

Committee: Council

Date:

Title: Report of the Leader of the Council

Tuesday, 9 October
2018

Report Author: Councillor Howard Rolfe, Leader of the Council and Lead for Strategy, Partnerships and the Local Plan

Summary

1. This report summarises the Leader's activities on behalf of the Council.

Recommendations

2. None

Financial Implications

3. None

Background Papers

4. None

Situation

Local Plan

5. Members are aware of the need for a further Regulation 19 consultation on the single issue of an Addendum of Focussed Changes for the west of Braintree/East of Stebbing proposed Garden Community. The additional consultation will not impact on our key submission date of January 24. We are discussing this matter at tonight's meeting.
6. Planning Policy Working Group and the Garden Community Governance Board continue to meet. The PPWG minutes are on the Council's website and a progress report for the Governance Board is given at Cabinet meetings.

Support for East Herts District Council

7. Members will be further aware of the "pause" situation at East Herts (EH). I have joined with the Leader at EH and others to write to the Secretary of State in the strongest terms about this unnecessary intervention.

Essex Assembly - Unite behind a sense of identity: 4 September

8. The Essex Assembly, made up of public and private sector partners, are driving 8 work streams under the Essex Vision:
 - a. Essex Supports: Early help to reduce number of mental health incidents

- b. Essex Prevents: Adopting a countrywide approach to homelessness reduction (DF involved)
- c. Essex Inspires: Supporting young people to access a wider range of skills and education across the county
- d. Essex Leads: Promoting physical activity to support physical and mental health in deprived communities
- e. Essex Unites: Supporting communities in building civic pride and social capital (HR involved)
- f. Essex Innovates: Data analytics to support early intervention strategies
- g. Essex Communities: Maximise economic, community and public health potential of new developments
- h. Essex Spirit: Ensuring people can continue to thrive in their own homes safely

Essex Leaders & Chief Executives Meeting: 6 September

- 9. The agenda included a presentation from Cllr Dick Madden ECC, cabinet member for Children and Families regarding the work of the Children's Partnership Board on which Dawn French is the Essex District Council's Chief Executive representative. The Board is looking at a wide range of issues that impact on the wellbeing of children but of particular note is their focus on gangs and youth violence and the various challenges in housing, including homelessness, families placed in Essex from London and the impact of changes in permitted development that enables office accommodation to be converted into housing units.
- 10. Other items included an update on the Business Rates Pilot, an application for which has been resubmitted by all Essex authorities apart from Thurrock; an update on North Essex Garden Communities and Local Highways Panels.

Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) Chairs meeting: 7 September

- 11. The agenda included a presentation on cross cutting themes: Mental Wellbeing and Digital/Smart Technology.
- 12. The agenda also covered the LSP Assembly on 1 November and the work plans of the individual groups including the Community Builder Scheme (CVSU)

Local Joint Panel: 7 September

- 13. This is a cross party meeting with the unions and officer representatives and receives employee/workplace updates/issues from the Chief Executive, HR and the union. Fortunately there were no issues reported at this meeting.

Local Council's Liaison Forum: 11 September

- 14. The agenda included a presentation on the election process and new trials for highway repairs.

Essex Health and Wellbeing Board: 19 September

15. The agenda included a presentation by Essex Police on a Rape Improvement Plan; an update on the system approach to reducing social isolation; Prevention: what more can be done? And updates on the work of the Sustainability and Transformation Partnership's (STP's).
16. In addition meetings have been held with West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) about health provision in Uttlesford

Middle Earth

17. This is not an official title but Councils between Cambridge and London including Uttlesford, East Herts, Harlow, Epping, Broxbourne and the two County Councils are reviewing how we could/should become more joined up and improve lobbying and benefit to our area.
18. This work chimes with London Stansted Cambridge Consortium (LSCC) whose meeting will be after this summary is submitted.

Additional Activities

19. In addition meetings have been held with the Police Fire and Crime Commissioner (PFCC) and will be held with the Member of Parliament (12 October)