

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Grand Jury Room, Town Hall
24 August 2009 at 6.00pm

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel deals with reviewing corporate strategies within the Council's Strategic Plan, the Council's budgetary guidelines for the forthcoming year, scrutinising the Forward Plan, the performance of Portfolio Holders and scrutiny of Cabinet decisions or Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated power) which have been called in.

Information for Members of the Public

Access to information and meetings

You have the right to attend all meetings of the Council, its Committees and Cabinet. You also have the right to see the agenda, which is usually published 5 working days before the meeting, and minutes once they are published. Dates of the meetings are available at www.colchester.gov.uk or from Democratic Services.

Have Your Say!

The Council values contributions from members of the public. Under the Council's Have Your Say! policy you can ask questions or express a view to meetings, with the exception of Standards Committee meetings. If you wish to speak at a meeting or wish to find out more, please pick up the leaflet called "Have Your Say" at Council offices and at www.colchester.gov.uk

Private Sessions

Occasionally meetings will need to discuss issues in private. This can only happen on a limited range of issues, which are set by law. When a committee does so, you will be asked to leave the meeting.

Mobile phones, pagers, cameras, audio recorders

Please ensure that all mobile phones and pagers are turned off before the meeting begins and note that photography or audio recording is not permitted.

Access

There is wheelchair access to the Town Hall from St Runwald Street. There is an induction loop in all the meeting rooms. If you need help with reading or understanding this document please take it to Angel Court Council offices, High Street, Colchester or telephone (01206) 282222 or textphone 18001 followed by the full number that you wish to call and we will try to provide a reading service, translation or other formats you may need.

Facilities

Toilets with lift access, if required, are located on each floor of the Town Hall. A vending machine selling hot and cold drinks is located on the first floor and ground floor.

Evacuation Procedures

Evacuate the building using the nearest available exit. Make your way to the assembly area in the car park in St Runwald Street behind the Town Hall. Do not re-enter the building until the Town Hall staff advise you that it is safe to do so.

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www.colchester.gov.uk

Terms of Reference

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

- To review corporate strategies.
- To ensure the actions of the Cabinet accord with the policies and budget of the Council.
- To monitor and scrutinise the financial performance of the Council, and make recommendations to the Cabinet particularly in relation to annual revenue and capital guidelines, bids and submissions.
- To link the Council's spending proposals to the policy priorities and review progress towards achieving those priorities against the Strategic / Action Plans.
- To scrutinise executive decisions made by Cabinet, the East Essex Area Waste Management Joint Committee, the Colchester and Ipswich Joint Museums Committee and Cabinet Member decisions (with delegated authority taking a corporate / strategic decision) which have been made but not implemented, and referred to the Panel through call-in.
- To monitor the Council's operational performance in relation to the Strategic Plan, Local Area Agreement targets and National Indicators.
- To scrutinise the Cabinet's performance in relation to the Forward Plan and to scrutinise the performance of Portfolio Holders.
- At the request of the Cabinet, make decisions about the priority of referrals made in the event of the volume of reports to the Cabinet or creating difficulty for the running of Cabinet business or jeopardising the efficient running of Council business.
- The panel will be the appropriate route for any member to refer a 'local government matter' in the context of Councillor Call for Action.

Process for Councillor Call for Action

- Councillors have the ability to call for debate and discussion a topic of neighbourhood concern, limited to issues affecting a single ward, in an attempt to bring about specific solutions for local problems. This enables members to get things done without going through the Council's executive decision making process.
- Members may bring an action on any issue they choose, with exceptions, for example, if the issue is vexatious or deals with an individual complaint. Local Government matters specifically excluded from the regime are namely matters relating to a planning decision, a licensing decision or where a right of recourse to a review or right of appeal is already provided for in law.
- Poor service performance or increased anti-social behaviour are examples of where a member will bring an action to the panel's attention.
- The scrutiny panel may reject a request as not within the guidance, or the usual channels have not been exhausted, or accept that an investigation is the appropriate action.
- The panel may conduct an investigation in the usual scrutiny manner, seeking information from the Council and/or partners and inviting them to attend meetings.
- A report with recommendations will be compiled and brought to the Council and/or partners attention, with the Council and/or partners having a duty to respond.
- The panel will consider and publish the responses to their recommendations and feed back this information to the Councillor calling for the action.

COLCHESTER BOROUGH COUNCIL
STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
24 August 2009 at 6:00pm

Members

Councillors

Councillor Christopher Arnold (Chairman)
Councillor Dennis Willetts (Deputy Chairman)
Councillor Kim Naish (Labour Group Spokesperson)
Councillor Nick Barlow
Councillor Mark Cory
Councillor Mike Hogg
Councillor Jackie Maclean
Councillor Gaye Pyman
Councillor Laura Sykes
Councillor Nick Taylor
Councillor Julie Young

AGENDA - Part A

(open to the public including the media)

Members of the public may wish to note that agenda items 1 to 5 are normally brief and agenda items 6 to 9 are standard items for which there may be no business to consider.

Pages

1. Welcome and Announcements

- (a) The Chairman to welcome members of the public and Councillors and to remind all speakers of the requirement for microphones to be used at all times.
- (b) At the Chairman's discretion, to announce information on:
- action in the event of an emergency;
 - mobile phones switched to off or to silent;
 - location of toilets;
 - introduction of members of the meeting.

2. Substitutions

Members may arrange for a substitute councillor to attend a meeting on their behalf, subject to prior notice being given. The attendance of substitute councillors must be recorded.

3. Urgent Items

To announce any items not on the agenda which the Chairman has agreed to consider because they are urgent and to give reasons for the urgency.

4. Declarations of Interest

The Chairman to invite Councillors to declare individually any personal interests they may have in the items on the agenda.

If the personal interest arises because of a Councillor's membership of or position of control or management on:

- any body to which the Councillor has been appointed or nominated by the Council; or
- another public body

then the interest need only be declared if the Councillor intends to speak on that item.

If a Councillor declares a personal interest they must also consider whether they have a prejudicial interest. If they have a prejudicial interest they must leave the room for that item.

If a Councillor wishes to make representations on an item on which they have a prejudicial interest they may do so if members of the public are allowed to make representations. In such circumstances a Councillor must leave the room immediately once they have finished speaking.

An interest is considered to be prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Councillor's judgement of the public interest.

Councillors should consult paragraph 7 of the Meetings General Procedure Rules for further guidance.

5. Minutes

1 - 4

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 14 July 2009.

6. Have Your Say!

(a) The Chairman to invite members of the public to indicate if they wish to speak or present a petition at this meeting – either on an item on the agenda or on a general matter not on this agenda. You should indicate your wish to speak at this point if your name has not been

noted by Council staff.

(b) The Chairman to invite contributions from members of the public who wish to Have Your Say! on a general matter not on this agenda.

7. Items requested by members of the Panel and other Members

(a) To evaluate requests by members of the Panel for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

(b) To evaluate requests by other members of the Council for an item relevant to the Panel's functions to be considered.

8. Referred items under the Call in Procedure

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions, taken under the Call in Procedure.

The panel may a) confirm the decision, which may then be implemented immediately, b) confirm the decision back to the decision taker for further consideration setting out in writing the nature of its concerns, or c) refer the matter to full Council in the event that the panel considers the decision to be contrary to the Policy Framework of the Council or contrary to, or not wholly in accordance with the Budget.

9. Decisions taken under special urgency provisions

To consider any Portfolio Holder decisions taken under the special urgency provisions.

10. Review of the Colchester2020 Partnership 5 - 31

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

11. Life Opportunities 32 - 35

See report from the Head of Life Opportunities.

12. A new build nuclear power station at Bradwell 36 - 41

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

13. Work Programme 42 - 44

See report from the Scrutiny Officer.

14. Exclusion of the public

In accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 and in accordance with The Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) to exclude the public, including the press, from the meeting so that any items containing exempt information (for example confidential personal, financial or legal advice), in Part B of this agenda (printed on yellow paper) can be decided. (Exempt information is defined in Section 100I and Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972).

STRATEGIC OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

14 JULY 2009

Present: - Councillors Arnold, Barlow, Cory, Pyman, Naish, Sykes, Willetts and J Young
Substitutions: - Councillor Lissimore for Councillor Maclean
Councillor Ellis for Councillor Taylor
Apologies:- Councillor Hogg

8. Minutes

RESOLVED that the minute of the meeting held on 16 June 2009 was confirmed as a correct record.

9. 2010/11 Budget Strategy, Medium Term Financial Forecast and Budget Timetable

Mr. Charles Warboys, Head of Resource Management and Sean Plummer, Finance Manager, attended the meeting for this item. Mr. Plummer presented the report '2010-11 Budget Strategy, Medium Term Financial Forecast and Budget Timetable' to the panel.

Mr. Plummer confirmed to the Chairman that whilst not recorded on the Budget Timetable, the Budget Update would be reported to the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 9 December 2009. Mr. Plummer also said that it would be the intention to show where funds had been shifted to priority areas and where savings had been made, and the appropriate links, if any, with the Strategic Plan. It was envisaged the December report would be developed to show the movement of resources. Councillor Arnold welcomed this change from the previous years budget reporting.

In response to Councillor J Young, Mr. Plummer said there are links between the Local Area Agreement targets and the Strategic Plan Action Plan, some funded or enabled through grants.

Mr. Plummer said consideration would be given to making linkages with this information and the budget papers. Councillor Young said this would be helpful, for example, making the links to fight childhood obesity.

Mr. Warboys confirmed to Councillor Young that the Concessionary Fares scheme was currently at the stage of consultation, though as it stands District Councils do have the ability to fund discretionary elements of the scheme, confirming that all Essex Districts do have an agreement to commence the scheme daily from 9.00 am.

Mr. Plummer responded to Councillor Barlow saying past experience suggested the Council will be notified of the Government Grant and Comprehensive Spending Review during the summer of 2010, possibly as late as December 2010, for the three years from 2011-12 onwards. Mr. Plummer, in response to Councillor Arnold said the pressure on Public Sector Finance will become apparent in due course at a local level, but this might not necessarily reflect what happens nationally.

Mr. Plummer, in response to Councillor Willetts, said the budget process would continue along the lines reported, with workshops held with Cabinet Members and Senior Management Team, a Budget Group comprising of members and senior officers meeting monthly, and during the course of this year, a series of Fundamental Service Reviews (FSR).

Councillor Arnold said that it would be helpful to all members and improve transparency if the process of FSR included offering up these reviews for scrutiny.

RESOLVED that the panel noted the 2010/11 Budget Strategy, Medium Term Financial Forecast and Budget Timetable.

10. Housing Delivery, including affordable housing units

Ms. Lindsay Barker, Head of Strategic Policy and Regeneration, Mr. Richard Hughes, Housing Strategy and Research Coordinator and Ms. Karen Syrett, Spatial Policy Manager attended the meeting for this item, and Mr. Hughes presented the report on 'Housing Delivery, including affordable housing units'.

In response to Councillor Ellis and Arnold, Mr. Hughes confirmed that if 1082 affordable housing units were delivered annually for the next five years, this would satisfy demand including the backlog from the Housing Needs Register, but this was very unlikely. Mr. Hughes said there were many initiatives that would work alongside the planning system to help deliver the number of affordable housing units needed, including the Homes and Community Agency funding and Housing Associations and private sector lettings, and that perversely, a recession did give the impetus to provide more units.

Ms. Barker said there are opportunities to develop Council owned land and potential sites are being looked at. Mr. Ian Vipond, Lead Executive Director at the meeting said providing affordable housing was a local area agreement priority, with an Essex wide group formed to look at ways to increase delivery and thereby help districts to meet their need, and with an emphasis on increasing affordable housing in rural areas and decreasing the number of empty properties.

In response to Councillor Ellis, Ms. Syrett said the Core Strategy had a 35% target of affordable housing as a percentage of all housing developments, and was in accordance with the East of England Plan, and this target was aspirational. The thresholds for building affordable housing have been lowered to 10 units in urbanised areas and 3 units in rural areas as a measure to help try to meet this target though it would take some time for this measure to be established and take effect, given there are still some 7,500 properties that could be built out without renegotiating the S106 agreements. Ms. Syrett said Colchester was not breaking new ground, with Tendring and Braintree having 40% targets. Ms. Syrett said it would be more appropriate to review this policy in one year's time to consider this new measure and get a better idea of the effectiveness of the policy. Ms. Barker said the Council were looking for the impact of this new policy over a two year period.

In response to Councillor Young, Ms. Barker said officers have been tasked by the Cabinet to look at the options and implications of building new Council homes, and the report is to be considered by Leadership at the end of July. Councillor Arnold said the review of the relevant Portfolio Holder would be an opportune time to ask about the outcomes of this paper.

Mr. Hughes confirmed to Councillor Arnold that the Cowdray Avenue development was anticipated to provide 28 affordable housing units in January 2010, 9 units in May 2010, 7 units in December 2010 and the remainder of the 40 units in 2011.

Mr. Hughes responded to Councillor Barlow saying the Council is proactive in trying to find opportunities to move affordable housing schemes forward, though historically new schemes have evolved from both the Council and the developer. Stalling on schemes was a relatively recent scenario reflecting the economic downturn, though developers know the Council is in a position to move developments forward and where possible assistance is given. Ms. Syrett said the Council had identified adequate land supply for development, ensuring we will be well positioned for when the market turns around. Mr. Vipond said it was conceivable that the number of affordable housing units could increase this year, with some developers asking for new S106 agreements to develop affordable housing units and help them survive the recession.

Councillor Arnold thanked officers for the presentation and the information given on the new affordable housing initiatives.

RESOLVED that the panel commented on, and noted the housing delivery figures within the borough.

11. Review of the work of the Portfolio Holder for Communications, Customers and Leisure

Councillor Hunt, Portfolio Holder for Communications, Customers and Leisure attended the meeting for this item. Councillor Hunt gave a brief 'resume' of the work undertaken by himself since his previous review earlier in the year.

Having explained to panel members the new dates for the SOS Bus to visit villages in outlying rural areas and including Rowhedge, Layer, Marks Tey, Langham and Tiptree, Councillor Hunt said the criteria for selecting these villages was that they were in areas with the most deprivation. It was explained that Tiptree was having a second visit to cover villages such as Birch who it was considered did not have a suitable site for the SOS Bus. Members questioned the selection criteria and the suggestion that villages like Birch did not have a suitable site for the SOS Bus and asked Councillor Hunt to speak with Mosaic in light of the Councillor's comments.

In response to Councillors Lissimore and Naish, Councillor Hunt said the Council did have a policy for keeping allotment sites clean and tidy, officers did regularly inspect all allotment sites and warnings and enforcement action was taken as and when required. Councillor Hunt also confirmed that all allotment sites had substantial waiting lists. Councillor Hunt also confirmed that he would confirm to panel members the current state of the allotment sites at the Irvine Road and Bergholt Road.

Councillor Hunt understood Councillor Willetts comments that the current IT equipment and document access system provided to members was primitive, but confirmed that it was the Council's intention to improve communication and document access for members, with a new document information system and the VOIP system to be introduced to members as soon as possible. Councillor Willetts said he hoped the Council's developing IT Strategy would be more responsive to member's needs. Councillor Hunt said whilst he understood there will always be some people who will never arrange access for on-line communication, it was the intention to provide better website access and thereby reduce the number of customers needing to communicate via telephone or in person.

Councillor Hunt thought it would be difficult, with improved on-line access to customers, to envisage a policy of satellite council offices in rural areas providing a range of Council services.

Councillor Hunt confirmed that the sudden excessive increase in incoming calls to Customer Services, brought on by the economic downturn, and an increase in non-English speaking residents for which it took longer to complete telephone interviews, the waiting time for telephone customers had increased from an average low of two minutes up to four minutes. Councillor Hunt said this current problem had been addressed through the employment of three additional staff in the Customer Services Centre, some through redeployment, and this was already having a positive effect on reducing waiting time.

Responding to Councillor Barlow, Councillor Hunt said the move from Angel Court to Rowan House was as originally scheduled, to be completed by the end of December. The CCTV service area would remain in Angel Court and the Council would be retaining space on the first floor of Angel Court some of which would be sublet to other organisations. The front of the Angel Court building is to undergo a much needed facelift, though throughout all these changes customers should not see a change to the services provided.

Councillor Young asked Councillor Hunt to consider monitoring communications and outcomes between officers and members and feeding any concerns into Council. It was envisaged that this may be possible in the future with the upgrades on the telephony and IDOX systems.

Councillor Hunt responded to Councillor Arnold's enquiry about what he saw as draconian cuts to some of services within his portfolio by saying the cuts made were quite modest but had had a disproportionate media effect. In reference to one such cut, recently referred to as 'Shrubgate', Councillor Hunt said he aimed to change the planting area schedules to show high and low priority areas and to fund these on a priority basis through a reallocation of funds rather than a cutting of services. Councillor confirmed that the flowerbeds managed by Colchester Borough Homes would be unaffected by this change of policy, though the control of parked vehicles on verges was a highways problem. Councillor Hunt agreed with panel members that it would be a useful piece of work for the Head of Street Services to provide an analysis of how shrub and flower borders are funded in other Essex Districts.

RESOLVED that the panel;

- i) Thanked Councillor Hunt for attending the meeting and responding to members questions.
- ii) Requested Councillor Hunt to speak with Mosaic in light of the Councillor's comments concerning the SOS Bus schedule.
- iii) Requested Councillor Hunt to give an update to panel members on the current state of the allotment sites at the Irvine Road and Bergholt Road.
- iv) Requested Councillor Hunt to ask the Head of Street Services to provide to panel members an analysis of how shrub and flower borders are funded in other Essex Districts.



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
10

24 August 2009

Report of	The Scrutiny Officer	Author	Robert Judd
Title	Working in Partnership with Colchester2020		Tel. 282274
Wards affected	All		

This report sets out the work of Colchester2020, the Local Strategic Partnership.

1. Action(s) required

- 1.1 The Panel is asked to consider the work of Colchester2020, the Local Strategic Partnership and the progress made towards the partnership's revised priorities.

2. Reason for Scrutiny

- 2.1 The Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel agreed to invite Colchester2020 Local Strategic Partnership to the meeting of 24 August 2009, as part of Panels 2009/10 work programme.
- 2.2 The Local Strategic Partnership previously came to the Overview and Scrutiny Panel in January 2007 and January 2008. Whilst the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel are not expected to scrutinise the roles and function of other agencies or organisations, this is an opportunity for the Panel to understand the work of the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) and the partnership's working with other local agencies and authorities.

3. Colchester2020

- 3.1 Dr Paul Zollinger-Read, Chair of Colchester2020 and Chief Executive of North East Essex Primary Care Trust and Mr. Adrian Pritchard, partner and Chief Executive of Colchester Borough Council will be attending the meeting for this item.

Partnership

- 3.2 The current partnership is made up of 14 community leaders from the private, public and voluntary sectors, as follows: Richard Aldridge, Chief Executive Citizens Advice Bureau. Steve Bradshaw (Vice Chair Colchester2020), Chief Executive CUFC. Danny Clough, Principal, Colchester Institute. Ewan Dodds, Managing Director, Whybrow. Jo Edwards, Chairperson of the Federation of Residents Association. Dee Evans, Chief Executive, Mercury Theatre. Greg Falvey, Chief Executive, Colchester Borough Homes. Jane Gardner, Essex County Council Co-ordinator for Colchester and Tendring. Jeremy Lucas. Peter Murphy, Chief Executive, Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust. Chief Superintendent Tim Newcomb, Divisional Commander, Colchester and Tendring Police. Colonel Tony Phillips, Garrison Commander. Adrian Pritchard, Chief Executive, Colchester Borough Council. Dr Tony Rich, Registrar, University of Essex. Tim Young, Colchester Borough Councillor and Paul Zollinger-Read (Chairman Colchester2020), Chief Executive, North East Essex Primary Care Trust.

Engagement

- 3.3 Colchester2020 hold an assembly meeting annually, which is open to local residents, giving them an opportunity to monitor the progress of the work of the partnership. The assembly meeting is also an opportunity to invite key speakers.
- 3.4 Colchester 2020 also have five main priorities as part of the Community Strategy and in addition to the annual assembly each priority lead runs a mini-assembly on that priority once a year.

Community Strategy

- 3.5 The Colchester2020 LSP formed as a result of the Local Government Act 2000, with the main role of the partnership being to deliver the Community Strategy, known as Colchester's Sustainable Community Strategy. Colchester2020 has reassessed and revised its vision and priorities to ensure they continue to meet the strategic needs of Colchester, taking account of economic and social forecasts, and remains fit for purpose. The revised vision can be seen on the front page of the Colchester2020 newsletter in appendix A.
- 3.6 The partnership has five revised priorities, each with a designated lead partner. The priorities are;
- Promoting business, increasing employment opportunities and improving educational and skills attainment – Lead Partner Ewan Dodds
 - Reducing congestion, changing travel behaviour and improving the transport infrastructure – Lead Partner Jeremy Lucas
 - Making Colchester and outstanding visitor destination and celebrating its heritage, culture and leisure activities – Lead Partner Dee Evans
 - Promoting healthy lifestyles, providing affordable housing and reducing homelessness – Lead Partner Adrian Pritchard
 - Creating safer neighbourhoods and stronger, inclusive communities – Lead Partner Tim Newcomb.

The Partnership also has in place a Performance Plan for each priority and this is attached as Appendix B.

- 3.7 For more information on Colchester2020, please visit the website www.colchester2020.com.

4. Local Area Agreement

- 4.1 Colchester 2020 also has a role in overseeing the delivery of the Local Area Agreement (LAA). To make sure this is effective Colchester 2020 established a Public Sector Partnership (PSP) when the first LAA was introduced three years ago. The PSP regularly review performance against the LAA targets for Colchester and have agreed comprehensive action plans to ensure delivery, working with partners. They have also supported Colchester 2020 in the allocation of Performance Reward Grant of £700k to projects to help deliver the LAA.

5. Standard References

- 5.1 There are no policy plan references or financial, human rights, community safety or health and safety implications in this matter.
- 5.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme are subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan, and helps to check that risks are identified and challenged.

Colchester2020

Local
Strategic
Partnership

Colchester

WORKING TOGETHER TO HELP COLCHESTER EXCEL AS A PRESTIGIOUS REGIONAL CENTRE

MARCH 2009

Moving forward

Colchester2020 has revised its vision and priorities to ensure they continue to meet the strategic needs of Colchester, taking account of economic and social forecasts.

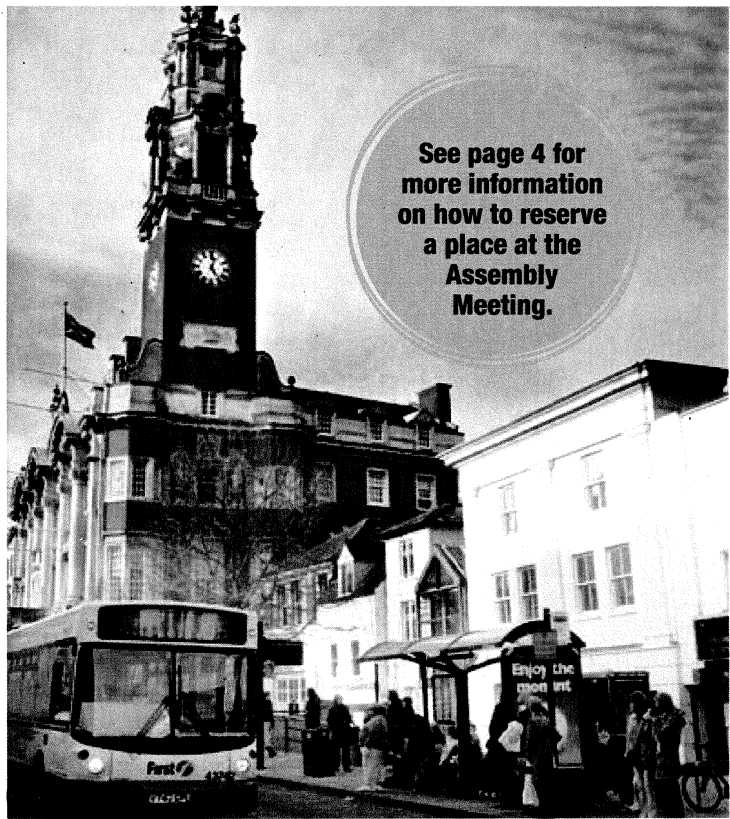
The Partnership has logically and reasonably reassessed the Sustainable Community Strategy to make sure it is still fit for purpose.

Delegates at the forthcoming Colchester2020 Assembly Meeting on 26 March will be invited to offer their thoughts on issues important to Colchester that will help to shape the action plans to drive these priorities forward.

Col Tony Phillips, Chair of Colchester2020, said: "We believe these amendments to the Sustainable Community Strategy are the responsible response to changes taking place both locally and globally."

And he went on to explain: "Many of our strategic priority issues remain, however, over the coming months we will focus on specific areas becoming increasingly important to Colchester.

"These are likely to focus on Colchester as a community and this is where we will particularly seek views from delegates at the forthcoming Assembly meeting."



See page 4 for more information on how to reserve a place at the Assembly Meeting.

AMENDED VISION

In the light of the review, Colchester2020's vision will be amended to:

Colchester – **excelling** as a regional centre
Colchester – **working** for sustainable economic growth and reducing carbon emissions

Colchester – **providing** opportunities for everyone to lead healthy lives and to achieve their full potential

Colchester – **a great place to live, work, study and visit.**

Some amendments and additions have also been made to the Partnership's priorities. The revised priorities are:

- Promoting business, increasing employment opportunities and improving educational and skills attainment
- Reducing congestion, changing travel behaviour and improving the transport infrastructure
- Making Colchester an outstanding visitor destination and celebrating its heritage,

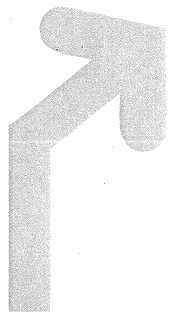
culture and leisure activities

- Promoting healthy lifestyles, providing affordable housing and reducing homelessness
- Creating safer neighbourhoods and stronger, inclusive communities.

As before, the theme of carbon reduction has been recognised as key to all of the Partnership's work and will be reflected throughout each of the priorities.



To find out more about Colchester2020 visit www.colchester2020.com, email colchester2020@colchester.gov.uk or phone 282348.



Putting business firmly on the agenda

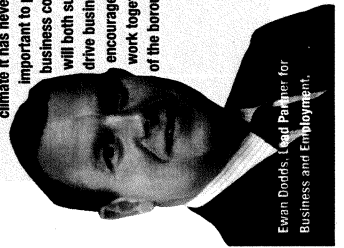
Colchester2020 has taken a three-pronged approach to putting business and employment firmly on its agenda.

As well as endeavouring to bring the appropriate people together to help give business groups a collective and more powerful voice, the Partnership has also been liaising closely with Colchester Borough Council to ensure sufficient serviced employment land becomes regularly available and has formed a strong working relationship between business and education. This has already resulted in the town's businesses working much more closely with our schools and colleges, while promoting the town's emerging creative industries and environmental technologies as unique selling points.

Lead Partner Ewan Dodds explained: "Business and employment are key to Colchester's long-term prosperity. If given the right support, the business community can play a significant part in making the borough a place where people choose to live, work and visit, and where there are opportunities for all."

The Partnership's business vision is for Colchester to become a prestigious, dynamic and vibrant centre for business and the capital of small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs) in the Eastern region, encapsulating and accommodating both traditional and emerging technologies.

Ewan added: "In the current economic climate it has never been more important to promote good business collaboration that will both support and help drive business forward, and encourage everyone to work together for the good of the borough." ■



Ewan Dodds, Lead Partner for Business and Employment.

We're working together



Creating links and working together are major themes for Colchester2020's business priority. A great example is the Partnership's work to establish a business group with links to education to highlight local job opportunities. More than 150 Colchester business people attended the group's first two Bridge the Gap and Cross the Gap events.

Ewan Dodds, Colchester2020's Lead Partner for Business and Employment, explained: "The aim was to bridge the gap between business and education and help business and schools gain a better understanding of the issues that each faces. Together we are encouraging business to play an even greater role in the development of our young people."

Colchester2020 is now encouraging businesses to sign up to the Business Ambassador Scheme, which has been established to acknowledge those businesses and individuals who regularly give their time and commitment to schools and colleges across Essex.

Ewan added: "It is a great way of recognising the important contribution that businesses and the wider community can make to the school curriculum, enhancing the impact on



Above: Ewan Dodds, Lead Partner for Business and Employment.

Top right: Speakers at the recent carbon reduction business breakfast.

Below: Delegates at the Bridge the Gap event.



For more information about Colchester2020's priorities visit www.colchester2020.com For more information about the Business Ambassador Scheme phone 01245 463807 or email info@essexebp.org.uk

WAYS TO BEAT THE RECESSION

Colchester2020 and Colchester Borough Council have joined forces to encourage businesses to work together to beat the recession.

The 'Buy Colchester - Buy Local' campaign aims to help Colchester businesses see that if they buy and trade with each other they can help to keep jobs, businesses and the economy thriving in the borough.

Similar campaigns have already proved to be successful in Norfolk and Sheffield. Businesses from across the borough have been invited to attend an event at the beginning of March to launch the campaign and hear about the benefits that a buy local scheme can bring for local business by local business.

Ewan Dodds, Colchester2020 Lead Partner for Business and Employment, said: "This is a great initiative which we hope will help to bring the business community in Colchester closer together. Buying locally is a really simple concept that could make a real difference to our local economy."

For more information about the Buy Colchester, Buy Local campaign email enterprise@colchester.gov.uk

learners and raising levels of achievement."

Colchester2020 has also been working with the business community to encourage everyone to think about how they can cut their carbon footprint. More than 160 local business people recently attended a Colchester2020 Power Breakfast on this topic.

Ewan continued: "We have challenged the borough to cut its carbon emissions by 30% by the year 2020 and wanted to help businesses to identify what they can do to reach this goal. More than 20 local companies provided a fascinating insight

Delegates at the recent carbon reduction business breakfast.

CARBON CHALLENGE

Colchester2020 has challenged the borough to cut its carbon emissions by 30% by the year 2020. Lots of information is now available on the Colchester2020 website to help businesses to find out more about ways to reduce their carbon footprint. As well as great examples of what a range of Colchester companies and organisations are already doing, there is also a carbon challenge quiz to download and a selection of useful websites. Visit www.colchester2020.com/business

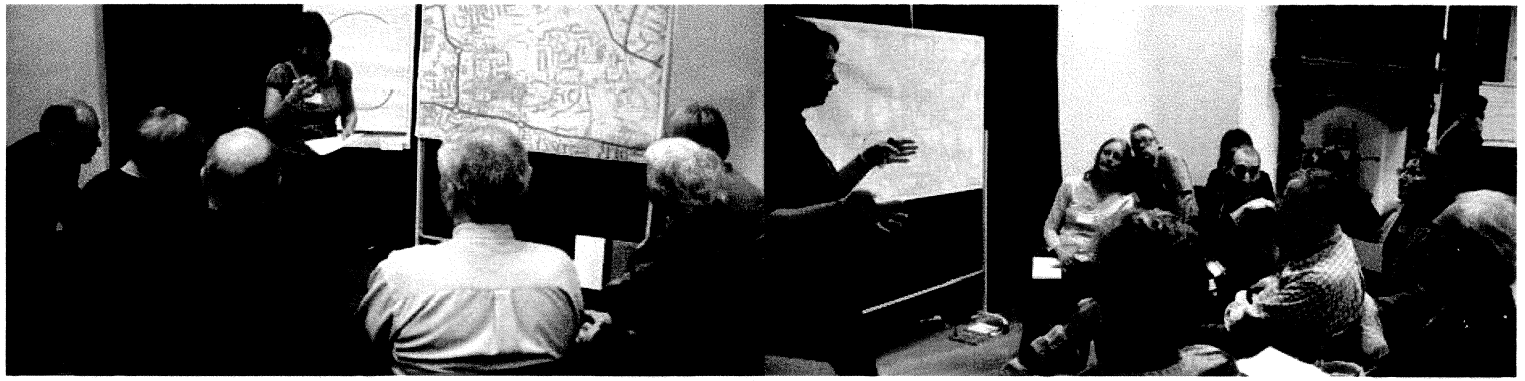
into the ways they are already tackling this huge issue.

"This was the second Power Breakfast we have hosted with almost double the number attending this event, which shows that local businesses recognise the important role the Partnership plays in helping the Borough to achieve great things," Ewan said.

Business collaboration is another key area where the Partnership is seeking to play a vital role with the need for greater co-ordination between the town's numerous business groups.

A concerted drive resulted in a letter in support of the proposed A12 Junction at Cuckoo Farm being delivered to Essex County Council. Vital to the continued prosperity of the town, this letter was jointly signed by Colchester2020, the Chamber of Commerce, the Institute of Directors, Federation of Small Businesses, Key Employers Group and Colchester Retail and Business Association.

"It's the first time our business groups have worked so closely together and we hope this will be the forerunner of much more collaboration and further joint work in the future," Ewan added.



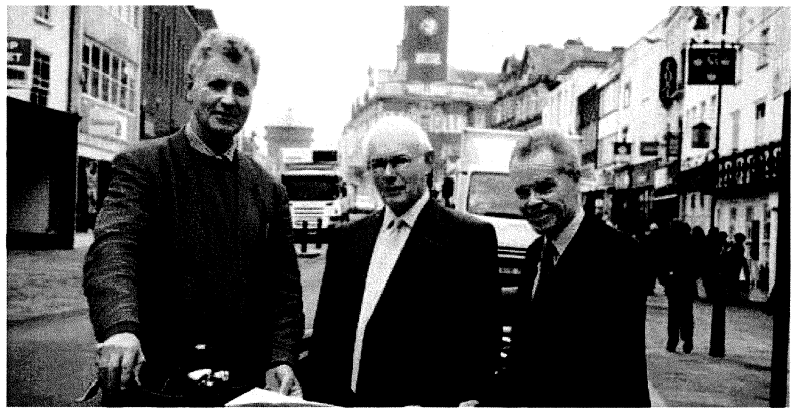
Mini assembly questions 'which way for our town centre?'

Improving access to our town centre for businesses, residents, workers and visitors was the topic for discussion at the recent Colchester2020 Transport Mini Assembly.

Over the past year the Partnership has been bringing key target groups and stakeholders together to get beneath the surface of each of its priorities.

The events have taken on a variety of different formats suited to the topic up for debate, ranging from an activity to help young people see the potential benefits the 2012 Olympics and Paralympics may bring, to an Open Space event looking at the future of heritage and culture in the borough.

Around 40 delegates from a range of local interest groups attended the Transport Mini Assembly at Colchester Castle, and were posed the question, 'Which way for our town centre?'



John Grimshaw, founder of Sustrans, Jeremy Lucas, Colchester2020 Lead Partner for Transport and Mike Crouch, Colchester Borough Council Executive Director.

Jeremy Lucas, Colchester2020 Lead Partner for Transport, said: "We were delighted with the range of groups that attended the event – from transport providers to cyclists, the Colchester Access Group and business representatives.

"Much of the event was spent in small break-out groups giving everyone present the chance to have their say on the kind of actions they believe would make a real difference to how we all access the town centre.

"These thoughts and ideas have all been captured and will help shape our

recommendations on future schemes."

The keynote speaker at the event was John Grimshaw, founder of Sustrans, the sustainable transport charity.

John first came to Colchester in the early 90s, when Wivenhoe Town Council invited him to look at opening a new foot and cycle path alongside the river from the Hythe to Wivenhoe. The route now has 100,000 users a year.

Feedback and outcomes from the Transport Mini Assembly will be available to view online at www.colchester2020.com/transport ■

"We were delighted with the range of groups that attended the event – from transport providers to cyclists, the Colchester Access Group and business representatives."

Jeremy Lucas, Colchester2020 Lead Partner for Transport

Reserve a place at assembly meeting

There is still just time to reserve a place at Colchester2020's March Assembly Meeting.

The event takes place on Thursday 26 March, at The Weston Homes Community Stadium, United Way, Colchester, from 10am to 1pm.

Col Tony Phillips, Chair of Colchester2020, said: "We're keen to get a really good cross section of people at our March Assembly meeting to help shape our action plans going forward.

"The event will give everyone the opportunity to find out more about changes we have made to our vision and priorities and to offer their thoughts on issues important to Colchester.

"We are conscious that currently there is no public bus route directly serving the Weston Homes Community Stadium.

"Therefore, to reduce the number of single car journeys we are planning to provide free coach transport to and from the

town centre for the event," he added.

Places on the coach must be booked in advance so as to ensure demand is catered for.

Anyone who would like to attend the Colchester2020 Assembly event should email colchester2020communications@colchester.gov.uk or phone 01206 282348 stating if they have any special access or dietary requirements and if they would like to reserve a place on the coach. ■

COLCHESTER2020 – PLAN TO DELIVER THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

Priority 1 Promoting business, increasing employment opportunities and improving educational and skills attainment

LEAD OFFICER: EWAN DODDS

Key action 1.1 Tackle unemployment

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Creation of 10,000 new jobs.					
1.1.1	Encourage inward investment.			1.1.1a	Market Cuckoo Farm and UoE Knowledge Gateway to appropriate local, regional, national and international firms.
				1.1.1b	Active engagement with Employment Challenge Initiative.
				1.1.1c	Active Colchester2020 support for Knowledge Gateway
1.1.2	Create Colchester Business Group and coordinate/signpost relevant opportunities and information.				

Key action 1.2 Develop and deliver a business and education strategy and enhance business links to education.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Greater engagement between business and education, including establishment of more internships and apprenticeships.					
1.2.1	Establish internship scheme with large employers in Colchester.			1.1.1	Increase in internships with local employers.
1.2.2	Establish apprenticeship scheme.			1.2.2	Increase in apprenticeships with local employers.
1.2.3	Shared calendar of events publicised to business.			1.2.3	Increased attendance at business-focussed events.
1.2.4	Joint PR activity.				Positive increase in both quality and quantity of publicity
1.2.5	Expand 14/19 APG collaboration.				
1.2.6	Continue business mentor scheme for students.			1.2.6	Increase in number of business mentors and employability skills among student population.

Key action 1.3 Co-ordinate access to funding, training and business support opportunities

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Improved sustainability of local businesses.					
1.3.1	Offer local workshops on Venture Navigator.			1.3.1a	Increase in number of business start ups.
				1.3.1b	Increase in start up survival rates.
1.3.2	Improve websites to market opportunities more effectively.			1.3.2	Increase in networks between local entrepreneurs and businesses.
Outcome. Local businesses continue to invest in training and development of staff.					
1.3.3	Effectively signpost useful funding streams.				
1.3.4	Expand University Enterprise Programme and promote to local businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs.			1.3.4	Greater awareness and uptake of opportunities by aspiring entrepreneurs and existing businesses.

Key action 1.4 Lobby effectively on behalf of the business community

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Improve local business sense of wellbeing, reduce business failure rates and encourage business growth					
1.4.1	Develop stronger working relationship with CBC/CC/FSB/IOD/CORBA/DC.			1.4.1a	Increase in joint initiatives to increase business growth and reduce failures
				1.4.1b	Increase in business champions from different stakeholders
1.4.2	Identify key local areas of business concern.			1.4.2	Demonstrable signs of identified concerns being addressed and action taken.
1.4.3	A12 junction/park and ride/release of development land/"open for business" state.				
1.4.4	Partners to exploit/share networks and channels to decision/policy makers.			1.4.4	Improvements in networks and increase in satisfaction of partners

Key action 1.5 Deliver high quality educational outputs that can provide a workforce skilled to meet the changing needs of local and future businesses

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Improved staying on rates at 16 and improved level 3 and 4 qualifications.					
1.5.1	Campaign to encourage young people to stay in education or training post-16 with joined up support of 6FC, CI and UoE.				
1.5.2	Take campaign to local schools, with joined up support of 6FC, CI and UoE.			1.5.2	Increase in number of students participating in post-16 training and HE.
1.5.3	Establish links/joint events between Young Enterprise and Student Enterprise groups.			1.5.3	Increased engagement in Young Enterprise schemes.

Priority 2 Reducing congestion, changing travel behaviour and improving the transport infrastructure

LEAD OFFICER: JEREMY LUCAS

Key action 2.1 Work with stakeholders and provide leadership in delivering improved information and choice in alternative modes of transport and thus reduce congestion.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. People have access to and use up to date travel information and alternative modes through mobile phones and internet.					
2.1.1	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.1	Access to Services	2.1.1a 2.1.1b	Public satisfaction with the availability of information. Public satisfaction with real time information.
Outcome. Better information is developed, well publicised and used.					
2.1.2	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.1	Access to Services	2.1.2	Public satisfaction.
Outcome. Effective use of modern technology to improve take up of public transport.					
2.1.3	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.1	Access to Services	2.1.2	Take up rate of improvements such as Oyster cards.

		LAA Measures		Local Measures	
Outcome. Less dependence on vehicular through increased usage of cycle routes.					
2.1.4	Inform through membership of the Cycle Town Steering Group, the upgrade of existing and construct new cycle routes using newly acquired Cycling Town status and improve cycle security at rail stations to encourage residents to use bikes/public transport.	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.2	Congestion	2.1.4
					Increased use of cycle routes.
Outcome. More diversity in transport provision.					
2.1.5	Expand membership of the Travel Plan Club year on year.	Jeremy Lucas			2.1.5
					Increased membership of Travel Plan Club year-on-year.
2.1.6	Encouraging transport developed by social enterprises.	Jeremy Lucas			2.1.6
					Before and after comparisons of transport choices in the area.
Outcome. Effective integration between different modes of transport reduces congestion.					
2.1.7	Lobby for the development of rapid transit corridors and investigate the alternative means of travel such as electric buses.	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.2	Congestion	2.1.7
					Number of integrated travel options increases.
Outcome. Better public transport for people into Colchester from outlying villages.					
2.1.8	Lobby bus / train companies and local / regional authorities for improved availability and efficiency of public transport servicing rural locations.	Jeremy Lucas	LI 5.1	Access to Services	2.1.8a
					Increases in routes and options. Public satisfaction.
					2.1.8b

Key action 2.2 Lead work with stakeholders to develop walkable neighbourhoods

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Innovation and fresh thinking delivers a more pedestrian friendly solution and changes travel behaviour.					
2.2.1	Jeremy Lucas	NI 198	Children travelling to school – mode of travel usually used.	2.2.1	Examples of innovation result in changes to travel behaviour, using before and after statistics.
Outcome. Integrated planning.					
2.2.2	Jeremy Lucas			2.2.2	Number of new developments to incorporate travel plans. (Evidence from plans).
Outcome. Good signage of routes.					
2.2.3	Jeremy Lucas			2.2.3	Public satisfaction. Membership of the Travel Plan Club

Priority 3 Making Colchester an outstanding visitor destination and celebrating its heritage, culture and leisure activities

LEAD OFFICER: DEE EVANS

Key action 3.1 Work with stakeholders (to include CBC and ECC) to agree an outstanding annual Cultural and Heritage Festival and programme with the long term goal of an international audience

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures		
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition	
<p>Outcome. High profile support and promotion of creativity in Colchester:</p> <p>Year One: A four year strategy agreed by stakeholders.</p> <p>A pilot programme in Autumn 2009 with a joint marketing campaign.</p> <p>Year Two: A programme with a significant increase in community involvement and geographical spread.</p>						
3.1.1	Bring stakeholders together to agree strategy. Plan, promote and execute in partnership.	Jo Edwards Dee Evans	NI 11	Engagement in the Arts	3.1.1	Increased public awareness of Colchester.
<p>Outcome. The effective championing of heritage, culture and leisure in Colchester to ensure the future sustainability of our unique heritage, our rich cultural assets and our community wellbeing.</p>						
3.1.2	The effective use of heritage, culture and leisure to enhance community cohesion, tackle disadvantage and enable inter-generational work.	Jo Edwards Dee Evans	NI 11	Improvement in Place Survey outcomes.	3.1.2a 3.1.2b 3.1.2c	Increase in short stay visits by non-residents. Increase in audiences and visitor numbers to heritage sites. An annual increase in tourists as measured by the Tourist Board Survey.

		LAA Measures	Local Measures
Outcome. The effective use of heritage, culture and leisure to enhance community cohesion, tackle disadvantage and enable inter-generational work.			
3.1.3	In 2010 and thereafter, extend the event into a sustainable annual festival supported by the community, Colchester Borough Council and Essex County Council.		3.1.3a Increase in visits from hard to reach groups. 3.1.3b Reduction in crime and disorder.

Key action 3.2 Help to initiate a scoping exercise to determine priority leisure activities in Colchester.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. A clear picture of leisure activities in the Borough which will inform future action.					
3.2.1	Bring stakeholders together to agree and instigate scoping exercise.	NI 8	Adult participation in sport and active recreation. Engagement in the Arts.	3.2.1	Scope and plan, that demonstrates clear priorities, agreed.
		NI 11			

Key action 3.3 Continue to champion firstsite

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. A flourishing arts organisation in the Borough, housed in a spectacular purpose built building.					
3.3.1	Continue active support of efforts to complete building.	NI 11	Engagement in the Arts.	3.3.1	A contemporary building of extraordinary design that will act as a catalyst for the regeneration of the St Botolph's area.
3.3.2	Champion the ongoing work of firstsite in the community from a temporary base.				
3.3.3	Ensure realistic ongoing funding to allow successful launch from the new building.			3.3.3a 3.3.3b	Increased visitors to the town. New jobs.

Key action 3.4 Work to change the perception of our “heritage” to include natural and green spaces

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Greater perception and use of green and open spaces and increased involvement of third sector groups.					
3.4.1	Encouraging the use of green and open spaces Increased involvement of third sector groups				
Outcome. Positive changes to the Local Development Plan to protect heritage, natural and green spaces.					
3.4.2	Promoting positive changes to the Local Development Plan to protect our heritage, natural and green spaces				

Key action 3.5 Working with partners, continue to encourage a high standard of construction, building, architecture, public art and urban design that complements and enhances the Borough

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Better designed and environmentally sustainable buildings.					
3.5.1	Bring partners together to discuss strategy for obtaining sponsorship.			3.5.1	Quality new buildings with innovative design and excellent restorations, both of which enhance the character of the town.
Outcome. Sustainable biennial Architectural Awards.					

		LAA Measures	Local Measures
3.5.2	Work with partners to review the Architectural Awards categories and plan for 2011.		3.5.2 Sustainable development Public Art that gives identity, ownership and pride to our communities.

Key action 3.6 Develop an integrated promotional campaign for residents and brand the town for non-residents.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Colchester is regarded as one of the country's leading cultural centres. It is recognised for its outstanding heritage, including a unique historic fabric and natural history of international importance.					
3.6.1	Include all Colchester's heritage, culture and leisure assets, parks and green spaces, coast, natural heritage and community pride in this branding.			3.6.1	Public Satisfaction.
Outcome. More people will visit, stay and return to Colchester, thus ensuring sustainability of tourism in the area.					
3.6.2				3.6.2	Visitor Information Surveys.
Outcome. Local residents will explore their Borough, experiencing what they have on their own doorsteps, instilling a sense of civic pride.					
3.6.3				3.6.3	Visitor Information Surveys Increased audiences and visitor numbers.
Outcome. Positive impact upon the local economy.					
3.6.4					

Priority 4 Promoting healthy lifestyles, providing affordable housing and reducing homelessness

LEAD OFFICER: ADRIAN PRITCHARD

Key action 4.1 Stimulate collective action to promote and support healthy lifestyles

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Collective effort between partners results in positive improvements to healthy lifestyles of their staff, customers, and of children and young people in particular.					
Performance towards these targets is managed through the PSP – encouraging extra effort where it is needed.					
4.1.1	Reduce obesity amongst children and smoking prevalence amongst adults by brokering multi-agency action to achieve the health improvement targets in the LAA and Life Opportunities initiative.	NI 123 NI 56 NI 115	16+ current smoking rate prevalence. Obesity among primary school age children in Year 6. Substance misuse by young people	4.1.1a 4.1.1b	Plus Life Opportunities smoking target. Plus Life Opportunities obesity target.
4.1.2	Increase participation in sports by adults by brokering multi-agency action to achieve LAA target NI 8.	NI 8	Adult participation in sport.		

		LAA Measures	Local Measures
Outcome. Actions across the Partnership have made the best use of synergy and resources.			
4.1.3	Use the creation of a Joint CBC-NHS public health specialist to explore new collaborations.		
4.1.4	Encourage 2020 members to develop a shared staff well-being programme.		
4.1.5	Support the Cycle Tour event in June 09 as a means of promoting healthy lifestyles.		

Key action 4.2 Maximise opportunities to improve the supply of housing and support residents to maintain their tenancies

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. There is more sustained planning across housing services and coordination of resources.					
4.2.1	Encourage all LSP member organisations to review which of their resources could be made available to provide more affordable housing.	Ni 154	Net additional homes provided.	LI 2.2	Affordable housing.
Outcome. Partners have worked together to deliver more finance for affordable housing.					
4.2.2	Work to attract further regional or national resources to fund affordable housing in Colchester.			LI 2.2	Affordable housing.
Outcome. Help given to people in Colchester to maintain their tenancies or home ownership shows positive results.					
4.2.3	Encourage and co-ordinate a multi-agency programme of support to help residents through the economic downturn.				
Outcome. There is a joined up approach to crisis coordination across the Colchester2020.					
4.2.4	Reduce the number of social tenants evicted as a result of debt by encouraging and co-ordinating multi-agency activity to provide pro-active support.	NI 156	Number of households living in temporary accommodation.		
Outcome. Partners have worked together to provide more help to residents to stay in their own homes.					
4.2.5	Bring together statutory agencies, registered social landlords, and voluntary organisations together to create a joint 'crisis response' support package for residents facing repossession or eviction due to debt.			4.2.5	Plus 4 Life Opportunities targets on private sector housing; affordable housing; temporary accommodation and council housing evictions

Key action 4.3 Improve the sustainability and reduce the carbon emissions of our housing.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Actions across the Partnership have made the best use of synergy and resources.					
4.3.1	Broker multi-agency action to achieve the carbon reduction target for the borough contained in the LAA.	NI 186	Per capita CO ₂ emissions in the LA area.		
4.3.2	Provide support to residents and businesses to reduce their carbon emissions.				
4.3.3	Encourage new developments – including housing and public facilities - within the borough to meet high standards of sustainability and energy efficiency.				

Priority 5 Creating safer neighbourhoods and stronger, inclusive communities

LEAD OFFICER: TIM NEWCOMB

Key action 5.1 Make the town centre safer, particularly at night.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. There is more civic pride and community cohesion amongst Colchester citizens.					
5.1.1 Broker multi-agency activity to increase satisfaction with the local area by action planning to achieve LAA target 5	Tim Newcomb	NI 5	Overall / general satisfaction with local area		
Outcome. Reduction in violent crime					
5.1.2 • Reduce violent crime in the town centre by brokering multi-agency action to achieve the crime reduction targets in the LAA and Life Opportunities initiative			Reduce serious violent crimes and assaults causing injury in the town centre	5.1.2	Life Opportunities target for 09-10: reduce violent crime caused by alcohol in the town centre by 2%.
Outcome. Communities feel more confident and the Town Centre feels safer at night.					
5.1.3 Deployment of a multi agency 'SOS Bus' targeting the town centre area of Colchester to reduce opportunity of violent offences occurring.			Reduce serious violent crimes and assaults causing injury in the town centre.		
Outcome. Reduction in fear of crime.					

		LAA Measures	Local Measures
5.1.4	Develop by May 2009 crime reduction 'Toolkit' that identifies specifically what actions each partner of the CDRP can do practically and easily to combat violent crimes and assaults causing injury.		5.1.3 Community fear of crime reduces overall.
Outcome. Licensees take more responsibility for the impact of alcohol sales.			
5.1.5	Positive engagement with licensees.	Tim Newcomb	Reduce substance misuse.
5.1.6	High visibility patrols in target areas at key times to deter violence.		
Outcome. Less alcohol abuse, better health and less anti social behaviour.			
5.1.7	Better education of the community on the dangers of alcohol.	NI 17	Perceptions of anti social behaviour.
5.1.8	Provision of education programmes in schools that focus on risk taking to promote sensible behaviour and thereby preventing offences.		
5.1.9	Use of the Colchester SOS bus to provide a day time education resource for primary and secondary schools to high light the dangers of alcohol and drug use.		
5.1.10	Investment in a schools liaison worker to coordinate activities designed to raise awareness of the dangers of alcohol misuse and to provide advice and support.		

Key action 5.2 Make our neighbourhoods cleaner and feel safer.

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Problem neighbourhoods show improvements in 'liveability'.					
5.2.1	Better targeting of high need areas for cleaning and enforcement work.	Tim Newcomb	NI 5	Overall / general satisfaction with local area	Life Opportunities target for 09-10: reduce anti-social behaviour in Monkwick by 5%. The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will set baseline figures and will measure improvement on a bespoke basis against a number of criteria.
5.2.2	The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will place a dedicated multi-agency team into specific estates or areas suffering from high crime and/or Anti-Social Behaviour.	Tim Newcomb			The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will set baseline figures and will measure improvement on a bespoke basis against a number of criteria.
Outcome. Cleaner, more 'loved' spaces.					
5.2.3	'Safer Colchester' pilot will engage enhanced council cleaning services which will be focussed and prioritised according to need.		NI 195	Improved street & environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)	The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will set baseline figures and will measure improvement on a bespoke basis against a number of criteria.

		LAA Measures		Local Measures
Outcome. Maximisation of the use of residents of volunteers to ensure sustainability.				
5.2.4	The 'Safer Colchester' pilot has as an objective of leaving a legacy of community engagement to sustain improvements in fear of crime and cleanliness.	NI 6	Participation in regular volunteering.	The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will set baseline figures and will measure improvement on a bespoke basis against a number of criteria.

Key action 5.3 Encourage residents to take responsibility by creating incentives for them to organise self help to increase community spirit and pride

Actions	Priority Lead Officer	LAA Measures		Local Measures	
		Ref	Definition	Ref	Definition
Outcome. Communities have more say and involvement and residents take individual responsibility for the 'liveability' of their area.					
5.3.1	Continued Development and investment in the Neighbourhood Action Panels (NAPs) to help address local priorities around crime and disorder.	Tim Newcomb		Increase levels of neighbourly helpfulness.	
Outcome. Sustained better communication between services and the community by working alongside neighbourhoods groups.					
5.3.2	The 'Safer Colchester' pilot has as an objective of leaving a legacy of community engagement to sustain improvements in fear of crime and cleanliness.				The 'Safer Colchester' pilot will set baseline figures and will measure improvement on a bespoke basis against a number of criteria.
5.3.3	Provide Performance Reward Grant funding to the Volunteer centre to increase participation		NI 6	Participation in regular volunteering.	Increased local engagement in crime reduction activity
Outcome. Improved partnership working.					
5.3.4	Development of 'Safer Colchester' pilot and new working practices.				
Outcome. The experience of 'self help' increases community spirit and pride.					
5.3.5	Increase formal participation in voluntary clubs and groups.				



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item

24 August 2009

Report of	Head of Life Opportunities	Author	Matt Sterling Tel. 282577
Title	Progress towards Colchester's Life Opportunities targets		
Wards affected	All wards		

The Panel is invited to review the work of the Public Service Partnership towards achieving the Life Opportunities targets at the end of their first year.

1. Action required

- 1.1 The panel is asked to consider / comment upon the work of the Public Service Partnership towards achieving the local 'Life Opportunities' targets.

2. Reason for scrutiny

- 2.1 The panel requested more information earlier in the year when they reviewed the National Indicators.

3. Background information

- 3.1 The Life Opportunities targets have been locally and voluntarily adopted by partner organisations in Colchester to direct resources and activity at the areas of greatest need. These targets are intended to improve the quality of people's lives throughout the borough. They allow agencies to focus work at relatively small geographic areas of need, and to attract funds from outside the borough to do so.
- 3.2 The Public Service Partnership (PSP) is a sub-committee of the Local Strategic Partnership (Colchester 2020). It performance manages the Local Area Agreement and the Life Opportunities targets. Members include this Council, Essex County Council, NHS North East Essex, Colchester Hospital University NHS Foundation Trust, Essex Police, The Learning and Skills Council, and Colchester Community Voluntary Services.
- 3.3 There are currently 10 targets being pursued: covering crime, health, housing, skills and worklessness. A new target to improve school attendance is currently being agreed.
- 3.4 The targets have different time-spans. Some have expired at the end of 08-9 and been replaced with new ones, others last until 2010, with one lasting until 2013.
- 3.5 Action Plans are in place for each target. Performance is monitored by the PSP on a 6-monthly basis, with revisions to the action plans being made as required.

4. Action to achieve the targets

4.1 Each target is led by a PSP member agency. They are responsible for action planning to achieve them, and for encouraging multi-agency work. There are many examples where we have worked together on new projects as a result of these targets:

4.1.1 Safer Colchester Pilot

Our new target to reduce anti-social behaviour for 09-10 covers Berechurch. To help achieve this we have secured £100,000 from the Safer Essex Partnership to run a pilot scheme to reduce crime and the fear of crime. The pilot, which will operate in Monkwick initially, will involve extra patrols by the police, home visiting by Police and Street Wardens, extra clean-ups by CBC staff, increased youth work in the area by Essex County Council, and community engagement activity.

4.1.2 SOS Bus

To help achieve the target to reduce town centre violence related to alcohol we worked with colleagues from the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership to raise approximately £300,000 for this innovative service. The service, which is managed by local charity Open Road, is now fully operational. It uses volunteers to between 10pm – 4am on Friday and Saturday nights.

4.1.3 'AdiZone' multi-sports facility

To help with our targets to reduce anti-social behaviour and to combat obesity, the Sport and Leisure team have raised approximately £150,000 to secure an innovative Olympic-themed multi-sports facility for the borough.

4.1.3 The MEND scheme

This 12 week programme teaches children and their families about healthy eating and exercise as well as promoting greater self-esteem. It is jointly funded by the local NHS and the Lottery, and is delivered by Colchester Borough Council at Leisure World. To date it has helped over 50 families and has secured 2 more years funding from the Essex Partnership.

4.1.4 Increasing adult skills

To increase the number of adults with basic skills in our target areas, the Learning and Skills Council have made £30,000 of funding available to a CBC community development worker who commissions extra training courses in community venues. The partnership involves trained residents identifying training needs, CBC commissioning the courses and sourcing community venues, the Adult Community College providing the training, and the LSC funding it.

4.1.5 Helping lone parents into work

Using funding from Colchester Borough Council, the local charity Signpost have helped 23 lone parents in our 3 target neighbourhoods, giving them the practical help and information they need as they look for work.

5 Performance so far

5.1 A year-end performance report was presented to the PSP in July 09. It showed the following performance:

5.1.1 Crime

Concerted effort by Essex Police and good partnership working has resulted in the over-achievement of all crime targets. These targets expired at the end of Mar 09.

Reduce anti-social behaviour in St Andrews ward by 5%	Actual reduction: 33%
Reduce anti-social behaviour in Harbour ward by 5%	Actual reduction: 28%
Reduce violence related to alcohol in the town centre by 5%	Actual reduction: 17%

The PSP has adopted two replacement targets for 09-10: to reduce anti-social behaviour in Berechurch by 5%; and to reduce town centre alcohol related violence by a further 2%.

5.1.2 Education

The local Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership is currently drafting a new target for the academic year 09-10 to improve attendance at primary schools. A project to encourage improved attendance is being agreed with local schools during September.

5.1.3 Health

Good progress has been made increasing the number of people who quit smoking, although more effort will be needed if the overall target is to be achieved by March 2010. The childhood obesity target is on track.

Increase the number of people supported to quit smoking in the worst affected areas by 5.5% and the number of actual quitters by 2.5%	Quitters increased so far by 0.7 percentage points (from a baseline of 3% to 3.7%).
Reduce the gap by 3% between the average rate for childhood obesity and the rate for the 12 worst affected schools	Gap cut so far by 5%
Reduce the number of teenage conceptions by 20% in the wards with the highest rates	Data for this target is available 2 years later. However, the 2004-06 figures show conceptions reducing in half of our target wards but rising in the other half

5.1.4 Housing

Reduce the gap between the borough average and the worst affected area for private sector houses falling below the decent homes standard by bringing 50 homes in New Town up to the decent homes standard by 2013	Our work to achieve this target is on track. Funding is currently being sought for a feasibility study for an 'area improvement' scheme.
Reduce the number of households living in homelessness temporary accommodation by 50%	Reduced by 30% so far with 8 months remaining.
Reduce the number of CBH tenants who are evicted by 25% by providing pro-active assistance to combat debt	This target was not achieved. A new target for 09-10 has been agreed.

5.1.5 Skills

Our target is to provide 60 extra learning opportunities in Berechurch, St Andrews and Tiptree wards by July 10. We are on track to achieve this, having provided over 31 so far.

5.1.6 Worklessness

Our target for 08-9 was to help 12 lone parents into work in St Andrews, St Anne's and Highwoods wards. The latest data shows the number of lone parents claiming income support in those wards reduced by 20. For 09-10, we have agreed a new target with the Job Centre to help people who have recently become unemployed.

6. Strategic Plan references

- 6.1 The achievement of Life Opportunities targets is included in the following priorities for action: 'Healthy Living', 'Community Safety', and 'Homes for all' and 'Community Development'.

7 Equality, Diversity and Human Rights implications

- 7.1 Our Life Opportunities work is aimed at improving the life chances of local people who are at most risk of exclusion.

8 Community Safety implications

- 8.1 Our targets to reduce crime and anti-social behaviour are intended to make Colchester a safer place to live and work.

9 Risk Management implications

- 9.1 The principle risks to achieving these targets are the economic downturn, a reduction in available resources, or a change in partners' priorities. We mitigate the effect of these risks by managing performance at the Public Service Partnership, periodically reviewing and updating action plans, and attempting to attract external funding to increase the resources we have at our disposal.



Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
12

24 August 2009

Report of

Scrutiny Officer

Author

Robert Judd
Tel. 282274

Title

A new build nuclear power station at Bradwell – progress report

Wards
affected

All

The panel is invited to consider and comment on the progress report on 'A new build nuclear power station at Bradwell'.

1. Action(s) Required

- 1.1 To consider and comment on the progress made in relation to the Cabinet recommendations.
- 1.2 To determine the continued work of the task and finish group working in parallel with the work of the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC).

2. Reasons for Action(s)

- 2.1 To establish a way forward for the outstanding work on A new build nuclear power station at Bradwell.

3. Progress on the Summary of Recommendations

- 3.1 The Cabinet endorsed the recommendations of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel at the meeting on 10 June 2009. The progress so far with each recommendation and where applicable the proposed way forward for each recommendation is as follows;
- 3.2 The Cabinet requests Essex County Council to consider the formation of the Essex Nuclear Energy Group, comprising Essex County Council, Maldon District Council and Colchester Borough Council and other leading key organisations for the purpose of meeting informally to discuss any proposals put forward for the Bradwell site and to consider the strategic issues and benefits of such a proposal, and be in a position of ensuring thorough and effective consultation with local people, businesses and key organisations.
 - 3.2.1 ***See response from Lord Hanningfield (appendix A), who suggested that such a group will be positively considered later in the year, and a response to Colchester will hopefully come by the end of the summer. It should be noted that the Department of Energy and Climate Change have acknowledged the importance of these groups as a means of sharing information, concerns and future progress.***
- 3.3 The Cabinet approves the formation of an internal Bradwell Liaison Working Group to consider all the issues and proposals for the Bradwell site as they develop. There remain important pieces of investigative work that could not be finished within the time

and resources allotted to the task and finish group and should form part of the work of this new group, including;

- i) The examination of future flooding and sea defences in relation to climate change and any new build station at Bradwell, and consideration to such documents as the Shoreline Management Plan for Essex.
- ii) To get a more informative view of the chlorination process of any new build station and what this would mean for the eco system of the estuary and the livelihoods of local fisherman.

3.3.1 Similarly to the request for an Essex Nuclear Energy Group, at this stage it is considered that there is no necessity for an internal working group to complete any statutory duties linked to any new build. The Planning Act 2008 establishes a new framework for a more efficient, transparent and accessible planning system for nationally significant infrastructure projects such as Nuclear Power Stations. A list of potentially suitable sites will be included in a draft National Policy Statement for nuclear power, which will be published for consultation later in 2009. Given that Bradwell is sited on land of a neighbouring district council, Colchester will become a statutory consultee within the planning process, to be administered by services within the Planning, Regeneration and Sustainability Portfolio.

3.3.2 In reference to flooding, officers and members from Colchester attended a meeting of the key Stakeholders Event for the Essex Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) on 15 July 2009. The purpose was for the Environment Agency to present maps of the coastal defences as of now with an estimated unmaintained life of sea defences. Individual lengths of coast were colour coded to show the estimated timescale under current conditions, as to when that piece of coastline would be breached, and stakeholders were invited to comment on the presented maps. This was a snapshot of how the coast is now with no account taken of future climate change. It was estimated that parts of the coast line around the Dengie Peninsula will be breached in 11-20 years in some parts and 21-30 years in others, well within the early years of operation should a new nuclear power station be built. What the consequences of these breaches would be was not discussed.

3.3.3 It is understood that the Environment Agency will be holding a second meeting for key stakeholders later in the year that will address climate change to be underpinned by evidence for the Met Office's United Kingdom Climate Impacts Programme (UKCIP). The Scrutiny Officer is awaiting a further response from the Environment Agency. Once the SMP is completed using UKCIP data this will almost certainly show maps with a very different timescale as to when parts of the Essex coastline would be breached. This might be considered an opportune time to invite the Environmental Agency and Professor Underwood from the University of Essex to a task and finish group meeting. It should be noted that the Government will inevitably investigate the comments and issues raised by the May 2009 Public Comment Window (PCW)(see section 4), e.g. flooding forming part of their consultation on coastal processes, and water cooling forming part of their consultation on Access to suitable sources of cooling water, and will presumably be trying themselves to establish the consequences of climate change and potentially inadequate supplies of cooling water to the Essex coastline in order to address within the national policy statement.

- 3.3.4 The panel is asked to consider a way forward in the continual examination of work on future flooding, climate change and the chlorination processes of a new build station. The timing of the disclosure of further information is crucial to how the Council responds to all future Government consultation. It is anticipated that the consultation stage will be approximately three months in duration, and the national policy statement as part of the consultation documents will provide the Government's response to the PCW. On this basis, the panel could endorse the continual work of the task and finish group that would have the time to carry out a further investigation of the outstanding issues, taking account of the Government's response and the work of the Environment Agency on the SMP.**
- 3.4 The Cabinet requests the NHS North East Essex to determine the validity of the information submitted by Mr. Urquhart in reference to the new registered cases (by age group) of malignant neoplasms, and the suggestion of discrepancies in respect of the data from the Essex Shared Services Agency (part of NHS PCT) and the North Thames Cancer Registry, and to give reassurances that any change to the data base material is reflected in any future conclusions made by COMARE.
- 3.4.1 The Council has received an acknowledgement to their enquiry from the North East Essex Primary Care Trust. A further response will be forthcoming.**
- 3.5 That the Cabinet, in the likely event of a planning application for a new build be forthcoming, will respond to the new Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) on planning consultation processes, and furthermore, that the Council will consider the design and scale of any new build, what must be done to mitigate against the potential obtrusiveness of the structure to the residents of West Mersea and the surrounding area, and respond accordingly.
- 3.6 That the Cabinet seeks assurances from the Government that the site owner / energy company will be required to commission independent intensive field studies of the Bradwell estuary to the end of the productive life of any new build nuclear power station.
- 3.7 That the Cabinet seeks assurances from the Government that as part of the planning process (Infrastructure Planning Commission) it should be a requirement of the energy company / site operator to produce a strategy for engaging with the local population (for the Bradwell site, to include Mersea island and the surrounding area), using every medium of communication to provide information on the current and future operation, risks and developments of the operating site(s).
- 3.7.1 These issues will be considered and addressed at the appropriate consultation stage, likely to be late 2009 when the Government consults on the draft National Policy Statement for nuclear power and nominated sites, though it should be stressed that whilst sites including Bradwell have been nominated into the process, the Government has not yet reached a final view about whether all of these sites are potentially suitable for the deployment of new nuclear power stations (see paragraph 4 for further details).**
- 3.8 That the Cabinet requests the Health and Safety Executive / National Emergency Planning Liaison Group (Part of the Government department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform) to consider a new DEPZ (Detailed Emergency Planning Zone) beyond the current 2.4 km, for all new and more powerful nuclear power reactors/stations, and also to consider whether the DEPZ, graphically shown as

concentric circles around the Bradwell site, could differ given that, as we believe, the emergency planning zones for the Control of Major Accident Hazards (COMAH) are egg shaped. If either the distance or shape of the DEPZ was changed it was acknowledged that Mersea island would almost certainly fall within the DEPZ, and the difficulty of evacuating the island would become an issue that would require addressing, having the potential to make the site considered unsuitable.

3.8.1 As far as the task and finish group could gather, there is no mass evacuation plan for the population of Mersea Island, whether or not that at a time that the island would need to be evacuated the tide was cutting the island off from the mainland. At present the Detailed Emergency Planning Zone (DEPZ) for Bradwell Power Station set at 2.4 km means the nearest point at West Mersea is just outside this distance. The DEPZ is set by the Nuclear Installations Inspectorate (NII) and suggests whatever type of incident might happen at Bradwell it would not require the evacuation of the island. As mentioned in previous reports the recommended course of action in any incident would probably be to go home and stay indoors. Members should consider that continual improvements to health and safety would not rule out the possibility of a smaller DEPZ than at present. The DEPZ for any new build at Bradwell will form part of the nuclear national policy statement package enabling comment at the consultation stage.

3.8.2 The task and finish group recommended (3.7) that it should be a requirement of the energy company / site operator (developer) to produce a strategy for engaging with the local population (to include Mersea island and the surrounding area), using every medium of communication to provide information on the current and future operation, risks and developments of the operating site(s), and given the developer has a statutory duty to provide this evidence to the IPC (see paragraph 4.5) the panel might consider that this would also be the appropriate opportunity to examine the evidence provided by the developer in relation to the DEPZ.

4. Update on future consultation process

4.1 The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) have so far arranged three meetings in 2009 with a further meeting planned for late September. The meetings are arranged and attended by officers from the Office of Nuclear Development (OND), the Central Office for Information (COI) and the Department of Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform (BERR), and officers from all authorities where new nuclear sites have been nominated or neighbouring authorities who will be as greatly or more affected by any future new build.

4.2 Officers recently received some feedback on the April – May 2009 Public Comment Window. Summaries of the public comments and a summary of the strategic siting assessment against the criteria will form part of the consultation documents on the Nuclear National Policy Statement (NPS) to be published sometime during the coming autumn.

4.3 DECC are in the process of producing one overarching energy strategy, together with six national policy statements on renewable energy, fossil fuels, oil and gas, nuclear energy and national networks. The strategy will provide information on the United Kingdom's future energy provision and the nuclear policy statement will detail the role of nuclear power in the United Kingdom. The policy statements will provide the primary basis for decisions by the IPC on the applications it receives. The IPC decision making process

should, amongst other things be based on an assessment of the impacts, as set out in the nuclear policy statement, weighed against the need for nuclear power. In making a decision the IPC should have regard to any local impact report submitted by a relevant local authority concerning matters prescribed in regulations and any other matters which the IPC judges to be both important and relevant to its decision. It should be noted that DECC recognise that it would be unrealistic for the policy statements to list everything that is important in assessing a planning application, e.g. issues that are of greater local impact than generic national impact, and the planning act makes it clear that the IPC must give due regard to local issues and local input.

- 4.4 The draft NPS will go out to consultation in the autumn and become subject to parliamentary scrutiny and members debate, before being designated by the Secretary of State. Affected district councils will be expected to respond to the consultation.
- 4.5 Developers will have a statutory duty to consult widely prior to any application being passed to the IPC. A commissioner will undertake an initial assessment and this is to be followed by an examination period which will include public hearings before the IPC makes a final decision. The new Planning Act allows for a period of legal challenge and potentially an appeal to the high court for a judicial review.

Consultation Planning

- 4.6 As part of the Government's consultation planning process, DECC will be holding 3-day local exhibitions in the autumn, in accessible venues in the towns or most populated areas closest to the proposed sites. Preliminary discussions with DECC have confirmed that West Mersea is one of their preferred locations for the Bradwell site, and preparation is ongoing.
- 4.7 The purpose of these exhibitions is community focused, a question and answer event, and awareness will be raised through a number of media including press and radio, with emphasis placed on trying to engage with hard to reach groups and interested local parties. DECC have emphasised that this is a Government led and owned initiative, but would welcome help from a local level. The Head of Environmental and Protective Services is fully supportive of officers from both Environmental and Planning Services attending the exhibition. New information will be forthcoming shortly and will be shared with officers and Ward Councillors.

5. Standard and Strategic Plan References

- 5.1 There are no policy plan references or financial, human rights, community safety or health and safety implications in this matter.
- 5.2 Scrutiny is a key function to ensure the decisions and policies of the Council and the performance of the Executive functions by the Council are subject to full appraisal and that they are in line with the aims of the strategic plan. The role of scrutiny is also an important part of our risk management, helping to check that risks are identified and challenged.



Essex County Council

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Mr Robert Judd, Scrutiny Officer
Colchester Borough Council
PO Box 6290
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CO1 1LZ

Our Ref: LH/kw/ju1906
Date: 19th June 2009

Dear Mr Judd

Thank you for informing me of Colchester Borough Council's scrutiny of the potential new build nuclear power station at Bradwell.

In response to your recommendation, that Essex County Council should consider the need for the formation of an Essex Nuclear Energy Group. My officers and members have been in regular contact with colleagues in Maldon District Council and Colchester Borough Council on the issue of a potential new nuclear power station at Bradwell.

I share your view that a partnership approach to such a potential major development project in Essex is essential, particularly given that the new Infrastructure Planning Commission effectively curtails the role of local authorities in the approval process.

We will give consideration to formalising the grouping of the Local Authorities along with statutory bodies that could refer to other organisations as and when necessary.

We hope to respond more fully by the end of the Summer.

Yours sincerely

Lord Hanningfield
Leader, Essex County Council

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Email: lord.hanningfield@essex.gov.uk



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Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Item
13

24 August 2009

Report of	Scrutiny Officer	Author	Robert Judd Tel. 282274
Title	Work Programme		
Wards affected	Not applicable		

This report sets out the functions and Work Programme for 2009/10

1. Action Required

1.1 The Panel is asked to consider and comment on the 2009/10 Work Programme.

2. Reason for Action

2.1 This function forms part of the Panel's Terms of Reference in the Constitution therefore there are no alternative options.

3. The role of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

3.1 Overview and scrutiny needs to be member-led with member engagement that will include undertaking research when considering issues prior to panel meetings and preparing questions for witnesses being called. Likewise, senior officers will play their full part in supporting the scrutiny function in a positive and participative manner. By doing this a culture of positive and meaningful challenge can be created.

4. Additional items and amendments

4.1 Review of Colchester Community Stadium Company (part of the Annual Governance Statement Action Plan) will be on 9 February 2010. The Chief Executive, Chair David Murthwaite and Director Clive Gilham to attend the meeting for this item.

5. Standard References

5.1 There are no policy plan references or financial, human rights, community safety or health and safety implications in this matter.

5.2 The work of the Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel is a key function to ensure items within the programme are subject to full appraisal and in line with the aims of the strategic plan, and helps to check that risks are identified and challenged.

Strategic Overview and Scrutiny Panel

WORK PROGRAMME 2009/10

(last updated 1 August 2009)

TBC - Colchester's future development and the Regional Plan Review (Executive Director I.Vipond)

16 June 2009

1. Pre Cabinet scrutiny of the Strategic Plan Action Plan + Nis and LAA targets
2. Urgency – Comment form for Nominated New Nuclear Power Station Sites (13-May-09)

14 July 2009 (Ian Vipond Lead Director)

1. Review of the Budget Strategy and Timetable (Head of Resource Management)
2. Clarification report on Affordable Housing – Head of Strategic Policy (SOSP minute6, 16 June)
3. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Communications, Customers and Leisure (last review 10-feb-09)

24 August 2009

1. Review of the Colchester2020 Partnership – Chairman of Colchester2020 to attend.
2. Strategic review of CDRP (Head of Life Opportunities) (Crime and Disorder Committee)
3. Life Opportunities (Executive Director) (SOSP min.6 16June)
4. New build nuclear power station at Bradwell

29 September 2009

1. Overview of Planning Service Review – Head of Env. & Prot. Services (SOSP minute6, 16June)(reported to Leadership on 23 September 2009)

3 November 2009

1. Street Care Strategy / Graffiti protocol (Head of Street Services)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Street and Waste Services (last review 10-feb-09)
3. Climate Change and Carbon Management (update from review of 16-dec-08)
4. Overview of Housing Services Review – Head of Strategic Policy and Regeneration / Head of Life Opportunities (SOSP minute6, 16June)

9 December 2009

1. Review of the Budget – Strategic update (Head of Resource Management)
2. Half yearly report on Strategic Plan Action Plan + NIs and LAA targets
3. Review of the work of the Leader of the Council, Portfolio Holder for Strategy (last review 7-04-09)

5 January 2010

1. Greenways Care Home progress (ref. SOSP 10-Feb-09)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Performance and Partnerships (last review 17-mar-09)
3. Strategic review of CYPSP (Head of Life Opportunities)

9 February 2010

1. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhoods (last review 7-apr-09)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Planning, Regeneration and Sustainability (last review 5-may-09)
3. Review of Colchester Community Stadium Company - Chief Executive, Chair David Murthwaite & Dir. Clive Gilham to attend (Part of Annual Governance Statement Action Plan)

30 March 2010

1. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Resources and Business (first year)
2. Review of the Portfolio Holder for Culture and Diversity (first year)

Items requested for further review

Call-ins during 2009/10

