

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE – 4th OCTOBER, 2007

REPORT OF THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA LIAISON OFFICER

MATTERS RAISED AT THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE ON 5TH JULY, 2007

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Committee on a number of issues raised at the Brierley Hill Area Committee held on the 5th July 2007 that relate to services provided by the Council.

BACKGROUND

- 2. The Council provides a number of services that have considerable impact on local communities.
- 3. Requests for service and information are received at Area Committee on a regular basis from both members and the general public, relating to a range of services. Few enquiries can be answered immediately, with many prompting further investigation, feasibility studies and public consultation, prior to being reported back to Committee.
- 4. To keep Committee updated, a progress report is attached.

FINANCE

5. There are no immediate financial implications arising from this report.

<u>LAW</u>

- 6. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any of its functions.
- 7. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 2000 allows the Council to do anything that it considers is likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area.

EQUALITY IMPACT

13. This report is consistent with the Council's Equality and Diversity policy. There is no direct effect on children or young people.

RECOMMENDATION

14. The Committee is recommended to note the contents of this report.



Brierley Hill Area Committee Liaison Officer

Contact Officer: John Millar Telephone: 01384 814150 Email: john.millar@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

See progress report attached

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RECEIPT OF PETITIONS/YOUTH MATTERS

At the previous Area Committee, a petition was received on behalf of the young people in the Kingswinford and Wall Heath areas requesting the provision of a skate park. Committee agreed that this would be the key item for discussion by the Young People's Working Group.

Response:

The Brierley Hill Young People's Working Group comprises of the Chairman, plus one Member from each Ward in the area of the Area Committee. Democratic Services are currently making arrangements for the Working Group to meet.

In addition, the Head of Sport and Recreation will provide a verbal update to Members on the latest developments.

Issues raised by Members

In relation to Addison Road, Councillor Mrs Harris requested that a CCTV camera be sited in the vicinity of Addison Road to deter future incidents of fly tipping.

Response:

The use of CCTV cameras to monitor this type of incident currently comes under the control of the Police Authority although it may sometimes be necessary for the Council to erect a suitable pole if there is no conveniently located street lighting column in the area.

Discussions with the Police have revealed that whilst the camera equipment can be deployed to various sites with relative ease, this is a limited resource so that in terms of effectiveness and maximising the overall benefits of the equipment, they have established an order of relative priority that focuses primarily on criminal activity and anti social behaviour.

Whilst the Police accept that fly tipping could fall into either of these two categories, they also feel that there will need to be a second tier of prioritisation leading to a degree of weighting given within each type of activity area.

Therefore, against this background, the Police felt that it would not be appropriate to give specific assurances about where the camera equipment would be deployed or for what purposes but, rather that they would remain mindful of the concerns being raised and respond accordingly.