

BROMSGROVE DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEETING OF THE OVERVIEW BOARD

TUESDAY, 1ST JUNE 2010 AT 6.00 P.M.

PRESENT: Councillors S. R. Colella, Mrs. M. Bunker, Mrs. J. M. L. A. Griffiths and L. J. Turner

Observers: Councillor D. L. Pardoe and Councillor C. R. Scurrall

Invitees: Ms. A. Jones (Cluster Manager, Extended Services, Worcestershire County Council)

Officers: Mr. J. Godwin, Mr. M. Carr and Ms. A. Scarce

1/10 **ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED that Councillor S. R. Colella be elected as Chairman of the Board for the ensuing municipal year.

2/10 **ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN**

RESOLVED that Councillor Mrs. M. Bunker be elected Vice-Chairman of the Board for the ensuing municipal year.

3/10 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Mrs. R. Dent and Mrs. C. J. Spencer. It was noted that a nomination to the Board had not yet been received from the Labour Group.

4/10 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND WHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS**

No declarations of interest or whipping arrangements were received.

5/10 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the Overview Board held on 27th April 2010 were submitted. Members referred to Minute No. 71/09 and asked whether a response to the questions asked, had been received from Worcestershire County Council and Network Rail. Officers confirmed that questions had been submitted but that a response had not yet been received through the Executive Director for Planning and Regeneration, Regulation and Housing Services (PRRH).

RESOLVED that the minutes be approved as a correct record.

6/10 **PPG17 OUT-TURN - BRIEFING PAPER**

The Chairman reminded Members that at the Overview Board meeting held on 2nd June 2009 a report was received on PPG17 Out-Turn and that it had been resolved that the item be referred back to the Overview Board in 12 months' time in order to assess the delivery of services in respect of PPG17.

The Head of Leisure and Cultural Services presented an update and responded to Member questions, with particular reference to:

- The works undertaken in respect of parks and gardens.
- Outdoor sports facilities

After discussion it was

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

7/10 **ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR AND ALCOHOL FREE ZONES TASK GROUP REVIEW**

The Board considered the Anti-Social Behaviour and Alcohol Free Zones Task Group 12 month review report.

The Head of Leisure and Cultural Services provided additional information and answered Member questions on the recommendations, and in particular on the following areas:

- The effectiveness of Designated Public Place Orders (DPPOs) and available alternatives.
- The use of CCTV and the restrictions of the Code of Practice.
- Preventative actions and partnership working.
- The work of the Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership (CDRP).
- Communicating to residents the positive actions the Council has taken.

The Board discussed the difficulty in the implementation and measurability of recommendations 2, 3 and 4. Members agreed that residents' concerns in respect of Anti-Social Behaviour could be addressed through the Joint Overview and Scrutiny Board. After further discussion it was

RESOLVED that the update report be noted.

8/10 **COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN LOCAL DEMOCRACY TASK GROUP DRAFT REPORT (TASK GROUP CHAIRMAN: COUNCILLOR L. J. TURNER)**

The Chairman welcomed Ms. Allie Jones, Cluster Manager (East Worcestershire) Extended Services, Worcestershire County Council, who confirmed that she had been involved in the Task Group and her team would be happy to working in partnership with the Council and co-ordinate the work required under recommendations 8 and 9.

Councillor L. J. Turner, the Chairman of the Community Involvement in Local Democracy Task Group presented the draft report to the Board setting out the aims and objectives of the Task Group, evidence and witnesses and topics covered by the recommendations. The Chairman of the Task Group informed Members that the over all financial cost of implementation of the recommendations had been kept to a minimum. The Chairman of the Task Group responded to questions from Members. It was also highlighted that, together with the 16 recommendations, the Task Group had included within the report suggested improvements that could be made to enhance the recommendations further. The Task Group had recommended that a steering group be set up in order to ensure the implementation of the recommendations throughout the year and to maintain the momentum in involving the community in local democracy.

After lengthy discussion, Members agreed that the suggestion for procedures to be considered to allow members of the public to participate at committee meetings, paragraph 4.6 of the report, should be emphasised.

The Board thanked the Task Group Chairman, Members and Scrutiny Officer for producing an excellent report, covering this extensive subject in such a short period of time.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that subject to the minor amendments, requested during the meeting, the report and recommendations be approved; and
- (b) that the report be submitted to Cabinet for approval of the report recommendations.

9/10

WORCESTERSHIRE OLDER PEOPLES' STRATEGY

The Board were advised that a representative from Worcestershire County Council (WCC) would be attending the meeting on 29th June 2010 to give a presentation on the WCC Older Peoples' Strategy and were asked to consider key questions Members would wish to put forward to the representative.

RESOLVED:

- (a) That the following questions be raised:
 - 1. Who is the strategy aimed at and what are the priorities?
 - 2. What organisations are involved in the delivery of the strategy?
To what extent is district level delivery included in the strategy?
How does this relate to Bromsgrove?
 - 3. What are the key targets and performance indicators of the strategy, including LAA targets? What is the current performance trend against these?
 - 4. What is the consultation plan for the strategy? How are district councils involved?
 - 5. What are the funding streams for delivery of the strategy?
 - 6. What is the needs assessment by geographical area?
 - 7. How is housing provision included within this strategy?

8. The Hub is being provided with access to an online directory "Carewise". What information is available in the community and will this include district level information?
- (b) that the relevant Portfolio Holder be invited to attend the Board meeting on 29th June 2010, for this item.

10/10 **GARDEN WASTE SERVICES - FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS**

The Board were advised that the Head of Environmental Services had been asked to attend the meeting on 29th June 2010 to discuss future developments of the Garden Waste Services and it was felt appropriate for Members to prepare a series of questions that they would like the Head of Environmental Services to answer.

RESOLVED:

- (a) that the following questions be raised:
1. What consultation arrangements are planned before any decisions are made on future developments?
 2. What is the optimum take up of these services? How many households?
 3. What are the marginal costs of increased take up? Are there any economies of scale?
 5. Can you provide details of the Income and Expenditure of green waste service?
 6. Are there national targets for green waste services which we have to achieve and if so how are we performing against these?
 7. Is there any customer satisfaction feedback for these services?
- (b) that the relevant Portfolio Holder be invited to attend the Board meeting on 29th June 2010, for this item.

11/10 **FORWARD PLAN OF KEY DECISIONS 1ST JUNE TO 30TH SEPTEMBER 2010 (FOR INFORMATION ONLY)**

The Board considered the Forward Plan. Members raised concerns over the apparent slippage which had occurred with the Arts and Events Strategy. Officers advised Members that the strategy had been reviewed by the Scrutiny Board at a meeting earlier in the year and the cause of the slippage was outside of the Council's control. Officers undertook to provide Members with a copy of the relevant minute for information.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

Chairman