ITEM 4b

Time commenced – 6.00pm Time finished – 8:05 pm

COMMUNITY COMMISSION 21 FEBRUARY 2007

Present: Councillor Turner (in the Chair)

Councillors Afzal, Chera, Lowe, Troup, R Khan, Samra and

Webb.

Also Present: Councillors Nath and Wynn

81/06 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rawson, Redfern and Winter.

82/06 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

83/06 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Troup declared a personal interest in minute number 85/06 as his step daughter worked for the Citizens Advice Bureau.

84/06 Call-in

No items were called-in by the Commission.

Items for Discussion

85/06 Proposed Derby Community Legal Advice Centre

The commission received a presentation from Kirsty Alldread on the proposals for a Derby Community Advice Centre.

It was noted that the aim of creating a new centre was to provide a single co-ordinated and cost effective service which focussed on people's needs and ended the present need for individuals to be referred between agencies.

It was noted that only a small number of current local providers should be affected by the proposals and they would be able to make a tender bid for future funding. The project would initially be run as a pilot and current funding arrangements would continue until March 2008 to allow for arrangements with the successful tenderer to be put in place and to give current providers support during the transition period.

The Commission noted that current home visit arrangements were likely to continue.

Councillor Nath informed the Commission that the Legal Services Commission (LSC) had made it clear that provision of the new service had to be through open tender. He said that the LSC had stated that they will not be funding Legal Services in the future in the same way as they do currently and that by becoming involved in the pilot project, Derby City Council would be well positioned to ensure that vulnerable people would receive assistance in the future.

The timetable for the changes was noted.

Resolved to endorse the proposed community advice centre but this be subject to detailed transitional arrangements being worked up for success or failure of a tender bid by the main local providers.

86/06 Draft Report by the Commission entitled 'Affordable Housing, Housing Sustainable Communities'

The Commission reviewed the final draft of their report on the Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Guidance.

Councillors Nath and Wynn suggested a number of alterations to the report. The Commission then deliberated and agreed the changes which are detailed below.

Resolved to

- 1. Make amendments to paragraphs 3, 10, 21 and Box 5, add new paragraphs 22 and 24, renumber subsequent paragraphs; add new paragraphs 31 to 33 and rework recommendation A in Appendix 1
- 2. receive quarterly data about actual affordable housing completions from Housing Strategy and the yearly data on all house completions from Plans and Policies
- 3. receive quarterly estimates from Plans and Policies.

87/06 Response of the Cabinet Member for Community safety and E-Government

The Commission received a draft minute extract from a meeting of the Individual Cabinet Member for Community Safety and E-Government on 16 February 2007 regarding Section 30 Orders and Alcohol Free Zones. The three recommendations made by the Commission had not been accepted.

The Cabinet Member was satisfied with the current arrangements regarding the reinstatement of Section 30 Orders which were described as robust. Councillor Webb expressed disappointment at the Cabinet Members decision as he felt the arrangements to reinstate Section 30 Orders were too robust. He said that if an order was allowed to elapse, the administrative process had to start from scratch and the process was bureaucratic.

Resolved to refer the decision on recommendation 3 back to the Council Cabinet Member's next meeting highlighting that the Commission felt the current procedures were too robust and legislative change be sought to enable fast track reinstatement when warranted.

Council Cabinet Forward Plan

88/06 Identification of items on the Forward Plan for consideration at future meetings.

There were no new items.

MINUTES END