

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY BOARD

25th April 2016

RECOMMENDATION TRACKER REPORT

1. SUMMARY

This Recommendation Tracker lists all recommendations made by the Overview and Scrutiny Board (including Task Group recommendations which have been agreed by Cabinet) until implementation is complete.

The recommendations are grouped in date order and by topic.

(N. B. Column 4 also shows each month the Tracker comes before the Board. To ensure recommendations are reviewed at the appropriate time, a tick is placed next to the quarter for which the Cabinet response advised the recommendation was estimated to be implemented.)

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 That the Board notes the Quarterly Recommendation Tracker and agrees to the removal of any items which have been completed.

Date of O&S Board	Recommendation	Date Considered by Cabinet	Comments on action taken to implement the recommendation(s)							
EVENING & WEEKEND CAR PARKING TASK GROUP										
21 st March 2016	<u>Recommendation 1</u> The Council needs to formulate a clear Economic Development strategy that includes car parking as soon as possible, whilst considering the following key features of any such strategy: a) Ensuring that car parking arrangements are managed in accordance with the interests of the local economy. b) Working with partners in business and retail to develop the Economic Development Strategy that includes car parking options and tariffs that encourage customers to visit Bromsgrove. c) Ensure car parking arrangements support the Council's Economic Development Strategy.	6 th April 2016	Jan (2016)		April		June		Oct	√
			<u>Formal Cabinet Response awaited</u> From the Cabinet minutes the Recommendation wording was amended as follows: <i>The Council needs to formulate a clear Economic Development Priorities to assess the impact on car parking as soon as possible, whilst considering the following key features of any such strategy:</i> a) <i>Ensuring that car parking arrangements are managed in accordance with the interests of the local economy.</i> b) <i>Working with partners in business and retail to develop the Economic Priorities that includes car parking options and tariffs that encourage customers to visit Bromsgrove.</i> c) <i>Ensure car parking arrangements support the Council's Economic Priorities..</i>							
21 st March 2016	<u>Recommendation 2</u> Having formulated the Economic Development Strategy it is recommended that an external expert be engaged by the Council, with a clear remit of what the Council wishes	6 th April 2016	Jan (2016)		April		June		Oct	√
			<u>Formal Cabinet Response awaited</u> From the Cabinet minutes the Recommendation wording was amended as follows:							

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	<p>to achieve, it is suggested that such a consultant would need to consult with the following Council officers/Members:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Economic Development Team b) Environmental Services Team c) Relevant Portfolio Holders d) Members of the Evening and Weekend Car Parking Task Group e) Local businesses and retailers. 		<p><i>Having formulated the Economic Priorities it is recommended that an external expert be engaged by the Council, with a clear remit of what the Council wishes to achieve, it is suggested that such a consultant would need to consult with the following Council officers/Members:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>a) Economic Development Team</i> <i>b) Environmental Services Team</i> <i>c) Relevant Portfolio Holders</i> <i>d) Members of the Evening and Weekend Car Parking Task Group</i> <i>e) Local businesses and retailers.</i> <i>f) Town Centre Manager</i> 							
21 st March 2016	<p><u>Recommendation 3</u> Prior to any further trials (of any nature) being agreed and carried out any necessary data should be collected in order to have appropriate comparative data and information available to ensure that any such trial can be measured successfully.</p>	6 th April 2016	Jan (2016)		April		June		Oct	√
			<p><u>Formal Cabinet Response awaited</u></p> <p>The wording of this recommendation was agreed as it stands by the Cabinet.</p>							
21 st March 2016	<p><u>Recommendation 4</u> Until the introduction of a strategy the current parking charges and</p>	6 th April 2016	Jan (2016)		April		June		Oct	√
			<p><u>Formal Cabinet Response awaited</u></p>							

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	concessions should be maintained (including the continuation of free evening car parking).		<p>From the Cabinet minutes the Recommendation wording was amended as follows:</p> <p><i>Until the review of the Economic Priorities, the current parking charges and concessions should be maintained (including the continuation of free evening car parking).</i></p>								
LEISURE PROVISION TASK GROUP											
17 th November 2014	<u>Recommendation 1</u> (a) That charges for leisure facilities & services, such as the Dolphin Centre, should be used to promote usage and participation in leisure activities; and (b) That the Council's concession scheme should be publicised where appropriate to ensure price is not a barrier to participation in leisure activities.	3 rd December 2014	<table border="1" data-bbox="1310 657 1989 726"> <tr> <td>Jan (2016)</td> <td></td> <td>April</td> <td>√</td> <td>June</td> <td></td> <td>Oct</td> <td></td> </tr> </table> <p><u>Cabinet Response</u> The Cabinet felt that the wording of (a) should be amended slightly as set out below to clarify the intention behind it. <i>“that the charging structure for leisure facilities and services be used to encourage usage and participation in leisure activities.”</i></p> <p>Recommendation (b) was approved.</p> <p>Ongoing – the Board may wish to consider how this could be monitored or whether the recommendation can now be removed from the tracker.</p>	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct					

Date of O&S Board	Recommendation	Date Considered by Cabinet	Comments on action taken to implement the recommendation(s)							
17 th November 2014	<u>Recommendation 2</u> That Members should familiarise themselves with the leisure activities available within their Wards via the information provided by the Sports Development Team and visit activities as appropriate.	3 rd December 2014	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet Response</u> The Cabinet approved this recommendation. Ongoing – the Board may wish to consider how this could be monitored or whether the recommendation can now be removed from the tracker.							
17 th November 2014	<u>Recommendation 3</u> (a) The noticeboard situated adjacent to Blockbuster be utilised; (b) A noticeboard be included in the list of requirements for the Phase 2 Works of the Town Centre; and (c) Whilst it was acknowledged that there were often problems with noticeboards being maintained and information displayed kept up to date, to minimise this it is recommended that these be maintained by the local ward councillor.	3 rd December 2014	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet Response</u> The Cabinet approved this recommendation. <u>March 2015</u> <i>Work on the use of noticeboards continues and it is understood that a new noticeboard has been included in Phase 2 and funded by the ward councillor scheme.</i> <u>January 2016</u> <i>It is understood that this noticeboard is now in place.</i>							

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			The recommendation will therefore be removed from future trackers.							
17 th November 2014	<u>Recommendation 4</u> (a) Officers to continue negotiations with BAM and look for alternative funding sources to fund a Sports Hall moving forward; and (b) If the negotiations with BAM are unsuccessful, then Cabinet reconsider and make recommendations to full Council for the facility to include a Sports Hall.	3 rd December 2014	Jan (2016)	√	April		June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet Response</u> Recommendation (a) was approved. In respect of Recommendations (b) the wording was agreed as follows: <i>“that if the negotiations with BAM are unsuccessful, then Cabinet reconsider options for the facility to include a Sports Hall”.</i> <u>Cabinet further Response 6th January 2016</u> Following a further recommendation from the Board requesting the Cabinet remain observant of its decision made on 3 rd December 2014, the Cabinet, after discussion rescinded the recommendation (b). It is therefore recommend that these items be removed from the recommendation tracker.							

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YOUTH PROVISION TASK GROUP										
15 th July 2013	<u>Recommendation 1</u> That Worcestershire County Council ensures that regular meetings between the commissioner and local providers of Positive Activities (within the Bromsgrove District) take place to ensure there is no overlap of services and to enable best practices to be shared.	4 th September 2013	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<p><u>Cabinet Response</u> – Agreed</p> <p><u>October 2015</u> WCC have been approached on a number of occasions for an update – a further email has been sent (2nd November 2015) with the request for a response in respect of recommendations 1, 2, and 3. At the time of writing</p> <p><u>January 2016</u></p> <p>The following response has been received from WCC: <i>Regular (quarterly) “positive activities provider network” meetings have been held over the past 2 years. These have been well attended by Bromsgrove’s commissioned provider organisations.</i> <i>There is recent evidence of improved collaboration between organisations as they have been discussing the best approach to tendering for the next round of WCC Positive Activities funding for 2016-19 (tendering still in progress – outcome expecting during February 2016).</i></p>							

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			It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.							
15 th July 2013	<u>Recommendation 2</u> That Bromsgrove District Council write to Worcestershire County Council highlighting its concerns in respect of the limited life span and uncertainty over the provision of a building for the youth services provided by EPIC in the Rubery Ward.	4 th September 2013	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<p><u>Cabinet Response</u> – Agreed Members were concerned that little progress appeared to have been made by the County Council in identifying alternative accommodation.</p> <p><u>January 2016</u></p> <p>The following response has been received from WCC: <i>Since this recommendation was made, the County Council identified the potential for some conversion / refurbishment of community space available at a building on the site of Beaconside Primary School in Rubery.</i> <i>With a combination of a small County Council Property Services investment and local county councillor discretionary funds from councillor Peter MacDonald, space was refurbished and made available rent free by the school to enable youth groups to meet there.</i> <i>In addition, the current provider (now</i></p>							

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			<p><i>Worcestershire YMCA since EPIC withdrew from their Positive Activities contract) now has a very good relationship with St Chads church in the centre of Rubery and is also making provision from the hall there, which offers a larger and more appropriate space for some activities.</i></p> <p><i>The previous site of the County Council's Rubery Youth Centre was sold to BDHT and has been transformed to offer 18 or more affordable homes.</i></p> <p>It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.</p>								
15 th July 2013	<p><u>Recommendation 3</u> That Worcestershire County Council ensure that the activities, which should focus on the Town Centre and provided by the £15k from Sandwell Leisure Trust, are commissioned through the Positive Activities process to ensure that no further delays occur.</p>	4 th September 2013	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct		
			<p><u>Cabinet Response</u> – Agreed</p> <p><u>January 2016</u></p> <p>The following response has been received from WCC: <i>The additional annual funding provided through the agreement with Sandwell Leisure Trust has been added to the allocated budget for Positive Activities in Bromsgrove since 2012-13. It has supported youth worker input to the regular Roller Disco sessions at Ryland (other costs met by SLT) and</i></p>								

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			<p><i>also a specific group for young people with learning disabilities. The current commissioned provider of Positive Activities (YMCA) has a good working relationship with SLT staff now running the Ryland Centre.</i></p> <p><i>This financial commitment by SLT continues and the extra funds will be allocated to provision for young people in the town centre area, including at the Ryland Centre, for the next three years as part of the commissioning process for 2016-2019.</i></p> <p>It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.</p>							
15 th July 2013	<p><u>Recommendation 6</u> That the Chairman of the Task Group (supported by Democratic Services Officers) give a presentation, of the Task Group's findings, to CALC in order to encourage Parish Councils to support local youth groups.</p>	4 th September 2013	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<p><u>Cabinet Response</u> – Agreed</p> <p><u>Update July 2014</u> <i>To date this has not taken place.</i></p> <p><u>October 2015</u> <i>As previously discussed the CALC meetings are held quarterly and there has not, to date been an appropriate opportunity for this recommendation to be considered. In light of discussions at the last O&S meeting Members may wish to discuss</i></p>							

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			<p><i>whether they think it would be appropriate to action this recommendation due to the time which has elapsed.</i></p> <p><u>January 2016</u> <i>Arrangements have been made for the Chairman of the Task Group to attend the CALC meeting due to be held on 9th March 2016.</i></p> <p><u>April 2016</u> <i>This has now taken place.</i></p> <p>This item will be removed from future trackers.</p>						
15 th July 2013	<p><u>Recommendation 10</u> That the Overview and Scrutiny Board includes within its Work Programme an investigation into the provision of services available to disaffected young people and those not in education, employment or training within the District.</p>	4 th September 2013	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct
			<p><u>Cabinet Response</u> – it was felt this was a matter for the Overview and Scrutiny Board to determine as part of their future work programme.</p> <p><u>Update July 2014</u> <i>This has been included on the O&S Board’s Work Programme, for its consideration if they so wish.</i></p> <p><u>October 2015</u> <i>Youth Provision continues to be an item on the O&S Board’s work programme for consideration at</i></p>						

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			<p><i>a later date if they so wish.</i></p> <p><u>April 2016</u> <i>Youth Provision continues to be an item on the O&S Board's work programme for consideration at a later date if they so wish.</i></p>

BOARD RECOMMENDATIONS

<p>25th September 2014</p>	<p><u>Task Group Procedure Guidelines Review</u> That the Task Group/Short, Sharp Inquiry Procedure Guidelines be incorporated into the Council's constitution.</p>	<p>Constitutional Review Working Party</p>	<p>Jan (2016)</p>		<p>April</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>June</p>		<p>Oct</p>		<p><i>This was passed to relevant Officer on 3rd November 2014 for inclusion in at a meeting of the Constitutional Working Group.</i></p> <p><u>October 2015</u> <i>There has not as yet been an appropriate meeting of the Working Group for this matter to be discussed.</i></p> <p><u>January 2016</u> <i>A meeting of the Working Group has yet to be organised where this item will be considered.</i></p> <p><u>April 2016</u> <i>The situation remains as previously reported.</i></p>
<p>23rd November 2015</p>	<p><u>Joint Health and Well-being Strategy</u> Recommended to the Leader that air quality be proposed as an additional priority for inclusion in the Joint Health and Well-Being Strategy 2016-19.</p>	<p>Recommendation to the Leader.</p>	<p>Jan (2016)</p>	<p>√</p>	<p>April</p>		<p>June</p>		<p>Oct</p>		<p><u>Cabinet meeting 6th January 2016</u> Cabinet recommended to full Council that air quality be proposed as an additional priority for</p>

			inclusion in the Joint Health and Well-being Strategy 2016-19.							
14 th December 2015	<u>Quality of Acute Hospital Services</u> That clarification be provided by the Leader with regard to the Council's position in respect of the future of Worcestershire Acute Hospital's NHS Trust and the recent vote taken by Redditch Borough Council.	Recommendation to the Leader.	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet meeting 6th January 2016</u> The leader agreed to provide clarification with regard to the Council's position and to attend the 18 th January meeting of the Board in this regard. <u>Update January 2016</u> <i>The Leader attended the Board's meeting held on 18th January and clarified the position.</i> It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.							
18 th January 2016	<u>Burcot Lodge Emergency Homeless Unit – Financial Implications Report</u> That proposal 1 to replace Burcot Lodge, as detailed within the Cabinet report, be approved, thought the Council should remain open to reconsidering Proposal 2 at a later date if demand for temporary accommodation from residents at risk of homelessness increases.	Recommended to Cabinet.	Jan (2016)		April	√	June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet meeting 3rd February 2016</u> The Cabinet felt that the recommendation from the O&S Board would be the most suitable way forward of addressing the need for hostel provision as it would allow for the position to be kept under review; the Cabinet recommendation was therefore amended in line with the O&S Board's suggestion.							

			It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.							
18 th January 2016	<u>Medium Term Financial Plan</u> (a) Cabinet note the Board's position, in that Members do not feel able to recommend that any of the Capital Project Bids from elected Members be approved in the current challenging economic circumstances though would support further discussion of these bids and the Capital Project Bid Scheme at a future meeting of Council; (b) Cabinet note the Board's position that Members do not feel able to recommend any of the other Capital or Revenue Bids, as detailed in the appendices to the Medium Term Financial Plan, in the current challenging economic circumstances; (c) Cabinet reconsider the Council's Fees and Charges for 2016/17, and consider increasing fees and charges by 3 per cent wherever possible.	Recommended to Cabinet.	Jan (2016)		April		June		Oct	
			<u>Cabinet meeting 3rd February 2016</u> (a) Cabinet acknowledged and noted this recommendation. A decision on this item was deferred by the Cabinet as currently there was not a robust mechanism in place for processing and evaluating proposed projects. (b) The Capital and Revenue Bids were approved by Cabinet and recommended for consideration at full Council. (c) Fees and charges were recommended to be increased as supported by Overview and Scrutiny Board. It is therefore suggested that this item be removed from the Tracker.							