



Brighton & Hove  
City Council

# Overview & Scrutiny

Title:	<b>Environment &amp; Community Safety Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>8 November 2010</b>
Time:	<b>4.00pm</b>
Venue	<b>Committee Room 1, Hove Town Hall</b>
Members:	<b>Councillors:</b> Morgan (Chairman), Janio (Deputy Chairman), Davis, Drake, A Norman, Rufus, Smart and West
Contact:	<b>Mary van Beinum</b> <b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Support Officer</b> 01273 - 29 - 1062 mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk

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**AGENDA**

<b>Part One</b>	<b>Page</b>
<b>22. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS</b>	<b>1 - 2</b>
<b>23. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 13 SEPTEMBER, 5 OCTOBER AND UPDATE ON PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS</b>	<b>3 - 12</b>
<b>24. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS</b>	
<b>25. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS/ REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES/NOTICES OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL</b>	<b>13 - 16</b>
Letter from Councillor McCaffery attached	
<b>26. DISCUSSION WITH CHAIRMAN, COMMUNITY SAFETY FORUM, INCLUDING CRIME TRENDS</b>	<b>17 - 26</b>
Discussion with Chairman, Community Safety Forum. Plus report of the Director of the Environment.	
<i>Contact Officer: Ruth Condon Tel: 29-1103</i>	
<i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	
<b>27. BIOSPHERE RESERVE</b>	<b>27 - 34</b>
Report of the Director of Environment	
<i>Contact Officer: Gillian Marston Tel: 29-4701</i>	
<i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	
<b>28. OLDER PEOPLE AND COMMUNITY SAFETY - MONITORING OUTCOMES</b>	<b>35 - 52</b>
Report of the Director Environment	
<i>Contact Officer: Linda Beanlands Tel: 29-1115</i>	
<i>Ward Affected: All Wards;</i>	
<b>29. POLICING IN THE 21ST CENTURY SUMMARY</b>	<b>53 - 54</b>
<b>30. ECSOSC DRAFT WORK PLAN INCLUDING SUMMARY OF LTP3 WORKSHOP</b>	<b>55 - 68</b>
<b>31. ITEMS TO GO FORWARD TO CABINET MEMBER, CABINET OR FULL COUNCIL</b>	

## ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

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For further details and general enquiries about this meeting contact Mary van Beinum, (01273 - 29 - 1062, email [mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:mary.vanbeinum@brighton-hove.gov.uk)) or email [scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:scrutiny@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

Date of Publication - Friday, 29 October 2010



## Agenda Item 22

### A. Declaration of Substitutes

Where a Member of the Commission is unable to attend a meeting for whatever reason, a substitute Member (who is not a Cabinet Member) may attend and speak and vote in their place for that meeting. Substitutes are not allowed on Scrutiny Select Committees or Scrutiny Panels.

The substitute Member shall be a Member of the Council drawn from the same political group as the Member who is unable to attend the meeting, and must not already be a Member of the Commission. The substitute Member must declare themselves as a substitute, and be minuted as such, at the beginning of the meeting or as soon as they arrive.

### B. Declarations of Interest

- (1) To seek declarations of any personal or personal & prejudicial interests under Part 2 of the Code of Conduct for Members in relation to matters on the Agenda. Members who do declare such interests are required to clearly describe the nature of the interest.
- (2) A Member of the Overview and Scrutiny Commission, an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or a Select Committee has a prejudicial interest in any business at meeting of that Committee where –
  - (a) that business relates to a decision made (whether implemented or not) or action taken by the Executive or another of the Council's committees, sub-committees, joint committees or joint sub-committees; and
  - (b) at the time the decision was made or action was taken the Member was
    - (i) a Member of the Executive or that committee, sub-committee, joint committee or joint sub-committee and
    - (ii) was present when the decision was made or action taken.
- (3) If the interest is a prejudicial interest, the Code requires the Member concerned:-
  - (a) to leave the room or chamber where the meeting takes place while the item in respect of which the declaration is made is under consideration. [There are three exceptions to this rule which are set out at paragraph (4) below].
  - (b) not to exercise executive functions in relation to that business and
  - (c) not to seek improperly to influence a decision about that business.
- (4) The circumstances in which a Member who has declared a prejudicial interest is permitted to remain while the item in respect of which the interest has been declared is under consideration are:-

(a) for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the item, provided that the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose, whether under a statutory right or otherwise, BUT the Member must leave immediately after he/she has made the representations, answered the questions, or given the evidence,

(b) if the Member has obtained a dispensation from the Standards Committee, or

(c) if the Member is the Leader or a Cabinet Member and has been required to attend before an Overview and Scrutiny Committee or Sub-Committee to answer questions.

#### C. Declaration of party whip

To seek declarations of the existence and nature of any party whip in relation to any matter on the Agenda as set out at paragraph 8 of the Overview and Scrutiny Ways of Working.

#### D. Exclusion of press and public

To consider whether, in view of the nature of the business to be transacted, or the nature of the proceedings, the press and public should be excluded from the meeting when any of the following items are under consideration.

*NOTE: Any item appearing in Part 2 of the Agenda states in its heading the category under which the information disclosed in the report is confidential and therefore not available to the public.*

*A list and description of the exempt categories is available for public inspection at Brighton and Hove Town Halls.*

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**4.00PM 13 SEPTEMBER 2010**

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, HOVE TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors Morgan (Chairman); Janio (Deputy Chairman), Davis, Drake, A Norman, Rufus, Smart and West

**Also present:** Councillor Kennedy

**PART ONE**

**12. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

**12a Declarations of Substitutes**

12.1 There were none.

**12b Declarations of Interests**

12.2 There were none.

**12c Declaration of Party Whip**

12.3 There were none.

**12d Exclusion of Press and Public**

In accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it was considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in section 100I (1) of the said Act.

**RESOLVED:** That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

**13. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21 JUNE 2010**

13.1 The Head of City Services updated the meeting on the Chalk Downland Restoration in Wild Park (see minute 6.8 (2)). A Wild Park Focus Group had been set up; involving ward councillors, the Chairs of Local Action Teams, Friends of Wild Park, Natural England, other groups and individuals who are local conservationists and/or members of the Brighton Urban Wildlife Group. It had been involved in the current consultation which included producing newsletters for circulation to local households within 15 minutes walk of the Park. Individuals and groups could be included on the mailing list on request. Further information was available

in City News and on the council's website. She said the Council is grateful to all these people who are giving their time to progress Wild Park

13.2 **RESOLVED**; that the minutes of the meeting held on 21 June be agreed and signed by the Chairman.

#### **14. CHAIR'S COMMUNICATIONS**

14.1 The Chairman circulated copies of the draft minutes of the 5 July Community Safety Forum (CSF) which had received presentations on three issues referred from ECSOSC;

- Dealing with Serious Violent Crime,
- Reducing Re-offending by Prolific Offenders and
- Fire Risk Assessments in High Rise Blocks of Flats

#### **15. PUBLIC QUESTIONS/LETTERS FROM COUNCILLORS/REFERRALS FROM COMMITTEES/NOTICES OF MOTION REFERRED FROM COUNCIL**

15.1 There were none.

#### **16. OPEN SPACES STRATEGY**

16.1 Councillor Amy Kennedy referred to her letter in which she had asked a number of questions about the Open Spaces Strategy. She welcomed the officers' thorough report but reiterated that she was disappointed that three recent planning decisions relating to development on open spaces may have set an unwelcome precedent.

16.2 Councillor Kennedy called for a workshop on Open Spaces.

16.3 The Strategic Planning and Monitoring Manager emphasised that every planning decision should be judged on its merits. Other planning decisions should be taken into account when determining applications and the Council had a number of policies seeking to protect or increase the amount of open space. New arrangements were anticipated with the forthcoming Localism Bill expected in November/December this year.

16.4 It was agreed that a workshop on the Open Spaces Strategy would be arranged for Members of ECSOSC in the New Year when national policy would be clearer.

16.5 A number of questions were raised about the Urban Biosphere; particularly as this was a new concept; such as the definition, and meaning and aims of a biosphere, the community engagement process and financial implications. The meeting heard that a meeting with UNESCO had been held and a de-briefing was awaited.

16.6 It was agreed to ask the officers for a short update on the urban biosphere for agenda planning for the next ECSOSC meeting, 8 November, with a view to considering an opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny early in 2011.

16.7 ECSOSC agreed to forward the concerns that had been raised to the Chair of the Planning Committee.



16.8 **RESOLVED:** (1) That an informal workshop on the Open Spaces Strategy be arranged early in 2011.

(2) That an officer update be requested for the agenda planning meeting for 8 November Committee, with a view to considering the Urban Biosphere at Committee.

(3) That the recommendations above be forwarded to the Chair of the Planning Committee for information.

## **17. PEDESTRIAN CROSSINGS**

17.1 The Head of Scrutiny introduced the report on Pedestrian Crossings that had been requested by the Committee.

17.2 Members were disappointed at the level of detail provided by the officers' written report, and asked additional questions, regarding: public perception of unsafe roads; taking into account residents' fear of crossing busy roads; impact of road crossings on community cohesion; meaning of minimum requirements and explaining priority criteria for crossings, to residents.

17.3 Answering queries the Head of Transport Planning and Policy and Planning said the minimum requirements were complex calculations as given by the current government policy and guidance, Local Transport note 1/95. To define levels of priority in the light of available funding, local authorities can also take into account other criteria such as suppressed or latent demand and public opinion.

17.4 Funding for pedestrian Crossings was via the Local Transport Plan capital funding from government, or contributions from developers via S106 agreements.

17.5 The Chairman asked that further clarification of the prioritisation process for pedestrian crossings, based on government guidance, be circulated to Members of the Committee.

17.6 **RESOLVED;** That Members receive clarification as minuted above at 17.5

## **18. ECSOSC WORK PROGRAMMES**

18.1 The Head of Scrutiny presented the report on the Committee's Annual work programmes.

18.2 Members wished to invite the new Strategic Director of Place to the next meeting 8 November and asked for confirmation on the next discussion with the Environment Cabinet Member.

18.3 It was suggested that a representative of the South Downs National Park Authority be invited to provide a progress report on the establishment, planning role etc of the new Authority, though an appropriate timing for this was debated. Locations for accessing the South Downs was questioned.

18.4 It was agreed that a session would be arranged jointly with the Culture Tourism and Enterprise Overview and Scrutiny Committee, who had already approached the SDNPA for further information within its own O&S remit.

18.5 With regard to the potential workshops on LTP3 for ECSOSC Members, the Head of Transport Planning and Policy described the timelines as set out in the report paragraph 3.8. Members agreed to the two workshops as proposed.

18.6 Members discussed in detail the proposals for scrutiny review and agreed to set up a Panel on Renewable Energy Potential. A report on dog fouling and Dog Control Orders would be added to the work programme. A generous invitation to visit the Sussex University Laboratory of Apiculture and Social Insects (LASI) would be accepted and a report on Bees also requested.

18.7 **RESOLVED** (1) that the Committee Work Programme be agreed  
(2) that LTP3 workshops be arranged as proposed  
(3) that a Scrutiny review of Renewable Energy Potential be set up  
(4) that other topics be added to the work plan as minuted above.

**19. ITEMS TO BE REFERRED TO CABINET MEMBER, CABINET OR TO FULL  
COUNCIL**

19.1 It was noted that Item 16, Open Spaces Strategy, be forwarded to the Chair of the Planning Committee.

The meeting concluded at 5.20pm

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

**BRIGHTON & HOVE CITY COUNCIL**

**CALL-IN MEETING OF ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY SAFETY  
OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**5.00PM 5 OCTOBER 2010**

**COMMITTEE ROOM 1, BRIGHTON TOWN HALL**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Councillors ; Janio (Deputy Chairman), Barnett, Davis, Davey, Hawkes, Hyde, Smart, and West

**Also present:** Councillors Steedman and G Theobald

**PART ONE**

**20. PROCEDURAL BUSINESS**

20.1 The Chairman welcomed members of the public and officers who were present.

**20.1 a Declarations of Substitutes**

Councillor Hawkes was substituting for Councillor Morgan; Councillor Hyde for Councillor Mrs Norman; Councillor Smart for Councillor Drake and Councillor Davey for Councillor Rufus.

**20.1 b Declarations of Interests**

Councillor Theobald declared a prejudicial interest in item 21, as Cabinet Member for Environment.

**20.1 c Declaration of Party Whip**

There were none.

**20.1 d Exclusion of Press and Public**

In accordance with section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, it was considered whether the press and public should be excluded from the meeting during the consideration of any items contained in the agenda, having regard to the nature of the business to be transacted and the nature of the proceedings and the likelihood as to whether, if members of the press and public were present, there would be disclosure to them of confidential or exempt information as defined in section 100I (1) of the said Act.

**RESOLVED:** That the press and public be not excluded from the meeting.

**21. CALL IN REQUEST OF HANOVER & ELM GROVE RESIDENT PARKING SCHEME  
REVIEW COMMUNITY CONSULTATION**

21.1 Councillor West referred to his letter requesting call-in that had been countersigned by the three ward councillors, Councillors Duncan, Fryer, and Steedman.

21.2 At the invitation of the Chairman, Councillor Steedman, on behalf of the signatories to the letter, summarised the main points of the call-in request. These related to the decision-making process, the consultation and interpretation of the results.

21.3 He agreed with most of the decisions in the Cabinet CMM report that respected the residents' wishes and these were not a problem. However outside the larger areas of Elm Grove, East Brighton and most of Queens Park there were a few streets for which the decision not to introduce parking restrictions did not comply with the express wishes of residents; such as Canning Street, Queens Park Rise and Richmond Heights, he said.

21.4 Councillor Steedman told the Committee that he thought the original leaflet asking for residents' views on parking restrictions was misleading in that it referred to possibility of smaller parking schemes. Yet the Environment CMM decisions were taken without considering these options. He asked for clarification on the acceptable level for a consultation response rate in particular where there was no clear consensus in the replies that were received.

21.5 Councillor Steedman said the consultation in the three areas had failed to take account of the balance of residents in the neighbourhood. Car owners would be more likely to respond than non-car owners, who would therefore be under-represented in the consultation responses. More should have been done to seek out non-car-owner views and reflect their views in the decision in his view.

21.6 All three disputed areas either included 'light touch' restrictions or already bordered on existing controlled parking zones. The council was under moral if not legal obligation to take action on grounds of road safety and access for emergency vehicles. This would be simple he suggested - by bringing the areas into an adjacent area as the majority of residents in those areas wished. If this were to happen, the Ward Councillors would ask for specific monitoring of displacement parking in surrounding streets.

21.7 The three ward councillors backed the residents in the three areas affected by this decision and requested that the matter be referred back to CMM for reconsideration.

21.8 Councillor Geoffrey Theobald stated that these were difficult decisions; he took this responsibility seriously and had to balance the issues carefully. He read out the table of consultation results for the three areas and said these were not overwhelming. Other issues such as geographical boundaries, parking patterns generally such as displacement parking also had to be considered. It was impossible to say how car owners might have voted. Officers had undertaken to speak to Canning Street residents about road safety concerns.

21.9 Asked to describe the consultation process, the Lead Commissioner City Regulation and Infrastructure said this was wide and thorough and a 'model' exercise. There had been two well-attended pre-consultation workshops before the main documents were circulated. Residents had been encouraged to vote and the overall reply rate had been good. Replying to a question about temporary schemes followed by a 6-month review, he said these were impractical not least because they were difficult to withdraw. There was a timetable in place for consultation and it had been agreed that larger consultations were preferable to smaller areas as they reduced costs, increased opportunities for replies and importantly reduced the potential for causing displacement.

21.10 A member of the public said that residents were asked only to comment on their own road, not the whole area. Another resident, content with the general approach to the consultation, summarised the history of parking in this area and gave details of the responses of residents of Canning Street, 73% of whom voted in favour of parking restrictions and two instances involving emergency vehicles; asking that action be taken.

21.11 Councillor Theobald left the room while the Committee considered the call-in request.

21.12 Some members argued that more clarity was needed on the level for a 'reasonable' response rate on which to base a decision. Others remained concerned whether the consultation leaflet implied that smaller areas could be considered if in fact this was not likely. Some councillors commented that the consultation had been conducted well and the views of residents who had not replied could not be 'second-guessed.'

21.13 Summarising Councillor West queried whether the decision was sound, whether the consultation leaflet was misleading, what was an acceptable response rate, which residents were responding and which were not, and to what extent the consultation relied on residents' views plus what other factors are taken into account in the final decisions. He said it would be a more democratic approach to detach the three areas from the main consultation and address them again and asked for the decision to be called in.

21.14 Members discussed the matter and following a vote the Committee agreed not to call-in the decision.

21.15 A recommendation was proposed that:

"The Cabinet Member for Environment be recommended to re-visit Canning Street, Queens Park Rise and Bakers Bottom and surroundings, with a view to introducing a parking scheme into those areas or incorporating them into an existing scheme."

21.16 Members questioned if the committee could send a recommendation back to the Cabinet Member that was not included in the original papers.

21.17 The Chairman ruled that this is an acceptable method of communicating feedback to Cabinet Members, but that he would like it to be accepted by all members.

21.18 A form of words acceptable to all Members was not obtained.

21.19 Following a vote the recommendation was not upheld.

**21.20 RESOLVED;**

- (a) To note the decision taken by the Environment Cabinet Member on the 16 September 2010 in relation to the Hanover & Elm Grove Resident Parking Scheme Review Community Consultation
- (b) To note the subsequent Call-In request;
- (c) To note the additional information supplied by the Acting Director of Environment.
- (d) To neither refer the decision back nor make recommendations to the Environment Cabinet Member.

The meeting concluded at 19:15

Signed

Chair

Dated this

day of

## AGENDA ITEM 23C

### NOTE TO CLARIFY PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ASSESSMENT FORMULA AND CRITERIA, FOLLOWING ESCOSC ON 13 SEPTEMBER 2010

#### Background

The following information should clarify the current definition of 'minimum requirements' as set out in the assessment process outlined in Appendix 1 of the report considered under ECSOSC Agenda Item 17.

- (i) A Pedestrian crossing may be provided where the need, measured as  $PV^2$  is greater than  $10^8$  (or  $2 \times 10^8$  if a central refuge is provided), *when averaged over the 4 highest hour periods*;
- (ii) A controlled crossing will not be considered in cases where  $PV^2$  taken at peak hour is below 20% value.
- (iii) The choice of a pelican crossing rather than the zebra type is usually made if:
  - (a) there is difficulty with the geometric layout which would give visibility problems;
  - (b) the crossing is within 100 metres of an existing traffic signal/Pelican installation or in an Urban Traffic Control area;
  - (c) the 85%tile approach speed of vehicles is 35mph or above;
  - (d) a high percentage of blind or partially sighted pedestrians will use the crossing;
  - (e) a high number of pedestrians will be crossing which, with a Zebra crossing, could cause undue delay to vehicular traffic.
- iv If the site is at an existing traffic signal junction the assessment shall follow Department of Transport Advice Note TA15/81.

The  $PV^2$  formula helps to evaluate the potential for conflict between vehicles and pedestrians, whereby  $P$  = 2-way total hourly flow of pedestrians crossing the road within 50 m on either side at busy times and  $V$  = 2-way total hourly flow of vehicles. To help further explain the  $PV^2$  formula, the following worked examples may be of assistance.

#### Example 1

Where number of pedestrians ( $P$ ) = 30 and number of vehicles ( $V$ ) = 3,000  
 $30 \times 3,000^2 = 2.7 \times 10^8$  - controlled crossing justified.

#### Example 2

Where number of pedestrians ( $P$ ) = 200 and number of vehicles ( $V$ ) = 60  
 $200 \times 60^2 = 7.2 \times 10^5$  - controlled crossing not justified.

#### Conclusion

Further research undertaken since 13 September has identified further revisions that have been made to the formula by other councils to better reflect local circumstances when assessing crossings. This includes taking into account accident records, time taken to cross the road and level of difficulty in crossing the road. It has therefore been agreed that it would be beneficial for officers to consider a similar approach by reviewing the methodology in Brighton & Hove, and that the outcome of this work should be reported to ECSOSC.

AJR 15/10/10





## **AGENDA ITEM 25**

### **Letters from Councillors**

Dear Chair

I am writing formally to your Scrutiny committee to ask the committee to review of the council's parking policy in residential area and following such a review to make recommendations.

I attach two photographs of roads where meters are barely used and could add others such as Dyke Road Drive and Stanford Road.

I fully support parking controls in the City Centre where people park for a period to shop or conduct other business, but I believe residential areas need a different approach.

I am concerned at the cost of installing meters which are not the used, the displacement of cars to other roads that this causes and the increase in apparently all day parking on London Road opposite the youth hostel, on Carden Avenue by ASDA and in Preston Park itself.

Yours truly,

Juliet McCaffery  
Preston Park Ward Councillor

Please find photos from Manor Road attached. I am forwarding these as clear evidence that my concern regarding residential parking is not simply a ward issue. If you require more photos from other areas in the City I can happily supply these.







# ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 26

Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Crime trends and performance in Brighton &amp; Hove: Position at end August 2010</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>8 November 2010 ECSOSC</b> 18 October 2010 Community Safety Forum		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b><i>Director of Environment</i></b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b><i>Ruth Condon</i></b>	<b>Tel:</b> <b>29-1103</b>
	<b>E-mail:</b>	ruth.condon@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1 This report describes crime trends up to August 2010 and reports against targets and areas of work relating to the Brighton & Hove Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy, 2008-11. The report is intended to keep members of the Community Safety Forum apprised of crime trends and of recent work which is going on in support of the various areas.
- 1.2 Graphs with monthly data are also provided going back to April 2006. This enables recent data to be interpreted in the context of both longer term trends and also seasonal crime cycles (where appropriate).

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

That ECSOSC notes the report on Crime Trends presented to 18 October Community Safety Forum.

[The Community Safety Forum noted the information provided in this report and invited to:

- i) comment on any developments they may be aware of from their own or their organisation's experience which may help to understand and interpret the police crime data contained in this report.
- ii) consider the potential for supporting crime reduction and community safety when their organisations develop and take forward projects ]

#### 3. INFORMATION:

##### **Total Police Recorded Crime**

- 3.1 After the first five months of 2010/11 (to end of August) there was a reduction in overall crime of 4.8% compared to the same months of 2009/10 and this exceeds our

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3% reduction target. This is a continuation of the long term downward trend experienced in the past ten years.

### **Criminal Damage**

- 3.2 Criminal damage offences during the first 5 months of 2010/11 were 17% fewer than in the same months in 2009/10. The numbers rose from relatively low levels in the winter months up to a peak in May and June, but have dropped back during the following two months. This pattern was observed across the various types of criminal damage (ie. against dwellings, other buildings and vehicles).
- 3.3 Work has been progressing around improved appearance of the local environment with renewed work to tackle fly-posting and flyering and the purchase of high pressure street washing equipment to remove chewing gum. Such work helps to discourage deliberate damage. Partnership working involving projects with children in East Brighton has helped to tackle arson in this area and to keep numbers within target.

### **Violent Crime**

- 3.5 The number violent offences involving injury (including both serious and other injury) has reduced in the first 5 months of 2010/11 by 9% compared with the same months in 2009/10, which is better than the 3% reduction target. Alcohol misuse is often behind violent offences. Work continues around the development of an overarching Alcohol Strategy for the city which will ensure that the work of the wide range of partner agencies who have an interest in managing the use of alcohol in the city is co-ordinated. In parallel to this, research and consultation work around alcohol problems and services is also taking place through the 'intelligent commissioning' process to ensure future city-wide services are commissioned in the most effective way. Ways of effectively delivering information to the public around alcohol are being taken forward by a partnership group both from the health and crime perspectives. Measures were put in place prior to World Cup match days to ensure that an increase in violent crime did not result.

### **Sexual Offences**

- 3.6 In the first five months of 2010/11 there have been 152 sexual offences, 2% fewer than in the same months of 2009/10. Although there was an peak in the number of offences recorded in July, a number of these related to historical incidents and in fact there were fewer taking place in July this year than last year. In the first three months 21 clients were referred to the Sexual Assault Referral Centre for specialist services and further referral to support agencies. Information around mental health and adult vulnerability collected by the SARC is being analysed to inform the development of new working arrangements with adult social care and other services. Two part time Independent Sexual Violence Advisor posts have now started in post. They are based at Survivors Network and support victims of sexual offences by working with them through the criminal justice process, providing advice, helping them access counselling and so on. The scrutiny of sexual violence services is now complete and a final report with recommendations has been produced. This will be considered by a partnership meeting of statutory and third sector organisations during October.

### **Domestic Burglary**

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- 3.7 The number of domestic burglaries in the first five months of 2010/11 is 22% lower than in 2009/10. The long term pattern over the last three years has oscillated and is often related to the presence or absence of individual prolific burglars. Residents living near burgled houses have been alerted to take extra crime prevention measures due to statistically heightened risk or further burglaries. Homes that are repeat victims of burglary or where residents are deemed vulnerable have received security upgrades. There are a small number of prolific offenders whose drug-related offending is particularly problematic and these individuals are worked with intensively to reduce the risk of further drug-related offending.

#### **Motor Vehicle and Cycle Theft**

- 3.8 The number of vehicle thefts during 2010/11 to date have decreased by 9% compared with 2009/10. This decrease applies both to thefts of and thefts from motor vehicles. Car parks have received new crime prevention signage. Vehicle crime prevention advice has been distributed at a range of events across the city such as Freshers Fairs. Also, police operations have taken place over the summer to address the problem of stolen mopeds.
- 3.9 During the first five months of 2010/11 police recorded cycle thefts increased by 5.5% compared with last year, with numbers of thefts during June and July being particularly high with over 120 cycle thefts each month. A number of police action days for cycle theft have taken place at locations across the city including Brighton train station, the promenade, St James St and Churchill Square. This involved registering cycles on immobilise.com, giving out crime prevention advice, postcoding cycles and leaving crime prevention tips on cycles left unattended in cycle theft hotspots.

#### **Domestic Violence**

- 3.10 The number of domestic violence incidents reported to the police continues to increase, with numbers over the last four months averaging about 335 per month. So far during 2010/11 numbers are 3% higher than the same months last year. While seeking to decrease the incidence of DV, there is also ongoing work to increase reporting. The police are responding promptly to investigate offences and improving other processes around their handling of domestic violence cases and as a consequence more offences are being detected and charged than in previous months and years. The percentage of finalised court cases with successful outcomes remains at over 70%.

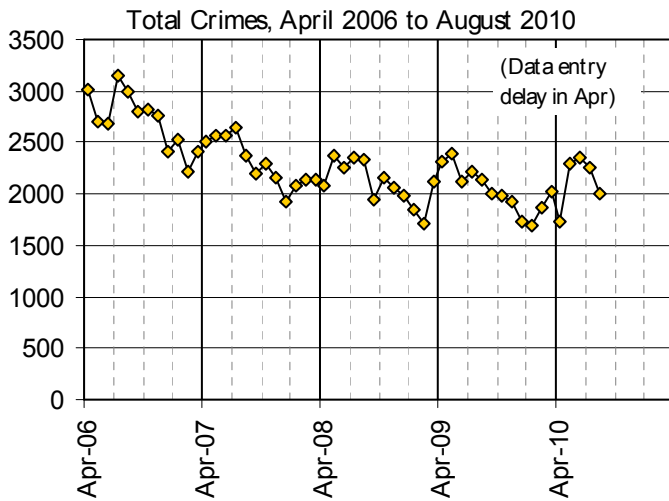
#### **Hate Incidents and Crimes**

- 3.11 The number of racist and religiously motivated incidents (RRMI) recorded by the police continues to decline, although the number recorded through the multi-agency Racist Incident Report Form remains relatively stable. This form has now been superseded by a generic Hate Incident Report Form which has been launched and is available on the council, Safe in the City and Racial Harassment Forum websites, as well as being promoted to a wide range of organisations and reporting centres. A BME businesses safety project has begun and is seeking to engage with community partners.

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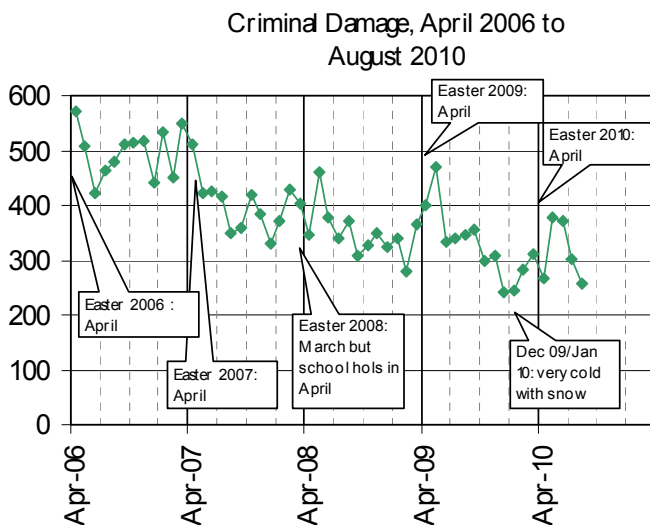
- 3.12 Police recorded LGBT-motivated hate crimes and incidents also continue to fall. It is anticipated that the generic Hate Incident Report Form which is being widely promoted across agencies will promote further reporting. The Partnership Community Safety Team once again had a high profile presence at Pride and messages delivered via the local authority focused on how to report and deal with hate crime, what support services are available and LGBT youth bullying.
- 3.13 There were 5 disability hate incidents reported to the Partnership Community Safety Team between April and June 2010. A wider launch than that mentioned above which focuses on promoting headline messages about the unacceptability of disability hate incidents is appropriate. There have been three disability hate incidents finalised in court since April and all of these have had successful outcomes.

### Crime trends up to August 2010



3.14 The typical seasonal pattern in crime levels has continued with lower levels over the winter months, rising again in the summer.

There was a delay in entering crimes into the police data recording system in April, so numbers are showing fewer in that month, and numbers in the following two months are correspondingly enhanced. This effect is seen in a number of the crime types shown below.

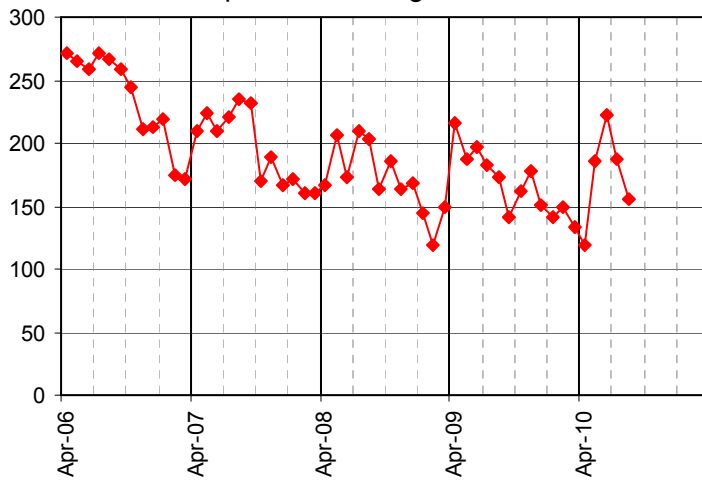


3.15 Numbers of criminal damage offences have risen since the low levels experienced during December and January when the weather was particularly cold, but overall the long term decline continues. Numbers of criminal damage offences have been lower in July and August than in May and June.



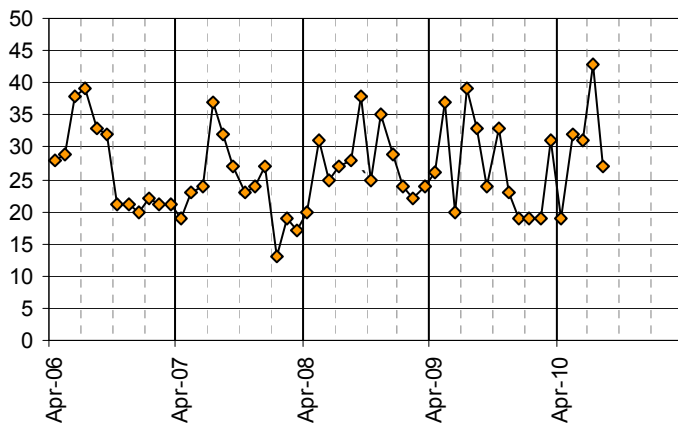
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**All Injury Violence**  
April 2006 to August 2010



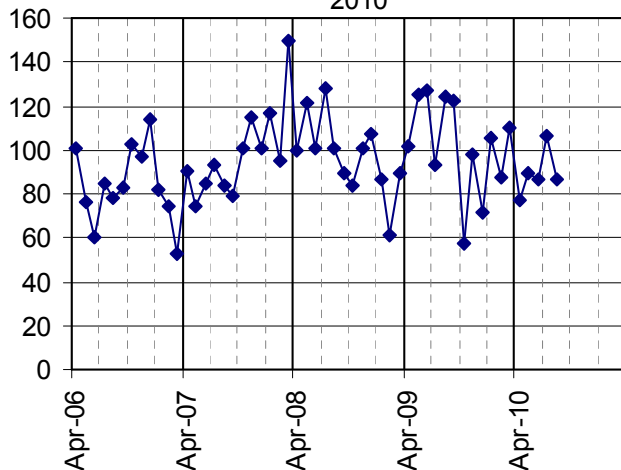
3.16 There is a clear seasonal pattern in injury violence with higher levels tending to occur in the early summer. This pattern has continued.

**Sexual Offences**  
April 2006 - August 2010



3.17 In the first 5 months of 2010/11 numbers are similar to the same months in 2009/10.

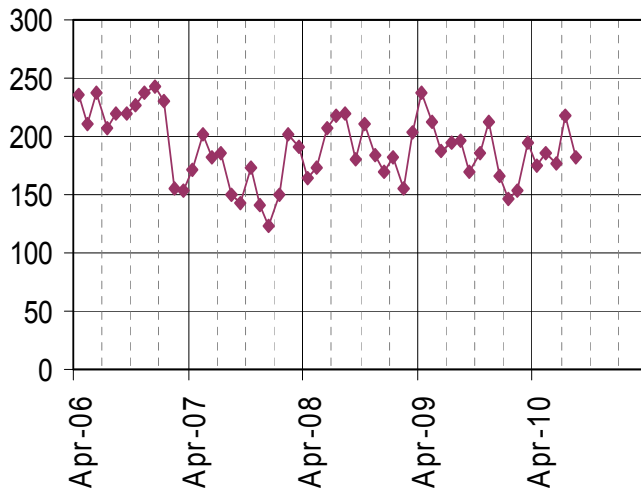
**Domestic Burglary, Apr 2006 to August 2010**



3.18 The number of domestic burglaries has averaged at about 90 per month in the first 5 months of 2010/11 and this is roughly the same level as the preceding 5 months, but below the same 5 months in 2009/10

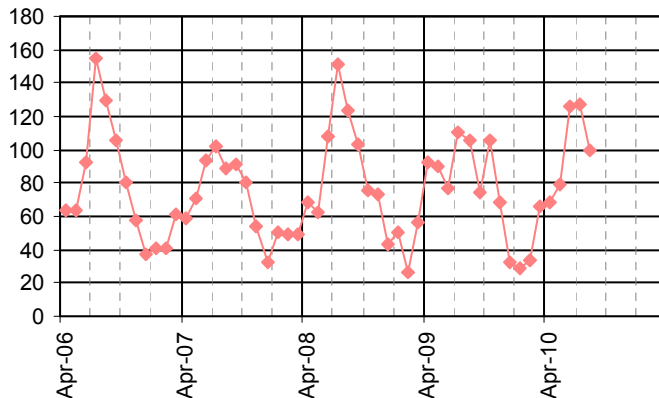
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Vehicle Crime, April 2006 to August 2010



3.19 The number of vehicle crimes in the first 5 months of 2010/11 has averaged about 190 per month. Both thefts from vehicles and thefts of vehicles have decreased compared with the same period in 2009/10.

Theft of a Pedal Cycle, April 2006 to August 2010

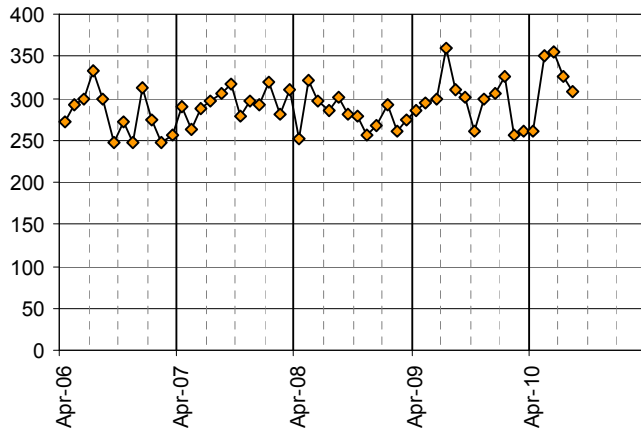


3.20 Pedal cycle theft shows a strong seasonal effect related to the months when more people cycle and can be influenced by weather.

3.21 Police crime data presented in this report only reflect those crimes which are reported and recorded. There is likely to be a level of underreporting in many crime types. However, domestic violence and the hate crimes on this page are likely to be particularly liable to underreporting.

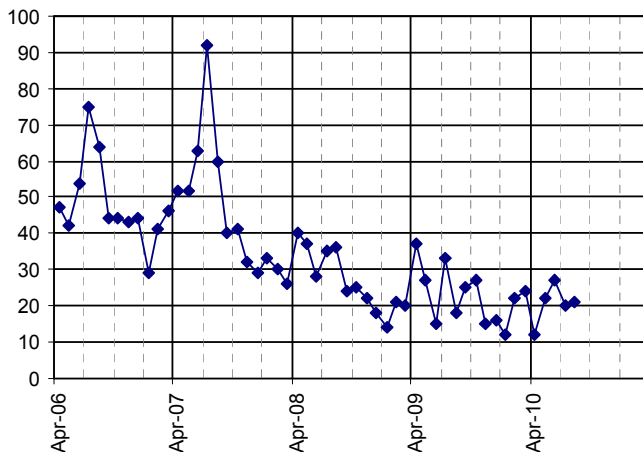
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Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents,  
April 2006 - August 2010



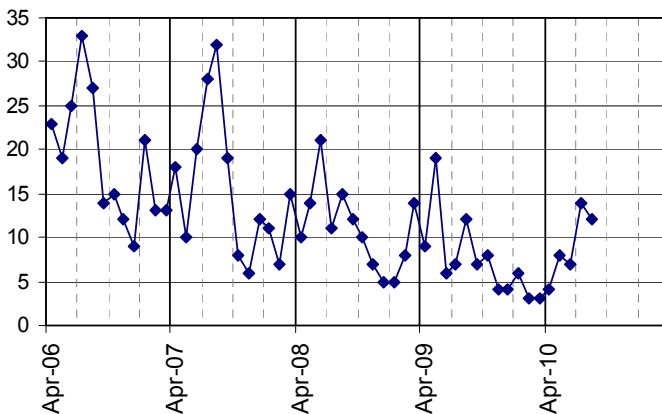
3.22 The number of domestic violence crimes and incidents during the first 5 months of 2010/11 has increased compared with the same months in 2009/10. This increase is seen in both the crime and crime-related incidents. Numbers remain significant at an average of 320 per month.

Racist and Religiously Motivated Crimes and Incidents, April 2006 to August 2010



3.23 The declining trend in racist and religiously motivated incidents and crimes appears to be continuing with an average of 20 per month. The seasonal effect (more incidents in the summer months) may still be present, but this is much less marked than in previous years.

LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents, April 2006 to August 2010



3.24 After the very low numbers of recorded crimes and incidents between Nov and Apr numbers have risen again, in common with previous season patterns. Jul and Aug have seen 14 and 12 crimes and incidents respectively.

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### Performance data for key crime types, 2010/11

Police recorded crimes April to August (inclusive)	number of crimes Apr 09- Aug 09	number of crimes Apr 10- Aug 10	reduction target (from 2009/10 baseline)	performance against target to date		rank within 15 bench- marked CSPs
				on target		
Total Crimes	11,179	10,647	-3%	on target		8
Criminal Damage	1,891	1,572	-5%	on target		13
Injury Violence <sup>1</sup>	956	871	-3%	on target		9 <sup>2</sup>
Sexual Offences	155	152	-	-		11
Domestic Burglary	571	446	-	-		2
Theft from/of a Motor Vehicle	1,028	937	-	-		4
Pedal Cycle Theft	475	501	-	-		6
Domestic Violence Crimes and Incidents	1,551	1,598	-	-		n/a <sup>3</sup>
Racist/Rel. Crimes and Incidents	144	102	-	-		n/a
LGBT Hate Crimes and Incidents	53	45	-	-		n/a

<sup>1</sup> As defined by Sussex Police

<sup>2</sup> iQuanta category 'wounding (serious and other)'

<sup>3</sup> Because DV and hate crimes are locally 'flagged' crimes and do not have nationally defined classification codes, comparative/benchmarking data are not available. Also, because DV, hate crimes and sexual offences are subject to significant underreporting and local work is being undertaken to increase reporting of these crimes, it is not appropriate to judge performance in comparison with other CDRPs based on the number of police recorded crimes.

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## **Appendix**

### **A note on how Brighton & Hove's performance is compared with other Community Safety Partnerships**

For the purposes of assessing the relative performance of the Brighton & Hove Community Safety Partnership (CSP) in reducing crime, our performance is compared (benchmarked) with the performance of 14 other 'Most Similar' CSPs. The Home Office have created these groupings to help provide information on how CSPs, police forces, etc. are performing.

CSPs within a 'Most Similar' grouping have been assessed as having similar characteristics in terms of 24 socio-demographic and geographic variables which are strongly linked to increased levels of crime, fear of crime, or incidents.

We are able to compare our crime trends and current performance with our Most Similar CSPs. The data presented on page 1 of this report (see right-most column of the table) shows our ranked position within this group of 15 CSPs. For example, a ranking of 1 indicates that a CSP is performing best within the group, and a ranking of 8 shows that the CSP is in the middle ranked position.

#### **Other Members of Brighton & Hove's Most Similar CSP Group (from Apr 2010) are as follows:**

LB Barnet  
Bournemouth  
Cheltenham  
LB Croydon  
Eastbourne  
LB Hackney  
LB Hammersmith & Fulham  
LB Kensington & Chelsea  
LB Lambeth  
Reading  
LB Southwark  
LB Wandsworth  
Windsor and Maidenhead  
Wycombe



# ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

## Agenda Item 27

Brighton & Hove City Council

**Subject:** Biosphere Reserve  
**Date of Meeting:** 8 November 2010  
**Report of:** Director of Environment  
**Contact Officer:** Name: Gillian Marston Tel: 29-4701  
E-mail: gillian.marston@brighton-hove.gov.uk  
**Wards Affected:** All

### FOR GENERAL RELEASE

#### 1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:

- 1.1. ECSOSC on 13 September 2010 considered a report on the Open Spaces Strategy. The report included a letter to the Chairman from Councillor Amy Kennedy and detailed information from Planning and City Services officers.
- 1.2. In discussion of this item the Committee resolved to request an officer update on the Biosphere Reserve. (It was also agreed to arrange an informal workshop on the Open Spaces Strategy early in 2011 and to forward an extract from the minutes of this item to the Chairman of the Planning Committee.)
- 1.3. This report sets out further information on Biosphere Reserves as requested.

#### 2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1. That Members consider the enclosed report and request progress be reported at a suitable time to scrutiny, in its policy overview role.

#### 3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

##### What is a Biosphere Reserve?

- 3.1. Biosphere reserves are large sites recognized under UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Programme. They innovate and demonstrate

approaches to conservation and sustainable development. They are independent, but share their experience and ideas nationally and internationally within the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. There are 553 sites worldwide in 107 countries.

- 3.2. Biosphere Reserves are not nature reserves as we know them in Britain. Rather than being about small, fenced areas of land, the aim is to demonstrate how large scale social and economic development can profit from and promote a top quality natural environment.
- 3.3. A number of cities internationally have already applied Biosphere Reserve principles, with the intention of using the concept as a tool for planning and managing sustainable urban development. Several Biosphere Reserves also incorporate large urban areas. However to date there are no 'Biosphere Reserve cities', although the concept is being actively debated by UNESCO.

### **Who are UNESCO?**

- 3.4. UNESCO is the United Nations Education Scientific and Cultural Organisation. Their Man and the Biosphere (MAB) programme is the international coordinating body for the World Network of Biosphere Reserves.

### **How do Biosphere Reserves work?**

- 3.5. Biosphere Reserves are based around a 'Core area' where the natural environment is protected. The Core Area sits in, or next to a 'Buffer Zone' where nature is conserved along side other, compatible land uses such as agriculture, tourism and recreation. Buffer zones can also be important as they may connect separate parts of a core area. The Core Area and Buffer Zone sit within a 'Transition Area' where people live. Here the aim is to promote a high quality of life, based on a superb natural environment.
- 3.6. Biosphere Reserves have three functions:
  - **Conservation** - contribute to the conservation of landscapes, ecosystems, species and genetic variation.
  - **Development** - promote economic and social development which is ecologically sustainable.
  - **Demonstration** - centre of excellence for environmental education and training, research and monitoring related to sustainable development.

### **The benefits of Biosphere Reserve status for Brighton and Hove include:**

- 3.7. Setting new standards of excellence for integrating biodiversity into city living to improve quality of life and health.



- 3.8. International and national recognition of Brighton & Hove as a 'sustainable city' with consequential benefits to tourism and economic development amongst others.
- 3.9. The designation should attract new resources and skills for environmental research and education at all levels. The profiles of existing environmental education initiatives should be increased.
- 3.10. A vehicle for raising awareness and improving community cohesion and involvement in local decision-making.

### **What would Brighton and Hove have to do to qualify to be part of a Biosphere Reserve?**

- 3.11. Biosphere Reserves are selected via an international application process, using strict qualifying criteria. The relevant UNESCO national committee must approve an application before it can be passed to a national Government for scrutiny. Favourable nominations are then forwarded to UNESCO for consideration by a dedicated committee.
- 3.12. A bid will need to focus more on rural / downland aspect surrounding city although the biosphere will cover the urban area as well. Further, there needs to be a rationale for the area selected to be covered by the biosphere which makes sense on the ground i.e. covering a water catchment area, or particular type of geology and landscape.
- 3.13. The UNESCO application form asks for evidence of the following:
  - Proof of the existence of the three elements of 'core area', 'buffer area' and 'transition zone'.
    - The core area or areas in Brighton and Hove, could focus on Castle Hill, on the outskirts of Woodingdean, as it is an internationally important wildlife site (a Special Area of Conservation). Part of the area is in Lewes District Council and East Sussex County Council administrative areas.
    - Under the Biosphere Reserve model, the built-up area of Brighton and Hove would be included in the 'transition zone'. The city would need to demonstrate how steps are being taken to 'green' this zone, for example via green networks and other planning policies such as the Conservation SPD.
  - Show how the city conserves:
    - Endangered and important species at the local and global scale.
    - Important and rare habitats
    - Unique land use practices

- Genetic biodiversity

Brighton & Hove supports significant populations of bats which are recognised as internationally rare. It also has areas of ancient chalk grassland, an internationally threatened habitat type, managed by sheep grazing. The Southdown sheep is a rare genetic breed, endemic to the Sussex Downs which is also an integral part of chalk grassland conservation.

- Details of how environmental research, monitoring of activities and education takes place.
- Details of how the reserve has the potential for fostering economic and human development which is socio-culturally and ecologically sustainable
- A Management Plan showing how the aims of the Biosphere Reserve will be implemented across the area. The plan would need to address all of the elements described above and set out clear mechanisms and a timetable for ensuring they will be progressed. Existing plans which would support this include the council's climate change adaptation strategies, the open space strategies and the Local Development Frameworks.
- A "designated authority or mechanism" to implement the Management Plan. Organisational arrangements should be described to ensure the involvement and participation of a range of public authorities, local communities and private interests.

### Progress to date

- 3.14. The 2006 Brighton & Hove Sustainable Community Strategy is perhaps unique in the UK in committing the 2020 Partnership to work towards designation of a Biosphere Reserve. In 2008 the Sustainability Conference explored in detail what it might mean for Brighton and Hove to included in a Biosphere Reserve. The conference was organised in partnership with the University of Brighton with financial help from the Environment Agency. The conference was supported at the highest level, with the Leader and Deputy Leader of the council both making presentations and the Chief Executive of the council and Pro-Vice Chancellor of Brighton University chairing conference sessions
- 3.15. **Biosphere steering group.** An initial group has been established to coordinate early work on the Biosphere Reserve. The group is chaired by Chris Todd, Chair of the Sustainability Partnership. It is attended by Sussex Wildlife Trust, Natural England, the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, teacher and butterfly specialist from Dorothy Stringer School, and council representatives from Cityparks and the Sustainability Team. The form of this group may change as other parties need inclusion.

- 3.16. **UNESCO Biosphere Visit.** In the summer, a visit was arranged from UNESCO representatives of the UK Man and Biosphere Committee. This committee feeds into the overarching Biosphere work of UNESCO. It will make recommendations to the UK Government on biosphere reserves applications which are then recommended by the Government to UNSECO.

Representatives were the chair of the UNESCO UK Man and Biosphere Committee URBAN Forum, the chair and deputy chair of UNESCO UK Man and Biosphere Committee and a Senior Urban and Partnerships Officer at the Countryside Council for Wales

**Key messages from the representatives were as follows:**

- A Biosphere Reserve including Brighton & Hove is perfectly feasible and there was much enthusiasm for putting the city and its surrounding countryside forward. It was felt that the city had all the basic ingredients to succeed.
  - Any bid should focus more on rural / downland aspect, although the biosphere will cover the urban area and cannot be ignored.
  - The demonstration of extensive community engagement is a growing requirement for Biosphere Reserve status
  - The status of Biosphere Reserve should be treated as an accolade not a designation.
  - It would take 2 years to work up bid and the whole process could to gaining a biosphere status could be up to 3 years
- 3.17. Policies from the council and other organisations which effect the management of biodiversity and sustainability are being collated to assess where there are gaps.
- 3.18. Work is underway on the establishment of a **Local Biodiversity Action Plan (LBAP)**, setting out the habitats and species of importance in the city and defining what needs to be done to ensure their conservation at sustainable levels. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by the summer 2011.
- 3.19. In addition, a **review of the city's Sites of Nature Conservation Importance (SNCI)**, is taking place to ensure all land of nature conservation importance in the city is recognised and subsequently conserved, in line with current best practice and the requirements of National Indicator 197. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by the summer 2011.

**Further work**

- 3.20. The council will need to engage with surrounding authorities as a Biosphere Reserve will need to focus on the rural/downland area.

Discussions will take place with relevant officers from Lewes District Council and East Sussex Council initially in due course.

- 3.21. A need to increase levels of community engagement on the Biosphere Reserve to gain a common understanding of the principles, and to develop management plans with residents, partner organisations and neighbouring authorities. Initial discussions will need to take place with residents and existing groups involved on green spaces on how the council should engage with them at a local and strategic level. A draft paper is due to be presented this year for groups for comment.
- 3.22. Thought will need to be given to the governance and management structures for the Biosphere Reserve bid and once the Biosphere Reserve status has been achieved. The involvement of Local Strategic Partnership, health organisations, voluntary and community sectors, and businesses will be important – the reserve needs to be led by the city rather than the council, albeit the council will have a significant stewardship role.
- 3.23. Developing a bid for a Biosphere Reserve with the necessary building blocks in place is extensive. To progress the bid resources will need to be committed to manage the process. This will impact on a project plan which needs to be developed.
- 3.24. A project plan needs to be drafted and it is suggested that it is reported to scrutiny for early review and feedback.

#### **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Establishing and maintaining a Biosphere Reserve requires extensive consultation across communities, businesses, voluntary organisations and other public sector bodies. The intention is for all parties across city to 'own' the biosphere reserve and thus allow for the protection and enhance of landscapes and ecosystems. The role of universities and schools will be significant in the research, monitoring and education element of the Reserve requirements. Consultation is increasingly seen as important in Biosphere Reserve bid applications.

#### **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

##### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 Developing a bid for a Biosphere Reserve is extensive and further resources will need to be committed to manage the process in a timely fashion.
- 5.2 The maintenance of a Biosphere Reserve and oversight by a management arrangement will require on going support and resources. At this stage it is unknown what level of support and resources will be needed.

#### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 None at this time although as the project develops there is likely to be implications which need consideration, for example, the establishment of management arrangements for the Reserve.

#### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 In engaging residents and business it will be essential to ensure that traditionally under represented groups have a voice and opportunity to shape the Reserve.
- 5.4 Further, by working across the city and with partners in health there is the opportunity to promote access to green spaces and nature for improved physical and mental health and more broadly address the quality of the environment and impact on quality of life.
- 5.5 Equality Impact Assessments will need to be developed as part of the project.

#### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 A Biosphere Reserve is about conserving landscapes and ecosystems. As well as the traditional conservation practices it also means adopting more sustainable economic and social development practices to preserve ecosystems.
- 5.5 Further, environmental education and training, research and monitoring related to sustainable development as essential components.

#### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 None

#### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 A Biosphere Reserve is a huge opportunity to build strong links with communities particularly around green spaces and about sustainable practices.
- 5.7 Alongside the 1010 campaign and the work of the Food Partnership the city can take forward a strong environmental agenda which delivers substantial environmental and quality of life improvements.
- 5.8 There is a real opportunity to raise the importance and develop a common understanding of ecological resources of the coast and downland within and outside the city and the impact this has on health and well being.
- 5.9 It will be a challenge to harness cross working across a range of partners but the benefits of all partners working in unison towards a common agenda with agreed actions to further sustainable management practices across a Reserve should be substantial. There should be a much increased progress to improving the environment.

#### Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.10 A Biosphere Reserve will cover the city and extend outside the administrative boundaries. Thus there will be a need for ownership of the reserve across partners, the voluntary, business sectors and other

public sector organisations. Further it is highly likely that the reserve will need to extend to other local authorities.

- 5.11 There will be implications on the way green spaces are managed and the Downland Initiative will be increasingly important.
- 5.12 Assessments of council policies and practices and the impact of other organisations policies and practices will need to be assessed to ensure they do not conflict with the Biosphere Reserve principles and where possible policies and practices aid the conservation of landscapes and ecosystems.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

None

### **Background Papers**

'Urban Biosphere City Status' report to 19 January 2009, the Sustainability Cabinet Committee

# **ENVIRONMENT AND COMMUNITY SAFETY OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**

**Agenda Item 28**  
Brighton & Hove City Council

<b>Subject:</b>	<b>Monitoring Outcomes of the Scrutiny Review of Older People and Community Safety</b>		
<b>Date of Meeting:</b>	<b>8 November 2010</b>		
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Director of Environment</b>		
<b>Contact Officer:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Linda Beanlands</b>	<b>Tel:</b> 29-1115
	<b>E-mail:</b>	linda.beanlands@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	All		

## **FOR GENERAL RELEASE**

### **1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

1.1 This report enables the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee to monitor and track progress on the scrutiny recommendations on Older People and Community Safety made to the Executive. The recommendations and update appears as appendix 1 to this report.

1.2 The report will help the Committee to assess the impact and consequences of the scrutiny recommendations.

### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

- (1) That Members consider the action taken against these recommendations, and provide feedback.
- (2) That the Committee determines whether a further tracking report relating to this scrutiny review is required.

### **3. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

#### **3.1 The Scrutiny Review**

A cross-party working group of Members of the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) comprising Councillors Warren Morgan, Tony Janio and Ian Davey, considered priority issues for scrutiny in October 2008. The group identified the importance of fear of crime

to older people in the City and improved information for older people; as a key issue. This had recently been raised at a Community Safety Forum meeting by the Director of Age Concern.

3.2 Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee (ECSOSC) subsequently agreed to establish a scrutiny panel on older people and community safety with a remit to investigate:

- To what extent are the views of older people known, regarding community safety?
- Do older people have specific concerns about safety in the community?
- How can older people be helped to feel safer in the community?

3.3 Councillors Mo Marsh (Chairman), Amy Kennedy, David Smart, David Watkins with co-optee from the Older People's Council, John Eyles, served on the Panel.

3.4 The Panel's completed report was endorsed by the Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 14 September 2009 and referred to the Council's Executive.

3.5 Cabinet considered the report on 9 December 2009 and agreed the actions as detailed in the implementation plan. The Scrutiny report and cabinet response were reported to full Council on 28 January 2010

### 3.6 **Monitoring Scrutiny Reviews**

The usual arrangements for monitoring the outcome of scrutiny recommendations are:

- a) The decision-makers to whom the recommendations are addressed, are asked to submit a formal response to the recommendations normally within two months, including an action plan and timetable for implementation with named contact officers to action the recommendations.
- b) The report of the scrutiny review and response from the decision-makers are then reported together to full Council for information.
- c) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee normally receives a report of progress against the agreed recommendations, six months after being reported to Council.
- d) The Overview and Scrutiny Committee/ will at that stage determine if any further monitoring is required; whether a progress report is required after a further six months or one year. Otherwise the Committee may resolve that no more monitoring is necessary.

3.2 A summary of the Scrutiny Recommendations and progress in implementation appears at Appendix 1 to this report.



## **4. CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 Four of the scrutiny panel meetings were advertised as public meetings and provided opportunities for residents of the city to share their views and experiences. Their information was taken into account as evidence. At an early stage the panel invited a range of organisations, including the Older People's Council to give evidence and to respond to questions from panel members. Community Safety Forum meetings provided further opportunities for consultation.

## **5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:**

### Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The overall approach is to deliver the recommendations within existing resources. However, the implementation plan (appended) is the mechanism through which any necessary additional resources are identified. Should that be the case, the timescales of implementation will be set accordingly and a commentary included in any future progress reports.

### Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Crime and Disorder Act 1998 gives the police and local authority an equal duty to reduce crime and disorder and fear of crime and improve community safety. Requirements are also placed upon partners within the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership by this and subsequent legislation and guidance. The scrutiny process and the recommendations further the delivery of these legal provisions.

### Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The implementation of the recommendations will improve the lives of those who are vulnerable either because of older age, disability or ill health. The effect of policies and practices on older people are to be included within the impact assessments for some service areas, including community safety.

### Sustainability Implications:

- 5.4 Implementation of the recommendations to address the findings of scrutiny will greatly assist in the overall delivery of the Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008 -2011 in which a number of sustainability objectives are identified.

### Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.5 The overall purpose of the scrutiny process which is the subject of these reports was to reduce fear of crime, increase understanding of effective action taken by the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and to increase the safety of older people.

### Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.6 The recommendations are designed in some cases, to reduce actual risks that may be experienced by older people as well as to re-assure them that are in fact, safer than they perceive. However, reducing fear of crime is in itself of benefit to the welfare of older people and therefore results in risk reduction.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.7 The recommendations will bring benefits for all of those in the city who are over 50 years of age.

## **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION**

### **Appendices:**

1. Recommendations of the Scrutiny Review of Older People and Community Safety and progress against the recommendations.

### **Documents In Members' Rooms/ Background Documents**

None.

## Agenda Item 28 Appendix 1

### Monitoring Outcomes of the Older People and Community Safety Scrutiny Review

Rec Number	Scrutiny Recommendation	9 December 2009 Cabinet Response (from PCST, Primary Care Trust, ASCH)	Action taken or likely date of action
1	<p><b>Information for older people</b></p> <p>The panel recommends that a purpose designed booklet be provided to older people in user-friendly format to engage and inform on community safety and keeping safe.</p>	<p>The PCST will work with Adult Social Care to produce a good quality handbook for Older People.</p> <p>In July 2009 NHS Brighton and Hove and Brighton and Hove City Council (Adult Social Care) launched <i>Information Prescriptions</i> as a six month pilot scheme. The prescriptions are a tool that can be used for both health and social care staff and will help service users to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• feel in control and independent;</li> <li>• gather information at an appropriate time, quickly and easily;</li> <li>• access information in a format that suits them; and</li> <li>• reduce the need to use health and social care services.</li> </ul>	<p>Work is continuing to produce the community safety handbook for Older People, aiming for a launch at the start of 2011.</p>

		<p>Information and advice about community safety could be included in the website.</p> <p>ASC&amp;H can contribute can contribute to the production of an information document, the content needs to be broader and examples of the publications used in Crawley and Mid Sussex and the Be Smart Be Safe Handbook were considered good practice.</p>	
2	<p><b>inter-generational initiatives</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends inter-generational initiatives to help raise awareness, build resilience and feelings of safety of older people and better understanding between different age groups.</p>	<p>The PCST will work with its partners, particularly those which deliver initiatives targeted at Young People, to introduce inter-generational work where appropriate.</p> <p>The Healthy Ageing Sub-Network (including WHO Healthy Cities, Healthy Ageing Sub-Network) The Healthy Ageing Sub-Network is to include inter-generational development in their next development programme.</p> <p>NHS Brighton &amp; Hove and Adult Social Care have are represented at the Centre for Intergenerational Practice which could be used to inform/develop</p>	<p>While there are many activities within day to day community safety work which address specific problems which could be related to inter-generational problems (within our responses to casework and community solutions, for example ) it has not yet been possible to carry out specific inter-generational work. This recommendation will however, remain for implementation as soon as resources allow.</p>

		<p>initiatives.</p> <p>NHS Brighton &amp; Hove and Adult Social Care are working together on a peer support development programme being developed under the National Dementia Strategy Demonstrator Site bid.</p> <p>ASC&amp;H can facilitate inter generational work; this happens on some Council Housing Estates and there have been links with schools and sheltered housing schemes.</p>	
3	<p><b>Equalities Impact Assessments</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends Equalities Impact Assessments be brought forward with wide consultation with older people on policies/strategies of the Council and Partner organisations. This will help eliminate or minimise adverse impact on the mobility, independence and quality of life of older people and their ability to interact fully in society.</p>	<p>The PCST will incorporate assessments on the effect of its policies and practices, within its wider equalities impact assessment work.</p> <p>NHS Brighton &amp; Hove have a robust programme for reviewing all policies, procedures and commissioning decisions that currently includes older people. (This process is under review).</p> <p>Equality Impact Assessments are carried out and these consider the impact on older people of policies and strategies. The monitoring of EIA's must ensure the relevant emphasis is given.</p>	<p>All policies/projects are subject to Equality Impact Assessment at least every 3 years with a timetable agreed by the council's Equality Steering Group. ASC&amp;H currently have over 50 EIAs published, ranging from services of direct relevance to older people (Supported Housing, Older People's Housing Strategy) to services which include older people (Personalisation Strategy, Sussex Homemove). Actions are checked by the Directorate's equality group and signed off at AD level, with similar arrangements across all Directorates. Evidence from EIAs has been used to create a 'library of good practice' within ASC&amp;H. The Communities &amp; Equality Team provide corporate monitoring of EIAs to ensure we achieve the standard required</p>

			<p>by the Equality Framework.</p> <p>Government have announced that, with the implementation of the public sector equality duty in April 2011, there will be new guidance published on Equality Impact Assessments. There is currently a public consultation underway.</p>
4	<p><b>Mainstreaming Successful Schemes</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that the Neighbourhood Care Scheme, and other programmes shown to be successful in working with isolated vulnerable older people, be mainstreamed.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>This will be considered alongside other priorities when commissioning services.</p> <p>Annual funding can be problematic for some projects and some good work is lost when the monies available are for new initiatives. Mainstreaming could become part of the commissioning function to ensure VFM.</p>	<p>In terms of our grants programme Council has committed to Three Year Discretionary Grant 2010-13 at £25,000 pa in support of the Neighbourhood Care Scheme. Our grants also support a number of other organisations working with isolated older people such as Age Concern &amp; the Carers Centre.</p> <p>Community Chest Grants in Turner and Eastern Road have also supported the NCS with two small grants (one from each area) of £500 each. The Health Action Group also awarded £500 from the Healthy Neighbourhoods Fund. This funded a publicity campaign and was successful in getting more volunteers and clients.</p> <p>In line with the new Intelligent Commissioning arrangements being introduced across the Council a strategic overview of the range of activities that support the health and wellbeing agenda which included Neighbourhood Schemes in the City will be formed. This approach will be</p>

			mindful of the interrelated work across communities and new and emerging policy directives from central Government.
5	<p><b>Housing Policy</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that the Council consider giving some priority for a move in an area near family or friends where support for an older person would be nearby.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>The review of the choice based lettings system could enable applicants to be awarded priority in relation to their ability to offer or receive acknowledged support. This would mean people could then be housed in a certain area of the City, receive support from local people and minimise their dependency on services.</p>	<p>In the last policy review this clause was added to Band C under the Homemove Scheme:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• People who need to move to a particular area in the city where failure to meet that need would cause hardship, eg to give or receive support.</li> </ul> <p>A full re-review of the Allocations Scheme is under way and this will be taken forward to ensure that this is the correct priority for these people for social housing.</p>
6	<p><b>Cold Calling</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that to help combat doorstep crime, Trading Standards consider the introduction of 'no cold-calling' zones in areas identified from intelligence.</p>	<p>The PCST is in discussion with Trading Standards about whether or not this work can be implemented.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>ASC&amp;H will liaise with Trading Standards in adopting these zones, this already happens in relation to the</p>	<p>In March 2010 Trading Standards (TSD) purchased 10,000 uninvited doorstep caller warning stickers jointly with Sussex Police. Due to public demand B &amp; H TSD ordered another 2,000 in July.</p> <p>Following a successful press release featured in The Argus in 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2010 we received over 90 ConsumerDirect South East</p>

		sheltered housing schemes.	<p>referrals/notifications requesting mailbox stickers from consumers and advice agencies which include The Deaf Association, Home Adaptation's Team and East Sussex Fire and Rescue.</p> <p>We have promoted the stickers at a number of events including for example: Hangleton Community Centre – 50+ Event ; Electric Blanket testing; Site Waste Management Plans Hove Town Hall – stand; Lets Do Business show at Brighton Racecourse; Staff Conferences (HTH); Summer Solstice &amp; Public Services Exhibition; Kemptown Community Safety Action Group; Occupational Health Event theme: gardening; Dementia Day</p> <p>In addition all TSD Rapid Action Team referrals clients are provided with the stickers.</p> <p>Stickers will be promoted at future events including Catholicity Bazaar, Deaf Association Event, City Assembly - for tenants and leaseholders and Dementia awareness day.</p>
7	<p><b>Domestic Violence</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that regular training be further developed for every professional carer and</p>	<p>The Senior Officer Strategy Group for Domestic Violence is to consider the resource implications of this recommendation.</p> <p>Suggest that this recommendation is</p>	<p>The Partnership Community Safety Team have trained over 70 staff within Housing Services about the new Multi- Agency Risk Assessment and Court processes which deal with domestic violence.</p>



	<p>volunteer working with older people in looking for early signs of elder abuse and domestic violence.</p>	<p>discussed at the Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group.</p> <p>Ongoing training for ASC&amp;H staff to raise awareness of elder abuse and domestic violence.</p>	<p>An Intelligent Commissioning Pilot on Domestic Violence is being carried out for the city. Needs assessment and service mapping are nearing completion and the steering group is moving towards identifying outcomes and commissioning priorities.</p> <p>A key priority and recommendation will be in relation to developing workforce skills in order that staff at all appropriate levels, are able to identify and respond to domestic violence. We will ensure that the recommendation integrates with training plans in relation to elder abuse.</p>
8	<p><b>Information on Domestic Violence</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that additional research and analysis be carried out including with service users. This would provide the council and partner agencies with better information on the extent and nature of domestic violence involving older people and elder abuse to help further develop preventive and support services.</p>	<p>The Senior Officer Strategy Group is to consider the best means of implementing this recommendation.</p> <p>Suggest that this recommendation is discussed at the Domestic Violence Senior Officers Group.</p> <p>ASC&amp;H to be part of this information collection and sharing protocol.</p>	<p>As part of the Intelligent Commissioning pilot work, we have commissioned the New Economics Foundation to work with our specialist Third Sector provider, RISE, to apply a Social Return on Investment model which will specifically identify the views of service users, as to what services they would like to see commissioned. That information will be fed into the discussions which will determine the commissioning priorities.</p>

9	<p><b>Select Committee on Dementia</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that operational protocols between agencies regarding elder abuse in cases of mental illness be referred on to the Select Committee on Dementia.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>It is anticipated that this recommendation will be picked up as part of the Select Committee on Dementia.</p>	<p>This recommendation was taken to the Select Committee on Dementia and has been incorporated into new protocols on dementia. A full response to all the work of the Select Committee is to be taken to the Overview and Scrutiny Commission in due course.</p> <p>Operational arrangements in relation to elder abuse and mental illness are in place and implemented and monitored within the Adult Safeguarding procedures for the City.</p>
10	<p><b>Racist/Religiously crimes/incidents</b></p> <p>The Panel welcomes the many initiatives regarding racial harassment and older people. The Panel recommends that good practice examples such as reporting centres are extended to vulnerable older people including LGBT communities and disabled older people.</p>	<p>The PCST to implement this recommendation.</p> <p>--</p> <p>ASC&amp;H will ensure models of good practice are explored and adopted as appropriate.</p>	<p>The Partnership Community Safety Team has this year, extended its work to specifically address crimes and incidents which are experienced by those with disabilities. That work includes within its focus, those people who are at particular risk or vulnerable because of their age. A campaign is to be launched before the end of the year, to encourage reporting and provide information about what support people can expect to receive if they do come forward and report incidents or seek help.</p> <p>Our minimum casework standards, now set out how the needs of vulnerable victims and perpetrators, will be assessed and support be provided if that is required. Those assessments</p>

			will include liaison with Adult Social Care if that is appropriate.
11	<p><b>Alcohol and older people</b></p> <p>The Panel welcomes the social marketing campaign on the serious health consequences of alcohol abuse by older people.</p>	<p>The Alcohol Strategy Group is carrying out consultation with Older People as to the most effective way of providing information and assistance to Older People.</p> <p>The Cheers! report (social marketing campaign looking at alcohol consumption and older people) has informed the Alcohol and Mental Health Strategies.</p> <p>The Cheers! report (social marketing campaign looking at alcohol consumption and older people) has informed the Alcohol and Mental Health Strategies.</p>	<p>Dealing with the harm arising from the misuse of alcohol, is the subject of an Intelligent Commissioning pilot for the city. A needs assessment and identifying gaps in services is completed and we are now moving towards identifying 'outcomes' and commissioning priorities. That process is overseen by The Alcohol Programme Board (chaired by Chief Executive of the PCT). There will be outcomes which specifically seek to change the social marketing of alcohol with a view to reducing consumption in the city overall. There will also be outcomes which address the specific needs of older people who drink to harmful levels.</p>
12	<p><b>Social spaces for older people</b></p> <p>The panel recommends that licensed and unlicensed venues be encouraged to consider offering good value daytime activities and food and drink with the aim of</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>ASC&amp;H would look to participate in this work in relation to building communities on estates and ensuring the relevant services are provided for older people in</p>	<p>Our statement of licensing policy is in process of triennial review. A consultation process has been completed and report due to Licensing Committee on 18<sup>th</sup> November 2010 for full Council on 16<sup>th</sup> December. The policy direction is to include results from the health impact assessment of licensing as a means of assessing the health impacts of policies on our local population using quantitative, qualitative and participatory</p>

	attracting older customers.	the city.	techniques. The impact of policy and its potential effects on the health of a population, and the distribution of those effects within the population is assessed. Alcohol specific mortality, mortality from chronic liver disease, alcohol specific hospital admissions and alcohol attributable hospital admissions are all significantly worse locally than the picture seen nationally. Licensing policy supports entrepreneurial activity, promoting the city's businesses, supporting growth of creative industries sector, extending the business improvement district. The city's cultural offer already engages with a high number of its residents of all ages.
13	<p><b>Data on older people</b></p> <p>The panel recommends to enable the Council jointly with partners target future preventative work with older people, that where possible consistent data be distinguished by age and gender for vulnerable older people. This includes alcohol-related incidents and harm, black and minority ethnic population, domestic violence, disabled, LGBT</p>	<p>The PCST to implement this recommendation within CDRP services as far as is possible.</p> <p>Suggest that this recommendation is picked up through the Partnership data group (analysts working for the Council; Police, NHS Brighton &amp; Hove etc)</p> <p>By agreeing to hold data on older people in a consistent way partners would have the ability to provide more effective analysis.</p> <p>This could be addressed in the council</p>	<p>Police, Ambulance and Accident and Emergency Data is now recorded and can be analysed, in relation to age and gender. Those arrangements are in the process of being extended to include alcohol related and other data systems and target groups.</p>

	and other minority groups.	through the development of CRM corporately.	
14	<p><b>Police independent advisory group</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that the Older People's Council be asked to nominate an older person to serve on the Sussex Police Independent Advisory Group.</p>	<p>Sussex Police are to implement this recommendation.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>This request has been made to the OPC by the Police and will be discussed at their meeting 28 October 2009.</p>	<p>The Older People's Council has now nominated a representative to the Sussex Police Independent Advisory Group who has attended meetings.</p> <p>The Chair of the IAG has assured that should there be a crime committed to an elder member of the community which comes to the attention of the IAG, then other representatives of the older community will be invited to attend appropriate meetings.</p>
15	<p><b>Customer relationship management</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends that to facilitate contact with older vulnerable people, the Council's Customer Relationship Management system be extended to include this population group.</p>	<p>N/A</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>ASC&amp;H would need to adapt their front line services to utilise CRM to provide this improved customer service.</p>	<p>After careful consideration the Programme for 'Improving the Customer Experience' recommended that council's Customer Relationship Management System was not rolled out corporately across all services unless there became a clear business case to do so. Professional opinion was that there would be greater benefits for the customer by supporting services to fully resolve enquires at the first point of contact by empowering staff and making better use of existing systems and where possible making better links between back office systems. This approach was agreed at Cabinet in April 2010.</p>

16	<p><b>Consultation</b></p> <p>The Panel recommends further consultation and analysis using the Community Engagement Framework to identify and respond to older people's specific concerns about community safety.</p>	<p>PCST to discuss this recommendation with the Policy lead of community engagement.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>ASC&amp;H would contribute to this work as required.</p>	<p>The Community Engagement Framework supports the delivery of best practice in engagement with older people to ensure their views and needs are identified and addressed through the implementation of actions designed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Raise awareness and understanding about engagement and the role of engagement</li> <li>• Improve the skills of staff and organisations to engage</li> <li>• Encourage more collaboration and co-ordination of engagement activity</li> <li>• Achieve value for money</li> </ul> <p>The Partnership Community Safety Team are currently, in collaboration with the police, developing a range of publicity activities aimed at increasing trust and confidence in the city and reducing fear of crime. Further emphasis is to be given in that work to targeting the specific needs of the older population.</p>
17	<p><b>B&amp;H Community Safety Crime Reduction &amp; Drugs Strategy 2008–2011</b> The</p> <p>Panel recommends that the particular needs of older people for keeping safe and</p>	<p>The PCST to implement this recommendation.</p> <p>N/A</p>	<p>The Partnership Community Safety Team are to begin the review of its Community Safety, Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy in December 2010 in order to prepare the new Strategy for 2011 – 2014. The review will incorporate this</p>

	maintaining independence should feature more prominently in the review of the B&H Community Safety Crime Reduction and Drugs Strategy 2008 – 2011.	ASC&H would support this as appropriate.	recommendation and ensure that the particular safety needs of older people are specifically identified and addressed.
18	<p><b>Monitoring Action</b></p> <p>The Scrutiny Panel asks its parent committee ECSOSC to monitor the implementation of actions following this scrutiny review. It also requests ECSOSC to add community safety work regarding minority older groups, to its work programme.</p>	<p>The PCST to take the lead in implementing this recommendation.</p> <p>N/A</p> <p>ASC&amp;H will support this monitoring by providing the relevant details of progress made towards the recommendations.</p>	The PCST are taking the lead in monitoring this work programme.





## AGENDA ITEM 29

### **Policing in the 21st century - reconnecting police and the people** **From the Home Office website**

The Home Office 'Policing in the 21st century' consultation closed on 20 September 2010. It looked at how the police in England and Wales can be made more available and responsive, more accountable, more effective, and deliver better value for money.

Key proposals in four main areas are:

Increasing democratic accountability by:

- abolition of Police Authorities
- directly elected *Police and Crime Commissioners*

Removing bureaucratic accountability by:

- removal of central targets and performance management
- reducing bureaucracy and form filling

A national framework for efficient local policing by:

- better value for money in local policing
- collaboration between forces
- introducing a new National Crime Agency

Tackling crime together by:

- encouraging people to get involved
- criminal justice system reform
- removing unnecessary prescription and bureaucracy for partnerships

Over 800 responses were received, including 444 online covering a wide range of issues. A response document will be published on the Home Office website, summarising the responses received.

A number of the proposed changes will feature in the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill, to be published later in the year.

Some ideas received for consideration during the consultation have been:

#### **Local policing**

Ask local people what information they want from their local police, is it crime information, road traffic collision data, complaints. Once this is identified it should be published on the internet. This will prevent, rightly, forces being compared against each other which ends up as a game...to be the best.

#### **Volunteer network**

Create a volunteer network to assist paid PCSOs - maybe doing some 'back room' functions, arranging events, etc. There's a wealth of untapped knowledge in local areas, use it!

**One-stop shop**

Develop a seamless one-stop shop approach between agencies which is victim-centred and allows making direct connections between harm suffered and remedy. In other words, make it worthwhile for a victim to report crime in full confidence of achieving a timely and positive outcome.

**Neighbourhood Watch**

Greater recognition for Neighbourhood Watch volunteers, victim support, Special Constables etc through the honours system.

**Police and Crime Commissioners**

The public should have the genuine ability to get in touch with the Police and Crime Commissioner should they wish to. Via letters, or set surgery hours. The Police and Crime Commissioner should be able to record and report all public interactions, in order to evidence his/her commitment to engaging, and what issues have been discussed during that engagement.

## Agenda item 30

### Environment and Community Safety Overview and Scrutiny Committee Draft Work Plan 2010- 2011

Issue	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Outcome & Monitoring/Dates
<b>8 February 2010</b>		
Discussion with Environment Cabinet Member	Regular opportunity for joint working.	Discussion of key issues.
Council's response to weather conditions	Request for information.	1-day Scrutiny Panel; Winter Service Plan; operation and Review; established for 17 March.
Policing the use of drugs: Operation Reduction	As requested at 14 September ECSOSC following magazine article.	Presentation given by Police, Crime Reduction Initiatives and a service user.
<b>19 April 2010</b>		
Half-yearly update from Community Safety Forum	Discussion with CSF Chairman, Councillor Dee Simson.	Deferred to the next meeting.
Health & Safety Annual Service Plan	Opportunity to comment on annual plan prior to Council – see para 2(b) of Part 4.4 of the constitution: Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.	Comments to be included in report to Council.

<b>Issue</b>	<b>Overview &amp; Scrutiny Activity</b>	<b>Outcome &amp; Monitoring/Dates</b>
Official Feed and Food Controls Service Plan	Opportunity to comment on annual plan prior to Council – see para 2(b) of Part 4.4 of the constitution: Budget and Policy Framework Procedure Rules.	Comments to be included in report to Council.
Performance report	Regular update.	CSF asked to include items on agenda. Information requested on CDRP and setting targets.
<b>21 June 2010</b>		
Chair of Community Safety Forum	Regular discussion.	Information provided by the Head of Community Safety.
20mph scrutiny; panel report	For endorsement.	Report and Recommendations endorsed.
Winter service plan; panel report	For endorsement.	Report and Recommendations endorsed.
Support Services for Rape and sexual violence; panel report	For endorsement.	Report and recommendations endorsed with extract from the ECSOSC minutes to be taken forward to the Executive.
Toilets public question	Referral from LINK.	Answers provided to questions.
Request for Scrutiny; Wild Park scrub clearance	To determine whether scrutiny activity is needed.	No scrutiny action needed but informal update requested.

Issue	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Outcome & Monitoring/Dates
<b>13 September 2010</b>		
Open Spaces Strategy	Report following request from Councillor Kennedy	Workshop on Open Spaces to be arranged in the New Year. Further information on Urban Biospheres to be provided. Minutes extract to be forwarded to the Chairman of the Planning Committee.
Pedestrian Crossings	Report following request from the Committee.	Further details of prioritisation to be forwarded to Members of the Committee
ECSOSC Work Programmes	To agree ECSOSC Work Programmes	Scrutiny Panel on Renewable Energy Potential agreed. Workshops on Local Transport Plan LTP3 agreed
<b>8 November 2010</b>		
Half-yearly update from CSF and crime trends	Regular discussion with Chair of Community Safety Forum.	
Monitoring outcome of Older People and Community Safety Scrutiny review	Tracking the outcomes of scrutiny recommendations.	

Issue	Overview & Scrutiny Activity	Outcome & Monitoring/Dates
Policing in the 21 <sup>st</sup> Century White Paper, briefing		
Biosphere Reserve	Overview of Policy Development	
Feedback from LTP3 workshop		
<b>25 JANUARY 2010 NB REVISED DATE;</b> to replace 7 February 2011		
Scrutiny of Budget Proposals		
Cabinet Member Environment		
Developer Contributions		
Prioritising Pedestrian crossings		
<b>4 April 2011</b>		

### **Informal Scrutiny Workshop for Environment and Community Safety Overview & Scrutiny Committee on Local Transport Plan LTP3**

Friday 8 October 2010 Hove Town Hall Council Chamber

Councillors Present: Ian Davey, Tony Janio, Pete West, Warren Morgan, Ann Norman

Apologies: Melanie Davis, Pat Drake, David Smart

1. Councillor Warren Morgan, Chairman of ECSOSC welcomed everyone to the workshop.
2. The Assistant Director: Sustainable Transport (Mark Prior) said that despite new national and local governance arrangements, it was still a statutory requirement for Authorities to have a LTP3 in place by 1 April 2011. In addition to working with Overview and Scrutiny the Team was liaising with the LSP Transport Partnership to achieve this. Transport is of key importance to many aspects of City life and the plan that would cover 15 years required careful planning and management.
3. The Sustainable Transport Division is very experienced, had much practice and knowledge after developing both provisional and final versions of each of LTP1 and LTP2 and was working to build and improve on LTP2. Scrutiny members' questions would play a key part in contributing towards the consultation on LTP3 that was due in 2 or 3 weeks.
4. The format of the meeting would be: a presentation in four sessions by Head of Transport Strategy & Projects (Andrew Renaut). The Powerpoint presentation was handed out.

#### **A) Strategy Development**

LTP3 allowed for greater flexibility by Local Authorities than earlier plans and this fitted with the national 'Localism' agenda. There was intended to be a focus via LTPs for local people for local areas.

The Government Policy Document 'Delivering a Sustainable Transport System' was still valid and there has been an indication that the Coalition government will adopt the same high-level goals in the short term but may review and renew them.

The intention is to develop a long-term LTP strategy up to the same time horizon as the LDF Core Strategy – i.e. 2026.

Transport is a means to an end, enabling people to go to work, enjoy the City, go shopping etc; a balance has to be struck between needs and demands on the transport networks.

In addition to linking with current and developing Plans and Strategies across the City (eg the Sustainable Community Strategy), LTP3 will also reflect the council's

new priorities of Place, People and Communities as part of the Strategic Commissioning model.

## **B) Delivery Plan**

Additional flexibility in developing LTP3 includes Local Authorities deciding on their own investment plans. 5 Years was considered too long and 1 year gave inadequate time to effect change. Therefore a 3-year timeframe is proposed for the Delivery Plan. The two funding blocks are expected to remain for integrated transport and maintenance.

The City has much 'hidden' infrastructure eg Kings Road arches, which require significant investment to maintain and strengthen. Street lighting also requires investment to improve lighting efficiency and to replace unsafe columns, partly funded via the LTP.

Data that will be available by the end of March 2011 will inform a Transport Asset Management Plan to provide an inventory and cost of assets such as details of road surfaces and conditions, signs, lines and structures and assess maintenance requirements. This will inform future work programmes and possibly investment levels.

The benefits of having an 'Intelligent Transport System' [ITS] can be seen (on request) in BHCC's compact traffic control centre in Bartholomew House. Using cameras, CCTV, GPS systems and computer technology helps to keep the City moving and involves working with the Police and bus companies to monitor traffic conditions in the City.

## **c) Performance and Monitoring**

It is not yet known how performance and monitoring of outcomes will be addressed within LTP3. The combination of greater flexibility for local authorities and potential further changes in government monitoring frameworks eg the LAA has resulted in some uncertainty at present.

Regarding government funding levels, there have already been in-year grant reductions during 2010/11 which will affect investment programmes. The level of future years' LTP3 investment cannot be determined until after the Comprehensive Spending Review [CSR] (announcement expected on 20 October). This will also be dependent on the level of information published, in terms of allocations to councils for particular service areas. The government is also currently consulting on the formulae it may use to calculate those levels of funding.

## **D) Funding Options**

Because funding levels are unknown at this stage it is planned to develop a delivery programme for the published LTP3 that has some detail for Year 1, and establishes principles for years 2 and 3. More detail will become available in the next 3- 6 months.



It is not expected that there will any additional funding made available for the network maintenance programme following the severe winter weather in 2009-2010. However, an additional £150,000 capital funding was received from the government to address some problems. Schemes to maintain the network will be considered and prioritised in line with existing inspection regimes.

5. Outcomes from this workshop would be taken into account as part of the consultation on the LTP3 document. More detailed consideration of the draft Plan would be part of a second OSC workshop in January 2011; the scrutiny officer would find a suitable date. All ECSOSC would be circulated with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation and notes of the meeting, and given the opportunity to ask further questions.

6. At the end of the workshop Councillor Warren Morgan thanked the Head of Transport Strategy & Projects for an interesting presentation and the opportunity to ask questions.

7. Issues raised by Members (In italics) and initial replies

*A) Within the Council's Commissioning model it is important to know how Strategy and Delivery will interface.*

Transport Strategy would remain with Mark Prior; Delivery would be via Gillian Marston (Head of the new City Infrastructure Delivery Unit) and include Highway Maintenance and Parking Operations. Some aspects of scheme concept and design, and other Projects involve commissioning and delivery roles, and would require further consideration as to where they were placed in the new structure.

*B) How are LTPs now intended to be judged?*

There will still need to be some communication with the government but as the GOSE is being abolished, it is not clear yet how this arrangement will work. The South East Plan has also been abolished. It is anticipated that performance monitoring will be devolved directly to Authorities.

*C) Can the LTP3 change for instance after an election?*

Yes – the flexibility provided by government means that the LTP3 can be reviewed at a council's discretion, within existing democratic decision-making processes. Consultation is not mandatory but this is one reason why it is highly recommended.

*D) With the aspiration to increase job opportunities locally and enable the transport network to accommodate these in the future, is there adequate data on existing commuting by rail?*

Our current information is based on census and other travel/transport data that is shared by other transport operators. We are currently collecting more transport data to help build the council's new transport model, which will also help inform the development of the new LTP.

*E) What will be the impact on the transport network with the advent of the South Downs National Park which covers between 30 – 40% of the area of Brighton & Hove?*

The council will need to take full account of the NP designation within its LTP3 and ensure that access to it and within is improved. A National Park Management Plan will set out a long-term vision and a shorter-term action plan for how the objectives for a National Park should be fulfilled through sustainable development. It will set the framework for activities pursued within a National Park, including transport. Local transport authorities responsible for transport in National Parks and AONBs will want to consider how their LTP relates to these Plans.

*F) The 'Equality of Opportunity' map seems to show levels of deprivation in some wards that could be misleading*

The information presented was taken from existing mapping which it is acknowledged could be misleading. It is expected that this material will be reviewed to improve presentation.

*G) How is the Noise Action Plan being progressed? Plus – would like to make clear that the impact of noise and air pollution refers to people, their quality of life and communities*

The council's Environmental Health Team are taking the lead locally, but data is supplied by the government's DEFRA. It is expected that the approach to tackling noise sources and issues locally will mirror the way in which air quality is now managed.

*H) What is the Bus Information Duty? Also, would like bus maps to be made more easily available, especially for visitors new to the area (especially at the Old Steine). (Some other cities thought to have more/better available bus leaflets/information)*

Under the Transport Act 2000 (s139–141), local transport authorities have a duty to work with bus operators to determine what local bus information should be made available to the public, and the way in which it should be made available. It should include information about bus routes, timetabling of services, fares (including concessionary fares), facilities for disabled passengers, connections with other public transport services, and any other information the authority deems appropriate in relation to its area. As part of this process, the authority should consult with local user representatives and the traffic commissioner. Where appropriate, a local transport authority should work with other authorities to carry out this duty. The LTP could set out an authority's approach to meeting this duty.

It may be possible to provide bus maps on an information board near the Pavilion, as the listed shelters cannot accommodate information boards like new ones.

*I) The city council has been named the Transport Local Authority of the Year 2010-2011 in the National Transport Awards. We should acknowledge this success has been achieved through delivering LTP2 and build on that.*

Agreed. Fundamental changes to the overall approach to developing and delivering transport schemes are not anticipated, but some changes will be required to ensure that current local and government goals and priorities are taken into account and consultation will focus on those.

*J) The Vision Statement should clarify that 'accessible' includes 'affordable' and make reference to economic implications.*

Noted

*K) What are the links with the Sustainable Community Strategy?*

The government expects that LTP3s will reflect and be consistent with SCSs. A significant amount of work has been done with the LSP Transport Partnership in developing the Transport chapter of the SCS and the strategic framework for the LTP3, including a number of workshops.

*L) The document should clarify that 'extreme occurrences' include severe weather, natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other emergencies*

Agreed. The Plan should identify how it expects to address the challenge of making the city's transport network more resilient to different scenarios, taking into account people's safety security and health.

*M) What do we know about commercial traffic – eg lorries bringing in goods from outside the area?*

Some information is not up to date or is not available. We hope to have a new transport planning model in place by March 2011. We are about to embark on a significant programme of data collection that will help fill some of the gaps in our knowledge.

For the future, strategic planning policies as set out in the LDF Core Strategy will guide/determine where new commercial development goes. Servicing and delivery arrangements will be an integrated part of any proposals.

*N) 'Tackling Climate Change' is a false aspiration implying that Brighton and Hove can do something that in fact we cannot achieve. Our goals need to be achievable or people will not take them seriously.*

Alternative wording such as 'reducing carbon emissions' or other options can be included.

*O) In referring to 'disadvantaged' people, the document should clarify that 'disadvantaged' extends to people with poor transport opportunities. Residents outside the central areas may have less access to public transport and therefore may tend to use their cars more.*

Agreed - 'transport poverty' is a phrase often used to describe such circumstances. Households/people dependent on their car can become isolated if access to that vehicle is no longer available eg some older people. Bringing services closer to a local area can have a benefit by reducing travel requirements and transport planning can incorporate this. What is meant by 'disadvantaged' in this sense could be included in the supporting information to this objective.

*P) There should be more dialogue with bus providers and communities regarding areas perceived as affluent and where bus services are limited or non-existent. Residents in some of these areas (eg Hangleton) may generally be older and/or non-car owners and would use a bus service if it were provided.*

It is important to engage with communities and transport operators and other key partners but there are practical difficulties. For example, available locations for the new generation of combined GP practices may not be as accessible by public transport, walking and cycling as existing locations, for some people.

*Q) Would like the Plan to include details of what is meant by personal safety and security and the distinction between them. Perhaps refer to fear or risk of personal injury and reducing vulnerability.*

Noted.

*R) Suggest the concept of 'Respect' for all transport users and 'sharing the road' is introduced in the plan and in publicity to encourage responsible behaviour by all; try to change attitudes and reputations.*

Parking, excessive driver speed and cycling on the pavement not only breaks the law but is irresponsible. New Road is a good example of how a safer culture and changes in behaviour can be brought about by practical means but publicity is important too.

*S) Some areas already have better access to the South Downs eg Hangleton benefits from two bridges. Some junctions need improvement partly due to the volume of cars but also to the road layout as they act as barriers to access; eg walking from the City to the South Downs via Ladies Mile Road junction over the A27.*

Breeze up to the Downs bus services are good examples of existing initiatives to provide sustainable access to the South Down at Devil's Dyke and Ditchling Beacon.

*T) The footpath to the Football Stadium should provide better access for pedestrians.*

Most bridges over the A27 are the responsibility of the Highways Agency who could consider opportunities to improve this route in their investment plans.

*U) For lorry deliveries would like to see single delivery reception area eg in the Sussex County Hospital redevelopment, all deliveries will go to a single building.*

This type of facility does operate elsewhere and this type of consolidation can be developed eg through the proposed Freight Management Plan. Shoreham Harbour is the main source/destination for HGV movements in the city, in addition to supermarket and other retail outlets.

*V) How can road space be prioritised for the more sustainable types of transport such as walking, cycles, taxis and buses?*

To do this needs space, which is a challenge for a City like Brighton & Hove.

*W) Could sea transport be used eg from Newhaven to Shoreham?*

As the Highway Authority, the city council is responsible for roads and would therefore look to others for a sea-based system that could reduce demand on land-based transport. There are locations such as Shoreham Harbour, the Marina and Newhaven that could accommodate sea-borne traffic.

*X) Journey-On website is a good way to plan travel. What is its usage rate and are the number of new users increasing? Will it continue? Also e-communications are improving all the time that could help reduce travel needs.*

Journey On works well. It is another good example of a new development by the city council, especially the journey planner, and we hope is one that others will follow. It evolved from the city transport website and has been expanded to include for instance car park availability and use, real time bus information and bespoke journey planners. We are also targeting travel information at households or individuals, providing personalised travel planning have a growing workplace travel plan network and travel plans in every school. These are all important parts of the overall investment, combined with practical measures on the ground.

Usage of the site will be checked and information provided. TBC\*

(\*Journey On receives around 17,000 hits per month)

*Y) Real-time bus information is very helpful. But there needs to be maps on all the bus stops. Other Cities have leaflets on buses more widely available. Bus information should link with city information and also integrated with train network. Better information boards are needed especially for visitors.*

This could be done by the council in partnership with the bus operators. The council has recently been judged as having the highest satisfaction levels for public transport information in the country.

*Z) Would like to see better ticketing arrangements between local buses, Network Rail and train operating companies*

Plusbus is working well in the city and Brighton & Hove Buses is developing a Smart Card initiative.

*AA) What is happening with Park and Ride?*

The LDF Core Strategy refers to the need to provide 3-5 sites around the city. Investigation work, building on what has previously been researched, has been undertaken and the findings are under discussion.

*AB) Some reinstated surfaces after road works seem to wear better than others eg during severe winter weather.*

The council has clear processes to manage reinstatement and we control and supervise contractors' work on the public highway.

*AC) What plans are there for complete surfacing rather than repair?*

The TAMP will help inform this programme, but road conditions are monitored regularly and investment prioritised according. Parts of the A259 are high on the priority listing.

*AD) What priority is there for investment in walking networks, regarding safety, running surfaces and surfaces for pushchairs and wheelchairs?*

Footway conditions are monitored regularly and maintenance is coordinated. Pavement conditions can be badly affected by vehicle overrun. Verges can also be damaged and need to be maintained for safety of pedestrians. Pedestrian access can be hampered by obstructions. This relates back to the issue of responsible driving behaviour.

*AE) I have heard the council provides tree stumps at a charge of £50 to prevent parking on verges.*

This was not a familiar practice to those officers present. [It has subsequently been confirmed that this is correct].

*AF) When will the National Indicator Set [NIS] be known?*

The future of the NIS is under review by government. There are 3 transport-related indicators in the current BHCC LAA which ends in 2011. [On 14 October the Secretary of State for CLG announced the replacement of the NIS].

*AG) How is it that some other Authorities are further ahead in their consultation programme on LTP3?*

In BHCC, there has been positive engagement with the newly formed LSP Transport Partnership which has focused on developing the LTP3. Significant changes have occurred in government policy and organisational structures since the election in May 2010 and there have been requests nationally for the LTP process to be delayed. Some authorities have had to remodel their draft versions of LTPs because of the government policy changes. National funding levels, soon to be announced, will help remove some of the uncertainty involved in developing and finalising LTPs.

