

## BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

# **OVERVIEW BOARD**

1st June 2010

### **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY TASK GROUP**

Relevant Portfolio Holder	Councillors: R. D. Smith and G. N. Denaro
Relevant Head of Service	Mrs. C. Felton – Head of Legal, Equalities and Democratic Services
Task Group Chairman	Councillor L. Turner
Non-Key Decision	

#### **1. SUMMARY OF PROPOSALS**

- 1.1 To consider the findings and recommendations contained within the attached report relating to the overview investigation undertaken by the Community Involvement in Local Democracy Task Group.

#### **2. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 2.1 Members are requested to:
- (a) consider and approve the attached report and the recommendations contained within it; and
  - (b) submit the attached report to the Cabinet for approval of the report recommendations.

#### **3. BACKGROUND**

- 3.1 At the Meeting of the Overview Board on 3rd November 2009, it was decided a Task Group would be established to consider ways to improve community involvement in the democratic process and preparations for Democracy Year 2010-2011 and that Councillor L. Turner would be appointed as Chairman.
- 3.2 The full terms of reference were approved by the Overview Board at its meeting held on 2nd February 2010 when membership of the Task Group was also agreed. The full terms of reference are attached at **Appendix A**.
- 3.3 The 'draft' recommendations were presented to the Corporate Management Team meeting on 20th April 2010 requesting feedback on the feasibility and financial implications of the 'draft' recommendations to the Scrutiny Officer. The 'draft' recommendations were also presented to the Equality and Diversity Forum meeting on 15th April 2010 for comment.

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### **4. KEY ISSUES**

4.1 Overview and scrutiny is a key part of the Council's democratic decision making process and enabled non-executive Members of the Council to put forward recommendations for policy development, policy review and service improvement.

### **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

5.1 The Financial and resource implications of the recommendations are detailed in the Executive Summary of the report (pages 6 – 13).

### **6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 There are no legal implications relating to this report.

### **7. POLICY IMPLICATIONS**

7.1 Overview and Scrutiny recommendations that are agreed by the Cabinet and/or full Council will become Cabinet Decisions and Council policy.

### **8. COUNCIL OBJECTIVES**

8.1 This report links to the Council's Objectives of Improvement and One Community.

### **9. RISK MANAGEMENT INCLUDING HEALTH & SAFETY CONSIDERATIONS**

9.1 The risk of not implementing the recommendations contained within the attached overview report is that this Council does not continue to improve the services for residents and in particular, customer service standards.

### **10. CUSTOMER IMPLICATIONS**

10.1 If the recommendations were approved and implemented, residents living in Bromsgrove District would benefit from improved customer service, which would have an emphasis on customer satisfaction.

### **11. EQUALITIES AND DIVERSITY IMPLICATIONS**

11.1 There are no implications directly relating to this report for the Council's Equalities and Diversity Policies.

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**12. VALUE FOR MONEY IMPLICATIONS, PROCUREMENT AND ASSET MANAGEMENT**

12.1 There are no value for money implications directly relating to this report.

**13. CLIMATE CHANGE, CARBON IMPLICATIONS AND BIODIVERSITY**

13.1 None

**14. HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS**

14.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**15. GOVERNANCE/PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS**

15.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**16. COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS INCLUDING SECTION 17 OF CRIME AND DISORDER ACT 1998**

16.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**17. HEALTH INEQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

17.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**18. LESSONS LEARNT**

18.1 None for the purpose of this report.

**19. COMMUNITY AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT**

19.1 Not relevant to this report.

**20. OTHERS CONSULTED ON THE REPORT**

Portfolio Holder	No
Chief Executive	No
Executive Director (S151 Officer)	No
Executive Director – Leisure, Cultural,	No

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Environmental and Community Services	
Executive Director – Planning & Regeneration, Regulatory and Housing Services	No
Director of Policy, Performance and Partnerships	No
Head of Service	Yes
Head of Resources	No
Head of Legal, Equalities & Democratic Services	Yes
Corporate Procurement Team	No

**21. WARDS AFFECTED**

All Wards

**22. APPENDICES**

Appendix A    Terms of Reference for the Task Group  
Appendix B    Community Involvement in Local Democracy Task Group Report

**23. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

None

**AUTHOR OF REPORT**

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