

Cheltenham Borough Council

**Social and Community Overview and Scrutiny Committee
– 10th June 2009**

**Community Development Conference held 24 April 2009
Update from Cabinet Member Community Development
and Housing**

The total cost of the Conference held on 24th April was £1050.

140 people attended; 9 sent apologies. Some people didn't sign in or didn't turn up on the day for one reason or another. During the whole day there some 150 or so probably attended the Conference.

The following background papers are available on the council's website through the attached link <http://tivoli.cheltenham.gov.uk/committeeminutes/meeting.asp?meetingID=908>

- The Conference discussion paper 'The function of Community Development'.
- Conference feedback with initial findings and my introduction to the Conference. It is a work in progress.
- Neighbourhood Management Pilot Evaluation 'Leckhampton' Inspector Neighbourhood Area.

A hard copy of the above appendices is available in the Members Room. In addition a handout from the Conference entitled 'The Future for Community Development in Cheltenham – April 2009' has been circulated with the agenda for the information of Members of this Committee.

The next step is to identify the most appropriate geographical areas around which a Neighbourhood Management network can be organised. Tackling the service delivery issues in these areas is the vehicle for community development. These include highways issues; parking issues; young people; care of older people; mental health issues; planning issues etc etc. They will vary depending on the area.

Reports will go to the 'Stronger Communities' Partnership in the next couple of months and to the Cabinet in October. By this time there should be greater agreement on the way forward.

John Webster 13th May 2009.