
BROMSGROVE PARTNERSHIP'S ANNUAL REPORT 2011/12

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillor R. Hollingworth, Leader of the Council and Portfolio Holder for Finance, Partnerships and Economic Development
Portfolio Holder Consulted	Yes, as Chair of the Bromsgrove Partnership Board
Relevant Head of Service	Kevin Dicks, Chief Executive
Wards Affected	All wards
Ward Councillor Consulted	The Annual Report will be circulated to all Councillors once it has been considered by the Cabinet
Non-Key Decision	

1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS

- 1.1 To present to the Cabinet the Bromsgrove Partnership's Annual Report 2011/12 which sets out the work of the Partnership over the past 12 months.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Cabinet is requested to approve the Bromsgrove Partnership's Annual Report 2011/12.

3. KEY ISSUES

Financial Implications

- 3.1 Apart from printing costs which are budgeted for, there are no financial implications directly relating to the report attached at Appendix 1 as it simply provides an overview of Partnership work that has taken place over the past year.
- 3.2 Draft strategic purposes of the Council link to the wider strategic priorities contained within the Bromsgrove Partnership section of the Sustainable Community Strategy. Capital and revenue budget provision in future years will reflect Council purposes.
- 3.3 Partnership working is crucial at any time to meet the needs of our residents in a more effective and efficient way than simply working alone. However, in light of reduced resources, due to the current economic climate, partnership working is even more crucial. It can allow resources to be pooled and partners to work together in a more joined up way to achieve better outcomes. The Bromsgrove Partnership is seen as essential in co-ordinating this.

Legal Implications

- 3.4 Under the Local Government Act 2000, the Local Strategic Partnership (LSP) is a non-statutory partnership and the Sustainable Community Strategy (SCS) and associated Action Plans is the delivery mechanism for the LSP.
- 3.5 The Department for Communities and Local Government announced its intention to repeal the statutory duty to prepare a SCS and this statement was included in the Best Value Statutory Guidance published on 2 September 2011. When the legislation is repealed authorities will be able to opt to continue to have a strategy, but it will no longer be a statutory requirement and the duty to report back information will cease. For the time being until these changes are introduced the Council remains under a statutory obligation to prepare an SCS.
- 3.6 The Government has revoked the whole statutory guidance 'Creating Strong, Safe and Prosperous Communities', which required the SCS to be agreed at Full Council. However, the Strategy remains in this Council's Constitution as a policy document which needs Full Council endorsement. The Annual Report does not require Full Council approval but it will be circulated to all District Councillors for their information.

Service / Operational Implications

- 3.7 LSPs act as a mechanism for working better together to deliver joined up outcomes. It enables local organisations to come together and address issues that are important to the local communities in a more effective and cohesive way.
- 3.8 A SCS sets out the overall strategic direction and long-term vision for the economic, social and environmental well-being of a local area. Draft strategic purposes of the Council link to the wider strategic priorities contained within the Bromsgrove Partnership section of the single Worcestershire SCS.
- 3.9 The Annual Report shows how the Bromsgrove Partnership is progressing against the Bromsgrove District section of the single Worcestershire SCS. The annual report was approved by the Bromsgrove Partnership Board at its meeting held on 26 July 2012. By formally endorsing the Bromsgrove Partnership's Annual Report, it demonstrates that Bromsgrove District Council is working in partnership to address the needs of residents of the District and it is ensuring that future plans and resources are included in the relevant strategic plans.

Customer / Equalities and Diversity Implications

- 3.10 In terms of customer implications, working in partnership delivers joined up outcomes, which is of great benefit to our customers.
- 3.11 An equalities impact assessment has been completed for the Bromsgrove District chapter of the single SCS for Worcestershire.
- 3.12 The Bromsgrove Partnership receives the minutes of the Bromsgrove Equalities and Diversity Forums at their Board meetings.

4. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 4.1 The Council will not be able to meet customer needs without working in partnership, therefore having an effective LSP is vital.
- 4.2 Key partner organisations are involved and kept informed of progress throughout the development of the existing and revised SCS, thus gaining buy in. The contents of the Annual Report prove that partners are committed to the SCS and its key deliverable outcomes.

5. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – Bromsgrove Partnership’s Annual Report 2011/12.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

7. KEY

LSP – Local Strategic Partnership (known as the Bromsgrove Partnership)
SCS – Sustainable Community Strategy

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