



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

AREA PANEL 5  
14 JUNE 2006

Report of Director of Community Safety Partnership

## Area Panel Review Progress Report

### SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to update on progress of the Area Panel review.
- 1.2 Area Panel 5 received a report on 1 February 2006 outlining the changes to improve area panels. Immediate changes came into effect from January 2006 including the distribution of area panel papers; format of the update report and public question time. The introduction of a Chair's report was to commence from June 2006.
- 1.3 Council approved a report on 24 May 2006 that agreed a new petitions process, removed the Area Panel Good Practice Guide from the Council's Constitution, allowed each Area Panel to elect a standing chair for the municipal year and to nominate a vice chair on a rotating basis to support the standing chair.
- 1.4 Petitions will be referred to the relevant Council Cabinet Member to determine the appropriate response to provide to the Area Panel. Reports will be in the relevant Council Cabinet Member's name. If the Area Panel is dissatisfied with the response, they may resolve to refer the petition back to the Council Cabinet Member for reconsideration. The Council Cabinet Member, in consultation with the chair of the overview and scrutiny commission, will reconsider the response. They can either confirm the original response or involve a review of policy or resource allocation by the Council Cabinet Member or the overview and scrutiny commission.
- 1.5 The Area and Neighbourhood Project Board considered the outcomes of stage 1 of the Area Panel review and the implementation of neighbourhood working in Derby. Council Cabinet approved a report titled; *'Developing the Area and Neighbourhood Agenda in Derby'* on 21 February 2006. It outlined the next stage in developing area and neighbourhood working and provides a framework for the continuing review of Area Panels. The central aim of area and neighbourhood working is ***'to empower local people in order that they can influence and where appropriate design and commission service provision in their areas and neighbourhoods'***.
- 1.6 The Cabinet and Area and Neighbourhood Project Board have agreed to pilot Area Planning Partnerships in Area Panels 2 and 3 during 2006/7. Area Panel meetings in these pilot areas will continue during this period.
- 1.7 A briefing session was held for all councillors on 20 June 2006.
- 1.8 The changes proposed for Area Panels 2 and 3 as part of the pilot in 2006/07 are:
  - a. **Forming Area Planning Partnerships**  
Bring together Councillors, partners, community organisations and local residents' representatives to develop, deliver and evaluate activities in the areas. A review of the relationship between area panels and area planning partnerships will take place by March 2007.

**b. Developing an Area Profile**

Area Planning Partnerships to develop the area profiles including baseline information, key statistical information about the area and resident views about services provided. They will form the basis for developing an Area Plan.

**c. Neighbourhood mapping**

Agreement of the boundaries for neighbourhood working within the area.

**d. Implementing a problem solving framework for issues raised at area panels**

Development of a framework to respond pro-actively to issues and priorities in the area. To focus on improving partnership working between the Council, service providers, residents, the business sector and community and voluntary groups.

**e. Implementing a community engagement policy for their area**

Improving communication and providing a framework for obtaining the views of residents, service providers, partners and community groups to influence services and strategic development, such as formalising links with Community Panels.

**f. Reviewing current service delivery - considering options for improvement**

The initial services identified are street scene services; community safety; neighbourhood policing; traffic management; enforcement procedures and children and young people's services.

**g. Recommending proposals for expenditure of Area Panel grants**

Review the funding criteria and the allocation process.

1.9 Officers will work with Councillors and partners to implement a work plan for Area Panels 2 and 3 to develop Area Planning Partnerships from September 2006.

1.10 A review of the pilot will happen between November 2006 and April 2007. This review will consider the relationship between area planning partnerships and area panels and the impact of neighbourhood governance.

<b>PROPOSED ACTION</b>
------------------------

2.1 To note the proposals to pilot changes to the operation of Area Panels 2 and 3 as a result of the Area Panel review.

<b>For more information contact:</b>	Colin Avison 01332 258500 e-mail <a href="mailto:colin.avison@derby.gov.uk">colin.avison@derby.gov.uk</a>
<b>Background papers:</b> (Available via the Council's website)	Area Panel Review 2005 - Report to Area Panels January 2006 Developing Area and Neighbourhood Working– Cabinet 21 February 2006 Constitutional Changes to Area Panels – Council 24 May 2006
<b>List of appendices:</b>	