (July 2006) which found that "residents are now far more aware of their rights with regard to licensed premises".
- 8.7 More recently a report of a study by the University of Westminster "Expecting 'Great Things' The Impact of The Licensing Act 2003 on Democratic Involvement, Dispersal and Drinking Cultures", which looked at the impact of the Act in 5 different local authority areas and on 24 national late-night operators, found that "The role of residents in the licensing process was not something the Government initially had emphasised. Findings presented here, however, suggest that democratisation has been a success. Particularly in terms of working with residents, operators felt that neighbours had a greater role to play in the licensing process, be that in terms of the initial applications, to ensuring compliance with licensing conditions. The local case studies confirmed this".
- 8.8 Members of Licensing Committee have expressed the desire that the public be given the best possible opportunity to be involved in the licensing process and in this context have expressed particular dissatisfaction with the "passive" public notification of licence applications mentioned earlier.

9.0 Issues Surrounding Alcohol

- 9.1 In 2004, the Government published the *Alcohol Harm Reduction Strategy for England* to further reinforce the safeguards in the Licensing Act 2003.
- 9.2 *Safe. Sensible & Social.* is a renewed government strategy which took stock of the progress since then. This strategy and its aims are summarised below.
- 9.3 Published in June 2007, the new strategy identifies next steps which build on the existing programme of work. It also sets out the Government's ambition to achieve significant reductions in the harms and cost of alcohol misuse in England over the next 10 years.

The Key activities for tackling alcohol abuse

- Better education and communication: e.g. the 'Know Your Limits' binge-drinking campaign and enforcement of Ofcom's new code on television advertising.
- Improving health and treatment services: through the first national assessment of the need for and availability of alcohol treatment.
- Combating alcohol-related crime and disorder: through the use of new enforcement powers in the Licensing Act 2003 and Violent Crime Reduction Act 2006.
- Working with the alcohol industry: to include health information on alcohol bottles and to explore ways to make the trade contribute financially to offer advice, support and treatment.
- A review of NHS alcohol spending: a stock take of the burden of alcohol-related harm on NHS resources will be carried out to inform smarter spending decisions.
- More help for people who drink less: the Government will develop and promote sources of help for people who want to drink less including telephone helplines and support groups.

- Toughened enforcement of underage sales: to continue the enforcement campaigns conducted by local authorities and police to prosecute premises that persistently sell alcohol to children.
- Trusted guidance for parents and young people: the Government will provide authoritative, accessible guidance to help young people and their parents make informed decisions about drinking.
- Public information campaigns to promote a new sensible drinking culture: a new generation of publicity campaigns will mark a paradigm shift in the ambition and impact of public information about alcohol.
- Local alcohol strategies: by April 2008 all Crime and Disorder Partnerships (CDRPs) will be required by law to have a strategy to tackle crime, disorder and substance (including alcohol) misuse.

9.4 The strategy envisages that successful delivery must happen at a local level via local partnerships to plan a comprehensive, integrated and inclusive approach which will extend across the different ways alcohol impacts on local people and communities.

Taking responsibility – who does what?

Agency	Responsibility
CDRPs and LSPs	Local partners working to agreed strategies to reduce crime and disorder, and promote public safety. Best placed to lead local partnership in absence of existing, established lead.
Police (responsible authority)	Leading enforcement activity.
Fire authority (responsible authority)	Responsible for ensuring public safety on licensed premises
Trading standards (responsible authority)	Protecting children from harm by tackling illegal sales of alcohol to minor. Managing and resourcing test-purchase operation on off-licences.
Health and safety authority (responsible authority)	Exercising powers under the Licensing Act 2003 to carry out inspection and enforcement roles.
Local Safeguarding Children Boards (responsible authority)	Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children including those cases where parental alcohol misuse is a factor.
Environmental health (responsible authority)	Tackling noise and health and safety problems.
Licensed trade	Complying with all legislation and conditions of licence. Training staff and participation in Pubwatch and industry accreditation schemes, such as Best Bar None, to promote responsible management of premises.
Licensing authorities	Licensing premises and people in accordance with the licensing objectives. Undertaking reviews of licences as requested.
Hospital accident and emergency (A&E) departments	Providing emergency treatment and contribution to collecting data on violent alcohol-related incidents, including crimes not reported to the police where this is collected on a local level.
PCT	Commissioning local primary care services to meet community needs, including those related to alcohol misuse.

Outcomes and Success Measures

9.5 *Safe. Sensible. Social.* lists the desired outcomes of the Government's strategies and how they will be measured. The outcomes are sub-divided into three types: reductions in the harm caused by alcohol, increases in public awareness and reduction in alcohol consumption. The strategy also sets out the objectives, priority actions and steps for implementing the strategy and cites the relevant responsible departments. The "measurability" of the strategy is a new and critical feature. The Government has committed itself to an outcome-focused approach designed to create a significant impact over the next decade.

10.0 Licensing Act 2003, Two Years On – The National Picture

10.1 As well as tackling crime, disorder, and excessive alcohol consumption, it was hoped the Licensing Act would propel Britain towards a more European style of café culture. According to advocates, the Act would have two major consequences. Firstly, the traditional 'drinking up' time would be replaced with a much more leisurely approach to alcohol consumption. This would, in theory, lead to a more mature approach to drinking. Secondly, without the rush to consume before closing time, patrons would be free to vacate a premise at their will, leading to much less pressure on existing transport infrastructure, and police resources. Research studies had demonstrated that the majority of late-night violence occurs at taxi queues and late-night food venues. Staggered hours would subsequently result in less late-night violence, due to more of a trickle than mass exodus for food and transport.

10.2 That a single piece of legislation could ever achieve all of this was doubtful. The claims and counter-claims to what the Act would achieve reveal more about the public's anxieties about late-night Britain than the Act itself. Nonetheless, while the full impact of the Licensing Act has yet to be felt, broad trends have occurred over the past two years. Specifically, the roles of residents and local councils in planning their local night-time economy, the emergence of an alternative to 'binge Britain', and the easier dispersal of crowds late at night have been explored.

10.3 Initially the balance between a liberalisation of licensing on the one hand and local controls on the other, achieved in Time for Reform 2000 (White Paper), had been tipped in favour of the licensed trade in the first iteration of the Licensing Bill. As the Bill became law, and with further revisions to its attached Guidance, authorities have gradually gained more powers and residents more influence.

10.4 This democratisation of the licensing process has been welcomed by all parties involved, including some operators, licensing authorities, councillors and the police. The extent to which local authorities and residents' groups were prepared for the new legislation depended on the maturity of the night-time economy in their area and the degree of special management measures that had been put in place before full implementation.

10.5 There is no evidence to suggest that licensing has become politicised in a party political sense and councillors were fully aware of the duties laid on them to be fair and objective. It may be that the entire Licensing Policy of a local authority could become a subject of debate in the future, but as only one set of local elections have

taken place outside London and none in London since the implementation of the Act, this circumstance has not yet arisen.

- 10.6 In the 'Expecting Great Things' study referred to earlier the separate but parallel systems of control for licensing and planning have led to problems in all of the authorities covered in the case study. It would seem that local authorities require further guidance on how to avoid conflict between the two systems over hours of operation. The revised Guidance (June 2007) reiterates earlier advice that the operating hours set by the planning system take precedence, where they are earlier.
- 10.7 For residents to be engaged in licensing they must be kept fully informed of their rights and responsibilities. While pro-active authorities are achieving this, in areas lacking a motivated resident body, individual residents can feel powerless.
- 10.8 Dispersal was a key factor in the legislation, and is still causing problems in many ways. The issues are drinking circuits, the numbers of customers leaving large nightclubs or superpubs, cumulative impact, pedestrian accidents, queuing, car parking and pedestrian routes. All of these problems become critical where residential uses are adjacent to or nearby licensed premises. In situations of good management staggered hours can even out the peaks, but the peaks remain. These issues are not likely to dissipate because there is pressure on local authorities to introduce more residential uses into urban centres and sub-centres.
- 10.9 The national picture has demonstrated that the provision of extra late night bus services is rarely a feasible option in commercial and operational terms. This means that licensed taxis and PHVs (Private Hire Vehicles) is an important means of achieving fast dispersal.
- 10.10 'Café culture' has come to represent the ideal alternative to British drinking culture. While it has only been two years since the Act came into force, there is little evidence a more civilised 'European style of drinking' has been adopted here.
- 10.11 The planning system has been shown to be the most powerful tool in protecting diversity in a range of type of venues. The new style of area action plan can be used to great effect for town centres. Although the Licensing Act has not in itself promoted more food based venues, more operators are serving food and local planning policies are encouraging more restaurants.
- 10.12 There is no reason to think that town centres will not continue to be dominated by late night youthful drinkers. Making 'pleasant town centres' mentioned in the RIA (Regulatory Impact Assessment) that are family friendly and attractive to all ages and classes for a period that extends beyond 5pm in the evening requires a far more radical approach than simply changing one regulatory system. The division of planning and licensing into two separate systems is unhelpful and a better means needs to be found to combine the two. A realistic approach to planning and licensing also needs to be adopted that recognises the divisions between youth oriented late night venues and those that are more truly representative of a more relaxed style of consumption.

11.0 Conclusions

- 11.1 Given the lack of cultural change, patterns of drinking and dispersal have to be addressed and over the past two years the changes solely to the licensing system have not achieved this. The revised Guidance issued in June 2007 stresses the need for integration between the different strands of management of the night-time economy.
- 11.2 Partnership working with all responsible authorities and good practice can mitigate problems associated with dispersal, but not remove them entirely.
- 11.3 A good local example of partnership working is the Taxi Marshalling scheme which was identified through the Town Centre Safety Group. The purpose of the scheme is to provide the public with a safe environment in the town centre area in which to wait for and obtain reliable transport home. The public go to a supervised taxi collection point, give the marshal their destination, and can then wait in safety until their taxi arrives.
- 11.4 The high visibility marshals in the area increase the public's feeling of safety. This practice along with education of the public will reduce the number of lone members of the public walking about the street looking for taxis, which in turn will reduce the possibility of becoming a victim of crime.
- 11.5 The scheme was piloted over two months coinciding with the "Safer Summer Campaign" and has been utilised over the Christmas period.
- 11.6 The scheme operates with two taxi marshals at the George Street taxi rank from 10.00pm to 3.00am on Thursday, Friday and Saturdays although these times can be altered according to seasonal peak times.
- 11.7 The scheme has been supported by the Police, Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council and the Town Centre Safety Group and has been met with much praise from taxi operators.
- 11.8 The Marshalling Scheme has benefited the Town Centre helping to create the feeling of safety for the travelling public, which in turn promotes the night time economy and frees up the Police to deal with more serious matters.
- 11.9 The variations in the use of the Act between local authorities as recorded demonstrate the need for further detailed investigation of local circumstances and practices. It is hoped that the Home Office review of the impacts of the Act will be able to produce findings that can assess and evaluate local differences.
- 11.10 In conclusion, the Licensing Act 2003 has made some differences to democracy and dispersal. These were not the differences intended when licensing reform was first mooted, nor have the changes been experienced in a uniform fashion.
- 11.11 The big changes that were expected to flow from the removal of permitted hours and the liberalisation of licensing have proved in fact to be rather modest.

However the main benefits of the Act are:-

- Residents are much more aware of what they can do to resolve problems at a premise and licensees are much more aware of their responsibilities.
- Responsible authorities have engaged with the process and used their ability to make representations in a positive way to help applicants meet the licensing objectives.
- The police are increasingly using their enforcement powers under the Act to tackle problem premises.
- 'In many areas, the Act has been a catalyst for greater partnership working'.

4. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS [HF]**

4.1 No Financial Implications.

5. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS [PB]**

5.1 Contained within the body of the report.

6. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS [MB]**

6.1 Objective 7 – To secure a healthy, safe and attractive environment.

6.2 To ensure that the Authority meets its statutory obligations under the Gambling Act, to issue, renew and enforce premise licences and permits. For the most part to ensure licence holders comply with the licensing objectives.

7. **CONSULTATION [MB]**

7.1 Not Applicable.

8. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks, which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

8.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the risks associated with this decision have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

8.3 The significant risks associated with this report were identified from the assessment as follows.

Management of Significant Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating actions	Owner
N/A	N/A	Mark Brymer

9. **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 The Licensing Act 2003 has equal impact on all areas of the Borough.

10. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety Implications None.
- Environmental Implications - None.
- ICT Implications - None.
- Asset Management Implications - None.
- Human Resources Implications - None.
-

Background Papers:

Licensing Act 2003: Monitoring And Evaluating Implementation, DCMS Scrutiny Council Initiative: Final Report, June 2006.

Expecting 'Great Things' The Impact of The Licensing Act 2003 on Democratic Involvement, Dispersal and Drinking Cultures, University of Westminster, July 2007.

Guidance issued under Section 182 of the Licensing Act 2003.

Safe. Sensible. Social Strategy June 2007

Contact Officer: Mark Brymer ext. 5645

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 10 JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF THE COMMUNITY SAFETY MANAGER

RE: HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP - END OF YEAR UPDATE ON THE PARTNERSHIP

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

As requested at its meeting on the 30 August 2007 the purpose of this report is to provide the Scrutiny Commission with an end of year update on performance and achievements of the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 It is recommended that the Scrutiny Commission notes and considers the content of this report and in particular the Quarterly Report October to December 2007 report on the Community Safety Partnership as shown at Appendix A attached.

2.2 It is recommended that future Quarterly Partnership reports be circulated to members of the Scrutiny Commission for information and comment.

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

3.1 In response to independent research commissioned by the Scrutiny Commission reports were submitted on the fitness for purpose of the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership on the 19th July and an update report provided on the 30th August 2007.

3.2 The Scrutiny Commission accepted the above reports as well as the recommendation that an annual "State of the Partnership" be provided.

3.3 The attached quarterly report on the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership provides comprehensive information and detail concerning performance and development of the Partnership as well as other Community Safety issues and achievements. This report contains end of year performance detail and a summary will be presented to Scrutiny Commission at its meeting on 10th January 2008.

4. KEY AREAS TO NOTE

4.1 The Quarterly Report - October to December 2007 on the Community Safety Partnership contains a number of particular references that members may wish to note as follows:

- Section 10 Additional External Funding Achieved
- Section 13 Outcomes and Measurable Targets – All Sections

- Section 14 Progress – All paragraphs
- Section 15 Items for Consideration – All Paragraphs
- Section 16 Risks to achieving Partnership Objectives
- Section 17 Risks impacting Council/Council Objectives

4.2 A summary of key points will be presented to the meeting.

5. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** [MD]

None arising directly from this report.

6. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS** (LH)

None as a direct implication of this report which is for noting and comment.

7. **COUNCIL VISION**

7.1 The issues covered in this report relate to the Council’s Strategic aims:
Proud of our:

- Value in service delivery and investment in people
- Achievements for the Community
- Reliability in partnership working

7.2 This report also meets the priority of “Thriving Communities” as outlined in the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Plan.

8. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

Management of Significant (Net Red) Risks		
Risk Description	Mitigating Actions	Owner
NONE other than those already identified in Appendix A – Quarterly Report on the Partnership		

8. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

The following implications have been taken into account:

- Community Safety – throughout the report
- Environmental Implications – None Directly arising from the report
- ICT Implications – None directly arising from the report
- Asset Management – None directly arising from the report
- Human Resources – Staffing issues contained in Appendix A
- Equality of Service – None directly arising from the report

Background Papers: Appendix A
Quarterly partnership Report October – December 2007

Contact Officer: Ron Grantham, Community Safety Manager ext 5832.

Appendix A

QUARTERLY REPORT
OCTOBER to DECEMBER 2007
HINCKLEY and BOSWORTH COMMUNITY SAFETY
PARTNERSHIP

Quarterly Partnership Report: October – December 2007

1. Name of Partnership	Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership
2. Partnership Convened / Led by	Jointly by Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and Leicestershire Constabulary under Sect 17 Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
3. Other Partners Involved	<p>Executive Board</p> <p>Leicestershire Constabulary, Leicestershire County Council, Leicestershire Police Authority, Leicestershire PCT, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue, Leicestershire Probation Service, Leicestershire DAAT, Hinckley and Bosworth Voluntary Action,</p> <p>Wider Partnership</p> <p>Next Generation Project, Hinckley and Bosworth Community and Race Relations Forum. Hinckley Development Group (Education), Bosworth Community Safety Forum, Northern Parishes JAG, Youth Service, Town Centre Safety Group, CCTV Working Group, Hinckley and Bosworth Domestic Abuse Forum and Government East Midlands</p>
4. HBBC Member Representation	<p>Cllr S.L.Bray Chair of Partnership</p> <p>Cllr. D.Bill (Leader) Police Authority Representative</p> <p>Cllr. Ms.W.A.Moore Executive Board member</p>
5. HBBC Officer Input – Lead Officer and Time Input	<p>Steve Atkinson Chief Executive</p> <p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager</p> <p>Community Safety Support Officer (support and secretariat)</p>
6. Reporting Arrangements	Quarterly reports to the Partnership's Executive Board. Six monthly progress reports to Leicestershire Local Area Agreement Safer Communities Block.
7. Minutes of Meetings	Minutes of the Partnership Executive Board and its various Action Groups. Minutes are retained within the Community Safety Team as hard and electronic copies.
8. Governance	The Partnership has a constitution that is reviewed at its Annual Meeting in June each year. The constitution was last amended on 20 th June 2007.
9. Any Dedicated Funding?	<p>HBBC contribution to Partnership £12,240</p> <p>HBBC Community Safety Budget £220,819</p> <p>Earl Shilton Community House £34,996</p> <p>Youth Development £6,200</p> <p>EXTERNAL FUNDING</p> <p>LAA Safer Communities Fund £74,030 having been reduced by 2.86% since April 2007.</p>

	Police BCU Funding £35,000 Leicestershire County Council £13,500 towards Domestic Violence Co-ordinators Post
10. Further Resources Secured this Quarter	£20,000 secured from Government East Midlands Tackling Violent Crime initiatives Fund. £17,800 for CCTV enhancement

11. Purpose and Priorities

“Working together to make Hinckley and Bosworth a safer and stronger place to live, work and visit”

To reduce crime, disorder and drug incidents and the fear of such in the Borough. The six strategic priorities of the Partnership are to:

1. Create safer and more positive environments and reduce the opportunity for crime.
2. Tackle those prolific and nuisance offenders responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime and disorder including high volume crime.
3. Increase the awareness of hate crime including domestic violence and incidents based on race, religious belief and homophobia.
4. Engage and address the needs and concerns of young people to reduce youth nuisance and youth victimisation.
5. Reduce the impact of drugs, alcohol and substance abuse on local communities, offenders and victims.
6. Increase Partnership working and communications across the Borough to address local problems and create stronger communities.

Due to concerns over performance towards the end of 2006/2007 the Partnership has introduced four Priority Action Plans for 2007/2008 as follows:

1. Earl Shilton and Barwell Crime and Disorder Reduction
2. Borough Substance Abuse Harm Reduction
3. Anti-Social Behaviour
4. Wykin Estate Crime and Disorder Reduction
5. Violent Crime Reduction

12. Relates to which HBBC priorities?

- Proud of our achievements for the Community – secure a healthy, safe and attractive environment.
- Proud of our reliability in Partnership working – supporting the delivery of the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership and LAA Safer Communities priority strategic outcomes and young people agendas.
- Also meets and contributes to the Borough’s Community Plan and contributes towards the theme of thriving communities.

13. Performance and Outcomes

1. The Partnership (CDRP) has agreed to support the Leicestershire Local Area Agreement Safer Community block PSA 1 outcomes based on 10 British Crime Survey recorded crime categories. Briefly the agreed outcome is to reduce overall Crime in the Borough by 15% by March 2008.

2. The performance of the Partnership will also be judged by Government on its position of success within a family of 15 Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnerships.
3. The Council is contributing towards meeting the County Council's Service level agreement targets for Domestic Violence Co-ordinator's post.
4. The Council is meeting its BVPI performance indicators in relation to Crime i.e. BV125 Burglary Dwelling, BV127A Violent Crime, BV127B Robbery, BV128 Vehicle Crime.
5. The Partnership is contributing towards new Leicestershire Local Area Agreement stretch targets in relation to domestic violence.

Outcome and Measurable Target	Progress
<p>PSA 1 - to reduce overall crime by 15% by March 2008</p>	<p>Recent indications are that the agreed LAA Safer Communities PSA 1 crime reduction targets will not be achieved in 5 out of the 10 British Crime Survey indicator crimes across the County.</p> <p>Within the above County arrangements, the Borough is continues to improve performance and remains in the best performing quartile of County and City Crime Reduction Partnerships.</p> <p>The Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership is currently the best performing partnership within the South Policing Area that also includes Blaby, Oadby and Wigston and Harborough Districts.</p> <p>For the year April to December 2007 there has been substantial reductions of crime in the Borough as follows:</p> <p>Overall crime has reduced by 16% compared with the same period in 2006.</p> <p>This means that, this year, there has been 963 less crimes as in the same period in 2006 and in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Thefts from motor vehicles down 36% • Burglary Dwelling down 22% • Theft down 25% • Violent Crime down 17%
<p>Improve the Partnership's rating within its CDRP Performance Family Grouping. Target – mean average by March 2008 and lowest quartile by March 2010.</p>	<p>At the end of financial year 2006/2007 the Partnership had slipped to last place within its CDRP performance Family Grouping for overall crime.</p> <p>The end of year IQUANTACDRP Family Group Performance charts have not yet been published however, the most recent update briefing chart (Appendix A) published in November clearly shows the continued improved performance of the Partnership against its family grouping especially in the areas of all Crime, BCS Comparator Crime,</p>

	<p>Domestic Burglary and Vehicle crime.</p> <p>Despite the fact that violent crime has reduced in the Borough by 17% the Partnership has not improved its family group position in relation to wounding. A successful bid has been made to Government East Midlands to resource a Partnership Violent Crime Action plan that focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinckley Town Centre and especially the night- time economy and alcohol fuelled crime and disorder. • Domestic Violence in Barwell • Promoting responsible drinking through the Partnership's Safer Christmas Campaign. <p>As a result £20k was awarded to the Partnership to implement this priority action plan.</p> <p>The Partnership's Delivery and Tasking Group is continuing to have a significant and proven impact on the performance of the Partnership through fortnightly tactical assessments of crime and disorder in the Borough and emerging issues.</p>
<p>Support the LAA in meeting its Stretch Targets in relation to Domestic Violence.</p> <p>To increase reporting of Domestic violence to the Police by 5% and to reduce by a third the number of domestic violence offences committed by repeat offenders.</p>	<p>The target of increasing reporting to the Police remains slightly under target (13 reports short) to reach its 60% reward target and 133 reports short of achieving its 100% reward target. Joint Partnership countywide campaigns are taking place to increase reporting by the end of the financial year.</p> <p>The target in relation to the reduction of repeat offending remains on track to achieve 100% of its targets.</p> <p>Note: These targets qualify for PSA Stretch target rewards if achieved.</p>
<p>Domestic Violence Service Level Agreement to provide 72 external agency referral support cases per annum</p> <p>Domestic Violence PI - to aim towards 100% satisfaction level with service provided.</p> <p>Meet 100% of the Council's requirements to deliver domestic violence reduction provisions contained in BVPI 225 by March 2010.</p>	<p>3rd Quarter targets and required outcomes are on track with 72 cases taken on and supported.</p> <p>100% satisfaction achieved to date.</p> <p>90% of requirements currently achieved. The main area of difficulty is the provision of additional places at the Borough's Domestic abuse refuge. The Borough's Refuge cannot at this moment in time provide the two additional places required by the BVPI.</p>
<p>Implement and deliver the outcomes of the Partnership's Improvement Action Plan by March 2008.</p>	<p>This is an ongoing process to enable the Partnership to meet recommendations made by the Authority's Scrutiny Commission, the</p>

	<p>Partnership's own review, recommendations made in the Audit Commission Inspection report and national standards required by the Government's Reform of CDRP's.</p> <p>As part of Government Reform Guidelines the Partnership will be required to complete a self-assessment by April 2008. Work has commenced on this process.</p> <p>An update performance report will be provided to the Council's Scrutiny Commission at it's meeting on the 10th January.</p> <p>The Partnership's Delivery and Tasking group will continue to oversee the Partnership's improvement plan.</p>
<p>Meet the Council's Best Value Performance Indicators</p> <p>BV126 Domestic Burglary</p> <p>BV 127A Violent Crime</p> <p>BV127B Robbery</p> <p>BV128 Vehicle Crime</p>	<p>All on Target see Appendix B</p>

14. Progress

1. The Partnership continues to use the Leicestershire County Council's Research Team "dash board" indicators on the progress of crime reduction targets in the Borough and CDRP Family group progress reports supplied through IQUANTA. This gives the Partnership an indicator on performance, areas of success and areas of concern.
2. The Partnership's Delivery and Tasking group meets on a fortnightly basis to review performance progress based on Police Tactical assessments of crime and disorder in the Borough. This enables the Partnership to identify weaknesses in performance and emerging issues and also provides a means of providing problem solving accountable tasking.
3. During the period April to December 2007 the Partnership achieved a 16% reduction in overall crime (973 less offences) compared with the same period in 2006.
4. Despite significant reductions in domestic burglary (down 22%) and burglary other than dwelling (down 11.25%) this type of crime remains a priority for the Partnership. Similarly although overall vehicle crime is down 29.32% in the Borough there has been an emerging change in crime patterns in relation to thefts of motor vehicles that has shown a slight increase of 2.74% compared to last year (6 more offences).
5. Although overall violent crime is substantially down in the Borough (17% compared to 2006) the Partnership has not improved its performance against its family grouping. This is an area of concern for the Partnership and a priority Violent Crime Reduction Action plan has been implemented to improve performance.
6. Robbery has shown an increase of 3.85% however it must be borne in mind that the number of such offence are low in the Borough and this reflects an increase of just one additional offence compared to 2006.
7. Significant improvements have been made in the Partnership's Performance Family Grouping. Although end of year charts have not yet been published there are indications of continued performance improvement by the Partnership.

8. Community Safety is now embedded in and subscribes to and supports the Local Strategic Partnership's Neighbourhood Action Teams in the priority areas of Earl Shilton and Barwell.
9. The Partnership's Safer Christmas campaign was launched on 16th November with specific focus on tackling alcohol fuelled violent crime and disorder, domestic violence, anti-social behaviour and seasonal crime. The pilot Hinckley Town Centre Taxi Marshall scheme has been extended to cover the whole of the Festive period. This year's main theme has focussed on promoting responsible drinking through the Partnership's "LOCK EM INN" campaign. This campaign has attracted major media interest both locally and nationally. An evaluation of the Campaign is yet to be completed though early indications are that there were no major public order or crime incidents in the Borough over the Christmas period.

10. An evaluation of the Partnership's National Grid Action Plan has shown that, to date, there have to date been no further racist incidents reported by overseas staff. Staff at National grid have indicated that they feel re-assured and safer as a result of actions taken and, with their Management and Staff Grid have expressed their thanks and gratitude to the Council and Partners for positive actions taken. The action plan will remain "live" with regular meetings between National Grid and relevant Partners to ensure that this situation does not re-emerge and underlying issues continue to be addressed.
11. The Leicester and Leicestershire sub-regional application for Beacon Status was short-listed in October and Inspectors have visited various sites and locations in the region. The theme applied for relates to Reducing Re-offending and the Borough/Partnership has subscribed to this application. The results will be announced at an award ceremony in London in January.
12. Connected to the above, the Partnership has undertaken a ten-week re-offending reduction project with young offenders at Markfield Community Centre. The objective of the project is to provide young educationally excluded offenders with opportunities to achieve through arts awards. This project involves the Council's Community Safety Team and Arts Development working with the Youth Offending Service and Markfield Community Centre and Parish Council. This project has proven to be so successful that further courses have been planned for the whole of 2008.
13. The Partnership has completed a draft strategic assessment of the Borough (Appendix C). The Strategic Assessment includes current and continuing priorities for the Partnership, an analysis of crime and disorder in the Borough, emerging issues, National and Regional requirements and public consultation. The Strategic Assessment will inform the Partnership in the development of its statutorily required Partnership Strategic Plan 2008/2011.
14. The Partnership held a "State of the Partnership" event on the 22nd November. The event was well attended and enabled the partnership to provide information of the Partnership's current priorities, performance, the structure of the Partnership, emerging issues and projected national and regional requirements. The event also enabled the Partnership to consult on local crime and disorder issues and concerns.

15. Issues for Consideration

1. The Government's Guidance on the Reform of CDRPs requires the Partnership to complete a self-assessment to ensure that it meets the " hallmarks" required for effective Partnership working. Although the Partnership is well placed to meet the guidelines through its own Partnership Improvement Plan there are areas where improvements can be made.

2. Current improvements made by the Partnership especially in the area of performance would be a positive contribution to the Council's CPA Reassessment.
3. Agreement has been reached with the Head of Financial Services regarding the spend of Local Area Agreement PSA Stretch Target rewards relating to Community Safety (Total - £102,160). The rewards are to be directed towards supporting the achievement of Partnership priority action plans and performance targets. Part of the rewards will not be received by the Council until April 2008 but may be carried over for spend in financial year 2008/2009.
4. Round 2 of the Leicestershire Local Area Agreement 2008 to 2011 will be implemented as from April 2008. Early indications are that the Safer Communities Block funding will be "ring fenced" for the first year of the new agreement. The allocation of Safer Communities funding to CDRP's is still not clear though again early indications are that there may be a continued move towards the resourcing of countywide initiatives that would support LAA Priorities, Sustainable Communities and the new Government National Indicator Set. This may mean that there will be reduced funding for individual CDRP's.
5. A revenue growth bid has been submitted to mainstream key Community Safety Team Borough Council hosted posts/projects i.e. Domestic Violence Co-ordinator, Anti-Social Behaviour Assistant, Gwendoline Community House Project Worker posts as well as the Gwendoline Community House Project.
6. Discussions are taking place to continue to fund the Next Generation Project through joint Partnership funding.
7. Early indications are that Round 2 of the Local Area Agreement in respect of Community Safety will focus less on PSA1 crime reduction targets and more on National PSA Targets and Sustainable Communities Strategy to include:

People to Feel Safer from Violent Crime to include:

- Reduction of levels of serious violent crime
- Reduction of repeat domestic violence offending

Tackle Anti-Social Behaviour Effectively to include:

- Reduction in levels of anti-social behaviour
- Reduction of criminal damage levels

Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse to include:

- Increased number of drug users in effective treatment
- Reduction of drug related offending
- Reduction of alcohol related admissions to hospital

Improve lives of offenders and those at risk of offending

- Reduction in re-offending by both young and adult offenders
- Diversion of young people from criminal behaviour and the reduction of first time offenders in the criminal justice system

8. As a result of the tragic death of Ms Fiona Pilkington and her daughter in October an internal review was conducted to establish the Council and Partnership's involvement in the case. The review also provides recommendations and an action plan where improvements to tackling anti-social behaviour and improved joint Partnership working can be made. This review will be used to inform a County Joint Services Review of the case.

14. Risk to achievement of Partnership' Objectives

Risk Description	Mitigating Actions	Owner	P	I
<p>Any crime and disorder trends will jeopardise Partnership's agreed LAA PSA1 outcomes relating to its overall crime reduction target of 15% by March 2008.</p> <p>Performance by other CDRP's in the County will have an impact on reaching the County PSA1 LAA targets. Currently it is predicted that only 5 out of the ten targets will be achieved.</p>	<p>The Partnership has agreed five priority Action Plans aimed at reducing crime in those areas of the Borough that have the greatest impact on performance. This is currently having a significant positive impact on performance.</p> <p>County Community Safety Programme Board continually monitors performance across the County and provides interventions where required.</p> <p>Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership to concentrate on achieving its own PSA performance targets.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager with Partnership's Delivery and Tasking Group</p> <p>Ron Grantham with Delivery and Tasking Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p>
<p>Any increase in overall comparator crimes will threaten the Partnership's standing within its family group of 15 CDRP's.</p> <p>Current areas of concern relate to robbery, theft of motor vehicle and wounding</p>	<p>The Partnership has included challenging Family Grouping performance targets within its priority action plans. It aims to move the Partnership into the mean average of its Family Group performance rating by March 2008 and to the top quartile by March 2010.</p> <p>A new Violent Crime priority Action plan has been adopted by the Partnership aimed at tackling key hot spot areas of the Borough and to incorporate Safer Christmas campaign.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager With Delivery and Tasking Group</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p>	<p>3</p> <p>3</p>
<p>County will not achieve its LAA PSA Targets in relation to Domestic Violence.</p>	<p>Partnership to continue to support work towards achieving targets and focus on areas where improvements can be made locally e.g. Barwell Domestic Abuse Action Plan, Safer Christmas Campaign and National Domestic Abuse Week projects.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham with the Domestic Violence Co-ordinator</p>		

<p>The Partnership's Strategic Plan 2008/2011 may not initially have clearly defined targets and outcomes that fit with national, regional, area and local priorities.</p>	<p>Ensure that Partnership moves towards clearly defined performance objectives bearing in mind local priorities, Local Area Agreement Priorities, new National Indicator Set and Government's Assessment of Policing and Community Safety (APACS).</p> <p>Review and where applicable retain current Partnership Priority Action Plans 2007/2010.</p> <p>Agree South Policing Area agreed joint CDRP's priorities to ensure compatibility.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham with Delivery and Tasking group and ultimately Partnership's Executive Board.</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>17. Risk impacting on Council/Council objectives resulting from Partnership</p>				
<p>Risk Description</p>	<p>Mitigating actions</p>	<p>Owner</p>	<p>P</p>	<p>I</p>
<p>Poor Partnership performance results will have an adverse affect on the Council's BVPIs relating to crime.</p>	<p>The restructuring of the Partnership now enables clear priority focus, direction and accountability.</p> <p>The Partnership's Delivery Group provides effective monitoring through fortnightly tactical assessments and a tasking facility to enable the tackling of priority crime and disorder in the Borough.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Uncertainty of Round 2 of the LAA Funding after 1st April 2008 will have an impact on the continuance of key posts/projects hosted by the Borough Council including Gwendoline Community House Project and Project worker post.</p> <p>Domestic Violence Co-ordinator Post.</p> <p>Anti-Social Behaviour Assistant</p>	<p>Revenue Growth bid submitted to SLB and approved.</p> <p>Council to provide a medium to long-term financial strategy/commitment in line Audit Commission Inspection report on Community Safety Service.</p>	<p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager with SLB</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Changes in direction of Local Area Agreement Safer Communities post April 2008 focus may impact on Local Authority BVPI's and require change.</p>	<p>Monitor any indications of change and report to SLB and Partnership Executive Board.</p> <p>Agree Partnership Priorities and targets in new Partnership Plan by April 2008</p>	<p>Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager with Executive Board</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>2</p>

Summary Comments on Added Value Obtained from Resources

In your view, is the time (and funding if relevant) that HBBC puts into this partnership justified by the results it achieves? Please explain your answer with a few supporting comments.

Working in Partnership to reduce crime and disorder in the Borough is a statutory requirement under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

Partnership working towards a safer community meets the Strategic Objectives of the Council's Corporate Development Plan 2006 – 2011 and the Borough Community Plan 2007 to 2012 under the priority theme of Thriving Communities.

The community in Hinckley and Bosworth have placed Community Safety in within the top 5 of concerns and wishes for the Council to address.

90% of Community Safety Team work is Partnership related joint working.

Ron Grantham Community Safety Manager

31/12/07

Force/ CDRP	All Crime	BCS Comparator	Domestic Burglary	Vehicle Crime (Excluding Vehicle Interference)	Robbery	Violent Crime
Leicestershire						
Blaby CDRP		XX				
Charnwood CDRP		XX				
Harborough CDRP		XX				
Hinckley & Bosworth CDRP		XX				
Leicester City CDRP		XX				
Melton CDRP		XX				
North West Leicestershire CDRP		XX				
Oadby & Wigston CDRP		√√				
Rutland CDRP		√√				

Key to Performance Comparisons

Across Time - Shape

- Clearly Improving
- Improving
- No apparent change
- Clearly Deteriorating
- Deteriorating

Based on Significant Change

Against Peers - Ladder

- Better than
- In line with peers
- Worse than

Based on last 3 months

Click on the ladder to view corresponding charts

Against Targets

- √√ Crime well below expected level
- √ Crime just below expected level
- X Crime just above expected level
- XX Crime well above expected level

BV 128 - vehicle crime

2007/08	Code	Offence	Blaby	Charnwood	Harborough	Hinckley & Bosworth	Melton	North West Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston	Rutland	Leicestershire
population			91,400	160,100	80,400	102,800	48,300	88,800	56,000	37,300	627,800
QUARTER 1:	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	2	5	1	2	2	2	1	1	15
	45	Theft from vehicle	185	260	107	133	96	178	59	24	1018
Apr-to-Jun	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	41	72	25	60	16	69	19	15	302
2007		total vehicle offences for BV 128	228	337	133	195	114	249	79	40	1335
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	2.5	2.1	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.8	1.4	1.1	2.1
QUARTER 2:	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	1	6	0	2	1	2	1	1	13
	45	Theft from vehicle	203	287	67	150	78	152	41	32	978
Jul-to-Sept	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	44	96	37	58	22	50	16	11	323
2007		total vehicle offences for BV 128	248	389	104	210	101	204	58	44	1314
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	2.7	2.4	1.3	2.0	2.1	2.3	1.0	1.2	2.1
QUARTER 3:	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking									
	45	Theft from vehicle									
Oct-to-Dec	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle									
2007		total vehicle offences for BV 128	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
QUARTER 4:	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking									
	45	Theft from vehicle									
Jan-to-Mar	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle									
2008		total vehicle offences for BV 128									
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
FINANCIAL	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	3	11	1	4	3	4	2	2	28
	45	Theft from vehicle	388	547	174	283	174	330	100	56	1996
YEAR: Apr07	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	85	168	62	118	38	119	35	26	625
to-Mar08		total vehicle offences for BV 128	476	726	237	405	215	453	137	84	2649
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	5.2	4.5	2.9	3.9	4.5	5.1	2.4	2.3	4.2

Source:

Population: ONS mid year estimate for 2005, issued September 2006; ONS 2004 based trend projections change from 2005 on
 Crime data is from Leicestershire Constabulary, CrimSec3 data.

BV 128 - vehicle crime

2006/07	Code	Offence	Blaby	Charnwood	Harborough	Hinckley & Bosworth	Melton	North West Leicestershire	Oadby & Wigston	Rutland	Leicestershire
population			91,400	160,100	80,400	102,800	48,300	88,800	56,000	37,300	627,800
QUARTER 1: Apr-to-Jun 2006	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	2	4	2	2	0	4	1	0	15
	45	Theft from vehicle	150	327	105	241	85	173	42	64	1123
	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	46	133	24	46	35	67	18	9	369
		total vehicle offences for BV 128	198	464	131	289	120	244	61	73	1507
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	2.2	2.9	1.6	2.8	2.5	2.7	1.1	2.0	2.4
QUARTER 2: Jul-to-Sept 2006	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	1	3	3	4	3	2	0	0	16
	45	Theft from vehicle	113	211	78	176	77	181	28	36	864
	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	46	148	31	44	33	60	11	16	373
		total vehicle offences for BV 128	160	362	112	224	113	243	39	52	1253
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	1.8	2.3	1.4	2.2	2.3	2.7	0.7	1.4	2.0
QUARTER 3: Oct-to-Dec 2006	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	2	12	4	4	0	2	1	1	25
	45	Theft from vehicle	157	243	98	210	70	189	36	39	1003
	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	50	111	29	58	29	63	21	12	361
		total vehicle offences for BV 128	209	366	131	272	99	254	58	52	1389
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	2.3	2.3	1.6	2.6	2.0	2.9	1.0	1.4	2.2
QUARTER 4: Jan-to-Mar 2007	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	1	3	0	5	1	0	0	1	10
	45	Theft from vehicle	192	342	85	190	80	147	76	22	1112
	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	35	128	26	53	21	48	12	16	323
		total vehicle offences for BV 128	228	473	111	248	102	195	88	39	1445
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	2.5	3.0	1.4	2.4	2.1	2.2	1.6	1.0	2.3
FINANCIAL YEAR: Apr06 to-Mar07	37.2	Aggravated vehicle taking	6	22	9	15	4	8	2	2	66
	45	Theft from vehicle	612	1123	366	817	312	690	182	161	4102
	48	Theft or unauthorised taking of motor vehicle	177	520	110	201	118	238	62	53	1426
		total vehicle offences for BV 128	795	1665	485	1033	434	936	246	216	5594
		BV 128 - vehicle crime	8.7	10.4	6.0	10.0	9.0	10.5	4.4	5.8	8.9

Source:

Population: ONS mid year estimate for 2005, issued September 2006; ONS 2004 based trend projections change from 2005 on
Crime data is from Leicestershire Constabulary, CrimSec3 data.

Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership



**Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership Annual
Strategic Assessment**

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

• **About Hinckley and Bosworth**

Hinckley and Bosworth is a forward-looking dynamic borough located in southwest Leicestershire, at the geographical centre of England. With a concentrated population of 65,000 people at its southerly point, the rest of the borough's 105,000 population are spread across 30,000 hectares of rural areas. It is home to areas of natural beauty like Bosworth Park and Ashby Canal and a number of nationally renowned tourist attractions like Twycross Zoo.

The former textile and manufacturing economies are being re-occupied by new modern industries which concentrate on product, and process innovation in their pursuit of value-added goods and services. The thrust of the regeneration activity focuses on the town centre.

• **Priorities and Targets**

.1 Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy (see Appendix 1 for link to Strategy)

The Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-2008 lists priorities for the partnership and identifies six priority themes:

- To create safer and more positive environments and reduce the opportunity for crime
- Tackle prolific and nuisance offenders responsible for a disproportionate amount of crime and disorder including high volume crime
- Increase the awareness of hate crime including domestic violence and incidents based on race, religious belief and homophobia
- Engage and address the needs and concerns of young people to reduce youth nuisance and youth victimisation
- Reduce the impact of drugs, alcohol and substance abuse on local communities, offenders and victims
- Increase Partnership working and communication across the borough to address local problems and create stronger communities

These priorities remain pertinent but to refocus the performance of the partnership more effectively four priority action plans have been developed for 2007/08.

2.2 Partnership Priority Action Plans 2007/08

The four partnership priority action plans detailed below were identified via data analysis and consultation exercises:

Earl Shilton and Barwell Crime and Disorder Reduction Action Plan

The Earl Shilton and Barwell area has been identified as a priority neighbourhood for the Community Safety Partnership and the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership.

Research and analysis in 2006 indicated that this priority neighbourhood suffers from a disproportionate level of crime and disorder in the Borough. The project area also has the highest level of prolific and persistent offenders (PPO's) living in the locality compared with other areas of the Borough.

Overall Target(s) of the Project 2007/2008:

The overall target is to reduce the following categories of crime and disorder in the project area for the period April 2007 to end March 2008 compared to the same period 2006/2007 as follows:

- To reduce domestic burglary by 15%
- To reduce vehicle crime 10%
- To reduce criminal damage by 10%
- To reduce anti-social behaviour by 5%

Hinckley and Bosworth Substance Abuse and Harm Reduction Action Plan

Police tactical assessments, intelligence and information shows that the illegal use of drugs and alcohol abuse are a major factor in criminal offending especially violent crime and acquisitive crime such as burglary, vehicle crime and theft from stores. Abusers need to commit crime in order to "feed" their habit.

Recent evidence from the Drug Intervention Programme shows that offenders who provide positive samples for opiates or cocaine are more prevalent to commit non-core crimes such as theft from store. Analysis shows that there has been a 67.8% reduction in the amount of crimes after they were engaged on the Drug Intervention Programme.

Overall Target(s) of the Project 2007/2008:

The overall target is to reduce the following categories of crime and disorder in the project area for the period April 2007 to end March 2008 compared to the same period 2006/2007 as follows:

- To retain 80% of MAPPOM referred PPO's on drug treatment programmes for 12 weeks
- To increase engagement and referrals to the Next Generation Project by 10% (current average of 35 per week)
- To implement initiatives to raise awareness of the public of the harm caused by substance abuse
- To implement initiatives to raise awareness of support services available to individual substance abusers their families and friends
- To implement interventions to reduce continued substance abuse and offending

Anti-Social Behaviour Action Plan

Tackling anti-social behaviour and the fear of such is a key priority outcome of both the Leicestershire Safer Communities Strategy and the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership's Strategy 2005 to 2008.

Community Consultation has continued to show that anti-social behaviour is a main concern of our residents in the Borough and especially where it is linked to young people.

Criminal damage accounts for 36.7% of recorded crime in the Borough (2006/2007) and there is a direct link with anti-social behaviour.

Overall Target(s) of the Project 2007/2008:

The overall target is to reduce the following categories of crime and disorder in the Borough for the period April 2007 to end March 2008 compared to the same period 2006/2007 as follows:

- To reduce criminal damage in the priority areas of Earl Shilton/Barwell and the Wykin estate by 10% by March 2008
- To reduce criminal damage across the Borough by 5% by March 2008
- To reduce anti-social behaviour complaints in the priority areas of Earl Shilton/Barwell and Wykin estate by 10% by March 2008
- To reduce anti-social behaviour across the Borough by 5% by March 2008

Wykin Estate Crime and Disorder Reduction Action Plan

The Wykin estate has been identified as a priority neighbourhood for the Community Safety Partnership and the Hinckley and Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership due to crime and disorder issues and other social deprivation issues.

Overall Target(s) of the Project 2007/2008:

The overall target is to reduce the following categories of crime and disorder in the project area for the period April 2007 to end March 2008 compared to the same period 2006/2007 as follows:

- To reduce domestic burglary by 15%
- To reduce vehicle crime 10%
- To reduce criminal damage by 10%
- To reduce anti-social behaviour by 5% (awaiting benchmark figures)
- Tackle community stronger and safer issues and improve residents' senses of safety and respect

Emerging Issues

3.1 Violent Crime- violent crime has been identified as the main BCS Comparator Crime where the partnership are underperforming against 2007/08 targets.

Research and analysis of data has helped to identify partnership actions to reduce violent crime. The partnership is currently formulating a new priority partnership action plan to reduce violent crime which will be based on three key themes:

- Night-time Economy and violent crime
- Domestic Violence
- Alcohol fuelled crime and Disorder

Consultation has also show that both agencies and local communities are particularly concerned on the impact of alcohol abuse on violent crime especially relating to the Hinckley Town Centre night time economy, anti-social behaviour and domestic violence.

3.2 Hate Crime- Issues relating to overseas workers from National Grid being subjected to racial abuse was first highlighted in 2006. This is now an ongoing issue which is being tackled via a multi-agency approach headed by Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council. Research by Voluntary Action confirms an increased influx of Eastern Europeans into the Borough. The issues relating to this influx will need to be carefully considered by the Community Partnership and

appropriate initiatives put in place. Currently there is a distinct lack of intelligence in relation to this influx and this issue needs to be addressed urgently.

It is the aim of the Partnership to increase the reporting of hate crime especially domestic abuse and racially/religion motivated crime by boosting people's confidence in reporting. This is reflected in the fact that there was a 98% increase in reporting racially motivated incidents in the Borough in 2007 compared to the previous year.

3.3 PPOs- There are currently 22 prolific and persistent offenders (PPO's) within the Borough. Intelligence shows that a high proportion have a Class A drug or alcohol dependency and are currently criminally active to the point that they are having a direct and harming impact on performance especially in relation to domestic burglary and vehicle crime.

3.4 Road Safety- Police Neighbourhood and Partnership consultation highlights road safety and traffic issues as a priority for local neighbourhoods especially within rural Parishes. Issues that have been highlighted via consultation are:

- Speeding vehicles particularly in rural villages
- Anti-social use of vehicles
- Contravention of parking restrictions especially at school locations
- Off road nuisance use of motorcycles
- Boy racers
- Increase of heavy goods vehicles through villages

One of the initiatives the partnership will be looking to introduce to the Borough is the Community Speedwatch Scheme.

3.5 Young People- Consultation with the communities repeatedly raises public concerns over young people as offenders especially where they are involved in perceived anti-social and nuisance offending.

Although young people remain in the highest bracket for level of offending they also fall into the highest bracket of people being offended against and also fear crime and disorder against themselves equally as adults.

Consultation has shown that the Partnership should continue to undertake projects and initiatives to deter young people from offending, re-offending or becoming victims of crime and disorder as well as the negative impact of drug and alcohol abuse.

3.6 Arson (Deliberate Criminal Damage by Fire)- Although the levels of arson in the Borough have remained similar to that of 2005/2006 (73) there has been an increase in the proportion of arson incidents that are

considered to be life endangering i.e. 11 out of the 71 offences recorded in 2006/2007.

3.7 National and Regional- The Partnership's Crime and Disorder Reduction Plan 2008 to 2011 will need to take into account ongoing Government Crime Reduction priority strategies and required outcomes, as well as the Leicestershire Sustainable Communities Strategy and the Leicestershire Local Area Agreement 2 priorities in relation to community safety.

These include:

- **2 National Public Service Area agreements to**

- a) Make Communities Safer
- b) Reduce the Harm caused by Alcohol and Drugs

- **Safer Communities Strategy to include**

- a) **People feel safer from violent crime to include:**

- Reduction in levels of serious violent crime
- Reduction of repeat domestic violence offending

- b) **Tackle anti-social behaviour effectively to include:**

- Reduction of levels of anti-social behaviour
- Reduction of criminal damage levels

- c) **Reduce the harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse to include**

- Increased number of drug users in effective treatment
- Reduction of drug related offending
- Reduction of alcohol related admissions to hospital

- d) **Lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so that they are less likely to offend including:**

- Reduction in re-offending by both young and adult offenders.
- Diversion of young people from criminal behaviour and the reduction of first time offenders in the Criminal Justice System.

3.8 Neighbourhood Action Teams- Neighbourhood Action Teams have been introduced in priority areas of the Borough. They have currently been established in both Earl Shilton and Barwell with others to follow. Crime, disorder and community safety are one of a number of key issues to be addressed in these priority neighbourhoods and the Community Safety Partnership will have a vital role in making these areas safer and stronger places to live.

- **Performance**

Since the start of the 03/04 period there has been a reduction in total BCS Comparator crime volumes year on year with the exception of the period 06/07 which saw a dramatic rise in BCS Comparator Crime. Fig 1 shows the BCS Comparator Crime Trend over the period 03/04 to the projected figure (based on county hall dashboard end Sept 07) for the end of the period 07/08.

Hinckley and Bosworth CDRP have had an excellent first half to the period 07/08 and total BCS Comparator crime has shown a reduction of 15% (308 recorded crimes) in the period 1st April 07 to 31 Aug 07 compared to the same period the previous year. The only BCS Comparator crime which is causing concern is that of violent crime and in particular wounding offences.

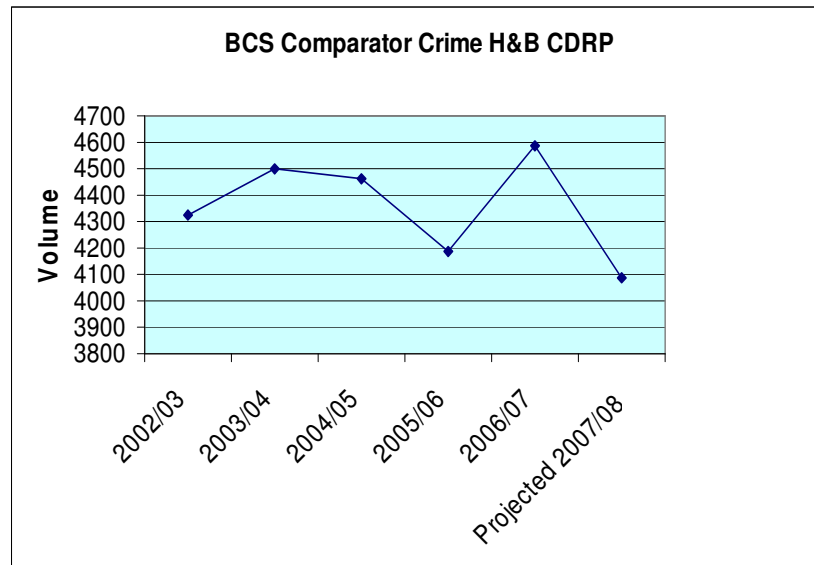


Fig1 BCS Comparator Crime Trend for Hinckley and Bosworth CDRP

- **Consultation**

As part of the process of developing the Partnership's Crime and Disorder Reduction Plan the Partnership has sought the views of the People in Hinckley and Bosworth via:

- Joint Action and Community consultation groups
- Neighbourhood Policing
- Local Community Surveys
- Youth Council and Youth Conference
- State of the Partnership Consultation Event
- Borough Bulletin
- Citizen's Panel
- Council's Service Delivery Questionnaire

This is not an exhaustive or exclusive list and members of the public are invited to express their views on the Partnership's Plan and priorities.

What is evident from consultation is that people in the Borough place community safety in the top five of their concerns about wellbeing in the Borough.

The following are among the most common concerns raised by people of the Borough:

- Anti-Social Behaviour and vandalism (criminal damage) especially by young people
- Violent crime including the night-time economy and domestic violence
- Drug and alcohol abuse and its impact on crime and disorder.
- The fear of and the negative perceptions of crime, disorder, drug and alcohol related offending in the Borough
- Road Safety especially speeding, "boy racing" and inconsiderate parking outside schools.

Other views

Consultation has indicated that the Partnership could improve how it tackles crime and disorder by:

- Improving engagement with the public especially the hard to reach
- Continue to improve opportunities and diversionary activities for young people
- Better joint working of uniformed agencies in the community
- Improved two way information sharing and engagement with the community
- Improved good news stories and updates on success to combat negative images presented in the media.

• **Partnership Plan 2008-2009**

Bearing in mind the contents of this strategic assessment of the Borough together with National, regional and local demands the Partnership's Plan will focus its resources and priorities on the following:

1. Continuance of the Earl Shilton and Barwell Crime and Disorder Reduction Priority Action Plan.
2. Continuance of the Borough Substance Abuse and Harm Reduction Priority Action Plan
3. Borough Anti-Social Behaviour Priority Action Plan including vandalism, criminal damage and arson.
4. Wykin Crime and Disorder Reduction Priority Action Plan
5. Tackling Violent Crime Priority Action Plan

Opportunities

Within the above priorities the Partnership will include the following areas of opportunity to:

- Tackle the fear and negative perceptions of crime and disorder
- Tackle the negative impact of prolific and persistent offenders
- Tackle Hate Crime and increase people's confidence in reporting
- Work with Neighbourhood Action Team in priority locations
- Undertake initiatives to prevent first time and re-offending by young people
- Improve engagement with local communities
- Celebrate success
- Work with the County Road Safety Partnership to improve road safety in the Borough
- Work with the Fire and Rescue Service to reduce life-endangering arson
- Work with the Business sector and Drug/Alcohol agencies to reduce non-core crime offending by drug users especially theft from stores.

• **Summary**

Despite the fact that Hinckley and Bosworth is not a high crime area compared with other parts of the country people's perceptions and fears of crime and disorder are as high. In order to have strong, prosperous and sustainable communities in Hinckley and Bosworth the Community

Safety Partnership's aim is to, not only reduce crime and disorder but also to increase the feelings of well-being and safety.

The partnership cannot achieve this alone and requires the support and collaboration of not only other agencies, but more importantly local people and communities that can help to make a difference. With this in mind, the Partnership intends to continue to engage and consult on the views of local people and work together for a safer community.

• **Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership**

Further information on the Hinckley and Bosworth Community Safety Partnership can be found on the Council's website www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk through the Community Safety link.

• **Appendices**

Appendix 1 [Crime and Disorder Reduction Strategy 2005-2008](#)

Appendix 2 [Hinckley and Bosworth Strategic Assessment Evidence](#)

SCRUTINY COMMISSION – 10 JANUARY 2008

REPORT OF HEAD OF BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT & STREET SCENE SERVICES RE: REVIEW OF COUNCIL VISION AND EMERGING LEICESTERSHIRE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To consult the Scrutiny Commission on:

- the refresh of the council's vision statement; and
- the emerging position of the Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy Hinckley & Bosworth 'place based' element.

1.2 To provide an update on progress towards an application for re-categorisation of the council's Comprehensive Performance Assessment rating.

2. RECOMMENDATION

That the Scrutiny Commission:

- (i) reviews the council's draft vision statement in advance of the Council debate at its meeting on 22 January 2008
- (ii) reviews the Hinckley & Bosworth 'place based' element of the Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy

3. BACKGROUND TO THE REPORT

3.1 The council agreed a vision in 2005. The vision was developed to focus the authority on its key improvement challenges for the next three years following the Audit Commission Comprehensive Performance Assessment 2004. The majority of the improvements related to the council's internal governance and management. Since this time a number of changes have occurred including:

- Areas for improvement highlighted by the CPA have been implemented;
- Extensive community engagement work has been undertaken with the public including amendments to the council's service priorities;
- Continual improvement in service delivery;
- A new political administration for the borough;
- A review of the Hinckley & Bosworth Community Plan and emerging Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy;
- Development of a Local Development Framework for the borough;
- Improvements to Customer Services and Governance arrangements;
- Local Government Bill including a change in regulatory requirements for local government including Local Area Agreements;
- Comprehensive Spending Review; and
- Neighbourhood working.

Given the situation described above now is an appropriate time to review the vision statement of the council in preparation for next years service / financial planning cycle.

- 3.2 The finalised vision statement will be presented within the council's corporate plan.

4. **DRAFT VISION STATEMENT**

- 4.1 It is not proposed to amend the council's vision of making 'Hinckley & Bosworth a borough to be proud of'

- 4.2 The current vision statement published for consultation identifies 7 draft strategic aims:

- Cleaner & Greener Neighbourhoods
- Promoting Hinckley & Bosworth as a distinctive & accessible place
- A Thriving Economy
- A Safer Place
- Involve and strengthen the Community
- A Healthier Place
- Securing Decent, well managed & Affordable Homes

The priorities are deliberately outcome focussed and externally facing now that the council has improved its internal governance and management.

- 4.3 The Scrutiny Commission is asked "Do the strategic aims reflect what in your view are priority areas of attention for the council?"

- 4.4 To deliver the seven draft strategic aims the council has identified the following 12 objectives:

- Recycle 50 per cent of household waste by 2010 and 58 per cent in the period to 2017
- Reduce CO2 levels in the Borough
- To ensure at least 90 per cent of the streets continue to be cleaned at the highest standard until 2012
- Secure and maintain the council stock at Decent Homes Standard by 2010
- Deliver improved leisure facilities by 2011
- Reduce crime, anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime by 10 per cent by working with key partners
- Ensure 100 per cent of fly tipping and graffiti is removed from public places within 24 hours
- Increase the number of people volunteering and participating in physical activity
- High levels of satisfaction with Hinckley and Bosworth as a place to live
- Ensure all regenerated community parks achieve Green Flag status by 2012
- Deliver key components of the Town Centre Regeneration Plan by 2012
 - a. Bus station redevelopment
 - b. Rail interchange improvements
 - c. Atkins (new college and creative enterprise centre)

- Deliver value for money by maintaining low Council Tax and providing high quality services in the period up to 2012
- 4.5 The Scrutiny Commission is asked “Do the strategic objectives reflect what in your view are priority areas of attention for the council?”
- 4.6 Internally the council will also adopt a set of values that is the ethos and expectations of the organisation for its people which will underpin the strategic aims and objectives. These values are:
- Learning & Improving
 - Customer Focus
 - Excellence in Performance
 - Value in Service Delivery and our people
 - Positively Impact on Climate Change
 - Reliability in Partnership Working
- 4.7 The Scrutiny Commission is asked “Do the values reflect what in your view are priority expectations for the council?”

5. **LEICESTERSHIRE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

- 5.1 The draft Sustainable Community Strategy proposes priorities for improvement in Leicestershire over the next 5 years. These are largely based upon two draft evidence base reports “This is Leicestershire” and “Places in Leicestershire”. The Local Area Agreement (LAA) will be the key delivery framework for the strategy.
- 5.2 Essentially the strategy is separated into two aspects: 1) priority outcomes for the whole of Leicestershire; and 2) places / priority neighbourhoods. The 14 priority areas are:

Access to Services	Cleaner & Greener
Rural	Economic Development & Enterprise
Equalities	Transport
Efficiencies	Housing
Sport & Culture	Children & Young People
Safer Communities	Older People
Stronger Communities	Healthier Communities

The current draft priority outcomes for each priority area within Leicestershire are attached at Appendix 1.

- 5.3 The strategy then allocates the county into 27 place areas and 18 priority neighbourhoods. For Hinckley & Bosworth the places are:
- Hinckley;
 - Markfield, Groby and Ratby; and
 - Bosworth

A set of draft priority outcomes for each of these areas is attached at Appendix 2. Currently a Community Forum is being piloted at each of these areas.

- 5.4 The priority neighbourhoods within the borough are:
- Bagworth and Thornton
 - Earl Shilton
 - Barwell
 - Hinckley and
 - Burbage
- 5.5 The Public Consultation period runs until the 16th January 2008. Following the consultation period, the document will be revised and the final Sustainable Community Strategy will be published in April 2008.

6. **RE-CATEGORISATION OF THE COUNCIL'S COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT RATING**

- 6.1 The council continues to make strong progress towards its ambition to improve its current Comprehensive Performance Assessment rating. Formal notification has now been received that the council's 'use of resources' has improved to "performing well" in each of the five areas of judgement. In addition the council's management of data quality has also improved to an overall judgement of "performing well". Although not officially announced the council is also likely to hear that its service delivery improvement over the last three years has been significantly better than most other local authorities.

7. **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS** [MD]

- 7.1 None arising directly from the report.

8. **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS (LH)**

- 8.1 There are no legal implications arising directly from the report.

9. **CORPORATE PLAN IMPLICATIONS**

- 9.1 The report provides a consultation on the review of the council's vision statement.

10. **CONSULTATION**

- 10.1 This report forms part of the consultation on both the revision to the council's vision statement and the draft Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy.

11. **RISK IMPLICATIONS**

- 11.1 It is the Council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives. It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision/project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

11.2 The Strategic Risk Register identifying the significant risks for the council is considered alongside the reporting of performance and financial management.

12. **RURAL IMPLICATIONS**

12.1 The new council vision statement and Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy will have borough-wide implications.

13. **CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS**

13.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:

- Community Safety Implications – Included within the report
- Environmental Implications – Included within the report
- ICT Implications – None directly relating to this report
- Asset Management Implications – None directly relating to this report
- Human Resources Implications – Paragraph 4.6

14 **Appendices**

Appendix 1: draft priority outcomes for Leicestershire

Appendix 2: draft priority outcomes for the areas of Hinckley & Bosworth

Background Papers: *Corporate Performance Plan 2007-12*
Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy
<http://www.leicestershiretogether.org/>

Contact Officer: *Michael Brymer* ☎ 5852

Theme	Priority Outcomes
Access to Services	Access to facilities and services is enhanced across the County
Rural	High quality and accessible facilities and services in rural areas
Equalities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leicestershire is cohesive and inclusive • Levels of Hate Incidents are reduced • Equality of access to life opportunities • All sections of the community are empowered to influence local decision making.
Efficiencies	Public Services are provided in the most efficient and effective way
Sport & Culture	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved physical health and community cohesion through enhanced access to sport, recreation and cultural activities • Improved community cohesion through shared learning and recreation.
Safer Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People feel safer from violence • Disorder and anti-social behaviour is low compared to comparable areas and people feel that anti-social behaviour is being tackled effectively in their area • The harm caused by drug and alcohol misuse is reduced in local communities • The lives of offenders and those at risk of offending are improved so they are less likely to offend
Stronger Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stronger communities (both geographical and interest) where people are involved, engaged and play a role in decision making • New, well-supported volunteering opportunities are provided within and by the community • There is a positive view of diversity

Theme	Priority Outcomes
Cleaner & Greener	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduce our contribution to Climate Change • There is high resilience to the effects of Climate Change • Less waste is produced and a reduced proportion of this goes to landfill • Increased resident satisfaction with the built environment and improved green infrastructure • An enhanced natural environment with improved Protection
Economic Development & Enterprise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improved business performance • An improved image • Quality employment sites and premises are more widely available • A highly skilled population and more people in high valued jobs • Increase the employment rate
Transport	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growth of road congestion is reduced • The number of road casualties is reduced • Air quality is improved • The impact of traffic on communities and individuals is reduced • Transport assets such as roads and footways are well managed and maintained
Housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New developments are built to higher design and environmental standards and better supported by services and infrastructure • The housing needs of the people of Leicestershire are met • An increase in the provision of affordable housing • Improved educational progress

Theme	Priority Outcomes
Children & Young People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Improved educational progress• Improved health outcomes for children and young people• Improved life chances for vulnerable children and young people• Children in Leicestershire are safe• Improved support to families and parents
Older People	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• More older people are able to live independent lives• The health and well-being of older people is increased• Older people are empowered to play an active part in the community
Healthier Communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Inequalities have been reduced• Improved mental health and wellbeing• More people are physically active at a level which makes them healthier• Obesity is reduced and there has been an increase in healthy eating in all age groups• Fewer people smoke• Improved sexual health, particularly for young people• There are fewer accidents in the home

PLACES IN HINCKLEY AND BOSWORTH**Hinckley Area Community Forum Area**

This Forum includes the Main Towns of Hinckley (a Sub Regional Centre) and Earl Shilton and four priority neighbourhoods covering parts of Hinckley, Burbage North, Earl Shilton and Barwell. There is also a small rural area surrounding the towns. This is one of the areas in the County where a Sustainable Urban Extension is proposed.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- The image of Hinckley is good - more people live in the Town Centre, there is good range of shops, including specialist shops, more leisure and cultural facilities, and people feel safe in the Town Centre at all times;
- The relationship between pedestrians and traffic in the Town Centre is improved, accessibility is better for pedestrians, cyclists and public transport, and there are better links across the town centre;
- The Earl Shilton by-pass has led to town centre improvements – it looks better, shops fronts and factories have been enhanced and street furniture is improved;
- There is better access to health facilities, sports facilities and certain shops in Barwell;
- There is less anti-social behaviour, litter, damage and graffiti, on the streets and in jitties, violent crime and domestic violence are reduced, there are less burglaries in Earl Shilton and Barwell and fewer assaults in Barwell;
- People feel that they have influence over their lives and the decisions affecting them;
- Less people are obese, people eat well and levels of smoking and binge drinking are reduced (particularly in Barwell);
- There are more facilities, activities and meeting places for children and young people, fewer young people are NEET, fewer pupils excluded from school and children do well at all Key Stages; and
- Household income levels are higher in Earl Shilton and Barwell and fewer children and older people experience poverty, more people are economically active and there are fewer job seeker allowance (JSA) and income support claimants.

Markfield, Groby and Ratby Community Forum Area

This Forum includes a priority neighbourhood, covering parts of Bagworth and Thornton, the Rural Centres of Bagworth, Desford, Barlestone, Groby, Ratby and Markfield and the surrounding rural area. There are no Main Towns in this Forum area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- Fear of crime, criminal damage and anti-social behaviour is reduced;
- People get on well with other people from different backgrounds, there is good community spirit, and people feel involved in decision making;
- People in Groby have better access to health facilities;
- Speed of traffic around the schools in Groby has been reduced and through traffic is minimised;
- Pollution, including noise pollution from the A50 road, and light pollution, has been reduced;
- Parking has been improved in both Groby and Ratby;
- There are more facilities and activities for young people in Desford and the village hall has been improved;
- Deprivation in relation to income, employment and income deprivation affecting children in Bagworth and Thornton has been reduced;
- People are healthier in the priority neighbourhood and fewer people smoke; and
- There are better education and health facilities.

Bosworth Community Forum Area

This Forum covers the key Rural Centre of Market Bosworth and the surrounding rural area. There are no Main Towns or priority neighbourhoods within this area.

Draft Priority Outcomes:

- There is less HGV traffic and speeding through the villages;
- There is a greater range of shops in Market Bosworth and better parking facilities;
- Access to services and affordable housing has been enhanced and there are more facilities for the elderly, young people and young children; and
- There are more leisure and learning opportunities for all ages.



A Borough to be proud of

Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

REPORT NO. SC77

Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2007/2008

ISSUE 2007/07: January 2008

Welcome to Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council's Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme, which sets out the work to be carried out by the Council's Scrutiny Commission and Select Committees during 2007/2008.

A structured, focussed and supported scrutiny process, which dovetails into the Council's wider democratic, performance and financial management processes, provides for an evidence based approach to challenging and developing the Council's long term vision and priorities and ensuring that the needs of the Borough's Citizens' are met.

This is the second year that we have managed the work of scrutiny through a work programme. Following a review of progress in November 2005, it was proposed that future work programmes be configured into the following categories to better represent all the roles and responsibilities of the Overview and Scrutiny Function:

- **Scrutiny Topics** – This includes items of particular interest to overview and scrutiny that can be classified as 'scrutiny topics' to investigate in particular detail.
- **Performance Management Information** – Information provided by the council identifying current performance levels against performance indicators, progress with implementation of business delivery plans, best value reviews and service improvement projects. This is in accordance with the Council's Performance Management Framework.
- **Participation in Policy Development Issues** – These are issues being revised or introduced by the Council or other external organisations. The Overview and Scrutiny Function should be engaged in the development of such matters so that the decision-making body (Cabinet, Council or external organisation) are informed of all possible views before taking a decision / agreeing a new policy. This will need to be updated in the Council's Constitution.
- **Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations** – The scrutiny committee will review progress with the implementation of previously agreed recommendations.
- **Committee Management Issues** – These include the minutes of previous meetings, progress reports on actions, overview and scrutiny work programmes and development issues for the overview and scrutiny function.

The Work Programme ensures that Scrutiny's work is:

- outcome focussed;
- prioritised accordingly;
- resourced properly; and
- project planned properly.

The Work Programme has been designed to ensure it is a living document and it will be reviewed at each meeting of the Scrutiny Commission, and the Select Committees will also review their sections at each of their meetings, to ensure it remains focussed and relevant.

Councillor Matthew Lay
Chairman of Scrutiny Commission

SCRUTINY COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2008

1. Local Area Agreements

- Pursue joint Scrutiny with other districts in Leicestershire and the County Council.

2. Citizens' Panel Consultation Results

- Use the results of the survey improving Your Area as a Place to Live and Work to inform priorities and policy.

3. Council Vision (Corporate Performance Plan)

- Quarterly reporting on progress against Strategic Objectives and Strategic Improvement Projects.

4. Performance Improvement

- how the Council proactively manages performance to ensure that issues are addressed in a timely fashion and that there is continuous improvement; and
- monitor the quarterly Performance Reports to Cabinet and the decisions they take.

5. Implementation of Community Safety Review

- Ensuring that any recommendations are implemented.

6. Implementation of Rural Areas Review

- Ensuring that any recommendations are implemented.

7. Income Poverty in the Borough

- What is Poverty? Identify the main geographical pockets. Produce a report which will inform the Council's Corporate Planning Framework.

8. Review of the Local Strategic Partnership

- Review the effectiveness of the Hinckley & Bosworth Local Strategic Partnership and how it delivers effective outcomes for the community

9. An item of scrutiny identified by the public

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 10 January 2008						
Function	Subject	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny Topics	Council Offices refurbishment	Debate on Council offices options	To agree future of Council offices	Value in service delivery and investment in people	Leader of the Council and Head of Service for Finance & ICT	
	Local Strategic Partnership Review	Benchmarking and Value for money of LSP	Understand Performance of LSP against others	Achievements for the Community.	Leader of the Council and Deputy Chief Executive	Partners involved with the Local Strategic Partnership
	Poverty in the Borough – Interim Update	To review progress of study	Produce a report which will inform the Council's Corporate Planning Framework.	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
	Review of Council Vision, and Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy	To consult on the council's vision statement and the emerging position of the Leicestershire Sustainable Community Strategy – Hinckley & Bosworth 'Place based' element	Gain member support of councils vision statement	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
	Licensing Act 2003	To review impact of the licensing legislation in respect of the licensing act 2003	To update members and feedback comments to licensing committee	Probity and Honesty in Governance and Management	Executive Member and Head of service for Health & Environment	

	Work Programme – preparation for 2008/09	To engage members in the preparation of the Work Programme for 2008/09 – Debate ideas and questions, in particular ‘Out of hours GP Access’	To develop a robust and efficient Work programme for Scrutiny	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
Performance Management Information						
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Forward Plan	To review Forward Plan to identify items for Scrutiny	To ensure full utilisation of Scrutiny	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations	Community Safety Partnership	To review progress to date	To reduce crime & disorder in the borough	Achievements for the Community.	Executive member and Head of service for Health & Environment	
Committee Management Issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	Excellence in Performance		

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 19 February 2008						
Function	Subject	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny Topics	Medium Term Financial Strategy	To review future of the council's budgetary spending	To align Financial Management with the needs of the community	Value in service delivery and investment in people	Leader of the Council and Head of Finance & ICT	
	Local Strategic Partnership Review	To review and agree a final report and set of conclusions	More effective delivery of Community Plan Projects	Achievements for the Community.	Leader of the Council and Deputy Chief Executive	Partners involved with the Local Strategic Partnership
	Citizens Panel Winter 2007 survey	To inform Scrutiny of results	To obtain consensus and feedback on utilisation of results	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive members and Heads of Service	
Performance Management Information	Council Vision (Corporate Performance Plan)	Quarterly reporting on progress against Strategic Objectives and Strategic Improvement Projects.	Ensuring that the Executive delivers improvement to Council Services and addresses underperformance appropriately.	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
	Performance Improvement	Monitor the quarterly Performance Reports to Cabinet and the decisions they take via the call-in process	Ensuring that the Executive delivers improvement to Council Services and addresses underperformance appropriately.	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Forward Plan	To review Forward Plan to identify items for Scrutiny	To ensure full utilisation of Scrutiny	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	

Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations						
Committee Management issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	Excellence in Performance		

Scrutiny Commission - Thursday 27 March 2008						
Function	Subject	Reason	Desired Outcome	Vision, Values and Aims	Responsible (member/officer)	External Involvement
Scrutiny Topics						
Performance Management Information	Performance Improvement	Monitor how the Council sets targets and how the Council proactively manages performance to ensure that issues are addressed in a timely fashion and that there is continuous improvement.	Ensuring that the Executive delivers improvement to Council Services and addresses underperformance appropriately.	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
	Review of Neighbourhood Warden service	Review effectiveness of current operation	Gain clarification of future service provision	Achievements for the Community	Executive member and Head of service for Health & Environment	
Participation in Policy Development Issues	Forward Plan	To review Forward Plan to identify items for Scrutiny	To ensure full utilisation of Scrutiny	All Corporate Aims and Objectives	Relevant Executive Members and Heads of Service	
Tracking of implementation with previous recommendations						
Committee Management Issues	Work Programme	Review work load for the year	Agreed forward work programme	Excellence in Performance		



Hinckley & Bosworth
Borough Council

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FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL DECISIONS

JANUARY – APRIL 2008

Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council
Council Offices, Argents Mead
Hinckley, LE10 1BZ

HINCKLEY & BOSWORTH BOROUGH COUNCIL

INFORMATION ABOUT THE FORWARD PLAN

WHAT IS THE FORWARD PLAN?

The Forward Plan contains decisions which are due to be taken by Council, Executive or under delegated powers to individual Executive members or senior officers. Each plan covers a four month period and is updated monthly. The plan includes all decisions to be taken both “key decisions” (definition opposite) and non-key decisions.

WHAT INFORMATION IS CONTAINED IN THE FORWARD PLAN?

The Forward Plan details:

- The nature of the decision to be made and whether it is a key decision (definition opposite);
- The committee or individual who will take the decision;
- The date or period when the decision is to be taken;
- The stages which will be undertaken prior to the decision, both consultation and presentation to committees;
- The documents which will be presented to the decision maker(s);
- The author of the report.

You can view copies of the current Forward Plan on our web site (www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk) or alternatively at:

The Main Reception, Council Offices, Argents Mead, Hinckley

WHAT IS A KEY DECISION?

A key decision is an Executive decision which:

- involves expenditure (of reduction of income) of over £20,000 on any particular scheme/project;
- adopts a policy or strategy (which the Executive has the power to adopt);
- involves the adoption or amendment of the Scale of Fees and Charges;
- is one that affects the whole of the Borough and is one which the residents of Hinckley & Bosworth would normally expect to be notified or consulted; or
- involves a recommendation by the Executive to a Partnership organisation which will take the ultimate decision.

Decisions by the regulatory committees (ie Planning, Regulatory, Licensing and Standards) and Personnel Committee are never key decisions.

A copy of this Forward Plan can be downloaded from our website (www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk) or can be obtained by telephoning 01455 255879, sending a fax to 01455 635692 or emailing democraticsupport@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

RESPONSIBILITY FOR DECISIONS

Part 3 of the Council’s Constitution sets out which committee/individual has responsibility for taking decisions.

FORWARD PLAN OF EXECUTIVE AND COUNCIL DECISIONS

1 January to 30 April 2008

JANUARY 2008

Details of Decision to be taken (* denotes key decision)	Portfolio/ Service	Decision Maker and Date(s)	Reporting Pathway and Date(s)	Consultees and Consultation Process	Documents to be submitted (<i>Report Author</i>)
Council Offices Refurbishment	Finance & ICT	Council 22 January 2008		Scrutiny Commission 10 January	Committee Report (<i>Malcolm Evans</i>)
Recategorisation	Strategy & Housing	Council 22 January 2008		Scrutiny Commission 10 January	Committee Report (<i>Steve Atkinson</i>)
Review of Council's Vision	Strategy & Housing	Council 22 January 2008		Scrutiny Commission 10 January	Committee Report (<i>Steve Atkinson</i>)

FEBRUARY 2008

Details of Decision to be taken (* denotes key decision)	Portfolio/ Service	Decision Maker and Date(s)	Reporting Pathway and Date(s)	Consultees and Consultation Process	Documents to be submitted (<i>Report Author</i>)
Capital Programme 2007/08	Finance & ICT	Council 26 February 2008	Executive 20 February	Finance & Audit Services Select Committee 4 February, Scrutiny Commission 19 February	Committee Report (<i>Sanjiv Kohli</i>)
General Fund Revenue Budget 2008/09	Finance & ICT	Council 26 February 2008	Executive 20 February	Finance & Audit Services Select Committee 4 February, Scrutiny Commission 19 February	Committee Report (<i>Sanjiv Kohli</i>)

HRA Budget 2008/09	Finance & ICT	Council 26 February 2008	Executive 20 February	Finance & Audit Services Select Committee 4 February, Scrutiny Commission 19 February	Committee Report (<i>Sanjiv Kohli</i>)
Medium Term Financial Strategy	Finance & ICT	Council 26 February 2008	Executive 20 February	Finance & Audit Services Select Committee 4 February, Scrutiny Commission 13 February	Committee Report (<i>Sanjiv Kohli</i>)
Public Conveniences	Health & Environment	Council 26 February 2008			Committee Report (<i>Trevor Prowse</i>)

MARCH 2008

No decisions to be taken.

APRIL 2008

Details of Decision to be taken (* denotes key decision)	Portfolio/ Service	Decision Maker and Date(s)	Reporting Pathway and Date(s)	Consultees and Consultation Process	Documents to be submitted (<i>Report Author</i>)
Sheltered Housing Review	Community Services	Executive 9 April 2008			Committee Report (<i>Sharon Stacey</i>)
Corporate Plan / BDP	Performance & Strategy	Executive 9 April 2008			Committee Report (<i>Mike Brymer</i>)

DETAILS OF COUNCIL DECISION MAKERS

The table below details the Council's Service Areas and the Executive Member responsible for each with the Council Official responsible for service management.

AREA OF RESPONSIBILITY / SERVICE AREA	EXECUTIVE MEMBERS AND CHIEF OFFICERS	HEAD OF SERVICE CONTACT DETAILS
Strategic Leadership and Direction of Travel	Councillor DC Bill (Leader) Mr S Atkinson (Chief Executive)	Tel: 01455 255606 Fax: 01455 890229 Email: steve.atkinson@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Corporate Services (including Human Resources, Law and Governance and Communications)	Councillor DO Wright Miss L Horton (Deputy Head of Service)	Tel: 01455 255859 Fax: 01455 635692 Email: louisa.horton@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Culture and Development (including Leisure, Community Safety, Development & Building Control)	Councillor SL Bray (Deputy Leader) Mr P Cash (Head of Service)	Tel: 01455 255687 Fax: 01455 890229 Email: pete.cash@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Finance and ICT (including Accounts, ICT Support, Council Tax, Business Rates, Benefits, Cashiers, Corporate Estates and Development, Customer Services and Internal Audit)	Councillor DC Bill (Leader) Mr S Kohli (Head of Service)	Tel: 01455 255607 Fax: 01455 251172 Email: sanjiv.kohli@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Parks and Open Spaces (including Green Spaces)	Councillor WA Moore Mr T Prowse (Head of Service)	Tel: 01455 255694 Fax: 01455 234590 Email: trevor.prowse@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Performance, Strategy and Housing (including Performance, Partnerships, Emergency Planning, Economic Development, Homelessness, Allocations, Repairs)	Councillor DS Cope (Strategy & Housing) Councillor DO Wright (Performance) Mr B Cullen (Deputy Chief Executive)	Tel: 01455 255676 Fax: 01455 890229 Email: bill.cullen@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Refuse Collection and Environmental Health (including Licensing, Car Parks, Pollution, Refuse, Grounds Maintenance)	Councillor Mrs S Francks Mr T Prowse (Head of Service)	Tel: 01455 255694 Fax: 01455 234590 Email: trevor.prowse@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk
Rural Issues (across all portfolios and including Village Centres)	Councillor WJ Crooks Mr B Cullen (Deputy Chief Executive)	Tel: 01455 255676 Fax: 01455 890229 Email: bill.cullen@hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk

Further clarification and representations about any item included in the Forward Plan can be made to the appropriate Executive Member and Head of Service either using the contact details above or in writing to: Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, Council Offices, Argents Mead, Hinckley, Leicestershire, LE10 1BZ. Representations should be made before noon on the working day before the date on which the decision is to be taken.

DECISION MAKING ARRANGEMENTS

The views of local people are at the heart of decision making at Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council, because major decisions are made by Councillors who are elected every four years by local people. Councillors work with the communities that they represent to ensure that local priorities are reflected in the work that the Council does.

The Council is made up of 34 Councillors representing 16 wards. If you want to know which Councillor(s) represents your area or you would like to contact your Councillor(s) concerning an issue, you will find contact details on our website (www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk) or alternatively you can contact the Council on 01455 238141.

The Council is committed to the principle of open government and everyone is welcome to attend meetings (except for confidential business) and to receive details of non-confidential items. Below are further details of the Council's democratic decision making arrangements.

The Council

The Council is responsible for setting the budget and the policy framework. Each year there is an Annual Meeting, which selects the Mayor and Deputy Mayor (who are the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council) and decides the membership of the Executive, Scrutiny Commission and Regulatory Committees. There are six ordinary meetings of the Council per year, which make strategic, policy and major budget decisions. This Forward Plan details decisions to be taken by the Council over the next four months.

Executive Functions

Many day to day policy and operational decisions are taken by Executive, a group of seven Councillors comprising of the Leader, Deputy Leader and five Executive Members each responsible for an area of Council policy and activity. The Executive members and their responsibilities are detailed in the previous table.

Overview and Scrutiny Functions

Decisions of the Executive are subject to scrutiny by the Scrutiny Commission and two Select Committees, one responsible for Council Services and the other for Finance and Audit. The Scrutiny Commission and Select Committees also have a role in Policy development. In addition, Scrutiny Panels are established to oversee ad-hoc projects. The Council has two Panels reviewing Housing Allocations and E-Government. The Scrutiny Commission publishes an Annual Report and a Work Programme; this is available on the Council's website (www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/scrutiny) and from the Council on request.

Regulatory Functions

In addition the Council has established committees to deal with regulatory issues, the committees are Planning Committee, Licensing Committee, Regulatory Committee and Standards Committee.

Further information about the Council's Decision Making Arrangements can be obtained from Law and Governance on 01455 255770.

E-GOVERNMENT SCRUTINY PANEL

1 OCTOBER 2007 AT 6.00 PM

PRESENT: Mr KWP Lynch (Chairman)
Mr JG Bannister
Mr MB Cartwright
Mr DM Gould
Mr R Mayne
Mr K Nichols

Officers in attendance: Mr S Kohli, Mr P Langham and Miss R Owen.

1. **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies were received from Mr PS Bessant.

2. **MINUTES (ESP7)**

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 13 August 2007 be confirmed.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared at this stage.

4. **INTERACTIVE SESSION WITH MEMBERS**

Following the success of a previous interactive session with Members, a session in the IT Training Room had been arranged for Members to view progress made on increasing public access to the Council's services using the internet. Officers from Customer Services, Planning, ICT Services and Benefits were in attendance to guide Members through the processes that the public use to access services online.

Messrs Bannister and Gould arrived at 6.14pm.

5. **VERBAL UPDATES**

Member IT

A Member asked how they would log onto the new Members' Portal from other locations outside of their homes and the Council Offices, and it was noted that this could be achieved wherever there was an access point, for example in cafés

and hotels, but that access using mobile phones would be costly and was not being explored at present. It was felt that the proposals and pilot should not be altered at this time, but the cost for internet access via mobile phones could be built in in future if required.

IT Infrastructure

It was explained that the network had been updated to use Active Directory and an updated email system, which had been completed ahead of schedule.

Leicestershire ICT Framework

Members were updated with progress on the Leicestershire ICT Framework.

6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Chairman reminded Members that the E-Government Scrutiny Panel had been set up by the Scrutiny Commission as a task and finish group which would focus on all areas of the E-Government Agenda, not just IT. It was acknowledged that in recent months it had been essential to focus on IT in order to create proposals for the new Members' portal, but that once this was underway it may not be necessary for the Panel to continue to meet.

It was noted that the Authority was now at the required standard for E-Government, but that the Government was now looking at 'Transformational Government', which involved making the best use of technology. It was requested that a report be prepared which highlighted progress made by each department to become 'paperless'.

Members felt that the Panel had undertaken valuable pieces of work and had evolved as an integral part of Overview and Scrutiny.

RESOLVED –

- (i) a report be produced on the progress of all Service Areas in developing online services;
- (ii) the Scrutiny Commission be made aware of the successes of the E-Government Scrutiny Panel and how the work of the Panel has evolved.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To be arranged.

(The meeting closed at 7.20pm).

FINANCE AND AUDIT SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

5 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: Mr KWP Lynch (Chairman)
Mr JG Bannister
Mr PS Bessant
Mr P Hall
Mr MR Lay
Mr R Mayne
Mr K Morrell
Mr R Ward

Officers in attendance: Mr D Bunker, Mr S Coop, Mrs T Darke, Mr M Evans, Miss L Horton, Mrs B Imison, Mr S Kohli, Mr P Langham and Miss R Owen.

Mr S Hallsworth from Bentley-Jennison also attended the meeting.

1. **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies were received from Mr PR Batty and Mr T McClure.

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared at this stage.

3. **MINUTES (FASC28)**

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 24 September be confirmed.

4. **CORPORATE DEBT STRATEGY (FASC32)**

Members received a report which sought support for the Corporate Debt Strategy to ensure consistency and fairness in managing the level of debt owed to the Council whilst dealing efficiently with the processing of the Council's income.

Mr Lay arrived at 6.34pm.

In response to a question about the frequency of monitoring and reporting back, it was stated that debt was constantly monitored and it was agreed that progress would be reported on a 6-monthly basis.

RECOMMENDED – the Corporate Debt Strategy be supported and progress be reported on a 6-monthly basis.

5. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT BLOCK 2 (FASC29)

Members were presented with the second Internal Audit Report of 2007/08 which covered IT Contract, Council Tax, NNDR, Planning, Building Control Fees, Gambling Act and Smoke Free Legislation. Members were informed that it was a good, clean audit report but attention was drawn to the recommendations with regard to the IT Contract. The IT Manager assured Members that action had been taken to address these.

Attention was also drawn to the recommendations for Building Control, and officers stated that they were undertaking extensive marketing exercises but that they were operating in a very competitive market. Members were concerned about this and suggested that the Building Control Service needed to be developed to offer a similar service to private companies. It was also stated that partnership working with North-West Leicestershire District Council was being investigated.

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

6. THE DATA PROTECTION AUDIT AND ACTION PLAN (FASC30)

The Select Committee received a report which presented the Action Plan resulting from the Data Protection Audit carried out by Bentley Jennison during 2007.

Concern was expressed with regard to the tight timescales set out in the Action Plan, however officers assured Members that they were all achievable. Issues surrounding the 'clear desk policy' were highlighted, for example the lack of space and storage to make this possible and the resource implications of providing the necessary storage, it was therefore stated that services that dealt with sensitive information would be prioritised. It was also stated that these issues would feature on the work programme for the new 'Corporate Operations Board' arising from the restructure.

A Member drew attention to their request at the previous meeting (minute no 6 paragraph 3 refers) to have the opportunity to complete the same questionnaire as had been circulated to staff, and it was agreed that this would be circulated to all Members shortly.

RESOLVED – the report be noted and a questionnaire about Data Protection be sent to all Members.

7. GREENFIELD BUSINESS PARK INDUSTRIAL UNITS (FASC31)

Members were presented with a report which set out options for the future of the site. The Lead Officer for the project gave a brief history of the project, including the decision to stop the development in September.

Members expressed concern with regard to many aspects of the project – firstly that the Select Committee had questioned the costs on several occasions but had not received satisfactory answers. They were also concerned that it took almost 12 months after the Cabinet had committed to the build to appoint a consultant, that £147,000 had been spent with potentially no outcome, and that site investigations including flood risk assessments were not undertaken before the tender documents were sent out.

Members felt that due to the nature of the discussion which would ensue in order to fully debate the matter and compose an informed recommendation, they would need to move into private session. It was agreed that as there was an exempt report later on the agenda, discussion on the Greenfield Business Park would be deferred until later on the agenda.

RESOLVED – Discussion on this item be deferred and be discussed in private session under the relevant part of the agenda.

8. RISK MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK – 6 MONTHLY REPORT (FASC33)

The Select Committee received a report which advised on progress to manage strategic and operational risks and the development of the Council's risk management arrangements.

Members reiterated their request of the previous meeting that these reports be produced every 6 months only due to their repetitive nature, and as such did not wish to give consideration to this report.

RECOMMENDED – Risk Management reports be presented to Members on a 6-monthly basis.

9. FINANCE & AUDIT SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2008 (FASC34)

Members received the Work Programme for the Select Committee for 2007/08. It was noted that the report on cash handling at Hollycroft Park would be brought to the December meeting.

Members recalled the request of the Scrutiny Commission for a report on the Hinckley Club for Young People to be brought to this meeting of the Select Committee but were informed that the Cultural Services Manager had said a report would not be forthcoming. Members felt that this was unacceptable and stated that they still wished to see a report on the Club for Young People – particularly as a decision would be made by Council in January. It was therefore requested that the report be received by the Select Committee on 17 December.

Members were also reminded that a report on tendering processes had been requested and would be prepared for the next meeting.

RESOLVED – the Work Programme be noted with the above additions.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members were reminded that the next meeting would be held at 6.30pm on Monday, 17 December 2007.

11. MATTERS FROM WHICH THE PUBLIC MAY BE EXCLUDED

On the motion of Mr Lynch, seconded by Mr Mayne, it was

RESOLVED - in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the remaining items of business on the grounds that they involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraphs 3 and 10 of Part I of Schedule 12A of that Act.

12. GREENFIELD BUSINESS PARK INDUSTRIAL UNITS (FASC31)

Due to the need to move into private session, this was a continuation of previous discussion (minute 7 refers).

Mr Ward left the meeting at 7.50pm.

Members expressed concern with regard to the tenders received for the project and discussed the options available for the future of the site. Members favoured option 4 – to await depot relocation report and jointly dispose of both sites, however they requested further information with regard to the old units and revenue and officers agreed to bring a full report to a future meeting.

RECOMMENDED – Option 4 be supported.

13. MONTHLY OUTTURN REPORT TO 30 SEPTEMBER 2007 (FASC35)

Members received a report which outlined the outturn position at 30 September 2007.

RESOLVED – the report be noted.

(The meeting closed at 8.37pm).

COUNCIL SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE

8 NOVEMBER 2007 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Mrs R Camamile (Chairman)
Mr JC Bown
Mrs A Hall
Mr P Hall
Mr DW Inman
Mr K Morrell
Mrs J Richards
Mr BE Sutton

Officers in attendance: Mr S Atkinson, Mr C Bellavia, Mr D Moore, Miss R Owen, Mr R Palmer and Mrs J Stay.

1. **APOLOGIES AND SUBSTITUTIONS**

Apologies were received from Mr Gould and Mr Nichols, with Mr Hall substituting for Mr Nichols.

2. **MINUTES (CSSC15)**

RESOLVED – the minutes of the meeting held on 27 September 2007 be confirmed.

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No interests were declared at this stage.

4. **ATTENDANCE MANAGEMENT (CSSC16)**

Members were updated on the ongoing management of attendance. It was noted that although the figure was an improvement on the same period of the previous year, it had increased from 7.5 days in the first six months of 2007/08 to 8.16 days in October. Officers suggested that the figures may have been distorted by some long-term absences that had not been addressed and by an expected increase at this time of the year. Nevertheless, increased efforts would be made to ensure that absences were maintained at the target level in ensuing months to ensure capacity for the authority was maximised.

Members asked if it was possible to quantify the savings made as a result of the new Framework and the improved attendance figures, and it was requested that this information be supplied at the year end.

RESOLVED – the report be noted and savings made be reported at the year end.

5. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2007/08 (CSSC17)

The Select Committee received a report which supplied the performance information for the first six months of 2007/08. With regard to sports and exercise, a Member asked if figures were available of those who exercise as a result of GP referrals. This information is attached as an appendix to the minutes.

RESOLVED – the report be noted and information requested be provided to Members of the Select Committee.

6. COUNCIL SERVICES SELECT COMMITTEE – WORK PROGRAMME 2007/2008 (CSSC18)

Members gave consideration to the suggested Work Programme for 2007/08.

RESOLVED – the Work Programme be agreed.

7. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, 20 December 2007 at 6.30pm.

(The meeting closed at 7.10pm).

Response to question raised under report CSSC18 (minute 6 refers)

These figures are drawn from the Active People Survey undertaken by Sport England.

The Active People Survey is the largest ever survey of sport and active recreation to be undertaken in Europe.

The survey provides by far the largest sample size ever established for a sport and recreation survey and will allow levels of detailed analysis previously unavailable. It identifies how participation varies from place to place and between different groups in the population.

The survey also measures; the proportion of the adult population that volunteer in sport on a weekly basis, club membership, involvement in organised sport/competition, receipt of tuition or coaching, and overall satisfaction with levels of sporting provision in the local community.

The questionnaire was designed to enable analysis of the findings by a broad range of demographic information, such as gender, social class, ethnicity, household structure, age and disability.

The Active People Survey 2005/6

The first year of the survey was conducted between October 2005 and October 2006, and was a telephone survey of 363,724 adults in England (aged 16 plus) and is unique in providing reliable statistics on participation in sport and active recreation for all 354 Local Authorities in England (a minimum of 1,000 interviews were completed in every Local Authority in England).

The survey will be undertaken again next year so we can obtain comparative data and see if initiatives which have been undertaken have raised participation levels .