

OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY REVIEW OF AREA FORUMS

CABINET RESPONSE AND ACTION PLAN

Review Recommendations		Cabinet Response		Implementation Agreed by Management Team	
		Agreed?	Comments	Responsibility	Timescale
1.	Area Forums be re-named and re-launched as 'Community Forums' to reflect a greater emphasis on community involvement and the number be replaced with a name that reflects the area.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that the Area Forums be renamed as part of a re launch of the Community Forums. However careful consideration also needs to be given to the name of the community forum to capture the identity of the full area that the Forum brings together.	AP/JGT	Sept – Dec Development with Community Groups Regarding style, format venues and conduct of meetings.
2.	Agenda items to be based on local issues identified through the development of Local Area Frameworks and Local Improvement Plan.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that the agenda's be focussed on the needs of the area as highlighted through the Area Frameworks and that the community have the opportunity to influence this document. It is important that the forums can be used to help public agencies determine geographic priorities for action within an area. It is agreed that the Area Framework document will be helpful in allowing the forums to make recommendations to the Council's Cabinet with regards any applications for funding through the Local Improvement Programme.		Report to Cabinet Jan 2007

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3.	Membership of Area Forum be formalised to be representative of the Communities to which it aims to serve.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that membership of the forums for formalised however stresses that meetings should continue to be open and accessible to the public.		
4.	Implement a Public Question Time at the beginning of each Area Forum meeting.	Agreed	Cabinet agree that a public question time can be useful addition to the business of the Forum however it must be stressed that answers to questions raised cannot be given instantly in all cases and may require a period of research by officers from the relevant agency.		
5.	Terms of reference for Area Forums be amended to reflect changes from the Review.	Agreed	Terms of reference will need to be amended as part of the Council's constitution.		