



OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY TOPIC PROPOSAL

<p>Name of Proposer: Councillor Steve Colella</p> <p>Tel No: _____ Email: s.colella@bromsgrove.gov.uk</p> <p>Date: 4th July 2012</p>	
<p>Title of Proposed Topic:</p>	<p>Local Strategic Partnership (LSP)</p>
<p>Specific subject areas to be investigated:</p>	<p>There are a number of key areas to review as part of an investigation of the Bromsgrove Partnership, the LSP in Bromsgrove:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To examine the Bromsgrove Partnership in order to clarify: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • how the Bromsgrove Partnership operates; • which organisations are represented on the Bromsgrove Partnership; • the specific roles and responsibilities of each of the partner organisations; • the communication channels used to communicate the work of the Bromsgrove Partnership; • what sub-groups exist and what the roles are of these sub-groups; • what achievements have been made to date by the partnership (the outcomes). 2) To review Bromsgrove District Council's contribution to the Bromsgrove Partnership and to compare this with the contribution made by other partner organisations. 3) To examine the potential implications of disbanding the LSP. This would include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the implications for delivery of public services; and • the implications for strategic plans for the district. 4) To determine to what extent Bromsgrove District Council is achieving value for money (Vfm) through participation in the partnership.

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	<p>5) To identify any areas for improvement.</p> <p>6) To suggest suitable performance monitoring arrangements for future years.</p>
Reasons why this subject should be considered:	<p>Bromsgrove District Council is a member of the Bromsgrove Partnership. However, many elected Members are not familiar with the role of the partnership, the responsibilities of the different partner organisations, the financial costs involved in operating the partnership or the achievements of the body. A review of this subject would help to develop Members' awareness of the partnership.</p> <p>In addition, the partnership has the potential to influence the strategic direction of developments in the district. It is important, therefore, to ensure that the work of the partnership is transparent and is held to account. A Task Group investigation completed by scrutiny Members could achieve these objectives.</p>
Evidence to support the need for this particular investigation:	<p>The Bromsgrove Partnership has never been scrutinised.</p> <p>A review of this subject would be timely as it would help to ensure that best use is being made of resources in a similar manner to the current transformation agenda that is in place for other public services.</p>
Council priorities it links to:	Value for money (vfm).
Possible key outcomes: (i.e. what do you anticipate could be achieved?)	<p>The subject is a service which may be identified as a core topic for scrutiny to monitor either annually or bi-annually.</p> <p>A review of this subject could help to highlight the achievements of partnership working to date as well as areas where improvements could be made if considered necessary.</p>

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Please indicate if any of the following apply to the proposed subject area:

CRITERIA	NO	YES	Why?
Is it a priority issue for the Council or the Local Strategic Partnership?		X	Both the Council and LSP.
Is it an important issue for local residents?		X	A review of this subject would have implications for service delivery, for achieving vfm and for budget management.
Is it a topic where Overview and Scrutiny could feasibly and constructively make recommendations?		X	The topic meets the remit of the Board's Terms of reference. Local authorities in other parts of the country have reviewed their LSPs, which suggests this review would be feasible.
Is it a topic where external review would be helpful?		?	This is difficult to determine. It might be useful to consider the experiences of similar partnership arrangements at other authorities.
Is it a topic where a review could be made in time to make recommendations for the executive decision making process?		X	Recommendations could be made to the Cabinet.
Is it a poorly performing service?		?	This is difficult to answer until a review has been completed.
Is it a review that could render significant savings or value for money?		?	This is difficult to answer until a review has been completed, though one of the aims would be to assess whether the current arrangements represent vfm.
Is the topic strategic in scope?		X	Yes

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