AGENDA ITEM NO.10

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

<u>CENTRAL DUDLEY AREA COMMITTEE - 8TH FEBRUARY 2005</u>

REPORT OF THE AREA LIAISON OFFICER

RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS

1.0 PURPOSE

1.1 To inform the Committee of the written responses made to questions asked at previous meetings.

2.0 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 At the meeting of this Committee held on 4th November 2004 it was indicated that written replies would be sent to the questioners concerned. The responses are as indicated.
- 2.2 In response to a question by a member of the public, regarding the implications of the Disability Discrimination Act on the Council in respect of buildings owned by the Council, the Director of Law and Property has written to the questioner, advising on the Council's Disability Access Strategy and Disability Access Improvement Action Plan. He advised that the development of the Council's Customer Access to Services Centres would be fully compliant with the Disability Discrimination Act, and Would enable public access to a wide range of Council services.
- 2.3 In response to a query from a member of the public, regarding the possible reduction in Police Community Support Officers (PCSO) for Dudley, the Local Authority Liaison Officer has written to the questioner, advising that he is not aware of any intention to reduce the number of Police Community Support Officers in Dudley at the present time. It is hoped that funding for the P.C.S.O.s will continue beyond 2006 and that further additional Officers will be appointed as part of the Home Secretary's increase of 2000 for the Country. The Deployment of these officers is a matter for the police, who have not advised of any plans to move the officers currently patrolling the Kates Hill area.

3.0 PROPOSAL

3.1 That the Committee notes the contents of this report.

4.0 <u>FINANCE</u>

4.1 There are no direct financial consequences arising from this report.

5.0 <u>LAW</u>

5.1 Section 111 of the Local Government Act, 1972 enables the Council to do anything that is calculated to facilitate or is conducive or incidental to the discharge of its functions.

6.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

6.1 The report takes into account the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy.

7.0 <u>RECOMMENDATION</u>

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

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

Pink questionnaire slips handed in at the meeting of the Area Committee Written responses sent by the appropriate Directorates.

Vind Sandes

LINDA SANDERS

AREA LIAISON OFFICER

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