

CABINET PANEL ON COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
8/11/2021

***PART 1 – PUBLIC DOCUMENT**

TITLE OF INFORMATION NOTE: The Future of our Centres

INFORMATION NOTE OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR COMMERCIAL

EXECUTIVE MEMBER FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

PRIORITY: BE A MORE WELCOMING AND INCLUSIVE COUNCIL AND ENABLE AN ENTERPRISING AND CO-OPERATIVE ECONOMY

1. SUMMARY

1.1 This note highlights proposed items scheduled in the work programme for the Cabinet Panel on Community Engagement and Co-operative Development for 2020/21 following the initial meeting. As at Appendix A, the Work Programme/Action Tracker allow the scene to be set for evaluation and the agreement of topics for 2020/21. This allows the Cabinet Panel to set a work programme which enables open discussion that may lead to recommendations to Cabinet /the relevant Executive Members or Service Director, regarding actions that they believe that the Council should be taking to address community engagement and Co-operative Development.

2. STEPS TO DATE

2.1 . There are no steps to date.

3. INFORMATION TO NOTE

3.1 This Cabinet Panel aims to provide the opportunity for certain Parish Councils to share the challenges faced during the pandemic, as well as their action plans for rebuilding and improving their local economic development. Representatives will use examples of businesses within their Parish that have adapted and changed their business model because of the everchanging economic environment. Representatives from the BID (Hitchin and Letchworth) as well as Royston First will also be present to contribute to the wider conversation of what does the future of our centres look like as we move into a post-pandemic world.

3.2 The panel will be receiving presentations from:
Knebworth Parish Council
Ashwell Parish Council
Kimpton Parish Council

3.3 Attendance from external bodies and members of the public is actively encouraged.

3.4 This is a non-decision-making advisory body and therefore this or any notes/reports to the Panel do not include a recommendation on a key Executive decision and have not been referred to in the Forward Plan. However, recommendations for action from the Panel for consideration by Cabinet may do so. This will therefore need to be borne in mind for any recommendations of the Panel.

4. NEXT STEPS

4.1 Other topics for consideration and inclusion in the Panel's work programme will be considered at each meeting. When considering additional topics, their risk assessment and prioritisation will ensure that the most appropriate items are taken forward to the work programme

5. APPENDICES

None

6. CONTACT OFFICERS

Author: **Chloe Gray - Commercial Manager**
chloe.gray@north-herts.gov.uk
01462 474223

7. BACKGROUND PAPERS

7.1 None