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## RESPONSE TO THE DRAFT EAST KENT SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

To: **Cabinet – 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

By: **Sophie Chadwick, Corporate Improvement Manager**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Ward: **N/A**

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**Summary:** **To inform Cabinet of the Council's response to the draft East Kent Sustainable Community Strategy consultation.**

### **For information**

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#### **1.0 Introduction and Background**

- 1.1 The East Kent LSP is responsible for formulating the Sustainable Community Strategy for East Kent, covering the four districts: Canterbury, Dover, Shepway and Thanet. This will look ahead to 2030, creating a shared vision and shared sense of priorities.
- 1.2 A draft East Kent Sustainable Community Strategy (EKSCS) was published on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009 and the consultation closed on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2009. The document was sent out to all district and parish councillors in East Kent, and to over 200 public, private and community/voluntary sector organisations across East Kent.
- 1.3 The attached response at Annex 1 sets out Thanet District Council's response to the draft EKSCS and reflects input from senior officers across the Council.

#### **2.0 Current Situation**

- 2.1 The consultation responses will be fed back to the East Kent Local Strategic Partnership Board at their meeting in April and a revised Strategy is expected to be published in the summer, and will go to each of the four East Kent districts for final approval.

#### **3.0 Options**

This report is for information only.

#### **4.0 Corporate Implications**

##### **4.1 Financial**

4.1.1 None

##### **4.2 Legal**

4.2.1 None

##### **4.3 Corporate**

4.3.1 The development of Thanet's contribution to an East Kent Sustainable Community Strategy is one of the Corporate Plan projects under Theme 6 – Modern Council.

#### **4.4 Equity and Equalities**

4.4.1 The new Equality Framework for Local Government requires the Community Strategy to include clear equality priorities, and therefore the East Kent Equalities Network will be carrying out an Equalities Impact Assessment on the Sustainable Community Strategy prior to final publication.

#### **5.0 Recommendation(s)**

5.1 That Cabinet notes the content of this report and the attached Annex 1.

#### **6.0 Decision Making Process**

6.1 This matter does not involve making a key decision

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