

Briefing note for Swanley Chamber of Commerce.

The Sevenoaks District Community Plan is created through talking to people from across our community – we have been asking what is needed to make the District a good place to live. The Community Plan therefore represents the community's priorities for action. The Sevenoaks District Local Strategic Partnership delivers the Community Plan and it is made up of all of the agencies who can work together to make the Plan happen. This includes the District Council, County Council, Police, Kent Fire & Rescue Service, health partners, housing associations, voluntary organisations and business representatives.

The next 3 year Community Plan starts in April 2010. We have been asking residents and partners for their comments and they have said the following subjects are a priority for the District (in no particular order).

Communities that are safe and feel safe

Meeting the needs of an ageing population

Support for vulnerable people

A better start for our children

A clean and healthy environment

Energy, resources and climate change

Improved health and well-being

The character of the District and use of land

Strong, active and involved communities

Keeping the District moving

Housing to meet residents' needs

A thriving economy

We have also been asking businesses across the District for their views through a survey that has been distributed via Business Link Kent, Sevenoaks Chamber of Commerce and Swanley Chamber of Commerce. The survey will enable businesses to tell us how important they think the draft priorities are and about satisfaction with the current level of activity. It also allows businesses to make other comments and suggestions.

A public consultation draft of the emerging Sustainable Community Action Plan 2010-2013 is currently being prepared, and will take into account your survey results and comments. The draft consultation document will be available in December 2009.

If you would like to make comments or suggestions about any of these subject areas or comment on the draft of the Community Plan when it is ready, please telephone 01732 227000, e-mail community.plan@sevenoaks.gov.uk or write to Community Development, Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG, for the attention of Alan Whiting, the Community Planning and Projects Officer.