

**Central Dudley Area Committee - 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2008**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Terms of Reference and Protocol for Area Committees**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To submit the terms of reference and protocol for Area Committees.

**Background**

2. At the meeting of the Council held on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2008, Area Committees were re-appointed with the existing terms of reference and protocol retained.

**Finance**

3. There are no direct financial implications arising from this report.

**Law**

4. Sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enable the Council to appoint Committees and delegate functions to them.
5. By virtue of the Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990, the rules on proportionality regarding the allocation of seats to political groups do not apply to the Area Committees, provided the membership of the Area Committee comprises ward members from the area.

**Equality Impact**

6. The establishment of Area Committees enables the Council's decision making processes to reflect local views. Each of the Area Committees is under a duty to consult the public on Council Services, initiatives and plans, incorporating the need to ensure that minority and disadvantaged groups in the community area included within this process.

## **Recommendation**

7. The Committee is requested to accept and note the terms of reference and the protocol for Area Committees, as attached as appendices to this report.



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**Linda Sanders**  
**Area Liaison Officer**

Contact Officer: Richard Jewkes, Democratic Services  
Directorate of Law and Property - Ext. 8116  
Email: richard.jewkes@dudley.gov.uk

**List of Background Papers**