

Central Bedfordshire Council

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 24 November 2016

Planning Enforcement

Report of Cllr Nigel Young, Executive Member for Regeneration

Advising Officers: Jason Longhurst, Director of Regeneration and Business (Jason.longhurst@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk) and Peter Keates, Head of Development and Regulation (peter.keates@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk)

Purpose of this report

To provide a performance monitoring update as recommended at the OSC meeting on 14 January 2016 in respect of the Planning Enforcement Service.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is asked to:

1. Note progress to date.
2. Recommend the changes identified in the updated Planning Enforcement Plan at **Appendix A** to the Executive Committee.

Background

1. At their meeting on 15 January 2016 the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee (SCOSC) received a report containing an update of the enquiry carried out in respect of the Planning Enforcement Service as a result of concerns raised by Members.
2. The enquiry was formed of Cllr K Matthews, Cllr B Saunders, Cllr A Graham and Cllr R Johnstone who undertook the review of planning enforcement with support of the Rebecca Preen, Scrutiny Policy Advisor and Peter Keates, Head of Development & Regulation.
3. A presentation will be provided at the OSC meeting to update on performance and staffing for the Planning Enforcement Team and to explain progress in respect of the review.

Reason/s for decision

4. The proposed amendments to the plan will update it taking account of the work carried out during the period of the review to date.

Council Priorities

5. The improvement of the Planning Enforcement Plan and Service directly addresses the Council's priority of Enhancing Central Bedfordshire and ensuring a more efficient and responsive Council.

Corporate Implications

Legal Implications

6. Colleagues in Legal have not been consulted in advance of the update to OSC respect of the proposed changes to the plan. Full consultation will be carried out before and reported to Executive when they are asked to adopt the plan.

Financial and Risk Implications

7. Colleagues in Finance have not been consulted in advance of the update to OSC respect of the proposed changes to the plan. Full consultation will be carried out before and reported to Executive when they are asked to adopt the plan.

Equalities Implications

8. Colleagues in Equalities have not been consulted in advance of the update to OSC respect of the proposed changes to the plan. Full consultation will be carried out before and reported to Executive when they are asked to adopt the plan.

Conclusion and next Steps

9. The Committee are asked to approve the proposed amendments to the planning enforcement plan and recommend adoption to the Executive Committee subject to a full internal consultation.

Appendices

Appendix A – Proposed updated Draft Planning Enforcement Plan

Background Papers

10. The following background papers, not previously available to the public, were taken into account and are available on the Council's website:

- National Planning Policy Framework – Central Government paper
- Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Central Government paper
- Planning Enforcement Government Guidelines
- CBC Enforcement Plan