

The Sustainable Community Strategy, DEF & the Partnership

An update

April 2011

Where have Sustainable Community Strategies come from?

- United Nations Conference on Environment & Development in Rio in 1992
- Agenda 21 - the global action plan for sustainable development - identified the local level as playing a crucially important role
- For the World Summit Sustainable Development in 2002, a review of the take up of Agenda 21 was undertaken, which found that those countries that had gained national support were most successful – mainly in Europe

Where have Sustainable Community Strategies come from?

- In the UK, Agenda 21 was embedded through the Local Government Act 2000
- This placed a duty on Local Authorities to prepare a strategy for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their area and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the United Kingdom.
- In 2007 the Act was amended to name this strategy a 'Sustainable Community Strategy'

Dacorum's Sustainable Community Strategy

- In 2008, Dacorum Partnership produced 'Towards 2021' following a large amount of consultation with interested stakeholders.
- The Partnership started the process of reviewing the document last year and DEF has input into this process
- The updated Strategy is now expected to be published in July 2011.

Dacorum's Sustainable Community Strategy

- There will this time be 4 cross cutting priorities that the Partnership would like all theme groups to work towards:
 - Narrowing the gap
 - Community cohesion
 - Economic development & regeneration
 - Our natural environment
- The Partnership has been looking for indicators that they can monitor progress towards these priorities

DEF objectives

- The agreed objectives of DEF have been submitted for the theme
 1. Increase local food security and independence
 2. Maintain and improve biodiversity
 3. Manage and live within our natural resources:
 - energy
 - water
 - waste
 - transport
 4. Minimise pollution and harmful substances
 5. Increase public engagement and awareness
- An action plan has been drafted for each of these objectives.

The Action Plan

- These actions are based on the information that was provided.
- Additional actions can and should be added to provide a clear picture of what is going on in the Borough and where support or resource may be required.
- The Steering Group agreed that we would make an update on the action plan a regular agenda item for Full Forum meetings.

Objective 1 -Increase local food security and independence

Action	By Whom	By When	How will we measure success
<p>Increase the number of allotments available for use through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Passport to Go,• Projects developed by DBC Residents Services	<p>Groundwork DBC</p>	<p>July 2014</p>	<p>Increased % of allotments in use within the Borough.</p>
<p>Host a local food workshop</p>	<p>Dacorum Local Food Initiative</p>	<p>February 2011</p>	<p>No. attendees to workshop</p>

Objective 1 - Increase local food security and independence

- How are we progressing?
- Passport to Go project has cleared the allotment site at Bennetts End and started marking out plots – there is an update in the Spring newsletter, contact Emma Norrington for more info
- Dacorum Local Food Initiative met in February – there is an update in the Spring Newsletter, contact Marion Baker for more info

Objective 2 - Maintain and improve biodiversity

Action	By Whom	By When	How will we measure success
Publish the BAP website	DEF Biodiversity group	December 2011	Website live
Monitor the retention of designated open land	DBC	Ongoing	Zero loss of designated open land in hectares
Monitor change in areas of recognised wildlife habitat importance.	DBC	Ongoing	No Net loss

Objective 2 - Maintain and improve biodiversity

- How are we progressing?
- Biodiversity website – no update
- Monitor the retention of designated open land – this will be monitored once the Core Strategy is adopted.
- Monitor change in areas of recognised wildlife habitat importance – latest figures:
 - 2008/09 - 3773.89ha, 258 Sites
 - 2009/10 - 2906.04ha, 257 Sites

Objective 3 - Manage and live within our natural resources

Action	By Whom	By When	How will we measure success
Start monitoring the carbon savings from new development	DBC	July 2011	Tonnes of carbon dioxide
Start monitoring the number of new homes built with on-site generation of renewable energy	DBC	July 2011	Number of new homes built with on-site generation of renewable energy (for heat and electricity)
Increase the rate of household recycling and composting	DBC	April 2013	49%
Promote waste awareness to residents	DBC	Ongoing	Number of campaigns
Hold litter picks	DBC	Ongoing	Number of litter picks
Start monitoring the number of new homes with reduced water consumption.	DBC	July 2011	Proportion of new homes designed to reduce water consumption to 105 litres per person per day
Develop increased access to cycling through DBC park project	DBC	TBC	Length of available cycle paths/ number of cycle racks installed

Objective 3 - Manage and live within our natural resources

- How are we progressing?
- A lot of the monitoring will start when the Core Strategy is adopted.
- The current household recycling rate 47%
- Number of bags of litter collected in litter picks in 2010 – 1531 bags

Objective 4 – Minimise pollution and harmful substances

Action	By Whom	By When	How will we measure success
Develop Air Quality Management Area action plan	DBC	February 2013 Ongoing	Action plan developed
Continue to monitor the air quality within the Borough	DBC	Ongoing	Change in extent and air quality of Air Quality Management Areas

Objective 4 – Minimise pollution and harmful substances

- How are we progressing?
- A report on the declaration of the 3 proposed Air Quality Management Areas is being taken to the Strategic Planning & Environment Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 21st June
- For more information please contact Alison King at DBC alison.king@dacorum.gov.uk

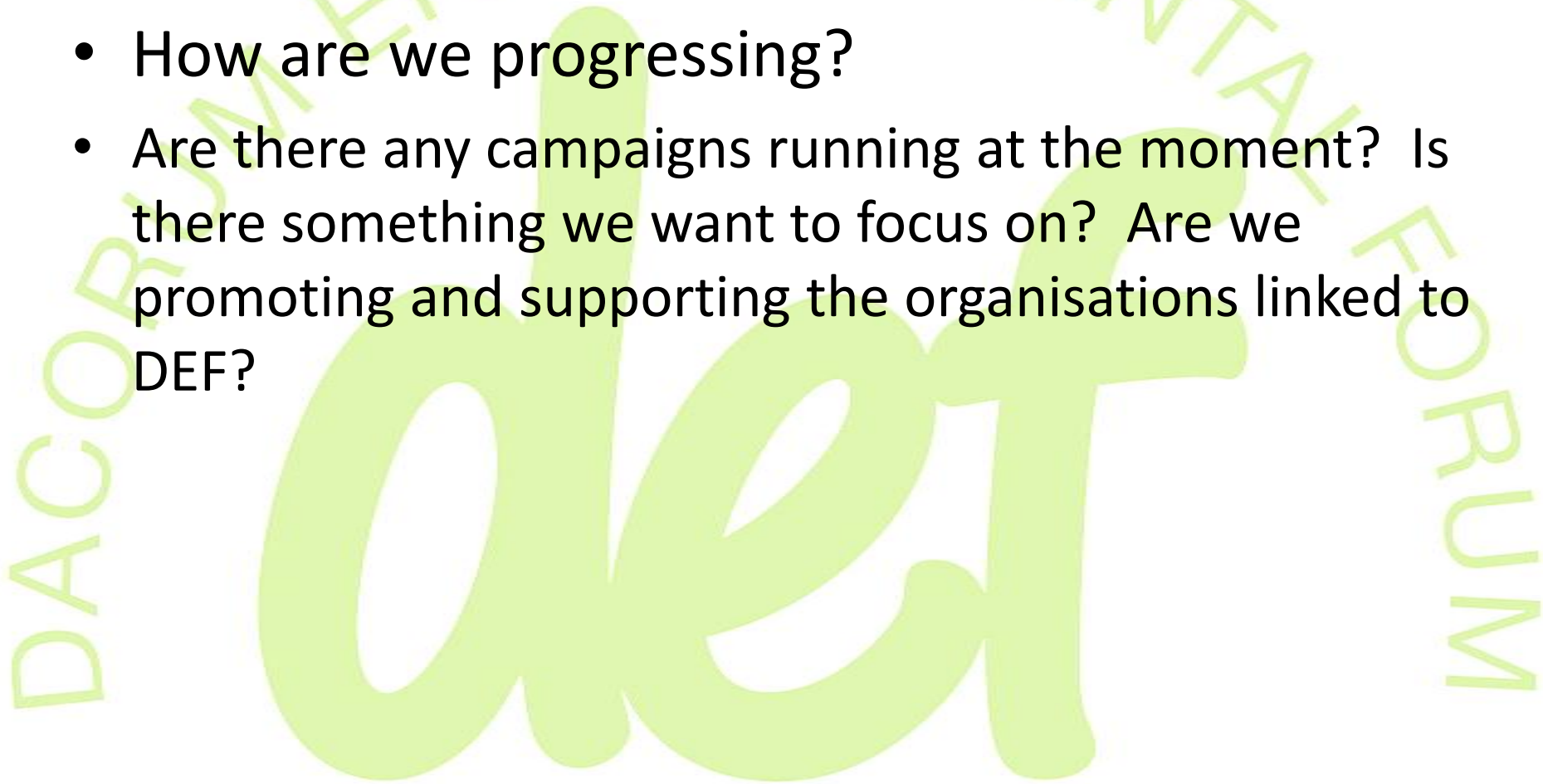
Objective 5 – Increase public engagement & awareness

Action	By Whom	By When	How will we measure success
Co-ordinate environmental campaigns.	DEF	Ongoing	No. of campaigns organised. Events attended

DACOR
diet
FORUM

Objective 5 – Increase public engagement & awareness

- How are we progressing?
- Are there any campaigns running at the moment? Is there something we want to focus on? Are we promoting and supporting the organisations linked to DEF?



Partnership News

- PRG Project - Cultural Olympiad – the funding has been allocated and an events programme will be published on the Dacorum Partnership website in the next few weeks
- The Big Lunch – Sunday June 5th at 12 noon in Marlowes - a town centre picnic
- PRG - there is a small amount remaining in the small grants pot for capital spend. Please can you contact Nicky Flynn for an application form. The deadline for applications is **Thursday April 28th at 5pm.**
- www.dacorumpartnershipnews.org.uk