

St Matthews Birchills Leamore Local Neighbourhood Partnership – 31st July 2006

Reselection Locally Appointed Partners

Portfolio: Safer Stronger Communities, Partnerships and Vision 2021

Service Area: Neighbourhood Services

Wards: St Matthews Ward
Birchills and Leamore Ward

1. Purpose of the Report

This report seeks to inform the Local Neighbourhood Partnership on the recent changes to the Locally Appointed Partner (LAP) selection process.

2. Recommendations

The LNP is asked to:

- (a) Note the changes in the selection process
- (b) Identify a mechanism to decide which Locally Appointed Partners are to be reselected in 2006, 2007-2008
- (c) Identify which Locally Appointed Partners are to be reselected in 2006, 2007-2008, based on the mechanism agreed by the LNP.
- (d) Note the findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment on LNP Membership

3. Background

Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership (WBSP) agreed the following recommendations from the LNP Chairs Forum:

- That the existing Locally Appointed Partners continue as representatives of the Local Neighbourhood Partnerships until October 2006 in order for a revised selection process to be introduced.
- That one third of the existing Locally Appointed Partners be reselected at the October/November Local Neighbourhood Partnership meetings. The second third should remain in office until April 2007 and the final third until April 2008. This is reflected in the revised LNP terms of Reference. Any Locally Appointed Partners who will be asked to stand down can re-apply to continue to be a representative on the Local Neighbourhood Partnership.
- That the nomination process runs from August to September 2006

- That the 2006 LNP selection panels will consist of:
 - 2 Ward Members
 - A representative from the Walsall Borough Strategic Partnership Nominated Partners
 - A representative from the remaining Local Partners
 - An independent adviser from the Community Empowerment Partnership Board

A letter has been sent out to all Locally Appointed Partners informing them of the above and asking them if they wish to continue as Locally Appointed Partner for a further one or two years.

The Selection Process will start in August 2006, when a targeted recruitment campaign will run looking to engage these communities where gaps have been identified.

4. Reselection

The decision to reselect one third of the Locally Appointed Partners each year means the Local Neighbourhood Partnership needs to consider a mechanism to decide who will be reselected in each of the first three years. (2006-2007-2008)

St Matthews Birchills Leamore Local Neighbourhood Partnership currently has no vacancies. This means that 3 Locally Appointed Partner will need to stand down from their duties as Local Neighbourhood Partner in 2006. The LNP is asked to agree a mechanism to determine who will be asked to stand down in 2006, 2007 and in 2008.

Suggested mechanisms to determine which Locally Appointed Partners will be asked to stand down for reselection in 2006 and 2007, include:

- Request volunteers to step down from their duties as Locally Appointed Partners.
- Attendance rate at LNP meetings of Locally Appointed Partners over the previous year.
- The amount of groups Locally Appointed Partners are accountable to.
- Draw a name from the hat.

Once a mechanism is agreed by the LNP, the LNP is asked to use this mechanism to help decide which Locally Appointed Partners will be asked to stand down in 2006, 2007 and 2008.

6. Equality Impact Assessment

An Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out on the Membership of all Local Neighbourhood Partnerships, considering how strongly the LNP

membership represents the community. Attached are the findings of the Equalities Impact Assessment for the St Matthews Birchills Leamore Neighbourhood Partnership Area.

The selection panel will be asked to take the Equalities Impact Assessment in consideration when they are selecting the new Locally Appointed Partners.

Local Neighbourhood Partnership members are asked to promote the benefits of being a member of the Local Neighbourhood Partnership to representatives of the communities currently not reflected in the membership of the LNP.

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