

WARDS AFFECTED:
ASPLEY, BILBOROUGH, LEEN VALLEY

West Area Committee
15th November 2006

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

AREA COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. SUMMARY

This report provides Members with an update on the development of Area Committee Terms of Reference.

2. RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that members note the significant progress made on the development of the Terms of Reference.

3. BACKGROUND

The revised Area Committee Terms of Reference (TOR) were approved at Executive Board meeting of 16th September 2003 and at the West Area Committee meeting of 9th June 2004 and the Area Chairs Panel of 15th April 2004 were consulted. The TOR outlined the enhanced role and purpose of Area Committees.

4. PROPOSALS

This report provides Members with an update on the progress made in meeting the TOR. It is proposed that the Area Committee note that, whilst not complete, there has been significant progress made in the development and implementation of the TOR as detailed in Appendix A.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no direct financial implications associated with the recommendation contained in of this report.

6. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None

7. OBSERVATIONS OF OTHER OFFICERS

The TOR helps the Area Committee to deliver on all 5 strategic themes.

8. EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

The role of Area Committees as specified within the Terms of Reference is to overcome inequalities and address the impact of poverty and deprivation upon local communities.

9. CONSULTATIONS

The Terms of reference were agreed through consultation with Members, Nottingham City Council Services and our External Partners.

10. STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

This report will contribute to the following:-

- Knowledge of Communities
- Active Citizenship and Engagement
- Successful Partnerships
- Effective Governance
- Performance Improvement

11. CRIME AND DISORDER ACT IMPLICATIONS

See section 7 Appendix 1

12. VALUE FOR MONEY

The TOR helps the Area Committee to demonstrate value for money and the principles of Best Value.

13. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

None

14. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services – Executive Board Terms of Reference for Area Committees – 16th September 2003.

Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services – Area Chairs Panel – Terms of Reference for Area Committees - 15th April 2004.

Report of the Corporate Director of Neighbourhood Services – West Area Committee – 9th June 2004

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18th October 2006

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AREA COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Appendix 1

Terms of Reference	Progress/Actions to date
1. To approve, ensure the delivery of and monitor neighbourhood action plans and other relevant area plans.	The Local Community Plan is an item on this agenda for discussion and agreement.
2. To lead and co-ordinate regeneration and renewal activity at an area level.	Report on area projects to every meeting detailing spend and progress.
3. To undertake and co-ordinate consultation within their areas.	Area Committee, via the Neighbourhood Management Team, co-ordinates events. i.e. Councillor Café in October 2006, Community Consultation in November 2006 and a variety of local public meetings and working groups.
4. Within budgetary limits, to be empowered to undertake any measures to achieve the following objectives: - a. The promotion or improvement of the economic well being of their area; b. The promotion or improvement of the social well being of their area; c. The promotion or improvement of the environmental well being of their area.	Area Committee approves spending on all projects. The range of projects funded via the Area Committee includes additional lighting, fencing, planting, reducing ASB and youth outreach work.
5. To agree priorities and work programmes and variations in performance standards, including through Neighbourhood Renewal processes, in respect of the following services: - Footpaths replacement. Street lighting. Patch maintenance.	Contributed to the provision of Area Capital spend. Carried out Chair's walkabouts across 3 wards.

<p>Grounds maintenance on community parks and playgrounds (excluding heritage sites and Bulwell Hall and Bulwell Forest Golf Courses).</p>	
<p>6. In respect of services in the local area, and if urgent, via a panel of the Chair, Vice-Chair, an opposition member (if there is one) and a community representative, to approve: -</p> <p>Housing environmental improvements.</p> <p>Highway environmental improvements of a local nature.</p> <p>Minor traffic schemes, diversions and closures under Highways and road traffic legislation, of a local nature.</p> <p>Applications for footpath closures on grounds of amenity or development.</p> <p>and to be consulted on proposals for the following services in relation to the local area:-Licensing applications. Strategic planning applications.</p> <p>Schools re-organisation.</p> <p>Detailed proposals for landscaping, open space provision and other local enhancements relating to agreements under section 106 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and section 278 of the Highways Act 1980.</p>	<p>More work needed here. NM to meet with Head of Landlord Operations. (ALMO)</p> <p>Work on Bracebridge Drive, Aspley Lane, and Broxtowe Lane.</p> <p>Supported the installation of pedestrian crossings across the west area to reduce accidents and improve road safety.</p> <p>Not arisen.</p> <p>More work to be done in this area and clarification of Area Committee role sought.</p> <p>Area Committee participated in the development of a number of new schools and initiatives.</p> <p>Not arisen.</p>
<p>7. To be part of the process for monitoring and scrutinising</p>	

<p>the performance of local services (provided by the Council and other bodies) and provide feedback and recommendations on their effectiveness to the Executive Board and the Advice and Scrutiny Committee, to include: -</p> <p>Refuse collection.</p> <p>Housing void properties.</p> <p>Community Safety.</p> <p>Voluntary sector grants a half yearly report.</p>	<p>Local issues highlighted by Community Representatives of Area Committee. More work required on the scrutiny role.</p> <p>Local issues highlighted by Community Representatives of Area Committee. More work required on the scrutiny role.</p> <p>Local issues highlighted by Community Representatives of Area Committee. More work required on the scrutiny role.</p> <p>More work needed here. NM to meet with Alan Hose.</p>
<p>8. To contribute to Best Value Reviews.</p>	<p>No longer relevant.</p>
<p>9. To advise the Executive Board and Advice and Scrutiny Committee on local needs and priorities and on the impact of Council policy on their areas.</p>	<p>Not arisen</p>
<p>10. To input local needs and priorities identified through area working, to the preparation of corporate budgets, policies and strategies.</p>	<p>The Area Committee (which has a number of Community Representatives) and the themed Working Groups work closely with the local community to identify needs and priorities.</p>
<p>11. To prepare, implement and review local projects in consultation with local communities and secure funding from appropriate sources.</p>	<p>The Area Committee prepares/considers implements and reviews local projects at every meeting.</p>
<p>12. To build partnerships between other public, private, voluntary and community organisations and local residents'</p>	<p>Membership of the Area Committee is broad and inclusive. The work of the Area Committee has seen it working with</p>

and tenants' associations.	public, private, voluntary and community organisations for the benefit of local people.
13. To suggest and/or approve proposals of local significance to rationalise the City Council's operational property holdings and to be consulted on any proposals to dispose of operational property holdings in their area of more than local significance; a proportion of capital receipts to be retained in accordance with a scheme to be determined by the Executive Board.	More work needed here. NM to meet with Services Director (Programmes & Project Finance).
14. To allocate grants in amounts not exceeding £5000 to community or voluntary organisations for purposes of benefit to the area covered by the committee, within a framework to be approved and reviewed from time to time by the Executive Board.	Area Committee does fund local community and voluntary organisations, However more work need on defining the criteria and ensuring a common approach.
15. To make appointments to outside bodies (where the body relates to the area concerned) as specified by the Executive Board.	Various partnerships and groups notably work with Local Community Court.
16. To approve any further matters delegated from time to time by Council or the Executive Board.	Not arisen.