

North Dudley Area Committee – 20th September 2006
Report of the Area Liaison Officer
Responses to Questions Raised at Previous Meetings

PURPOSE

1. To report to the Committee on the current status of responses to questions posed at previous meetings of the Committee.

BACKGROUND

2. The revised Protocol for Area Committees provides for a report to be submitted to each Area Committee reporting the current position with regard to questions raised by members of the public and Councillors at previous meetings of the Area Committee.

FINANCE

3. There are no direct financial implications at this stage.

LAW

4. Section 111 Local Government Act 1972 enables the Council to do anything which is calculated to facilitate or is conducive, or incidental, to the discharge of its statutory functions.

EQUALITY IMPACT

5. The proposals take into account the Council's equal opportunities policies.

RECOMMENDATION

6. That the Committee note the report and the appendix to the report.



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Area Liaison Officer

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List of Background Papers (see appendices)

Update of Issues Raised at the Meeting Held on 23 March 2006

Public Forum

A member of the public submitted a written question regarding a blocked drain at the junction of Dimmocks Avenue/Pemberton Road/Bradleys Lane causing flooding to the road and footpath.

This gully was last cleansed on 7 April 2006 and when visited on 15 May 2006 the gully was found to be clear. However, due to its location and the fact that the area has a number of street trees that regularly deposit leaves,

the amount of surface water it takes in periods of heavy rain plus the capacity, or lack of Sewer, there are times that flooding takes place. This is caused by various reasons.

- **Non-seasonal rainfall is more likely to result in “flash floods”.**
- **A need to increase the capacity of surface water systems as new developments are built which are discharging surface water into outdated systems.**
- **Many householders have replaced their front gardens with block paved drives, thus removing the natural soak away scenario and forcing additional amounts of water onto the highway drainage systems.**

Ward Issues

Councillor Stanley asked for priority to be given to the supply and erection of fencing for Cotwall End Nature Reserve to prevent mini-motorbikes breaking through and vandalism being perpetrated.

In order to secure the site from mini-motorbikes would require a level of security fencing being installed around the entire site that at present is unaffordable. Furthermore there would be a precedent set that all other open space sites would want similar provision of fencing and it would be unrealistic to think that resources of the level required to deliver this would be likely to be available.