

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD

TUESDAY, 17TH JULY 2007

PRESENT: Councillors J. T. Duddy (Chairman), C. B. Taylor (Vice-Chairman),
A. N. Blagg, Mrs. M. Bunker, S. R. Colella and Mrs. C. M. McDonald

Observers: Councillor G.N. Denaro

Officers: Mr. K. Dicks, Mr. H. Bennett, Mr. A. Coel and Mr. A. Jessop

15/07 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Mrs. A. E. Doyle.

16/07 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Performance Management Board held on 19th June 2007 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

17/07 **STRATEGIC HOUSING INSPECTION ACTION PLAN**

Following the earlier report submitted to the Board in August 2006, which set out the Council's Action Plan which had been developed and approved by Cabinet to address the recommendations made by the Audit Commission in this regard, a further report was submitted giving an update on that Action Plan (as at June 2007) which outlined the progress made, with 86% of the actions having been completed.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

RECOMMENDED that the Cabinet (via the appropriate Portfolio holder) explore the possibility of carrying out a "peer review" in October 2007, in support of the aim of achieving a 1-star standard by the time of the next review, to be held in February 2008.

18/07 **IMPROVEMENT PLAN EXCEPTION REPORT - MAY 2007**

Consideration was given to the report on the Improvement Plan for May 2007, together with the corrective action being taken, as set out in the appendix to the report.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the revisions to the Improvement Plan Exception Report, together with the corrective action being taken; and
- (b) that it be noted that, from the 66 actions highlighted for May, 76% of the Plan was on target (green), 2% was one month behind (amber), and 5% was over one month behind (red) – with 18% of actions having been re-scheduled or suspended, with approval.

19/07 **COMPREHENSIVE PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PLAN 2007-08**

A report setting out the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Performance Assessment, together with the Council's Improvement Plan for the period July 2007 to June 2008, was submitted. It was also reported that the Improvement Director had considered the Improvement Plan and had highlighted twelve additional points which he felt should be added, and these details, having been considered and approved at the last meeting of the Cabinet, were circulated to members.

RESOLVED that the Board notes:

- (a) the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Performance Assessment report, and in particular the areas for improvement set out on page 7 thereof;
- (b) the Improvement Plan for 2007-08, and that the Board concur with the view that the Plan addresses the issues raised in the Comprehensive Performance Assessment;
- (c) that the Improvement Plan 2007-08 does cross-reference to the recommendations contained in the Audit Commission's Comprehensive Performance Assessment report and also contains other actions for 2007-08 which are designed to deliver the Council Plan 2007-2010;
- (d) the changes to the Council Plan, as set out in paragraph 3.4 of the report, which were based on the Corporate Management Team's view of the Council's capacity to deliver the Council Plan 2007-2010;
- (e) that further updates to the Improvement Plan 2007-08 may be required, based on discussions between the Improvement Director and the Corporate Management Team; and
- (f) that, in an endeavour to track the progress of all recommendations made by the Board, and to ensure that Cabinet is being held to account, a regular quarterly report be submitted to the Board outlining the progress to date (or otherwise) of any recommendations made during the preceding quarter.

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that, insofar as paragraph 63 of the Corporate Performance Assessment document was concerned (Performance Management of Corporate Projects), the Cabinet be requested to submit a briefing note on how the implementation of the Spatial Project was progressing to date, and that the appropriate Portfolio holder and relevant Head of Service be invited to address the Board at their next meeting in this regard; and

- (b) that, at future meetings, when considering a report on a relevant topic, the appropriate Portfolio holder should be invited to address the Board and be fully briefed by the appropriate officer(s).

20/07 **PERFORMANCE REPORTING - MAY 2007**

A report on the Council's performance as at 31st May 2007 (Period 2) was submitted.

RESOLVED that the Board notes

- (a) that 80% of indicators are improving or stable as at the period end, compared to 60% in the previous period;
- (b) that 66% of indicators are achieving their targets at the period end, compared to 63% in the previous period;
- (c) and celebrates the successes as outlined in Section 4.4 of the report;
- (d) the potential areas for concern set out in Section 4.5 together with the action being taken, to improve performance generally; and
- (e) that the Sickness Absence figures be examined in detail at the next meeting of the Board.

21/07 **SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY**

A report setting out a Sustainable Community Strategy, an overarching strategic document for the future direction of the district, was submitted.

RESOLVED that consideration of this document be deferred to the next meeting, and that, in the meantime, the Chairman and Vice-Chairman prepare a draft response to be considered in tandem therewith.

The meeting closed at 7.25 p.m.

Chairman