



# A secure future for Neighbourhood Resource Centres

Regeneration Scrutiny Panel  
18<sup>th</sup> March 2005

Cllr Adrian Andrew, Cabinet Member for Regeneration  
Jason MacGilp, Assistant Director, Community Regeneration & Housing  
Julie Ball, Head of Neighbourhood Partnerships



# What is report seeking to achieve?

- To put all NRCs on a sound business footing and help secure their long term future
- To enable NRCs to continue to support neighbourhoods and increase activities to support the Council's objectives and meet the needs of the communities.
- To reassure and build confidence with the funders (Advantage West Midlands & Government Office)
- To give NRCs the stability and security of a lease with the Council
- To enable them to seek additional external funding
- To ensure that funds are available to maintain the buildings



# Recommendations in the report

- A Sustainability plan for all NRCs to be submitted to Government Office and Advantage West Midlands
- Relevant LNPs to receive review reports on activities as part of ongoing review of their Neighbourhood Plans – to help join up community based activity
- Standard leases to be agreed with all NRCs (50% discount of market valuation, plus 10% for repairs)
- Cash to be reinvested to ensure the condition of the buildings is maintained
- Preferred option for each NRC following consultation and based on its own circumstances



# Consultation with NRCs

- Visits to all NRCs in October and November 2004 to gather information and assess current arrangements and future plans
- Meetings with Centre Managers and Committee members, followed up by telephone calls
- Offer of support, through Business Link, for help with Business Plans
- Update reports to SRB Partnership Board
- Clear that leases were the key to a secure future as part of new business plans

# Recommendations (continued)

- Brownhills – continue negotiations with Primary Care Trust. Work on site expected mid-2005
- Goscote
  - Linked management arrangements with North Walsall and Ryecroft/Coalpool, including new business plan;
  - new governance arrangements with new consultative forum
  - Link to Goscote Study and WHG regeneration plans
  - Explore options for new services, facilities and activities
  - Needs to be more outward looking to secure long term future

# Recommendations (continued)

- Harden

- closed due to vandalism. Consider using possible capital receipts to link with LNP as part of regeneration plans with WHG

- Moxley

- a new Business plan with new lease arrangements in place

# Recommendations (continued)

## ■ North Walsall

- Linked management and governance arrangements with Goscote and Ryecroft/Coalpool
- Formalise arrangements with statutory agencies on drugs and crime issues
- a new Business Plan with new lease arrangements

# Recommendations (continued)

## ■ Ryecroft/Coalpool

- Linked management and governance arrangements with Goscote and North Walsall
- A new Business Plan with new lease arrangements



# Recommendations (continued)

- Willenhall

- A new Business Plan with new lease arrangements in place