



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 23 MARCH 2004 AT 6.30 PM

**AT THE COUNCIL HOUSE,
DERWENT STREET ENTRANCE**

P R E A G E N D A
TO BE HELD AT 6.00PM ON
TUESDAY 2 MARCH 2004 IN MEETING ROOM 4

1. Apologies
2. Late Items to be Introduced by the Chair
3. Declarations of Interest
4. Minutes
Confirmation of the Minutes of the meeting held on 20 January 2004 Attached
5. Future Strategy of Public Conveniences Oral
To receive a presentation from John Hansed – Head of Street Care and Waste Management
6. Street Lighting Provision within Derby – Progress Report To Follow
To receive an update on the Street Lighting Private Finance Initiative brought to the Committee on 11 November 2003
7. International Women's Day
To receive feedback on the event, which took place on 8 March 2004
- Information Items**
8. Forward Plan

All Members will have received the most recent Forward Plan – please bring your copy with you to the meeting
9. Any Other Business
10. Date of Next Meeting
11 May 2004 at 6.30pm

NOTES

- (1) Meetings at the Council House are held in the Council Suite, notices show which meeting room will be used. Members of the public should use the Derwent Street entrance for access to evening meetings.
- (2) For more information on this agenda or the meeting please contact Katherine Taylor on Derby 255684, email katherine.taylor@derby.gov.uk If you are planning to attend the meeting and have any special requirements please contact us on the number above for assistance.

Time commenced : 6.30 pm
Time finished : 8.30 pm

WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE 20 JANUARY 2004

Present: **Representing Derby City Council**
Councillor Fay Winter (Chair)
Councillors Lucy Care, Julie Hickson and Margaret Redfern

Council Officers

John Holdridge	Social Services
Barbara Hillier	Policy and Procedures Officer, Social Services
Sue Glithero	Director of Policy
Carolyn Wright	Head of Accountancy – Corporate Finance

Council Advisor

Ann Webster	Equalities Advisor
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Community Representatives

Susan Boon	Osmaston Community Panel
Arshia Iqbal	Individual
Nasreen Iqbal	Individual
Angela Neill	Individual
Janice Platt	Individual
Sue Preedy	Individual
Chandra Sayal	Individual
Irene Shiels	Individual
Naranjan Lalria	Individual
Shabana Hussain	Hummari Manzil
Kulvinder Bola	Raunak Group

35/03 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Suman Gupta and Ann MacDonald, and from Shirley Howard.

36/03 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

37/03 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

38/03 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2003 were agreed as a correct record, subject to the following amendments:-

Minute No 20/03 - Councillor Margaret Redfern and Kulvinder Bola requested that their apologies for absence for the last meeting be noted.

Minute No 30/03 - International Women's Day

Ann Webster gave feedback from the Working Group, which consisted of Pam Thompson, Chandra Sayal, Angela Neill, Councillor Fay Winter, Sue Preedy, Nasreen Iqbal and Kulvinder Bola. It had been decided that, after a suggestion by Nasreen, there would be a celebration of women's achievements on 8 March 2004 with a range of awards for women.

The suggestion was approved and welcomed by the Committee

39/03 Budget Presentation

Councillor Lucy Care - Cabinet Member for Planning, Transportation and Environment and Sue Glithero - Director of Policy, presented the Council's priorities and the budget proposals for 2004/05. In the presentation, the following issues were covered:

- Priorities For Action
 - The Council is proposing ten priorities for action now
 - These are areas where we want to significantly improve our performance
 - We will do this by introducing new ways of working and/or additional spending where required
 - We will present these priorities in order of importance - starting with what the Council currently thinks are the most important
- Our Top Ten Priorities

The top ten priorities were given in order:

1. Limit increases in Council tax and improve value for money from Council services
2. Improving customer service, including using new technology and investing in better buildings to provide our services from
3. Promoting the city as a centre for industry, commerce, culture and tourism
4. Improving management of the city and district centres, making them more attractive to residents and visitors
5. Improve road and other transport links to remove traffic from city centre streets as part of "Connecting Derby"

6. Help under-achieving schools improve their performance
 7. Improve the Council's fostering service for children in care and improve residential and community services for adults
 8. Increase recycling facilities, including at the point of collection from homes
 9. Speed up the process of deciding planning applications, maintaining good quality decision making
 10. Develop the leadership role of the Council, both at regional and local level, to express the views of local people and work in partnership with other organisations
- Revenue Budget 2004/05
 - Current budget 2003/04 compared with proposed budget 2004/05
 - Council Tax comparisons
 - Budget Submissions
 - Main issues
 - Council Tax implications
 - Timetable

A member of the Committee raised concerns over public safety with regard to road crossing, particularly in the Kedleston Road area and also lighting at recycling facilities. Councillor Lucy Care responded that significant money was available for the road safety scheme budget and that this budget would be spent across the city where it could do most good. The priority with regard to recycling would be to increase recycling from homes as well as placing more sites across the city to avoid the need to use a car. Councillor Care wished to emphasise that public safety was a priority for the Council and that progress was being made with regard to safety at recycling centres.

A member of the Committee commented that she considered Derby to be a clean city in her opinion, compared to London where she also owned a home. She commented that there should be free access to technology in the libraries.

On the latter point, Sue Glithero responded that the Council had been looking into free use of the internet for people, and that free use was definitely being introduced in the new financial year, but she was not sure whether this would start before then.

The Committee asked for clarification with regard to helping under-achieving schools. Councillor Care responded that the intention would be to close the gap in GCSE education between individual students and Councillor Winter commented that the Education Scrutiny Commission was looking at the Primary and Secondary sectors and would report its findings to the Council Cabinet in due course.

Councillor Redfern commented that public safety should be a priority. She said that she would like to see an item in a future agenda devoted to helping women become aware of the appropriate benefits that they were entitled to. She stated that many women could find themselves in poverty, through no fault of their own, perhaps through marriage breakdowns or leaving work to look after children or relatives. Councillor J Hickson responded that there had recently been a road show, which was intended to make people aware of what benefits they were entitled to and how they could claim them.

Sue Glithero commented that Derby Advice could help, and that Revenues and Benefits were starting surgeries which would take place on a fixed day each week from April 2004, to give people general advice as well as to follow up individual applications. The publicity for the surgeries was being worked on; they would be held key at local housing offices and at some community centres.

40/03 Day Services Manual

The Committee received a report from the Director of Social Services, which set out a draft Day Services Manual for people with learning difficulties, mental ill health and older people. John Holdridge – Best Value Implementation Manager and Barbara Hillier – Policy and Procedures Officer presented extracts of the draft report, which was included in the appendices. The report was brought to the Committee for advice on its content and members were asked to feedback their comments.

The Committee wished to congratulate the work of the department for a full and detailed manual, which gave good guidance to address Day Services issues. The Chair thanked the team for its report and particularly the continuity of the document.

Councillor Redfern commented that Home Care tended to fail people when temporary carers carried out personal care. In many instances, the people being cared for were not told ahead that regular staff were not available and sometimes people remained unattended to for long periods of time.

Chandra Sayal asked whether training would be made available for people who the draft document was aimed at. John Holdridge responded that the intention of the document was to use it in the training, recruitment, induction and development of employees, and that it would be a document against which the department could assess people's development needs. He emphasised that this would not be a one off launch. The point of the document was that it would be reviewed once a year and that both staff and managers would be encouraged to feedback on the blank pages at the back of each section for consideration at each review.

It was reported that the manual would be taken to the Disabled People's Advisory and the Minority Ethnic Communities Advisory Committees.

41/03 International Women's Day

Ann Webster gave feedback from the work group, which updated the Committee on the progress of the Celebration of Women's Achievements Event, which was scheduled to take place on the 8 March 2004.

It was confirmed that publicity for the event would be printed by the Derby Evening Telegraph and that there were a number of sponsors for the evening, which included:

- Boots
- Marks and Spencers
- Showcase Cinemas
- Debenhams
- The Midland Hotel
- David Lloyd Leisure
- Body Shop

The event would take place in the Mayor's Parlour and the foyer in the Civic Suite.

There would be five judges:

1. The Mayoress of Derby
2. Pat Radford - Debenhams
3. Councillor Fay Winter - Chair of the Women's Advisory Committee
4. Sue Preedy – Chair of Council for Voluntary Services
5. Parween Wassi – to be confirmed

Ann Webster reported that the main issue to be resolved was the design of the nomination form. There was some discussion over the design of the nomination form, which would be based on the Civic Award Winners' nomination form, but would be less formal.

Ann Webster also reported that the Working Group was trying to get a celebrity to come to present in the evening, but this had not been confirmed.

Resolved to leave the final decision of the design of the form to Ann Webster and Pam Thompson in view of the short timescale before the event was due to take place.

42/03 Forward Plan

Councillor Redfern raised concern that the item on the forward plan on public conveniences had been brought to the Women's Advisory Committee several months ago and she requested that feedback on the progress of the investigation be fed back to the Committee.

Resolved to ask Alan Whileman to feedback on the progress of the investigation.

43/03 Any Other Business

Councillor J Hickson read an extract from a Metropolitan Police newsletter, which she had received, which gave an outline of the statistics of women who are attacked and raped, which she said she would make available to members of the committee if they wished. In connection with this item, it was suggested that Sharon Squires from the Community Safety Partnership could be invited back to the Committee to present on the subject.

The Committee wished to thank Ann for arranging the Women's Advisory dinner, which took place before Christmas.

44/03 Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the Women's Advisory Committee would next meet on 23 March 2004, at 6.30 pm.

MINUTES END