

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 8.40 pm

WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE 1 FEBRUARY 2005

Present: Representing Derby City Council

Councillor Fay Winter (Chair)
Councillor Ann Jackman
Councillor Anne MacDonald

Council Officers

Martin Follows	- Project Manager, Street Care and Waste Management
Sue Glithero	- Director of Policy
Mahroof Hussain	- Overview & Scrutiny Coordination Officer
Craig Scott	- Environmental Projects Officer
Isabella Stone	- Assistant Director – Community Policy
Rita Sylvester	- Acting Assistant Director – Education
Pam Thompson	- Consultation Support Officer
Carolyn Wright	- Head of Accountancy

Community Representatives

Kulvinder Bola	Ramak Group
Susan Boon	Osmaston Community Panel
Shabana Hussain	Humhari Manzil
Nasreen Iqbal	Individual
Naranjan Lalria	Individual
Angela Neill	Individual
Irene Shiels	Individual

37/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Gupta and Latham, Arshiq Iqbal, Shirley Howard and Dr Chandra Sayal.

38/04 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

39/04 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

40/04 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 7 December 2004 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

41/04 Review of Special Educational Needs Development Plan 2003/2004

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Education on the review of the Special Educational Needs Development Plan 2003/2004. Rita Sylvester – Acting Assistant Director, Education, gave a brief presentation supporting the report.

Resolved to note the report.

42/04 The Council's Revised Environmental Policy

The Commission received a verbal update from Craig Scott, Environmental Projects Officer, giving details of the progress on the implementation of the revised environmental policy. Craig advised that the team had been consulting since summer 2004. They had been to all the Advisory Committees and various groups throughout the city. They had been pleased with the comments received from people who had filled in the feedback form. This had helped to create a positive and informative document. They had tried to remove some of the jargon contained in the previous policy and had now included a glossary. There were also references to other publications included at the back. The finished policy would be posted on the Council's website. The revised policy would go to Council Cabinet on 15 March 2005 for approval.

Resolved to note the progress

43/04 Review of Hospital Parking Charges

The Commission received an update from Mahroof Hussain – Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer, on the Social Care and Health Commission's review of Hospital car parking charges. Mahroof advised that a total of 349 patients and visitors were interviewed at the DRI and City Hospitals. Derby Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust had advised that surplus profits from the car parks were sometimes used for medicines and hospital equipment. The Commission disagreed in principle with charging patients for visits to the hospital and recommended that the income from parking charges should not be used to support other NHS services. The commission also identified that the hospital offered concessionary passes to visitors and patients, but these were not widely publicised. One of the recommendations from the Commission was to ensure that this service was advertised sufficiently. The Commission made a total of 15 recommendations to the PCTs. The final report had been sent to the Trust who would have 28 days to respond with their views on the recommendations and what they propose to do about them with reasons. Councillor Winter commented that this was a good, interesting document.

Resolved to note the report.

44/04 Role of Advisory Committees in Health Scrutiny

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Corporate Services on the potential role of Advisory Committees in supporting the Social Care and Health Commissions health scrutiny functions. Mahroof Hussain – Overview and Scrutiny Coordination Officer, advised the Committee that the Health & Social Care Act 2001 gave local authorities with Social Services additional power to scrutinise the National Health Services. This responsibility rested with the Social Care and Health Overview and Scrutiny Commission. The new powers enabled the Commission to review and scrutinise any matter relating to the planning, provision and operation of health services within the city. The Advisory Committees could assist the Commission with identifying appropriate groups for further consultation on topic reviews. They could also help by disseminating information to their respective communities on the topic selected by the Commission. The responsibility for selecting topics and setting work programmes lay with the Commission. The Advisory Committees could support the Health Scrutiny function by identifying health issues within their respective communities and presenting them to the Social Care Commission for its consideration. This would make a useful addition to the suggestions of topic reviews that were submitted by other stakeholders.

Resolved to note the report.

45/04 Draft Revenue Budget 2005/6

The Committee received a presentation from Councillor Lucy Care – Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Environment and Sue Glithero, Director of Policy, on the Council's vision and priorities and the Council's Budget proposals for 2005/6.

Members asked for clarification of the schedule for the implementation of the twin bin scheme to the remainder of the city. Councillor Care advised that four new schemes were due to start in Derwent, Chaddesden, Spondon, Alvaston and Bolton wards. There would be one new round every two months. Councillor Care advised that update sheets would be sent to people already using the twin bin scheme to answer questions raised, and to areas where the scheme was about to start.

Resolved to note the report.

46/04 Street Lighting Provision within Derby – Progress Report.

The Committee considered a report of the Director of Development and Cultural Services advising of the progression of the PFI bid for streetlighting. Martin Fellows – Project Manager, Street Care and Waste Management, advised the Committee that, on 29 November 2004, the DfT announced that the Council's bid for £32.47 million of PFI credits had been approved in full. The bid proposed the replacement of 65% of the streetlighting columns in Derby over a 5-year period, improvements to service levels and maintenance of the infrastructure.

The contract would be for 25 years. The next stage of the process was to prepare the contract documentation.

Councillor Winter commented that she had recently visited Stoke with other councillors. They had a similar scheme and the lighting was excellent and sky friendly. Martin advised that he had been talking with the Derby Astronomical Society who were looking forward to the removal of the sky glow over the city. Councillor MacDonald asked if they would be only renewing lights, or would it include places without lighting. Martin asked Councillor MacDonald to advise him of any areas where lighting was needed and this would hopefully be included in the scheme.

Resolved to note the report and ask Martin Fellows to come back to a later meeting with a further update.

47/04 International Women's Day

Councillor Winter thanked Pam Thompson on behalf of the Committee for her hard work arranging the International Women's Day..

Pam Thompson asked the Committee if they would want a person to officially open the International Women's Day, such as the Mayor or someone in the Health Service.

Resolved to invite the Mayor to open International Women's Day.

48/04 Council Cabinet Forward Plan

The Committee identified the following items on the current forward plan for consideration at a future meeting.

Reference	Subject
61/04	Vision for Ageing in Derby
80/04	LPSA2 & Local Area Agreement
205/02	Grants to sports and community groups
84/04	Unadopted public open space
85/04	Governing body agreement – Authority representatives to school liaison groups and authority representatives to the Project Liaison Group.
150/03	Vision for Children's Centres
47/04	Anti-Social Behavioural Powers
5/04	Derby Cityscape Masterplan
57/04	Best Value Review of Home Care for older people.

49/04 Work Programme

Councillor Winter asked that a report on the new Liquor Licensing regime be brought to a future meeting of the committee.

50/04 Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Women's Advisory Meeting would be Tuesday 12 April 2005 at 6.30pm.

MINUTES END