

Cheltenham Borough Council

Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee - 12th September 2005

Project brief for review of local democracy in Cheltenham

Report of the working group

1. Executive Summary and recommendation

1.1.1 The meeting of the committee on 9 June 2005 agreed on four potential areas for review that the committee could focus on as part of its work plan for 2005-2006. One of the potential areas was 'elections and citizenship' which stemmed from the committee's discussion of the Best Value review of elections and citizenship and a small project team (Cllrs Forbes, Mrs Hale and Mrs Regan) has met to carry out some initial scoping of the project. The results of this scoping session are included in the attached project brief. The project will identify deliverable actions in the short term which have maximum benefit with minimum resource requirements, along with potential longer term actions which could boost local democracy.

1.2 The working group therefore recommends that the committee:-

1.2.1 approves the scope of the local democracy project brief as it is set out at Appendix A

1.2.2 approves membership of the working group

1.3 Summary of implications

1.3.1 Financial Dependant on the actions identified

1.3.2 Legal Dependant on the actions identified

1.3.3 Human Resources In the short term officers from the Policy & PR division will support the working group, and other officers will be asked to attend as necessary.

1.4 Implications on corporate and community plan priorities

1.4.1 Corporate plan priority 5E – *We will explore ways of encouraging citizenship*

1.4.2 Community plan priority 'Making it happen' – *Engaging with young people*

1.5 Statement on Risk

1.5.1 None – risks will be identified as the project develops.

Background Papers	None
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Accountability	Councillor John Morris
Scrutiny Function	Social and Community