



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

**AREA PANEL 1
5 SEPTEMBER 2007**

ITEM 7

Report of the Head of Stronger and Safer Communities Unit

From Areas to Neighbourhoods

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the decision and actions agreed at Full Council on 18 July 2007 to approve in principle the transformation from Area Panels into Neighbourhood Forums as part of the new framework for neighbourhood working. The report outlines the proposals and recommendations being submitted to Council Cabinet on 4 September and Full Council on 12 September 2007.
- 1.2 Full Council agreed on 18 July to:
 - the basic structure within each ward will include a Neighbourhood Board of partner and resident representatives, led by elected members, and a Neighbourhood Forum open to all residents. Any supplementary resident engagement mechanisms will be agreed by each Neighbourhood Board.
 - ask the Community Overview and Scrutiny Commission for its views on the implementation of these arrangements.
 - ask officers to report to Council Cabinet on whether ward based neighbourhood arrangements should be integrated with the area management arrangements being developed for Children and Young People's Services.
 - ask officers to report back to Council Cabinet and Full Council in September 2007 with details of the constitutional and financial implications.
 - that subject to Council's agreement of the final proposals, the final round of Area Panels will be in September 2007 with the new Neighbourhood Partnership Boards and Neighbourhood Forums being implemented throughout October and November 2007.
- 1.3 At the Community Commission meeting on 23 July 2007, the Commission proposed the production a Good Practice Guide. This was in response to a number of issues raised about future working arrangements for Neighbourhood Boards and Forums.
- 1.4 The Good Practice Guide has been produced and will be considered at a special meeting of Community Commission on 29 August 2007, to which all local ward councillors are invited. The guide includes details of how the new arrangements for neighbourhood working will work including constitutional and financial implications.
- 1.5 The views of Community Commission on the Good Practice Guide and constitutional and financial amendments will be reported to Council Cabinet on 4 September prior to Cabinet making recommendations to Full Council on 12 September. There will be a verbal report at Area Panel 1 on 5 September on the recommendations made at Council Cabinet meeting.
- 1.6 Council Cabinet is being asked to recommend Council to:
 - approve the arrangements for Neighbourhood Boards and Neighbourhood Forums.

- approve the amendments to the Constitution
 - approve the Good Practice Guide and to authorise the Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood, Social Cohesion and Housing Strategy to approve any further minor amendments prior to formal publication.
 - agree that the Area Panel budget of £99,000 be divided equally between each ward (equivalent to £5,823 a ward) and allocated to the Neighbourhood Board to be used to help meet neighbourhood priorities.
 - appoint the chairs of Neighbourhood Boards for the remainder of the current municipal year and agree that the other two ward councillors will act as vice chairs
- 1.7 Details of how neighbourhood working is implemented in Chaddesden, Derwent, Oakwood and Spondon wards, subject to approval at Council Cabinet and Full Council, are attached in Appendix 1, including Neighbourhood Forum dates, funding and budgets and the petitions process.
- 1.8 Outstanding issues within the Community Issues Update Report will be referred to the relevant Neighbourhood Board for resolution. This will include any outstanding petitions and Lead petitioners will be informed of the new arrangements.

PROPOSED ACTION

2.1 To note this report.

For more information contact: Background papers: List of appendices:	Richard Smail 01332 258505 e-mail Richard.smail@derby.gov.uk Report to Full Council 18 July 2007 Neighbourhood Working In Chaddesden, Derwent, Oakwood and Spondon
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Neighbourhood Working in Chaddesden, Derwent, Oakwood and Spondon

Area Panel 1 consists on four electoral wards Chaddesden, Derwent, Oakwood and Spondon. The agreed framework for neighbourhood working will mean there will be one Neighbourhood Board for each ward. Work to roll out the new forums has already started in the area in Spondon ward where the first Forum meeting was in July 2007. The Chaddesden Forum will be the next Forum to be established, led by Derby Homes, with a meeting on 17 October. This will be followed by work to develop forums in Oakwood ward and Derwent ward.

At an operational level in the new framework, one of three different levels of neighbourhood management will be developed for each ward in the area. This will reflect the intensity of interventions needed. There will be:

- Standard neighbourhoods – Oakwood, with a lighter touch of neighbourhood coordination provided.
- Enhanced neighbourhoods – Chaddesden, with support from Derby Homes taking on the role of Neighbourhood Managers, with limited additional staff support and Spondon, with limited additional staff support.
- Priority neighbourhoods – Derwent, each with its own Neighbourhood Manager and team.

Neighbourhood Management

In Area Panel 1 area the level of neighbourhood management in each ward will be:

Forum	Level of Neighbourhood Management	Neighbourhood Manager/Team and base
Chaddesden	Enhanced	Wendy Jessop, Derby Homes Neighbourhood Team, Sussex Circus Housing Office
Derwent	Priority	Derwent Neighbourhood Team, Beaufort Business Centre
Oakwood	Standard	Richard Smail, Neighbourhood Manager, St.Peter's House
Spondon	Enhanced	Richard Smail, Neighbourhood Manager, St.Peter's House

Neighbourhood Forum meetings

Timetable of Neighbourhood Forum and Board meetings

Forum	Date	Time	Venue
Chaddesden	Wednesday 17 October 2007	6pm	Chesapeake Community Centre, Chesapeake Road
Derwent	to be confirmed		
Oakwood	to be confirmed		
Spondon	Thursday 4 October 2007	6.30 pm	Spondon Cricket Club, Locko Road

Funding

Subject to approval at Council Cabinet and Full Council, and the allocations made by Area Panel 1 on 5 September, the funding available to the Neighbourhood Boards is indicated in the table below

	Chaddesden	Derwent	Oakwood	Spondon
Budget for 2007/8	£5,823	£5,823	£5,823	£5,823
Carried forward from 2006/7	£253	£230	£4,653	£-1,258*
Committed in 2007/8	£873	£461	£213	£2,789
Requests for funding to Area Panel 1 on 5 September	£4,274	£788	£5,563	£0
Budget remaining if proposals on 5 September approved	£929	£4,804	£4,700	£1,776

Petitions

In future, petitions will be presented the Neighbourhood Forum meetings where requests for investigations and solutions will be made. Service providers will report their responses to the Neighbourhood Board. Lead petitioners will be informed of the process. Resolutions and responses to all existing petitions will be referred to the relevant Neighbourhood Board.