

DUDLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE – 25TH MARCH, 2010

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 4th February Brierley Hill Area Committee 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. Anti-Social Behaviour Orders are largely governed by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.
7. Provisions relating to Highways including trees thereon are contained in the Highways Act 1980.
8. Provisions relating to the Council's Housing stock are contained in the Housing Act 1985.

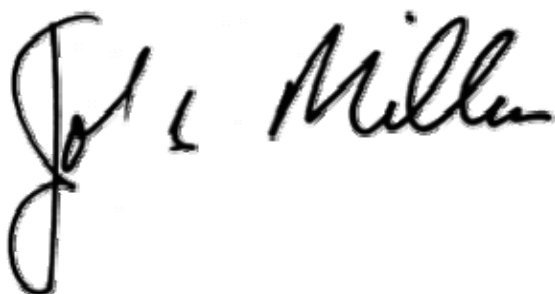
9. Section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 places a duty on the Council as Waste Disposal Authority for its areas to provide places where its residents may deposit their household waste free of charge.
10. Traffic Regulation Orders are made under Section 1 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.
11. 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.
12. 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.
13. Section 2 of the Local Government Act 1972 allows the Council to do anything that it considers is likely to promote or improve the economic, social or environmental wellbeing of its area.

EQUALITY IMPACT

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

RECOMMENDATION

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



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Brierley Hill Area Committee Liaison Officer

Contact Officer: John Millar
Telephone: 01384 814150
Email: john.millar@dudley.gov.uk

Background Papers:

Area Liaison Officer's Report

BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE – 25TH MARCH 2010
AREA LIAISON OFFICER'S REPORT

MATTERS RAISED AT THE BRIERLEY HILL AREA COMMITTEE ON
4TH FEBRUARY 2010

PUBLIC FORUM

Minute 66(b)

A written question in relation to parking problems and proposals for a one-way traffic system in Victoria Street, Bent Street and John Street, Brierley Hill, problems with signage being covered and uncovered and lack of notification prior to the system being implemented.

Response:

Although Traffic Regulation Orders have been progressed, engineers have become increasingly frustrated by the delay caused by Central Networks connecting the electrical supply, something that falls outside the Council's control. This has resulted in the signs being bagged over. Unfortunately, a series of mischievous acts has led to the signs being uncovered meaning that they have to be frequently re-bagged.

However, owing to recent changes in regulations, we can now go to alternative suppliers for electrical connections. An order has now been placed with the contractor and pressure is being put upon them for an early connection date.

It is proposed to erect information signs on John Street a week before the one way system comes into force. The arrangement should also ease the parking related problems on Bent Street and Victoria Street as there will be no opposing vehicles to meet and no need for passing spaces to be kept.

Minute 66(c)

A member of the public referred to a petition that had been submitted to the previous meeting of the Committee requesting the closure of the pathway leading from Kilburn Drive to Holbeache Lane and Oak Lane requesting confirmation of the criteria that should be satisfied for such closures, making reference to residents suffering incidents of anti social behaviour and arson.

The Section Engineer advised that there had to be support for closure of the path from the Police and the local Police Crime Reduction Officer had indicated he could not support a gating order.

Inspector Bradbury confirmed that he would liaise with his colleague Inspector Quiney and request him to contact the questioner.

Response:

A meeting between Council officers and representatives from the Police has been arranged to discuss the issue. A verbal update will be provided to Area Committee by the Area Liaison Officer.

WARD ISSUES

Minute 72 (d)

Councillor Ms Harris referred to persistent problems with stray horses within the Brockmoor, Kingswinford and Wall Heath areas and requested that a report be presented to a future meeting of the Area Committee as to the course of action the Council would adopt and any action they could take to deal with stray horses together with their advice to the public, who encountered such problems.

Response

As requested, a report is being presented to Area Committee on the 25th March.

ENDS