

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

HALESOWEN AREA COMMITTEE – 30TH MARCH 2005

REPORT OF THE AREA LIAISON OFFICER

**RESPONSES TO QUESTIONS RAISED AT THE HALESOWEN AREA COMMITTEE
HELD ON 2ND FEBRUARY 2005**

1.0 PURPOSE

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

2.0 BACKGROUND

2.1 At the meeting of this Committee held on 2nd February 2005 questions were raised under the Public Forum item and the responses to those questions are as follows:-

2.2 A resident queried the position on a petition that had been submitted in October 2002 from residents of Butchers Lane in relation to whether spare land in the road could be allocated to the use of car parking space. The Head of Policy (Executive and Support) advised that a feasibility study, would need to be undertaken at a cost of £10,000, which was a cost that had not been budgeted for. However, since that meeting finance had been earmarked and a report would be submitted to a future meeting.

2.3 A written question had been submitted to the meeting expressing concerns and highlighting consequences that would arise from the proposed changes within the West Midlands Fire Service plan, which was to cut the number of fire engines available between midnight and 8am from 62 to 47. Concern was also expressed at the possibility that Halesowen Fire Station would be closing to merge with Cradley Heath and it was requested that these proposals should be rejected. The matter has been included as an agenda item to this meeting.

2.4 Concern was expressed in relation to the planning application for Tesco store on the Samson and Lion site and the impact that the road widening would have on the existing car parking provision for shops along Stourbridge Road. It was also queried why permission for the ATM had not been applied for at the same time as the planning application. The Head of Policy (Executive and Support) advised that the ATM application would be considered at the Development Control Committee meeting on 14th February, 2005 and undertook to report direct to the questioner on the other issues raised.

3.0 PROPOSAL

3.1 That the Committee notes the contents of the report.

4.0 FINANCE

4.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

5.0 LAW

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 RECOMMENDATION

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



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AREA LIAISON OFFICER

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