

Stourbridge Area Committee

3rd September 2008

Report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services

Community Renewal Service

Purpose of Report

1. To confirm arrangements for a Working Party for the Area Committee to conclude a Local Community Renewal Plan for the Stourbridge Area Committee area.

Background

2. An up-date Report on the Community Renewal Service was received at the last Stourbridge Area Committee meeting. It reminded Members of the decision of the Cabinet in their report on the Neighbourhood Management Service of 31st October 2007 to move the Community Renewal Service to the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services (DACHS.)
3. The Area Committee were also reminded that they have a Community Renewal Officer allocated to the Stourbridge area, Tremaine Herbert and since the last Area Committee meeting, Mrs Herbert has met with the Chair of the Area Committee to discuss her work for the area.
4. A Terms of Reference for the proposed Working Party have been developed and are attached as Appendix 1. They are recommended for the Area Committee's use to ensure appropriate involvement.
5. All Area Committees have now considered an appropriate version of that Report with a draft Plan for the consideration of Members and a number of Working Parties have been set up.

Finance

6. The draft Local Community Plan identifies work which is being undertaken through mainstream or other budget source. The Community Renewal Plan will seek to maximise the benefit derived by local communities from the investment in all public services in those areas as well as the activity of local community and voluntary sector or the business sector.

Law

7. The Local Government Act 2000 placed a duty on local authorities to establish a local strategic partnership to address collaborative working and develop a community strategy and local neighbourhood renewal strategy. Neighbourhood management is part of that approach.

Section 2 of the Local Government Act 1980 enables the Council to do anything which is likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic, social and environmental well being of the area.

Equality Impact

8. Community and civic renewal is a responsibility for all in helping to make our communities stronger with effective services. The consideration of a Local Community Renewal Plan is aimed at assisting this process.

Recommendations

9. It is recommended that the Stourbridge Area Committee agree to establish a Working Party to consider a draft Local Community Renewal Plan.



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**DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
STOURBRIDGE AREA COMMITTEE**

**AREA COMMUNITY RENEWAL PLAN WORKING GROUP
TERMS OF REFERENCE – DRAFT, June 2008**

1.0 General

- 1.1 The Council's Constitution (para 10.2) allows Area Committees to develop local Community Plans for their areas.
- 1.2 At their meeting of 31st October, the Cabinet directed that greater involvement of Area Committees with the Community Renewal Service in the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services be secured.
- 1.3 The Community Renewal Service will work with the Committee in the development of its Plan.
- 1.4 The Community Renewal Service will keep the Working Group informed about the work of the Community Renewal Steering Group where there is also Member representation and ensure appropriate linkage.
- 1.5 Community Renewal is a responsibility shared by all within and Beyond the Council to improve the lives of people within the Area Committee area as part of Dudley Borough.

2.0 Specific

- 2.1 Membership
 - 2.1.1 The Area Committee will appoint one representative per Ward except for Wards with representatives from more than one political group where the minority party will also attend the Working Group.
 - 2.1.2 To ensure involvement of partners who are active within the Area Committee area, the Area Committee may invite the assistance of others concerned with their local area in considering their Local Community Plan.
- 2.2 Number of meetings – The Working Group will meet up to four times In the course of the municipal year if needed to complete their consideration of the draft Area Community Renewal Plan. The Group may meet more often if needed subject to the agreement of the Working Group.
- 2.3 Working Group activity –
 - 2.3.1 The Working Group will consider the draft Area Community Renewal Plan which has been produced by the Community Renewal Team

And make changes or additions as needed within the broad framework of the draft Plan.

2.3.2 The Local Community Renewal Plan will need to take into account And cohere with the overall Council Plan and the Dudley Community Plan.

2.4 Outcome: A final Plan will be brought to the Area Committee within The course of the municipal year.