

AREA PANEL 5 31 JANUARY 2007

Report of the Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

Area Panel Review Progress Report

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the Area Panel review.
- 1.2 Area Panel 5 received a report on 12 July 2006 outlining the next stage of the review of Area Panels, the pilot of Area Planning Partnerships in Area Panels 2 and 3 from September 2006.
- 1.3 It was also reported that a review would take place between November 2006 and April 2007 of the relationship between Area Planning Partnerships and Area Panels and the impact of Neighbourhood governance. This is to help inform the continued development of area and neighbourhood working.
- 1.4 Area Planning Partnerships will be reviewed in the following areas:
 - Role and function
 - Membership and Partnership working
 - Work programme
 - Community engagement
 - · Area profiles and planning
 - Monitoring and evaluation
 - Performance management
- 1.5 Following the review of Area Panels in 2005, further analysis will take place in the following areas:
 - Analysis of issues raised at area panels
 - Attendance at area panels both numerical and geographic
 - Community engagement at all levels and to what extent
 - Existing structures in the area
 - Partnership involvement
 - Terms of Reference for Area Panels
 - Problem solving methods and length of time to resolve issues
- 1.6 The views and experiences of residents, partners and stakeholders will be crucial to the process. As a result, an Open Space event will be organised. Open Space events are being utilised as they enable a diverse range of individuals, groups and organisations to contribute on an equal basis. Contributions will be gained from Councillors through the use of a focus group and survey.
- 1.7 Existing information gathered during the review in 2005 as well as the more up to date contributions from the planned events, will be used to inform the review of area planning partnerships and area panels.

1.8 Any new arrangements for Area Planning Partnerships and Area Panels arising from the review will be reported back to the area panel at a future meeting. It is anticipated that any new arrangements will be introduced in the municipal year starting May 2007.

PROPOSED ACTION

- 2.1 To note this report.
- 2.2 To provide an update on outcomes of the review to a future meeting of the Area Panel.

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Background papers: Report to Area Panel 5 on 12 July 2006.

List of appendices: