
Executive

26 February 2008

Report of the Interim Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services

Minutes of Working Groups

Summary

1. This report presents the minutes of recent meetings of the Local Development Framework Working Group, the Social Inclusion Working Group and the Young People's Working Group and asks Members to consider the advice given by these groups in their capacity as advisory bodies to the Executive.

Background

2. The revised Constitution agreed by Council on 27 April 2006 created a number of Working Groups whose role is to advise the Executive on issues within their particular remits. The Groups are:
 - Social Inclusion Working Group (equalities issues)
 - Young People's Working Group (young people's issues)
 - Local Development Framework (LDF) Working Group (matters relating to the Local Development Framework)

The Constitution also includes a Protocol on Councillor Working Groups, which sets out rules and guidelines for the establishment and operation of Working Groups.

3. To ensure that the Executive is able to consider the advice of the Working Groups, it has been agreed that minutes of the Groups' meetings will be brought to the Executive on a regular basis. The Executive has also agreed to receive minutes of the meetings of the Economic Development Partnership Board, which acts as an advisory body to the Council and to the Local Strategic Partnership.
4. Members have requested that draft minutes of Working Groups requiring Executive endorsement be submitted as soon as they become available. In accordance with that request, and the requirements of the Constitution, minutes of the following meetings are presented with this report:

- LDF Working Group – draft minutes of meeting on 8 January 2008 (Annex A)
- Social Inclusion Working Group – draft minutes of meeting on 16 January 2008 (Annex B)
- Young People's Working Group – draft minutes of meeting on 17 January 2008 (Annex C).

Members will recall that the minutes of the LDF Working Group meeting on 22 January 2008 have already been received at the Executive meeting on 12 February, as part of the item on the LDF Allocations Development Plan Document (Executive minute 160 refers). To avoid duplication, they have not been attached to this report.

Consultation

5. No consultation has taken place on the attached minutes, which have been referred directly from the groups concerned. It is assumed that any relevant consultation on the items considered by the groups was carried out in advance of their meetings.

Options

6. Options open to the Executive are either to accept or to reject any advice that may be offered by the groups, and / or to comment on the advice.

Analysis

7. There are no resolutions within the attached minutes which require the specific endorsement or approval of the Executive. However, Members may wish to note in particular:
 - a) The initial comments of the LDF Working Group on the Open Space, Sport and Recreation Study, which will form part of the evidence base for the Local Development Framework (Minute 33 in Annex A refers).
 - b) The decisions of the Social Inclusion Working Group (SIWG) in respect of Funding Requests (Minute 27 in Annex B refers). Technically, these 'decisions' are recommendations made to the Equalities Officer in respect of the Equalities budget, since Working Groups have no authority to hold budgets or incur expenditure.
 - c) The intention of the SIWG to hold a 'Development Day' on 25 February, at which the Group's objectives, work areas and funding principles will be discussed (Minutes 25 and 26 in Annex B refer).
 - d) The recommendations of the Young People's Working Group regarding suggested adjustments to the system of allocating 'Youth Opportunity and Capital Funding' monies (Minute 16 in Annex C refers).

Corporate Priorities

8. The aims in referring these minutes accord with the Council's corporate values to provide strong leadership in terms of advising these bodies on their direction and any recommendations they wish to make.

Implications

9. There are no known implications in relation to the following in terms of dealing with the specific matter before Members, namely to consider the minutes and determine their response to the advice offered by the Working Groups:
 - Financial
 - Human Resources (HR)
 - Equalities
 - Legal
 - Crime and Disorder
 - Property
 - Other

Risk Management

10. In compliance with the Council's risk management strategy, there are no risks associated with the recommendations in this report.

Recommendations

11. Members are asked to consider the minutes attached at Annexes A, B and C and to decide whether they wish to respond to any of the advice offered by the LDF Working Group, the Social Inclusion Working Group and the Young People's Working Group.

Reason:

To fulfil the requirements of the Council's Constitution in relation to the role of Working Groups.

Contact details:

Author:

Fiona Young
Principal Democracy Officer
01904 551027
email:
fiona.young@york.gov.uk

Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Colin Langley
Interim Head of Civic, Democratic and Legal Services
01904 551004

Report Approved



Date 12/2/08

Specialist Implications Officer(s) None

Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex A – Draft minutes of the meeting of the LDF Working Group held on 8 January 2008.

Annex B – Draft minutes of the meeting of the Social Inclusion Working Group held on 16 January 2008.

Annex C – Draft minutes of the meeting of the Young People’s Working Group held on 17 January 2008.

Background Papers

Agenda and associated reports for the above meetings (available on the Council’s website).