

**Draft Surrey Sustainable Community Strategy 2008**  
**Waverley Context, link to Corporate Plan priorities and response to consultation**

**General comments – Waverley’s response:**

- Waverley has already endorsed the draft Surrey Sustainable Community Strategy, and the Waverley Strategic Partnership has agreed to adopt the themes of the Surrey SCS as the basis for the new Waverley SCS, rather than rewriting Waverley’s themes.
- Waverley would welcome more references and linkages to local Sustainable Community Strategies and the Local Strategic Partnerships throughout the Strategy.
- The Strategy is clear and easy to understand, with specific areas of action. It is important that each of the priorities and actions have ‘SMART’ targets and milestones, with clear lead accountabilities so that partners understand what is expected of them and the outcomes can be measured and monitored. It is also important to ensure, wherever possible, that data used to monitor data the SCS and LAA is available at District/Borough or community level so that individual partners and local and thematic partnerships can target resources and improve performance in the necessary areas.
- In light of the current economic downturn, there should be more emphasis throughout the strategy on the partnership’s role in supporting residents and businesses through the recession, whilst acknowledging that the partnership also needs to set itself challenging targets to prepare for an expected economic up-turn following the recession.

**THEME 1 – CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

<b>Priority and Headline Indicator</b>	<b>Waverley Context</b>
<p><b>Priority A</b> – Improve Learning, health and employment outcomes for children and young people, particularly for the vulnerable and disadvantaged</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley’s Corporate Plan priority ‘<b>Improving Lives – Improve the quality of life for all particularly the more vulnerable in our society</b>’.</li> <li>• There is a specific target in the Corporate Plan to improve and expand the offering of Waverley Training Services (WTS). Part of the work of WTS will help achieve the headline indicator NI72 - achievement of Level 2 (GCSE) qualifications by age 19, particularly of vulnerable or disadvantaged young people.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Achievement of</p>	

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
Level 2 qualifications by age 19 (NI72)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>An issue that was highlighted as part of Waverley's Social Inclusion Strategy relating to youth is access to services and entertainment. This is particularly relevant in Waverley, which is the most rural Borough in Surrey.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority B</b> – Improve the safeguarding of Surrey's most vulnerable children and young people</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Children becoming subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time (NI65)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waverley has recently refreshed its Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Group, including senior officers from services across the Council.</li> <li>Safeguarding Children awareness training is being provided to all staff who come into contact with children.</li> <li>Waverley are working with Surrey County Council to provide information about actions which support their Children and Young People interim plan.</li> </ul>

#### Waverley's Response:

- An issue that is highlighted as part of Waverley's Social Inclusion Strategy 2008 relating to youth is difficulties experienced by young people accessing services and entertainment. This could be a significant barrier to achieving this priority. This is particularly relevant in Waverley, which is the most rural Borough in Surrey. Reference should be made in the SCS to providing affordable, accessible transport for young people and providing services and facilities locally for young people.

#### THEME 2 - HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p><b>Priority C</b> – Promote healthy lifestyles, particularly targeting groups and communities at most risk.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – The gap between the fifth of wards with the lowest levels</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to Waverley's Corporate Plan priority '<b>Improving Lives – Improve the quality of life for all particularly the more vulnerable in our society</b>'.</li> <li>Links to Waverley's Corporate Plan priority '<b>Leisure – Improve and support opportunities for all to take part in sport, recreation and culture.</b>'</li> <li>Waverley's outward appearance of affluence can conceal some pockets of disadvantage and deprivation. – particularly Sandy Hill in Farnham, Ockford</li> </ul>

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
of life expectancy and the fifth of wards with the highest.	<p>Ridge/Aarons Hill in Godalming and Northbourne in Farncombe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waverley has targeted disadvantaged and deprived groups and communities in this area of work, for example through its IN2 Passport to Leisure scheme, the 'Be Active' programme and negotiating free access for 'looked after' children as part of our new leisure contract.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority D</b> – Support more vulnerable people to live in their own homes and to exercise greater choice and control over their health and support arrangements.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – the proportion of all those receiving adult social care services who are supported to live independently.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Links to Waverley's Corporate Plan priority '<b>Improving Lives – Improve the quality of life for all particularly the more vulnerable in our society</b>'.</li> <li>Waverley has recently reviewed the its Supporting People service, Careline service and community &amp; day centres.</li> <li>Waverley is a large and rural Borough, and a particular issue is access to services and rural deprivation. This is enhanced as Waverley also has a large proportion of older residents in Surrey, with nearly 1 in 10 over the age of 75.</li> </ul>

#### Waverley's response:

- We support reduction of inequalities as a target. This is particularly relevant in Waverley where outward appearance of affluence can conceal some pockets of disadvantage and deprivation and partnership working can be particularly effective when resources are targeted into specific communities. Some smaller pockets of deprivation may be masked if data is considered at Ward level – where possible inequalities should be considered at community level – for example using Super Output Area data.
- The role that leisure can play in improving health outcomes should be emphasised, and the role of the partnership in encouraging exercise, walking and cycling instead of using the car, fitness and sport, and providing affordable and accessible leisure facilities.
- A major issue which should be included as a priority area for action in the Strategy is improving access to services outside the home, as well as those provided within the home. This is particularly important in a rural area like Waverley with high

proportion of elderly people. Priorities should be the provision of adequate, accessible and affordable public and community transport and providing, where possible services, locally.

### THEME 3 – ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p><b>Priority E</b> – Improve the global competitiveness of Surrey’s economy through sustainable growth.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Gross value added (GVA) per capita.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In light of the recession, Waverley launched its ‘Don’t lose your Home or Business’ project in October 2008.</li> <li>• Waverley has a large proportion of small businesses – the average business size is 6 people, compared to a national average of 12. Many people living in Waverley commute to London to work. A recent SEEDA report showed 28% of workers in Waverley are employed within the financial sector.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority F</b> – Make Surrey’s economy more inclusive</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Number of people claiming key out-of-work benefits (NI152)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley’s Corporate Plan priority <b>‘Improving Lives – Improve the quality of life for all particularly the more vulnerable in our society’</b>.</li> <li>• There is a specific target in the Corporate Plan to improve and expand the offering of Waverley Training Services (WTS) – particularly the e2e (Entry to Employment) programme.</li> <li>• There is a specific target in the Corporate Plan to increase the year on year uptake in certain groups of Housing and Council Tax benefits.</li> <li>• Links to Waverley’s Corporate Plan priority <b>‘Subsidised Affordable Housing – work for more subsidised affordable housing to be built and manage Council housing well.’</b> – particularly in relation to the need for affordable housing for key workers, low earners, young people and migrant workers.</li> <li>• In light of the recession, Waverley launched its ‘Don’t lose your Home or Business’ project in October 2008.</li> </ul>

### Waverley's Response:

- In light of the current economic downturn, there should be more emphasis throughout the strategy on the partnership's role in supporting residents and businesses through the recession, whilst acknowledging that the partnership also needs to set itself challenging long term targets to prepare for an expected economic up-turn following the recession. In the long term it is appropriate to set a headline target to reduce the number of people claiming key out-of-work benefits, by promoting skills, education, training and employment opportunities. However, in light of the recession and potential rise in job losses and unemployment, in the short term it is more appropriate to encourage residents to access all the benefits that are available to them, for example through Waverley's 'Don't lose your Home or Business project'.
- Reference should be made to the challenges facing many businesses, and there should be a role for the partnership to help maintain existing businesses and sectors during the recession, and equip businesses to survive the downturn.
- Reference should also be made to promoting and maintaining Market Town economies as service centres, as well as major 'hubs' and rural economies.

### THEME 4 – HOUSING, INFRASTRUCTURE AND ENVIRONMENT

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p><b>Priority G</b> – Help people in Surrey to achieve more sustainable lifestyles.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions per capita (NI186)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley's Corporate Plan priority '<b>Environment – protect and enhance Waverley's unique mix of rural and urban communities</b>'.</li> <li>• Waverley's Corporate Plan includes a specific target to achieve year-on-year improvements in the Council's carbon footprint from April 2008. Recent work to achieve this has included Energy Saving Week, Green Travel Week and installing a new gas condensing boiler with solar-powered pre-warming facility.</li> <li>• Waverley participates in the Surrey Climate Change Officers group which seeks to achieve this across Surrey.</li> <li>• Waverley's Corporate Plan includes targets to increase recycling levels to 45% by April 2010 and 55% by April 2015 – both of which exceed the targets set out in the draft SCS.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Priority H</b> – Create better, more</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley's Corporate Plan priority '<b>Environment – protect and enhance</b></li> </ul>

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p>sustainable developments that deliver more social, environmental, and economic benefit.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Overall general satisfaction with the local area (NI5).</p>	<p><b>Waverley’s unique mix of rural and urban communities’.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley’s Corporate Plan priority ‘<b>Subsidised Affordable Housing – work for more subsidised affordable housing to be built and manage Council housing well.</b>’</li> <li>• Waverley is currently in the process of preparing its Local Development Framework (LDF), which will provide a set of policies to address development pressures in the Borough and provide a spatial vision for the future of Waverley. The development of the LDF will take account of, and link to, the Surrey and Waverley community strategies.</li> </ul>

**Waverley’s response:**

- The SSP partners should lead by example on sustainability issues, by taking steps to reduce their own CO<sub>2</sub> and other harmful emissions as part of the actions going forward, as well as promoting initiatives to reduce emissions of residents and businesses in Surrey.
- Whilst acknowledging that it is mainly the function of District and Borough Councils the provision of subsidised affordable housing should be given much more prominence and priority within this theme, as one of the biggest challenges in Waverley and across the whole of Surrey.
- The importance of providing sustainable and timely infrastructure to support any new development should be emphasised. The link between the Surrey Sustainable Community Strategy and Local Development Frameworks across Surrey should be promoted.

**THEME 5 – SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES**

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p><b>Priority 1</b> – Improve public confidence in the ability of public services to keep Surrey safe, prepare for emergencies, and reduce crime and anti-social</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Waverley has the lowest levels of recorded crime in Surrey, however the fear of crime and public perception of levels of crime do not reflect this. We await the results of the recent ‘Place Survey’ to indicate what the current position on NI21.</li> <li>• The Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee is currently carrying out a Fear</li> </ul>

Priority and Headline Indicator	Waverley Context
<p>behaviour.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Dealing with local concerns about antisocial behaviour &amp; crime by the local council and the police (NI21).</p>	<p>of Crime review.</p>
<p><b>Priority J</b> – Encourage and facilitate active citizenship to strengthen communities.</p> <p><b>Headline Indicator</b> – Participation in regular volunteering (NI6).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Links to Waverley’s Corporate Plan priority ‘<b>Improving Lives – Improve the quality of life for all particularly the more vulnerable in our society</b>’.</li> <li>• Waverley’s Corporate Plan includes a specific target to strengthen existing relationships with Waverley’s town and parish councils – including Market Town Healthchecks, Parish Plans and partnership working.</li> <li>• Recent positive examples of partnership working in communities in Waverley include targeting resources in deprived or disadvantaged areas such as Sandy Hill in Farnham, Ockford Ridge in Godalming and Northbourne in Farncombe and action plans following recent Market Town Healthchecks in Cranleigh, Godalming and Haslemere.</li> </ul>

**Waverley’s response:**

- The Strategy should emphasise that the Partnership should seek to maintain and improve Surrey’s position as an area of **actual** low crime as well as focusing on improving public confidence.
- We do not agree that NI6 is a good measure of ‘stronger communities’, although we acknowledge the difficulty in selecting an appropriate indicator. We feel that a good emphasis under this theme is empowering communities, therefore suggest that NI4 (% of residents who feel they can influence decisions in their local area) is a better (although not ideal) measure.
- Recent positive examples of partnership working in communities in Waverley include targeting resources in deprived or disadvantaged areas such as Sandy Hill in Farnham, Ockford Ridge in Godalming and Northbourne in Farncombe and action plans following recent Market Town Healthchecks in Cranleigh, Godalming and Haslemere. We feel that partnership

working can add most value when targeted at specific areas or communities of need on a small scale, and also empower communities to do more themselves. Good practice examples from across Surrey should be sought, lessons learned and shared. This section should include reference to targeting partnership working at areas of most need, for example using the recent 'Heat mapping' tool developed by the Safer and Stronger Board. Partners should also give attention to the findings of Parish Plans and Market Town Healthchecks and support their development. Although not all of Surrey is covered by Town and Parish Councils, they should be mentioned in this section as a key link to local communities.

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