

Time commenced 6.00pm
Time finished 7.35pm

**NEIGHBOURHOODS COMMISSION
14 DECEMBER 2011**

Present: Councillor Jackson (Chair)
Councillors Davis, Keith, Rawson, Richards and Troup

57/11 Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies for absence

58/11 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

59/11 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

60/11 Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 9 November 2011 were agreed as a correct record subject signed by the chair.

61/11 Call-in

There were no call-ins received for the commission to consider.

62/11 Tree Management Policy

The Commission considered a report which stated that the Council's budget proposals for 2012-13 included a saving of £50,000 in the Arboricultural Section of Streetpride. The proposal was to amend the Council's Tree Management Policy to clarify the type of tree work that the Council would and would not carry out. The section would save staff time in dealing with such requests. The officer time saved would allow them to carry out public work and recover the £50,000 from other budgets.

Members of the Commission said that problems with trees made up a lot of their case work. It was noted that Neighbourhood Boards could allocate some of their funding to carry out tree works and this could be put into the work programme for the coming year.

The Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods explained that if Members of the Commission were concerned about the tree policy itself they could review it.

Resolved to note the amendments to the Tree Management Policy that would clarify the type of tree work that the Council would and would not carry out.

63/11 Replacement Services for Community Transport

The Commission considered a report which stated that Members agreed in June 2011 to a package of reductions and withdrawals relating to community transport, supported bus services and concessionary travel schemes.

The actions were required in order to achieve approved budget savings in 2011/12 and 2012/13, and included the following measures relating to bus services:

- Withdrawing all Community Transport services, in their then existing form, with effect from September 2011. The Dial a Bus Supermarket service would be able to continue until the end of the financial year on 31 March 2012.
- Removing free travel on Community Transport Dial a Bus Supermarket service and introduce a flat £2 return fare on this service, with effect from September 2011.
- Withdrawing all support for bus services 9, 19 and 35 with effect from September 2011.
- Implementing changes to the Derby City Council supported bus service 111 from September 2011, in order to reduce costs.

Officers were requested to investigate other means of facilitating or making alternative provision, principally in relation to the affected bus services and to report on progress.

The report summarised the current level of provision following the implementation of the service withdrawals and reductions. This included:

- Services 19 and 35 were still operating and had been taken on commercially by Notts and Derby from 5 September 2011. The area boards in Littleover, Chaddesden and Spondon helped to pay for the new timetable leaflets for these services. Each service now had three round trips, between approximately 0930 and 1430.
- Service 111 had continued to run as a Council supported service from September 5, but, due to the reduction in the number of buses during peak times, the frequency had been reduced. From September 5, two buses had operated all day on this service. This provided a 15 minute frequency service from 0700 until 1500 and then a 20 minute service until 1900.

Members of the Commission were disappointed that supermarkets were not willing to provide travel assistance to supermarkets.

Resolved to note the report.

64/11 Topic Reviews Update

The Commission received an update on the proposed topic reviews on 'Safety on School Transport' and 'Operational Options for the Multi-Use Arena for when the facility opens'. The Safety of School Transport review was scheduled for January 2012 and the operational options for the Multi use arena review would go through to Council Cabinet in April 2012.

Commission Members asked if there was a possibility of undertaking an additional topic review of the tree management policy.

Resolved

- 1. To note the update.**
- 2. To ask the Overview and Scrutiny Co-ordination Officer to investigate the possibility of undertaking a third topic review.**

65/11 Retrospective Scrutiny

There were no items of retrospective scrutiny requested by the Commission.

66/11 Forward Plan

There were no items requested.

67/11 Responses to any reports and enquiries of the Commission

There were no items.

68/11 Matters referred by the Council Cabinet

There were no items referred by the Council Cabinet.

MINUTES END