

**Halesowen Area Committee – 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011**

**Appointment of Working Groups**

**Report of the Area Liaison Officer**

**Purpose of Report**

1. To consider the appointment and reappointment of Working Groups of the Committee for the 2011/12 Municipal Year.

**Background**

2. During the previous Municipal Year, the Area Committee appointed the following Working Groups:-
  - Halesowen Area Committee (Halesowen Town Centre Development) Working Group to steer the consultation exercise. The remit of the Working Group was extended to cover wider progress on the re-development of the town centre.

Details of previous Membership and the proposed Terms of Reference of the Working Group are given below:-

**Previous Membership**

Previous membership of the Working Group consisted of the Chairman of the Area Committee and one Member from each Ward namely Councillors James (Chairman) Mrs Faulkner, Ms Partridge, Taylor and K Turner.

**Proposed Terms of Reference**

The proposed terms of reference of the Working Group are as follows:-

- To receive regular progress reports from Officers detailing regeneration and transportation activity (including the Area Action Plan currently under preparation) taking place in the Town Centre
- Identify and resolve any constraints to progress on action
- Guide public relations and communication issues
- To report recommendations and findings to the Area Committee on a regular basis.

- Halesowen Area Committee (Cradley/Windmill Hill Regeneration Plan Delivery) Working Group. Details of previous Membership and the proposed Terms of Reference of the Working Group are given below:-

### **Previous Membership**

Membership of the Working Group consisted of one Member from each of the affected Wards namely, Belle Vale, Cradley and Wollescote and Hayley Green and Cradley South Wards and the Chairman of the Area Committee. The three Members that were nominated from those particular Wards were Councillors Mrs Dunn, Ms Partridge and K Turner and James as Chairman of the Halesowen Area Committee.

The co-option to the Working Group of Mr Kevin Powis, a local resident of Cradley, as a speaking but non-voting member was also approved.

### **Terms of Reference**

The terms of reference of the Working Group were agreed as follows:

- Receive regular progress reports from the Local Centres Officer
  - To agree priorities for action
  - Identify and resolve any constraints to plan progress
  - Guide public relations and communications for the plan
  - Report progress to the Committee on a regular basis
  - To review the regeneration plan annually.
- Halesowen Area Committee (Community Renewal) Working Group. Following the closure of the Community Renewal Service in the Directorate of Adult, Community and Housing Services and in line with other Area Committees, it is proposed that relevant issues be taken-up through reports to the main Area Committee as needed rather than through a Working Group which can no longer be resourced.

### **Finance**

3. Any costs arising from the appointment of Working Groups will be met from existing resources.

### **Law**

4. Since Working Groups do not have the status of formal Committees, the rules of proportionality which relate to seats on Committees under Section 18 of the Local Government and Housing Act, 1989 and the

Local Government (Committees and Political Groups) Regulations, 1990 are not applicable.

### **Equality Impact**

5. This report complies fully with the Council's policies on equality and diversity.

### **Recommendation**

6. That the Committee considers the re-appointment of Working Groups for 2011/12 and determines the composition and membership.
7. That the appropriate Lead Officer for individual Working Groups that are re-appointed be requested to submit regular written reports to the Committee.



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### **List of Background Papers**

Halesowen Area Committee Minutes – 7<sup>th</sup> July 2010