

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE AGENDA



THE PUBLIC MAY ATTEND THIS MEETING

Date: Thursday, 22nd March 2012

Time: 7.15pm

Venue: Council Chamber, Causeway House, Braintree CM7 9HB

Membership:

Councillor P R Barlow	Councillor W J Rose
Councillor C A Cadman	Councillor A F Shelton
Councillor Dr R L Evans (Chairman)	Councillor G A Spray
Councillor P Horner	Councillor J S Sutton
Councillor S A Howell	Councillor J R Swift
Councillor R P Ramage	

Members are requested to attend this meeting, to transact the following business:-

1. Apologies for Absence.

2. Member Declarations.

- (i). To declare the existence and nature of any 'personal' or 'personal and prejudicial' interests relating to items on the agenda having regard to paragraphs 8 to 12 (inclusive) of the Code of Conduct for Members in Part 5 of the Constitution and having taken appropriate advice (where necessary) before the meeting.
- (ii). Any member with a 'personal and prejudicial' interest to indicate whether he/she intends to make representations in accordance with paragraph 12 (2) of the Code of Conduct as part of Question Time.
- (iii). To declare the existence and nature of any instruction given by or on behalf of a political group to any Councillor who is a member of that group as to how that Councillor shall speak or vote on any matter before the Committee or the application or threat to apply any sanction by the group in respect of that Councillor should he/she speak or vote on any particular matter.

[Note: A member with a personal and prejudicial interest must withdraw from the room or chamber whilst the item of business the subject of such prejudicial interest is being considered]

3. **Question Time.** (See paragraph below).
4. **Minutes.** To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee held on 25th January 2012 (copy previously circulated).
5. **Task and Finish Groups**
 - a. **Council's General Property and Land Investment Policies.** To receive a brief update from Cllr. Tattersley, Chairman of this Group. (Report to follow).
 - b. **Local Highway Liaison.** To receive a brief update from Cllr. Abbott, Chairman of this Group. (Page 4).
6. **Annual Work Programme 2011-12, Scrutiny Of Transport and Access to Health Services Across The District.** The Chairman has requested that the Committee finalises its recommendations to Cabinet on its scrutiny review of transport and access to health services across the district (page 6). *(Note. The report will first be received by Council).*
7. **Annual Work Programme 2012, Scrutiny of the Community Safety Partnership.** To conduct a scrutiny review of the Partnership with the following invitees:

John Zammit	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership
Jane Richards	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership
Chief Inspector Nick Lee	District Policing Area Commander, Uttlesford and Braintree

(Page 9).

8. **Decision Planner.** To consider the Decision Planner for the period 16th March 31st July 2012 (copy previously circulated).
9. **Urgent Business.** To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in public by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.
10. To agree the exclusion of the public and press for the consideration of any items for the reasons set out in Part 1 of Schedule 12(A) of the Local Government Act 1972.

At the time of compiling the agenda there were none.

11. **Urgent Business.** To consider any matter which, in the opinion of the Chairman, should be considered in private by reason of special circumstances (to be specified) as a matter of urgency.

A PEACE
Member Services Manager

If you require any further information relating to this agenda or wish to forward your apologies for absence, please contact Alastair Peace on 01376 551414 extension 2602 or e-mail alastair.peace@braintree.gov.uk

QUESTION TIME

Immediately after the Minutes of the previous meeting have been approved there will be a period of up to 30 minutes when members of the public can speak about Council business or other matters of local concern.

During this period, councillors who have declared a personal and prejudicial interest in any item of business on the agenda may also speak as permitted by the Council's Code of Conduct for Members.

Whilst members of the public can remain to observe the whole of the public part of the meeting, councillors with a prejudicial interest must withdraw whilst the item of business in question is being considered.

Members of the public wishing to speak should contact the Council's Member Services on 01376 551414 or email alastair.peace@braintree.gov.uk prior to the meeting.

The Council's "Question Time" leaflet explains the procedure and copies of this may be obtained from the Council.

Progress Report from Highway Liaison Task and Finish Group	Agenda No: 5b
<p>Corporate Priority: We deliver excellent, cost effective and valued services Report presented by: Cllr James Abbott, Chair of Task & Finish Group Report prepared by: Paul Partridge, Head of Operations</p>	
<p>Background Papers: Overview & Scrutiny Meetings 13 July & 12 October 2011</p>	Public Report - Yes
Options: N/A	Key Decision: NO
<p>At its meeting on 13 July 2011, the Overview and Scrutiny Committee agreed that a Task and Finish Group be established to scrutinise mechanisms for local highway liaison at a local level, from the identification of issues and problems through to the completion of highway projects and repairs. The composition of the Group, led by Cllr James Abbott, was formally approved by Committee on 12 October 2011.</p> <p>The initial meeting of the Group took place on 4 January 2012, when the Terms of Reference, Scope of the Review and Key Roles and Responsibilities were agreed.</p> <p>At their second meeting, on 8 February 2012, the Group received a presentation given by Essex County Council Highways on the structure of their organisation, background information and key facts/figures relating to highways. This was followed by a Question and Answer session. The Group also discussed and agreed mechanisms for consultation with members of the public and other key stakeholders to help inform the review. Consultation commences w/c 5 March and concludes Friday, 23 March 2012.</p> <p>The consultees are as follows:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essex Police • Essex County Fire & Rescue Service • East of England Ambulance Service • All District Councillors • Town and Parish Councils • Bus operators • Members of the Public /Business Community (via advert in paper and on BDC website) • North Essex Parking Partnership • BDC Waste & Planning • Greenfields Community Housing Association 	

The timetable for consultation is as follows:-

- E-mails/letters out by Friday, 2 March 2012
- Web Advert – w/c 5 March 2012
- Press Adverts:
 - Braintree & Witham Times/Witham & Braintree Times - Wednesday, 7 March 2012
 - Halstead Gazette - Friday, 9 March 2012

Response deadline for all is Friday, 23 March 2012.

A third meeting is due to be held on 12 March 2012, which will be attended by representative(s) from the Highways Agency who will give a presentation along similar lines to that given by ECC, again followed by a Question & Answer session.

Decision: The Committee is asked to note the progress of the Group.

Purpose of Decision: To inform the Committee of progress with the review of highway liaison.

Corporate implications

Financial:	None
Legal:	None
Equalities/Diversity	None
Customer Impact:	None
Environment and Climate Change:	None
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Yes – directly with town and parish councils, district councillors, bus operators, emergency services, North Essex Parking Partnership and BDC Planning & Waste Services; and indirectly with local residents and businesses via advertisements in the local press and on the BDC website.
Risks:	Not applicable

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Scrutiny of Transport and Access to Health Services Across the District	Agenda No: 7
<p>Corporate Priority: Everyone can enjoy a healthy lifestyle Report presented by: Alastair Peace, Member Services Manager Clare Lawrence, Health and Wellbeing Development Officer Report prepared by: Alastair Peace, Member Services Manager Clare Lawrence, Health and Wellbeing Development Officer</p>	
Background Papers:	Public Report
Options:	Key Decision: No
<p>Executive Summary:</p> <p>The Committee has scrutinised transport links and accessibility to health services across the district as a key part of its work programme for 2011-12.</p> <p>The Chairman has requested that the Committee finalises its recommendations to Cabinet on its scrutiny review. (Note. The report will first be received by Council).</p> <p>Members are invited to finalise the recommendations set out below.</p>	
<p>Decision:</p> <p>That it be recommended to Cabinet that:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Council encourages NHS Mid Essex PCT to commission or otherwise develop the provision of out-patient services in Witham possibly using the Oncology Services that has been in place at Douglas Grove Surgery, Witham, as a model. 2. The Council works in partnership with NHS Mid Essex to develop the provision of further GP – led community based patient services in Witham such as minor surgery and diagnostics, and that the Council reviews its available land in Witham with a view to identifying a site for the possible provision of those services. 3. The Council reviews how it might further promote the availability of the Community Transport Service. 	

4. The Council encourages Essex County Council and Essex PCTs in their efforts to review the proposed provision of an Essex wide Health and Adult Social Care Transport and One Stop Call Centre Services with the aim of finding a suitable cost effective way of providing the service.
5. Essex County Council explores the expansion of the Hospital Hopper Service to include more areas in the North of the district, transport to Colchester General Hospital, and also considers, together with Suffolk County Council, the expansion of Hopper Routes to West Suffolk General Hospital.
6. The Mid Essex Clinical Commissioning Group be supported in its proposals to increase the delivery of more health services locally in the district including chiropodist, orthotics and podiatrist services.
7. NHS Mid Essex PCT be encouraged to develop their proposed "Care Home Dashboard" to provide information on care home use of hospital services with the potential to assist in moving towards more efficient use of hospital services by care homes and in turn, allow more home residents to avoid hospital visits and remain in familiar surroundings.
8. The Committee recognises the value of Village Agents in identifying and supporting those vulnerable people in their communities and therefore recommends that Essex County Council be encouraged to continue the Village Agent service.

Purpose of Decision:

To agree the Committee's recommendations to Cabinet from its scrutiny of Transport and Access to Health Services across the District.

Corporate implications	
Financial:	None
Legal:	None
Equalities/Diversity	Consultation has been carried out with various health service user groups.
Customer Impact:	The aim is the scrutiny review is to improve transport links and accessibility to health services for residents across the district.

Environment and Climate Change:	None.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Consultation has been carried out with relevant internal and external stakeholders eg. NHS Mid Essex, GPs, health user groups, members of the public, and community and public transport service providers.
Risks:	Not applicable.
Officer Contact:	Alastair Peace/Clare Lawrence
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Scrutiny of the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership		Agenda No: 7						
Corporate Priority: People take pride in their local areas								
Report presented by: Background information.								
Report prepared by: Alastair Peace, Member Services Manager								
Background Papers:		Public Report						
Options:		Key Decision: No						
Executive Summary:								
<p>The Committee has agreed to scrutinise the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (BDCSP) as part of its annual work programme for 2011-12.</p> <p>The scrutiny review will be carried out with the following invites:</p> <table data-bbox="555 1160 1564 1451"> <tr> <td>John Zammit</td> <td>Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jane Richards</td> <td>Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Chief Inspector Nick Lee</td> <td>District Policing Area Commander, Uttlesford and Braintree</td> </tr> </table> <p>A short briefing report is attached to provide members with background information on the BDCSP.</p>			John Zammit	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership	Jane Richards	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership	Chief Inspector Nick Lee	District Policing Area Commander, Uttlesford and Braintree
John Zammit	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership							
Jane Richards	Chairman and Vice Chairman, Braintree District Community Safety Partnership							
Chief Inspector Nick Lee	District Policing Area Commander, Uttlesford and Braintree							
Decision:								
Members are invited to review the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership with the invite attendees.								
Purpose of Decision:								
To conduct a scrutiny review of the BDSCP.								

Corporate implications	
Financial:	None
Legal:	None
Equalities/Diversity	None.
Customer Impact:	Contained within the report.
Environment and Climate Change:	None.
Consultation/Community Engagement:	Contained within the report.
Risks:	Not applicable.
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Braintree District Community Safety Partnership (BDCSP) - Briefing Report

1. What is the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership?

1.1 The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership was formed under Section 5 of the 1998 Crime and Disorder Act that provided a statutory duty on partner agencies to audit, formulate and implement strategies to reduce crime and disorder in their areas. The primary group of senior officers and agencies is named the 'Responsible Authorities Group' (RAG) which meets around 6 times per year and consists of the Police, Police Authority (will be replaced by Police Crime Commissioners (PCC) from November 2012 who will not sit as a member of a RAG), Local Authority, Fire and Rescue Authorities, Primary Care Trust, Neighbourhood Watch, Greenfields Community Housing, Education and Probation Service.

2. Strategic Assessment of Crime (SA)

2.1 Each year the RAG is legally required to undertake a statutory Strategic Assessment of Crime (SA) resulting from the Crime & Disorder Act Review (2006) which is not a public document due to its sensitive data and information. The period of assessment is from 1st October 2010 to 30th September 2011 and is a comprehensive analysis of crime, disorder and community data within Braintree District compiled for and with Braintree's Community Safety Partnership partners.

3. What has the BDCSP achieved for 2010 - 2011?

3.1 The SA confirmed that Braintree continues to be one of the safest districts in Essex with positive and robust joint working arrangements in place. The BDCSP continues to lead on co-ordinating a complex network of partnerships, people, places and projects mindful that no one project/initiative has a direct impact on addressing crime and disorder, but is a collective act with intricate components across many agencies.

3.2 The success of the BDCSP is also based on its ability to resolve complex community issues, combat unexpected crime, anti-social behaviour, target prolific offenders, prevention, education and promote personal safety. A few examples are;

- a)** Promote personal safety and social responsibility to 1,600 year six and 1,150 year eight pupils via school based projects.
- b)** Developed a no cost domestic abuse Sanctuary Scheme to protect victims living in their accommodation to prevent re-housing and or disrupting schooling.
- c)** Undertaken several 'Seasonal Workshop' to consult residents, agencies and the public on key crime issues, community safety and priorities.
- d)** Worked with Essex Police to review and improve the police Joint Action Group process (this is a police function and not BDCSP responsibility) to centre upon community led solutions, complex multi-agency crime issues, prevention and safer neighbourhoods.
- e)** Developed a groundbreaking Integrated Offender Management (IOM) project to target prolific and repeat offenders (1% of all criminals cause 10% of crime and 10% cause 50% of all crime).

- f) Achieved 2 further awards from the High Sherriff of Essex for projects working with children and young people that encourages safety, responsibility and community inclusion.
- g) Collective reduction in ASB reports (22.4%) from partner agencies (police, BDC and Greenfields). All agency reports totalled 8,073 down from 10,534.
- h) Collectively reduced 'All Crime' down a further 9.4% year on year.

4. Annual Partnership Plan and Priorities for 2012 - 2013

4.1 Based on the Strategic Assessment of Crime an Annual Partnership Plan (APP) for 2012 – 2013 is developed to identify the key crime reduction priorities, objectives and outcomes to maintain Braintree as one of the safest places in Essex to live, work and visit. The key priorities for 2012-2013 are:

- a) Drugs, Alcohol, Domestic Abuse, Offender Management, Moving Targets, Prevention and Education.
- b) Supporting evidence through Domestic Abuse, Drugs, Alcohol, Offending and Crime/disorder Data

4.2 The method of delivery will be through:

- a) Community Led Solutions (resolving concerns in first instance with the help of local communities, partner agencies and community leads).
- b) Integrated Offender Management. (targeting the most prolific, complex and persistent offenders).
- c) Moving Targets (emerging crime types/spikes, ASB and unusual or unexpected incidents/events).