

# ***Information/Discussion Paper***

## **Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 9th June 2005**

### **Election and citizenship - project brief**

#### **1. Why has this come to scrutiny?**

- 1.1 At the last meeting of the committee a report was received on the best value review of elections and citizenship. At the end of the meeting members indicated that they wanted to explore further some of the issues which were raised in the review particularly with regards to young people and their engagement in local democracy.

#### **2. Summary of the Issue**

- 2.1 Officers met to consider whether at this stage a work plan project brief could be completed and undertook some initial brainstorming ideas for the review mindful that they did not want to duplicate work which had already been undertaken with the best value review. Attached are some initial thoughts but it was felt that it would be useful to have some member engagement at an early stage of the process to help shape the project brief. It was also noted that the new Monitoring Officer and Assistant Director Legal Services is due to commence in July and he also may want to have an input into the review brief. It is proposed therefore that a brief be brought back to the meeting on 12 September. It should be noted however that there are a number of actions that can be taken in the meantime and it would be useful to engage with members in how they might want to be involved.

#### **3. Next Steps - possible next steps for the committee to consider eg potential witnesses, further report, site visit etc.**

- 3.1 The committee are asked to nominate two or three members who would be willing to meet with officers over the summer to develop the project brief and to also input into shaping activities in the Autumn which will help to promote local democracy.

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#### **Background Papers**

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##### **Scrutiny Function**

Social and Community