

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW BOARD

TUESDAY, 2ND MARCH 2010 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors S. R. Colella (Chairman), Mrs. M. Bunker (Vice-Chairman),
Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths, D. L. Pardoe, Mrs. C. J. Spencer and L. J. Turner

Officers: Mr. H. Bennett, Mrs. S. Sellers, Mr. M. Carr and Ms. A. Scarce

52/09 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

There were no apologies for absence.

53/09 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

No declarations of interest or whipping arrangements were received.

54/09 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting of the Overview Board held on 2nd February 2010 were submitted.

RESOLVED that the minutes be confirmed as a correct record.

55/09 **VERBAL UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY TASK GROUP (TASK GROUP CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR L. J. TURNER)**

The Chairman of the Community Involvement in Local Democracy Task Group provided the Board with a comprehensive list of the witnesses the Task Group had either interviewed or received presentations from to date, including:

- Customer First Manager
- Senior Corporate Policy and Performance Officers
- Elections Manager
- Equality Officer
- Committee Services Officer
- IT Manager

Members were also provided with details of the planned future meetings and it was confirmed that a press release had been issued inviting members of the public to share their views on the subject. The Chairman confirmed that the Task Group was on a tight schedule which had resulted in a lot of meetings in a very short space of time.

The Board noted that there had been disappointing Member attendance at several of the meetings and a general discussion followed covering the following points:

- Lack of Member volunteers
- The number of Task Groups
- The good quality work produced by Task Groups
- More detailed Work Programme planning
- Lessons learnt

The Board asked the Chairman of the Community Involvement in Local Democracy Task Group if it had planned to look at petition procedures and Calls for Action. The Chairman confirmed that this would be included in the work of the Task Group and Officers advised that they were working on a formal procedure for the presentation of petitions.

56/09 **FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS**

The Board considered the Forward Plan of Key Decisions 1st March to 30th June 2010 and discussed the Countywide Home Improvement Agency for Worcestershire (Progress on Delivery) and the County Wide Housing Strategy for Worcestershire in detail. Following this discussion it was

RESOLVED that the Strategic Housing Manager be asked to provide a report on the Countywide Home Improvement Agency and the County Wide Housing Strategy and present it to the Overview Board, together with the Portfolio Holder for Strategic Housing, Environment and Climate Change.

57/09 **WORK PROGRAMME**

The Board were informed that the Work Programme had been amended in order to provide Members with more detail on each item that was to be considered at future Board meetings. Officers agreed to update the Work Programme with the details of the new Heads of Service. It was also noted that the Anti-Social Behaviour and Alcohol Free Zones Task Group would be reviewed in March 2010. Officers confirmed that the Task Group Members would be contacted shortly.

RESOLVED that the Overview Board Work Programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 6.40 p.m.

Chairman