

Time commenced : 6.30 pm  
Time finished : 9.00 pm

## WOMEN'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE 12 APRIL 2005

**Present: Representing Derby City Council**

Councillor Fay Winter (Chair)  
Councillor Suman Gupta  
Councillor Pauline Latham  
Councillor Anne MacDonald

### **Council Officers**

Sian Hoyle - Head of Service – Marketing and Communications  
Mike Kaye - Assistant Director – Development  
Peter Price - Transport Policy Manager – Transportation  
and Special Projects  
Isabella Stone - Assistant Director – Community Policy  
Pam Thompson - Consultation Support Officer – Communications,  
Consultation and Research  
Ann Walker - Senior Environmental Health Officer – Environmental  
Health  
Andy Waterhouse - Team Leader – Plans and Policies

### **Community Representatives**

Kulvinder Bola	Ramak Group
Susan Boon	Osmaston Community Panel
Shirley Howard	Individual
Arshia Iqbal	Individual
Nasreen Iqbal	Individual
Naranjan Lalria	Individual
Angela Neill	Individual
Janice Platt	Individual
Chandra Sayal	Individual

## 51/04 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Higginbottom, Irene Shields, Sue Preedy and Shabana Hussain

## 52/04 Late Items Introduced by the Chair

There were no late items.

## 53/04 Declarations of Interest

## 54/04 Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on 1 February 2005 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

## 55/04 Local Development Scheme

Andy Waterhouse presented a report to the Committee on the new planning system and local development framework. This system was brought in under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. The local development scheme was a programme of documents that needed to be prepared and the timetable used for producing these. It would identify what information was needed, how this would be collected and where from. This would be used by the Government to assess our performance, which would influence the Planning Delivery Grant. The new documents that would be produced were the Statement of Community Involvement, Development Plan Documents and Supplementary Planning Documents.

The preparation of Community Involvement would show how we would involve the community in preparing documents and the determination of planning applications. The statement would have an emphasis on easy consultation and itself would be subject to consultation, the different stages of preparation and documents would need to use different types of consultation.

## 56/04 Derby CityScape Masterplan

Mike Kaye presented a report to the Committee on the launch of the Masterplan by Derby Cityscape Limited. This masterplan had been publicly launched. The officers have had discussions with the URC and their consultants to ensure that the Council's policies for planning, transport, culture and property were taken into account. The exercise integrated key proposals that Derby City Council had developed itself or as partners.

There had been some consultation exercises, which started in February 2004, with meetings with the public and circulation of the proposals to the media. Detailed development arising from that exercise would need to be consulted on.

## 57/04 Derby Joint Local Transport Plan 2006-2011, LTP2

Peter Price presented a report to the Committee on the Derby Joint Local Transport Plan for Derby City Council and Derbyshire County Council 2006 – 2011 and its development. The plan was being prepared in line with government guidance that would require:

- Setting transport in a wider context
- Setting locally relevant targets for outcome indicators
- Identifying best value for money solutions to problems.

The Local Transport Plan contains a 5 year plan to help us measure overarching objectives. The transport improvements and other measures were based on the transport strategy that was currently near completion through the Derby Area Transport Study.

The programme would be developed in the spring and depending on funding may include:

- Connecting Derby
- Strategic park and rides sites on main trunk roads into Derby, with dedicated bus routes into the City
- Other bus priority schemes
- Improvements to local and district centres
- Development into safety measures including physical work and education into road safety.

The government guidance for the Local Transport Plan made no specific reference to the needs of women but there were many aspects of transport provision where advice has been given. Where it exists guidance is being built into the strategy and development of the plan. The measures that are being considered included:

- Enhancement of security around bus use
- The new bus station
- Improvement of walking and cycling routes
- The need to consider the 'sense of place' in designing transport schemes.

## 58/04 Presentation from Association of Indian Women

Joginder Baines presented a report to the Committee on Non-British Spouses. The Association of Indian Women and Indian Workers Association had observed that many Non-British spouses were vulnerable to abuse, as they needed to wait two years before they could apply for indefinite leave to stay in Britain. Non-British spouses were unaware of their rights and where they could gain advice, this included financial advice, as many suffered financial hardship.

The women were sometimes pressured by their families to remain married, some women had told of various forms of physical or emotional intimidation or abuse:

By the time a lot of spouses had left their marriage, they had already been mentally damaged and may have suffered depression; this kind of hardship could be equally suffered by both men and women. The spouses were given an opportunity by the Home Office to apply to remain in Britain if they could prove they had suffered domestic violence. But unfortunately such evidence had often been lost.

The two year time limit that Non-British spouses had to wait before gaining indefinite leave to remain in Britain had been introduced in less than a month of its introduction and without consultation of campaigning institutions such as JCWI and had gone against the advice of the Joint Human Rights Committee.

This extension of the time limit meant that the misery suffered had to be endured for longer. The Indian Workers Association and the Association of Indian women were asking that:

- Repeal of probationary period and the Non-British spouses to be given indefinite leave to remain in Britain
- The Non-British spouses must be given financial support by the state at the time of the marriage breakdown
- A package of information in relevant languages should be available at the time of interview with an Immigration Officer. The pack would include the spouse's rights in Britain and the institutions they could seek advice and support, should they face matrimonial difficulties
- Those who perpetrate physical or psychological violence or hardship of any nature must be prosecuted.

There would be a conference held in August in Derby and the Indian Workers Association and the Association of Indian Women had felt that they would need help from this committee. The advice given to the Indian Workers Association and the Association of Indian Women was to gain support from other local groups and partnerships such as the Domestic Violence Unit, and to come back to a future meeting to inform the Committee of any progress.

## 59/04      Licensing Policy

Ann Walker presented a report to the Committee on the Council's new licensing Policy.

The draft policy went out for consultation during October 2004, to a wide range of consultees, including licence holders, trade associations, businesses and residents in the city. They were asked for their comments, along with the Council's advisory committees.

About 1700 drafts licensing policy consultation packs were sent out all together but only 89 consultation questionnaires were returned, some with valid points. Officers collated the comments and along with a Cross-Party Working Group they implemented some changes to the draft policy.

The Members of the Licensing and Appeals Committee recommended the adoption of the new version on 23 November 2004, this was then approved by full Council on 24 November 2004.

The first licence applications started to be slowly received by the Council's Licensing Team soon after 7 February 2005, but the Council do not take over full licensing responsibility until it is believed 7 November 2005, although this date has not been set by the government yet.

## 60/04      Date of the Next Meeting

It was noted that the next Women's Advisory Meeting would be Tuesday 21 June 2005 at 6.30pm.

MINUTES END