

Officer responsible Community Advocate, Beckenham	Writer Jane Parrett, Community Development Advisor
Corporate Plan Output: Public Accountability/Community Activities: 3.1 text 23	

The purpose of this report is to update the Board on the progress of the SCAP Core Group in developing the “Strengthening Community Action Plans”.

The SCAP Core Group is comprised of:

Oscar Alpers (Chair)
 Nick Chapman
 Phil Clearwater
 Ollie Clifton
 Bruce Harding (Cashmere Residents Association)
 Jane Parrett
 Jan Rogers (Manuka Cottage)
 Inspector Tony Scully (Sydenham Police)
 John Targett (Scouts)

Background

The aims of the Strengthening Community Action Plans include:

1. To improve people’s sense of belonging to and being part of the community.
2. To improve community safety from crime.
3. To support people, communities and neighbourhoods to take ownership of achieving the above aims and act themselves.

The Process

The Core Group is working on a process for SCAP which will fit within the Board’s process of developing Board Objectives and Performance Indicators, and the allocation of Board Project Funds (see attachments for process diagram).

What is Emerging

A common theme emerging from the Core Group is the need for a community directory which encompasses group name, contact person, address, group activities, and days and times on which activities occur. Providing accessible information to the community is an integral part of strengthening the community, enabling groups and individuals to develop networks, and make contacts they would otherwise not make. There is already a solid basis for such a directory in CINCH, a database maintained by the Canterbury Public Library. As an example, the entry covering Manuka Cottage is attached. The Core Group seeks Board endorsement to approach the Community Services Committee to provide funding for this city-wide project.

The Core Group is currently investigating marginalised groups within the Spreydon Heathcote Community and finding out about the community organisations looking after their needs. Using a systematic approach the Core Group hope to develop an action plan that meets the above aims by:

- Identifying groups where the Council needs to develop or further their relationship
- Identifying communities of interest where developing linkages and/or co-ordination would benefit
- Highlighting groups to be supported by Council (funding/advocacy)
- Highlighting any gaps in research.

There will be members of the Core Group present to address any questions the Board may have.

Recommendation: That the Board endorse the Core Group's approach to the Community Services Committee regarding the development of a community directory.