

Select Committee on Community Safety and Community Services

Report of the Assistant Director of Children's Services

Introduction to the Work of the Committee

Purpose of Report

1. This report discusses the work of the Select Committee for the coming year taking into account the full range of the Committee's responsibilities as determined within the Council's Constitution.

Background

2. As the newly appointed Officer for the Select Committee, I undertook an induction on the Constitution of the Council; particularly in respect of this Select Committee.
3. Previously the Committee has tended to focus on Community Safety and Crime and Disorder aspects for its agenda. However, the Constitution clearly states in the terms of reference for this Committee that it should – 'fulfil all of the overview and scrutiny functions of a Select Committee as they relate to:-
 - (a) the crime and disorder functions of the Council under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, or any other relevant legislation;
 - (b) all other community safety issues affecting the Borough or any part of it; and
 - (c) the functions of the Council relating to social inclusion, community development, neighbourhood management and Dudley Council Plus.
4. The Committee should, therefore, consider within its programme of work aspects which reflect all areas listed from (a) to (c) above in order to fulfil its terms of reference. A suggested work programme is included further on within this agenda. Alongside this there are some

changes taking place nationally around the Crime and Disorder agenda and new guidance is being developed. The next agenda item introduces the committee to this area of work.

Finance

5. There are no financial implications to this report.

Law

6. The Constitution of the Council was first adopted by the Council on 29 April 2002 with the latest amendments approved on 17 January 2007.

Equality Impact

7. this report has no direct impact on equality and diversity, and Members should be mindful that all aspect of equality and diversity should be considered within each area of work as it is reported and discussed by this Committee

Recommendation

8. It is recommended that:-
 - The Select Committee reflects on their full terms of reference and is mindful of the wider remit for overview and scrutiny which it needs to fulfil over the term of this Committee.



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List of Background Papers

Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council Constitution.