

LOCAL STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

<u>Report of the:</u>	Chief Executive
<u>Contact:</u>	Serena Powis, Simon Young
<u>Urgent Decision?(yes/no)</u>	No
<u>If yes, reason urgent decision required:</u>	N/A
<u>Annexes/Appendices (attached):</u>	None
<u>Other available papers (not attached):</u>	None stated

REPORT SUMMARY

This report seeks approval to the formal disbanding of the Local Strategic Partnership.

RECOMMENDATION (S)

It is recommended that the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairman of Strategy and Resources Committee, be authorised to take such steps as she considers necessary in order to formally disband the Epsom & Ewell Local Strategic Partnership, but to continue to engage with partners in such ways she considers appropriate in discussion with them.

Notes

1 Implications for the Council's Key Priorities, Service Plans and Sustainable Community Strategy

- 1.1 The Local Strategic Partnership was integral to the preparation of the Sustainable Community Strategy for Epsom & Ewell 2010-2022. The Council continues to have regard to the strategy when discharging its functions.

2 Background

- 2.1 Section 4 of the Local Government Act 2000 required all local authorities to prepare a sustainable community strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom.

- 2.2 In preparing or modifying a strategy, authorities were required to consult with other persons and bodies, and to have regard to the guidance issued by the Secretary of State. All authorities were effectively required to form Local Strategic Partnerships as the way to prepare their Sustainable Community Strategies.
- 2.3 Section 4 of the 2000 Act was repealed in May 2015, and there is no longer a requirement to prepare a Sustainable Community Strategy (though authorities may still do so if they wish). Similarly, there is no longer the same need for a Local Strategic Partnership, though, again, a partnership may be retained if considered appropriate by the relevant partners.
- 2.4 All of the Borough and District Councils in Surrey operated a Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) which operated under the umbrella of Surrey County Councils Surrey Strategic Partnership. The LSP had major themes/groups who were tasked with actions and they would report back to LSP regularly with updates/successes. Partnership organisations included Surrey Police, Surrey Fire and Rescue, Surrey County Council Officers, The Voluntary Sector, Primary Care Trusts, Registered Social Landlords i.e. Roseberry Housing Assn. LSP's were a requirement under legislation.
- 2.5 Much has changed since the LSP was established. Due to a range of factors, including the financial circumstances of Partners who attended the LSP, many of them were unable to continue to commit the staff and the time required, so membership has dwindled until it is no longer considered to be an effective body. Much of the work has continued, however, in different ways.

3 Proposals

- 3.1 It is proposed to close down the existing LSP. It has been suggested that we would continue working on some of the themes/groups. These could include Health and Wellbeing, Faith in the Community, Economic Wellbeing and the Stronger Communities Group.
- 3.2 Some time ago the preferred model by Epsom and Ewell Community Groups was to base future actions and targets on the outcome of a "Conference" when setting targets for the coming years(s). It is proposed that we work with partners to determine whether this is still considered the best way to proceed.

4 Financial and Manpower Implications

- 4.1 Funds are held by the Council on behalf of the LSP. The funds have variously been provided by different partners, and have been used on LSP schemes and projects. In formally winding up the LSP, there will be a need to clarify with the organisations who provided funding for projects what arrangements will be made for its future use.

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4.2 There may be restrictions on the use and availability of the outstanding funds. It is proposed that, as part of the arrangements for winding up the LSP, the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Director of Finance & Resources and Chairman of Strategy and Resources Committee will agree a plan for the spending and distribution of any remaining funding with partners.

4.3 A summary of any remaining funds held is detailed in the table below:-

LSP Group	Funding held £	Originator for return (if necessary)
LSP Partnership Fund	<u>2,104.00</u>	<u>EEBC as original contributor</u>
YELL Fund	2,000.00	EEBC £1,000 Surrey Police £1,000
LSP Older people / Health Needs Survey	4,659.00	EEBC as PTP Central Funding now ceased as an organisation
LSP Health Champions	1,256.00	EEBC as previous PCT now ceased
LSP Stronger Communities Court/Ruxley	5,949.29	Ring-fenced to Roseberry H.A.
LSP Safer and Stronger Communities	4,750.00	EEBC as original contributor
Total	20,718.29	

4.4 **Chief Finance Officer's comments:** *There is a balance of £20,718.29 in the Council's accounts for the LSP partnership and this will be distributed appropriately with agreement of partners in order to allow the wind up of the LSP. Any monies payable to EEBC will be added to the Council's general fund balance.*

5 Legal Implications (including implications for matters relating to equality)

5.1 **Monitoring Officer's comments:** *There is no longer a statutory duty or Government imperative for a LSP to be maintained. It is important that, in winding up the LSP we seek to ensure that all partners are agreed, particularly in respect of the funds referred to above.*

6 Sustainability Policy and Community Safety Implications

6.1 It is not anticipated that there will be any implications, as all relevant work streams will continue.

7 Partnerships

- 7.1 This report will lead to the winding up of the LSP, however, the Council will still work closely with partners to deliver on the LSP's aims for Epsom & Ewell.

8 Risk Assessment

- 8.1 There are no significant risks arising from the winding up of the LSP, provided this is done with the agreement of all partners.

9 Conclusion and Recommendations

- 9.1 In conclusion, it is considered that it is right to wind up the LSP, as the legislative and national policy environment has changed, it is no longer functioning in the way it was originally conceived and matters are being dealt with in a different way.

WARD(S) AFFECTED: (All Wards);