

**COMMUNITY COMMISSION
18 JUNE 2007
MINUTE EXTRACT**

23/07 Neighbourhood Working and Forums

The Commission considered a report from the Corporate Director of Corporate and Adult Services on the area and neighbourhood working arrangements which will replace the five Area Panels with one Neighbourhood Forum for each ward. The report had been considered by Council Cabinet at its meeting on 3 July and was referred to the Commission for its views on the implementation of the new arrangements.

Councillor Nath, Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy, advised the Commission that Council Cabinet and Council had approved in principle the transformation from Area Panel into Neighbourhood Forums as part of the new framework for neighbourhood working. The Council now needed to look at the details, including the financial and constitutional implications. Any issues or questions raised by the Commission would be taken back and considered as part of the review.

The Commission asked for further information on constitutional arrangements and whether there was any degree of flexibility in operating the arrangements in each ward. The Commission also advised producing a Good Practice Guide to enable regular updates to be made to the working practices but without needing to amend the constitution every time. As this information was not available at the meeting the Commission agreed to hold a special meeting at the end of August to enable them to consider these additional pieces of information with the report. Councillor Bayliss suggested that all Councillors be invited to attend this meeting.

Resolved

- 1. To hold a special meeting of the Commission at the end of August to consider Neighbourhood working and forums and invite all Councillors to the meeting.**
- 2. To request information on constitutional arrangements, flexibility and a Good Practice Guide to be provided before the special meeting.**