

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT BOARD

TUESDAY, 18TH MARCH 2008, AT 6.00 P.M.

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

Observers: Councillor R. D. Smith (Portfolio Holder)

Officers: Mr. H. Bennett, Ms. J. Pitman, Ms. J. McNicol and Mr. A. Jessop

86/07 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor A. N. Blagg, and the Chief Executive.

87/07 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

88/07 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Performance Management Board held on 19th February 2008 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

89/07 **AUDIT COMMISSION DIRECTION OF TRAVEL REPORT**

The Assistant Chief Executive reported that, since the compilation and despatch of the agenda for this meeting, he had received a request from the Leader of the Council for the Board to defer consideration of this report until its next meeting, in order to encompass the views of the Cabinet in this regard. The Chairman advised that he had been consulted on this issue and had agreed that it would be prudent to defer. Whereupon it was

RESOLVED that this matter be deferred for consideration at the next meeting of the Board, and that, in the interests of economy, Members be requested to retain their copy of the report and bring it to that meeting.

(NOTE: The Leader of the Council will also be invited to the next meeting of the Board for this item).

90/07 **EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT**

The Chairman referred to the fact that this report had been considered by the Audit Board at its meeting the previous day, and that the only issue of relevance to this Board was on Data Quality, on which the Council had recorded an improved score of 2, and that, accordingly, as this was otherwise a purely financial report, was not particularly relevant to the work of this Board.

RESOLVED that the position be noted.

91/07 **EMPLOYEE STRESS SURVEY RESULTS**

Consideration was given to a report which conveyed the results of the work related stress audit which had been carried out as part of the risk assessment process and strategic framework to identify areas of potential risk, and, if proven, to take any appropriate action.

RESOLVED that the content of the survey recommendations and action plans be noted.

92/07 **COUNCIL PLAN 2008-2011**

Consideration was given to a report containing the draft Council Plan for 2008-2011, including a high level action plan for the Council's priorities for 2008-2011.

RESOLVED

- (a) that, having paid particular attention to the new Balanced Scorecard for the Council and the Strategic Action Plan 2008/2011, the draft Council Plan for 2008-2011, as set out in Appendix 1 to the report, be noted; and
- (b) that an invitation be extended to the Audit Commission inviting them to address members on the impending changes to the reporting of National Indicators and Comprehensive Area Assessment..

RECOMMENDED:

- (a) that it be suggested to Cabinet that Disabled Facilities Grants should be included as one of the Corporate Indicators; and
- (b) that further examination should be given to all of the various indicators to determine other "key" issues.

93/07 **MONTHLY PERFORMANCE REPORT - PERIOD 10 (JANUARY 2008)**

The Board gave consideration to a report on the Council's performance as at January 2008 (Period 10).

RESOLVED:

- (a) that it be noted 74% of indicators were improving or stable at the period end, compared to 55% in period 9;
- (b) that it be noted that 85% of indicators were achieving their targets at the period end, compared to 73% in period 9;

- (c) that the successes in Section 3.5 of the report (examples of considerable or continued improvement over the period) be celebrated;
- (d) that the potential areas for concern set out in Section 3.6 of the report, together with the corrective action being taken, be noted; and
- (e) that, on the question of sickness absence (as referred to in Section 3.6 of the report), the Head of Human Resources and Organisational Development be requested to look further into a recently reported Government proposal which would allow General Practitioners to issue patients with "well notes" rather than sick notes, (i.e., setting out what they were capable of undertaking rather what they were not), and that a report be brought back to the Board in this regard in due course.

94/07 **IMPROVEMENT PLAN EXCEPTION REPORT - PERIOD 10 (JANUARY 2008)**

Consideration was given to the Improvement Plan Exception report for January 2008, 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, be noted; and
- (b) that it be noted that for the 140 actions highlighted for January within the Plan, 84.3% were on target (green); 11.4% was one month behind (amber), and 1.4% was over one month behind (red). 2.9% of actions had been rescheduled (or suspended), with approval.

95/07 **WORK PROGRAMME**

Consideration was given to the report on the Board's updated work programme for 2008/09.

RESOLVED

- (a) that the Assistant Chief Executive be requested to contact Worcestershire County Council with a view to someone from that authority possibly attending the May meeting of the Board to discuss Youth Service provision within the district/county;
- (b) that it be noted that the Spatial Strategy Review was to become a regular item on the agenda for the foreseeable future; and
- (c) that consideration of the Housing Strategy Action Plan Update be considered alongside the Housing Inspection (which is expected to take place on 5th June 2008, but maybe earlier).

The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

Chairman