

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE – 5th JULY, 2007

REPORT OF THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA LIAISON OFFICER

MATTERS RAISED AT THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE

PURPOSE OF REPORT

1. To update Committee on a number of issues raised at the Brierley Hill Area Committee held on the 29th March 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.

LAW

6. Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on the Council as Waste Disposal Authority for its areas to provide places where its residents may deposit their household waste free of charge.
7. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
8. The Traffic Calming Act 1992 amends the Highways Act 1980 to allow works to be carried out to promote safety and to preserve or improve the environment.

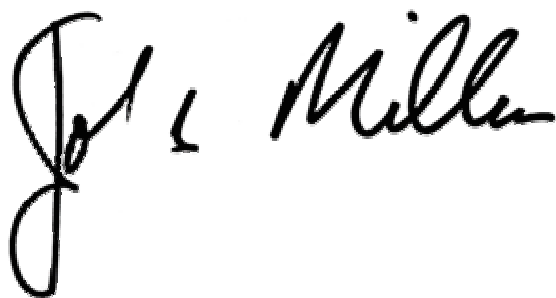
9. Section 111 of the Local Government Act 1972 authorises the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the exercise of any of its functions.

EQUALITY IMPACT

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

RECOMMENDATION

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John Millar'. The signature is stylized with a large 'J' and 'M'.

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Brierley Hill Area Committee Liaison Officer

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List of Background Papers

See progress report attached

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REPORT OF THE AREA LIAISON OFFICER

CAPITAL ALLOCATIONS

At the previous meeting, the Capital Allocations Working Group put forward proposals for consideration by the Area Committee in relation to clarifying the criteria under which applications for funding were to be considered for 2007/08. These proposals included, limiting the amount of the bid, discouraging multi applications, applications to include VAT, unless this is recoverable by the organisation concerned. Equipment where provided to be available for use by other groups and a timescale of nine months be imposed in which groups had to spend allocated monies.

Response

A comprehensive review of the application arrangements for the awarding of capital allocation has been undertaken and a revised document has been produced accordingly. Area Committee Members are asked to consider the proposals and to recommend the implementation of the revised criteria that all future applications will be assessed against.

WARD MEMBER ISSUES

- 1. Councillor Tomkinson drew attention to the issue of traffic lights at Pensnett Road and traffic at the junction of Bryce Road. The matter was referred to the Director of the Urban Environment who agreed to a written response.**

Response

The issue raised in relation to the introduction of traffic lights had been raised at a previous Area Committee meeting on the 7th December 2006 and was duly commented upon by the Director of the Urban Environment in his report to the Area Committee on the 1st February 2007.

At that time, it was reported that the Council had already identified High Street/High Oak, Pensnett as a scheme that would be suitable for implementation within the next 5 years and it had provisionally indicated that preliminary design works could be started during the 2007/2008 financial year, with detailed design and construction works following in succeeding financial years.

- 2. Councillor Mrs Harris drew attention to litter and fly tipping problems on land at Addison Road, Hawbush Road, Cooper Avenue and Swan Lane. It was agreed that the Director of the Urban Environment would arrange a clean up of the areas and that the enforcement officers would undertake investigations as to tracing the culprits.**

Response

The areas identified by Cllr Harris were cleaned of all litter and fly tipping as requested. Despite detailed investigations being carried out, DUE's Enforcement Officers were unable to establish any names, addresses, contact details, etc. that may have resulted in further action being taken.