

# **BRIEFING NOTE**

**TO: NEIGHBOURHOODS SCRUTINY AND PERFORMANCE PANEL**  
**DATE: 27 MARCH 2008**

**RE: UPDATE ON COMMUNITY CALL FOR ACTION AND WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUPS**

## **Purpose**

To consider progress to date with the Community Call for Action and Waste Management Working Groups established by the Neighbourhoods Scrutiny and Performance Panel.

## **Community Call for Action Working Group**

The panel appointed a working group to prepare for the introduction of the 'community call for action' that was featured in both the Police and Justice Act 2006 (P&J Act 2006) and Local Government Public Involvement in Health Act 2007 (LGPIH Act 2007) (previously featured in the Local Government White Paper 'Strong and Prosperous Communities').

The working group heard now the two call for actions had important differences. The call for action featured in the P&J Act 2006 placed the power for the call for the action in local people as a: 'Community Call for Action'. The call for action featured in the LGPIH Act 2007 placed the power for a call for action in local Members as a: 'Councillor Call for Action'. During reading in the House of Lords the call for action in the P&J Act was amended to be the same as that featured in the LGPIH Act 2007. Therefore both call for actions are now 'Councillor Call for Action's'.

The working group recently participated in a consultation being operated by the Department for Communities and Local Government on 'Calls for Action'. A report on the consultation is due on or before 12 June 2008.

It is proposed the working groups continues in the new municipal year to review the results of the government consultation and complete its initial terms of reference in the development of local guidelines for dealing with calls for action in Walsall.

## **Waste Management Working Group**

The working group has held two meetings since it was established by the Panel at its meeting on 2 August 2007. At its first meeting the working group considered the outcome of the waste management consultation and made a series of recommendations to Cabinet. These recommendations were considered by the Panel at its meeting on 4 October 2007.

More recently the working group has considered the draft waste implementation plan which has recently been considered by Cabinet.

It is proposed that the working group continues in the new municipal year to review revised policies and procedures before they are approved for introduction as part of the implementation plan.

## **Recommendations**

**That:**

**a) progress to date on the Community Call for Action and Waste Management Working Groups be noted;**

**and;**

**b) the Community Call for Action and Waste Management Working Groups be continued in the next municipal year.**

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